

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #8C: REGIONAL REVIEWS – MONTHLY STATUS REPORT

a. PNRS Items (Initial Review)

The HRPDC staff is routinely involved in the review of applications for grants to support projects involving federal or state funding. To ensure that all Commissioners are aware of projects being reviewed, brief summaries of these projects and anticipated review schedules are included in the Agenda. The HRPDC staff will continue to request comments directly from staff in localities that appear to be directly affected by a project. Review and comment by more than one locality is requested when a project may affect the entire region or a sub-regional area. There were no outstanding comments as of September 6, 2012 on these projects.

Attachment 8C-1 - PNRS

b. Environmental Impact Assessment/Statement Review

The HRPDC staff is routinely involved in the review of environmental impact assessments and statements for projects involving federal funding or permits as well as state development projects. To ensure that all Commissioners are aware of projects being reviewed, brief summaries of these projects and anticipated review schedules are included in the Agenda. The HRPDC staff will continue to request comments directly from staff in localities that appear to be directly affected by a project. There were no outstanding comments as of September 6, 2012 on these projects.

Attachment 8C-2 – Environmental Impact Assessment/Statement Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

None required.

Project Notification and Reviews

Date 7/30/2012 **CH #** VA120730-2523710

Title Marine Engine Repower of the Tug Boat G.M. McAllister

Applicant Virginia Maritime Association (VMA)

State/Federal Program Environmental Protection Agency

Type of Impact Newport News, Hampton, Portsmo **Project Staff** Sara Kidd

Project Description

This project will repower the existing Tier 0 (unregulated) propulsion engines in one marine tug boat with EPA-certified Tier 3 engines. This project does not propose to implement any technology or emission reduction strategy that is currently mandated by Federal law.

Federal	\$1,206,569.00	Local	\$0.00
Applicant	\$0.00	Other	\$1,150,000.00
State	\$0.00	Income	\$0.00
TOTAL		\$2,356,569.00	

Date 8/29/2012 **CH #** VA120802-2623760

Title VA DEQ Pollution Prevention Enhancements

Applicant Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

State/Federal Program EPA/Pollution Prevention Grant Program

Type of Impact Statewide **Project Staff** Sara Kidd

Project Description

The funds from the Pollution Prevention Grant Program will go toward integrating the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program (VEEP) into DEQ's Comprehensive Environmental Data System (CEDs); present the DEQ P2 sustainability conference and host other meetings; and enhance the Virginia Green Tourism Supplier Network.

Federal	\$86,500.00	Local	\$0.00
Applicant	\$86,500.00	Other	\$0.00
State	\$0.00	Income	\$0.00
TOTAL		\$173,000.00	

Environmental Impact Reviews

Received 7/9/2012

Number 12-128S

Name Surry-Skiffes Creek 500 kV Transmission Line, Skiffes Creek-Wheaton 230 kV Transmissi

Sponsor State Corporation Commission

Description

Dominion Virginia Power has submitted an application to the State Corporation Commission for approval of a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of (a) approximately 7.4 miles of new 500 kV electric transmission line in the Counties of Surry and James City from the Company's existing 500 kV-230 kV Surry Switching Station in Surry County to a new 500 kV-230 kV-115 kV Skiffes Creek Switching Station in James City County to be constructed on a 51-acre parcel of land owned by the Company; (b) the proposed Skiffes Creek Switching Station; (c) approximately 20.2 miles of new 230 kV line in the Counties of James City and York and the City of Newport News from the proposed Skiffes Creek Switching Station to the Company's existing Wheaton Substation located in the City of Hampton; and (d) additional facilities at the existing Surry Switching Station and Wheaton Substation.

Affected Localities Surry County James City Count York County

Finding

The proposed project has the potential to result in several adverse impacts to Hampton Roads localities and residents. The proposed transmission line could result in negative impacts to important natural, cultural, historic, recreational, and economic resources of local, state, and national importance. The preferred proposal of an overhead transmission line could cause severe visual impacts to areas and properties along the James River, which is designated as a Virginia Scenic River and is listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. The river is also part of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. The proposed alternative route beginning in Charles City County would cause significant environmental impacts, as well as impacts to numerous properties along the route.

Based on this review, staff recommends that Dominion Virginia Power reconsider an underground crossing of the James River. In addition, staff recommends that Dominion Virginia Power work with affected localities to eliminate or mitigate any unavoidable impacts to properties and resources affected by the project.

Comments Sent 8/2/2012

Final State Comments Received

Received 7/19/2012

Number 12-138F

Name Kenley Commons Habitat for Humanity Housing

Sponsor U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

Description

Habitat for Humanity proposes to use funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to construct six two-story townhomes with adjacent parking on a 0.60-acre lot in the City of Virginia Beach, as described in the federal consistency determination (FCD) for the proposed project. According to the FCD, the proposed project will not affect wetlands or Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas. The FCD states that the project would be consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) (formerly called the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program).

Affected Localities Virginia Beach

Finding

The proposal appears to be consistent with local and regional plans and policies.

Comments Sent 8/13/2012

Final State Comments Received 8/30/2012

Received 7/30/2012

Number 12-141F

Name Maintenance Dredging of the Skiffes Creek Federal Navigation Channel at Joint Base Langle

Sponsor DOD/Department of the Air Force

Description

The Department of the Air Force (Air Force) at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in the City of Newport News has submitted a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the maintenance dredging of the Skiffes Creek Federal Navigation Channel. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in 2003 (the Commonwealth reviewed and responded to the 2003 EA) for the activity. The EA evaluated the potential environmental effects associated with maintenance dredging of two unconnected neighboring channels (Skiffes Creek channel and the U. S. Maritime Administration channel) as well as improving the structural integrity of the upland confined placement facility, the Fort Eustis Dredged Material Management Area (FEDMMA). Since then, several regulatory and biological resource changes have occurred including the listing of the Atlantic sturgeon as a federal endangered species, the delisting of the bald eagle as an endangered species (now afforded special protection under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act), and Fort Eustis recently embarked upon major efforts to control the Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) which is within a portion of the project area. The proposed action remains essentially the same as articulated in the 2003 EA; however, the project does not involve dredging of the U. S. Maritime Administration channel.

Affected Localities Newport News

Finding

The proposal appears to be consistent with local and regional plans and policies. HRPDC staff concurs with the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Comments Sent 8/16/2012

Final State Comments Received 8/28/2012

Received 7/30/2012

Number 12-140F

Name Control of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) at Joint Base Langley-Fort Eustis, Virginia

Sponsor DOD/Department of the Air Force

Description

The Department of the Air Force (Air Force) at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in the City of Newport News has submitted a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the control of the common reed (*Phragmites australis*) on the base. Control of the common reed was initiated in 2004 following completion of an Environmental Assessment (EA) (the Commonwealth reviewed and responded to the EA in 2004). Since then, several regulatory and biological resource changes have occurred including the listing of the Atlantic sturgeon as a federal endangered species, the delisting of the bald eagle as an endangered species (now afforded special protection under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act), changes to the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit (VAG87) affecting the application of herbicides, and the availability of imazapyr-based herbicides. The purpose of the SEA is to assess the effects of common reed control techniques in relation to these changes. The proposed action will continue the existing approach to controlling the common reed with aerial spraying of herbicides as the primary method with follow-up treatment with herbicides via ground techniques where aerial spray is infeasible. This action could involve one of several herbicides authorized for use in aquatic environmental including imazapyr- and glyphosate-based herbicides (and possibly other herbicides registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use in aquatic environments). Furthermore, this action could include augmentation with physical control methods such as prescription fires, excavation, retention of high water levels and re-planting with native vegetation when feasible/practical. However, under this action these non-chemical methods are not likely to be used alone, and the frequency would be limited based on unique installation conditions.

Affected Localities Newport News

Finding

The proposal appears to be consistent with local and regional plans and policies. HRPDC staff concurs with the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Comments Sent 8/16/2012

Final State Comments Received 8/30/2012

Received 8/2/2012

Number 12-144F

Name Camp Peary Range 37 Shoreline Stabilization

Sponsor DOD/Department of the Navy

Description

The Department of the Navy (Navy) proposes to stabilize the shoreline as Range 37 at Camp Peary in York County. The project area consists of a vegetated upland bluff ranging in height from 5 feet to more than 30 feet. The shoreline consists of vegetated tidal wetlands experiencing erosion and undercutting, as well as non-vegetated wetland areas. The proposed action involves the construction of a hybrid living shoreline, including an offshore breakwater/sill system, beach nourishment and tidal wetland vegetation plantings. The breakwater/sill system will consist of four structures placed a maximum of 101 feet channelward of mean low water (MLW). No bank grading is proposed in conjunction with the proposed action due to the potential presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and small arms ammunition which may be present within the bank and bluff due to historic training activities. The Navy has submitted an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Federal Consistency Determination (FCD) for the proposal. The FCD finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

Affected Localities York County

Finding

Based on this review, the proposal appears to be consistent with local and regional plans and policies, as long as all necessary permits and permissions are acquired, including a wetlands permit from the York County Wetlands Board.

Comments Sent 8/27/2012

Final State Comments Received

Received 8/13/2012

Number 12-150F

Name Repair and Stabilize the York River Shoreline to Protect the Colonial Parkway, Colonial NH

Sponsor DOI/National Park Service

Description

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to repair and stabilize the York River shoreline at Colonial National Historical Park to protect the Colonial Parkway in York County. The repair of the existing shoreline protection system and the installation of new structures within park property would commence near the confluence of Felgates Creek and the York River and continue downstream to the boundary with the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Yorktown. Actions needed to achieve these goals include the rehabilitation or installation of a combination of shoreline treatments, including rock revetments, rock spurs, continuous and gap sills, pocket beaches, and shore-attached breakwaters. Implementation of the NPS preferred alternative would result in long-term beneficial impacts to coastal resources and soils, wetlands, wildlife and wildlife habitat, vegetation, special status species, visitor use and experience, public safety, and infrastructure and park operations. The NPS has submitted an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposal that includes a Federal Consistency Determination (FCD). The FCD finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

Affected Localities York County

Finding

Based on this review, the proposal appears to be consistent with local and regional plans and policies, as long as all necessary permits and permissions are acquired, including a wetlands permit from the York County Wetlands Board.

Comments Sent 9/7/2012

Final State Comments Received

Received 8/15/2012

Number 12-151F

Name The Pointe at Pickett Farms Phase I

Sponsor U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Description

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) proposes to provide mortgage insurance under HUD Section 221(d)(4) to AGM Financial Services, Inc. to finance the construction of The Pointe at Pickett Farms Phase I in the City of Norfolk. The Section 221(d)(4) program provides mortgage insurance for multifamily rental housing for moderate-income families. The Pointe at Pickett Farms Phase I (the first of three phases) will include the construction of a five-building, 120-unit multi-family apartment complex, clubhouse, parking lots, sidewalks, driveways, utilities and landscaping. The 7.7-acre property is located at 5394 Greenplain Road adjacent to Broad Creek and currently consists of wooded land with two ponds and a single-family residential home with two garage structures, one storage building, three sheds, two lean-tos and an asphalt driveway. All existing structures will be demolished for the apartment complex. HUD has submitted a Federal Consistency Determination that finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

Affected Localities Norfolk

Finding

Comments Sent

Final State Comments Received