

617.20
Appendix A
State Environmental Quality Review
FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

Purpose: The full EAF is designed to help applicants and agencies determine, in an orderly manner, whether a project or action may be significant. The question of whether an action may be significant is not always easy to answer. Frequently, there are aspects of a project that are subjective or unmeasurable. It is also understood that those who determine significance may have little or no formal knowledge of the environment or may not be technically expert in environmental analysis. In addition, many who have knowledge in one particular area may not be aware of the broader concerns affecting the question of significance.

The full EAF is intended to provide a method whereby applicants and agencies can be assured that the determination process has been orderly, comprehensive in nature, yet flexible enough to allow introduction of information to fit a project or action.

Full EAF Components: The full EAF is comprised of three parts:

- Part 1:** Provides objective data and information about a given project and its site. By identifying basic project data, it assists a reviewer in the analysis that takes place in Parts 2 and 3.
- Part 2:** Focuses on identifying the range of possible impacts that may occur from a project or action. It provides guidance as to whether an impact is likely to be considered small to moderate or whether it is a potentially-large impact. The form also identifies whether an impact can be mitigated or reduced.
- Part 3:** If any impact in Part 2 is identified as potentially-large, then Part 3 is used to evaluate whether or not the impact is actually important.

THIS AREA FOR LEAD AGENCY USE ONLY

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE -- Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

Identify the Portions of EAF completed for this project:

Part 1

Part 2

Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF (Parts 1 and 2 and 3 if appropriate), and any other supporting information, and considering both the magnitude and importance of each impact, it is reasonably determined by the lead agency that:

- A. The project will not result in any large and important impact(s) and, therefore, is one which **will not** have a significant impact on the environment, therefore **a negative declaration will be prepared.**
- B. Although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect for this Unlisted Action because the mitigation measures described in PART 3 have been required, therefore **a CONDITIONED negative declaration will be prepared.***
- C. The project may result in one or more large and important impacts that may have a significant impact on the environment, therefore **a positive declaration will be prepared.**

*A Conditioned Negative Declaration is only valid for Unlisted Actions

WM Transmission Line Project

Name of Action

Town of Montgomery, NY

Name of Lead Agency

John Brown

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Chairman, Town Planning Board

Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Signature of Preparer (If different from responsible officer)

Date

PART 1--PROJECT INFORMATION

Prepared by Project Sponsor

NOTICE: This document is designed to assist in determining whether the action proposed may have a significant effect on the environment. Please complete the entire form, Parts A through E. Answers to these questions will be considered as part of the application for approval and may be subject to further verification and public review. Provide any additional information you believe will be needed to complete Parts 2 and 3.

It is expected that completion of the full EAF will be dependent on information currently available and will not involve new studies, research or investigation. If information requiring such additional work is unavailable, so indicate and specify each instance.

Name of Action WM Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Location of Action (include Street Address, Municipality and County)

Town of Montgomery, Village of Walden, Village of Montgomery, Village of Maybrook, Town of Hamptonburgh, Town of New Windsor, in Orange County, NY (See Figure 1)

Name of Applicant/Sponsor Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation

Address 284 South Avenue

City / PO Poughkeepsie State NY Zip Code 12601

Business Telephone 845-486-5461

Name of Owner (if different) _____

Address _____

City / PO _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Business Telephone _____

Description of Action:

Please Complete Each Question--Indicate N.A. if not applicable

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

Physical setting of overall project, both developed and undeveloped areas.

1. Present Land Use: ^{Light} Urban Industrial Commercial Residential (suburban) Rural (non-farm)
 Forest Agriculture Other Acreage in A.2 is based on project ROW (100 ft) x 12 mile transmission line. However, approximately [FILL IN] acres are existing ROW.

2. Total acreage of project area: 145.5 acres.

| APPROXIMATE ACREAGE | TBD | PRESENTLY | AFTER COMPLETION |
|--|-----|--------------------|--------------------|
| Meadow or Brushland (Non-agricultural) | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Forested | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Agricultural (Includes orchards, cropland, pasture, etc.) | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Wetland (Freshwater or tidal as per Articles 24,25 of ECL) | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Water Surface Area | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Unvegetated (Rock, earth or fill) | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Roads, buildings and other paved surfaces | | _____ acres | _____ acres |
| Other (Indicate type) <u>Transmission right-of-way maintained with Long Range Vegetation Management Plan or existing land use.</u> | | <u>145.5</u> acres | <u>145.5</u> acres |

3. What is predominant soil type(s) on project site? TBD

- a. Soil drainage: Well drained _____% of site Moderately well drained _____% of site.
 Poorly drained _____% of site
- b. If any agricultural land is involved, how many acres of soil are classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System? _____ acres (see 1 NYCRR 370).

4. Are there bedrock outcroppings on project site? Yes No TBD

a. What is depth to bedrock _____ (in feet)

5. Approximate percentage of proposed project site with slopes: TBD

- 0-10% _____% 10- 15% _____% 15% or greater _____%

6. Is project substantially contiguous to, or contain a building, site, or district, listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places? Yes * No

7. Is project substantially contiguous to a site listed on the Register of National Natural Landmarks? Yes No

8. What is the depth of the water table? TBD (in feet) TBD

9. Is site located over a primary, principal, or sole source aquifer? Yes No TBD

10. Do hunting, fishing or shell fishing opportunities presently exist in the project area? Yes No
 Hunting and fishing opportunities exist in the Project area on private properties. Shellfishing opportunities do not exist.

*According to the NY State Historic Preservation Office, there are 13 properties on the State and National Registers of Historic Properties located within one mile of the Project. The Project is contiguous to the Tweedle Farmstead, ORHP No. 99NRO1527. There are 17 prehistoric and 11 historic archaeological sites listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places within one mile of the Project. The Project is contiguous to the Tin Brook lithic scatter, OPRHP No. A071-44-0275.

11. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal life that is identified as threatened or endangered? Yes No

According to:

The NY Natural Heritage Program identifies one species, the Indiana bat, that may be found in the Project area. The US Fish and Wildlife Service indicated that the following federally protected species are known to occur in Orange County: bald eagle, bog turtle, dwarf wedge mussel, Indiana bat, shortnose sturgeon.

Identify each species:

See above. Not all listed species occur in the Project area.

12. Are there any unique or unusual land forms on the project site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, other geological formations?)

Yes No

Describe:

The Project may be located in Chert producing bedrock districts. Phase 1B archeological testing will identify existing chert resources, if any.

13. Is the project site presently used by the community or neighborhood as an open space or recreation area?

Yes No

If yes, explain:

14. Does the present site include scenic views known to be important to the community? Yes No

15. Streams within or contiguous to project area:

Field identified streams and tributaries crossed by the Project include Otterkill, Tin Brook, Beaver Dam Brook, and Wallkill River.

a. Name of Stream and name of River to which it is tributary

A Wetlands Delineation Report will be submitted upon finalization.

16. Lakes, ponds, wetland areas within or contiguous to project area:

Mapped NYSDEC and NWI wetlands that occur proximal to the Project are listed in Tables 1 and 2 of the Wetland Delineation Report. Field identified streams and tributaries crossed by the Project include Otterkill, Tin Brook, Beaver Dam Brook, and Wallkill River. The Project is being constructed on easements on private land that may be used sometimes for personal recreation by landowners, including hunting and snowmobiling.

Tributaries and stream crossing are listed in Table 6 of the Wetland Delineation Report attached.

b. Size (in acres):

Approximately 50 acres (based on field delineations) of wetlands will occur in the Project ROW. There will be no fill in wetlands. There may be temporary impacts to wetlands due to construction. However, erosion and sedimentation measures will be employed to avoid impacts to environmental resources. To maintain reliability of the transmission line, vegetation may be removed in some areas.

17. Is the site served by existing public utilities? Yes No
 This is an existing utility.
- a. If YES, does sufficient capacity exist to allow connection? N/A Yes No
- b. If YES, will improvements be necessary to allow connection? Yes No
18. Is the site located in an agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? Yes No TBD Portions of the Project are located within Orange County Agricultural District #1.
19. Is the site located in or substantially contiguous to a Critical Environmental Area designated pursuant to Article 8 of the ECL, and 6 NYCRR 617? Yes No TBD

20. Has the site ever been used for the disposal of solid or hazardous wastes? N/A Yes No

B. Project Description

1. Physical dimensions and scale of project (fill in dimensions as appropriate).
- a. Total contiguous acreage owned or controlled by project sponsor: 145.5 acres. (Total Project acreage based on 100 foot ROW X 12 mile length)
- b. Project acreage to be developed: 145.5 acres initially; 145.5 acres ultimately.
- c. Project acreage to remain undeveloped: 0 acres.
- d. Length of project, in miles: 12 (if appropriate)
- e. If the project is an expansion, indicate percent of expansion proposed. N/A %
- f. Number of off-street parking spaces existing N/A ; proposed _____
- g. Maximum vehicular trips generated per hour: _____ (upon completion of project)?
 Less than ___ trips per hour during construction. Appox. ___ trips per week for operation and maintenance.
- h. If residential: Number and type of housing units:
 N/A
- | | One Family | Two Family | Multiple Family | Condominium |
|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Initially | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Ultimately | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
- i. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: 80' height; 46.75" width; N/A length.
- j. Linear feet of frontage along a public thoroughfare project will occupy is? TBD ft.

2. How much natural material (i.e. rock, earth, etc.) will be removed from the site? 0 tons/cubic yards.
3. Will disturbed areas be reclaimed Yes No N/A

a. If yes, for what intended purpose is the site being reclaimed?

Temporarily disturbed areas related to construction activities will be reseeded or replanted as necessary to return the ROW to existing conditions.

- b. Will topsoil be stockpiled for reclamation? Yes No
- c. Will upper subsoil be stockpiled for reclamation? Yes No
4. How many acres of vegetation (trees, shrubs, ground covers) will be removed from site? _____ acres. TBD

5. Will any mature forest (over 100 years old) or other locally-important vegetation be removed by this project?

Yes No

6. If single phase project: Anticipated period of construction: _____ months, (including demolition) TBD

7. If multi-phased:

a. Total number of phases anticipated N/A (number)

b. Anticipated date of commencement phase 1: N/A month 2008 year, (including demolition)

c. Approximate completion date of final phase: N/A month 2009 year.

d. Is phase 1 functionally dependent on subsequent phases? Yes No N/A

8. Will blasting occur during construction? Yes No

Blasting could occur in areas of exposed or shallow depth bedrock. It is more likely that specialized equipment, such as a core driller, will be used to minimize disturbance.

9. Number of jobs generated: during construction _____; after project is complete TBD

10. Number of jobs eliminated by this project 0.

11. Will project require relocation of any projects or facilities? Yes No

If yes, explain:

Portions of the Project will be relocated to avoid encroachment by residential development. The new ROW totals approximately[FILL IN] acres.

12. Is surface liquid waste disposal involved? Yes No

a. If yes, indicate type of waste (sewage, industrial, etc) and amount _____

b. Name of water body into which effluent will be discharged _____

13. Is subsurface liquid waste disposal involved? Yes No Type _____

14. Will surface area of an existing water body increase or decrease by proposal? Yes No

If yes, explain:

15. Is project or any portion of project located in a 100 year flood plain? Yes No TBD

16. Will the project generate solid waste? Yes No

a. If yes, what is the amount per month? N/A tons

b. If yes, will an existing solid waste facility be used? Yes No N/A old poles will be disposed of in accordance with Solid Waste regulations.

c. If yes, give name N/A; location _____

d. Will any wastes not go into a sewage disposal system or into a sanitary landfill? Yes No N/A

e. If yes, explain:

17. Will the project involve the disposal of solid waste? Yes No

Existing structures will be removed and either recycled or disposed of at an approved landfill.

a. If yes, what is the anticipated rate of disposal? N/A tons/month.

b. If yes, what is the anticipated site life? _____ years.

18. Will project use herbicides or pesticides? Yes No

Application of herbicides and pesticides will be in accordance with a Vegetation Management Plan approved by NYSDEC.

19. Will project routinely produce odors (more than one hour per day)? Yes No

20. Will project produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels? Yes No

Construction-period noise will be short-term. Noise generated by the 69kV line is unlikely to exceed ambient noise levels, which, on existing ROW, includes the existing transmission line.

21. Will project result in an increase in energy use? Yes No

If yes, indicate type(s) N/A

22. If water supply is from wells, indicate pumping capacity N/A gallons/minute.

23. Total anticipated water usage per day N/A gallons/day.

24. Does project involve Local, State or Federal funding? Yes No

If yes, explain: N/A

25. Approvals Required:

| | | | Type | Submittal Date |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| City, Town, Village Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | _____ | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |
| City, Town, Village Planning Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <u>Village of Montgomery</u> | _____ |
| | | | <u>Village of Walden</u> | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |
| City, Town Zoning Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <u>Town of Montgomery</u> | _____ |
| | | | <u>Special Exception Permit</u> | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |
| City, County Health Department | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | _____ | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |
| Other Local Agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | _____ | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |
| Other Regional Agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | _____ | _____ |
| | | | <u>NYS DOT road permits</u> | _____ |
| | | | <u>Consultation w/NYSOPRHP</u> | _____ |
| | | | <u>NYSDEC Art. 24</u> | _____ |
| State Agencies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <u>NYSDEC - SPDES Permit</u> | _____ |
| | | | <u>NYS Fish & Wildlife consultation</u> | _____ |
| | | | <u>NOI under Argriculture & Law Sec. 205</u> | _____ |
| Federal Agencies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <u>US ACOE Nationwide Permit 12</u> | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |
| | | | _____ | _____ |

C. Zoning and Planning Information

1. Does proposed action involve a planning or zoning decision? Yes No

If Yes, indicate decision required:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning variance | <input type="checkbox"/> New/revision of master plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Subdivision |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special use permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Resource management plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
- Town of Montgomery, Village of Walden, Village of Montgomery

2. What is the zoning classification(s) of the site?

RA-2 and RA-.5 (Residential Argriculture, 1 & 2 family), RA-2/PAC (Residential Agriculture, Planned Adult Community, and OB (Office/Business), I-1 (Industrial Park), I-D (Interchange Development) in the Town Montgomery; I-1 (Industrial Park), R-2 (1 & 2 family), RM-1 (multi-dwelling residence) in the Village of Walden; RA-3 (Residential Agriculture 1 family) in the Village of Montgomery.

3. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the present zoning?

N/A

4. What is the proposed zoning of the site?

No change

5. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the proposed zoning?

N/A

6. Is the proposed action consistent with the recommended uses in adopted local land use plans? Yes No

A public utility use or ROW in the districts listed in 2 above requires a Special Exception Use Permit.

7. What are the predominant land use(s) and zoning classifications within a ¼ mile radius of proposed action?

Predominant uses within a 1/4 mile of the Project area include industrial, residential, commercial, rural, forest, and agricultural. See 2 above for zoning classifications in the Town of Montgomery, Village of Walden, and Village of Montgomery.

8. Is the proposed action compatible with adjoining/surrounding land uses with a ¼ mile? Yes No

9. If the proposed action is the subdivision of land, how many lots are proposed? N/A

a. What is the minimum lot size proposed? N/A

10. Will proposed action require any authorization(s) for the formation of sewer or water districts? Yes No

11. Will the proposed action create a demand for any community provided services (recreation, education, police, fire protection)?

Yes No

a. If yes, is existing capacity sufficient to handle projected demand? N/A Yes No

12. Will the proposed action result in the generation of traffic significantly above present levels? Yes No short-term

a. If yes, is the existing road network adequate to handle the additional traffic. Yes No

The only increase to local traffic will occur during project construction. There will be no impact during project operation.

D. Informational Details

Attach any additional information as may be needed to clarify your project. If there are or may be any adverse impacts associated with your proposal, please discuss such impacts and the measures which you propose to mitigate or avoid them.

E. Verification

I certify that the information provided above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Title _____

If the action is in the Coastal Area, and you are a state agency, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.

The Applicant has conducted the following resource studies:
Phase 1A Cultural Resources Investigation - Attachment I.
The Wetlands Delineation Report will be submitted upon finalization.