



**Lockport-Batavia Line #112
Rebuild Project**

Appendix H

Agency Correspondence

Part 7 of 8

United States Army Corps of Engineers

Appendix 1 - REQUEST FOR CORPS JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD)

To: District Name Here Buffalo District

- I am requesting a JD on property located at: See Attached Mapping
City/Township/Parish: Multiple Towns (see Mapping) County: (Street Address) Niagara / Genesee State: NY
Acreage of Parcel/Review Area for JD: 600.72-acres
Section: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____
Latitude (decimal degrees): 43.139915 Longitude (decimal degrees): 78.54395
(For linear projects, please include the center point of the proposed alignment.)
- Please attach a survey/plat map and vicinity map identifying location and review area for the JD.
- ☐ I currently own this property. ☐ I plan to purchase this property.
☒ I am an agent/consultant acting on behalf of the requestor.
☐ Other (please explain): _____
- Reason for request: (check as many as applicable)
☐ I intend to construct/develop a project or perform activities on this parcel which would be designed to avoid all aquatic resources.
☐ I intend to construct/develop a project or perform activities on this parcel which would be designed to avoid all jurisdictional aquatic resources under Corps authority.
☒ I intend to construct/develop a project or perform activities on this parcel which may require authorization from the Corps, and the JD would be used to avoid and minimize impacts to jurisdictional aquatic resources and as an initial step in a future permitting process.
☐ I intend to construct/develop a project or perform activities on this parcel which may require authorization from the Corps; this request is accompanied by my permit application and the JD is to be used in the permitting process.
☐ I intend to construct/develop a project or perform activities in a navigable water of the U.S. which is included on the district Section 10 list and/or is subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.
☐ A Corps JD is required in order to obtain my local/state authorization.
☐ I intend to contest jurisdiction over a particular aquatic resource and request the Corps confirm that jurisdiction does/does not exist over the aquatic resource on the parcel.
☐ I believe that the site may be comprised entirely of dry land.
☐ Other: _____
- Type of determination being requested:
☐ I am requesting an approved JD.
☒ I am requesting a preliminary JD.
☐ I am requesting a "no permit required" letter as I believe my proposed activity is not regulated.
☐ I am unclear as to which JD I would like to request and require additional information to inform my decision.

By signing below, you are indicating that you have the authority, or are acting as the duly authorized agent of a person or entity with such authority, to and do hereby grant Corps personnel right of entry to legally access the site if needed to perform the JD. Your signature shall be an affirmation that you possess the requisite property rights to request a JD on the subject property.

*Signature:  Date: 4/8/24

- Typed or printed name: Sean Milne
Company name: Fisher Associates
Address: 180 Charlotte Street
Rochester NY 14607
Daytime phone no.: 585-334-1310 x216
Email address: SMilne@fisherassoc.com

*Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 103, 33 USC 1413; Regulatory Program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Final Rule for 33 CFR Parts 320-332.

Principal Purpose: The information that you provide will be used in evaluating your request to determine whether there are any aquatic resources within the project area subject to federal jurisdiction under the regulatory authorities referenced above.

Routine Uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public, and may be made available as part of a public notice as required by federal law. Your name and property location where federal jurisdiction is to be determined will be included in the approved jurisdictional determination (AJD), which will be made available to the public on the District's website and on the Headquarters USACE website.

Disclosure: Submission of requested information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, the request for an AJD cannot be evaluated nor can an AJD be issued.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BUFFALO DISTRICT
478 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NY 14202-3278

July 30, 2024

Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination for Department of the Army File No. LRB-2024-00357

Niagara Mohawk Power Company
dba/National Grid
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202
Attn: Mary Bidka

Dear Ms. Bidka:

I have reviewed the delineation report and maps submitted on your behalf by Fisher Associates pertaining to your request for a preliminary jurisdictional determination (JD) for aquatic resources identified along the 600+ acre project right-of-way (approximately 22-miles). The project area is located in the Towns of Lockport and Royalton in Niagara County, New York and the Town of Alabama in Genesee County, New York referred to as the Lockport-Batavia #112 rebuild.

I have evaluated the submitted information and have determined that the delineated boundaries shown on Sheets 1-107 accurately represent on-site conditions. Please note that this is a preliminary JD. Preliminary JDs are non-binding written indications that there may be waters of the United States (WOUS) on your parcel and approximate locations of those waters. Preliminary JDs are advisory in nature and may not be appealed.

Pursuant to Regulatory Guidance Letter 16-01, any permit application made in reliance on this preliminary JD will be evaluated as though all aquatic resources on the site are regulated by the Corps. Further, all aquatic resources will be used for purposes of assessing the extent of project related impacts and compensatory mitigation. If you require a definitive response regarding Department of the Army jurisdiction for any or all of the aquatic resources identified on the submitted drawings, you may request an approved JD from this office. If an approved JD is requested, please be aware that this is often a lengthy process, and we may require the submittal of additional information.

I have enclosed the preliminary JD form with this letter. The form and attached table identify the extent of aquatic resources on the site and specific terms and conditions of the preliminary JD. Please sign and return a copy of this form to my attention so that I may complete my evaluation of your file. If you do not respond within 15 days, I will presume concurrence and no additional follow-up is necessary prior to finalizing this action.

Regulatory Branch


SUBJECT: Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination for Department of the Army File No. LRB-2024-00357

In accordance with Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02, "Preliminary jurisdictional determinations are not definitive determinations of areas within regulatory jurisdiction and do not have expirations dates." However, I strongly recommend that the boundaries of all aquatic resources on the parcel be re-evaluated by a qualified wetland biologist after five (5) years of the date of this letter. This will ensure that any changes are appropriately identified, and you do not inadvertently incur a violation of Federal law while constructing your project or working on your project site.

Lastly, the delineation included herein has been conducted to identify the location and extent of the aquatic resource boundaries and/or the jurisdictional status of aquatic resources for purposes of the Clean Water Act for the particular site identified in this request. This delineation and/or jurisdictional determination may not be valid for the Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. If you or your tenant are USDA program participants, or anticipate participation in USDA programs, you should discuss the applicability of a certified wetland determination with the local USDA service center, prior to starting work.

Questions pertaining to this matter should be directed to me at 315-255-8090 x8076, by writing to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 7413 County House Road, Auburn, New York 13201, or by e-mail at: Judy.A.Robinson@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Robinson".

Judy Robinson
Biologist

Enclosures

cc: Sean Milne, Fisher Associates
James Ireland, Fisher Associates

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

Applicant: Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. DbA/National Grid Lockport-Batavia #112 Rebuild	File Number: LRB-2024-00357	Date: 07/30/2024
Attached is:		See Section below
<input type="checkbox"/>	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE	D
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	F

SECTION I

The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/appeals/> or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **OBJECT:** If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.

B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **APPEAL:** If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

C. PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE: Not appealable

You received a permit denial without prejudice because a required Federal, state, and/or local authorization and/or certification has been denied for activities which also require a Department of the Army permit before final action has been taken on the Army permit application. The permit denial without prejudice is not appealable. There is no prejudice to the right of the applicant to reinstate processing of the Army permit application if subsequent approval is received from the appropriate Federal, state, and/or local agency on a previously denied authorization and/or certification.

D: PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE: You may appeal the permit denial

You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

E: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information for reconsideration

- **ACCEPT:** You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the date of this notice means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- **APPEAL:** If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- **RECONSIDERATION:** You may request that the district engineer reconsider the approved JD by submitting new information or data to the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice. The district will determine whether the information submitted qualifies as new information or data that justifies reconsideration of the approved JD. A reconsideration request does not initiate the appeal process. You may submit a request for appeal to the division engineer to preserve your appeal rights while the district is determining whether the submitted information qualifies for a reconsideration.

F: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: Not appealable – do not fill out the appeals form.

If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also, you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.

POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding this decision you may contact:

Judy Robinson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7413 County House Road
Auburn, New York 13021
Phone: 315-255-8090 x8076
Judy.a.robinson@usace.army.mil

If you have questions regarding the appeal process, or to submit your request for appeal, you may contact:

Katherine McCafferty
Regulatory Appeals Officer
US Army Corps of Engineers
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division
550 Main Street, Room 10780
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3222
Phone: 513-684-2699 Fax: 513-684-2460
e-mail: katherine.a.mccafferty@usace.army.mil

SECTION II – REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OBJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT

REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. Use additional pages as necessary. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15-day notice of any site investigation and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.

Signature of appellant or agent.

Date:

Email address of appellant and/or agent:

Telephone number: