



Lockport – Batavia Line #112

Rebuild Project

Appendix AE

Invasive Species Management Plan Specifications

Baseline Invasive Species) Surveys

- As part of the Pre-Construction Survey, the entire Limits of Disturbance (LOD) along the ROW and off-ROW access roads shall be surveyed for invasive species plants as identified in 6 NYCRR Part 575 regulations. If the EM&CP shows certain areas that will not be disturbed as part of construction, the Certificate Holder will not be required to survey those portions of the ROW.
- When the Pre-Construction Survey is prepared as part of EM&CP development, qualitative observations for invasive species spread potential from adjacent properties and land use (i.e., invasive species infested adjoining property, private off-site access roads) shall be documented.
- The Pre-Construction Survey shall utilize a sub-meter accurate Global Positioning System (GPS). The raw data will be provided to DEC, DPS and DAM prior to the consultation meeting on the draft ISMP.

Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Construction BMPs shall be implemented for all invasive species in all LOD not just jurisdictional areas and shall be consistent with the Environment Energy Alliance of New York's *New York Utility Company Best Management Practices for Preventing the Transportation of Invasive Species*, revised March 20015 (EEANY March 2015 BMPs) and at a minimum shall include:

- Contractor/Subcontractor/Employee Training on cleaning and other invasive species management procedures;
- Inspection of Construction Materials and Equipment;
- Minimizing Ground Disturbance in invasive species infested areas;
- Proper Clearing and Disposal Practices (*i.e., cut and leave in infested area or dispose off-site in landfill-incinerator or approved disposal site*); and
- Equipment Cleaning.

Invasive species propagation shall be prevented by, among other stated techniques, the following:

- Preparing ROW travel routes to prevent invasive species spread through contact with equipment/vehicles by any practical combination of mating, invasive species burial, clean fill cover or invasive species eradication;
 - Providing cleaning stations for equipment/vehicles whenever leaving invasive species infested areas along ROW; and/or
 - Other mutually agreeable practices.
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- A post construction survey shall be conducted after the second full growing season from final SWPPP signoff;
 - Such post-construction survey shall be conducted in all LOD (as defined in the EEANY March 2015 BMPs);

- Such post-construction survey shall use the Pre-Application Baseline (and the update developed during EM&CP development) invasive species Survey Protocols;
- Upon completion of the post-construction survey, a final report shall be prepared and submitted to the NYSDEC, DAM and DPS. The final report shall discuss whether the goals of the ISMP have been achieved and whether any additional post-construction monitoring may be warranted based on whether an expansion of species of high concern as a result of construction are present (as defined in the Generic Adaptive Management Strategy). If the post construction monitoring report shows the aerial extent of species of high concern has expanded as defined in the Generic Strategy discussed below as a result of construction of the Project, the final report shall include a Final Adaptive Management Strategy for achieving the goals of the ISMP. DPS, DAM and DEC will review the final report and DPS, in consultation with the other agencies, will determine whether the goals of the post construction monitoring have been achieved or, if applicable, whether the Final Adaptive Management Strategy must be implemented.

Generic Adaptive Management Strategy

The initial ISMP will include the following components in a Generic Adaptive Management Strategy (Generic Strategy) prepared in consultation with DEC, DAM and DPS staff and, at a minimum, include, the following elements:

- Goals of the ISMP
- Development of a project-specific list of all species included in the Prohibited Invasive Species pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 575. The purpose of this regulation is to help control invasive species by reducing new infestations and spread of existing populations.
- Management of “expansion”: Focuses only on species of high concern (i.e. Japanese Knotweed, Phragmites, and Purple Loosestrife)
 - Invasive species of high concern that have expanded, under the terms specified in Section 4.0, must be controlled to equal to or less than their original density.
 - Invasive species of high concern that have been newly identified must be eradicated.
- Management of “expansion”
 - Invasive species of high concern that have expanded under the following terms must be controlled
 - Invasive species of high concern that have been newly identified must be eradicated.
- In consultation with the agencies, a discussion of possible adaptive management strategies and control measures (e.g., eradication) and where and when they may be required if the post-construction survey identifies an expansion of invasive species of high concern on the ROW caused by construction. This should include consideration of invasive species phenology, control methodology (mechanical techniques, pesticide use etc.) and control objectives.
- Discussion of conditions that may necessitate additional post construction monitoring and the extent and duration of such extended monitoring considering ongoing TROWMP practices.

Upon completion of the post-construction monitoring survey, if the post construction monitoring report shows the aerial extent of invasive species of high concern has expanded as defined in the Generic Adaptive Management Strategy as a result of construction of the Project, then DPS, DAM and DEC will review the final report and DPS, in consultation with the other agencies, will determine whether the goals of the post construction monitoring have been achieved or, if applicable, whether a Final Adaptive Management Strategy Plan must be implemented.