New York State Electric & Gas Corporation

Malone Transmission Rebuild Project

NYSEG Response to DPS June 11, 2025 Deficiency Letter

Case 25-T-0236

Exhibit B - Part 2 of 2

Revised Exhibit 4. Environmental Impacts (Clean); Revised Exhibit 4. Environmental Impacts (Redline)

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation

Malone Transmission Rebuild Project

Exhibit 4

Environmental Impacts

REDLINE

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EXHIBIT 4: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

4.1 Introduction

This Exhibit summarizes potential environmental impacts associated with the Project.[1] The Project will be designed, constructed, maintained, and operated to avoid or minimize impacts to environmental resources in the vicinity of the Project. A combination of agency consultation (Appendix A – Agency Correspondence), literature reviews, geographic information systems (GIS) analyses, and field investigations were conducted to assess the potential Project impacts to the following environmental resource categories:

- Land Use
- Visual Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Terrestrial Ecology and Wetlands
- Wildlife
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Topography and Soils
- Water Resources
- Noise
- Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

This Exhibit describes existing conditions; study methodologies; the anticipated impacts of the Project on environmental, visual, and socioeconomic resources; and appropriate measures to avoid impacts or to mitigate unavoidable impacts.

[1] For clarity and consistency, the Application includes a Master Glossary of Terms that defines terms and acronyms used throughout the Application.

4.1.1 Potential Off-ROW Construction Activity

The Applicant currently owns or holds easements to the Existing Right-of-Way (ROW) but will need to acquire additional property rights for the Project to expand the width of Existing ROW for required clearances. The Applicant may need to acquire additional rights outside of the Project ROW in order to: (i) allow for the off-ROW access of construction vehicles and equipment for the duration of construction; (ii) facilitate the storage of materials, equipment, vehicles, job trailers, and other similar uses (e.g., staging area(s), laydown yard(s), and marshalling yard(s)); (iii) install, occupy, operate, access, and maintain the Project facilities upon railroad property; (iv) enhance the Applicant's rights on Existing ROW (including the permanent removal of residential structures therefrom); and (v) acquire additional rights outside of the Existing ROW to selectively remove trees if they pose a risk. Environmental due diligence associated with approximate locations of these additional property rights will be provided and evaluated as part of the Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EM&CP).

4.1.2 Proposed Overhead Transmission Line Construction

Construction of the Project will entail several distinct activities that are expected to progress in a linear and orderly manner from one point to another along the entire length of the Project ROW. The Project does not include the construction of appurtenant structures, so no plans are necessary to minimize the visual or noise disturbance impacts of such structures.

The overall construction schedule will be based on outage constraints and the corresponding sequencing of construction activities aimed at maximizing work efficiency and minimizing environmental impacts and disturbance. The general construction activities that will occur are described in the following subsections.

4.1.2.1 Clearing

Work within the Project ROW will require the permanent removal of trees and other vegetation, particularly within areas of New ROW. Trees and shrubs within the Project ROW will be mowed or trimmed as necessary, to provide unimpeded and safe access to proposed structure work sites. In addition, danger trees will be side trimmed or removed. Shrubs and low-growing vegetation, as well as buffers at streams or in visually sensitive areas, may be maintained if they do not interfere

with the construction activities or operational integrity of the Project. Because the Project will predominately be located within Existing ROW, it has been designed to avoid and minimize new impacts to steep slopes and heavily timbered areas. Shrubs and low growing vegetation, as well as buffers at streams or in visually sensitive areas, may be maintained if they do not interfere with the construction activities or operation integrity of the Project. Tree clearing within the ROW is expected to total 52.6 acres, including 39.9 acres in non-wetland areas and 12.7 acres within delineated wetlands.

The Existing ROW has been maintained by the New York State ~~Electic~~Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) in accordance with its Transmission Vegetation Management Plan (TVMP) and has well-established herbaceous and shrub communities. The TVMP has been formulated to consider soil stability, protection of natural vegetation, and the protection of adjacent resources (including the protection of any natural habitat for wildlife). Upon Project construction completion, the Project ROW will be maintained under the TVMP, which may be amended as needed, to allow the same herbaceous and shrub cover type that occurs on the Existing ROW.

The vegetation management activities necessary for the Project are not anticipated to cause a significant overall change or have a noticeable overall effect on the vegetative communities presently occurring along the Project ROW. The specific vegetation management techniques and slash disposal techniques to be used for the Project will be implemented using practices detailed in the TVMP and will be prescribed on a site-by-site basis in the EM&CP, to be developed specifically for the construction of the Project.

No herbicide/pesticide treatment is proposed during construction of the Project. Herbicide/pesticide may be utilized for routine maintenance of the Project ROW. The types, volumes and manner of use of such pesticides and herbicides for maintenance purposes will be in accordance with the TVMP. The TVMP requires that the handling and application of herbicides be performed in accordance with NYSEG specifications and all applicable state and federal regulations. NYSEG will ensure that all herbicide applicators are appropriately certified and provided with the appropriate work specifications and instructions. All herbicide applications on the Project ROW will be performed under the on-site supervision of a New York State Certified

Pesticide Applicator. Upon application, reasonable efforts will be made to inform persons who may be expected to enter areas treated with herbicides.

4.1.2.2 Access Roads

Existing access roads or paths in the Existing ROW will be utilized wherever possible and will be improved, as required, to provide safe and effective equipment access to each structure location. In some limited cases, it may become necessary to work with adjacent landowners to secure permission for off-site access to support Project construction activities.

Significant environmental impacts to vegetation, water, and soil resources will be avoided to the extent possible by using existing access roads or paths and by properly locating any new access roads that may be required. The use of existing access roads or paths and the siting of new access roads will be based on factors such as: the avoidance of environmentally sensitive features (e.g., wetlands and active agricultural fields); facilitation of future maintenance work; minimization of potential erosion problems; and maximization of the use of existing roadways and Existing ROW.

Where site conditions, such as streams and wetlands, present a concern on the Project ROW, off-site access will be considered to avoid or minimize impacts. Permission for off-site access will be obtained from landowners if existing rights do not already provide for such access. If it becomes necessary to cross environmentally sensitive areas, protection, and mitigation measures such as the use of low ground pressure or tracked equipment and equipment mats, will be utilized in accordance with the EM&CP.

Stream crossings will be installed in accordance with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYSDEC) Standard Specifications for Temporary Access Waterway Crossing, unless otherwise noted in the EM&CP. In addition, areas disturbed during construction will be restored and stabilized, and all temporary protection measures will be removed following the completion of construction.

The details for the construction of new access roads, the use or improvement of existing roads, and the application of erosion and sediment control measures will be provided on a site-by-site basis in the EM&CP. Erosion and sediment control measures will be designed to maintain and protect soil and water resources both during and following construction activities. Factors considered

when selecting the appropriate erosion and sediment control measures include but are not limited to, the following: timing of construction; accessibility; movement and frequency of construction traffic within the Project Area; wetland and stream crossings; type and limitations of heavy equipment; and the creation, stabilization, and future maintenance of access roads (e.g., cut and fill, water bar, bridge, and culvert installation). During Project operation, similar erosion and control measures may be employed during maintenance activities. Typically, access used for the construction of the Project will also be used to facilitate future maintenance activities.

4.1.2.3 Construction Marshaling Yards or Staging Areas

Prior to construction, it will be necessary to establish areas that will serve as locations for construction-related facilities such as:

- Office trailers;
- Personnel parking and portable sanitary facilities;
- Material, equipment and vehicle storage; and
- Minor equipment and vehicle maintenance.

These areas, referred to as construction marshaling yards or staging areas, will be strategically placed at selected locations along or proximate to the Project ROW. These sites will normally be located adjacent to existing public roads, where material deliveries can be efficiently conducted, and will be located to avoid environmentally sensitive features including wetlands, known archaeological sites, and habitats that support rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals.

The location of construction marshaling yards or staging areas will be identified during the certification process or prior to or during final design and presented in the EM&CP. Each area will be of sufficient size to accommodate the materials to be delivered and will serve as a storage yard for materials such as poles, hardware, and conductors delivered from outside the region.

Arrangements may be made with landowners to use locally available and developed commercial properties, thereby minimizing the amount of site preparation and improvement work that would be needed to use an undeveloped site. If such properties or sites are not available, the establishment of these areas could require vegetation clearing; removal and stockpiling of topsoil; site grading;

spreading of gravel cover; fencing; lighting, and installation of signage and temporary utilities. Additional vegetation clearing and grading for site access also may be required. After completion of construction, the marshaling yards and staging areas will be restored to conditions comparable to those that existed before construction, unless an affected landowner desires otherwise.

4.1.2.4 Construction and Upland Structure Installation[2]

The primary construction activities at each new structure location will be foundation installation, structure fabrication, and structure erection. Guying will also be performed; however, guys have been minimized in wetlands and agricultural lands. The weathering steel monopole structures constructed as part of the Project will either be direct embedded or will utilize a concrete caisson foundation, the determination of which will be made during detailed engineering. These major activities, as well as all other minor activities associated with the erection of each structure, will take place within the Project ROW and other work areas specifically designated in the EM&CP.

The placement of transmission line structures in stream and wetland areas and on steep slopes will be avoided where possible. For a discussion of structure placement in wetland areas, refer to Section 4.1.4.5 (Structure Installation in Wetland Areas), Section 4.5.2.4 (Wetland Impacts and Mitigation), and Table 4-13 (Proposed Structures in Delineated Wetlands with Presumed Jurisdiction) below. Structure placement in wetlands is also discussed in Exhibit 3. For a discussion of structure installation on steep slopes, refer to Section 4.8.4 (Topography, Soil, and Geological Impacts) below. No structures are proposed within streams; structures will be located to span streams within the Project ROW. Transmission line structures will not be placed within any identified archaeological sites or other sites sensitive to disturbance, such as locations supporting rare plants, where feasible. Advanced planning will assure that tree pruning and brush disposal are properly conducted, equipment operation and construction activities are limited to designated areas, the appropriate erosion control measures are applied, and tree marking and selective cutting in the natural vegetative buffers precede structure placement.

[2] No portion of the Proposed Line is proposed to be constructed underground. See Exhibit E-3.

4.1.2.5 Structure Installation in Wetland Areas

Structure locations will avoid wetland areas to the extent practicable. When it is necessary to locate a structure within the limits of a wetland, special construction methods and environmental procedures will be employed to minimize adverse effects and protect the wetland's individual functions. Wetlands will be individually reviewed to determine the best method of access to each structure and to prescribe the appropriate mitigation measures, such as the use of equipment mats, to minimize impacts.

Typically, temporary equipment mats will be utilized for access and work pads for structures that will be installed in wetlands. Equipment mats minimize ruts and soil compaction, as well as erosion and sedimentation displacement. Additionally, the mats provide a level, stable work area to set up and operate the equipment necessary for the installation and erection of the weathering steel pole structures. After the area has been prepared, work will begin with excavating holes for the new pole structure using an auger or an excavator. In wetland areas, topsoil will be segregated from subsoil and stockpiled on construction matting and/or geo-textile fabric.

The weathering steel monopoles will be installed by excavating a narrow hole. Segregated subsoil will be stockpiled adjacent to the excavation. After excavating a narrow hole, a corrugated "grounding" culvert will be lowered into the excavation with a crane or excavator and the area around the culvert will be backfilled with the excavated subsoil, as necessary. The weathering steel pole will then be lowered into the culvert and crushed stone will be backfilled between the pole and the vertical culvert.

The work area will be graded to approximate pre-construction conditions. Segregated wetland topsoil will be replaced over the grounding culvert and allowed to re-vegetate with wetland vegetation. Excess soil will be transferred to an upland area in the Project Area or to an approved off-site disposal location.

Details regarding the size and location of each work area as well as the mitigation measures that will be used to minimize impacts on the wetland will be provided in the EM&CP.

Refer to Section 4.5 below for a discussion of wetland and stream impacts. Refer to Section 4.5.2.4 (Wetland Impacts and Mitigation) and Table 4-13 (Proposed Structures in Delineated Wetlands

with Presumed Jurisdiction) below for additional detail regarding structure placement in wetlands. Structure placement in wetlands is also discussed in Exhibit 3.

4.1.2.6 Direct Embedded Structure Installation

The Project's weathering steel pole structures will be installed by directly embedding the structures into the ground. Typically, no concrete will be required for a directly embedded tangent structure. Foundation backfill may be native earth, if suitable, or crushed stone. Excess soil will be spread in appropriate upland areas within the Project Area, if permissible, and seeded and mulched to prevent erosion. If soil redistribution within the Project Area is not possible, it will be removed from the site in compliance with applicable regulations.

Foundation design for dead-end and angle structures will consider site-specific soil bearing capacities and subsurface conditions through individual boring investigations at those locations. Where needed, weathering steel angle or dead-end structures will be self-supporting and will require reinforced concrete (drilled caisson) foundations. Specific foundation requirements will be determined through geotechnical analysis conducted as part of the detailed design phase.

4.1.2.7 Concrete Foundation and Structure Installation

Use of concrete caisson foundations for weathering steel pole structures will be determined during the detailed design phase. Concrete caisson foundations will include installation of an anchor bolt assembly to support the structure. The concrete foundation construction typically involves the excavation of an 8- to 12-foot diameter hole to accommodate a 6- to 10-foot diameter foundation. Holes are typically excavated to a depth of 20 to 40 feet. Foundations may be excavated with a large drilling machine, a tire-mounted backhoe, or track excavator. Erosion and sediment control measures will be prescribed in the EM&CP, to prevent runoff from reaching areas adjacent to the Project.

If the initial excavation or the pouring of concrete into the caisson form is likely to result in a discharge of water, specific dewatering procedures will be employed. Water will be pumped from the excavation area into a containment area that will be situated in an upland location, as feasible. The containment area will be constructed of straw bales and geo-textile fabric and will be

consistent with the EM&CP erosion and sediment control criteria. The water will then be allowed to infiltrate back into the ground or filter through and/or overtop the straw bale dike.

After the concrete has been poured and cured and the weathering steel structures have been set, disturbed areas will be finish-graded, seeded appropriately for summer or winter conditions, and mulched. In wetland areas where grades have the potential to cause erosion, annual rye seed will be spread over disturbed soils to provide rapid germination of vegetation.

4.1.2.8 Conductor Stringing

After the structures are erected, insulators will be installed, and conductor and lightning wire protection (shield wire) will be strung using a lead line and puller/tensioner machine. Lead lines can be walked through sensitive areas, such as wetlands and vegetative buffer zones, with minimum disruption. Conductors will be pulled through stringing blocks by the tensioning equipment that is staged at appropriate structure locations. During conductor stringing, temporary guard structures will be placed at all highways, railroads, trails, and near existing utility lines to ensure public safety and the continued operation of other utility equipment.

Conductor stringing sites will be designated in the EM&CP at selected locations for the Project. Such sites will involve set-up and operation of mechanized pulling equipment and conductor reels. Wetlands and other sensitive environmental sites will generally be avoided in locating such sites. If they cannot be avoided, temporary equipment mats or other appropriate protective measures will be implemented, as specified in the EM&CP.

4.1.2.9 Clean-up and Restoration

Clean-up and restoration activities will be conducted, as required, following construction. Sites requiring restoration due to construction work will be identified and the appropriate restoration measures applied in accordance with the EM&CP. This work may include re-grading, repair of stream banks, temporary and permanent seeding and mulching for erosion control, and selective tree and shrub plantings. All permanent seeding and planting work will be conducted during the growing season.

4.2 Land Use

This section summarizes existing land uses and land cover in the Project Area. As further discussed below, since the Project will primarily utilize the Existing ROW, it will preserve the natural landscape and minimize conflict with present or future planned land use to the maximum extent practicable.

4.2.1 Existing Land Uses

The Proposed Line starts at the Malone Substation. Commercial and agricultural uses lie near the Malone Substation but should not be impacted by the Project. From the Malone Substation, the Proposed Line travels in an easterly and northeasterly direction approximately 9 miles along the Existing ROW. Land uses to the south and north of the Existing ROW are primarily undeveloped forest (including the Adirondack Park to the south) and agriculture, with scattered residential uses. The Project does not intersect the Adirondack Park. The Project crosses NYS Snowmobile Trail C7, which is maintained by Franklin Snowmobilers, Inc., between River Road and Goodman Road in the Town of Malone.

The Proposed Line continues north for approximately 2 miles along the Existing ROW where it terminates at the Willis Substation. Land uses to the east and west of the Existing ROW are primarily undeveloped forest, with scattered residential, agricultural, and light industrial uses. The Project does not cross any known or recognized pedestrian trails; the only known or recognized recreational trail crossed by the Project is the NYS Snowmobile Trail C7 discussed above.

Table 4-1, Land Use within the Project ROW (attached to the rear of this Exhibit), quantifies land use within the Existing ROW. The information included in Table 4-1 is based on the most up-to-date Office of Real Property Tax Services (ORPTS) classifications and Franklin County tax parcel information, including the property type classification codes for land use.

Additional resources to determine existing land uses in areas adjacent to, or traversed by, the Project include:

- Field reconnaissance surveys performed between 2023 and ~~2024~~2025;
- Google Earth satellite/aerial imagery, updated in 2022;

- United States Geological Survey (USGS) 1:24,000 topographic quadrangle maps (USGS, 2024); and
- New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) planimetric maps.

4.2.2 New York State Open Space Conservation Plan, New York CLCPA

The New York State Open Space Conservation Plan (2016) ("2016 Plan") contains comprehensive recommendations to help local governments and non-profit organizations undertake open space land use planning at regional and community levels.

New York State's open space conservation goals as listed in the 2016 Plan include:

- Protect state water quality;
- Provide accessible, quality, outdoor recreation;
- Protect habitat for the diversity of plant and animal species;
- Improve quality of life and overall health in our communities;
- Maintain critical natural resource-based industries;
- Address global climate change through forest, wetland, and riparian area stewardship, ecosystem protection, urban and community forestry, and community planning;
- Provide places for education and research relating to ecological, environmental and cultural resources; and
- Protect and enhance scenic, historic, and cultural resources (NYSDEC, 2016).

The 2016 Plan divides New York State into nine regions. The Project is located entirely within Region 5: Eastern Adirondacks/Lake Champlain. The 2016 Plan includes a list of 132 regional priority conservation projects across the State, none of which are in the vicinity of the Project. The Project will be in conformance with, and not affect the goals of, the 2016 Plan.

The Project is a direct result of the National Grid Area of Concern Study (2022), prepared in furtherance of the State's pursuit of the goals of the CLCPA, which concluded that the Applicant's

electric transmission lines and substations require upgrades to improve deliverability and performance. Accordingly, the Project is consistent with the goals of the CLCPA.

4.2.3 Local Land Use Planning and Policies

A review of the available local planning documents confirms that Project activities are consistent with relevant municipal long-term land use planning goals. Consistency with the Town of Malone Comprehensive Plan is described below. The Towns of Bellmont, Burke, and Chateaugay do not have any relevant publicly available local planning or land use documentation.

Town of Malone – Comprehensive Plan 2007

The Town of Malone's Comprehensive Plan 2007 was created to serve as a guide for the future growth and development of the Town of Malone (Town of Malone, 2007). The plan includes an inventory of the town's resources, examines current land use patterns, analyzes growth, and discusses future needs of the town. The Comprehensive Plan 2007 also sets forth policies designed to ensure that growth will occur only while taking the best interest of the existing and future residents of the Town of Malone into consideration (Town of Malone, 2007).

The Project will not interfere with the goals and objectives outlined in the Town of Malone's Comprehensive Plan 2007. Section 4.3.3 provides an inventory of the existing parks and recreation areas within a three-mile radius of the Project and demonstrates that the Project avoids scenic and recreational areas in the Town of Malone and minimizes visibility from areas of public view.

4.2.4 Floodplains

Mapped Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resources were reviewed in relation to the Project for the following zones:

- Regulatory Floodway
- Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA or the 100-year floodplain)
- 0.2 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area (500-year floodplain)

FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) show flood risk information based on historic, meteorological, hydrologic, and hydraulic data, as well as open-space conditions, flood control works, and development (FEMA, 2024).

According to FEMA's published FIRM for each community, the Project traverses a SFHA (100-year floodplain) in four locations, which are associated with the Salmon River, Branch Brook, Collins Brook, Little Trout River, and Trout River. The Project does not cross a 0.2 percent Annual Chance Flood Area (500-year floodplain). Figure 4-1, FEMA Floodplains, depicts the Regulatory Floodway as well as the 100-year and 500-year floodplain locations within Franklin County.

The Project is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on the floodplains. The new structures will have a minimal footprint, will not appreciably change the ground or floodwater elevation, and will be designed in accordance with any applicable substantive flood zone requirements.

4.2.5 Agricultural Districts

Franklin County Agricultural District mapping was reviewed to determine if the Project traverses any portion of a certified Agricultural District. Agricultural Districts in Franklin County are shown on Figure 4-2, Agricultural Districts (NYSAGM, 2024). The Project traverses approximately 3.5 miles of Franklin County Agricultural District No. 1. Based upon ORPTS parcel tax codes, the Project crosses agricultural parcels totaling approximately 0.95 mile in the Town of Malone, 0.7 mile in the Town of Burke, and 1.4 miles in the Town of Bellmont. Minimal impacts are anticipated, as the Project is proposed primarily within Existing ROW and best management practices (BMPs) (such as avoiding the use of guy lines in active agricultural fields) will be implemented during construction and restoration.

4.2.6 Potential Environmental Justice Area and Disadvantaged Communities

In accordance with the State's environmental justice goals, this section summarizes Potential Environmental Justice Areas (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) identified within three miles of the Project.

PEJAs are defined as U.S. Census block groups of 250 to 500 households each that, in the Census, had populations that met or exceeded at least one of the following statistical thresholds:

1. At least 52.42% of the population in an urban area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or

2. At least 26.28% of the population in a rural area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or

3. At least 22.82% of the population in an urban or rural area had household incomes below the federal poverty level (NYSDEC, 2024a).

NYSDEC guidance provides that PEJAs "may bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal and commercial operations…" (NYSDEC, 2003). NYSDEC's guidance further provides that measures should be taken to assess potential impacts to PEJAs related to proposed actions and any adverse environmental impact must be avoided or minimized to the extent practicable. As discussed further below, the Project is consistent with NYSDEC's PEJA guidance, as it is not anticipated to result in adverse impacts to PEJAs.

As part of the CLCPA, state agencies need to consider impacts on DACs in decision making. The criteria used for determining DACs included multiple indicators that represent environmental burdens, climate risks, population characteristics and health vulnerabilities within communities. Each census tract is scored based on a relative burden, risk, vulnerability, or sensitivity, and based on the combined scores, the top 35% of the census tracts are considered DACs (NYSERDA, 2023).

NYSDEC PEJA mapping shown in Figure 4-3, Potential Environmental Justice Area & Disadvantaged Communities, identified five distinct census blocks within three miles of the Project that are designated PEJAs with a total population of 3,328 individuals (NYSDEC, 2024a). New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) DAC mapping shown in Figure 4-3 identified no distinct DACs within three miles of the Project. The closest DACs is approximately 4 miles north of the project with a total population of 5,022 individuals (NYSERDA, 2024a).

The Project is consistent with the goals of the CLCPA in that it proposes to provide upgraded electric transmission infrastructure that will allow energy to be safely and reliably transported to load centers throughout the State. Future electric generation development supported by the Project

may provide new employment opportunities. The Project's operation will not result in the production of greenhouse gas or co-pollutant emissions, and thus will not disproportionately burden DACs and, since it is consistent with the State's CLCPA goals, it will help reduce overall GHG emissions in the State. As such, the Project is anticipated to positively impact PEJA communities and DACs.

4.2.7 Land Use Impacts and Mitigation

The Applicant does not anticipate any significant overall changes to existing land uses and their associated environmental resources. The Project location was selected to avoid and minimize, to the greatest extent possible, impacts to land use by locating Project facilities within Existing ROW throughout its length. The Project is consistent with the 2016 Plan and the CLCPA, as well as with local land use planning documents and policies, due to the minimal impacts resulting from siting Project facilities primarily along the Existing ROW. Since the Project will be primarily within Existing ROW, it will not conflict with the stated goals and recommendations of the municipalities through which it traverses.

The Project would not have any adverse impacts on the floodplain due to the minimal footprint of the proposed pole structures. The new structures will not appreciably change the corresponding land or flood elevation and will be designed in accordance with any applicable substantive flood zone requirements.

The Project crosses active agricultural lands and several areas within a designated New York Agricultural District. During construction, agricultural operations may be temporarily disrupted within the Project Area. The Applicant will adhere to applicable protective methods set forth in the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets (NYSAGM) "Guidelines for Electric Transmission Right-of-Way Projects." These methods include the use of equipment mats where practical, and the removal, stockpiling and replacement of topsoil after construction. If rutting occurs within agricultural fields, the applicable Project Area will be graded and restored to the farm operator's satisfaction following construction. Restoration measures may include rehabilitation of drain tiles in fields, deep tilling of heavily compacted areas, and thorough removal of all construction debris. The Applicant will consult with the agricultural property owners to optimize re-placement of structures to potentially reduce impacts from what currently exists.

Based on all of the above, the Project preserves the natural landscape and minimizes conflict with any present or future planned land use.

4.3 Visual Resources

This section examines the visual and aesthetic impacts on scenic, recreational, and historical areas from the construction and operation of the Project; it identifies and examines the visual resources and the visual qualities of the landscape study area within a three-mile radius of the Project. Refer to the *Visual Resources Assessment* (VRA) in Appendix D for additional detail.

4.3.1 Visual Resource Inventory of Historic Areas, Parks, and Preserves

Visually Sensitive Resources (VSRs) are landscape areas and features that are significant because of either their inherent visual quality or cultural importance, including: naturally occurring landscapes, natural features, human-made features, designated recreational and scenic areas, and landscapes that demonstrate historical significance.

The NYSDEC's Program Policy, Assessing and Mitigating Visual Impacts – DEP-00-2 (NYSDEC, 2019), identifies 16 categories of aesthetic resources of statewide significance which have been recognized through either national or state designations. These 16 categories were inventoried within a three-mile radius of the Project:

1. A historic resource listed or eligible for inclusion in the State or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. State Parks (Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law 3.09);
3. New York State Heritage Areas (Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law Section 35.15);
4. The State Forest Preserve (New York State Constitution Article XIV)
5. National Wildlife Refuges (16 United States Code [U.S.C.] 668dd), and State Game Refuges (Environmental Conservation Law [ECL] 11-2015);
6. National Natural Landmarks (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 62);

7. The National Park Service (NPS), Recreation Areas, Seashores, Forests (16. U.S.C. 1c);

8. Rivers designated as National or State Wild, Scenic or Recreational (16 U.S.C. Chapter 28, ECL 15-2701 *et seq*);

9. A site, area, lake, reservoir or highway designated or eligible for designation as scenic, including New York State Scenic Byways (ECL Article 49 Title 1) or NYSDOT equivalent);

10. Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance (Article 42 of Executive Law);

11. A state or federally designated trail, or one proposed for designation (16 U.S.C. Chapter 27 or equivalent);

12. Adirondack Park Scenic Vistas (Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Map);

13. State Nature and Historic Preserve Areas (Section 4 of Article XIV of the State Constitution);

14. Palisades Park (Palisades Interstate Park Commission);

15. Bond Act Properties purchased under Exceptional Scenic Beauty Quality (ECL Article 51, 52 and 56); or

16. National Heritage Areas.

In addition to those resource categories identified above, local resources include:

1. Local parks or other significant recreation lands (e.g., village, city, county);

2. Trails (e.g., hiking, snowmobiling, "rails-to-trails");

3. Community centers (e.g., village or city);

4. Areas dedicated to the preservation of natural features (e.g., wildlife management areas);

5. High volume Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) roads of importance; and

6. Schools.

Refer to the VRA in Appendix D for additional detail regarding visual resources, including Attachment A (Figures) and Attachment C (Visually Sensitive Resource Analysis).

4.3.1.2 Categories of Visual Resources

1) Historic Resources

A review of the NPS NRHP database and the files maintained by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) identified a total of 50 historic architectural resources, including two historic districts and one national historic landmark, within three miles of the Project (OPRHP, 2024). These historic resources are listed or eligible for listing in either the State Register of Historic Places (State Register) or the NRHP. The locations of these historic architectural resources are shown in Figure 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 of the VRA (Appendix D).

Of these 50 resources, eight historic resources are located within visibility range of the proposed structures: Malone Residential District, Malone Downtown Commercial District, the Paddock Building, 15 Francis St, Malone School for the Deaf, 199 Burke Bellmont Townline Road, 528 Harnett Road, and the Adirondack Forest Preserve. However, the Visual Resource Assessment (Appendix D) illustrates that there will be no change in visibility at any location. The Project involves the replacement of the Existing Line, which is currently visible from these resources. Forty-two properties currently have no visibility of the existing structures and will remain unimpacted and have no view of the proposed structures. The Visual Resource Assessment (Appendix D) illustrates that although there is no property with new visibility, the larger proposed structures may be visible from a larger area within the resource or have more structures visible. The views from these resources overall do not have a new feature introduced into the landscape or experience a change in land use, and the Proposed Line will be located predominantly within the Existing ROW. As a result, the proposed Project is not likely to have visual impacts on the identified historic properties.

2) State Parks

There are no State Parks within three miles of the Project.

3) New York State Heritage Areas

There are no New York State Heritage Areas within three miles of the Project.

4) State Forest Preserve

At its closest point, the Project is approximately 345 feet from the Adirondack Park State Forest Preserve boundary, where the Project crosses into the Town of Bellmont in Franklin County, New York. The Adirondack Park boundary encompasses approximately 6 million acres and is the largest publicly protected area in the contiguous United States. The state of New York owns approximately 44 percent (roughly 2.6 million acres) of land within the Park's boundaries as part of the "forever wild" forest preserve, while the remaining land is private land. Anticipated visual impacts are not likely to be significant due to the distance from the Project, existing vegetation, and the utilization of the Existing ROW.

5) National Wildlife Refuges, and State Game Refuges and State Wildlife Management Areas

There are no National Wildlife Refuges, State Game Refuges, or State Wildlife Management Areas located within three miles of the Project.

6) National Natural Landmarks

There are no National Natural Landmarks located within three miles of the Project.

7) The National Park System, Recreation Areas, Seashores, Forests

There are no National Parks, Recreation Areas, Seashores, or Forests within three miles of the Project.

8) Rivers designated as National or State Wild, Scenic or Recreational

There are no designated National or State Wild, Scenic or Recreational Rivers within three miles of the Project.

9) A site, area, lake, reservoir, or highway designated or eligible for designation as scenic

There are two designated scenic resources within three miles of the Project: the Adirondack Trail and the Military Trail. These trails are both part of the New York State Scenic Byways program sponsored by NYSDOT. The Adirondack Trail New York Scenic Byway begins in the Village of Malone and heads south on State Route 30, which is approximately 0.3 miles west of the Project. The Military Trail New York Scenic Byway also cuts through the Village of Malone on State Route 37 and State Route 11, which is approximately 1.5 miles north of the Project. The locations of these scenic resources are shown on Figures 3.1 and 3.2 of the VRA (Appendix D). The VRA

(Appendix D) includes a viewshed analysis of the existing structures, which illustrates visibility from each of the byways from various portions along their routes within three miles of the Project. The views from the resources overall do not have a new feature introduced into the landscape. However, because of the design updates, sections of the routes may experience more or less visibility with the Project installed. There are no other sites, areas, lakes, reservoirs, or highways designated or eligible for designation as scenic within three miles of Project.

10) Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance

According to the New York State Department of State (NYSDOS), Office of Planning & Development's Coastal Atlas, there are no designated Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance within three miles of the Project.

11) A state or federally designated trail, or one proposed for designation

There is one state-designated trail within three miles of the Project. State Bike Route 11 is located approximately one mile north of the Project at its closest point and is anticipated to have visibility of the Proposed Line. The bike route has existing visibility of the Existing Line. There are no further state or federally designated trails or ones proposed for designation within three miles of the Project.

12) Adirondack Park Scenic Vistas

There are no Adirondack Park Scenic Vistas located within three miles of the Project.

13) State Nature and Historic Preserve Areas

There are no state nature and historic preserve areas located within three miles of the Project.

14) Palisades Park

Palisades Park is not located within three miles of the Project.

15) Bond Act Properties purchased under Exceptional Scenic Beauty category

There are no properties acquired under the Exceptional Scenic Beauty definition of the Bond Act (Article 51, 52 and 56) within three miles of the Project.

16) National Heritage Areas

There are no National Heritage Areas within three miles of the Project.

4.3.2 Local, Private, and State Recreation Sites and Publicly Accessible Conservation Lands/Easements

There are eight municipal recreation sites found within three miles of the Project: Malone Memorial Recreation Park, Malone Village Water, Arsenal Green Park, Thayers Corners Water District, Franklin County Fairgrounds, Malone Central School Fields, Sellers Field, and Chateaugay Town Recreational Park. Other publicly accessible recreational areas located within three miles of the Project include rivers and streams with public fishing easements (Chateaugay River and Salmon River) and State Bike Route 11. The locations of these recreational resources are shown on Figures 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 of the VRA (Appendix D).

Of these eleven resources, five have existing visibility of both the existing and proposed structures: State Bike Route 11, the Salmon River, and three local parks (Malone Memorial Recreation Park, Malone Village Water, and the Franklin County Fairgrounds). Of the resources without existing visibility, only Arsenal Green Park is anticipated to have new visibility of the proposed structures. At Arsenal Green Park, visibility is limited to constricted view corridors, down roadways and through gaps in buildings that align in the direction of the Project.

4.3.3 Visual Impacts and Mitigation

Potential visual impacts are greatest when incompatible landscape features or elements are added in a way that detracts from the overall setting or enjoyment of historic, scenic, and recreational resources. Potential visual impacts from the Project to historic, scenic, and recreational resources are minimized by using the Existing ROW and the placement of proposed structures adjacent to or in close proximity to those structures being replaced. The Project's potential impacts on visual resources were evaluated and the results are summarized in a Saratoga Associates *Visual Resources Assessment* dated February 2025.

The potential visibility of the Project and its impact on surrounding areas are dependent on the visibility of the existing infrastructure and the nature and extent of the surrounding development. Generally, structures in the Existing ROW proposed to be utilized by the Project are part of a forested, rural, or residential setting. A replacement transmission line located in the Existing ROW will have less contrast and less visual impact compared to a new transmission line in an undeveloped area. The Project intends to be predominantly within the Existing ROW, which

contains existing transmission or distribution lines. Proposed structures will have a height no greater than 110 feet above existing structures, which will result in an increase in visibility. Additionally, new weathering steel structures will assist with blending the structures into the background or existing vegetation, similar to the current structures. Thus, the Project is proposed to be sited in a manner that minimizes its visibility from areas of public view. Visual simulation locations comparing existing conditions to the proposed Project are provided in Attachment D of the VRA (Appendix D).

4.3.4 Photographic Simulations

The photographic simulations shown in Attachment D of the VRA (Appendix D) were developed from select observation points along local roadways near residences, state routes, local parks, public fishing easement areas, and scenic byways. These simulations were developed by constructing a three-dimensional computer model of the Project. The selected viewpoints chosen for simulations represent general ranges of viewer sensitivities, landscapes, and land uses. These are locations/viewpoints that:

- Provide open, representative views toward the Project from different directions throughout the visual study area;
- Represent inventoried aesthetic resources within the visual study area (if appropriate);
- Illustrate open views of the Project that may be available to representative viewers/user groups within the visual study area; and
- Illustrate the range of visual effects that could result from the Project, including vegetation removal, obstruction of Project components (e.g., filtered views), and extent of view.

Visual simulations were completed from nine Key Observation Points (KOPs) illustrating the proposed Project in various settings: four simulations were from local roadways, one was from State Route 30/the Adirondack Trail Scenic Byway, two were from Malone Memorial Recreation Park, and one was from the Salmon River Public Fishing Easement area. The photography and simulations show that there are existing transmission lines within the Existing ROW and that implementation of the Project will result in a similar view. The additional visibility due to the

increase in structure size does not change the composition of the view or impact the scenic integrity of the represented landscapes. Potential discrepancies between the visual simulation and the constructed Project may occur due to design revisions, alignment adjustments, and variations between the model surface and 'real world' conditions.

Based on the completion of the viewshed mapping, site visit, simulations, and the VRA, the Project is not expected to have any impact on visual and recreational resources; it is the rebuilding of an existing electric transmission facility and located in areas where electric transmission line infrastructure already exists. Of the identified visually sensitive resources within three miles of the Project, only one resource was found to have visibility of the proposed structures without visibility of the existing: Arsenal Green Park. The visibility of the Malone Transmission Rebuild Project will be very minimal and generally consistent in character with the existing visible landscape for each of the identified resources. As such, the Malone Transmission Rebuild Project is not anticipated to result in an adverse visual impact.

4.4 Cultural Resources

The term "cultural resources" includes archaeological sites and objects, historic buildings and structures, and archaeological and historic districts. This section tabulates and discusses known cultural resources within three miles of the Project, including the direct effect the Project may have on these resources.

4.4.1 Existing Setting

The Project is located in northern New York, in the towns of Malone, Chateaugay, Burke, and Bellmont, in Franklin County, and is roughly bounded by New York Route 11 to the north.

The Project is primarily in the Northeastern Forage and Forest Land Resource Region (Land Resource Region R), (USDA-NRCS 2022a). The Project is within the St. Lawrence-Champlain Plain Major Land Resource Area (Major Land Resource Area 142). The Existing ROW and its surrounding area consist of a mix of agriculture, hardwood and conifer forestland, and rural residential land uses.

4.4.1.1 Archaeological Sites

Consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was initiated via a file search and review utilizing the New York State Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) on May 29, 2024. The 2005 New York SHPO Phase I Archaeological Report Format guidelines were reviewed for determining areas of substantial proposed ground disturbance and criteria for identifying areas of high archaeological sensitivity (OPRHP 2005). These areas of substantial proposed ground disturbance include new overhead electrical transmission structures located more than 10 feet from existing overhead electrical transmission structures, new access roads, staging areas, trenches three feet or wider, and areas of grubbing and grading.

The SHPO/OPRHP defines areas of high sensitivity, where archaeological sites are most likely to be identified, as those: (1) within 100-meters (328 feet) of permanent water (rivers, streams, wetlands, ponds and lakes and hydric soils) and on slopes equal to or less than 12%; (2) within or near to known archaeological sites; and (3) locations of standing or demolished historic structures. Hydric soils are included to account for areas that may not be currently near water but were in the past. The 100-meter cut off from water is based on data presented by Robert E. Funk in his 1993 "Archaeological Investigations in the Upper Susquehanna Valley, New York State" (Funk 1993).

On July 10, 2024, SHPO provided sensitivity model guidelines pertaining to overhead transmission lines titled "Overhead Transmission Structure Replacement Archaeology Comments, Phase IA/IB Archaeological Survey Recommendations/Sensitivity Model." These sensitivity model guidelines also state that all areas that do not meet the definition of "high sensitivity" are considered to have "low sensitivity" for archaeological resources. These guidelines do not recommend archaeological testing of low sensitivity areas.

Permanent waterways and hydric soils within the Project area of potential effect (APE) were identified and mapped based on data obtained from the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) website and confirmed using the *Wetland and Stream Delineation Report* for the Project, dated ~~December 2024~~May 2025.

The locations of standing or demolished structures were determined based on a review of historic maps. The desktop sensitivity assessment of the Project Area resulted in the identification of 14

locations with sensitivity for Historic period archaeological resources and 48 locations with sensitivity for Precontact period archaeological resources.

Phase IA Archaeological Assessment was completed based on guidelines provided in a SHPO letter dated July 10, 2024, and titled "Overhead Transmission Structure Replacement Archaeology Comments, Phase IA/IB Archaeological Survey Recommendations/Sensitivity Model." These guidelines adopt a universal definition of high archaeological sensitivity (high sensitivity) and survey requirements.

A walkover survey of all 14 locations with sensitivity for Historic period resources based on historic maps resulted in the identification of existing standing map documented structures (MDS) at two areas, H-6 and H-11. Above ground evidence of MDSs was not identified at the remaining 3 locations within the ROW where MDSs were identified during desktop review, H-1, H-2 and H-7. Test hole excavation is recommended for each of these locations to confirm that the MDS was not located within the Project APE. MDSs were identified adjacent to three access roads, 4AR-H-1, 6AR-H-1, and 7AR-H-1. Previous archaeological study completed for Jericho Rise Wind Farm (15SR00791) project identified a historic site at the MDS located adjacent to 7AR-H-1, it was designated Town Line Road Site 1 (03303.000057). Test hole excavation is recommended for Phase IB testing at each of these access road locations. A total of 36 test holes is recommended for the 6 areas with sensitivity for Historic Period resources. Walkover survey confirmed that the remaining 8 areas were not sensitive for Historic period resources and no Phase IB testing is recommended for these areas.

The walkover survey confirmed 27 of the 48 Precontact period areas are sensitive for Precontact Period resources, 21 areas were not determined sensitive due to slope, saturated soils or disturbances. Five additional areas were also identified as sensitive for Precontact period resources. Phase IB testing is recommended for all 32 areas. Four of these areas are located in active agricultural fields and we have recommended pedestrian survey in place of test holes excavations for P-25, P-26, P-27, and P-28. The remaining 28 areas will be tested with excavation of 282 test holes.

In addition to the Phase IA Archaeological Assessment, cultural resources recorded on the State Register and NRHP or considered eligible for inclusion on the State Register and NRHP were

identified within three miles of the Project. Twenty-four archaeological sites were identified within the three-mile buffer around the Project. There are no precontact period archaeological sites within the three-mile buffer around the Project. There are also no New York State Museum (NYSM) sites or areas within the three-mile buffer around the Project.

Among the 24 sites, there are farmsteads, a forge, a railroad grade, bridges, historic scatter, foundations middens, and a mill. OPRHP has made formal eligibility determinations for eight of these sites: Pulpmill Road Bridge (BIN 3337650), PCI/Burke Historic Site 1, PCI/Burke Historic Site 2, M.C. Chapman Farmstead Site, TRC-BS-1, TRC-BS-2, and TRC-BS-3 were each determined not to be eligible for the NRHP. The Chateaugay Business Park Locus 1 Historic Site was determined to be Eligible for the NRHP. Eligibility has not been determined for the remaining sites.

The Phase IA Archaeological Assessment was completed and submitted to SHPO on July 10, 2024, and revised October 22, 2024. The Phase IB archaeological fieldwork began in the late fall of 2024 and will resume in the spring of 2025. Refer to Appendix E for the Phase IA report; refer to Appendix A for Agency Correspondence.

4.4.1.2 State Register and National Register of Historic Places

There are 613 evaluated historic architectural resources within three miles of the Project. Of these resources, 89 are listed on the State Register or NRHP and 228 have been determined eligible for listing on the State Register or NRHP (Table 4-4, New York State and National Register of Historic Places Properties within Three Miles of the Project [attached]). There two Historic Districts within three miles of the Project. One of the Historic Districts is currently listed on the NRHP: Downtown Malone Historic District. The other, the Malone Residential District 2, is eligible for listing in the NRHP.

4.4.2 Cultural Impacts and Mitigation

Research identified 24 known archaeological sites within three miles of the Project, which date to the historic period. Three of the sites lie within 1,000 feet of the Project. Approximately 0.13 miles of the Project (along one of the access roads) overlaps buffer a zone classified by SHPO as archaeologically sensitive. These buffer zones represent areas around archaeological sites that are

documented and known to SHPO. Because these areas are only based on proximity to documented sites, locations within these areas may not necessarily be archaeologically sensitive, and locations outside these areas may also be archaeologically sensitive. SHPO evaluates archaeological sensitivity based on a variety of environmental factors, including topography and hydrology, so these buffer areas are only preliminary and suggestive.

Consultation was initiated with OPRHP on May 29, 2024. A Phase IA Archaeological Assessment was submitted to SHPO on July 10, 2024. In a letter dated August 16, 2024, SHPO requested revisions to the Phase IA report. TRC, on behalf of the Applicant, resubmitted the Phase IA report with the requested revisions on October 22, 2024. In a letter dated November 21, 2024, SHPO responded to the proposed Phase IB scope of work contained within the revised Phase IA report. On December 30, 2024, on behalf of the Applicant, TRC submitted a letter proposing a new Phase IB scope of work in response to SHPOs November 21, 2024, letter. SHPO accepted the Phase IB scope of work on January 23, 2024. Phase IB surveys will be completed in 2025, and SHPO consultation is ongoing.

Additionally, on January 23, 2024, SHPO, via CRIS, requested a historic architecture survey and a Visual Envelope Map (VEM) to demonstrate the Project's Zone of Visual Impact (ZVI). The historic architecture and VEM/ZVI surveys will be completed in 2025, and SHPO consultation is ongoing. Refer to Appendix A for Agency Correspondence.

Nevertheless, upon determination of a final alignment and during the development of the EM&CP, the Applicant will coordinate, as appropriate, with the OPRHP, which acts as the SHPO, to reduce, eliminate or mitigate impact, where applicable. These mitigation measures will be shown in the Project design drawings included in the EM&CP.

4.5 Terrestrial Ecology and Wetlands

This section summarizes the potential effects to ecological and wetland resources anticipated due to Project construction, operation, and maintenance activities. Furthermore, this section identifies measures to avoid or minimize these potential impacts.

Prior to on-site surveys, an initial desktop analysis was performed for the Project using existing information from federal and state agency databases and state agency correspondence to ascertain

the presence of biological and natural resources likely to occur in the vicinity of the Project. Correspondence with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) is included in Appendix A – Agency Correspondence.

The potential presence of wetlands and other waterbodies were determined based on a review of existing information from the USFWS, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) mapping (USFWS, 2024), and NYSDEC Freshwater Wetland mapping[3] (NYSDEC, 2024b).

The NWI wetland database identifies potential wetland areas based on interpretation of remotely sensed aerial imagery with limited field verification. NWI-mapped features may often coincide with state-regulated wetlands and surface water features. Current aerial imagery, the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (USGS, 2022), and the USDA NRCS Soil Survey for Franklin County, New York (USDA-NRCS, 1958) were used to supplement the review of wetland maps to identify potential wetland areas.

A wetland delineation was conducted in August 2023, ~~and~~ August, September, and November of 2024, and May of 2025 to map wetland and waterbodies present within the Project Area. Predominant vegetation communities were characterized during site visits by biologists according to the ecological classifications as described in Ecological Communities of New York State (Edinger et al., 2014).

Potential effects of the Project on terrestrial, ecological communities, and wetlands were evaluated using the above-referenced spatial data and field-collected data in conjunction with the preliminary Project design.

4.5.1 Ecological Community Cover

The distribution of ecological communities within the Project ROW is consistent with the landscape found within the Towns of Malone, Chateauguay, Burke, and Bellmont. These communities predominately include developed suburban residential and rural agricultural land scattered throughout the Project Area. Several waterways, including Collins Brook, Alder Brook, Branch Brook, Little Trout River, Salmon River, and Titus Stream are crossed by the Project at

[3] NYSDEC-mapped wetlands refer to wetlands mapped and effective prior to January 1, 2025, publicly available on NYSDEC's Environmental Resource Mapper (ERM) interactive map.

various locations. Wetland communities, such as palustrine shallow/deep emergent marshes (PEM), palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) wetlands, and artificial ponds, are scattered throughout the Project ROW. Upland communities, such as successional shrubland/old field, successional northern hardwoods, hemlock-northern hardwood forests, cropland/row crops, pastureland, mowed lawn, mowed roadside, and paved and unpaved road/path are commonly found throughout the Project ROW. Table 4-5, Community Cover Types Intersecting the Project ROW (attached to the rear of this Exhibit), provides a cumulative summary of ecological communities, as defined by *Ecological Communities of New York State* (Edinger et al., 2014), within the Project ROW which is of varying width as shown on design plans in Exhibit 5.

4.5.1.1 Invasive Species

The presence of invasive plant species is a common occurrence along transmission line ROWs and other utility and transportation corridors. Field surveys were completed throughout the Project Area in August 2023 and August, September, and November 2024 to identify and document areas where invasive plant species were prevalent. The results of that survey are included in an *Invasive Species Survey Baseline Report* dated December 2024.

Commonly observed invasive species include Morrow's honeysuckle (*Lonicera morrowii*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), common reed (*Phragmites australis*), and spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*).

4.5.1.2 Terrestrial Ecology Impacts and Mitigation

The Project will be constructed primarily within the Existing ROW, and the long-term conversion of existing vegetation communities due to construction and maintenance of the Project may occur. Work within the Project ROW will require the permanent removal of trees and other vegetation in association with Project component installation, removal of danger trees, and proposed expansions of the Existing ROW. Access road improvements and other construction activities may require the clearing of undesirable woody species and/or saplings. Tree clearing within the Project ROW is expected to total 52.6 acres, including 39.9 acres within non-wetland areas and 12.7 acres within delineated wetlands. This includes 3.1 acres in PEM wetlands, 8.4 acres in PSS wetlands, and 1.2 acres in PFO wetlands. All tree clearing removal and forest conversion will be identified during final design, and will be included in the EM&CP. No herbicides or pesticides will be used during

the construction phase to clear unwanted vegetation. Mitigation measures such as the use of tracked equipment, low-ground-pressure equipment, and mats will be used in environmentally sensitive areas including streams and wetlands. Additionally, erosion and sediment control measures to maintain and protect soils and water resources will be determined for areas where soil disturbance occurs. The above measures, along with clearly demarcated work areas, will be used to protect vegetation and topsoil not cleared from damage due to Project construction and operation activities.

Measures to be used to prevent or control the transport of invasive plant species will be prescribed in the EM&CP. Removal of any wood from the Project ROW will be pursuant to the NYSDEC's firewood regulations to protect forests from invasive species found in 6 New York State Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 192, and any applicable NYSDEC quarantine orders and/or NYSAGM quarantine regulations. The clearing contractor and crews will be made aware of all applicable rules and regulations at the preconstruction meeting. In addition, clearing crews will be trained to identify the Asian long-horned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*), the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*), spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*), and any other insects that the NYSDEC identifies as a potential problem. If evidence of these insects is found, they will be reported immediately to the appropriate NYSDEC regional forester.

4.5.2 Wetlands

Federal and state agencies, including the NYSDEC and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), protect wetlands and other waters through regulation and permitting activities.

4.5.2.1 NYSDEC-Regulated Wetlands

As of January 1, 2025, the NYSDEC regulates wetlands that are 12.4 acres or larger, and wetlands of any size that meet the following criteria for "unusual importance" (6 NYCRR Part 664):

- Wetland is located within or adjacent to an urban area, as defined and identified by the United States Census Bureau;
- Wetland contains a plant species occurring in fewer than 35 sites statewide or having fewer than 5,000 individuals statewide, as documented by the department;

- Wetland contains habitat for an essential behavior of a species listed as endangered or threatened, species of special concern, or species of greatest conservation need;
- Wetland is located in an area designated as a floodway by FEMA;
- Wetland was previously mapped by the department as a regulated wetland;
- Wetland is located in a watershed with significant flooding;
- Wetland is considered a productive vernal pool;
- Wetland is classified as a class I wetland;
- Wetland is located within a Critical Environmental Area or located partially within the Adirondack Park; and
- Wetland has significant importance for protecting state water quality, as determined by the commissioner.

Additionally, wetland adjacent areas, defined as those areas of land or water that are outside a formal wetland boundary but within 100-feet of the wetland boundary are regulated as well. NYSDEC classifies wetlands according to their ability to perform specific wetland functions and provide wetland benefits. Class I wetlands have the highest rank, and the ranking decreases from Classes II through IV. New York State assigns a cover class based on the cover type that constitutes at least 50 percent of the wetland area (NYSDEC, 2024b).

NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper (ERM) freshwater wetland mapping indicates there is one previously mapped NYSDEC-regulated wetland within the Project ROW (NYSDEC, 2024b) (Figure 4-4 USFWS NWI and NYSDEC Mapped Wetlands).

4.5.2.2 NWI-Mapped Wetlands

The USACE has regulatory jurisdiction over wetlands and other Waters of the United States (WOTUS) pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). USFWS NWI maps were used to identify potential existing wetlands within the Project ROW. NWI mapping employs the Cowardin classification system (Cowardin et al., 1979) to classify wetland cover types. Many

wetlands include more than one cover type, so a wetland is classified based on the most abundant cover type in the wetland. A wetland is assigned multiple cover types if each cover type encompasses 30-percent or more of an entire wetland complex. A review of the NWI database indicates that the NWI-mapped wetlands in the Project ROW are predominantly freshwater forested/shrub wetlands, freshwater emergent wetlands, and riverine. There are 18 freshwater forested/shrub wetlands (approximately 15.38 acres), three freshwater emergent wetlands (approximately 0.88 acres), and thirteen riverine (approximately 1.23 acres) located within the Project ROW. See Figure 4-4 USFWS NWI and NYSDEC Mapped Wetlands for the location of the NWI mapped wetlands.

4.5.2.3 Delineated Wetlands

Field delineation of wetlands and streams was performed in August 2023, ~~and~~ August, September, and November 2024, and May 2025. Results of those investigations, contained in a *Wetland and Stream Delineation Report* dated ~~December 2024~~May 2025, identified the presence of ~~46~~ 47 wetlands occupying ~~approximately 36.39~~ 41.3 acres within ~~surveyed areas of the Project ROW~~the Survey Area. The "Survey Area", as depicted in Figure 4-5, includes the Project ROW and proposed access road areas. Table 4-6, Delineated Wetlands within the Survey Area ~~Surveyed Portions of the Project ROW~~ (attached to the rear of this Exhibit), summarizes the results of the individual wetlands identified and Figure 4-5, Delineated Wetlands and Streams, shows the locations of the delineated wetlands. ~~Additional field delineations will be conducted within the Project ROW and Project Area prior to development of the EM&CP.~~

4.5.2.4 Wetland Impacts and Mitigation

Potential effects to wetland resources may occur directly or indirectly during Project construction and operation. Mitigation strategies will be utilized to address short-term (temporary), and any possible permanent wetland impacts that could occur during construction. Sediment and erosion control methods will also be implemented, which may include silt fencing, use of equipment mats, and planting/seeding/mulching of exposed soils, to prevent soil erosion and sedimentation in nearby wetlands and surface waters due to runoff.

Wetland disturbance will be minimized by staging construction materials outside of wetlands and, whenever possible, utilizing equipment mats when moving equipment in wetlands. In addition,

existing access roads will be utilized, whenever possible. When existing access roads are not an option, access roads will generally be temporary, and the area will be restored to pre-construction condition following completion of work in the area. Wetland impacts through conversion of forestland to another covertype are expected within 37 delineated wetlands within the Project ROW, 26 of which are presumed to be state-jurisdictional. Tree clearing within the Project ROW is expected to total 52.6 acres, including 39.9 acres within non-wetland areas and 12.7 acres within delineated wetlands. This includes 3.1 acres in PEM wetlands, 8.4 acres in PSS wetlands, and 1.2 acres in PFO wetlands. All mitigation strategies, erosion and sediment control techniques, and temporary and permanent access roads will be identified during final design, and will be included in the EM&CP.

There are eleven proposed structures that will be placed in wetlands delineated within the Project ROW. This includes structures proposed in potentially state-jurisdictional wetlands. Table 4-13 summarizes the impacted wetlands and the associated proposed structures, along with the presumed jurisdiction of each impacted wetland. Based on data collected during field surveys and subsequent desktop review, ten of the eleven impacted wetlands are presumed to be state-jurisdictional. Correspondence with the NYSDEC will be completed prior to the EM&CP phase to confirm the jurisdictional status of impacted wetlands. Refer to Section 4.1.2.5 above for additional discussion regarding structure installation in wetland areas. Structure placement in wetlands is also discussed in Exhibit 3.

4.6 Wildlife

Wildlife habitats in Franklin County are largely associated with primary ecological communities including rural agricultural; suburban residential; upland forests; successional; wetlands; and stream areas. A summary of representative wildlife reasonably expected to occur within the Project Area is shown in Table 4-7, Summary of Representative Wildlife Reasonably Expected to Occur in the Project Area (attached to the rear of this Exhibit).

Rural Agricultural Communities

Active farming in rural areas within the Project Area provides vegetative cover and food for a wide variety of native fauna including white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and woodchuck (*Marmota monax*). Farm fields

that are interconnected with brushy hedgerows serve as wildlife corridors for other species including the eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), eastern chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*), and eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*). Waste grain left within agricultural fields after harvesting provide a crucial winter food source for migratory waterfowl including the Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) and mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*).

Suburban Residential Developed Communities

Land use practices including residential developments and railroad, road, and utility corridor maintenance have extensively modified and/or fragmented existing wildlife habitats within the Project Area. Wildlife species composition and abundance within the Project Area varies based on factors such as habitat size and adjacent land cover. A greater diversity and number of animal species often reside in transition areas between different ecological communities, such as shrubby corridors between residential properties and the Existing ROW, or established forest. Amphibians and reptiles likely to occur in transition areas include the eastern American toad (*Anaxyrus americanus*), eastern garter snake (*Thamnophia sirtalis*), and eastern milk snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*).

Birds commonly found in these types of habitats include American robin (*Turdus migratorius*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), rock dove (*Columba livia*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*).

Upland Forest Communities

Upland forest communities within the Project Area provide habitat for wildlife species that favor forest edge conditions, such as the blue jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), American goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*), dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*), tufted titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*), black-capped chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*), and several woodpecker species (hairy [*Leuconotopicus villosus*], downy [*Picoides pubescens*], and pileated [*Dryocopus pileatus*]). Other common birds such as the turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), wild turkey, and red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) are likely present. Common mammals that utilize forested habitats and likely occur within the Project Area include the eastern gray squirrel, red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*), eastern chipmunk, white-tailed deer, raccoon, red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*),

eastern coyote (*Canis latrans*) woodchuck, little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), and opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*).

Successional Communities

Successional community types, such as successional shrubland and successional old field, provide nesting and escape cover for a variety of wildlife species. Various songbirds, such as the Northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), American goldfinch, northern cardinal, cedar waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), and song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), require low brushy vegetation for nesting, rearing young, and coverage for escape. American woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) is a migratory shorebird species that can be found in early-successional, shrubby areas within the Project Area. Common mammals typically found in these types of brushy successional habitat include the white-tailed deer and eastern cottontail.

Raccoon and striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) are especially common in this type of successional forest, due to its proximity to wetland/riparian areas where their primary forage occurs. Common reptiles and amphibians that may occur in successional habitats include a variety of frogs and snakes. In addition, some of the shrub species found in these areas produce berries, which provide a quality food source for many birds and mammal species.

Wetland/Aquatic Communities

Some quality wetland/aquatic habitats exist throughout the Project Area. These areas provide a source of food, water, and cover to a variety of waterfowl and many of the upland species mentioned previously. These communities also may support amphibians and a diversity of insects and aquatic invertebrates. They are preferred foraging areas for aerial insectivores, including songbirds and bats. In addition, these communities provide habitat for various wetland/aquatic wildlife species, such as Canada goose, mallard, wood duck (*Aix sponsa*), and reptiles such as painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta*), green frog (*Lithobates clamitans*), northern leopard frog (*Lithobates pipiens*), spring peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*), American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*), and eastern American toad.

Stream Communities

Twenty-six~~five~~ delineated streams, as discussed in the *Wetland and Stream Delineation Report* dated ~~December 2024~~May 2025, are located in the ~~surveyed portions of the Project ROW~~Survey Area. This includes 25 delineated streams within the Project ROW. These streams contain sufficient bottom substrates, dissolved oxygen, depth, water temperature, and flow rate to describe a canal, ditch or artificial intermittent streams and natural intermittent or unconfined riverine community types. These community types can include various freshwater aquatic vegetation and wildlife species including creek chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*), central mudminnow (*Umbra limi*), white sucker (*Catastomus commersonii*), rock bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*), common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), pumpkinseed (*Lepomis gibbosus*), and yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*).

4.6.1 Wildlife Impacts and Mitigation

Wildlife species and habitat occurring within the Project Area are common throughout Franklin County. The Project is proposed to be sited within or adjacent to the Existing ROW. The level of impacts associated with the limited expansion of the Existing ROW is expected to result in a minimal change in the structure and function of wildlife habitat within the Project Area.

Project construction and maintenance will likely result in wildlife species temporarily seeking suitable habitat in adjacent areas. Those species preferring edge and early successional habitats are expected to return following Project construction and restoration activities. Similarly, those species preferring residential, agricultural, or forested habitats may be temporarily impacted by construction or periodic maintenance activities.

4.7 Threatened and Endangered Species

A literature review was conducted to determine the conservation status and distribution of local and migrant wildlife species that may occur within the Project Area. Informational sources included published literature and USFWS and NYSDEC databases. The USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) service was consulted for the presence of federally listed species (USFWS, 2024a). Additionally, correspondence was exchanged with the NYSDEC concerning

the documented presence of listed species and sensitive or unique ecological habitats that may occur within the Project Area (see Appendix A – Agency Correspondence[4]).

The USFWS New York field office publishes federal-listed threatened and endangered species and candidate Species Lists regarding the occurrence of federally protected species, which is available through the IPaC service. The IPaC Official Species List obtained for the Project states that one federally listed species and one species proposed to be federally listed may be present within the Project Area: northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*, federally endangered), and monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*, federally proposed threatened) (see Appendix A – Agency Correspondence[4]).

On April 22, 2024, a letter request was submitted to the NYSDEC for information regarding the presence of threatened and endangered species, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats within the vicinity of the Project (see Appendix A - Agency Correspondence). In a response letter dated November 14, 2024, the NYSDEC stated that there are four areas of suitable habitat for grassland bird species along the Project ROW, and that there has been a recent northern harrier observation 0.5 mile from this suitable habitat (see Appendix A - Agency Correspondence).

4.7.1 Threatened Species

4.7.1.1 Northern Long-eared Bat

The NLEB (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is listed as a federally and state endangered species. This species does not have any known summer or winter occurrences in the Towns of Malone, Burke, and Chateaugay; however, winter occurrences have been noted in the Town of Bellmont (NYSDEC, 2022a). The NYSDEC did not list this species in their response letter. It was identified on the IPaC Official Species List as potentially occurring in the Project Area.

NLEB typically overwinters in caves or mines and spends the remainder of the year in forested habitats. Summer roosting habitat typically consists of cavities and crevices in both living trees and snags. To lesser extents, NLEB may also roost in human-made structures, such as buildings,

[4] Please note that the information provided to the USFWS in TRC's letter of July 29, 2024 (Appendix A) regarding wooded areas/estimated tree clearing has been updated in Figure 2-3.

barns, utility poles and on bridges. Foraging habitat includes forested hillsides and ridges and along riparian areas, and can also include small forest clearings, over water, and along roads (USFWS, 2022).

There may be suitable habitat within the Project ROW, adjacent to the Existing ROW, where forest is present. The Project is proposed to be sited primarily within the Existing ROW, which is generally devoid of trees suitable for NLEB roosting habitat; however, tree clearing will be necessary within areas of New ROW and may be necessary within off-ROW work areas. The Applicant will conduct tree clearing between November 1 to March 31 to avoid impacts to potential NLEB roosting habitat. The Applicant will avoid disturbances to forested areas between April 1 to October 31.

4.7.1.2 Northern Harrier

The northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) is listed as a threatened species in New York State but is not listed on a federal level. Northern harriers can be found in the State during both the breeding and non-breeding seasons. They utilize a wide range of habitats, including open grasslands, shrubland, and marshes. During winter and migratory periods, they often roost in agricultural fields, abandoned fields, and salt marshes. During breeding periods, they nest on the ground in marshes, tundra, fallow grasslands, meadows, and cultivated fields, often in thick vegetation. The loss of suitable grassland and wetland habitat are significant threats to northern harrier populations in New York State (NYNHP 2020; NYSDEC 2025).

As mentioned above, on November 14, 2024, the NYSDEC identified four areas of suitable habitat for grassland bird species along the Project ROW and noted that there has been a recent northern harrier observation 0.5 mile from such suitable habitat (see Appendix A – Agency Correspondence). Given the presence of potential grassland habitat for northern harrier near the Project ROW, the Applicant will, through the settlement process, determine which minimization or mitigation measures are appropriate.

4.7.2 Proposed Threatened Species

4.7.2.1 Monarch Butterfly

The USFWS IPaC Report identified the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) as a species that has potential to occur within the Project ROW. On December 12, 2024, the USFWS proposed to list the monarch butterfly as threatened with a proposed 4(d) rule. There will be a 90-day public comment period on this proposal until March 12, 2025, at which point the USFWS will have up to a year (i.e., March 12, 2026) to make a final listing decision on the species. Proposed threatened species are not protected by the take prohibitions of Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), consistent with any protective regulations finalized under Section 4(d) of the ESA, until the rule to list is finalized. Under Section 7(a)(4) of the ESA, federal agencies must confer with the USFWS if their action will jeopardize the continued existence of a proposed species.

Monarch Butterflies summer in New York before migrating south for the winter. The monarch butterfly requires a healthy and abundant supply of its host plant, milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), as well as sufficient quality and quantity of nectar from flowers (USFWS, 2020a). Potential habitat for this species is present within the Project Area; however, significant or adverse impacts are not currently anticipated.

4.7.3 Threatened and Endangered Species Effects and Mitigation

Given the potential presence of federal and state-listed species, consultation is ongoing regarding mitigation measures to be implemented in the EM&CP to minimize impacts to protected species. The Applicant intends to adhere to the time-of-year restrictions to avoid impacts to NLEB. Given the presence of potential grassland habitat for northern harrier near the Project ROW, the Applicant will, through the settlement process, determine which minimization or mitigation measures are appropriate. The observation of any threatened or endangered species during work on the Project will result in notification to the NYSDEC and USFWS and could involve a stop work directive or other avoidance and mitigation measures as directed by New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS) Staff in the immediate area.

4.8 Topography and Soils

4.8.1 Topography

According to the USDA NRCS Agricultural Handbook 296 (USDA NRCS, 2022a), the Project is located in the St. Lawrence-Champlain Plain Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) (MLRA 142 of Land Resource Region R). This MLRA is a glaciated region characterized by flat, sandy deltas and shallow lacustrine and marine basins or plains interspersed with low hills formed by glacial till. Rivers and streams have carved relatively deep but narrow valleys through the area. The elevation ranges from 80 to 1,000 feet (25 to 305 meters), gradually increasing away from the St. Lawrence River and moving southward, as well as from Lake Champlain towards the east and west. While local relief is typically under 30 feet (10 meters), features such as glacial till ridges, till plains, and certain outwash terraces can rise between 15 and 80 feet (5 to 25 meters) above the surrounding plains.

Franklin County is in the northernmost part of New York State and borders the Quebec Province of Canada. The topography of Franklin County includes low hills in the north and the Adirondack Mountains in the south, including Ampersand (3,353’ above mean sea level [AMSL]), Seward (4,361’ AMSL), and Seymour mountains (4,120’ AMSL). The northern part of Franklin County features flatter lowlands, particularly in areas near the St. Lawrence River Valley. Surficial topography along the Project ROW is typical of the low hills and broad valleys in the north. The surface is transected by man-made features, such as elevated roadways and sunken roadways, all of which create small areas of steep topography. Near Malone, the Project ROW's western end is transected by the Salmon River, which includes the largest and steepest ravine (200 ft elevation change) on the river's eastern side. The central part of the ROW is transected by the Trout River, Collins Brook, and Little Trout River, all with relatively gradual changes in elevation. The eastern end of the ROW is transected by Alder Brook which has a small, steep ravine (50 ft elevation change). The topography of the Project Area and the surrounding region can be attributed to the network of intersecting glacial outflow channels which dominate the adjacent northern Adirondack Foothills. These outflows coalesce to form flowages of swampy channels that feed major rivers flowing north of the Project Area into the St. Lawrence River. Based on the Google Earth elevation profile, elevations range from 714 ft AMSL to 1290 ft AMSL with an average elevation of 1079

ft AMSL. The Project Area has an average slope of 3.5% and maximum slope of 30.0% (Google Earth, 2020). The Project ROW avoids steep slopes to the maximum extent possible while following the Existing ROW. The Project is not expected to result in any significant permanent or temporary impacts to topography.

4.8.2 Geology

The Project Area is located within the St. Lawrence Lowlands and Upper St. Lawrence Valley ecoregions of New York (Bryce et al., 2010). In the St. Lawrence Lowlands ecoregion, surficial geology includes glacial lake or marine plain sand, silt, and clay; Pleistocene glacial till, minor kame deposits, minor exposed bedrock, peat, and muck. The Upper St. Lawrence Valley's surficial geology is similar and includes Pleistocene glacial till, glacial lake beach ridges and deltas, lacustrine sand, minor kame deposits, peat, and muck. Specifically, surficial geology within the Project Area consists of till, kame deposits, and recent alluvium (NYSM n.d.).

Bedrock geology in the St. Lawrence Lowlands ecoregion includes biotite or hornblende granitic gneiss, leucogranitic and plagioclase gneiss, biotite quartz, calcitic and dolomitic marble formed in the Proterozoic, dolostone and sandstone formed during the Ordovician Period, and Cambrian sandstone. Bedrock geology in the Upper St. Lawrence Valley ecoregion includes biotite quartz plagioclase gneiss, leucogranitic gneiss, amphibolite, as well as calcitic and dolomitic marble formed in the Proterozoic, shale, limestone, and dolostone formed during the Ordovician Period, and sandstone and dolostone formed in the Cambrian Period. Specifically, the Project Area is underlain by Potsdam Sandstone (NYSM n.d.). According to the NRCS Web Soil Survey (Soil Survey Staff, 2024), depth to bedrock within the Project Area averages greater than 200-centimeters (Figure 4-6 Soil Depth to Bedrock).

The Project is adjacent to three reclaimed mines, two unconsolidated reclaimed mines and one consolidated reclaimed mine. The easternmost unconsolidated reclaimed mine, the Schickel Pit, is located on the east side of SR 30 south of Malone and is an 11-acre sand and gravel pit. The second unconsolidated reclaimed mine, the Yando Pit, is located south of County Road 24 and Kelly Road and is a 5-acre sand and gravel pit. The consolidated reclaimed mine, the North Adirondack Quarry, is located on the south side of Townline Road and east of Kay Road and is an 11-acre sandstone quarry. The Project is not adjacent to any gas wells, oil wells, dry holes, or any other

type of well (NYSDEC, 2024b). According to the NYSDEC ERM, there are no Unique Geological Features located within three miles of the Project (NYSDEC, 2024c).

4.8.3 Soils

A review of USDA-NRCS Soil Surveys of Franklin County was completed to document the soil types/associations mapped within the Project Area. Soil survey data for soils mapped within and along the Project ROW in Franklin County are outlined in Table 4-8, NRCS-Mapped Soils within 500 Feet of the Proposed Line (attached; see also Figure 4-6, Soil Depth to Bedrock; Figure 4-7, Soil Hydric Rating; and Figure 4-8, Soil Farmland Classification). In general, soils identified within the Project Area range from very poorly drained soils in wetland areas to excessively drained soils in uplands. Soils data evaluated in Table 4-8 include depth to bedrock, depth to the water table, drainage class, hydric soil rating, and farmland classification.

Of the 57 soils mapped within and along the Project ROW (Table 4-8, NRCS-Mapped Soils within 500 Feet of the Proposed Line), 26 are classified as Farmland of Statewide Importance, 5 are classified as All Areas Are Prime Farmland, 1 is classified as Prime Farmland If Drained, and 25 are classified as Not Prime Farmland, as defined by the USDA-NRCS. However, these soils do not necessarily correspond to active agricultural areas. Instead, the soils meet certain physical and chemical criteria including soil properties, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods (USDA-NRCS 2000). As proposed, the Project ROW traverses areas of active and fallow agricultural lands. Upon determination of a final alignment and during the development of the EM&CP, NYSEG will coordinate with the NYSAGM and property owners to reduce, eliminate, or mitigate impact, where applicable. These mitigation measures will be shown in the Project design drawings included in the EM&CP.

4.8.4 Topography, Soil, and Geological Impacts and Mitigation

Blasting is not anticipated or currently planned for the construction of the Project. However, field conditions may require the use of blasting in a limited and controlled fashion if other construction techniques are not practical. Excavations will be limited to structure installations. Therefore, it is

anticipated the Project will not result in cumulative effects relative to topographic and soil conditions.

Extensive alterations of slope and gradient are not anticipated in the Project Area. Minor changes to topography will occur due to grading in work areas and construction or improvement of access roads. The Project will be designed and constructed to be compatible with onsite geologic conditions. No geologic or environmental concerns exist that would have a long-term effect on the integrity of structures, as demonstrated by the long-standing presence of existing electric line structures within or adjacent to the Project ROW. To mitigate temporary impacts, disturbed soils will be re-graded to pre-construction elevations. Soil erosion and sediment controls will be implemented during construction activities.

Because the Project will predominately be located within the Existing ROW, it has been designed to avoid and minimize impacts to steep slopes, high points, and ridgelines to the extent feasible. There are two locations along the Project ROW that may be considered a high point or ridgeline; this includes the area around Structure 215 and Structure 210 (Refer to Figure 2-3, Mapsheets 1, 2, and 3). There are three locations along the Project ROW where structures are proposed in areas of steep slopes; this includes Structure 210, Structure 213, and Structure 215 (Refer to Figure 2-3 Mapsheets 1, 2, and 3). Due to conflicts surrounding these areas, such as a nearby school, river, and other paralleling lines, locally re-routing Line 910 to avoid these slopes, high points, and ridgelines is not practicable. Routing the transmission line outside of the Existing ROW would be more environmentally impactful, and may introduce impacts to additional steep slopes, high points, or ridgelines. Thus, the Project as proposed, utilizing the Existing ROW with areas of expansion, minimizes impacts to steep slopes, high points, and ridgelines.

4.9 Water Resources

This section provides an assessment of the Project's potential effects to water resources. Efforts undertaken to avoid or minimize these potential impacts, as well as mitigation practices, will be identified to address unavoidable impacts. These mitigation measures are described in Section 4.9.2 (below) and will be shown in the Project design drawings included in the EM&CP.

4.9.1 Affected Environment

A desktop geospatial analysis was completed, using existing information from federal and state agency data sources, and a literature review of published data, to determine the likely presence and extent of water resources in the Project ROW. Water resource information was obtained from the NYSDEC Water Quality Standards and Classifications (NYSDEC, 2024d), which provides information regarding the classifications and standards of quality and purity assigned to the identified surface waters. Existing conditions were field-verified during wetland and stream field work performed in August 2023, ~~and~~ August, September, and November 2024, and May 2025.

4.9.1.1 Surface Waterbodies

The western portion of the Project is located within the Salmon watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code [HUC] 04290007), and the eastern portion of the Project is located within the Chateaugay-English watershed (HUC 04300201) (NYSDOS, 2024).

Major streams within the Project ROW include Salmon River, Trout River, Little Trout Creek, Titus Stream, Alder Brook and tributaries, and tributaries of Trout River (NYSDEC, 2024d). Figure 4-9 NYSDEC Streams & Surface Water Bodies depicts the locations of water resources identified within the Project ROW, as mapped by the NYSDEC and verified during field investigations in August 2023, ~~and~~ August, September, and November 2024, and May 2025. Background research included review of *The Proposed Final New York State 2018 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters Requiring a TMDL/Other Strategy* (NYSDEC, 2020) to identify waters that do not support specific water uses and that may require development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Results of this review did not indicate the presence of listed impaired waters within the Project ROW.

Mapped NYSDEC-classified streams crossing the Project ROW are identified in Table 4-9, NYSDEC-Mapped Streams Crossing the Project ROW (attached). These classified streams include ~~seven~~ eight Class C streams, all of which have a standard (T) indicating that they may support trout populations, and are considered protected streams under Article 15, Title 5 of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law.

Field delineations of streams were performed in August 2023, ~~and~~ August, September, and November 2024, and May 2025. Results of those investigations, contained in a *Wetland and Stream Delineation Report* dated ~~December 2024~~May 2025, are outlined in Table 4-10, Delineated Streams Crossing ~~Surveyed Portions of the Project ROW~~ the Survey Area (attached), and shown in Figure 4-5, Delineated Wetlands and Streams. The "Survey Area", as depicted in Figure 4-5, includes the Project ROW and proposed access road areas. The ~~Project ROW, where surveyed~~Survey Area~~, crosses~~includes 26~~25~~ delineated streams, including ~~17~~ 16 perennial streams and eight intermittent streams. Of the ~~25~~ 26 delineated streams, one is classified as Class B, with a Standard of (T); eight are classified as Class C, with a Standard of (T); and ~~two~~ three are mapped as Class D. ~~Additional field delineations will be conducted within the Project ROW and Project Area prior to development of the EM&CP.~~

4.9.1.2 Stormwater Management

Generally, stormwater runoff from construction of an electric transmission line ROW is via overland flow, and few structural measures are needed to control stormwater discharges. Temporary BMPs to control stormwater runoff during construction activities may include silt fence, construction matting, and erosion control blankets. Such measures, to be implemented until final stabilization of the Project Area is complete, will be provided on a site-specific basis as detailed in the EM&CP. As discussed in Exhibit 8, the Applicant will develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and will seek coverage under the NYSDEC State Pollutant Permit Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities, GP-0-25-001, ("General Permit") prior to the commencement of Project construction.

4.9.2 Water Resource Effects and Mitigation

Water basins and watercourses are protected by the USACE, which has regulatory jurisdiction over Navigable Waters of the United States, pursuant to Section 10 of the 1899 Rivers and Harbors Act, and other jurisdictional waters of the United States (lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands), pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA.

Since the Project will be installed on overhead lines exclusively, structures will be located to span streams within the Project ROW. Furthermore, structure placement will avoid the discharge of fill

material to jurisdictional wetlands to the extent practicable. The use of explosives is not proposed or anticipated for any portion of the Project, so no provisions need be made to protect fish and other aquatic life from harm from the use of explosives or pollutants in or near streams and other bodies of water. However, if blasting is required near streams or other bodies of water, such activity will be conducted in a limited and controlled fashion, the Applicant will consult with NYSDPS Staff and NYSDEC regarding appropriate protective measures, and a blasting plan reflecting such measures will be included in the EM&CP.

Project impacts to surface waters could potentially result from vegetation trimming and grading in areas adjacent to, within, and downstream of the Project Area. Vegetation trimming and/or limited clearing activities may also extend beyond the Project ROW where danger tree removal is necessary. Small spills, including diesel and gasoline fuels, lubricating oils, and cooling fluids, may result from operation of construction equipment and vehicles. All spills will be reported and cleaned up in accordance with the applicable regulations. A spill prevention plan will be included in the EM&CP.

Vehicular access across streams and other watercourses will be avoided, to the extent possible. Stream crossings will take place where existing stream crossings are available, to the extent possible. Factors used to determine the appropriate crossing type to be installed at each location include channel characteristics; stream bottom substrate; stream gradient and flow; riparian vegetation; resource value; assessment of erosion potential; and an estimate of potential stream flow at the time of construction. The stream crossing type for each crossing location will be identified on the EM&CP plan and profile drawings. Care will be taken to ensure that stream flow remains uninhibited and to avoid damage to the stream banks during the installation and removal of crossing materials.

Stream crossings will utilize equipment mats and other minimally intrusive bridge materials that are designed to minimize stream bed and bank disturbance and water quality impacts. Where practicable, these materials will be installed at right angles to the stream. Any potential impacts to streams and other water bodies, such as minor increases in turbidity, would be temporary. Implementation of BMPs, as set forth in the EM&CP, will ensure that the Project will have only minor impacts on the NYSDEC-classified streams crossings identified in Table 4-9.

In portions of the Project ROW where shallow groundwater sources are identified, dewatering may be required during construction activities. Should dewatering be required, a dewatering filter bag will be used, or a temporary sedimentation basin will be created, to receive dewatering effluent. Once filtered and/or settled, clear water will be pumped or allowed to flow onto a vegetated upland area. Straw bales, filter fabric, and other materials, would be used to construct the retention structures and basins. Dewatering plans will be presented in the EM&CP.

Proposed stormwater management practices will effectively minimize and control stormwater runoff to avoid an increase in stormwater runoff volume, erosion, and flood potential within the Project Area. No perceptible increase in stormwater runoff volume is anticipated as a result of the Project. As discussed in Section 4.9.1.2, the Applicant will develop and adhere to a SWPPP and will seek coverage under the SPDES General Permit.

Based on the above assessment of potential impacts to water resources and the mitigation measures proposed to be implemented during Project construction, no permanent or significant temporary impacts to hydrology are anticipated.

4.10 Noise

Operation and maintenance of the Project is not expected to result in significant noise impacts on a permanent basis. Temporary noise impacts will result from various Project construction activities.

4.10.1 State Noise Standards

NYSDEC published a program policy in 2001 titled *Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts* (NYSDEC 2001). The NYSDEC policy provides guidelines for determining the threshold for the potential onset of adverse noise impacts. These guidelines assess impact in terms of an allowable incremental increase in noise relative to existing acoustic conditions. The NYSDEC method is based on the perceptibility of a new sound source and identifies limits relative to the existing conditions at the nearest residences or other potentially sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, churches, etc.). In areas not sensitive to noise (e.g., vacant land) the application of the NYSDEC criteria may not be appropriate.

The NYSDEC program policy states that a zero to three decibel (dB) increase in noise should have no appreciable effect on receptors. Noise level increases from three to six dB may potentially result in adverse noise impact, but only in the presence of the most sensitive receptors. Sound pressure increases above six dB may require closer analysis of impact potential to account for factors including existing sound pressure levels and surrounding land use and receptors.

The NYSDEC program policy defines a typical quiet suburban background sound level at 45 A-weighted decibels (dBA). Therefore, a total cumulative sound level of 51 dBA, or six dBA delta above the NYSDEC typical background sound level, would be the threshold for a potential onset of adverse noise impact in quiet suburban settings. The areas with the lowest ambient levels will likely be those located farthest from the nearest major roadways and interstates.

Thresholds would be higher in locations having higher ambient sound levels, such as industrial and commercial areas traversed by the Project. For example, areas near stores may have elevated background sound levels due to operation of building mechanical equipment (outdoor fans, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning [HVAC] systems, etc.).

4.10.2 Permanent Noise Effects

The Project will not entail any substation expansions or installations of new transformers; thus, the Project will not result in new noise sources from any existing substations during daily post-construction operations. Therefore, the potential for increased environmental impacts, including visual or noise disturbance, caused by appurtenant structures has been minimized.

Permanent noise sources could include the corona effect of the transmission lines under certain atmospheric conditions, such as rain, fog, and high humidity, and minor sources from routine inspection and maintenance of the transmission line. However, audible noise from transmission lines is uncommon when voltages are lower than 300 kilovolts (kV), particularly during dry conditions. Post-construction sound from corona noise, if audible at all, is expected to create minimal noise impacts at only the closest noise-sensitive receptors. As the Project is a rebuild of the Existing Line, it is expected that operation of the Project will generate noise levels similar to or lower than the Existing Line, with only minimal variation related to line geometry and/or conductor-surface conditions.

Post-construction Project inspections and maintenance activities will occur periodically and will generate only minor levels of noise. Traffic noise generated during these activities will be consistent with that already occurring within the Existing ROW and surrounding areas. These activities will be of short duration; thus, these activities are not expected to result in any significant increased noise impacts.

Routine vegetation maintenance in the Project ROW may require the use of chain saws. The sound level produced by a chain saw depends on the size rating, manufacturer, and equipment condition. Chainsaw activities would be short-term and limited to daytime hours, except in emergency situations.

4.10.3 Temporary Noise Effects

Project construction activities will generate temporary noise levels that are periodically audible. These activities will include access road construction, vegetation trimming/mowing, grading and excavation, and structure installation along the Project ROW. However, work at each structure location is expected to progress rapidly, thereby significantly reducing the duration of worst-case noise impacts at any one noise-sensitive receptor.

Noise will be generated by construction activities within the Project ROW, off-site access roads, and staging areas. Noise sources may include construction equipment and motor vehicle use by Project workers, and trucks moving material to and from work sites. Various construction activities may occur simultaneously with multiple construction crews potentially operating within the Project ROW. The construction equipment is similar to equipment used during typical public works projects and tree service operations. Mufflers in good condition will be used on such equipment.

Maximum noise levels associated with the construction equipment typically used in overhead transmission line construction projects are shown in Table 4-11, Common Construction Equipment Noise Levels (attached). Each piece of equipment presented in Table 4-11 is not used in every phase of construction, and the equipment used is generally not operated continuously. A variety of noise sources will be associated with each phase of construction.

Table 4-11 summarizes typical noise levels at a distance of 50 feet away from specified construction activities. Residential parcels located within 100 feet from the edge of the Project ROW (shown in Table 4-12, Residential Addresses within 100 Feet of Project ROW [attached]) will experience noise levels similar to those listed in Table 4-11.

The information presented in Tables 4-11 and 4-12 indicate that for the nearest residences, construction noise levels will temporarily exceed ambient levels for short periods of time, depending on the actual location of the residence, the intensity of work activity and the type of equipment used. For the majority of residences located further from the Project ROW, construction noise levels will be much lower and will generally be below ambient levels.

4.10.4 Noise Effects and Mitigation

To minimize noise effects during construction, the Applicant will limit Project construction activities to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. If, due to safety or continuous operation requirements, construction activities are required to occur outside of these hours or on Sundays, the Applicant will notify NYSDPS Staff and the affected municipality at least 24-hours in advance, unless safety considerations prohibit making such advance notice.

Noise levels will also be mitigated by the attenuating effects of distance; the intermittent and short-lived character of the noise; the presence of existing vegetation; the presence of homes and buildings (particularly in the more suburban areas); and the use of functional mufflers on all equipment.

4.11 Electromagnetic Fields

Opinion No. 78-13 (in Cases 26529 and 26559), effective June 19, 1978, established the Commission's interim standard for an electric field strength of 1.6-kilovolts per meter (kV/m) at the edge of the ROW, as calculated at one meter aboveground, with the line at rated voltage. The Commission's Statement of Interim Policy on Magnetic Fields of Major Electric Transmission Facilities (in Cases 26529 and 26559), effective September 11, 1990, set a limit for magnetic fields of 200 milliGauss (mG) at the edge of the ROW as measured at one meter aboveground when the circuit phase currents are equal to the Winter Normal conductor rating. Studies of the expected EMF effects for the Project, using the Winter Normal conductor rating as required by the

Commission, have been performed and show that the maximum EMF levels at the edges of the Existing ROW do not exceed the levels recommended in the Commission's guidelines in all modeled scenarios. See Appendix D – EMF Report.

4.12 References

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New York State Electric & Gas Corporation

Malone Transmission Rebuild Project

Exhibit 4

Environmental Impacts

Tables

Table 4-1: Land Use within the Project ROW

Land Use Code	Land Use Description	Project length in Miles
		Franklin County
21	Cropland and Pasture	4.41
41	Deciduous forest land	3.38
42	Evergreen forest land	0.70
43	Mixed forest land	2.19
16	Mixed urban or built-up land	0.01
75	Strip mines, quarries, gravel pits	0.24
14	Transportation, communication, utilities	0.10
	TOTAL	**11.03**

Table 4-2: Local, Private, and State Recreation Sites within Three Miles of the Project

Map ID	Figure*	Name	Category
Sites Within 1,000 Feet			
1	Figure 3	Adirondack Forest Preserve	State Forest Preserve [NYS Constitution Article XIV]
55	Figure 3	Malone Village Water	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
63	Figure 3	Salmon River	Rivers and Streams with Public Fishing Rights/Easements
Sites More Than 1,000 Feet			
53	Figure 3	State Bike Route 11	Bike Trails and Routes
54	Figure 3	Malone Memorial Recreation Park and Rotary Lake	Local Parks and Recreation Areas; Lakes, Ponds, and Reservoirs with Designated Public Access
56	Figure 3	Arsennel Green Park	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
57	Figure 3	Thayers Corners Water District	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
58	Figure 3	Franklin County Fairgrounds	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
59	Figure 3	Malone Central School Fields	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
60	Figure 3	Sellers Field	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
61	Figure 3	Chateaugay Town Recreational Park	Local Parks and Recreation Areas
62	Figure 3	Chateaugay River	Rivers and Streams with Public Fishing Rights/Easements

*Refer to Attachment A (Figures) of Appendix D (VRA).

Table 4-3: Native American Historic Archaeological Sites within Three Miles of the Project

Site Number	Site Name	Description	NRHP Status
Sites Within 1,000 Feet			
03303.000056	Bridge Site 1	Historic. Time period: 19th Century; Site type: Bridge	Undetermined
03308.000094	Substation Site 1	Historic. Time period: pre 1915; Site type: Farmstead	Undetermined
03303.000057	Town Line Road Site 1	Historic. Time period: pre 1915; Site type: Farmstead	Undetermined
Sites More Than 1,000 Feet			
3308.000003	Douglas Grist/Carding Mill and Tannery Ruins	Historic. Time period: 1859; Site type: Mill	Undetermined
3308.000005	CHATEAUGAY FORGE	Historic. Time period: 1803/1828; Site Type: Forge	Undetermined
3308.000042	Pulpmill Road Bridge (BIN 3337650), over Chateaugay River	Historic. Time period: unknown; Site type: Bridge	Not Eligible
3308.000062	PCI/Burke Historic Site 1	Historic. Time period: 1880-1920; Site type: Midden	Not Eligible
3308.000063	PCI/Burke Historic Site 2	Historic. Time period: 1880-1920; Site type: Midden	Not Eligible
3315.000051	M.C. CHAPMAN FARMSTEAD SITE	Historic. Time period: 1858; Site type: Farmstead	Not Eligible
3345.000005	CHATEAUGAY BUSINESS PARK LOCUS 1 HISTORIC SITE	Historic. Time period: 1796 - 1840; Site type: Homestead	Eligible
3308.000085	Bigelow Cemetery	Historic. Time period: 1842; Site type: Cemetery	Undetermined
3308.000086	S Bilow Holding Historic Site 1	Historic. Time period: pre 1876; Site type: Midden	Undetermined
3308.000087	Bilow Holding Historic Site 2	Historic. Time period: pre 1915; Site type: Foundation	Undetermined
3308.000088	Bilow Holding Site 3	Historic. Time period: 19th – 20th C; Site type: Midden	Undetermined
3308.000089	Jerdon Road Site 1	Historic. Time period: pre 1858; Site type: Foundation	Undetermined
3308.000090	Mary Carey Road Site 1	Historic. Time period: pre 1876; Site type: Farmstead	Undetermined
3308.000091	Mary Carey Road Site 2	Historic. Time period: pre 1876; Site type: Farmstead	Undetermined
3308.000092	Ogdensburg and Lake Champlain Railroad	Historic. Time period: 1853; Site type: Railroad grade	Undetermined
3308.000093	River Road/Cemetery Site 1	Historic. Time period: pre 1858; Site type: Farmstead	Undetermined

Site Number	Site Name	Description	NRHP Status
3308.000095	Tracy Site 1	Historic. Time period: unknown; Site type: Midden	Undetermined
3308.000096	Tracy Site 2	Historic. Time period: 19th – 20th C; Site type: Midden	Undetermined
3307.000063	TRC-BS-1	Historic. Time period: unknown; Site type: Scatter	Not Eligible
3308.000107	TRC-BS-2	Historic. Time period: unknown; Site type: Scatter	Not Eligible
3307.000064	TRC-BS-3	Historic. Time period: unknown; Site type: Scatter	Not Eligible

Table 4-44: New York State and National Register of Historic Places Properties within Three Miles of the Project

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	1	3307.000025	Farmstead	Burke	Eligible
2-1	1	3307.000027	Farmstead	Burke	Eligible
2-1	1	3307.000055	Farm	Burke	Eligible
2-1	2	3308.00008	Sandy Knoll Union Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	3	3308.000071	Collins-Lavery Farmstead	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	3	3308.000077	760 CR 52, Chateaugay	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	3	3308.000116	Wills Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	3	3308.000121	Earlville Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	3	3308.000123	Earlville Methodist Church	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	5	3307.000049	Barnum/Howard/Hawk's Hollow/Wright Cemetery	Burke	Eligible
2-1	5	3307.00005	Burke Center Cemetery	Burke	Eligible
2-1	5	3307.000051	Burke Center Presbyterian Church	Burke	Eligible
2-1	6	3307.000044	House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	6	3307.000045	Bova House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	6	3307.000046	Thayer Conners Cemetery	Burke	Eligible
2-1	6	3308.000079	Atwater Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	6	3308.000081	Brayton Hollow Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3308.000001	Chateaugay River Tunnel	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3308.00007	St. Patrick's Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3308.000075	East Side Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3308.000078	Chateaugay Fish Hatchery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3308.000122	Chateaugay Fish Hatchery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000002	Rutland Railroad Depot	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000004	Chateaugay Town Hall	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000066	St. Patrick's Church	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000067	St. Patrick's Church Rectory	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000068	Key Bank	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000069	Jackson Building	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.00007	Beeman Block	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000071	163 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000072	165 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000073	167 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000074	169 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000075	171 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000076	173 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000077	181 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000078	183 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	7	3345.000079	Chateaugay Hotel	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.00008	Johnson Brothers Building	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000081	196 East Main Street	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000082	McCoy Building	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000083	House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000084	House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000085	House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000086	23 Depot Street, Chateaugay	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000087	House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000088	Bailey House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000089	House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.00009	House	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000092	First Presbyterian Church	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000093	Smith-Green Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	7	3345.000094	Chateaugay United Methodist Church	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	10	3315.000052	Cargin Road Bridge over Salmon River	Constable	Eligible
2-1	12	3307.000032	1-1/2 story/brick/front-gabled/Greek Revival residence	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3307.000033	Bungalow	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3307.000047	Mitchell Cemetery	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3307.000052	St. George's Cemetery	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000001	House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000002	House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000003	House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000004	Brick Italianate residence	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000005	Burke United Methodist Church	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000007	Burke Town Hall / I. O. O. F.	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000008	1046 East Main Street	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000009	1052 E. Main Street	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000011	Garage	Burke	Eligible
2-1	12	3344.000012	House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	13	3307.000043	Ridgeway Cemetery	Burke	Eligible
2-1	13	3307.000065	House	Burke	Eligible
2-1	13	3308.000072	528 Hartnett Rd	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	14	3308.000065	Cassidy Road Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	14	3308.000068	Farm	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	14	3308.000082	Bennett-Atwater Residence	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	17	3315.00011	High Falls #1 Hydroelectric Plant	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000008	FIRST CONGREAGATIONAL CHURCH	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000009	FELL HOUSE	Malone	Eligible

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	17	3340.000012	WOOD HOUSE	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000015	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00003	FREIGHT HOUSE	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000031	PADDOCK BUILDING	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000042	Hotel Flanagan	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000044	Kirk Maher Building	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000045	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000047	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000051	U S POST OFFICE--MALONE	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000062	Queen of the May	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000064	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000065	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000066	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000108	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000147	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000149	St. Mark's Episcopal Church & Rectory	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000169	383-385 West Main St, Malone	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00017	Stears Cotton Factory	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000171	Eldredge & Mason Building	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000172	1-story brick office bldg	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000173	3-story brick commercial block w/storefronts	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000174	Neoclassical bank bldg	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000175	2-story brick commercial block w/storefronts	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000176	3-story brick commercial block w/storefronts	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000177	3-story brick commercial block w/storefront	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000178	3-story brick commercial block w/storefronts	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000179	3-story brick commercial block w/storefronts	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00018	3-story brick commercial block w/storefront - corner bldg	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000181	Neoclassical Bank Bldg	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000182	432 East Main Street	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000183	3-story brick commercial bldg w/storefront	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000184	3-story yellow brick commercial w/storefronts & large upper windows	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000185	3-story brick commercial w/storefront	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000186	4-story corner brick commercial bldg w/storefront	Malone	Listed

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	17	3340.000187	3-story brick corner commercial w/storefronts & upper large round-arched windows	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000192	Flanders Elementary School	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000193	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000196	Key Bank/Malone Telegraph	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000197	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000209	The Wead Library	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000211	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000225	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000226	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000227	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000228	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000229	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00023	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000235	470 East Main St. Malone, NY 12953	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000236	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000237	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000238	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000239	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00024	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000241	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000242	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000243	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000244	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000245	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000246	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000247	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00025	Rutland Railroad	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000251	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000252	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000253	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000254	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000255	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000256	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000257	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000258	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000259	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00026	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000261	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000262	<Null>	Malone	Listed

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	17	3340.000263	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000264	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000265	Notre Dame Rectory	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000266	Notre Dame Church	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000267	Bridge BIN 1008940	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000268	Veterans Memorial Park	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000269	Lashomb Building	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.00027	Methodist Church	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000273	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000274	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000275	<Null>	Malone	Listed
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2-1	17	3340.000281	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000282	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	17	3340.000336	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000338	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000339	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000356	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000358	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000359	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00036	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000361	<Null>	Malone	Eligible

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	17	3340.000362	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000363	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000365	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000367	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00037	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000372	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000373	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000374	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000376	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000377	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000378	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000379	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00038	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000381	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000382	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000389	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000394	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000396	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000397	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000398	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.0004	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000401	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000402	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000403	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000404	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000408	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000409	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00041	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000411	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000413	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000414	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000415	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000416	The Farrar Home	Malone	Eligible

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	17	3340.000417	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000418	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000419	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00042	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000421	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000422	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000423	St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000424	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000425	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000426	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000427	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000428	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000429	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00043	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000431	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000432	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000433	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000434	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000435	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000436	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.00044	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000443	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000445	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000447	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000448	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000451	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000452	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000453	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000457	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000458	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000459	<Null>	Malone	Eligible

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
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2-1	17	3340.000462	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000464	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000465	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000466	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000469	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00047	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000471	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000472	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000474	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000475	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000477	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000478	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000479	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.00048	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000482	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000483	The Hale House	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000484	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000485	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000486	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	17	3340.000507	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000528	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	17	3340.000531	North St. Joseph's Cemetery	Malone	Eligible
2-1	18	3315.000056	farmstead w/stone house	Malone	Eligible
2-1	18	3315.00008	275 CR 23	Malone	Eligible
2-1	18	3340.000033	RAYMOND ST SCHOOL	Malone	Eligible
2-1	19	3307.000002	HOME OF ALMANZO WILDER	Malone	Listed

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	19	3307.000054	199 Burke Bellmont Townline Rd	Burke	Eligible
2-1	19	3307.000069	Farmstead	Burke	Eligible
2-1	21	3303.000054	Former Schoolhouse	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	21	3308.000073	Bigelow Cemetery	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	22	1909.000082	T. Dwire Residence	Ellenburg	Eligible
2-1	22	3303.000023	<Null>	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	22	3303.000038	residence	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	22	3303.000045	Brainardsville Cemetery	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	22	3303.000082	4 NY 190, Brainardsville	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	23	3302.000093	Single family home	Bangor	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000017	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000018	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000019	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.00002	WARNER HOUSE	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000021	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000027	KIRK HOUSE	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000028	ANSELM LINCOLN HOUSE	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000029	HORTON GRIST MILL	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000067	MALONE ARMORY	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000118	MALONE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.00016	1-1/2 story bungalow w/dormers & stone wrap around porch	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000168	1-1/2 story bungalow w/dormers & open front porch	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000195	Malone Middle School	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000248	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000249	Foothills Art Society; Malone Arts and Cultural Center	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000271	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000272	<Null>	Malone	Listed
2-1	24	3340.000297	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000298	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000299	Horton/Howard House	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.0003	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000301	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000302	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000303	Kilburn Manor	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000304	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000306	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000307	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000308	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000309	<Null>	Malone	Eligible

Figure Number	Mapsheet Number	USN	Resource Name	Municipality	Eligibility Status
2-1	24	3340.00031	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000311	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000313	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000314	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000316	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000317	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000318	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000321	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
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2-1	24	3340.000328	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000329	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.00033	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000331	50 Washington, Malone	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000332	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000333	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000334	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	24	3340.000335	<Null>	Malone	Eligible
2-1	25	3315.000057	farmstead	Malone	Eligible
2-1	27	3303.000052	Bellmont Center Cemetery	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	28	3303.000043	Bunker Hill Cemetery	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	28	3303.000044	Merrill Cemetery	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	29	1909.000118	Atlas-F missile silo - Site 10 - Brainardsville	Ellenburg	Eligible
2-1	29	3303.000049	5908 NY 374	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	29	3303.00005	5926 NY 374	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	29	3303.000051	Banner House Inn	Bellmont	Eligible
2-1	29	3303.000055	Forge Methodist Church	Chateaugay	Eligible
2-1	36	3303.000048	Morningside Cemetery	Bellmont	Eligible

Table 4-5: Community Cover Types Intersecting the Project ROW

Ecological Community Classification[1]	Acreage in Project ROW	Percent of Total Project ROW
Agriculture		
Cropland/ Field Crops	10.0	4.7%
Cropland/ Row Crops	28.2	13.3%
Pastureland	3.7	1.7%
Forestland		
Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest	2.0	1.0%
Successional Northern Hardwoods	18.9	8.9%
Maintained ROW		
Mowed Lawn	5.1	2.4%
Successional Old Field	92.9	43.7%
Successional Shrubland	1.2	0.6%
Roads/Pathways		
Mowed Roadside/ Pathway	1.3	0.6%
Paved Road/ Path	1.4	0.6%
Unpaved Road/ Path	4.3	2.0%
Structure		
Rural Structure Exterior	0.1	<0.1%
Stream		
Confined River	1.0	0.5%
Ditch/ Artificial Intermittent Stream	<0.1	<0.1%
Intermittent Stream	0.1	0.1%
Marsh Headwater Stream	1.0	0.5%
Rocky Headwater Stream	0.5	0.2%
Wetland		
Farm Pond/ Artificial Pond	0.1	0.1%
Hemlock-hardwood Swamp	3.4	1.6%
Northern White Cedar Swamp	0.2	0.1%
Red Maple-hardwood Swamp	0.32	0.1%
Floodplain Forest	0.78	0.4%
Shallow Emergent Marsh	14.8	6.9%
Shrub Swamp	21.4	10.0%

[1]Ecological communities based on Edinger et al., 2014.

Table 4-6: Delineated Wetlands within the ~~Surveyed Portions of the Project ROW~~Survey Area*

Wetland ID	Wetland Type	Acreage Within the ~~the Project ROW~~Survey Area*
W-JDV-1	PUB	~~0.07~~0.12
W-JDV-2	PEM/PSS	~~1.47~~1.73
W-JDV-3	PEM	~~0.80~~0.94
W-JDV-4	PSS	~~1.88~~2.37
W-JDV-5	PEM/PSS	~~1.90~~2.23
W-JDV-6	PEM/PSS	~~0.42~~0.43
W-JDV-7	PEM	0.16
W-JDV-8	PSS	~~0.18~~0.34
W-JDV-9	PSS	~~0.23~~0.74
W-JDV-10	PEM	~~1.06~~1.19
W-JDV-11	PSS	~~3.07~~3.81
W-JDV-12	PSS	~~0.22~~0.28
W-JDV-13	PEM	~~0.05~~0.07
W-JDV-14	PEM/PSS	~~0.58~~0.61
W-JDV-15	PEM/PSS	~~0.58~~0.70
W-JDV-16	PEM	~~0.43~~0.50
W-JDV-17	PEM	0.02
W-JDV-18	PEM	~~0.10~~0.13
W-JDV-19	PEM	~~0.18~~0.22
W-JDV-20	PEM/PFO/PSS	~~0.81~~0.89
W-JDV-21	PEM/PSS	~~0.43~~0.47
W-JDV-22	PEM/PSS	~~0.13~~0.17
W-JDV-23	PSS	~~0.65~~0.70
W-JDV-24	PEM	~~0.08~~0.09
W-JDV-25	PSS	~~0.71~~0.80
W-JDV-26	PEM/PFO	~~0.73~~0.81
W-JDV-27	PSS	~~0.49~~0.58
W-JDV-28	PSS	~~0.34~~0.40
W-JDV-29	PSS	~~0.52~~0.59
W-JDV-30	PEM/PSS	~~2.98~~3.32
W-JDV-31	PEM	~~0.21~~0.26
W-JDV-32	PEM/PFO	~~2.55~~3.06
W-MLW-2	PEM	0.15
W-MLW-3	PEM	0.20

Wetland ID	Wetland Type	Acreage Within ~~the the Project ROW~~Survey Area*
W-MLW-4	PEM	0.06
W-MLW-5	PEM	0.36
W-MLW-6	PEM/PSS	0.04
W-MLW-7	PSS	0.06
W-MLW-8	PSS/PFO	~~0.20~~0.19
W-SMS-1	PEM/PSS	~~3.60~~3.76
W-SMS-2	PEM/PSS/PFO	~~2.65~~2.66
W-SMS-3	PEM/PFO	~~2.81~~2.82
W-SMS-4	PSS	0.52
W-SMS-5	PEM/PSS/PFO	0.79
W-SMS-6	PEM/ ~~PSS/~~PFO	~~0.24~~0.25
W-SMS-7	PEM	0.68
W-TSO-1	PEM	0.03
Total		**~~36.39~~41.3**

*~~Additional field delineations will be conducted within the Project ROW prior to development of the EM&CP.~~ Refer to the *Wetland and Stream Delineation Report* dated ~~December 2024~~May 2025 for a description of delineated areas. The "Survey Area" includes the Project ROW (inclusive of proposed expansions to the Existing ROW; refer to the Master Glossary of Terms for a definition of the "Project ROW") and proposed access roads.

Table 4-7: Summary of Representative Wildlife Reasonably Expected to Occur in the Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Amphibians			
American bullfrog	*Lithobates catesbeianus*	northern dusky salamander	*Desmognathus fuscus*
eastern American toad	*Anaxyrus americanus*	northern leopard frog	*Lithobates pipiens*
green frog	*Lithobates clamitans*	pickerel frog	*Lithobates palustris*
blue-spotted salamander	*Abystoma laterale*	spring peeper	*Pseudacris crucifer*
Jefferson salamander	*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*	wood frog	*Lithobates sylvatica*
Reptiles			
northern water snake	*Nerodia sipedon*	common snapping turtle	*Chelydra serpentina*
eastern garter snake	*Thamnophia sirtalis*	painted turtle	*Chrysemys picta*
eastern milk snake	*Lampropeltis triangulum*	northern map turtle	*Graptemys geographica*
Fish			
creek chub	*Semotilus atromaculatus*	common carp	*Cyprinus carpio*
central mudminnow	*Umbra limi*	bluegill	*Lepomis macrochirus*
white sucker	*Catastomus commersonii*	pumpkinseed	*Lepomis gibbosus*
rock bass	*Ambloplites rupestris*	yellow perch	*Perca flavescens*
Birds			
American crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	wood duck	*Aix sponsa*
red-tailed hawk	*Buteo jamaicensis*	mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*
turkey vulture	*Cathartes aura*	northern cardinal	*Cardinalis cardinalis*
wild turkey	*Meleagris gallopavo*	Canada goose	*Branta canadensis*
cedar waxwing	*Bombycilla cedrorum*	downy woodpecker	*Picoides pubescens*
American robin	*Turdus migratorius*	pileated woodpecker	*Dryocopus pileatus*
American goldfinch	*Spinus tristis*	house sparrow	*Passer domesticus*
black-capped chickadee	*Poecile atricapillus*	northern mockingbird	*Mimus polyglottos*

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
blue jay	*Cyanocitta cristata*	song sparrow	*Melospiza melodia*
tufted titmouse	*Baeolophus bicolor*	dark-eyed junco	*Junco hyemalis*
mourning dove	*Zenaida macrourda*	red-winged blackbird	*Agelaius phoeniceus*
rock dove (pigeon)	*Columba livia*	American woodcock	*Scolopax minor*
European starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	hairy woodpecker	*Leuconotopicus villosus*
Mammals			
eastern coyote	*Canis latrans*	opossum	*Didelphis virginiana*
deer mouse	*Peromyscus maniculatus*	raccoon	*Procyon lotor*
eastern chipmunk	*Tamias striatus*	red fox	*Vulpes vulpes*
eastern cottontail	*Sylvilagus floridanus*	red squirrel	*Sciurus vulgaris*
eastern gray squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*	striped skunk	*Mephitis mephitis*
eastern mole	*Scalopus aquaticus*	white-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*
little brown bat	*Myotis lucifugus*	groundhog	*Marmot monax*

Sources: NatureServe, 2024; Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 2024a

Table 4-8: NRCS-Mapped Soils within 500 Feet of the Proposed Line

Soil Series	Depth to Bedrock (cm)	Depth to Water Table (cm)	Hydric Soil Rating	Drainage Class	Farmland Class
Adams and Wallace loamy sands 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Somewhat excessively drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Adams and Colton soils, 8 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	>200	>200	0	Somewhat excessively drained	Not prime farmland
Adams and Colton soils, 25 to 60 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Somewhat excessively drained	Not prime farmland
Brayton stony loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	38	10	Somewhat poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Brayton stony loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	38	10	Somewhat poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Brayton very stony loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	>200	38	10	Somewhat poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Colton and Constable gravelly loamy sands, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Excessively drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Colton and Constable gravelly loamy sands, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Colton and Constable gravelly and cobbly loamy sands, 8 to 15 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland
Colton and Constable gravelly and cobbly loamy sands, 15 to 25 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland
Cook gravelly and cobbly loamy sands, 0 to 5 percent slopes	>200	8	90	Very poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Cook stony and very stony loamy sands, 0 to 5 percent slopes	>200	8	90	Very poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Coveytown cobbly loamy sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes	>200	31	10	Poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Coveytown gravelly loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	31	10	Poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Duane gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	54	0	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance

Soil Series	Depth to Bedrock (cm)	Depth to Water Table (cm)	Hydric Soil Rating	Drainage Class	Farmland Class
Duane gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	54	0	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Empeyville very fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, stony	>200	59	3	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Empeyville very fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, stony	>200	59	3	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Empeyville very fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, stony	>200	59	3	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Empeyville very fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	>200	59	3	Moderately well drained	Not prime farmland
Empeyville very fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, stony	>200	59	3	Moderately well drained	Not prime farmland
Empeyville very fine sandy loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	>200	59	3	Moderately well drained	Not prime farmland
Fahey gravelly loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	54	0	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Fahey gravelly loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	54	0	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Gravel and sand pits	>200	>200	0		Not prime farmland
Moira stony loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	54	0	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Moira stony loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	>200	54	0	Moderately well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Muck, shallow	>200	0	100	Very poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Nicholville stony fine sandy loam over till, 2 to 6 percent slopes	>200	53	0	Moderately well drained	All areas are prime farmland
Podunk and Eel fine sandy loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	>200	69	10	Moderately well drained	All areas are prime farmland
Podunk and Eel fine sandy loams, high bottoms, 0 to 2 percent slopes	>200	69	10	Moderately well drained	All areas are prime farmland
Rumney and Wayland fine sandy loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	>200	23	85	Very poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance

Soil Series	Depth to Bedrock (cm)	Depth to Water Table (cm)	Hydric Soil Rating	Drainage Class	Farmland Class
Saco and Sloan soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes	>200	8	90	Very poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Salmon very fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Well drained	All areas are prime farmland
Salmon very fine sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Salmon stony very fine sandy loam over till, 6 to 12 percent slopes	>200	74	0	Well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Salmon stony very fine sandy loam over till, 20 to 45 percent slopes	>200	74	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland
Salmon and Nicholville stony very fine sandy loams, 12 to 20 percent slopes	>200	74	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland
Scarboro fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	0	85	Very poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Scarboro loam, neutral variant, over till or clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	0	90	Very poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Stony land, Worth and Parishville soils	>200	69	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland
Runeberg soils, 0 to 5 percent slopes	>200	0	96	Poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Runeberg soils, 0 to 5 percent slopes, very stony	>200	0	96	Poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Trout River gravelly loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	>200	0	Excessively drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Tughill and Dannemora stony very fine sandy loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	0	90	Very poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Tughill and Dannemora very stony very fine sandy loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	0	90	Very poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Water	>200	>200	0		Not prime farmland
Wallington very fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	>200	31	15	Poorly drained	Prime farmland if drained

Soil Series	Depth to Bedrock (cm)	Depth to Water Table (cm)	Hydric Soil Rating	Drainage Class	Farmland Class
Walpole sandy loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	>200	15	85	Poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Westbury and Dannemora stony very fine sandy loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	>200	31	40	Somewhat poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Westbury and Dannemora stony very fine sandy loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	31	45	Poorly drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Westbury and Dannemora very stony fine sandy loams, 0 to 8 percent slopes	>200	31	40	Somewhat poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Westbury and Brayton very stony very fine sandy loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	>200	31	5	Somewhat poorly drained	Not prime farmland
Worth very fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, stony	>200	63	0	Well drained	All areas are prime farmland
Worth very fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, stony	>200	63	0	Well drained	Farmland of statewide importance
Worth very fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	>200	63	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland
Worth very fine sandy loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very stony	>200	63	0	Well drained	Not prime farmland

Source: USDA-NRCS Web Soil Survey (Soil Survey Staff, 2024).

Table 4-9: NYSDEC-Mapped Streams Crossing the Project ROW

Town	Surface Waterbody Name	Number of ROW Crossings	NYSDEC Class
Malone	Branch Brook	1	B(T)
Malone	Salmon River	1	C(T)
Bellmont	Trout River	1	C(T)
Bellmont	Tributaries of Trout River~~, Wentworth Brook~~	2~~1~~	C(T)
Burke	Collins Brook	1	C(T)
Burke	Tributary to Collins Brook	1	D
Burke	Little Trout ~~Creek~~River	1	C(T)
Chateaugay	Tributary to Little Trout River	1	D
Chateaugay	Alder Brook	1	C(T)
Chateaugay	Tributary of Alder Brook	1	C(T)

Source: NYSDEC, 2024d

Table 4-10: Delineated Streams Crossing ~~Surveyed Portions of~~ the ~~Project ROW~~Survey Area*

Field ID	Flow Regime	Linear feet within ~~the Project ROW~~Survey Area *	Comments
S-JDV-1	Perennial	~~326~~369	Branch Brook; Class B(T); Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-2	Perennial	~~159~~192	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-3	Perennial	~~138~~168	Salmon River; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
S-JDV-4	Intermittent	~~142~~170	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-5	Perennial	~~154~~180	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-6	Perennial	~~278~~309	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-7	Intermittent	~~141~~174	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-8	Perennial	~~464~~498	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-9	Perennial	~~176~~284	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-10	Intermittent	~~145~~180	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-11	Perennial	~~543~~625	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-12	Perennial	~~425~~643	Trout River; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
S-JDV-13	Perennial	~~27~~53	Tributary to Trout River; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
S-JDV-14	Perennial	~~9~~40	Tributary to Trout River; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
S-JDV-15	Perennial	~~877~~1,018	Collins Brook; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
~~S-JDV-16~~	~~Perennial~~	~~29~~	~~Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction~~
S-JDV-17	Intermittent	~~148~~203	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-18	Perennial	~~171~~189	Tributary to Collins Brook; Class D; Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-JDV-19	Perennial	~~1.2~~1,239	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-SMS-1	Perennial	136	Little Trout River; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
S-SMS-2	Intermittent	~~158~~152	Tributary to Little Trout River; Class D; Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-SMS-3	Intermittent	181	Tributary to Alder Brook, Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction

Field ID	Flow Regime	Linear feet within ~~the Project ROW~~Survey Area *	Comments
S-SMS-4	Perennial	347~~270~~	Alder Brook; Class C(T); Anticipated USACE and NYSDEC Jurisdiction
S-MLW-1	Ephemeral	61	Tributary to Alder Brook; Anticipated non-jurisdictional
S-MLW-2	Intermittent	~~188~~190	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-MLW-3	Intermittent	~~477~~502	Anticipated USACE Jurisdiction
S-TSO-1	Ephemeral	37	Anticipated non-jurisdictional
Total:		8,140~~7275~~	

* ~~Additional field delineations will be conducted within the Project ROW prior to development of the EM&CP.~~ Refer to the *Wetland and Stream Delineation Report* dated ~~December 2024~~May 2025 for a description of delineated areas. The "Survey Area" includes the Project ROW (inclusive of proposed expansions to the Existing ROW; refer to the Master Glossary of Terms for a definition of the "Project ROW") and proposed access roads.

Table 4-11: Common Construction Equipment Noise Levels

Equipment	Noise Level at 50 Feet (dBA)
Backhoe	83-86
Bulldozer	80
Concrete Mixer	63-71
Chainsaw	75-81
Compressor	67
Generator	78
Grader	85
Truck	91
Wood Chipper	89

Source: Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts (NYSDEC, 2001)

Table 4-12: Residential Addresses within 100 Feet of Project ROW

Town	Street Name	Parcel Id
Bellmont	Willis Rd	102.-4-3.300
Bellmont	Burke Line	102.-3-1
Bellmont	Burke Line	102.-3-2
Bellmont	County Route 33	101.-6-4.400
Bellmont	County Route 33	101.-6-4.300
Bellmont	Burke Line	101.-6-2
Bellmont	County Route 36	101.-6-1.200
Bellmont	Burke Bellmont Town Line	101.-6-8
Bellmont	Town Line	101.-6-1.100
Burke	County Route 36	101.-5-5
Bellmont	Kelly Rd	114.-2-9.300
Bellmont	Mary	114.-2-4.200
Bellmont	County Route 24	114.-2-42
Bellmont	County Route 24	114.-2-1
Bellmont	Malone Rd	114.-2-6.100
Malone	County Route 24	114.-2-9.100
Malone	County Route 24	114.-2-8.100
Bellmont	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	100.-3-9.100
Bellmont	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	100.-3-9.200
Bellmont	Perham Rd	100.-3-8.300
Burke	Pikeville	101.-1-6.200
Burke	Callahan Rd	88.-2-4
Burke	N/A	102.-1-2
Burke	N/A	102.-1-3
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-5.100
Burke	N/A	101.-3-4
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-6.100
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-8.100
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-7.100
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-8.200
Burke	Pikeville Rd	101.-1-6.100
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	100.-2-3
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-1-8.100
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	100.-2-4.400
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-7.200
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-6.200
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-6.300
Burke	Burke/Bellmont Town Line	101.-2-6.400
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-5.500
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-6.200
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-8
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-5.400
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-5.300
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-6.100
Chateaugay	Willis Rd	88.-3-4
Chateaugay	County Route 33	102.-2-2.100
Burke	County Route 33	88.-5-2
Chateaugay	Willis Rd	102.-2-2.200
Chateaugay	Crowley Rd	88.-5-1
Chateaugay	Bellmont Line	102.-2-1

Town	Street Name	Parcel Id
Chateaugay	County Route 33	74.-1-15
Burke	Mary Carey	88.-3-5.800
Chateaugay	Carey	88.-3-5.400
Burke	Toohill	88.-3-1
Chateaugay	Carey	88.-3-5.900
Chateaugay	Carey	88.-3-5.110
Chateaugay	Willis Rd	88.-3-2.200
Burke	County Route 33	88.-3-7
Burke	Toohill	88.-3-2.100
Malone	Porter Rd	113.-2-38.100
Malone	Porter Rd	113.-2-40.200
Malone	Porter Rd	113.-2-40.400
Malone	Henry Badore	113.-2-37.200
Malone	Henry Badore	113.-2-36
Malone	Henry Badore	113.-2-37.100
Malone	Denio Rd	113.-2-17.300
Malone	Denio Rd	113.-2-7.200
Malone	St Mary	113.-4-5
Malone	St Mary	113.-4-6
Malone	St Mary	113.-4-16
Malone	Badore Rd	114.-1-4.200
Malone	St Mary	113.-4-17
Malone	Denio	113.-2-16
Malone	Badore	113.-2-14
Malone	Henry Badore	113.-2-17.100
Malone	County Route 25	112.-2-3.400
Malone	River Bend	112.-2-3.110
Malone	County Route 25	112.-3-8.100
Malone	County Route 25	112.-3-8.200
Malone	County Route 25	112.-3-9
Malone	County Route 25	112.-2-4
Malone	County Route 25	112.-2-3.500
Malone	River Rd	113.-3-37
Malone	Porter Rd	113.-2-40.300
Malone	Goodman	113.-2-49.200
Malone	Porter	113.-2-48
Malone	Goodman	113.-3-10.300
Malone	River	113.-3-46
Malone	River	113.-3-45
Malone	River	113.-3-35.200
Malone	River	113.-3-36
Malone	Goodman	113.-3-9
Malone	Goodman	113.-3-10.200
Malone	River	113.-3-39.100
Malone	Webster Rd	126.-1-8
Malone	Webster St	112.-3-10.200
Malone	Webster St	112.-3-10.100
Malone	Badore	114.-1-4.400
Malone	River Bend	112.-2-3.130
Malone	River	113.-3-38
Malone	River	113.-3-38
Malone	Porter	113.-2-40.100

Town	Street Name	Parcel Id
Malone	N/A	141.-2-29
Bellmont	County Road 24	114.-2-9.200
Bellmont	County Road 24	114.-2-9.200
Malone	Porter	113.-2-40.100
Burke	County Route 36	101.-3-7.100
Malone	County Route 25	112.-2-2.200

Table 4-13: Proposed Structures in Delineated Wetlands with Presumed Jurisdiction

Proposed Structure	Wetland ID	Presumed Jurisdiction*	Figure Number	Mapsheet Number
910/148.5L	W-SMS-1	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	31
910/149L	W-SMS-1	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	31
910/5L	W-SMS-2	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	33
910/6L	W-SMS-2	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	33
910/19L	W-SMS-3	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	36
910/211L	W-JDV-3	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	3
910/197L	W-JDV-5	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	10
910/189L	W-JDV-11	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	13
910/180L	W-JDV-12	USACE	4-5	17
910/156L	W-JDV-30	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	28
910/165L	W-JDV-32	USACE/NYSDEC	4-5	24

*Presumed jurisdiction based on data collected during wetland delineations conducted in August 2023, August, September, and November 2024, and May 2025.

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