

Appendix D

Agency Coordination

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Request for Early Input

Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Construction and Operation of the Fort Meade Solar Array Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

All Interested Parties: The U.S. Army Garrison, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland (FMMD) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 United States Code Section 4321 *et seq.*), herein known as NEPA. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is responsible for issuing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508) and implementing the provisions of NEPA. CEQ regulations, in turn, are supplemented by procedures adopted on an agency-specific basis. For the Department of the Army (DA), the pertinent regulations are contained in 32 CFR Part 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*, which specifically includes in its list of Army actions that normally require an EA [32 CFR 651.33 (c)] changes to established installation land use that generate impacts on the environment. An EA is intended to assist agency planning and decision-making. While required to assess environmental impacts and evaluate their significance, an EA is routinely used as a planning document to evaluate environmental impacts, develop alternatives and mitigation measures, and allow for agency and public participation (32 CFR 651.20). This EA will be developed pursuant to these laws and regulations. NEPA requires all Federal agencies to give appropriate consideration to potential environmental effects of proposed and alternative major actions in the planning and decision-making processes.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to lease land for solar generation at FMMD brownfield sites that are not suitable for other uses. The need for the Proposed Action is to support U.S. Army policies on increasing the resiliency of utility infrastructure and moving towards increased carbon free energy production. This project aligns with Executive Order (EO) 14057, *Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs through Federal Sustainability*, by utilizing Federal land at Fort Meade, generating carbon free energy, and establishing a public-private partnership that catalyzes the growth of clean energy industries and jobs.

The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 MW solar PV panel field on Landfill [REDACTED] in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland (**Figures 1 and 2**). The Proposed Action would also include the construction of an [REDACTED] interconnection pathway [REDACTED].

The No Action Alternative entails FMMD continuing to use current power sources. The No Action Alternative does not address energy resiliency or provide an energy independent source for a short-term grid outage at FMMD.

In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action to be considered in our analysis of each alternative in the forthcoming EA. This notice is being distributed to organizations known to have an interest in natural resource conditions at FMMD.

Additionally, once the draft EA is completed, your organization and the public will have an opportunity to review and provide comments during a 30-day review period, which will be announced in a notice published in local newspapers and on the FMMD website. All materials will be provided online on the FMMD website under Environmental Public Notices at the following link: <https://home.army.mil/meade/index.php/my-fort/all-services/environmental>. Additionally, printed copies of the draft EA will be made available at local libraries.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and request your review and written comment within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Should you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District Project Manager, Ms. Connie Ramsey at Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Enclosure 1: Figures 1 and 2

Enclosure 2: Contact List

Enclosure 1

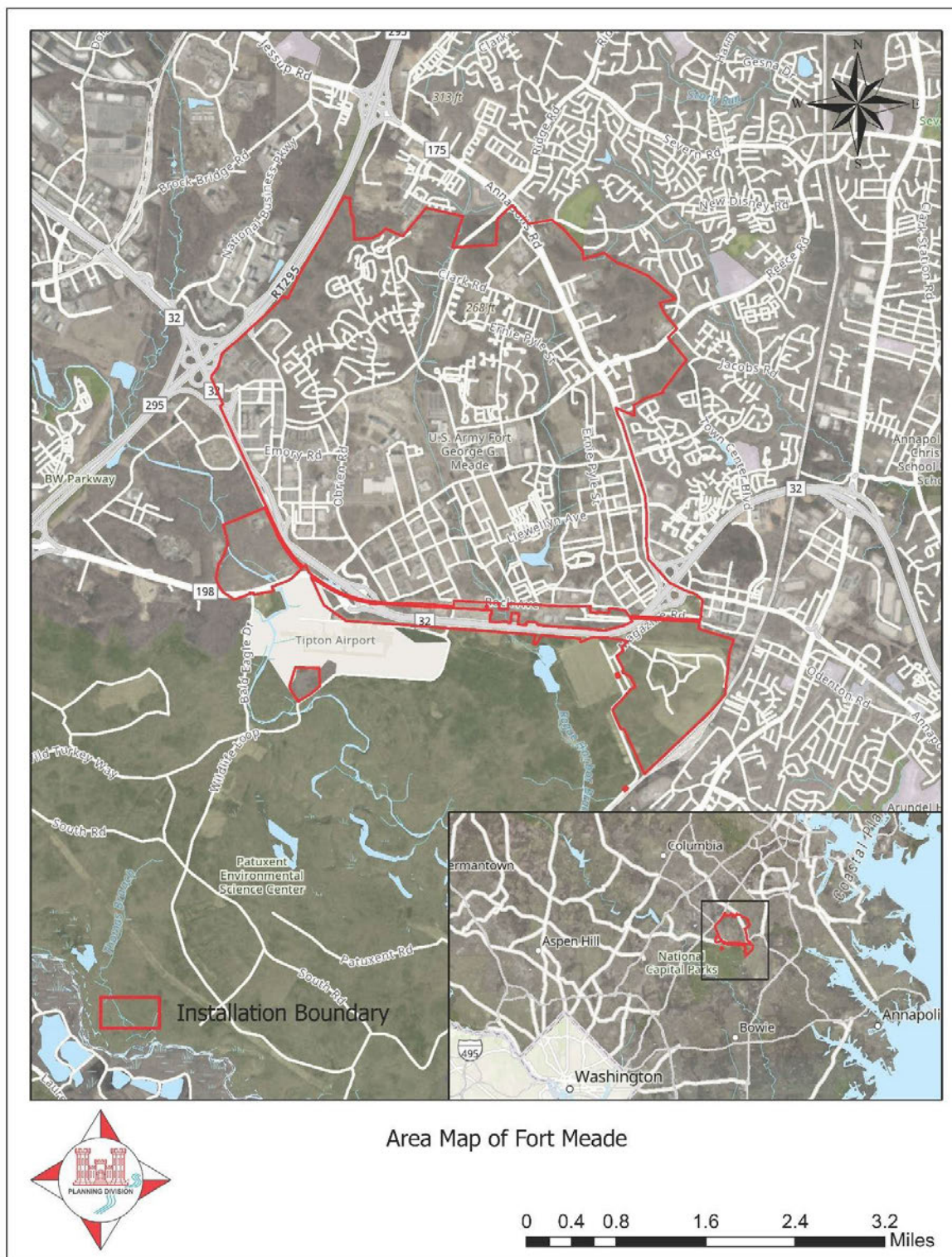


Figure 1 Fort Meade Location Map



Figure 2 Proposed Project Location

Enclosure 2 – Stakeholder Contact List

Ms. Donna Buscemi
Chief, Environmental Planning
Division
Office of Planning and Preliminary
Engineering
707 N. Calvert Street
Mail Stop C-301
Baltimore, MD 21202
DBuscemi@mdot.maryland.gov

Mr. Jason Dubow
Manager, Resource Conservation
and Management
Maryland State Clearinghouse
Maryland Office of Planning, Room
1104
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-2365
mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov

Ms. Genevieve La Rouché
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services
Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401
genevieve_larouche@fws.gov

Mr. Phillip King
United States Department of
Agriculture
339 Busch's Frontage Road, Suite
301
Annapolis, MD 21409-5543
phillip.king@usda.gov

Ms. Carrie Traver
Life Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, &
Environmental Assessment
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency, Region 3
1650 Arch Street - 3RA10
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2772
traver.carrie@epa.gov

Ms. Lori Byrne
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife and Heritage Service
Tawes State Office Building
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401
LBYRNE@dnr.state.md.us

Ms. Kathy Bishop
Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of the
Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21230
kathy.bishop@maryland.gov

Ms. Jennifer Greiner
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Patuxent Research Refuge
National Wildlife Visitor Center
10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708-4027
Jennifer_Greiner@fws.gov

From: [Matt Baker](#)
To: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up
Date: Monday, September 19, 2022 12:06:28 PM

Thanks, Juliet. This ended up coming through MDP's state clearinghouse for comments as well. We've provided comments to the Secretary's office for consolidation with any other TBUs' comments. (Long story short, MDOT SHA has no specific concerns though does recommend continued coordination with our District 5 office as project development progresses, in case anything changes.)

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Matt Baker <MBaker4@mdot.maryland.gov>
Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil>; Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA) <erin.l.geiger2.civ@army.mil>; Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA) <julie.m.adkins7.civ@army.mil>
Subject: RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up

Hi Matt,

We previously coordinated with MDOT SHA for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade (see attached). Since that time we have updated our mapping to include the possible interconnection pathways under consideration. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: Donna Buscemi <DBuscemi@mdot.maryland.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 7:46 AM
To: Matt Baker <MBaker4@mdot.maryland.gov>
Cc: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Hi Matt,

Second one today that I'm forwarding..... I'm not sure MDOT SHA would mind solar panels on landfill cells. At the surface, I can't imagine this project impacting our highways...

Thanks!

Donna

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@usarmy.cenab.mil>

Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 12:29 PM

To: Donna Buscemi <DBuscemi@mdot.maryland.gov>

Cc: george.b.knight7.civ@usarmy.cenab.mil; erin.l.geiger2.civ@usarmy.cenab.mil; julie.m.adkins7.civ@usarmy.cenab.mil

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Good afternoon Ms. Buscemi,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy

Ecologist

USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov
Cc: [erin.l.geiger2](#); [julie.m.adkins7.civ](#); [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array
Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 11:42:00 AM
Attachments: [Request for Early Input FMMD OEI Solar July 2022.pdf](#)
[Enclosure 1 OEI Proposed Action Area 20220913.jpg](#)
[Enclosure 2 OEI Proposed Pathways 20220913.jpg](#)

Good morning Mr. Dubow,

We previously coordinated with your office for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade (attached as a reference). [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Juliet

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 12:25 PM
To: mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov
Cc: [erin.l.geiger2](#); [julie.m.adkins7.civ](#); [george.b.knight7.civ](#)
Subject: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array

Good afternoon Mr. Dubow,
On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.
Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.
Sincerely,
Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Deeley, Sabrina M](#)
Cc: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Penney, Christopher T CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Wetmore, Marisa L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Subject: OEI Meeting with Fort Meade and USFWS
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 1:10:00 PM

Hi Sabrina,

Thanks for your time this morning. I've included some notes below from our meeting. Please feel free to let me know if I missed anything.

NLEB Discussion
USFWS, Fort Meade and USACE
January 10, 2023

Meeting with Sabrina Deeley (USFWS), Julie Adkins (Fort Meade), Connie Ramsey (USACE-Baltimore), Ariel Poirier (USACE-Baltimore) and Juliet Healy (USACE-Baltimore)

- Sabrina said that they are waiting on official interim guidance on how to deal with bats with the uplisting of the NLEB.
- She does not anticipate impacts from this project based on the information that has been provided.
- We discussed bats at Fort Meade in general because this will be useful information for other upcoming projects at the installation. Sabrina said the Chesapeake Bay Field office can help Fort Meade with surveys. Julie and Sabrina will have a separate meeting regarding bats especially in terms of tree clearing at Fort Meade. Sabrina will be meeting with the ESA portion of her office to discuss further plans to draft language for Fort Meade regarding previous research and the current listing of the NLEB bat.
- The OEI Solar Project is in the early concept level and design has not been initiated to date. USFWS appreciates the early coordination for this project and appreciates NEPA being conducted in this manner. Sabrina would like to do a site visit for the OEI solar project in regard to bats and the pollinator habitat that was discussed in a previous meeting. She will bring some pollinator habitat experts with her for that visit and would like to do it before mid-April 2023. Based on the information available and the outreach to date, Sabrina will send an e-mail summarizing the on-going coordination and outreach regarding the OEI project and the USFWS continued involvement.

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division
[Juliet.M.Healy](#) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: genevieve_larouche@fws.gov
Cc: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Deeley, Sabrina M](#); [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Ready, Katherine R CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up
Date: Thursday, December 29, 2022 3:29:00 PM
Attachments: [OEI Solar FWS IPAC 12.15.2022.pdf](#)

Hi Genevieve,

I am following up on the Fort Meade Solar Array project. Attached is the updated IPaC list which now shows the northern long eared bat as endangered. I started the determination key but have not had a chance to complete #5 because IPaC said to contact the agency regarding known hibernaculum or maternity tree roosts. Based on a study completed in 2017-2018 (Deeley and Emrick 2018), it is unlikely that there is a maternity colony present at Fort Meade.

This project is still at the concept level and will be designed and built by a third-party investor that has not been selected at this time. However, minimal (if any) tree clearing is anticipated with this project. If any trees are to be removed, all time of year restrictions will be followed.

In addition, language regarding the pollinator habitat meeting that was held with Fort Meade, USFWS and USACE will be included in the document.

We are still currently drafting the EA and do not anticipate going out for Public Comment until February 2023. Please let us know if you would like to have a meeting about the project early in the new year.

Thanks,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division
Juliet.M.Healy@usace.army.mil
410-430-7022 (cell)

From: Deeley, Sabrina M <sabrina_deeley@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 8:42 AM
To: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy[REDACTED]>
Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey[REDACTED]>
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array follow-up

Good morning,

Genevieve forwarded me the request for early input. I am our field office's POC for military installations. I apologize for the delayed response, but we are very interested in working with you at this stage.

We would like to discuss the possibility of installing pollinator habitat around the solar panels. Our office has assisted [other solar projects](#) with this work. The state also provides a [certification](#) for pollinator-friendly solar facilities.

I am available at the following times to discuss further:

22 Sept before 9:30AM

28 Sept before 10AM, after 1PM

29 Sept 10AM-1PM

30 Sept

5 Oct before 9AM, after 3PM

7 Oct before 11:30AM

Thank you,
Sabrina

Sabrina Deeley, PhD
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Chesapeake Bay Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: 410-573-4535
[Sabrina_Deeley](#) [REDACTED]

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <[Juliet.M.Healy](#) [REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 10:51 AM
To: LaRouche, Genevieve <Genevieve_LaRouche@fws.gov>
Cc: [erin.l.geiger2.civ](#) [REDACTED] <[erin.l.geiger2.civ](#) [REDACTED]>; [julie.m.adkins7.civ](#) [REDACTED] <[julie.m.adkins7.civ](#) [REDACTED]>; Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <[Connie.L](#) [REDACTED]>
[REDACTED] input-Fort Mead Solar Array follow-up

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Good morning Ms. La Rouche,

We previously coordinated with your office for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade (attached as a reference). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and the IPaC species list. Let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Juliet

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 12:45 PM

To: 'genevieve_larouche@fws.gov' <genevieve_larouche@fws.gov>

Cc: 'erin.l.geiger2.civ@army.mil' <erin.l.geiger2.civ@army.mil>; 'julie.m.adkins7.civ@army.mil' <julie.m.adkins7.civ@army.mil>; 'george.b.knight7.civ@army.mil' <george.b.knight7.civ@army.mil>

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array

Good afternoon Ms. La Rouche,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy

Ecologist

USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: [Stahl, Katherine \(Katie\)](#); [Deeley, Sabrina M](#); [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Ready, Katherine R CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Subject: Pollinator Habitat OEI Solar Array-Fort Meade
Date: Friday, September 30, 2022 4:04:00 PM
Attachments: [Meeting Minutes Pollinator Habitat Discussion FWS 9.30.22.docx](#)

Hi Katie, Sabrina and Julie,

It was nice meeting with all this morning. I put together some notes from our meeting (please see attached). Please feel free to provide any changes and I am happy to make updates.

I also wanted to follow up about the REPI Program because I brought it up in the meeting as a funding possibility, but I think Sabrina was correct about it being more for the buffer area outside the installation. I discussed it with my colleague, Katie Ready, and she suggested the Legacy program as a possibility. We didn't get a chance to do a lot of research on it, but it looks like they have done pollinator projects. Please see the following links:

- <https://denix.osd.mil/legacy/>
- [Pollinators - DENIX \(osd.mil\)](#)

Thank you for all of the information that you have provided and please let me know if you need anything.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

Pollinator Habitat Discussion OEI Solar Array-Fort Meade

Meeting Minutes

30 September 2022 @ 09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (EDT)

- **Attendees:**
 - Sabrina Deeley, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, USFWS
 - Katie Stahl, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, USFWS
 - Julie Adkins, Natural Resources Manager, U.S. Army Garrison Fort George G. Meade
 - Juliet Healy, Ecologist, USACE
- **Discussion for Pollinator Habitat for the OEI Solar Array on the Landfill Site at U.S. Army Garrison Fort George G. Meade**
 - Introductions
 - Sabrina and Katie provided a background on other pollinator habitat projects that have been established in conjunction with the installation of solar panels such as the Easton Utilities Wastewater Facility
 - Project was completed with funding from The Bee and Habitat Fund who covered the seeding cost
 - USFWS mentioned that they were not sure if the same organization would be willing/able to fund on Federal lands.
 - Easton utilities completed two rounds of herbicide spray prior to the habitat seeding
 - A winter seeding was completed in January
 - Ernst is the seed company that was used
 - USFWS would like to have a site visit
 - The timing of the site visit will depend on the proposed schedule of the solar panel installation
 - Juliet will try to get more detailed information and provide it to the group
 - USFWS may be interested in having a site visit now and when the timing for installation gets closer.
 - Katie and Rich would be interested in looking at the soils.
 - Julie said it is a challenging site as slopes drain into streams and wetlands.
 - Julie mentioned that this site is a landfill so soils are not a typical soil profile and will change with grading when the solar panels are installed.
 - Julie asked how the project would be funded
 - USFWS said it could be wrapped into the cost of the project.
 - Non-profit may be willing to cover
 - Juliet suggested REPI program as a possibility but wasn't sure if that was only for land that buffered installations. Sabrina thought it was only for land directly outside of the installation. Juliet will do more research.
 - Katie discussed how these types of projects can help reduce maintenance costs for the solar panel company with reduced mowing expenses. Julie said that they only mow ~1 time/year currently. Project could also reduce temperatures under solar panels.
 - Pollinator seeds take 1-2 years to fully germinate. The first year it may be necessary to do weed whacking under the solar panels.
 - Katie and Sabrina discussed that there should be two types of seed mixes

- One mix within panels
 - Second mix would include a larger buffer around the panels
- Katie and Sabrina stressed the importance of bringing solar companies into the pollinator habitat discussions early. One concern that solar panel companies can have is potential impacts to RTE species.
 - USFWS could provide a Safe Harbor letter for the company
- Katie asked if the following could be worked into the contract if we move forward with the pollinator habitat:
 - Maintenance Plan-USFWS will help establish. It will include such things as height of mower.
 - Solar Panel Card-Will cost ~\$250-300.
 - Minimum Height of solar panels to create habitat would be 24". USFWS would like to see 48" (Does not add a lot to the cost of the project).
- Katie will provide a resource study from Arizona which shows that solar panels require less maintenance
- Katie said that Fort Meade could develop some public events or at least events for military and civilians. They have examples that have been done for other projects.
 - Katie and Sabrina asked about the visibility of the landfill sites.
 - Julie mentioned that this is an isolated area where the landfill sites are located on the installation.
 - Sabrina asked if the area could be opened to military and their families and civilians in the future (when landfill is closed) as a recreational area because it would be nice in the future to establish trails or walking areas where birders and others could experience the established habitat.
 - Julie wasn't sure where they would get that type of funding, but they could possibly request it.
- Katie will send more information about solar panels and establishing pollinator habitat



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401-7307
Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127



In Reply Refer To:

December 15, 2022

Project Code: 2022-0085964

Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Wetlands

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office

177 Admiral Cochrane Drive

Annapolis, MD 21401-7307

(410) 573-4599

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The monarch is a candidate species and not yet listed or proposed for listing. There are generally no section 7 requirements for candidate species (FAQ found here: https://www.fws.gov/savethemonarch/FAQ-Section7.html). Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

The following FWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands and Fish Hatcheries lie fully or partially within your project area:

FACILITY NAME	ACRES
PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE https://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=51640	10,440.13

Wetlands

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

WETLAND INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED.
PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.FWS.GOV/WETLANDS/DATA/MAPPER.HTML](https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) OR CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Juliet Healy
Address: Planning Division, USACE
Address Line 2: 2 Hopkins Plaza
City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: juliet.m.healy [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Lead Agency Contact Information

Lead Agency: Army



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401-7307
Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127



In Reply Refer To:

September 15, 2022

Project Code: 2022-0085964

Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Wetlands

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office

177 Admiral Cochrane Drive

Annapolis, MD 21401-7307

(410) 573-4599

Project Summary

Project Code: 2022-0085964

Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

Project Type: Power Gen - Solar

Project Description: The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. The Proposed Action would also include the construction of an interconnection pathway to a utility substation.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.0836902,-76.71513745581095,14z>



Counties: Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Note that 2 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects with a federal nexus that have tree clearing = to or > 15 acres: 1. REQUEST A SPECIES LIST 2. NEXT STEP: EVALUATE DETERMINATION KEYS 3. SELECT EVALUATE under the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) Consultation and 4(d) Rule Consistency key Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The monarch is a candidate species and not yet listed or proposed for listing. There are generally no section 7 requirements for candidate species (FAQ found here: https://www.fws.gov/savethemonarch/FAQ-Section7.html). Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

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FACILITY NAME	ACRES
PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE https://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=51640	10,440.13

Wetlands

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

WETLAND INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED.
PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.FWS.GOV/WETLANDS/DATA/MAPPER.HTML](https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) OR CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Juliet Healy
Address: Planning Division, USACE
Address Line 2: 2 Hopkins Plaza
City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: juliet.m.healy [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Lead Agency Contact Information

Lead Agency: Army

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: ["King, Phillip - NRCS,Dover, DE"](#)
Cc: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); ["Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)"](#); ["Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)"](#)
Subject: RE: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array
Date: Monday, September 19, 2022 1:32:00 PM
Attachments: [Request for Early Input FMMD OEI Solar July 2022.pdf](#)
[Enclosure 1 OEI Proposed Action Area 20220913.jpg](#)
[Enclosure 2 OEI Proposed Pathways 20220913.jpg](#)

Good afternoon Phil,

We previously coordinated with your office for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade (attached as reference). [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Juliet

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 3:22 PM
To: King, Phillip - NRCS,Dover, DE <phillip.king@usda.gov>
Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey@usda.gov>; Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA) <erin.l.geiger2.civ@usda.gov>; Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA) <julie.m.adkins7.civ@usda.gov>; george.b.knight7.civ@usda.gov
Subject: RE: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array

Hi Phil,

Thanks for your e-mail. I wanted to get further information before responding.

The geo-tech investigation/survey will be conducted by the developer once they are selected. If you have any further questions, please feel free to send them to me and/or reach out to Ryan Knapp (OEI project manager). His e-mail address is ryan.m.knapp7.ctr@army.mil.

Thanks,

Juliet

From: King, Phillip - NRCS,Dover, DE <phillip.king@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 1:50 PM
To: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@usda.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array

Juliet,

The only concern that I have for that site is that the soils there are highly disturbed and we do not know what type of soil limitations may exist on site. It is critical that an on-site geo-technical investigation be conducted.

Phil King
State Soil Scientist,

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@usda.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 3:22 PM

To: King, Phillip - NRCS,Dover, DE <phillip.king@usda.gov>

Cc: erin.l.geiger2.civ@usda.gov; julie.m.adkins7.civ@usda.gov; george.b.knight7.civ@usda.gov

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array

Good afternoon Mr. King,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy

Ecologist

USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: [Traver, Carrie](#); [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Nevshehirlian, Stepan](#); [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up
Date: Monday, September 19, 2022 1:19:00 PM
Attachments: [Request for Early Input FMMD OEI Solar July 2022.pdf](#)
[Enclosure 1 OEI Proposed Action Area 20220913.jpg](#)
[Enclosure 2 OEI Proposed Pathways 20220913.jpg](#)

Good afternoon Carrie,

Thank you for your comments. We will work to incorporate these into the analysis and EA.

Since our initial coordination, we have updated our mapping to include the possible interconnection pathways under consideration. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments. I've also included the initial coordination that was sent as a reference.

Thanks,
Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: Traver, Carrie <Traver.Carrie@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 1, 2022 10:43 AM
To: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy[REDACTED]>; Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey[REDACTED]>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Good morning:

Thank you for providing the notice that the U.S. Army Garrison, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland (FMMD) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA or Study) to evaluate the environmental impacts associated with proposed construction and operation of the Fort Meade Solar Array (Proposed Action). In response, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing recommendations for your consideration in the development of the EA in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic panel field on Landfill Cells 1 and 2 in the southeastern corner of FMMD. The Proposed Action would also include the construction of an [REDACTED] interconnection pathway [REDACTED]

The purpose is to lease land for solar generation at FMMD brownfield sites that are not suitable for other uses. The Proposed Action will support increasing resiliency of the U.S. Army's utility infrastructure. EPA supports the use of former landfill areas or other brownfields for generation of solar power to reduce generation of greenhouse gases

(GHGs).

Climate Change

Beneficial impacts may be realized by replacing energy generated with fossil-fuels with solar energy. We recommend that the offset or reduction of GHGs from the project be estimated.

Air Quality - General Conformity

As the project is located in an area that is in nonattainment and maintenance for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), a general conformity rule analysis should be conducted according to the guidance provided by Determining Conformity of General Federal Actions to State or Federal Implementation Plans. Under the general conformity rule, reasonably foreseeable emissions associated with all operational and construction activities, both direct and indirect, must be quantified and compared to the annual de minimis levels for those pollutants in nonattainment and maintenance. We recommend that each applicable standard (with the year) be listed.

Aquatic Resources and Water Quality

Unnamed tributaries to Rogue Harbor Branch of the Little Patuxent River are mapped in the vicinity of the landfill site. The EA should discuss type and condition of onsite or adjacent streams, including impairment status, and evaluate any potential temporary or permanent aquatic resource impacts, such as stream crossings.

In accordance with the Clean Water Act Section 404, we recommend avoiding and minimizing impacts to Waters of the United States. To assess and avoid impacts, we recommend that the boundaries of any streams and wetlands present on or immediately surrounding the site be delineated.

EPA recommends that the EA outline measures to protect surface waters, including any temporary erosion control measures during installation of the solar array and permanent stormwater collection and management systems. We recommend that systems that may be in place to protect or improve water quality and reduce runoff volume to receiving streams be discussed.

Habitat and Vegetation

We recommend discussing the type and area of any vegetation to be cleared or maintained. Direct and indirect effects on fauna should be assessed, including any shifts in available habitat or habitat connectivity from security measures such as fencing or lighting, or any proposed benefits from native plant installation for screening. Impacts from construction noise and disturbance should be assessed.

Hazardous Wastes and Contamination

As Fort George G. Meade is on the National Priorities List and a number of studies and remedial actions have been conducted or are ongoing, we recommend that the EA explain the status of current site investigations and clean up, both at FMMD overall and in the project area.

We recommend that the NEPA document include a discussion of the landfill, including the type of materials landfilled, the existing cap/cover, and completed, ongoing, or planned remediation actions. The EA should indicate how installation of the solar array, underground connection to the substation, or other project activities will avoid disturbance of any hazardous materials and prevent the potential mobilization of contaminants.

Utilities

The Proposed Action would include the construction of an [REDACTED] interconnection pathway [REDACTED]. The Study should include analysis regarding impacts associated with this interconnection.

The EA would benefit from a discussion of any other new or upgraded utilities required, including new or upgrades to substations, electric lines, or other infrastructure required for the Project.

Traffic and Community Impacts

Residential areas are located to the east of the site. We recommend an evaluation of potential community impacts during construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility. Possible impacts include effects on homes, businesses, and institutions from increases in congestion, rerouting traffic, noise, and equipment emissions during construction/installation and security lighting or visual impacts during operation.

Environmental Justice

We recommend that an assessment be conducted to identify whether areas of potential environmental justice (EJ) concern are in proximity to the proposed action, whether impacts may occur, and whether those communities may be disproportionately impacted by Project activities.

Methodologies are discussed by several agencies including CEQ. For example, see

[https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-02/documents/ej_guidance_nepa_ceq1297.pdf)

[02/documents/ej_guidance_nepa_ceq1297.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-02/documents/ej_guidance_nepa_ceq1297.pdf) and

<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-iwg-promising-practices-ej-methodologies-nepa-reviews>

EPA's environmental justice screening tool, EJSCREEN (at <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>), can be utilized for screening for potential areas of EJ concern. We note that EJSCREEN shows potential low-income populations within 1 mile of the proposed action. EJSCREEN provides demographic information on the census block group level. A census block group is the smallest geographical unit for which the United States Census Bureau publishes data. We recommend using this level of data to screen for potential communities. In addition to identifying low income and/or minority communities, we also suggest that the assessment of impacts consider potential vulnerabilities such as health disparities and existing pollutant exposures.

The identification of potential EJ concerns and vulnerabilities should inform appropriate outreach to affected communities to assure that communication regarding project development reaches citizens in an appropriate way and feedback from the affected communities is fully considered.

Socioeconomic Effects

The Request for Early Input states that the project aligns with Executive Order (EO) 14057, *Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs through Federal Sustainability*, by establishing a public-private partnership that catalyzes the growth of clean energy industries and jobs. EPA recommends an evaluation of positive and negative impacts such as whether the Project will create additional employment opportunities. We

suggest any potential impacts on property values, schools, and local businesses be assessed.

Again, thank you for providing EPA with notice to provide comments for your consideration in the development of the EA. Please feel free to contact me at traver.carrie@epa.gov or 215-814-2772 if you would like to discuss the Study. I would like to request that you share the draft EA with me by email when it is available for review.

Thank you,
Carrie

Carrie Traver

Life Scientist

Office of Communities, Tribes, & Environmental Assessment

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

215-814-2772

traver.carrie@epa.gov

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@us.army.mil>

Sent: Monday, August 01, 2022 3:37 PM

To: Traver, Carrie <Traver.Carrie@epa.gov>

Cc: erin.l.geiger2.civ@us.army.mil; julie.m.adkins7.civ@us.army.mil; george.b.knight7.civ@us.army.mil

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Good afternoon Ms. Traver,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy

Ecologist

USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

To: Traver, Carrie <Traver.Carrie@epa.gov>

Cc: erin.l.geiger2.civ[REDACTED]; julie.m.adkins7.civ[REDACTED] george.b.knight7.civ[REDACTED]

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Mead Solar Array

Good afternoon Ms. Traver,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy

Ecologist

USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: [Lori Byrne -DNR-](#)
Cc: [Frederick Kelley -DNR-](#); [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:48:00 PM
Attachments: [Request for Early Input FMMD OEI Solar July 2022.pdf](#)
[Enclosure 1 OEI Proposed Action Area 20220913.jpg](#)
[Enclosure 2 OEI Proposed Pathways 20220913.jpg](#)

Hi Lori,

Thank you for providing your comments on this project. The obstacle course noted in the letter is outside of the LOD for this project. I checked with Fort Meade and they don't have any records for the Roughish Witchgrass (*Dichanthelium leucothrix*).

Since our previous coordination (attached as a reference), we have updated our mapping to include the possible interconnection pathways under consideration. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any further questions or comments. We will make sure to include everything in the EA.

Thanks,

Juliet

From: Lori Byrne -DNR- <lori.byrne@maryland.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 8, 2022 2:06 PM
To: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy [REDACTED]>
Cc: Frederick Kelley -DNR- <frederick.kelley@maryland.gov>
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Dear Ms. Healy,
Please see attached for our response to your review request. Thank you.
Lori Byrne

	<p>Lori A. Byrne Environmental Review Coordinator Wildlife and Heritage Service Department of Natural Resources 580 Taylor Avenue, E-1 Annapolis, MD 21401 410-260-8573 (office) 410-260-8596 (FAX) lori.byrne@maryland.gov</p>
 dnr.maryland.gov	

On Mon, Aug 1, 2022 at 3:43 PM Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

<[Juliet.M.Healy](#) [REDACTED]> wrote:

Good afternoon Ms. Byrne,
On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document. Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,
Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Allan Fisher, Deputy Secretary

September 8, 2022

Ms. Juliet Healy
USACE Baltimore District
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

RE: Environmental Review for Fort Meade Solar Array - NEPA Preparation, Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

Dear Ms. Healy:

The Wildlife and Heritage Service has determined that there is a record for a population of Roughish Witchgrass (*Dichanthelium leucothrix*) on the project site. This 1994 record was described as located on and around the obstacle course, in dry, sandy open habitat. Roughish Witchgrass has an official state status of uncertain, although it is thought to be possibly rare in Maryland.

Also, our remote analysis suggests that the forested area on this property contains Forest Interior Dwelling Bird habitat. Populations of many bird species which depend on this type of forested habitat are declining in Maryland and throughout the eastern United States. Interested landowners can contact us for further voluntary guidelines to help conserve this important habitat.

Please be sure to let us know if the limits of proposed disturbance or overall site boundaries change and we will provide you with an updated evaluation. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to review this project. If you should have any further questions regarding this information, please contact me at lori.byrne@maryland.gov or at (410) 260-8573.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Byrne,
Environmental Review Coordinator
Wildlife and Heritage Service
MD Dept. of Natural Resources

ER# 2022.1184.aa
Cc: F. Kelley, DNR

From: [Kathy Bishop -MDE-](#)
To: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Subject: Re: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 2:02:44 PM

Received - Thank you.

--



Kathy Bishop Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
kathy.bishop@maryland.gov
(410) 537-4187 (office)
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

On Wed, Sep 21, 2022 at 1:12 PM Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA)
<[Juliet.M.Healy](#)> wrote:

Good afternoon Ms. Bishop,

We previously coordinated with your office for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade (attached as a reference). [REDACTED]. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments. Please note that the updated maps were also sent to those who have reached out to us from MDE regarding the project.

Sincerely,

Juliet

From: Kathy Bishop -MDE- <kathy.bishop@maryland.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:29 AM
To: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <[Juliet.M.Healy](#)>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Received - Thank you.

On Mon, Aug 1, 2022 at 3:49 PM Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@army.mil> wrote:

Good afternoon Ms. Bishop,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy

Ecologist

USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

--

Kathy Bishop Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
kathy.bishop@maryland.gov
(410) 537-4187 (office)

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: [Ed Dexter -MDE-](#); [Danielle Spendiff -MDE-](#)
Cc: [Amanda Malcolm -MDE-](#); [Heather Nelson -MDE-](#); [David Seaborn -MDE-](#); [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#); [Geiger, Erin L CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#); [Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Fort Meade Solar Array- MDE Comments on Early Input Request
Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 4:36:00 PM
Attachments: [Request for Early Input FMMD OEI Solar July 2022.pdf](#)
[Enclosure 1 OEI Proposed Action Area 20220913.jpg](#)
[Enclosure 2 OEI Proposed Pathways 20220913.jpg](#)

Hi Danielle and Ed,

Thank you for providing this information. For this project, Fort Meade will lease the landfill sites to a third-party developer to build, own, and operate the solar array. To date, that developer has not been selected and the plans have not been developed. When plans are available, Fort Meade and/or the developer will submit the requested documentation for solar panel installation on closed and capped landfills. In addition, this requirement will be documented in the EA along with all of the other pertinent information detailed below.

I also wanted to send updated mapping that was completed to include the possible interconnection pathways under consideration. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project. I've also included the initial request that was sent as a reference.

Please let me know if you have any further questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Juliet

From: Ed Dexter -MDE- <ed.dexter@maryland.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 1, 2022 11:31 AM
To: Danielle Spendiff -MDE- <danielle.spendiff1@maryland.gov>
Cc: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy[REDACTED]>; Amanda Malcolm -MDE- <amanda.malcolm@maryland.gov>; Heather Nelson -MDE- <hnelson@maryland.gov>; David Seaborn -MDE- <david.seaborn@maryland.gov>
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Fort Meade Solar Array- MDE Comments on Early Input Request

Yes, we routinely approve solar arrays on closed landfills. Danielle gave you the link to our fact sheet that describes our requirements for the information that we need to review. Basically we need the same information that the installer would need to build the thing, and our review is aimed at ensuring that the proposed installation won't hurt the landfill cap. The installers that we have worked with are generally sensitive to this, and we have had little problem getting things worked out quickly. No new permit is involved from our standpoint, just a letter of approval.

Edward M. Dexter, P.G., Administrator
Solid Waste Program
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd., Suite 605
Baltimore MD 21230-1719
Phone (410) 537-3315
Facsimile (410) 537-3842
Please note new email address: ed.dexter@maryland.gov

On Thu, Sep 1, 2022 at 11:11 AM Danielle Spendiff -MDE- <danielle.spendiff1@maryland.gov>
wrote:

Hello Juliet,

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE or Department), Water and Science Administration, Wetlands and Waterways Protection Program (WWPP) has reviewed the Request for Early Input regarding an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed land lease for solar generation at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. The Proposed Action consists of: construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 MW solar PV panel field on Landfill [REDACTED] in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade. This project is a federal action located within Maryland's Coastal Zone, and is therefore subject to federal consistency review under the Coastal Zone Management Act. A formal request for a consistency determination on the project (including completed coastal policy checklists) will need to be submitted in accordance with the requirements found on Maryland's Coastal Consistency Review

page: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/CZM.aspx>

MDE regulates impacts to nontidal wetlands and waterways, including a 25-foot buffer on all nontidal wetlands and the 100-year floodplain of all nontidal waterbodies; any regulated resources present and potential impacts should be described in the EA. Please note that review and authorization from WWPP may be required should any activities related to this project result in impacts to regulated resources. Early coordination with WWPP is encouraged to discuss regulatory requirements and minimization of adverse impacts to state-regulated resources. Should the project result in a discharge to Waters of the US, a Water Quality Certification (WQC) from MDE under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act will be required as part of any federal permits for this project. Issuance of an individual WQC from the State of Maryland would require WWPP to place the project on public notice and take public comments and/or requests for a hearing on the project. General information regarding the State's application procedures and Water Quality Certification requirements can be found

at: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/WQC.aspx>.

The project will require approved Erosion & Sediment Control and Stormwater

Management Plans. Please see attached Technical Memo No. 8 regarding stormwater design and erosion and sediment control requirements for solar installations. For any questions regarding stormwater management or erosion and sediment control, please contact Amanda Malcolm with MDE's Stormwater, Dam Safety, and Flood Management Program at amanda.malcolm@maryland.gov. WWPP also coordinated with MDE's Land and Materials Administration (LMA) regarding this request for input, and is providing their comments herein. LMA supports solar array installation on landfills as a productive reuse of land. However, a principal concern is that installation and maintenance of the array should not damage the landfill cap. Approval from LMA is required, and information needed to obtain approval from LMA can be found in the following fact sheet: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/SolidWaste/Documents/Solar%20On%20LFs%20Fact%20Sheets/2019-12-Factsheet-SolarPanels.pdf>. Please contact Ed Dexter with LMA at ed.dexter@maryland.gov with any questions regarding this approval process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding Wetland and Waterway Protection Program's comments, and we look forward to continued coordination on this project.

Sincerely,

--



Danielle A. Spendiff

Chief, Regulatory & Customer Service Division
Water & Science Administration
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
danielle.spendiff1@maryland.gov

410-537-4023 (O)

410-913-8524 (M)

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Click here to complete a three question [customer experience survey](#).

[Click here](#) to complete a three question customer experience survey.

From: [Healy, Juliet M CIV \(USA\)](#)
To: "Greiner, Jennifer"
Cc: [erin.l.geiger2.civ](#) [REDACTED] [julie.m.adkins7.civ](#) [REDACTED] [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 3:37:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Dear Ms. Greiner,

Sorry for my delayed response to your e-mail.

For this project, Fort Meade will lease the landfill sites to a third-party developer to build, own, and operate the solar array. To date, that developer has not been selected and the plans have not been developed. Unfortunately, we are not able to answer the questions at this time regarding the direction of the solar arrays, surface area of the solar arrays or the electric storage battery location.

Fort Meade will comply with all State regulations regarding sediment and erosion control to capture impervious surface runoff and erosion. Additionally, Fort Meade will follow the Installation's Forest Conservation Plan regarding forested areas.

Fort Meade is aware of the cemetery referenced below. While there may be temporary viewshed impacts, there will be no permanent, direct impacts to the cemetery.

Please let us know if you have any further questions.

Thanks,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division
[Juliet.M.Healy](#) [REDACTED]
410-430-7022 (cell)

From: Greiner, Jennifer <Jennifer_Greiner@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 9:29 AM
To: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy [REDACTED]>
Cc: [erin.l.geiger2.civ](#) [REDACTED] [julie.m.adkins7.civ](#) [REDACTED] Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey [REDACTED]>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up

Good Morning, Ms. Healy. Thanks for reaching out again on this. A few immediate questions I'm hoping Ft. Meade can answer:

- Do we assume correctly that the solar arrays would be facing south to southwest, so run off would be in the direction of streams that feed into Little Patuxent River?

- What are the stormwater management designs to capture impervious surface runoff and erosion?
- What is the total surface area of the arrays?
- Where would the electric storage batteries located?

The forest between the brownfields and the refuge serves as a buffer from the heat island effect, light pollution effects, and surface stormwater impacts to habitats for T&E species on the refuge. What plans are in place with AACo to protect this forest?

There's also a cemetery at the edge of the forest and brownfields (assume plans are also in place to protect that resource?)

Jennifer

Jennifer Greiner (she/her)
 Refuge Manager
 Patuxent Research Refuge
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, North Atlantic - Appalachian Region
 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
 Laurel, MD 20708
 240-761-1060 (mobile)
 301-497-5582 (office)

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV (USA) <Juliet.M.Healy@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 8:35 AM
To: Greiner, Jennifer <Jennifer_Greiner@fws.gov>
Cc: erin.l.geiger2.civ@fws.gov, erin.l.geiger2.civ@fws.gov, julie.m.adkins7.civ@fws.gov, julie.m.adkins7.civ@fws.gov, Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey@usarmy.mil>
 input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Good morning Ms. Greiner,

We previously coordinated with your office for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade

(attached as a reference). Since that time we have updated our mapping to include the possible interconnection pathways under consideration. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 3:54 PM

To: Jennifer_Greiner@fws.gov

Cc: erin.l.geiger2.civ; julie.m.adkins7.civ; george.b.knight7.civ

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Good afternoon Ms. Greiner,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array follow-up

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Good morning Ms. Greiner,

We previously coordinated with your office for early input on the OEI Solar project at Fort Meade (attached as a reference). Since that time we have updated our mapping to include the possible interconnection pathways under consideration. Please see the attached updated mapping for the OEI solar project and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division

From: Healy, Juliet M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 3:54 PM

To: Jennifer_Greiner@fws.gov

Cc: erin.l.geiger2.civ [REDACTED] julie.m.adkins7.civ [REDACTED] george.b.knight7.civ [REDACTED]

Subject: Request for early input-Fort Meade Solar Array

Good afternoon Ms. Greiner,

On behalf of the U.S. Army Fort Meade, we would like to coordinate with your agency regarding a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the construction and operation of a new solar array at Fort George G. Meade (FMMD). The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action. This input will be considered and incorporated into the preparation of the NEPA document.

Please see the attached request and mapping and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and input. We kindly request your response by **September 1, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Juliet Healy
Ecologist
USACE Baltimore District, Planning Division



Maryland DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

September 20, 2022

Ms. Connie Ramsey
Biologist, Installation Support Branch, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW PROCESS

State Application Identifier: MD20220920-0759

Reply Due Date: 10/20/2022

Project Description: Early Input Pre-EA: Proposed Action Includes Construction & Operation of a 6.7 MW Solar PV Panel Field on Landfill [REDACTED] in the Southeastern Corner of Fort Meade & Construction of an [REDACTED], & a No-Action Alternative (See MD20220729-0659)

Project Location: Anne Arundel County

Clearinghouse Contact: Sylvia Mosser

Dear Ms. Ramsey:

Thank you for submitting your project for intergovernmental review. Your participation in the Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination (MIRC) process helps to ensure that your project will be consistent with the plans, programs, and objectives of State agencies and local governments.

We have forwarded your project to the following agencies and/or jurisdictions for their review and comments: the Maryland Departments of Transportation, the Environment, Natural Resources, General Services, and Commerce; the Maryland Office of Maryland Military Department, Maryland Energy Administration, and Public Service Commission; Anne Arundel County; and the Maryland Department of Planning including the Maryland Historical Trust. A composite review and recommendation letter will be sent to you by the reply due date. Your project has been assigned a unique State Application Identifier that you should use on all documents and correspondence.

Please be assured that we will expeditiously process your project. The issues resolved through the MIRC process enhance the opportunities for project funding and minimize delays during project implementation.

Ms. Connie Ramsey

Page 2

State Application Identifier #: MD20220920-0759

If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov. Thank you for your cooperation with the MIRC process.

Sincerely,



Myra Barnes, Lead Clearinghouse Coordinator

MB:SM

cc: Juliet Healy - USACE

22-0759_NRR.NEW.docx

MD20220920-0759

DIRECT DEVELOPMENT

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

Early Input Pre-EA: Proposed Action Includes Construction & Operation of a 6.7 MW Solar PV Panel Field on Landfill [REDACTED] the Southeastern Corner of Fort Meade & Construction of [REDACTED], & a No-Action Alternative (See MD20220729-0659)

Juliet Healy - USACE

Ms. Connie Ramsey
Biologist, Installation Support Branch, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201



Maryland DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

October 20, 2022

Ms. Connie Ramsey, Biologist, Installation Support Branch, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE RECOMMENDATION

State Application Identifier: MD20220920-0759

Applicant: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

Project Description: Early Input Pre-Environmental Assessment (EA): Proposed Action Includes Construction & Operation of a 6.7 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Panel Field on Landfill [REDACTED] in the Southeastern Corner of Fort Meade & Construction of an [REDACTED] & a No-Action Alternative (See MD20220729-0659)

Project Location: Anne Arundel County

Recommendation: Consistent with Qualifying Comments

Dear Ms. Ramsey:

In accordance with Presidential Executive Order 12372 and Code of Maryland Regulation 34.02.02.04-.07, the State Clearinghouse has coordinated the intergovernmental review of the referenced project. This letter constitutes the State process review and recommendation. This recommendation is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter.

Review comments were requested from the Maryland Departments of Commerce, General Services, Natural Resources, Transportation, and the Environment; the Maryland Energy Administration; the Maryland Military Department; the Public Service Commission; Anne Arundel County; and the Maryland Department of Planning, including the Maryland Historical Trust. The Maryland Department of General Services; and the Maryland Military Department did not have comments. The Maryland Department of Commerce did not provide comments.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources; the Maryland Energy Administration; the Public Service Commission; Anne Arundel County; and the Maryland Department of Planning, including the Maryland Historical Trust found this project to be consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives.

The Maryland Department of Planning provided the following comments: "The purpose of this proposed action is to lease land for solar generation at Fort Meade brownfield sites that are not suitable for other uses. This project aligns with Executive Order 14057, Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs through Federal Sustainability, appears to be consistent with local plans to support Fort Meade, and is located within a Priority Funding Area."

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that the project will have "no adverse effect" on historic properties and that the federal and/or State historic preservation requirements have been met.

The Public Service Commission provided the following comments:

“The Public Service Commission's Engineering Division has reviewed the proposal. The Commission does not have any jurisdiction over the proposed solar project, as long as the project and its electrical connections are located on the grounds of Fort Meade. However, the Commission does not object to the proposal and favors projects that provide more renewable resources for electricity. The Commission issues SREC [Solar Renewable Energy Certificates] certificates for solar projects, but the Division is unaware of any previous SREC applications from military facilities. Should the Commission have jurisdiction and there is a need for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (‘CPCN’), the following concerns would need to be addressed:

- Reliability and stability of the electric system
- Interconnection agreements needed: [REDACTED]
- BGE [Baltimore Gas and Electric] maintains electrical interconnections with Fort Meade, which are usually considered classified information. BGE would need to know that this source of electrical generation is behind their point of interconnection.
- PJM [Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland] interconnection agreement for wholesale power sales (this system will probably be net metered)
- Glare or sun glint affecting pilots landing at nearby airports
- Water run-off to neighboring properties (usually addressed by DNR [Maryland Department of Natural Resources] and MDE [Maryland Department of the Environment])
- Visual barriers for neighboring properties (vegetation shields)
- County zoning concerns
- Decommissioning bonds”

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) found this project to be generally consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives, but included certain qualifying comments summarized below.

1. “Any solid waste including construction, demolition and land clearing debris, generated from the subject project, must be properly disposed of at a permitted solid waste acceptance facility, or recycled if possible. Contact the Solid Waste Program at (410) 537-3315 for additional information regarding solid waste activities and contact the Resource Management Program at (410) 537-3314 for additional information regarding recycling activities.
2. The Solid Waste Program should be contacted directly at (410) 537-3315 by those facilities which generate or propose to generate or handle hazardous wastes to ensure these activities are being conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations. The Program should also be contacted prior to construction activities to ensure that the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes and low-level radioactive wastes at the facility will be conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations.
3. Any solid waste including construction, demolition and land clearing debris, generated from the subject project, must be properly disposed of at a permitted solid waste acceptance facility, or recycled if possible. Contact the Solid Waste Program at (410) 537-3315 for additional information regarding solid waste activities and contact the Resource Management Program at (410) 537-3314 for additional information regarding recycling activities.
4. The Solid Waste Program should be contacted directly at (410) 537-3315 by those facilities which generate or propose to generate or handle hazardous wastes to ensure these activities are being conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations. The Program should also be contacted prior to construction

activities to ensure that the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes and low-level radioactive wastes at the facility will be conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations.

5. The proposed project may involve rehabilitation, redevelopment, revitalization, or property acquisition of commercial, industrial property. Accordingly, MDE's Brownfields Site Assessment and Voluntary Cleanup Programs (VCP) may provide valuable assistance to you in this project. These programs involve environmental site assessment in accordance with accepted industry and financial institution standards for property transfer. For specific information about these programs and eligibility, please contact the Land Restoration Program at (410) 537-3437."


The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) found this project to be generally consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives, but included certain qualifying comments, as follows: "MDOT SHA [State Highway Administration] recommends continued coordination with Kim Tran, District 5 District Engineer, as the project progresses to address any impacts on MDOT SHA roadways. Ms. Tran can be reached at 410-841-1019 or via email at ktran@mdot.maryland.gov."

The State Application Identifier Number must be placed on any correspondence pertaining to this project.

Please remember, you must comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations. If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff person noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation with the MIRC process.

Sincerely,



Myra Barnes, Lead Clearinghouse Coordinator

MB:SM
cc:

Juliet Healy - USACE
Tyson Byrne - MDOT
Amanda Redmiles - MDE
Tony Redman - DNR

Tanja Rucci - DGS
Jame Palma - COMMERCE
Kirk Yaukey - MILT

Chris Rice - MEA
Kimberly Shearin - PSC
Stephen Walker - ANAR

Joseph Griffiths - MDPL
Beth Cole - MHT

202204687



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

F
Army
DLH [Signature]

October 21, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Beth Cole
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023



Dear Ms. Cole:

ANG.

We are requesting reinitiation of consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for a new undertaking at Fort Meade (FMMD), Anne Arundel County, Maryland (Figure 1). An earlier request for consultation was provided by letter dated August 16, 2022 and assigned the project tracking number #202203723. The purpose of the reinitiation is to provide updated information on the potential connection pathways under consideration in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.

Description of the Undertaking: The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide clean, reliable, and affordable energy generation using FMMD landfill sites. The Proposed Action would support U.S. Army policies on increasing the resiliency of utility infrastructure and moving towards increased carbon free energy production.

The proposed undertaking includes the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 MW solar PV panel field on Landfill [REDACTED] Figure 2) in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade. The Proposed Action would also include the construction of [REDACTED] interconnection pathway to the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Area of Potential Effect (APE): The APE will be the limits of disturbance (LOD) for the construction of the solar array and distribution lines, and those areas from which the new construction would be visible.

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that there are no historic properties affected by this undertaking.
[Signature] Date 11/4/2022

Archer
STH
10/21/22
202203594
20220427

Identification of Historic Properties: The undertaking will not be located within the established Fort Meade Historic District or disturb any previously identified archaeological sites on the installation. The location of the proposed undertaking is a closed landfill facility [REDACTED]

There are no buildings on FMMD that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). FMMD has five historic properties that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. The historic architectural properties are the Fort Meade Historic District, three bridges/culverts built by German POWs during WWII, and the water treatment plant (Building 8688). There are 13 contributing buildings in the Fort Meade Historic District, none of which are near the Proposed Action or within the APE.

There are 41 known archaeological sites on FMMD, but none are listed in the NRHP. All the sites have been evaluated for NRHP eligibility and only one site, 18AN1240, was found to be eligible. Thirty-three other sites have been evaluated for NRHP eligibility and were found ineligible. The remaining seven sites are historic cemeteries, which were evaluated in the 2007 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) update and found to be ineligible for the NRHP, although they will be maintained due to the presence of buried human remains and recommended for avoidance. None of these sites are within the APE.

Determination of Effects: No historic properties have been identified within the APE. The landfill cells have been heavily disturbed over the years. The interconnection pathways will be located predominantly within existing utility right of ways and along established roads.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Fort Meade is also completing an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Fort Meade is seeking your concurrence with our determination that no historic properties will be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking. We appreciate your feedback on this undertaking. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to either Connie Ramsey, via email at [Connie.L.Ramsey@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:Connie.L.Ramsey@[REDACTED]) or via phone at 443-310-2722, or Jerald Glodek, [Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@[REDACTED]) or via phone at 301-677-9179.

Sincerely,



George B. Knight, P.G.
Environmental Division Chief



From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: dfrazier@astribc.com
Cc: gerald.w.glodek.civ [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:26:00 AM
Attachments: [Absentee Shawnee Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Frazier-Smith,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
gerald.w.glodek [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Devon Frazier-Smith
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

Dear Mr. Frazier-Smith,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and [REDACTED]. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil

Sincerely,

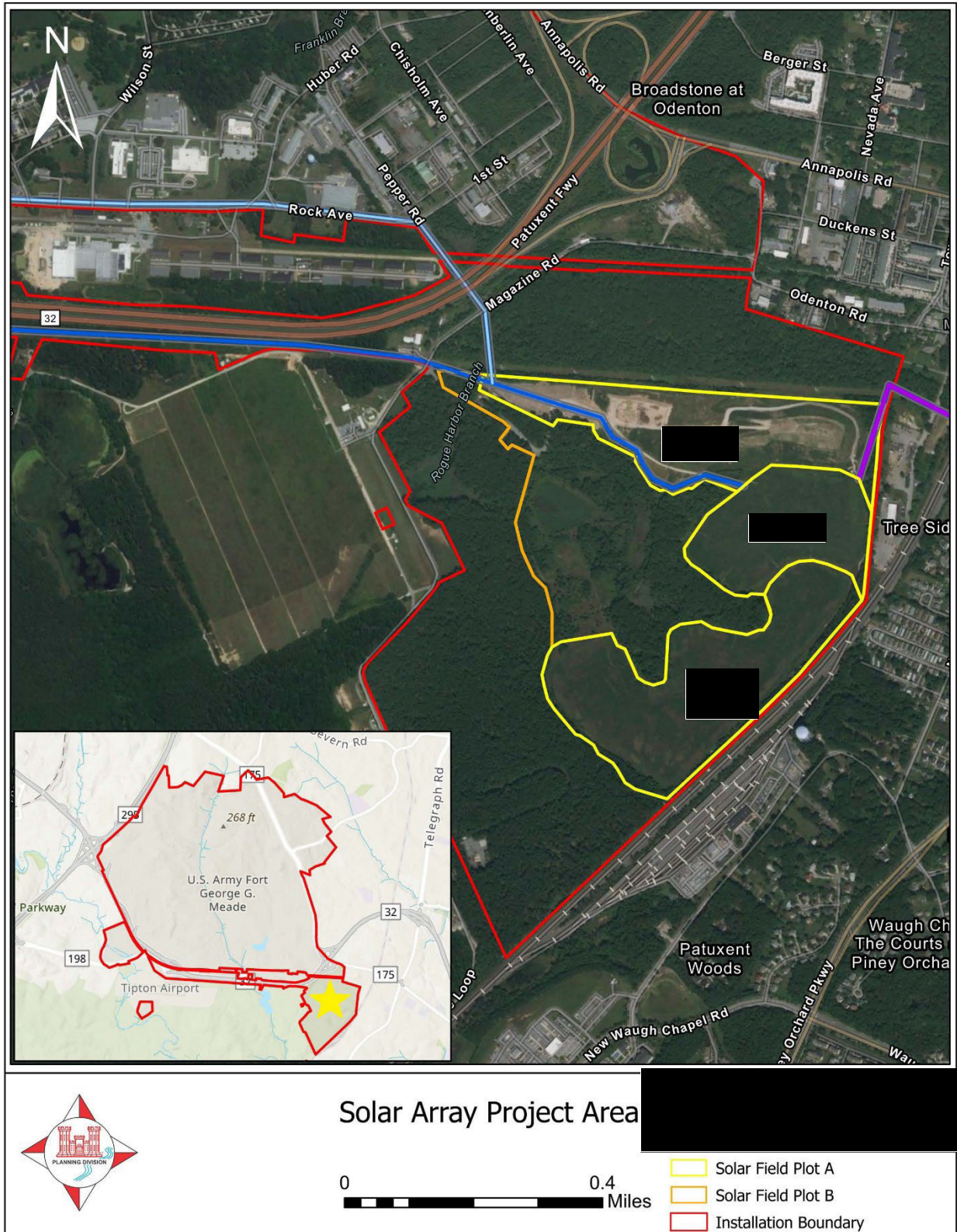


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

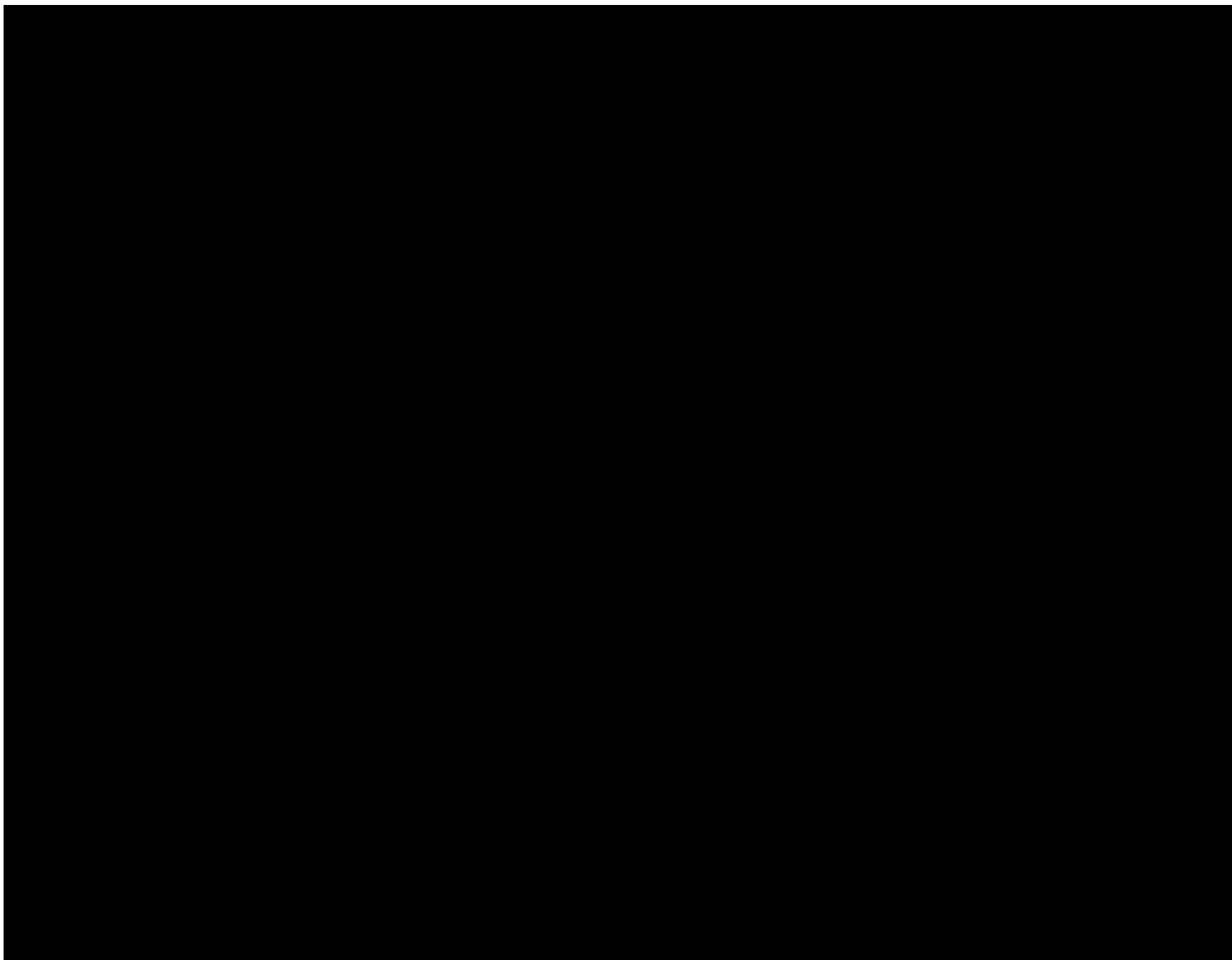
Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade





Enclosure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade



From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: tina.orbaker@gmail.com
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek.civ](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:34:00 AM
Attachments: [CayugaTribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Ms. Orbaker,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
[Jerald.w.glodek](#) [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Tina Orbaker, Nation Representative
Cayuga Nation of New York
P.O. Box 803
Seneca Falls, New York 13148

Dear Ms. Orbaker,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 [REDACTED]. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

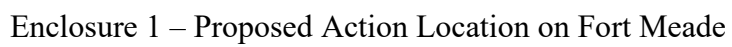
Sincerely,

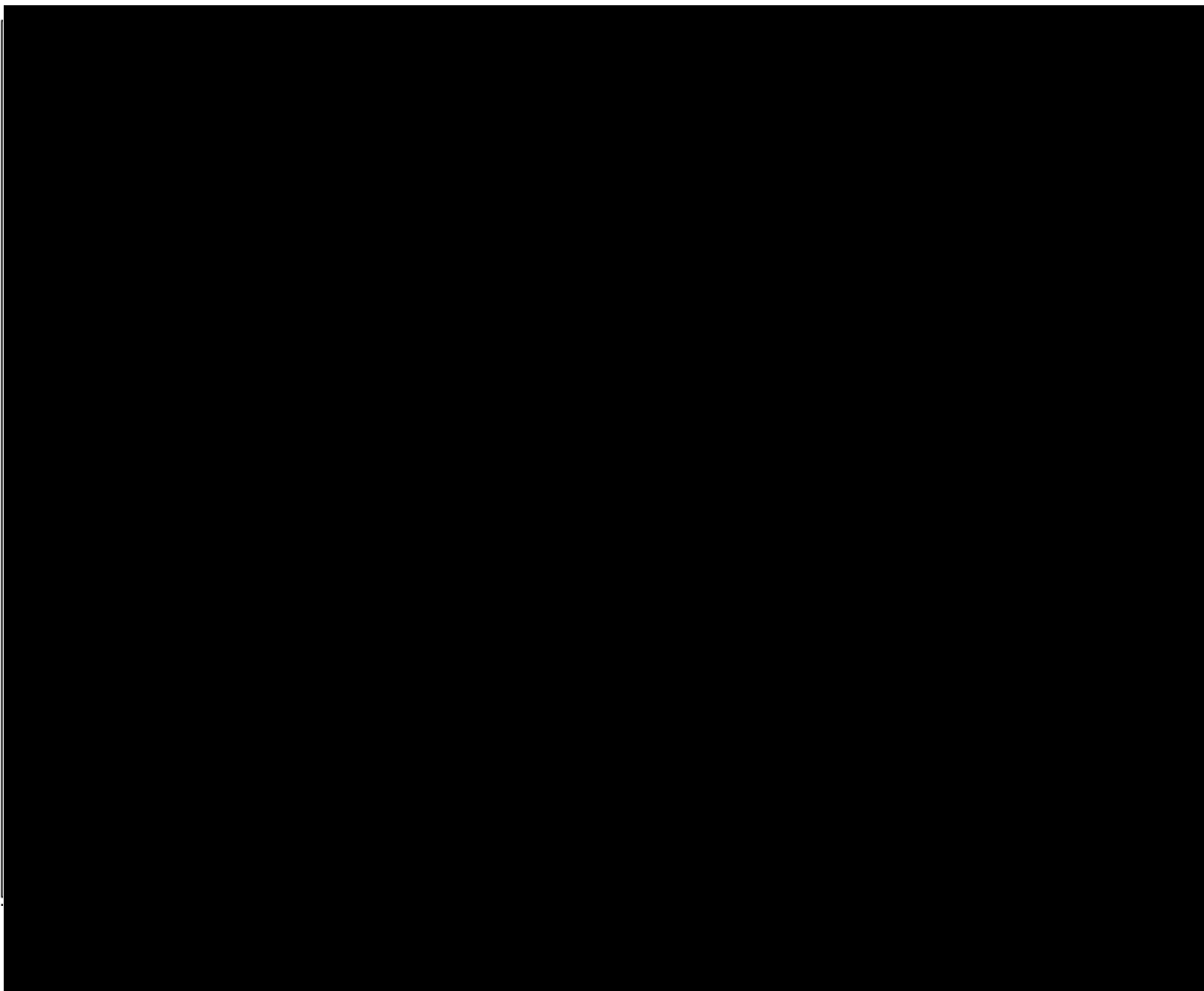


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]





From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: klucas@delawarenation-nsn.gov
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:30:00 AM
Attachments: [Delaware Nation Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Ms. Lucas,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
[Jerald.w.glodek.civ](#) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Katelyn Lucas
Historic Preservation Assistant
Delaware Nation
P.O. Box 825
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

Dear Ms. Lucas,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and potential interconnection pathways shown in Figure 2. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil [REDACTED]

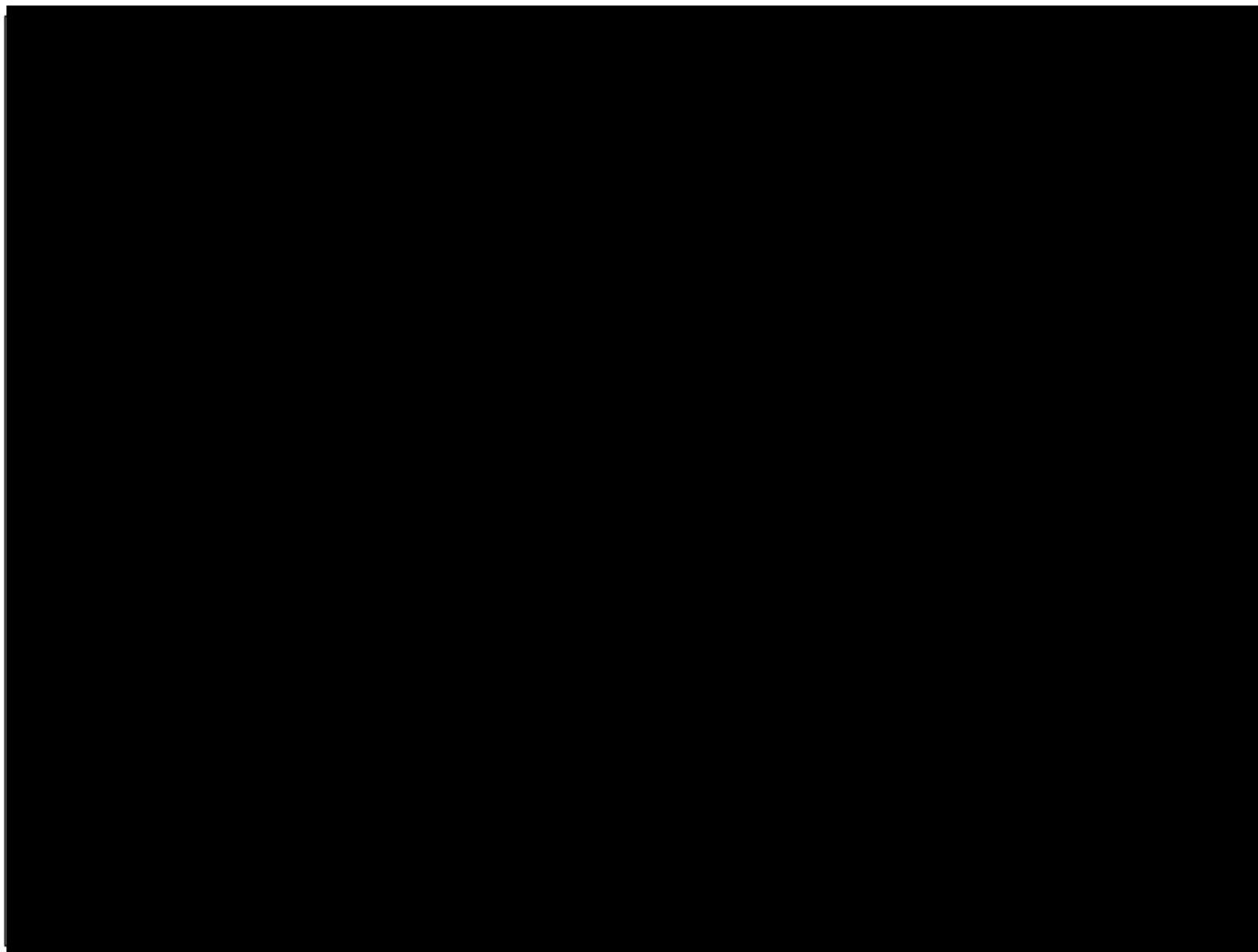
Sincerely,



George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: sbachor@delawaretribe.org
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek.civ](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:26:00 AM
Attachments: [Delaware Tribe Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Ms. Bachor,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
[Jerald.w.glodek](#) [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Susan Bachor, Deputy Director
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Delaware Tribe of Indians
126 University Circle
Stroud Hall, Room 437
East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania 18301

Dear Ms. Bachor,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and [REDACTED] The Army anticipates the

APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

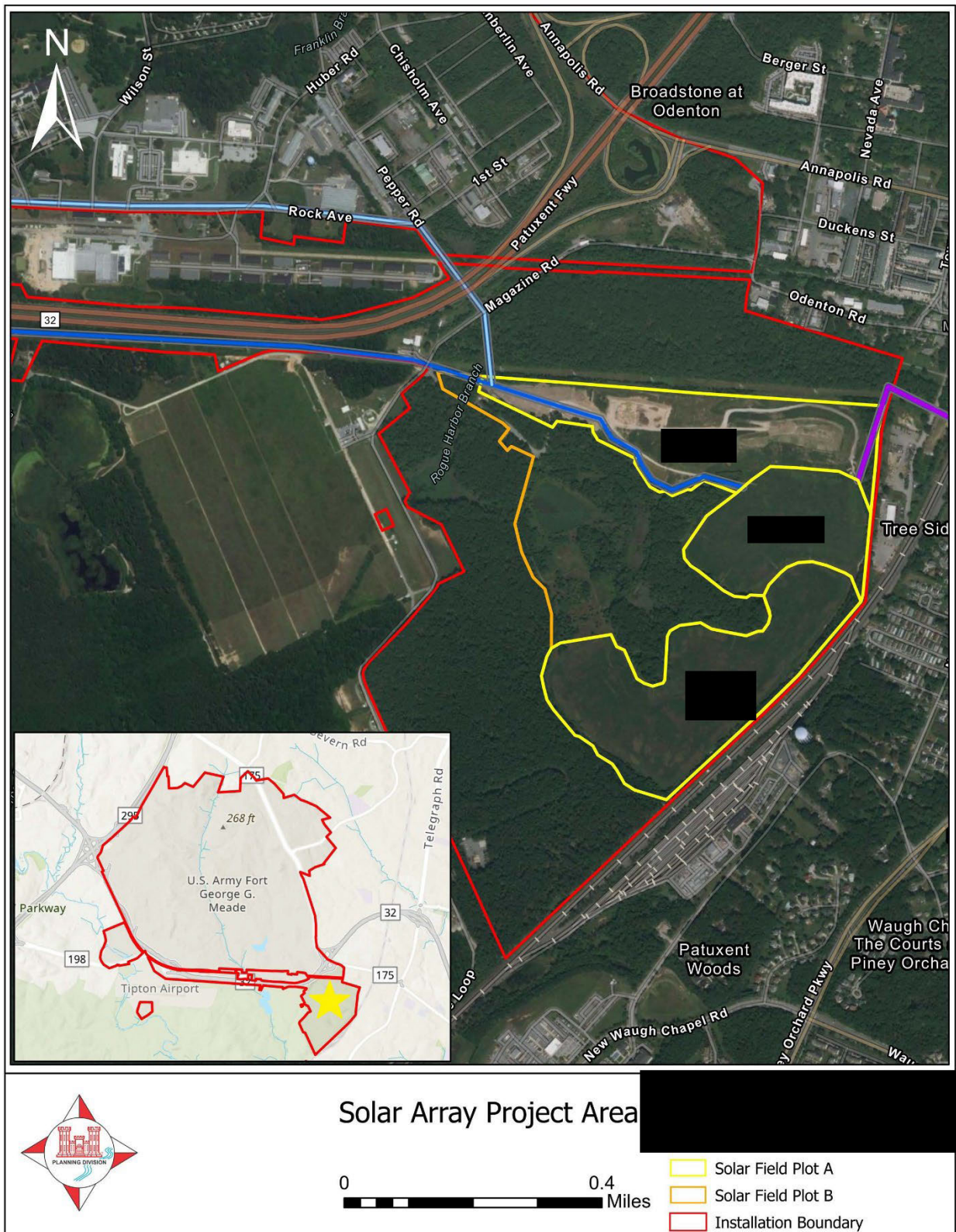
Sincerely,



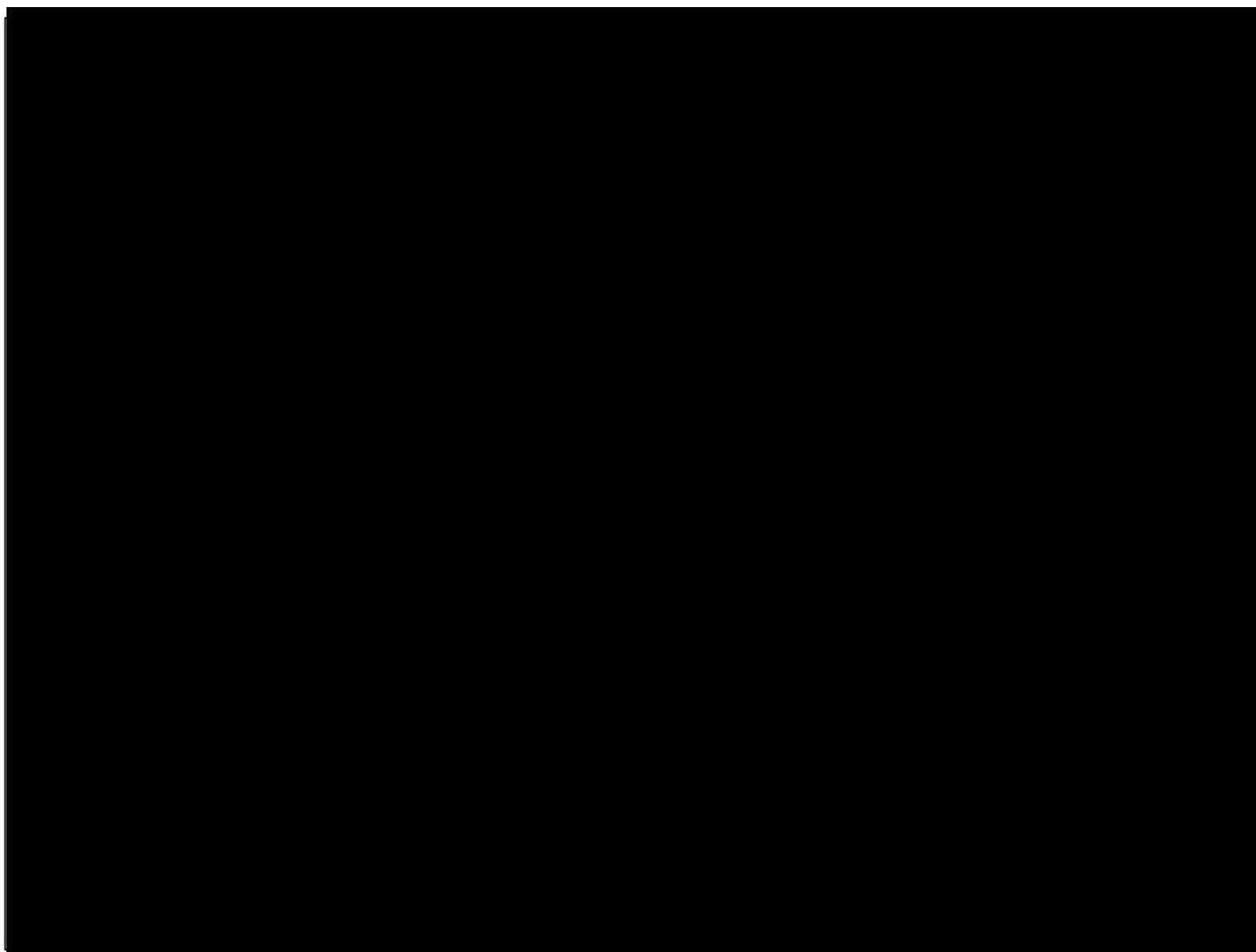
George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]



Enclosure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade



From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: pbarton@estoo.net
Cc: jerald.w.glodek.civ [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:25:00 AM
Attachments: [Eastern Shawnee Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Barton,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
jerald.w.glodek [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Paul Barton
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
70500 East 128 Road
Wyandotte, Oklahoma 74370

Dear Mr. Barton,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

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At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 [REDACTED]. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W. \[REDACTED\]](mailto:Jerald.W. [REDACTED])

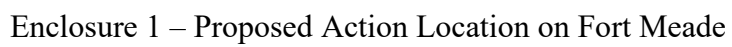
Sincerely,

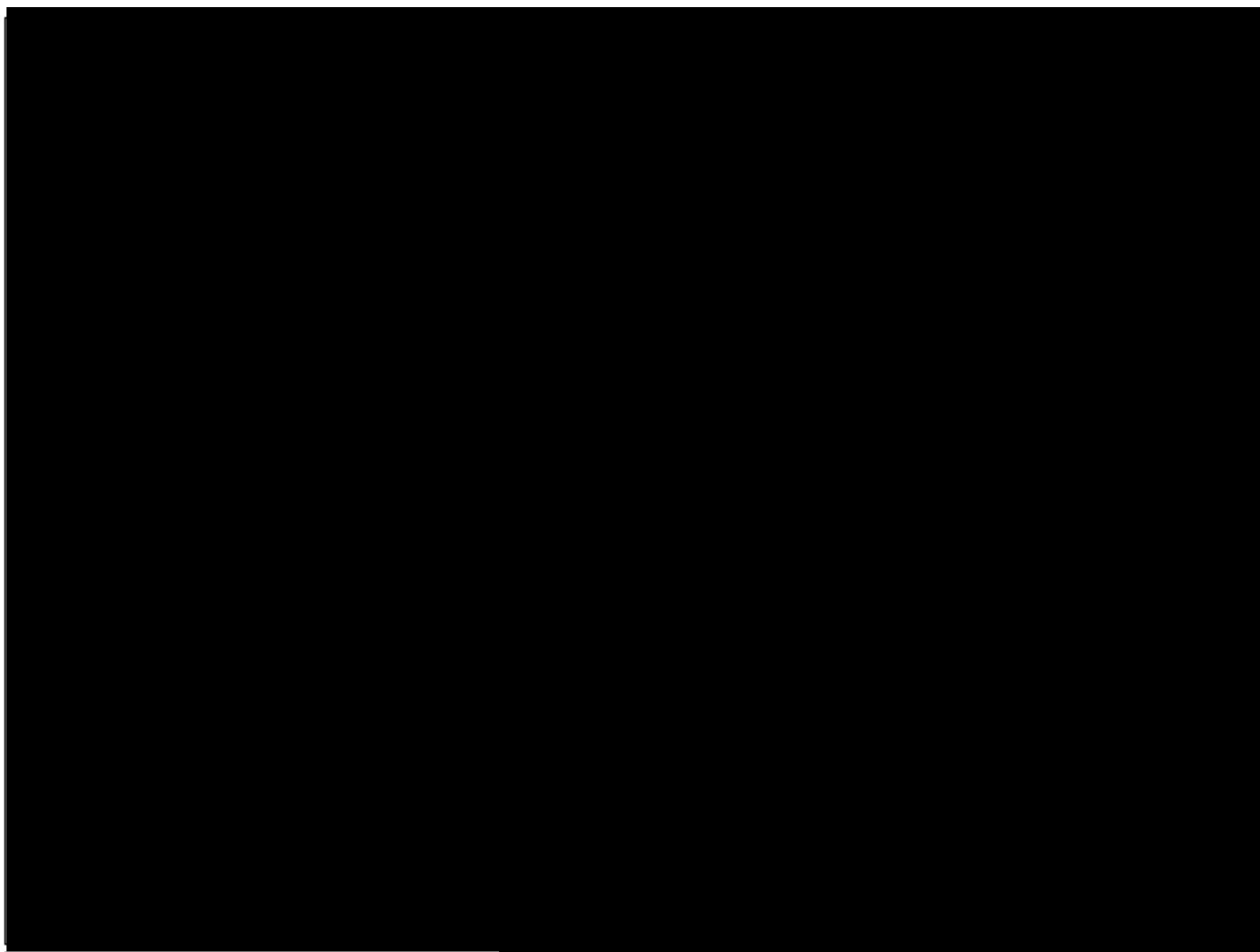


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]





[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: [Bergevin, Jesse](#)
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek.civ \[REDACTED\]](#); joseph.cavano@onenterprises.com
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:24:00 AM
Attachments: [Oneida Nation NY Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Bergevin,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
[Jerald.w.glodek. \[REDACTED\]](#).

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Jesse Bergevin
Historic Resource Specialist
Oneida Indian Nation
1256 Union Street
Oneida, New York 13421

Dear Mr. Bergevin,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

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If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

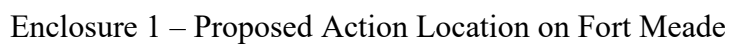
Sincerely,

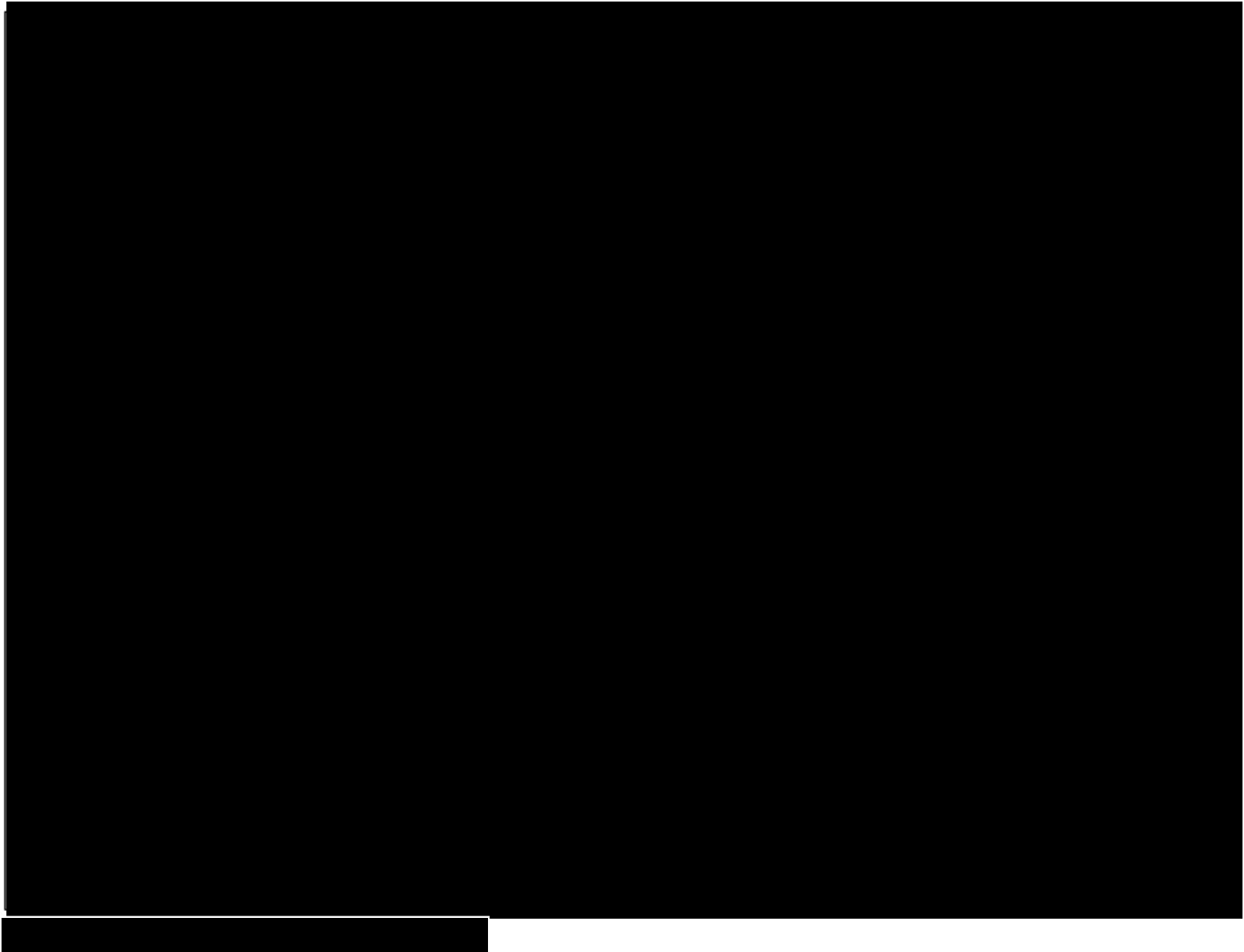


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]





From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: sdanfor3@oneidanation.org
Cc: jerald.w.glodek.civ; thill7@oneidanation.org
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:23:00 AM
Attachments: [Oneida Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Ms. Cutback,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
jerald.w.glodek

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Stacie Cutback
Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, Wisconsin 54155

Dear Ms. Cutback,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

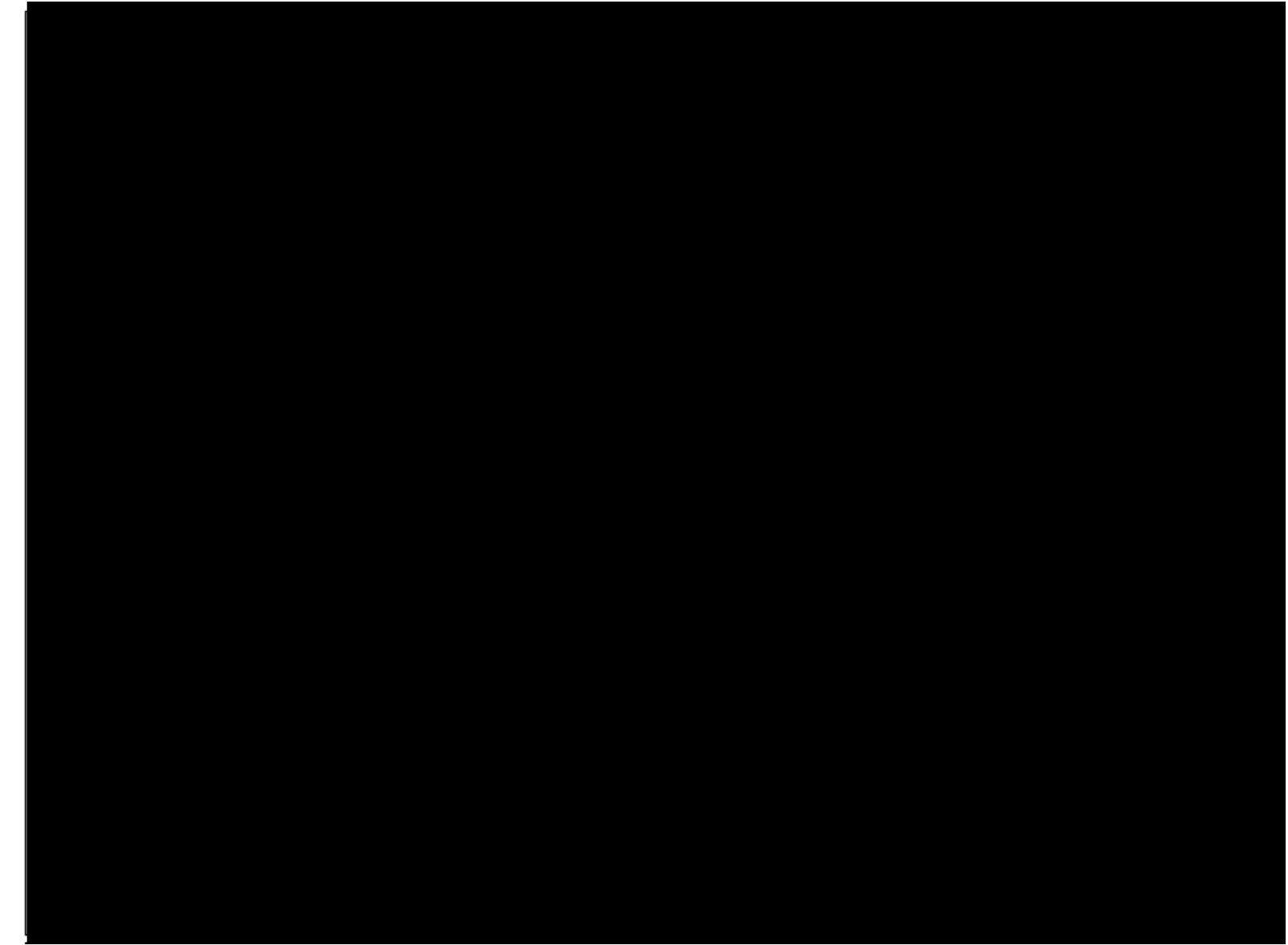
Sincerely,



George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: ononcomm@gmail.com
Cc: gerald.w.glodek.civ@ [REDACTED] admin@onondaganation.org
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:21:00 AM
Attachments: [Onondaga Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Gonyea

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
Jerald.w.glodek.ci [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Tony Gonyea
Historic Preservation Office
Onondaga Indian Nation
4040 Route 11
Nedrow, New York 13120

Dear Mr. Gonyea,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

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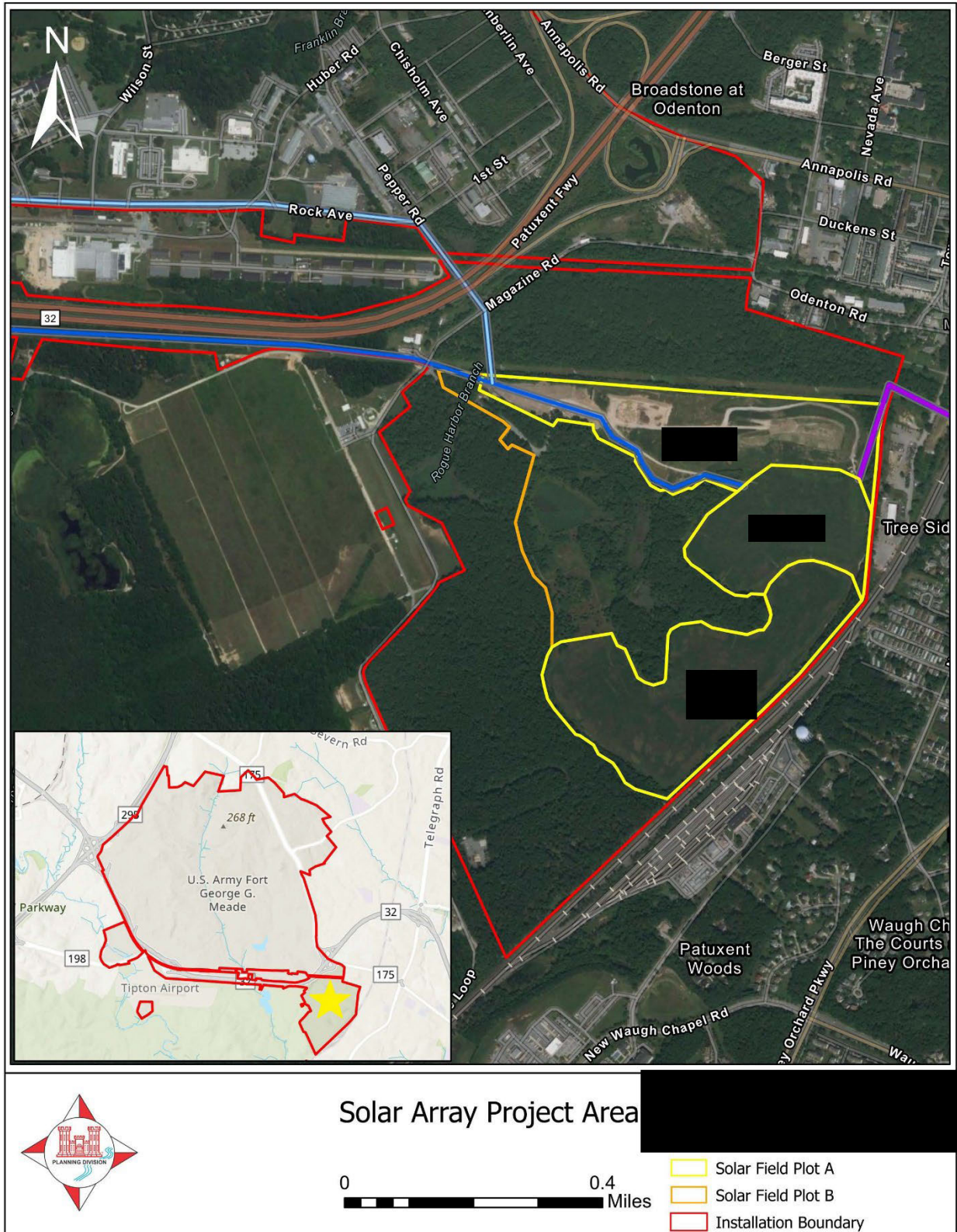
Sincerely,



George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]



Enclosure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade



From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: wechohawk@pawneenation.org
Cc: jerald.w.glodek.civ@ [REDACTED] Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:35:00 AM
Attachments: [Pawnee Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Reed

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
jerald.w.glodek@ [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Matt Reed
Historic Preservation Officer
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
657 Harrison Street
Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058

Dear Mr. Reed,

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Sincerely,

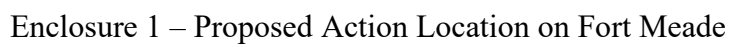


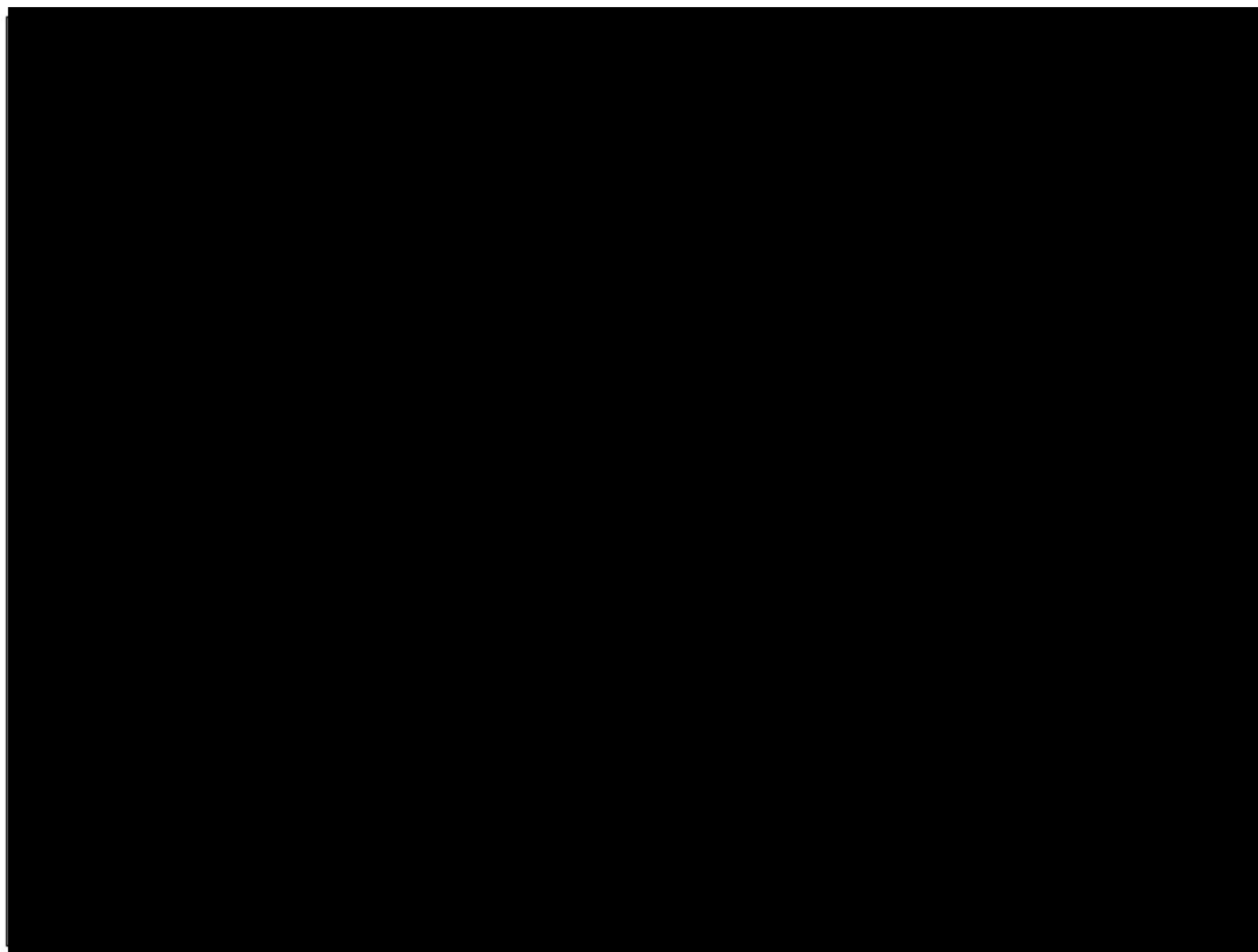
George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade







[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: wtarrant@sctribe.com; jhamilton@sctribe.com
Cc: jerald.w.glodek@ [REDACTED] Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:19:00 AM
Attachments: [Seneca-CayugaTribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Tarrant,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
Jerald.w.glodek.civ@ [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. William Tarrant
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 45322
Grove, Oklahoma 74345

Dear Mr. Tarrant,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 [REDACTED]. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

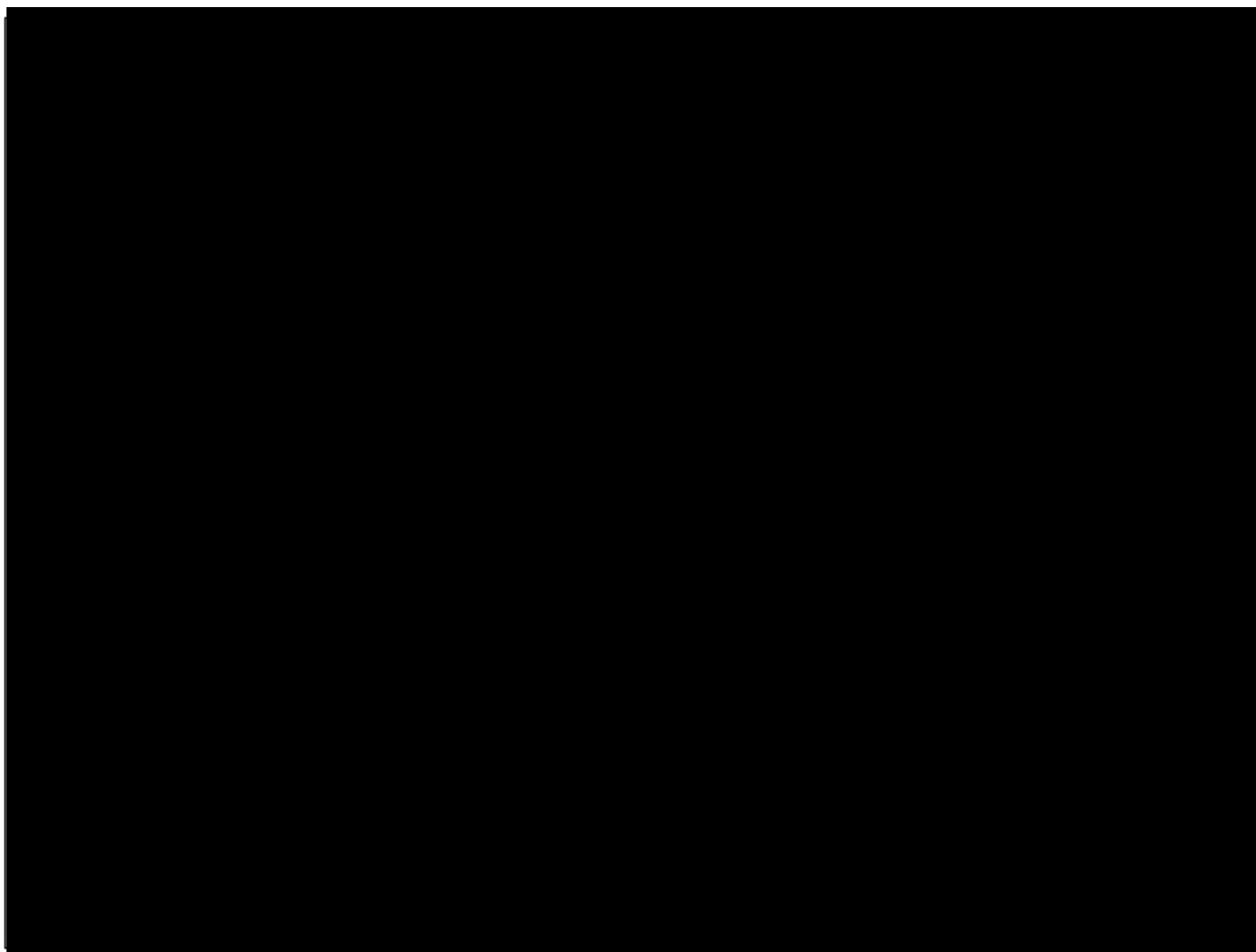
Sincerely,



George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: joe.stahlman@sni.org; j.crouse@sni.org
Cc: jerald.w.glodek [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:17:00 AM
Attachments: [Seneca Nation Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Stahlman,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
jerald.w.glodek [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Joe Stahlman
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Seneca Nation of Indians
90 Ohi yo' Way
Salamanca, New York 14779

Dear Mr. Stahlman,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

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If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

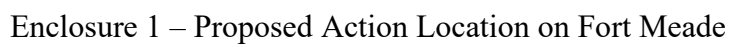
Sincerely,

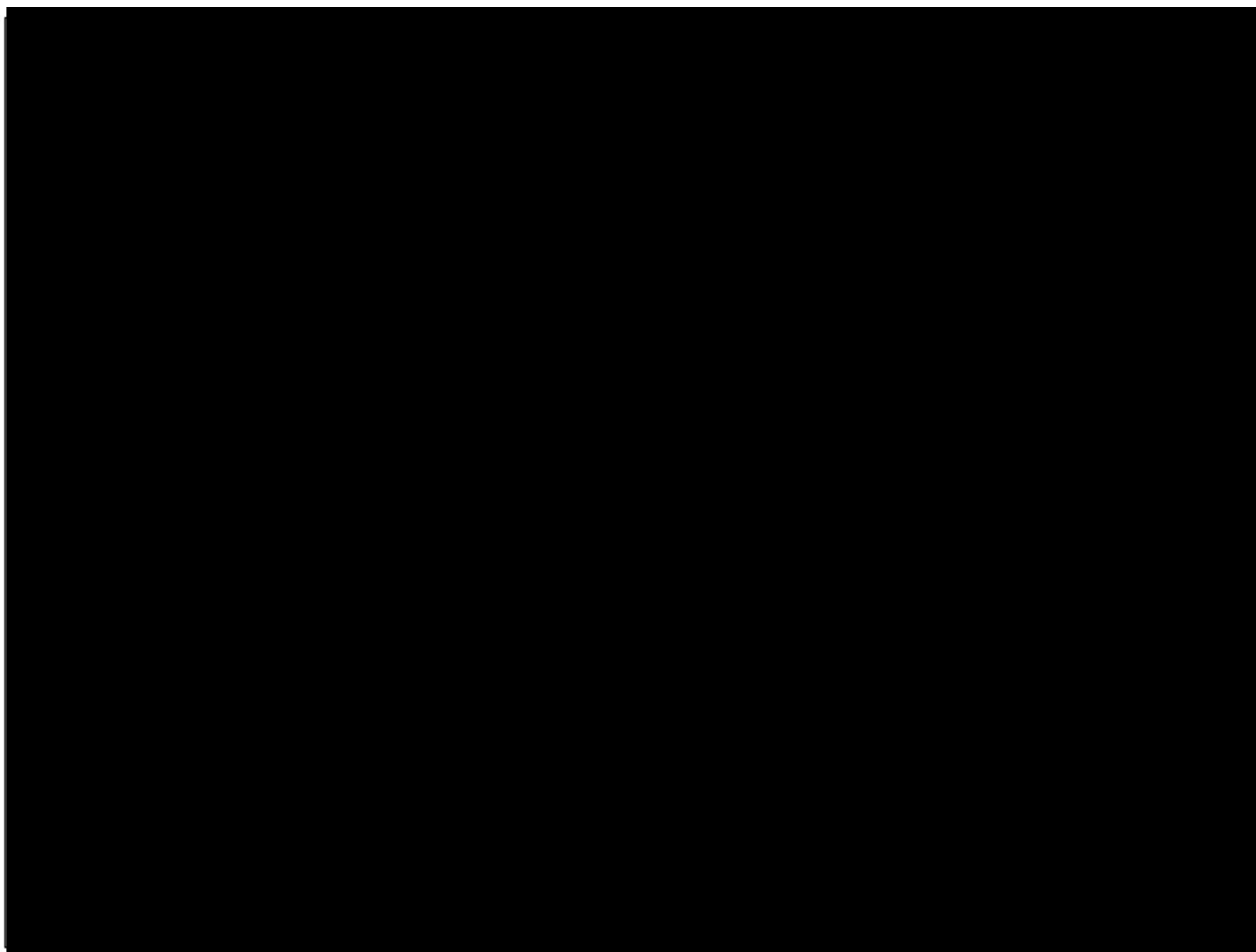


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]





[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: nathan.allison@mohican-nsn.gov; jody.hartwig@mohican-nsn.gov
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek.civ@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:jerald.w.glodek.civ@[REDACTED])
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:13:00 AM
Attachments: [Stockbridge Munsee Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Allison,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
[jerald.w.glodek.civ@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:jerald.w.glodek.civ@[REDACTED])

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Nathan Allison, Representative
Stockbridge Munsee Community of Wisconsin
N8476 Mo He Con Nuck Road
Bowler, Wisconsin 54416

Dear Mr. Allison,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodek, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodek](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek@army.mil) [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]



From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: darren.bonaparte@srmt-nsn.gov
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek](#) [REDACTED] brendan.white@srmt-nsn.gov
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:20:00 AM
Attachments: [Saint Regis Tribal Initial Coordination_OEI_Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Bonaparte,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, [Jerald.w.glodek](#) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Darren Bonaparte
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
412 State Route 37
Akwesasne, New York 13655

Dear Mr. Bonaparte,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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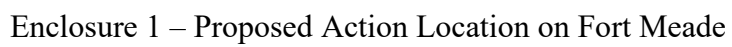
Sincerely,

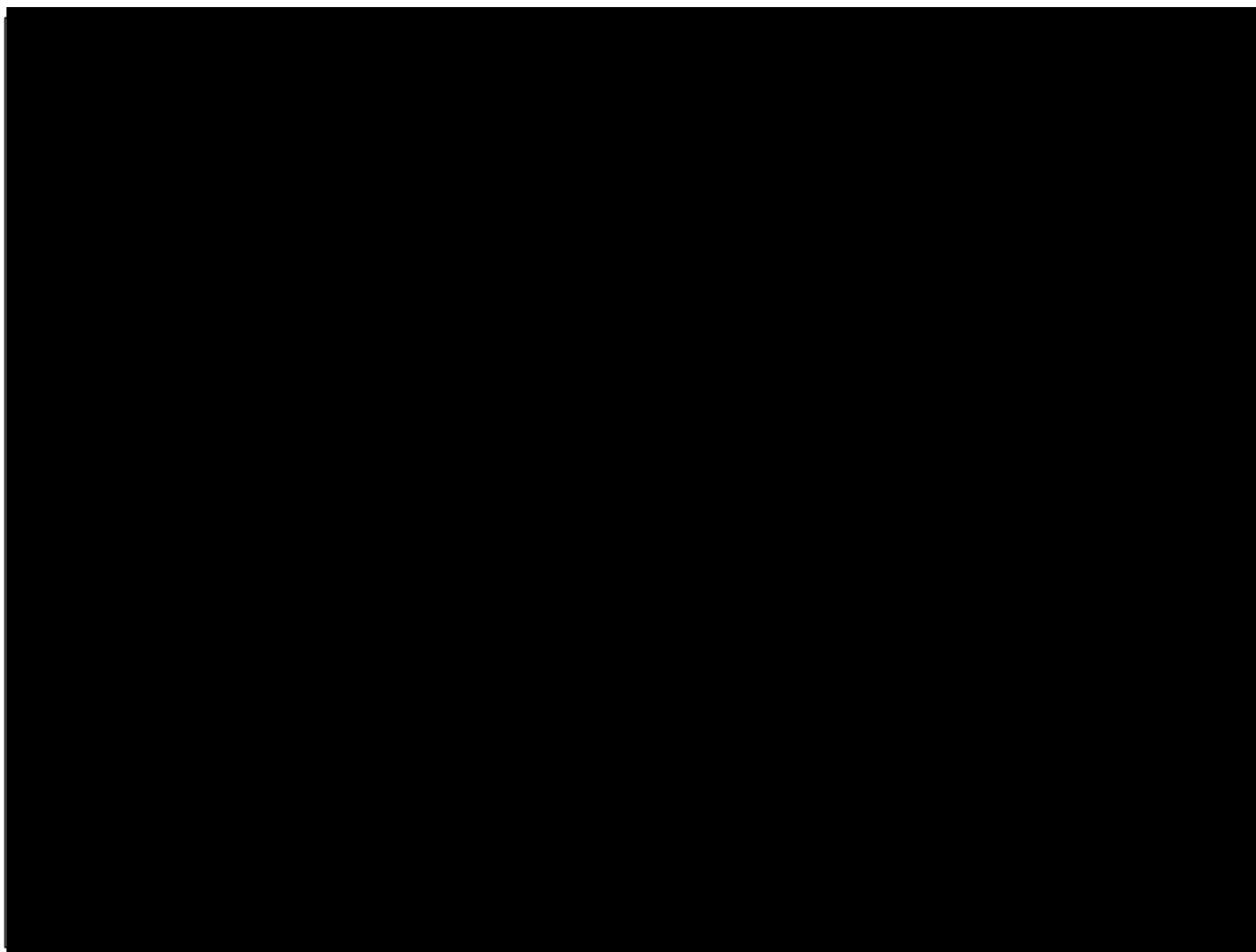


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]





[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: tonsene@aol.com
Cc: [jerald.w.glodek.civ](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:10:00 AM
Attachments: [Tonawanda Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Ms. Abrams,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
[Jerald.w.glodek](#) [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Christine Abrams
Administration Office
Tonawanda Band of Seneca
7027 Meadville Road
Basom, New York 14013

Dear Ms. Abrams,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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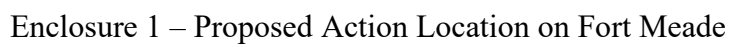
Sincerely,

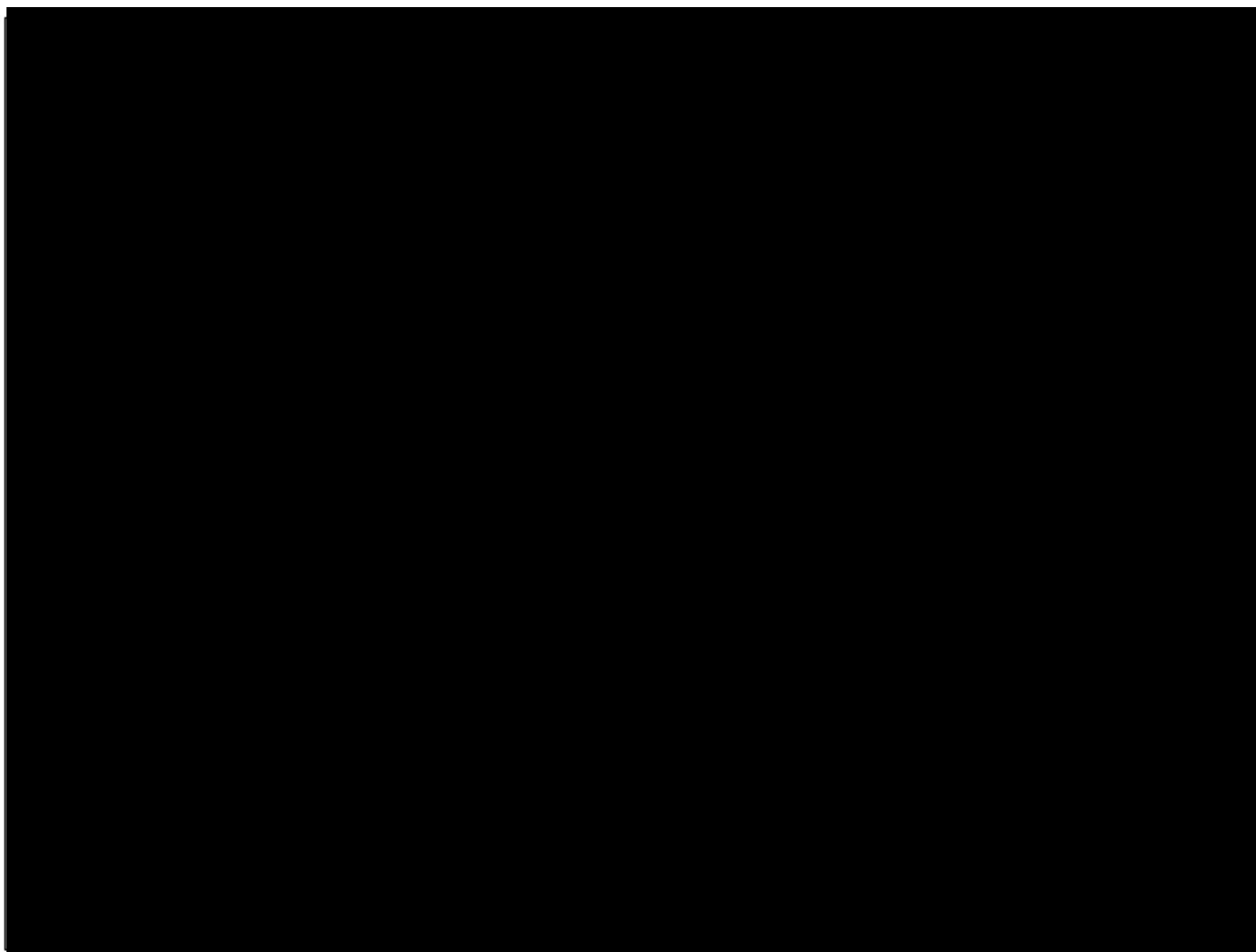


George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]





[REDACTED]

From: [Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB \(USA\)](#)
To: bprintup@hetf.org
Cc: jerald.w.glodek.civ@ [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on a Proposed Solar Array Project on Fort Meade, Maryland
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:09:00 AM
Attachments: [Tuscarora Tribal Initial Coordination OEI Solar.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Printup,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar Array Project on the landfill on the southeast portion of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade,
jerald.w.glodek.civ@ [REDACTED]

Regards,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Office: 410.962.7783
Cell: 443.310.2722



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED
STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 16, 2022

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Bryan Printup, Representative
Tuscarora Nation
Tuscarora Community Center
5226 Walmore Road
Lewiston, New York 14092

Dear Mr. Printup,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include the construction and operation of a new approximately 6.7 megawatt (MW) solar panel field, and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 [REDACTED]. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the infrastructure may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be provided for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: [Jerald.W.Glodeck](mailto:Jerald.W.Glodeck@army.mil) [REDACTED]

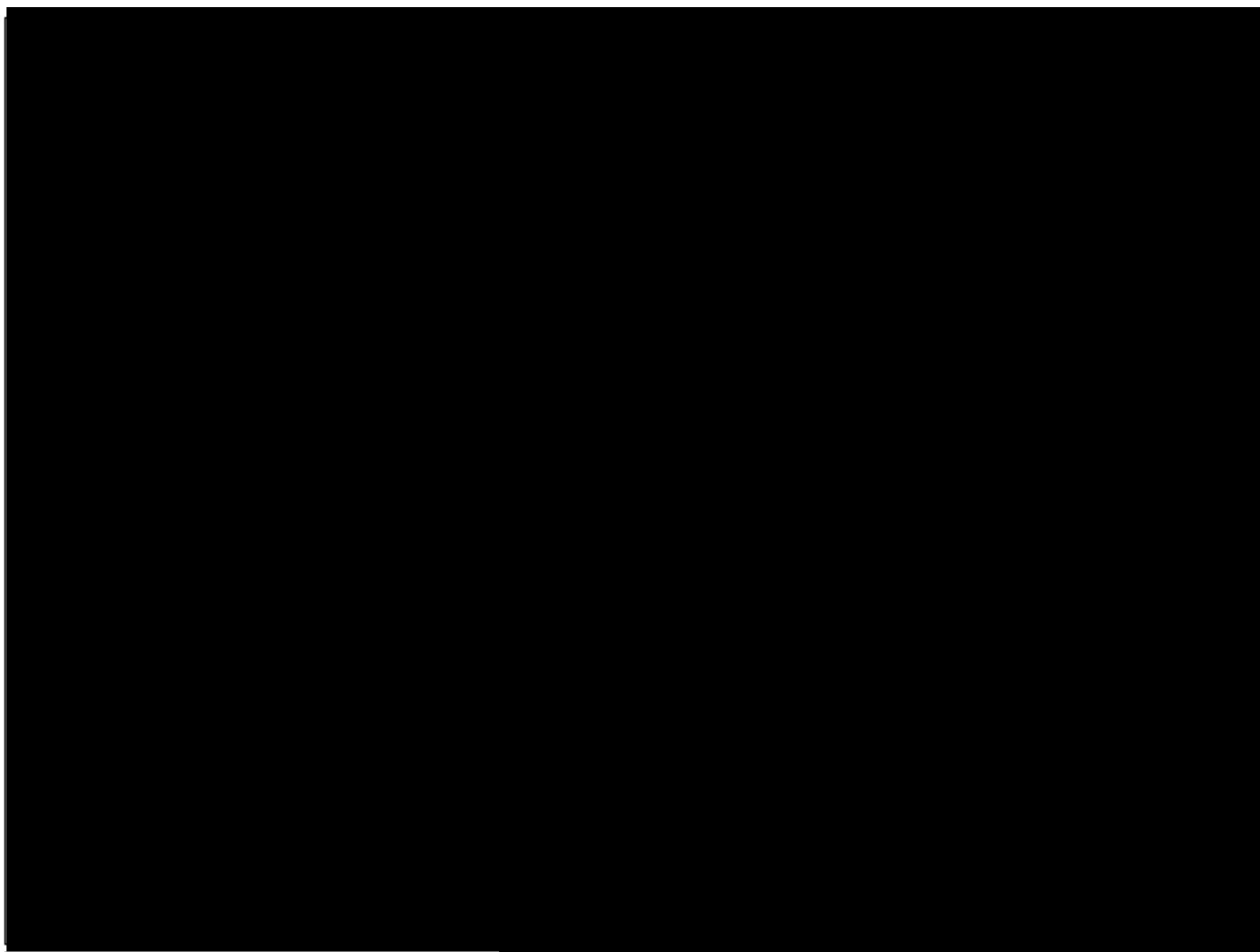
Sincerely,



George B. Knight
Acting Environmental Division Chief

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401-7307
Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127



In Reply Refer To:

March 24, 2023

Project Code: 2022-0085964

Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office

177 Admiral Cochrane Drive

Annapolis, MD 21401-7307

(410) 573-4599

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The monarch is a candidate species and not yet listed or proposed for listing. There are generally no section 7 requirements for candidate species (FAQ found here: https://www.fws.gov/savethemonarch/FAQ-Section7.html). Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Juliet Healy
Address: Planning Division, USACE
Address Line 2: 2 Hopkins Plaza
City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: juliet.m.healy@usace.army.mil
Phone: 4432758510

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401-7307
Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127



In Reply Refer To:

March 24, 2023

Project code: 2022-0085964

Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

IPaC Record Locator: 046-124098377

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Army

Subject: Technical assistance for 'U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade'

Dear Juliet Healy:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on March 24, 2023, for 'U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2022-0085964 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements are not complete.**

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into the IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project. **Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (Dkey), invalidates this letter.**

Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat

Based on your IPaC submission and the standing analysis for the Dkey, your project has reached the determination of "May Affect" the northern long-eared bat.

Next Steps

Your action may qualify for the Interim Consultation Framework for the northern long-eared bat. To determine if it qualifies, review the Interim Consultation Framework posted here <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/interim-consultation-framework-northern-long-eared-bat>. If you determine it meets the requirements of the Interim Consultation Framework, follow the procedures outlined there to complete section 7 consultation.

If your project does **not** meet the requirements of the Interim Consultation Framework, please contact our New Jersey Ecological Services Office for further coordination on this project. Further consultation or coordination with the Service is necessary for those species or designated critical habitats with a determination of “May Affect”.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination for the northern long-eared bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may cause prohibited take of the species listed above.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

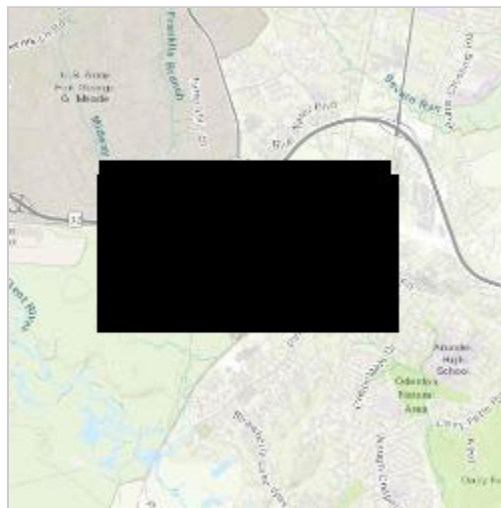
U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade':

The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. The Proposed Action would also include the construction of an interconnection pathways to utility substations.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.0836703,-76.71514232297062,14z>



DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect” for the Endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of the northern long-eared bat or any other listed species?

Note: Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

No

2. Does any component of the action involve construction or operation of wind turbines?

Note: For federal actions, answer ‘yes’ if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

3. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

Yes

4. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

5. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

Yes

6. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

7. Have you determined that your proposed action will have no effect on the northern long-eared bat? Remember to consider the [effects of any activities](#) that would not occur but for the proposed action.

If you think that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, answer “No” below and continue through the key. If you have determined that the northern long-eared bat does not occur in your project’s action area and/or that your project will have no effects whatsoever on the species despite the potential for it to occur in the action area, you may make a “no effect” determination for the northern long-eared bat.

Note: Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representatives) must consult with USFWS on federal agency actions that may affect listed species [50 CFR 402.14(a)]. Consultation is not required for actions that will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, this determination key will not provide a consistency or verification letter for actions that will not affect listed species. If you believe that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, please answer “No” and continue through the key. Remember that this key addresses only effects to the northern long-eared bat. Consultation with USFWS would be required if your action may affect another listed species or critical habitat. The definition of [Effects of the Action](#) can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions>

No

8. Does the action area contain any caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating northern long-eared bats?

No

9. Is suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat present within 1000 feet of project activities?
(If unsure, answer "Yes.")

Note: If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches (12.7 centimeter) dbh), answer "Yes". If unsure, additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions>

Yes

10. Will the action cause effects to a bridge?

No

11. Will the action result in effects to a culvert or tunnel?

No

12. Does the action include the intentional exclusion of northern long-eared bats from a building or structure?

Note: Exclusion is conducted to deny bats' entry or reentry into a building. To be effective and to avoid harming bats, it should be done according to established standards. If your action includes bat exclusion and you are unsure whether northern long-eared bats are present, answer "Yes." Answer "No" if there are no signs of bat use in the building/structure. If unsure, contact your local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Ecological Services Field Office to help assess whether northern long-eared bats may be present. Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (NWCO) for help in how to exclude bats from a structure safely without causing harm to the bats (to find a NWCO certified in bat standards, search the Internet using the search term "National Wildlife Control Operators Association bats"). Also see the White-Nose Syndrome Response Team's guide for bat control in structures

No

13. Does the action involve removal, modification, or maintenance of a human-made structure (barn, house, or other building) **known or suspected to contain roosting bats**?

No

14. Will the action cause construction of one or more new roads open to the public?

For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

15. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase average daily traffic on one or more existing roads?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.). .

Yes

16. Will the increased vehicle traffic occur on any road that lies between any two areas of contiguous forest that are each greater than or equal to 10 acres in extent and are separated by less than 1,000 feet? Northern long-eared bats may cross a road by flying between forest patches that are up to 1,000 feet apart.

Note: "Contiguous forest" of 10 acres or more may include areas where multiple forest patches are separated by less than 1,000 feet of non-forested area if the forested patches, added together, comprise at least 10 acres.

Yes

17. For every 1,000 feet of new road that crosses between contiguous forest patches, will there be at least one place where bats could cross the road corridor by flying less than 33 feet (10 meters) between trees whose tops are at least 66 feet (20 meters) higher than the road surface?

No

18. Will the proposed action result in the cutting or other means of knocking down, bringing down, or trimming of any trees suitable for northern long-eared bat roosting?

Note: Suitable northern long-eared bat roost trees are live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches dbh that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or cavities.

Yes

Your action may qualify for the Interim Consultation Framework for the northern long-eared bat. To determine if it qualifies, review the Interim Consultation Framework posted here <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/interim-consultation-framework-northern-long-eared-bat>. If you determine it meets the requirements of the Interim Consultation Framework, follow the procedures outlined there to complete section 7 consultation.

If your project does **not** meet the requirements of the Interim Consultation Framework, please contact our New Jersey Ecological Services Office for further coordination on this project. Further consultation or coordination with the Service is necessary for those species or designated critical habitats with a determination of “May Affect”.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

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You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may cause prohibited take of the species listed above.

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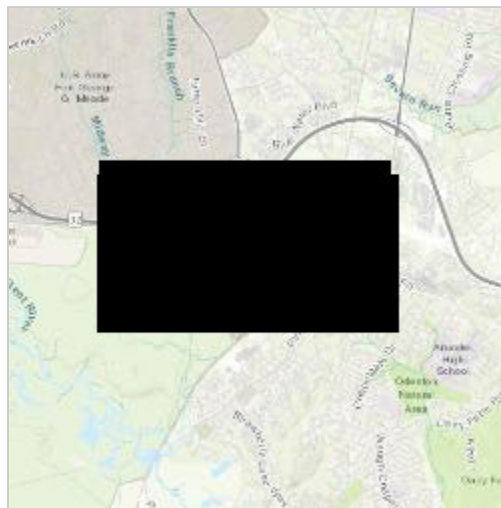
U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

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DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

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QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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No

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Yes

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No

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Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

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If you think that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, answer “No” below and continue through the key. If you have determined that the northern long-eared bat does not occur in your project’s action area and/or that your project will have no effects whatsoever on the species despite the potential for it to occur in the action area, you may make a “no effect” determination for the northern long-eared bat.

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No

8. Does the action area contain any caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating northern long-eared bats?

No

9. Is suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat present within 1000 feet of project activities?
(If unsure, answer "Yes.")

Note: If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches (12.7 centimeter) dbh), answer "Yes". If unsure, additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions>

Yes

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No

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Note: Exclusion is conducted to deny bats' entry or reentry into a building. To be effective and to avoid harming bats, it should be done according to established standards. If your action includes bat exclusion and you are unsure whether northern long-eared bats are present, answer "Yes." Answer "No" if there are no signs of bat use in the building/structure. If unsure, contact your local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Ecological Services Field Office to help assess whether northern long-eared bats may be present. Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (NWCO) for help in how to exclude bats from a structure safely without causing harm to the bats (to find a NWCO certified in bat standards, search the Internet using the search term "National Wildlife Control Operators Association bats"). Also see the White-Nose Syndrome Response Team's guide for bat control in structures

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No

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For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

15. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase average daily traffic on one or more existing roads?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.). .

Yes

16. Will the increased vehicle traffic occur on any road that lies between any two areas of contiguous forest that are each greater than or equal to 10 acres in extent and are separated by less than 1,000 feet? Northern long-eared bats may cross a road by flying between forest patches that are up to 1,000 feet apart.

Note: "Contiguous forest" of 10 acres or more may include areas where multiple forest patches are separated by less than 1,000 feet of non-forested area if the forested patches, added together, comprise at least 10 acres.

Yes

17. For every 1,000 feet of new road that crosses between contiguous forest patches, will there be at least one place where bats could cross the road corridor by flying less than 33 feet (10 meters) between trees whose tops are at least 66 feet (20 meters) higher than the road surface?

No

18. Will the proposed action result in the cutting or other means of knocking down, bringing down, or trimming of any trees suitable for northern long-eared bat roosting?

Note: Suitable northern long-eared bat roost trees are live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches dbh that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or cavities.

Yes

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

5

In what extent of the area (in acres) will trees be cut, knocked down, or trimmed during the inactive (hibernation) season for northern long-eared bat? **Note:** Inactive Season dates for spring staging/fall swarming areas can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas>

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In what extent of the area (in acres) will trees be cut, knocked down, or trimmed during the active (non-hibernation) season for northern long-eared bat? **Note:** Inactive Season dates for spring staging/fall swarming areas can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas>

0

Will all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees (trees ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height, dbh) be cut, knocked, or brought down from any portion of the action area greater than or equal to 0.1 acre? If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, select 'Yes' if the cumulative extent of those areas meets or exceeds 0.1 acre.

No

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which all potential NLEB roost trees will be removed. If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, entire the total extent of those areas. Round up to the nearest tenth of an acre.

0

For the area from which all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees will be removed, on how many acres (round to the nearest tenth of an acre) will trees be allowed to regrow? Enter '0' if the entire area from which all potential NLEB roost trees are removed will be developed or otherwise converted to non-forest for the foreseeable future.

0

Will any snags (standing dead trees) ≥ 3 inches dbh be left standing in the area(s) in which all northern long-eared bat roost trees will be cut, knocked down, or otherwise brought down?

No

Will all project activities be completed by April 1, 2024?

No

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office

177 Admiral Cochrane Drive

Annapolis, MD 21401-7307

(410) 573-4599

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2022-0085964

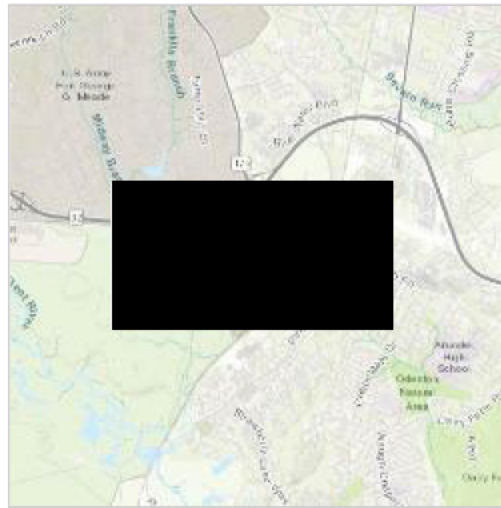
Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

Project Type: Power Gen - Solar

Project Description: The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) panel field on landfill cells in the southeastern corner of Fort Meade, Maryland. The Proposed Action would also include the construction of an interconnection pathways to existing electrical distribution infrastructure.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.0836703,-76.71514232297062,14z>



Counties: Anne Arundel County, Maryland

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

The following FWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands and Fish Hatcheries lie fully or partially within your project area:

FACILITY NAME	ACRES
PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE <a %5c%22patuxent+research+refuge%5c%22\""="" href="https://www.fws.gov/our-facilities?keywords=\">https://www.fws.gov/our-facilities?keywords=\"%5C%22PATUXENT+RESEARCH+REFUGE%5C%22\"	10,440.13

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER POND

- [PUBFx](#)
- [PUBHh](#)

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- [PFO1C](#)
- [PFO1Ch](#)
- [PFO1A](#)

RIVERINE

- [R5UBH](#)
- [R4SBC](#)

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
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City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: connie.l.ramsey@usace.army.mil
Phone: 4109627783

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army

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PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

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No

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No

Will all project activities be completed by April 1, 2024?

No

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Juliet Healy
Address: Planning Division, USACE
Address Line 2: 2 Hopkins Plaza
City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: juliet.m.healy@usace.army.mil
Phone: 4432758510

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401-7307
Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127



In Reply Refer To:

October 16, 2023

Project Code: 2022-0085964

Project Name: U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Solar-Fort Meade

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Wetlands

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Annapolis, MD 21401-7307

(410) 573-4599

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2022-0085964

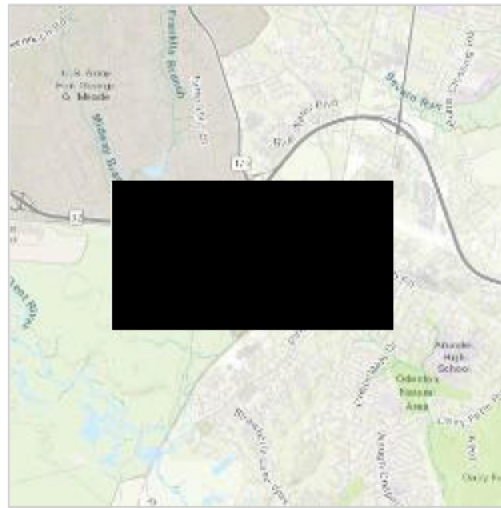
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INSECTS

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FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- [PFO1C](#)
- [PFO1Ch](#)
- [PFO1A](#)

RIVERINE

- [R5UBH](#)
- [R4SBC](#)

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Connie Ramsey
Address: 2 Hopkins Plaza
City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: connie.l.ramsey@usace.army.mil
Phone: 4109627783

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army

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