Supplementary Information: We announce the availability of applications for two ITPs, a joint HCP, and the availability of a dSEIS. The dSEIS is a combined assessment addressing the environmental impacts associated with these projects both individually and cumulatively. The applicants request 30-year ITPs under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and also request permits from the Corps under section 404 of the Clean Water Act to place fill in jurisdictional wetlands. The Corps is a cooperating agency in the development of the dSEIS.

We specifically request information, views, and opinions from the public via this notice on our proposed Federal action, including identification of any other aspects of the human environment not already identified in the dSEIS under NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). Further, we specifically request information regarding the adequacy of the HCP per 50 CFR parts 13 and 17.

The dSEIS analyzes the preferred alternative, as well as a full range of reasonable alternatives and the associated impacts of each. Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative) is located 1,100 to 1,300 feet from the Gulf of Mexico and north of tertiary dune habitat. This alternative mitigates for the unavoidable loss of 1.36 acres of wetlands and dedicates 135.2 acres of applicant-owned lands into conservation status via covenants, conditions and restrictions attached to the property, and conditions of any ITP that may be issued.

The Service previously issued ITPs in 2007 for one of the BCWGH alternatives that was preferred at that time. Following legal challenges and resultant court rulings, those ITPs were abandoned by the applicants. The Environmental Impact Statement for those previous ITPs has been revised to evaluate a county-preferred alternative and now serves as the dSEIS for the new ITP applications.

Public Comments
If you wish to comment, you may submit comments by any one of several methods. Please reference application numbers TE08894A–0 and TE08896A–0 in such comments. You may mail comments to our Regional Office or the Alabama Field Office (see ADDRESSES). You may also comment via the Internet to david_dell@fws.gov or carl_couret@fws.gov. Please include your name and return mailing address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from us that we have received your e-mail, contact us directly at either telephone number listed (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to either of our offices listed under ADDRESSES. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Covered Area
The proposed BCWGH developments would be located on approximately 181.9 acres on the Fort Morgan peninsula, Baldwin County, Alabama, between State Highway 180 and the Gulf of Mexico (Section 28, Township 9 South, Range 2 East) about 12 miles west of Highway 59 in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on the Fort Morgan Peninsula. The ITPs would be for development of two condominium complexes totaling 38.7 acres. Under the preferred alternative, project development would result in the permanent and temporary loss of 48.1 acres of Alabama beach mouse habitat.

Next Steps
We will evaluate these ITP applications, including the HCP and any comments we receive, to determine whether these applications meet the requirements of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act. We will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. We will use the results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, in our final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP. If we determine that the requirements are met, we will issue the ITP for the incidental take of the Alabama beach mouse.

Authority: We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).


Jacquelyn B. Parrish, Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2010–14617 Filed 6–16–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
U.S. Forest Service

Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH) Environmental Impact Statement, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Appalachian National Scenic Trail, Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, and Monongahela National Forest, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia


ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for construction and right-of-way permits requested from Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (NHP), Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NST), Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, and Monongahela National Forest, in connection with the proposed Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH) project.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service (NPS), lead agency, along with cooperating agencies, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and conducting public scoping meetings for construction and right-of-way permits requested from the agencies by PATH Allegheny Transmission Company, LLC; PATH Allegheny Virginia Transmission Corporation; Potomac Edison Company; and PATH West Virginia Transmission Company, LLC, collectively referred to herein as Applicants. The Applicants are seeking permits for proposed construction of a new 765kV electric transmission line that would cross federal lands within Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. In May 2009, the Applicants submitted
right-of-way applications (Form 299) for those portions of the PATH project proposed to traverse Harpers Ferry NHP, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP, Appalachian NST, Potomac Heritage NST, all managed by the National Park Service; and Monongahela National Forest managed by the U.S. Forest Service. These applications also serve as the application for Special Use Permits for construction of the proposed project. The Applicants’ stated purpose for the PATH project is to strengthen the electrical transmission grid for reliability purposes at the direction of PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM), the regional transmission organization. PJM oversees the overall movement of wholesale electricity throughout a region comprising all or parts of 13 states and the District of Columbia. PJM has a duty to maintain reliability of the transmission grid according to standards set by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation and approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. PJM’s Regional Transmission Expansion Plan has identified numerous projected reliability criteria violations that the proposed PATH project is designed to alleviate and has directed construction of a line of sufficient capacity to address these violations by connecting the existing Amos Substation in Putnam County, West Virginia, with two existing 500 kV transmission lines that are in close proximity to each other at a point approximately three miles southeast of New Market, Maryland. The federal action under consideration in this EIS is the Applicants’ proposal that the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service grant the requested permits. The agencies’ purpose in taking action is to respond to the application for permits in consideration of the needs expressed therein and the public interest, and in light of the missions, purposes and resource management of the affected NPS and USFS units, as expressed in statutes, regulations, and policies.

Federal action is needed because the Applicants have submitted the required applications to the National Park Service in accordance with 36 CFR part 14 and applicable NPS management policies and to the U.S. Forest Service in accordance with 36 CFR part 251.54 and Special Uses Handbook (FSH 2709.11). The National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service therefore have a responsibility to consider whether, and with what conditions, if any, to issue the requested permits.

The National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service will analyze no-action and proposed action alternatives and possibly other alternatives or mitigation strategies that respond to the purpose, need, and objectives of this proposal. The goal of the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service is to identify issues and concerns with the proposed action, additional alternatives, and alternative mitigation strategies through the public scoping process. This notice initiates the public participation and scoping process for the EIS. The public is invited to comment on the purpose, need and objectives for federal action, the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action to be analyzed in the EIS, the appropriate scope of analysis, or any issues associated with the proposal. More information about the purpose of and need for federal action, and issues identified to date is available from the NPS planning Web site at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/appa/, which is the preferred method. You may mail your comments to the National Park Service, Attention: PATH EIS Planning Team, Denver Service Center—Planning, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225. Comments may also be submitted at any of the three public meetings to be announced.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Morgan Elmer, Project Manager, Denver Service Center—Planning, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225, telephone 303–969–2317.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety. The National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service will not consider anonymous comments. All others will be included in the administrative record.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Cape Cod National Seashore; South Wellfleet, MA; Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Two hundred seventy-fourth meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770, 5 U.S.C. App 1, Section 10) of a meeting of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.

DATES: The meeting of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission will be held on July 7, 2010, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you are interested in presenting information at this public meeting, contact the Council Coordinator no later than June 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: The Council meeting will be held at The Hotel Fort Garry, 222 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB R3C 0R3, Canada.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Johnson, Council Coordinator, by phone at (703) 358–1784; by e-mail at dbhc@fws.gov; or by U.S. mail at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP 4075, Arlington, VA 22203.


Proposals require a minimum of 50 percent non-Federal matching funds. The Council will consider Canadian and U.S. small grant proposals at the meeting. The Commission will consider the Council’s recommendation at its meeting tentatively scheduled for September 8, 2010.

If you are interested in presenting information at this public meeting, contact the Council Coordinator no later than the date under DATES.

Dated: June 11, 2010.

Paul R. Schmidt,
Assistant Director, Migratory Birds.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service


Meeting Announcement: North American Wetlands Conservation Council

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) will meet to select North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant proposals for recommendation to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Commission). This meeting is open to the public and interested persons may present oral or written statements.

DATES: Council Meeting: July 7, 2010, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you are interested in presenting information at this public meeting, contact the Council Coordinator no later than June 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: The Council meeting will be held at The Hotel Fort Garry, 222 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB R3C 0R3, Canada.

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If you are interested in presenting information at this public meeting, contact the Council Coordinator no later than the date under DATES.

Dated: June 11, 2010.

Paul R. Schmidt,
Assistant Director, Migratory Birds.