



September 17, 2008

Bureau of Forestry

Carole Dawkins

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FD 35131

Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory Review, PNDI Number 019793

Construction and Operation of a Line of Railroad to a new coal mine to be located in Monongalia County, WV (Vaughan RR Company/CONSOL) ROUTE B

Waynesburg to Hero; Greene County, PA

Dear Ms. Carole Dawkins,

This responds to your request about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) ER Tool "Potential Impact" or species of special concern impact review. We screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of special concern under Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' responsibility, which includes plants, natural communities, terrestrial invertebrates and geologic features only.

☐ **NO PROJECT IMPACT ANTICIPATED**

PNDI records indicate special concern species or resources are located in the vicinity of the project. However, based on the information submitted to us concerning the nature of the project, the immediate location, and our detailed resource information, we determined that no impact is likely. No further coordination with DCNR is needed for this project.

☒ **POTENTIAL PROJECT IMPACT**

Based on our PNDI map review we determined potential impacts to species and/or resources of special concern. Therefore, further coordination with this office is necessary to avoid potential impacts to the above listed resources.

☐ Please provide the following information so that a more accurate determination can be made:

☒ A survey for the following should be conducted at the appropriate time of year by a qualified botanist:

- *Polymnia uvedalia* (Leaf-cup) (PT) – ravines, thickets and river or stream banks, old farm fields, roadsides (range mostly to southwestern pa, but has been found elsewhere); flowers July - September

If the land type(s) does not exist on site, a survey will not be necessary. Please contact our office to inform us if the habitat is not present. If the habitat is present, please have the botanist fill out the field survey form located at <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/InternetFieldSurveyForm.pdf>.

The botanist may contact us prior to the survey for additional information. All PA listed species should be searched for during the site visit and occurrences reported to our office. Survey results should be submitted to our office for review and comment. Mitigation measures and monitoring may be requested if species or communities of special concern are found on or adjacent to site. If you need a list of qualified surveyors, contact our office.

COMMENTS: This response pertains to Route B only, as Route A is not in Pennsylvania.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is good for one (1) year from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded information does not necessarily imply actual conditions on-site. A field survey of any site may reveal previously unreported populations. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered.

To complete your review of state and federally-listed species of special concern (those NOT under DCNR's responsibility), please be sure the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the PA Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission have been contacted regarding this project either directly or by performing a search with the online PNDI ER Tool found at www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us.

Emilee C. Boyer, Environmental Review Specialist FOR Chris Firestone, Plant Program Mgr

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