

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
FOR  
SECTION 219, WRDA 1992  
ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT  
SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS FOR  
VALPARAISO, PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA**

2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Planning Branch  
231 South LaSalle Street Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

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## **SECTION 1 PURPOSE AND NEED**

### **PURPOSE**

The proposed project would reline 19,361 linear feet of existing deteriorated sanitary sewer lines within the City of Valparaiso in Porter County, Indiana. In addition, up to 70 manholes within the relined sanitary sewers will be inspected and relined as needed. Sanitary sewer system relining improvements would alleviate the commonly occurring leakage and cases of sewer backup affecting a number of residential areas within the city.

### **NEED FOR ACTION**

The deteriorating condition of the Valparaiso sanitary sewer system makes sanitary sewer flow unreliable. Leakage along the lines is a common occurrence. The resulting inability to handle even moderate increases in sewer flow results in sewer backup in residential areas.

### **AUTHORITY**

The study was authorized under Section 219 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1992, as amended by Section 504 of WRDA 1996; Section 502 of WRDA 1999; Section 145 of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2004; and Section 5075 of WRDA 2007. Section 219 (F)(12) Calumet Region allows the Army Corps of Engineers to provide planning, design, and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure projects.

### **LOCAL SPONSOR**

The project's non-Federal sponsor is the Valparaiso Sanitary District.

## **SECTION 2 ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING THE RECOMMENDED PLAN**

There are 3 alternative measures considered to address the sanitary system problems in Valparaiso, Indiana.

1. **No Action Plan**-Under this alternative, no changes would be made to repair the sanitary sewer system in Valparaiso. The deteriorating pipes will continue to leak, and the commonly reoccurring cases of sanitary sewer backup will continue in the city. The greater than anticipated water flows would increase costs and could overwhelm existing water treatment facilities.
  
2. **Limited Lining of Sanitary Sewers**- A total of 13,060 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines in 8 base locations would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 8 utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso (red on Exhibit A, Map). Relining locations are detailed as B locations in Table 1. This would address some of the commonly occurring leaking and sanitary sewer backup in Valparaiso but these problems would continue in some locales.

3. **Lining of Sanitary Sewers-** 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 20 base and alternate locations (red and yellow on Exhibit A, Map) in utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. Relining locations are detailed as both A and B locations in Table 1. Additionally up to 70 manholes in the relined sanitary sewers would be inspected and relined as needed. This would alleviate both the commonly occurring sanitary sewer leaking and backup in residential areas.

**Table 1**

**Valparaiso Sanitary Sewer Relining Location                      Pipe Size    Length**

**Alternate Relining Locations**

<b>A1</b> Easement Line north off of John Glenn between Campbell St. and Sears St.	10"	885 ft
<b>A2</b> Easement Trunk Main from McCord Rd. north through Earthstone then East to Roosevelt Rd.	15"	1,015 ft
	18"	440 ft
<b>A3</b> Clover Ln. & Meadow Ln. East Down Meadow to the end	8"	753 ft
<b>A5</b> Easement main on Park Ave. north to Bond St.	12"	380 ft
	18"	796 ft
<b>A6</b> Greenacres & Hemlock West on Greenacres	12"	1,062 ft
<b>A7</b> Randle St., Franklin St., to Valparaiso St. In South Parkway	8"	970 ft

**Base relining Locations**

<b>B1</b> 7 Easement mains north & south of Greenacres between Campbell and Hemlock	8"	5,500 ft
<b>B2</b> Easement Trunk Main from Greenacres & Bloomingdale south to Churchview	15"	1,645 ft
<b>B4</b> Easement line from Garfield to Roosevelt between Lincolnway and Jefferson	8"	860 ft
	12"	385 ft
<b>B5</b> Ally between Lincolnway and Indiana & Greenwich & College main	24"	340 ft
<b>B6</b> Easement Main Chester St. to Parkside	8"	550 ft
<b>B8</b> Easement Trunk Main from Illinois St. to McCord Rd.	18"	600 ft

<b>B9</b> Greenacres & Hemlock north to Burlington Beech Rd	12"	1,940 ft
<b>B10</b> Harrison Blvd in Back Yard Easement Campbell St. East to Washington St.	12" 15"	140 ft, 1,100 ft

Please note gaps in the numbering sequence due to changes in prioritization and dropping of projects by the City of Valparaiso.

## RECOMMENDED PLAN

**Lining of Sanitary Sewers-** 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 20 base and alternate locations (red and yellow on map 1) in utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. Relining locations are detailed as B and A in Table 1. The sanitary sewers will be lined with a resin-impregnated flexible tube that will be cured in place (Exhibit B). Additionally up to 70 manholes in the relined sanitary sewers would be inspected and relined as needed. This would alleviate both the commonly occurring sanitary sewer leaking and backup in the area as well as reducing impact to area water quality..

Benefits of the recommended alternative include a reduction of potential groundwater pollution from the leaking sanitary sewer system, as well as a reduction of the recurring cases of sanitary sewer backups into residences and treatment plant bypasses. The recommended plan is also currently the most cost effective plan to prevent sanitary sewer leaking and sewer backup in residential areas.

Work would begin in 2014 with completion anticipated in approximately 12 months.

## COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STATUTES

The proposed action is in full compliance with appropriate statues, executive orders and regulations, including the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended, Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, Section 10 of Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Clean Air Act, as amended, Indiana Endangered Species, National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), and the Clean Water Act, as amended.

## **SECTION 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

### **PROJECT AREA**

The project area (Exhibit A) lies approximately 14 miles south of Lake Michigan, and consists of multiple areas within Sec 13,14,18, 23, & 24, T 35N &R 6W of the 2<sup>nd</sup> principal meridian, and is shown on the Valparaiso (Indiana) USGS 7.5" topographic quadrangle map.

The proposed project will line approximately 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 20 utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. In addition manholes in these areas would be inspected and relined as needed.

Traffic disruption should be minimal with most construction occurring within the existing street right-of-way or utility easements, allowing most area roads to remain open to local traffic.

### **AIR AND WATER QUALITY**

Air and water quality in the project area are typical of what would be expected in a densely populated area. Air quality is categorized as moderate to good. Most of the impacts to air quality in this area are due to the large number of cars and trucks driven on the extensive road system in the Chicago, northern Indiana metropolitan area. Ground water quality within the project area does not meet applicable water quality standards because of the continued combined sewer overflows, agricultural run-off, and municipal waste effluent.

### **AQUATIC COMMUNITIES**

There are no aquatic communities present in the planned project locations. Salt Creek is directly to the south of the project area. This waterway supports a number of species typical of rivers in northern Indiana.

### **TERRESTRIAL COMMUNITIES**

Valparaiso provides suitable habitat for common "urban" wildlife species, including fox and gray squirrel, opossum, cottontail rabbit, striped skunk, mice, red fox, bats, and eastern moles. Typical resident birds include English sparrow, starling, robin, herring gull, Canada geese, mallard, pigeon, cardinal, chickadee, red winged blackbird, purple martin, grackle, and blue jay.

Vegetation within the Valparaiso project area contains mowed grass lawns, shrubs, and a variety of tree species include maple, green ash, mulberry, box elder, honey locust, crabapple, and cottonwood, as well as some remaining agricultural land.

The proposed construction zone contains no particularly valuable wildlife habitat.

### **NATURAL AREAS**

The Moraine Nature Reserve is located approximately 3 miles north of Valparaiso. This open space provides a range of vegetation zones, along with resting and feeding areas for a variety of wildlife, including a large number of migratory birds during spring and fall migrations.

## THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The project area is suburban commercial. It is within the range of the federally endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalists*), the proposed endangered northern long-eared bat (*myotis septentrionalis*) the Karner blue butterfly (*Lycaeides Melissa samuelis*), the threatened Pitcher's thistle (*Cirsium pitcheri*), and Mead's milkweed (*Asclepias meadii*). However, the project area contains no habitat likely to be used by threatened or endangered species.

## ARCHEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES

The City of Valparaiso is located approximately 30 miles south and east of Chicago, Illinois in Porter County, Indiana. Surrounding communities include the towns of Hobart, South Haven, and Westville.

Ten structures within Valparaiso are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These include the Haste-Crumpacker house (listed 2010), Heritage Hall at Valparaiso University (listed 1976), Immanuel Lutheran Church (listed 1982), Valparaiso Woman's Club (listed 1984), the McCullum House (listed 2002), the Porter County Jail and Sheriffs' House (listed 1976), Porter County memorial Hall (listed 1984), the Rose House (listed 1980), the Skinner-Deforest House (listed 2008), and the Wolf House (listed 2007). In addition the Valparaiso Downtown Commercial District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic District in 1990. One structure, the Conrad and Catherine Bloch House (listed 2011) is within the probable area of potential effect is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition two structures within the project area of potential effect are eligible for inclusion to the National register of Historic Places. These are Valparaiso High School, and the house at 501 N. Campbell St.

None of these properties will be impacted by the proposed relining project, and thus a finding of "no adverse affect" is appropriate for this project.

The proposed project is within existing sanitary sewer lines located within highway right-of-way and utility easements. The surrounding area has been disturbed by filling, grading, and utility construction. It contains no intact archaeological material.

## LAND USE HISTORY

In 1834 J. P. Ballard built the first house in the community created by land speculators known as Portersville and set up as the county seat that same year.. The name of the community was changed to Valparaiso in 1837. The name was suggested by sailors who served under Commodore David Porter, a hero of the War of 1812 for whom the county was named. His ship, the *Essex*, was lost in a famous battle at the harbor of Valparaiso, Chile.

By 1836 a number of sawmills had been built, although most settlers in the area concentrated on farming. Benjamin Harrison, who later became president, often hunted and fished in the area.

Valparaiso has experienced steady growth over the years. Residential growth has been accompanied by new and expanding industrial development. For example, the Hoosier Bat Company has provided baseball bats to Cubs slugger Sammy Sosa and others, while Urschel Laboratories, founded in 1910, designs and manufactures food processing equipment sold worldwide. Agriculture continues to be an important part of the local economy.

Valparaiso is also the home of Valparaiso University. One of its noted citizens, the late Orville Redenbacher, is honored each year on the first Saturday after Labor Day by the city's annual Popcorn Festival.

## **SOCIAL SETTING**

Valparaiso has a ethnically and racially diverse population of approximately 79,06300 (2014). Median household income is \$45,799.00 (2014). Median home value is \$176,800.00 (2014).

## **RECREATION**

There are 14 parks in the Valparaiso park system. These parks provide baseball diamonds, soccer fields, basketball, and tennis courts. Picnic shelters, jogging and hiking trails, and fishing areas are also provided by the Valparaiso park system.

## **HAZARDOUS, TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE (HTRW) INVESTIGATION**

An HTRW Phase I investigation has been conducted, and has revealed that no known potential environmental issues exist within the project areas.

# **SECTION 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

## **IMPACTS OF “NO ACTION” PLAN**

The “no action” plan would have a negative impact on natural resources in Valparaiso. The sanitary sewer system would remain inadequate, and the continuation of sanitary sewer backups and leakage would be detrimental to the local quality of life.

## **GENERAL IMPACTS (SECTION 122 OF PUBLIC LAW 91-611) OF THE PROPOSED PLAN**

Section 122 of Public Law 91-611 identified 17 potential areas of impact that are required to be considered as part of an impact analysis of proposed projects. The proposed plan would not adversely affect community cohesion, desirable community growth, tax revenues, property values, public services, or desirable regional growth. No farms or people, industry, or businesses would be displaced. Impacts of the remaining areas follow:

### **Social Impacts**

Project impacts on natural resources, man-made resources, and employment will be temporary. Employment could increase slightly during construction, and the region's labor force should be sufficient to provide the necessary workers. There will be no significant adverse effect to public facilities. During construction, increased traffic congestion would be localized and intermittent. Any aesthetic degradation would be temporary. The project would have no significant adverse impact on human health or welfare or to municipal or private water supplies.



### Air Quality Impacts

The proposed action would cause temporary increases in exhaust emissions from machinery and equipment during construction. These impacts would be minimal because of emission and dust controls required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and local restrictions. The Corps of Engineers specifications (CW-04130 Construction Specifications for Environmental Protection, July 1978) are included in contracts to provide protection for the local environment. In regard to the Clean Air Act, construction and operation of the project would not result in significant or long-term adverse impacts to air quality. The project would involve only a de minimis discharge of airborne pollutants, and is therefore in compliance with the Clean Air Act Conformity Rule.

### Noise Impacts

The proposed action will cause temporary increases in noise from machinery and equipment during construction. These impacts will be temporary and will not result in significant or long-term adverse impacts.

### Water Quality Impacts

The project will have a significant beneficial long-term impact on the quality of water in the community. Sewer lining will significantly reduce leakage in the system, thereby protecting area groundwater from contamination. Reduction in inflow to the system will also significantly reduce sanitary sewer backups and basement flooding in residential areas. The reduction in hydraulic inflow will also decrease the number of wastewater treatment plant bypasses to receiving streams in the area. In summary, the project will significantly benefit water quality.

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 does not apply since there is no construction or placement of fill within navigable waters. The project will not involve any new discharge to the waters of the United States, therefore Section 401 water quality certification is not required and no Section 404(b)(1) evaluation has not been prepared pursuant to the Clean Water Act.

Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)-The project will not promote development in the floodplain

The project will have no significant long-term adverse impacts on the quality of water in any of the tributaries to Lake Michigan. The project would comply with all applicable water quality standards.

Although this project is located within the boundaries of the Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP), it is exempt from Federal Consistency (FC) review under Section D, Exempt Activities as defined by the Indiana LMCP FC Nonrule Policy Document.

### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice) - An investigation of the Environmental Protection Agency website (May 4, 2014) indicates that although minority and low-income populations are near the project area, this project will not have an adverse effect on any low-income populations or minority populations in Valparaiso.

## AQUATIC IMPACTS

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act- The project will have no negative impact on aquatic wildlife or habitat. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service have concurred with this determination in a letter dated May 29, 2014. The Indiana DNR has also concurred with this determination in a letter dated May 27, 2014.

Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands)-The project will have no impact on wetlands.

Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)- The project area is not in the flood plain and therefore the project will not promote development in the floodplain.

## TERRESTRIAL IMPACTS

The project would not have an adverse impact on any valuable wildlife or habitat. The Indiana DNR has concurred with this determination (letter dated May 27, 2014). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has also concurred with this determination (letter dated May 29, 2014).

## THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IMPACTS

Indiana Endangered Species-The project would not affect state-listed threatened or endangered species, or habitat likely to be used by such species. The State of Indiana has been contacted and has concurred with this determination in a letter dated May 27, 2014.

Endangered Species Act of 1973-The project will not affect Federal-listed, threatened, or endangered species, or habitat likely to be used by such species; the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has concurred with this determination (letter dated May 29, 2014).

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC IMPACTS

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966-The proposed construction would have no adverse affect on archaeological or historic properties. The Indiana SHPO has concurred with this determination (letter dated June 20, 2014).

Native American groups having an interest in northwestern Indiana have been consulted (letters dated May 21, 2014). The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma has responded (letter dated June 2, 2014) and has no issues with the project.

## HTRW IMPACTS

A Phase I HTRW investigation has been conducted, and has revealed that no known potential environmental issues exist within the project areas.

## CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

### ASSESSMENT OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Consideration of cumulative effects requires a broader perspective than examining just the direct and indirect effects of a proposed action. It requires that reasonably foreseeable future

impacts be assessed in the context of the past and present effects to importance resources. Often it requires consideration of a larger geographic area than just the immediate “project” area. One of the most important aspects of cumulative effects assessment is that it requires consideration of how actions by others (including those actions completely unrelated to the proposed action) have and will affect the same resources. In assessing cumulative effects, the key determinate of importance or significance is whether the incremental effects of the proposed action will alter the sustainability of resources when added to other present and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

Cumulative environmental effects for the proposed infrastructure project were assessed in accordance with guidance provided by the President’s Council on Environmental Quality (USEPA, EPA 315-R-99-002, May 1999). This guidance provides an eleven-step process for identifying and evaluating cumulative effects in NEPA analysis.

The overall cumulative impact of the project is considered to be beneficial environmentally, socially, and economically.

## SCOPING

In this environmental assessment, the cumulative effects issues and assessment goals are established, the spatial and temporal boundaries are determined, and reasonably foreseeable future actions are identified. Cumulative effects are assessed to determine if the sustainability of any of the resources are adversely affected with the goal of determining the incremental impact to key resources that would occur should the proposal be permitted. The spatial boundary for the assessment encompasses the parkland and the associated facilities and surrounding streets served by the infrastructures to be improved. The temporal boundaries are:

1. Past-1834, when settlement and development of the area began.
2. Present-2014, when the selection plan was being developed.
3. Future-2064, the year used for determining project life end

Projecting reasonably foreseeable future actions is difficult at best. Clearly, the proposed action is reasonably foreseeable, however, the actions by others that may affect the same resources are not as clear. Projections of those actions must rely on judgment as to what are reasonable based on existing trends and where available, projections from qualified sources. Reasonably foreseeable does not include unfounded or speculative projections. In this case, reasonably foreseeable future actions include:

1. Increased growth in water consumption.
2. Continued conversion of agricultural and natural land to urban land use.
3. Continued application of environmental requirements such as the Clean Water Act.

### Cumulative Effects on geology and soils

The topography and soils of the area has been affected by filling, excavations, construction, and the burial of utilities. The proposed project would not alter soil chemistry.

### Cumulative Effects on Water Quality and Aquatic Communities

The project would have no adverse effects on water quality or aquatic communities in Salt Creek or any of its tributaries. Long term adverse impacts to significant resources are not expected to occur.

### Cumulative Effect of Terrestrial Resources

Relatively small modifications for this project will have no long-term adverse or cumulative effects to terrestrial resources, plants or animals.

### Cumulative Effects on Land Use

The project will have no cumulative effect on land use.

### Cumulative Effects on Aesthetic Values

The project will have no cumulative adverse effects on the visual setting of the project area.

### Cumulative effects on Public Facilities

The project will have no long-term adverse effects on public facilities.

### Cumulative Effects Summary

Along with direct and indirect effects, cumulative effects of the proposed project were assessed following the guidance provided by the Presidents' Council on Environmental Quality (Table 1). There have been numerous effects to resources from past and present actions, and reasonably foreseeable future actions can also be expected to produce both beneficial and adverse effects. In this context, the effects of the proposed project are relatively minor.

Table 3 –Environmental Impact Summary

<b>Potential Impact Area</b>	<b>Past Actions</b>	<b>Proposed Direct Impacts</b>		<b>Cumulative Impact</b>
		<b>Construction</b>	<b>Operation</b>	
Geology & Soils	adverse	no impact	no impact	no impact
Hydrology	adverse	no impact	Beneficial	Beneficial
Water Quality	major adverse	no impact	Beneficial	Beneficial
Sediment Quality	major adverse	no impact	no impact	no impact
Aquatic Resources	major adverse	no impact	Beneficial	Beneficial
Terrestrial Resources	adverse	Minor temporary negative impact	no impact	no impact
Land Use	adverse	no impact	no impact	beneficial
Aesthetics	no impact	no impact	no impact	no impact
Archaeology/Historic	no impact	no impact	no impact	no impact

## **SECTION 5 COORDINATION**

During preparation of this environmental assessment the following Federal and state agencies were consulted: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and the Indiana Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Copies of coordination letters are attached to this assessment.

### **RECIPIENTS**

The following agencies, groups, and individuals received a copy of this environmental assessment:

Senator Dan Coats  
United States Senate  
493 Russell Office Bldg  
Washington, DC, 20510

Senator Dan Coats  
1650 Market Tower  
10 West Market Street  
Indianapolis, IN, 46204

Senator Joe Donnelly  
720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Joe Donnelly  
5400 Federal Plaza, Suite 3200  
Hammond, IN 46320

Congressman Peter Visclosky  
2256 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Peter Visclosky  
7895 Broadway, Suite A  
Merrillville, Indiana 46410

Governor Mike Pence  
Office of the Governor  
Statehouse  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2797

Kenneth Westlake, Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
U.S. EPA ME-19J  
77 West Jackson  
Chicago, IL 60604

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
620 S. Walker St.  
Bloomington, IN 47403  
ATTN: Scott Pruitt

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
P.O. Box 2616  
Chesterton, IN 46304-2616  
ATTN: Elizabeth McCloskey

Federal Aviation Administration  
Chicago Airports District Office, CHI-ADO-600  
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Des Plaines, Illinois 60018  
ATTN: Ben Bobb A. Beauchamp  
Environmental Program Manager

IDEM Northwest Regional Office  
330 West US Highway 30, Suite F,  
Valparaiso, IN 46385  
ATTN: Hala Kuss

IDEM  
100 N. Senate Ave.  
Mail Code 61-50  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251  
ATTN: Marty Maupin

Indiana DNR  
Division of Water  
100 N. Water St.  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
ATTN: Steve Davis

Indiana DNR  
Division of Water  
100 N. Water St.  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
ATTN: Brian Brieder

Indiana DNR  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
402 W. Washington Room W273  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
ATTN: Christie Stanifer

Indiana DNR  
Division of Historic Preservation and History  
402 W. Washington, Room W274  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
ATTN: James Glass

Indiana DNR  
Lake Michigan Coastal Program  
402 W. Washington, Room W274  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
ATTN: Mike Molnar

Porter County Library  
Valparaiso Branch  
103 Jefferson St, Valparaiso, IN 46383  
ATTN: govt. publications

## CORRESPONDENCE





REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CHICAGO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
231 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET, SUITE 1500  
CHICAGO IL 60604

Planning Branch  
Environmental Formulation Section

Kenneth Westlake, Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
U.S. EPA ME-19J  
77 West Jackson  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Westlake:

The Chicago District is preparing a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document on the impacts of a number of leaking or deteriorating sanitary sewer projects in Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana. The sanitary sewers will be lined with a resin-impregnated flexible tube that will be cured in place. As part of the scoping process the Chicago District would appreciate your comments on impacts or concerns associated with this project. Attached is a list of State and Federal Agencies and Tribal Nations receiving this request (enclosure 1). A map of the project area is attached (enclosure 2)

The project includes the relining in place of up to 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in up to 14 utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. Additionally manholes in these areas would be relined, and lateral joints sealed. A list of the relining locations is attached (enclosure 3). Base locations (B) on the attached list will definitely be relined as part of this project. Relining of Alternate locations (A) is dependent on total project costs. Please note gaps in the numbering sequence due to changes in prioritization of projects.

Comments must be received within 30 days and should be sent to Peter Bullock, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 231 South La Salle Street Suite 1500, Chicago, Illinois 60604, or by email at [peter.y.bullock@usace.army.mil](mailto:peter.y.bullock@usace.army.mil). Questions should be directed to Mr. Bullock at 312/846-5587.

3 Enclosures.. as stated

Sincerely,

Susanne J. Davis, P. E.  
Chief of Planning Branch

# Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

P.O.Box 70  
407 N. Hwy 102  
McLoud, Oklahoma 74851

Administration Department  
Phone: 405-964-7053; Fax: 405-964-7065  
Email: kwilson@kickapootribeofoklahoma.com

June 2, 2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Chicago District  
ATTN: Peter Bullock  
231 South La Salle Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604

*RE: Valparaiso Sanitary Sewer Relining Projects;  
Valparaiso, Porter County, IN*

Dear Mr. Bullock:

Thank you for consulting with the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma in regard to the above referenced site(s). At this time, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma has no objections to the proposed project(s) at the intended site(s). However, in the event burial remains and/or artifacts are discovered during the development or construction process, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma would ask for immediate notification of such findings.

Should I be of any further assistance, please contact me at (405) 964-4227.

Sincerely,



Kent Collier  
NAGPRA Contact  
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

Cc: File

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*Gilbert Salazar*  
APETOKA  
CHAIRMAN

*Boyd Ponkilla*  
ADAMIDATA  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

*Patricia Gonzales*  
MOKITANOCUA  
SECRETARY

*Jennell Downs*  
KISAKODICUA  
TREASURER

*Everett Suke*  
MOKITANO  
COUNCILMAN

**THIS IS NOT A PERMIT**

**State of Indiana  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Early Coordination/Environmental Assessment**

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**DNR #:** ER-17626

**Request Received:** May 27, 2014

**Requestor:** US Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago  
District  
Peter Bullock  
231 South La Salle Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604

**Project:** Relining of up to 19,361' of existing sanitary sewer lines in up to 14 utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso

**County/Site info:** Porter

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above referenced project per your request. Our agency offers the following comments for your information and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

If our agency has regulatory jurisdiction over the project, the recommendations contained in this letter may become requirements of any permit issued. If we do not have permitting authority, all recommendations are voluntary.

**Regulatory Assessment:** Formal approval by the Department of Natural Resources under the regulatory programs administered by the Division of Water is not required for this project.

**Natural Heritage Database:** The Natural Heritage Program's data have been checked. To date, no plant or animal species listed as state or federally threatened, endangered, or rare have been reported to occur in the project vicinity.

**Fish & Wildlife Comments:** We recommend using trenchless lining methods within or in close proximity to wetlands, streams, or densely wooded areas.

Due to the presence or potential presence of wetlands on site, we recommend contacting and coordinating with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) 401 program and also the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 program. Impacts to wetlands should be mitigated at the appropriate ratio (see <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20120801-IR-312120434NRA.xml.pdf>).

The measures below should be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources:

1. Revegetate all bare and disturbed areas with a mixture of grasses (excluding all varieties of tall fescue), legumes, and native shrub and hardwood tree species as soon as possible upon completion.
2. Minimize and contain within the project limits all tree and brush clearing.
3. Do not cut any trees suitable for Indiana bat roosting (greater than 3 inches dbh, living or dead, with loose hanging bark) from April 1 through September 30.
4. Appropriately designed measures for controlling erosion and sediment must be implemented to prevent sediment from entering the stream or leaving the construction site; maintain these measures until construction is complete and all disturbed areas are stabilized.
5. Plant five native trees, at least 2 inches in diameter-at-breast height, for each tree which is removed that is ten inches or greater in diameter-at-breast height.

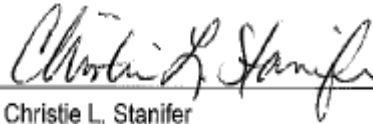
**THIS IS NOT A PERMIT**

**State of Indiana**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**Division of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Early Coordination/Environmental Assessment**

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**Contact Staff:**

Christie L. Stanifer, Environ. Coordinator, Fish & Wildlife  
Our agency appreciates this opportunity to be of service. Please contact the above staff member at (317) 232-4080 if we can be of further assistance.



**Date:** June 11, 2014

Christie L. Stanifer  
Environ. Coordinator  
Division of Fish and Wildlife



United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service



Bloomington Field Office (ES)  
620 South Walker Street  
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121  
Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273

May 29, 2014

Mrs. Susanne J. Davis  
Chief Planning Branch  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
231 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Attn: Peter Bullock, Environmental Formulation Section

Dear Mrs. Davis:

This responds to your letter of May 20, 2014, requesting our comments on a proposed environmental infrastructure project to address leaking or deteriorating sanitary sewers at various locations within Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana. The proposed project consists of relining in place of approximately 16,360 linear feet of sanitary sewer lines and repair of associated manholes within 14 locations around the city.

These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et. seq.) and are consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy.

The proposed project will have no effect on wetlands or other significant habitat types. Project impacts are expected to be minor in nature. Based on a review of the information you provided, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no objections to the project as currently proposed. This precludes the need for further consultation on this project as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. However, should new information arise pertaining to project plans or a revised list be published, please contact our office for additional coordination.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment at this early stage of project planning. If project plans change such that fish and wildlife habitat may be affected, please re-coordinate with our office as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth McCloskey at (219) 983-9753 or [elizabeth\\_mccloskey@fws.gov](mailto:elizabeth_mccloskey@fws.gov).

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Elizabeth S. McCloskey

for Scott E. Pruitt  
Supervisor

Sent via email May 29, 2014; no hard copy to follow.

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology-402 W. Washington Street, W274-Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739  
Phone 317-232-1646 Fax 317-232-0693 [dhpa@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:dhpa@dnr.IN.gov)



June 20, 2014

Peter Bullock  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
231 South La Salle Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Federal Agency: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Re: Project information for the relining of up to 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines and the relining of manholes (DHPA No. 16249)

Dear Mr. Bullock:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated May 20, 2014, and received on May 27, 2014, for the above indicated project in the City of Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana.

Based upon the documentation available to the staff of the Indiana SHPO, we have not identified any currently known archaeological resources listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") within the proposed project area.

This identification is subject to the following condition:

- The project activities remain within areas disturbed by previous construction.

If any archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations.

In regard to buildings and structures, we have identified the following properties within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that they may meet the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP:

Valparaiso High School, North Campbell Street, Site #127-642-34015

House, 501 Campbell Street, Site #127-642-34017

Additionally, we have identified the following properties listed in the NRHP within the probable area of potential effects:

Conrad & Catherine Bloch House, Site #127-642-34046, listed on the National Register on 06/23/2011

However, based on the information provided to our office, we do not believe the characteristics that qualify the above identified historic properties for inclusion in the National Register will be diminished as a result of this project.

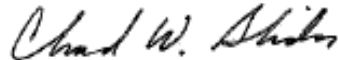
Upon completing its own identification and evaluation efforts, it would be appropriate for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to analyze the information that has been gathered from the Indiana SHPO, the general public, and any

other consulting parties and make the necessary determinations and findings. Refer to the following comments for guidance:

- 1) If the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers believes that a finding of "no adverse affect" accurately reflects its assessment, then it shall provide documentation of its finding as set forth in 36 C.F.R. § 800.11(e) to the Indiana SHPO, notify all consulting parties, and make the documentation available for public inspection (36 C.F.R. §§ 800.5[b-c] and 800.2[d][2]).
- 2) If, on the other hand, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers finds that an historic property may be affected, then it shall notify the Indiana SHPO, the public and all consulting parties of its finding and seek views on effects in accordance with 36 C.F.R. §§ 800.4(d)(2) and 800.2(d)(2). Thereafter, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may proceed to apply the criteria of adverse effect and determine whether the project will result in a "no adverse effect" or an "adverse effect" in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 800.5

*A copy of the revised 36 C.F.R. Part 800 that went into effect on August 5, 2004, may be found on the Internet at [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov) for your reference. If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Wade T. Tharp at (317) 232-1650 or [wtharp1@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:wtharp1@dnr.IN.gov). If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Miriam Burkett at (317) 233-3883 or [mburkett@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:mburkett@dnr.IN.gov). Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA No. 16249.*

Very truly yours,



Mitchell K. Zoll  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

MKZ:MLB:WTT:wt



## TRIBAL LIST

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 70  
McCloud, OK 74851

Kickapoo Of Kansas  
1107 Goldfinch Rd.  
Horton, KS 66434

Kickapoo Tribe of Texas  
Box HC 1 9700  
Eagle Pass, TX 78853

Miami Nation in Indiana  
P.O. Box 41  
Peru, IN 46970

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1326  
Miami, OK 74355  
Attn: Mr. George Strack

Citizen Potawatomi Nation  
1901 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.  
Shawnee, OK 74801

Forest County Potawatomi Exec. Council  
P. O. Box 340  
Crandon, WI 54520

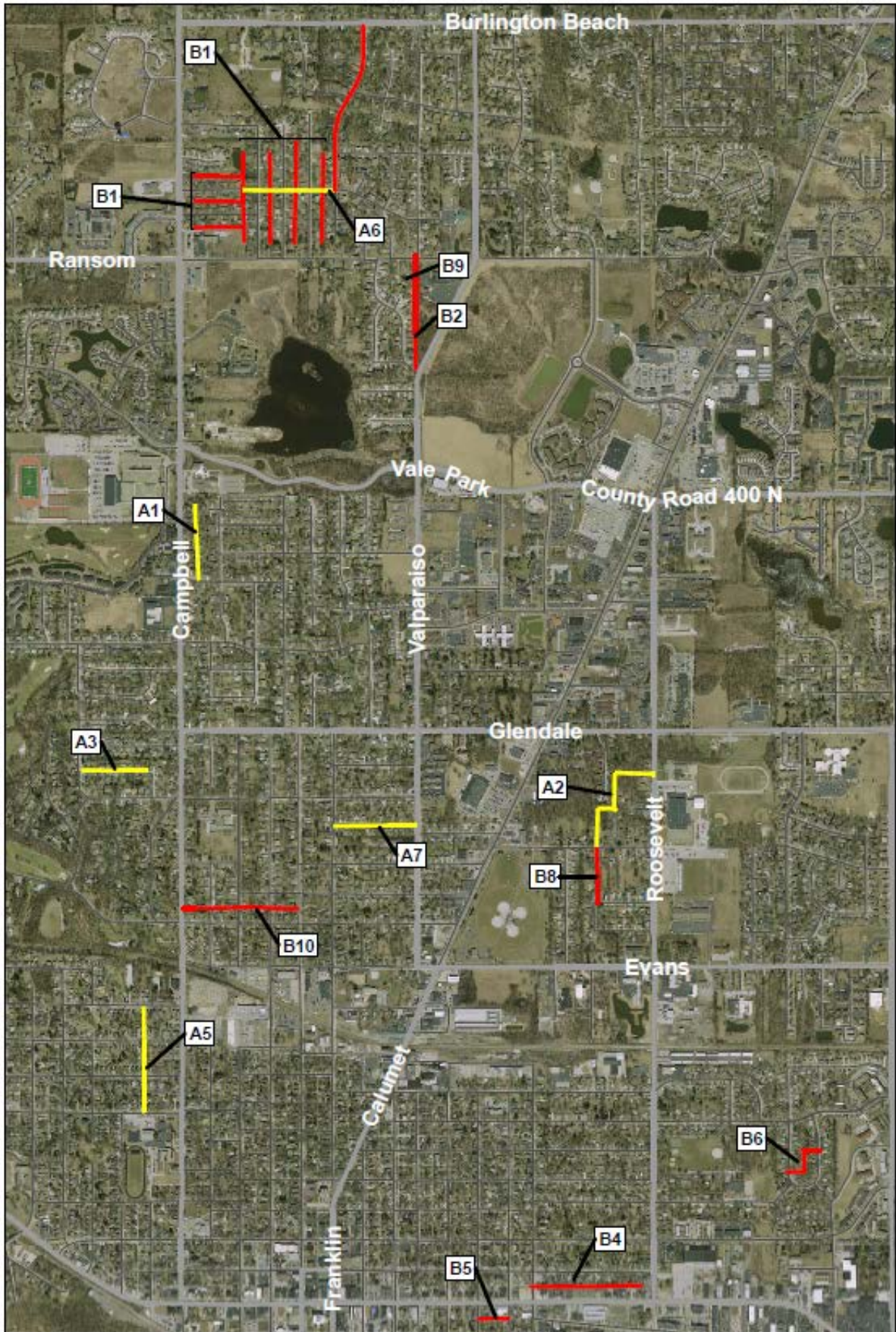
Nottawaseppi Huron Potawatomi Tribal Office  
2221 One-and-a-half Mile Rd.  
Fulton, MI 49052

Hannahville Potawatomi Comm., Council  
N 14911 Hannahville Road  
Wilson, MI 49896-9728

Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council  
16281 Q RD  
Mayetta, KS 66509

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians  
P.O. Box 180  
Dowagiac, MI 49047

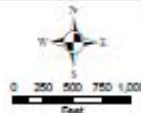
**APPENDIX 1**  
**Exhibit A, Project Map**



U.S. Army Corps  
Of Engineers  
Chicago District

**Legend**

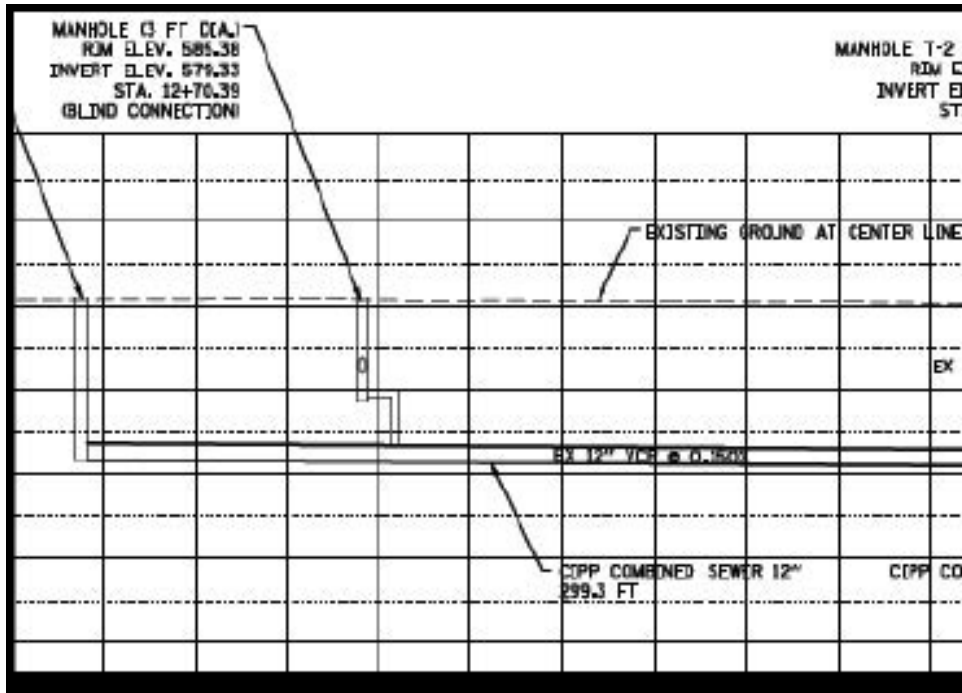
Base Projects    Alt Projects



**VALPARAISO CITY UTILITIES**  
2014 SANITARY  
SEWER LINING PROJECT  
Exhibit A  
Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

July, 2014

**APPENDIX 2**  
**Exhibit B,**  
**MANHOLE AND SEWER LINE RELINING**



**Schematic of Manhole and Sewer line.**

**DRAFT**  
**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**SECTION 219**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT**  
**SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS FOR**  
**VALPARAISO, PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA.**

**PURPOSE**

The proposed project would reline 19,361 linear feet of existing deteriorated sanitary sewer lines and up to 70 manholes within the City of Valparaiso in Porter County, Indiana. Sanitary sewer system construction improvements would alleviate the commonly occurring leakage and cases of sewer backup affecting a number of residential areas within the city.

**AUTHORITY**

The study was authorized under Section 219 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1992, as amended by Section 504 of WRDA 1996, Section 502 of WRDA 1999, Section 145 of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2004, and Section 5075 WRDA 2007.

**PROJECT AREA**

The project is located in 20 separate utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. Traffic disruption should be minimal allowing most area roads to remain open to local traffic.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

There are 3 alternative measures considered to address the sanitary system problems..

1. **No Action Plan**-Under this alternative, no changes would be made to repair the sanitary sewer system in Valparaiso. The deteriorating pipes will continue to leak, and the commonly reoccurring cases of sanitary sewer backup will continue in the city. The greater than anticipated water flows would increase costs and could overwhelm existing water treatment facilities.
2. **Limited Lining of Sanitary Sewers**- A total of 13,060 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines in 8 base locations would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 8 utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso (red on Exhibit A, Map). Relining locations are detailed as B locations in Table 1. This would address some of the commonly occurring leaking and sanitary sewer backup in Valparaiso but these problems would continue in some locales.
3. **Lining of Sanitary Sewers**- 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 20 base and alternate locations (red and yellow on Exhibit A, Map) in utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. Relining locations are detailed as both A and B locations in Table 1. Additionally up to 70 manholes in the relined

sanitary sewers would be inspected and relined as needed. This would alleviate both the commonly occurring sanitary sewer leaking and backup in residential areas.

## RECOMMENDED PLAN

**Lining of Sanitary Sewers-** 19,361 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines would be relined in place. The sewer lines to be relined vary in size from 8 inch to 24 inch. The work would be done in 20 base and alternate locations (red and yellow on map 1) in utility right-of-way and easement locations across Valparaiso. Relining locations are detailed as B and A in Table 1. The sanitary sewers will be lined with a resin-impregnated flexible tube that will be cured in place (Exhibit B). Additionally up to 70 manholes in the relined sanitary sewers would be inspected and relined as needed. This would alleviate both the commonly occurring sanitary sewer leaking and backup in the area.

Benefits of the recommended alternative include a reduction of potential groundwater pollution from the leaking sanitary sewer system, as well as a reduction of the recurring cases of sanitary sewer backups into residences. The recommended plan is also currently the most cost effective plan to prevent sanitary sewer leaking and sewer backup in residential areas.

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

An Environmental Assessment was completed for the proposed environmental infrastructure project in Valparaiso. A 30-day Public Review period for the Environmental Assessment was held from July 14, 2014 to August 16, 2014. The proposed project is in full compliance with appropriate statutes and executive orders including the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended, the Endangered Species Act, as amended, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, the Clean Air Act, as amended, Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, and the Corps of Engineers Operational and Management regulations (33CFR 200, 335-338).

Along with direct and indirect effects, cumulative effects were assessed following the guidance provided by the Presidents' Council on Environmental Quality. The increment of effect from the proposed 219 project when compared to cumulative effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions is considered minor.

## CONCLUSION

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and Section 122 of the Rivers and Harbors and Flood Control Act of 1970, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District, has assessed the environmental impacts associated with the proposed infrastructure improvements in Valparaiso, Indiana. The assessment process indicates that this project would not cause any significant effects on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, I have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Christopher T. Drew  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
District Commander

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DATE OF EXECUTION