

Sykes, Robbie

From: Pelren, David
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 2:05 PM
To: Sikula, Nicole R
Cc: Sykes, Robbie
Subject: FW: draft Ridgeline project scoping comments FERC Docket PF22-7-000

As you, Robbie, and I just now discussed - how does the draft below look to you, Nicole?

-Dave

From: Sykes, Robbie <robbie_sykes@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 2:00 PM
To: Pelren, David <david_pelren@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: draft Ridgeline project scoping comments FERC Docket PF22-7-000

Looks good to me. You probably need to check with Nicole as to whether this one needs to be on letterhead. Our CPA guidance indicate Scoping Notices should be on letterhead and signed by the Field Supervisor, but Technical review responses on EA's or Scoping Notices that do not have specific comments to submit can be a staff-level email. I would think this is the later of the two.

Robbie Sykes
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
446 Neal Street
Cookeville, TN 38501
(tele. 931/525-4979)

From: Pelren, David <david_pelren@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 1:10 PM
To: Sykes, Robbie <robbie_sykes@fws.gov>
Subject: draft Ridgeline project scoping comments FERC Docket PF22-7-000

Robbie, here's a draft of the message (below) that I plan to post to FERC's commenting portal. Let me know what you think. Like we discussed, I'll plan to run this by Nicole before posting to FERC:

These comments are provided on behalf of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office (TNFO) regarding scoping for the Ridgeline gasline project (FERC Docket PF22-7-000). Representatives of Enbridge are in ongoing coordination with the TNFO to address potential impacts to federally listed fish, mussels, bats, and plants. A search of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation database was initially conducted for the proposed project area, and the following list of species that may be impacted by the project was compiled: spotfin chub (*Erimonax monachus*), Alabama lampmussel (*Lampsilis virescens*), Cumberland bean (*Villosa trabalis*), Cumberlandian combshell (*Epioblasma brevidens*), dromedary pearlymussel, (*Dromus dromas*), fanshell (*Cyprogenia stegaria*), finereyed pigtoe (*Fusconaia cuneolus*), orangefoot pimpleback (*Plethobasus cooperianus*), pink mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), ring pink (*Obovaria retusa*), rough pigtoe (*Pleurobema plenum*), spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*), turgid blossom (*Epioblasma turgidula*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Northern

long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Short's bladderpod (*Physaria globosa*), Cumberland rosemary (*Conradina verticillata*), white fringeless orchid (*Platanthera integrilabia*), and Virginia spiraea (*Spiraea virginiana*).

Enbridge has enlisted the assistance of consulting biologists, who are conducting species' presence/probable absence surveys, including current surveys of caves for possible use by bats during the hibernation season. Note that the northern long-eared bat has been proposed for a revision in status from threatened to endangered, and application of the 4(d) rule that is currently in effect for the species would become void upon that change. In addition, potential impacts by this project to the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) are being considered. This species is being evaluated for federal listing as endangered, and that listing determination will likely be completed prior to initiation of the Ridgeline project. We recommend that FERC fully address potential impacts to each of the species discussed above.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

David Pelren
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
446 Neal St.
Cookeville, TN 38501
office phone: 931-525-4974
mobile phone: 931-261-5844

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