

Lindsey White

From: Moore, Thomas -FS <thomas.m.moore@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:05 AM
To: Lindsey White
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: [External Email]October Small Project Day Meeting Inquiry

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Lindsey

Thanks. Received your voicemail and pulled up your email. Thank you for alerting me to it – I will review today – and get back to you early next week. The description and maps are appreciated and thorough.

My next step will be to format this to our SPD meeting proposal form and I may send you a copy of that after we edit here – I suspect our planning staff will ask a few more questions as they always do – and will forward those to you if needed.

Thanks/

Tom

From: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Sent: Friday, June 3, 2022 11:06 AM
To: Moore, Thomas -FS <thomas.m.moore@usda.gov>
Cc: Ashley Friend <ashley.friend@eversource.com>; Deborah ZartaGier <deborah.zartagier@gza.com>
Subject: [External Email]October Small Project Day Meeting Inquiry

[External Email]

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Hi Tom,

Hope all has been well. Back in April, GZA had reached out to you regarding an upcoming project located within the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF). Our client, Eversource Energy, has been given approval to discuss the project, and we wanted to reach back out to you to provide some project details and determine what must be provided for the July 25, 2022 submittal deadline to attend the October Small Project Day (SPD).

Eversource is proposing to rebuild the B112 Transmission Line which crosses through portions of Campton, Sandwich, and Tamworth, NH between the Beebe River Substation and White Lake Substation for approximately 22.8 miles. In total, the proposed project will replace 273 existing wooden utility poles(i.e. structure) with steel pole equivalents. In addition, Eversource is proposing to replace existing static wire with optical ground wire (OPGW). OPGW wire will serve to protect conductor wires below it from lightning during storm events. Access to each structure will be required, as well as a work pad around each structure in order to stage equipment and vehicles during construction.

The B112 Transmission Line crosses through approximately 4.6 miles of the WMNF between Lower Hall Pond Road and Mount Israel Road in the Town of Sandwich. Within the WMNF, Eversource is proposing to replace 58 existing structures. Where access and work pads are proposed within wetlands, Eversource will utilize temporary timber matting

in order to cross wetlands and minimize/prevent rutting and compaction in wetlands. Individual timber mats are approximately 4-ft x 16-ft and will be placed in adjoining segments in order to span wetlands. Upon completion of work, temporary timber matting will be removed and impacted wetlands will be restored by seeding and adding mulch. In uplands, Eversource is proposing grading and construction of approximately 16-ft width gravel access roads and 75-ft x 75-ft gravel work pads at most structure locations. Some select structures will require up to 100-ft x 100-ft work pads based on structure type and/or location. Upon completion of work, Eversource is proposing to leave access roads in place in order to access structures in the event of an emergency, and will reduce work gravel pads to an approximate 60-ft x 30-ft area in order for bucket trucks to access structures in emergencies and/or structure maintenance. Structure heights will increase on average 10-15-ft which is required to meet current National Electric Safety Code standards. The proposed project will not add any new lines within the right-of-way (ROW) and Eversource is not proposing to expand the width of the ROW. Proposed impacts within the WMNF are as follows:

- Wetland Impact: ~127,577 sq. ft. (~2.93 acres)
- Upland Grading Impacts: ~ 656,286 sq. ft. (~15.07 acres)

Work is proposed to begin in July 2024. Permitting at the local, State and Federal level will be ongoing through 2022 through start of construction in 2024. Municipalities will be contacted to coordinate any local permitting needs. At the State level through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Eversource anticipates submitting Statutory Permits by Notification, Shoreland Permits by Notification, NHDOT Permits, and an Alteration of Terrain Permit. At the Federal level, Eversource anticipates obtaining coverage under the EPA Construction General Permit and preparing a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, and will coordinate with the Army Corps of Engineers for an SV permit. In addition, Eversource will submit a Request for Project Review with the NH Division of Historic Resources for anticipated Phase IB Archeological Survey.

As previously mentioned, we are looking to submit for the July 25, 2022 deadline to attend the October SPD. You had mentioned in prior correspondence you would need some details about the project by June in order to get us on the October SPD. We are happy to set up a call if you have questions regarding the general project summary and think that would be helpful.

We look forward to hearing from you on next steps!

Best,
Lindsey

Lindsey E. White, CPSS
Project Manager

GZA | 5 Commerce Park North | Bedford, NH 03110
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From: Moore, Thomas -FS <thomas.m.moore@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 9:16 AM
To: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: [External Email]October Small Project Day Meeting Inquiry

Good day,

I am assuming that this client holds a special use permit (and that is why you contacted me). If that's the case I will require a written proposal and description that outlines the basics such as Who, What, Where, When, dimensions, type of equipment used, State or Federal permit needs, number of trees to be cut (if necessary), existing permit number, and Why. We would like to know if there are any proposed changes to the current use.

In turn I will present the project description to our Line Officer(s). If the project is approved to go forward – we would then determine if it fits in the Small Project Day category (CE's) or if a higher level of NEPA is necessary.

We would then talk with the proponent (your client) about the next steps regarding Cost Recovery / Timelines, anticipated level of NEPA required etc.

If it is determined that it can go to Small Projects Day – internal forms at due July 25, 2022 for me to present at this fall meeting. However, I would need this information by June 10, 2022 to adequately prepare and review.

Thanks.

Tom Moore

From: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 8:40 AM
To: Moore, Thomas -FS <thomas.m.moore@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: [External Email]October Small Project Day Meeting Inquiry

Hi Tom,

The project is still in the planning stages, and we are working to help our client with planning efforts. At this time the project is confidential.

Thanks!
Lindsey

Lindsey E. White, CPSS
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From: Moore, Thomas -FS <thomas.m.moore@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 2:51 PM
To: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: [External Email]October Small Project Day Meeting Inquiry

Hi Lindsey,

Can you provide the name of your client and the project you are referencing?

Thanks.

tom

From: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 11:28 AM
To: Moore, Thomas -FS <thomas.m.moore@usda.gov>
Subject: [External Email]October Small Project Day Meeting Inquiry

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Hi Tom,

I am a Project Manager for GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. We are working with a client that is proposing some work in within the White Mountain National Forest and we anticipate needing to submit a NEPA permit application. We understand that the Small Project Day (SPD) meetings occur twice a year, once in March and once in October. We are hoping for this project to make it onto the October SPD meeting. For planning purposes, could you please let us know the date of the October meeting if you have that available, as well as the submittal deadline? We understand we must submit certain materials 90 days prior to the SPD meeting. We are looking to inform our client of important dates/deadlines, and materials that will need to be submitted. Any information you can provide would be great!

Thanks so much and we look forward to working with you.

Lindsey

Lindsey E. White, CPSS
Project Manager

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