

**ATTACHMENT 4**  
**OTHER DOCUMENTS**



TETRA TECH EC, INC.

April 8, 2005

United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)  
3817 Luker Road  
Cortland, New York 13045

Re: Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species Consultation  
Tri-Lakes Transmission Project  
St. Lawrence County, New York

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) has entered into an agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) and the Villages of Tupper Lake and Lake Placid to provide an upgrade of the existing Tri-Lakes Region transmission facilities by installing a new 46kV electrical transmission line. NYPA will be the applicant for any regulatory approvals required for the siting or construction of this Project. Tetra Tech EC, Inc. is serving as a consultant to NYPA on the Project. Niagara Mohawk will be constructing the line for NYPA.

We are currently considering alternative routes between Newton Falls and Piercefield and between Stark Falls and Piercefield that were identified in discussions with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) (see attached Site Location Map). Several different right-of-way configurations are currently being studied including a combination of existing electric distribution and new 46kV transmission facilities within existing rights-of-way and new 46kV facilities within new rights-of-way. It is anticipated that for the majority of the Project, wood-pole structures will carry these facilities within a cleared 75 foot right-of-way. It is also anticipated that the location of work trails and staging areas will be located in close proximity to the proposed project right-of-way or within existing lay down areas.

Permit applications to the APA and DEC and an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared in compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR). As part of the SEQR process, it is necessary to determine whether the project will have an impact on rare, threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitats, jeopardize the continued existence of any proposed endangered or threatened species or will result in destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitats.

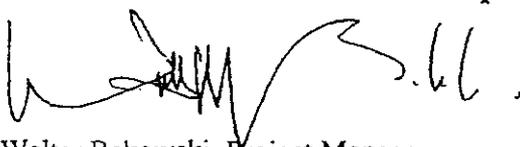


133 Federal Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110  
Tel 617.457.8200 Fax 617.457.8498/8499  
www.tteci.com

On behalf of NYPA, Tetra Tech EC, Inc. respectfully requests that the USFWS review its records and conduct a search for federally listed species and critical habitat information that may be located within or in close proximity to the alternative transmission line routes identified on the attached Site Location Map. If available, we request this information in digital format (as a GIS data layer) as well as accompanying standard narrative results.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 457-8263. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter Bakowski', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Walter Bakowski, Project Manager  
Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

cc: John Suloway, NYPA  
Ed Alkiewicz, NYPA  
Pamela McLaughlin, NYPA  
Patricia Barry, TTECI  
Joseph Fischl, TTECI

Enclosure



TETRA TECH EC, INC.

April 8, 2005

Information Services  
New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP)  
625 Broadway, 5th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-4757

Re: Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species Consultation  
Tri-Lakes Transmission Project  
St. Lawrence County, New York

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) has entered into an agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) and the Villages of Tupper Lake and Lake Placid to provide an upgrade of the existing Tri-Lakes Region transmission facilities by installing a new 46kV electrical transmission line. NYPA will be the applicant for any regulatory approvals required for the siting or construction of the Project. Tetra Tech EC, Inc. is serving as a consultant to NYPA on the Project. Niagara Mohawk will be constructing the line for NYPA.

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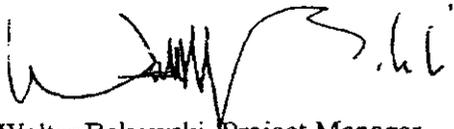


133 Federal Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110  
Tel 617.457.8200 Fax 617.457.8498/8499  
[www.tteci.com](http://www.tteci.com)

On behalf of NYPA, Tetra Tech EC, Inc. respectfully requests that the NYNHP review its records and conduct a search for state listed species and critical habitat information that may be located within or in close proximity to the alternative transmission line routes identified on the attached Site Location Map. If available, we request this information in digital format (as a GIS data layer) as well as accompanying standard narrative results.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 457-8263. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Walter Bakowski, Project Manager  
Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

cc: John Suloway, NYPA  
Ed Alkiewicz, NYPA  
Pamela McLaughlin, NYPA  
Patricia Barry, TTECI  
Joseph Fischl, TTECI

Enclosures



FAX TRANSMITTAL RE: LISTED SPECIES REQUEST  
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New York Field Office  
3817 Luker Road, Cortland, NY 13045  
Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699



May 27, 2005

To: Walter Bakowski

This responds to your April 8, 2005, request for listed species information in the vicinity of the proposed Tri-Lakes transmission project in the Towns of Clifton, Colton, Parisville, and Piercefield, St. Lawrence County, New York.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no Federally-listed or proposed endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are known to exist within the project impact area. In addition, no habitat in the project impact area is currently designated or proposed "critical habitat" in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Therefore, no further ESA coordination or consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is required. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. The most recent compilation of Federally-listed and proposed endangered and threatened species in New York\* is available for your information. If the proposed project is not completed within one year from the date of this FAX, we recommend that you contact us to ensure that the listed species presence/absence information for the proposed project is current. Should our determination change and any part of the proposed project be authorized, funded, or carried out, in whole or in part, by a Federal agency, further consultation between the Service and that Federal agency pursuant to the ESA may be necessary.

The above comments pertaining to endangered species under our jurisdiction are provided pursuant to the ESA. This response does not preclude additional Service comments under other legislation.

For additional information on fish and wildlife resources or State-listed species, we suggest you contact the appropriate State regional office(s),\* and:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
New York Natural Heritage Program Information Services  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-4757  
(518) 402-8935

Thank you for your time. If you require additional information please contact me at (607) 753-9334.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Stoll  
Endangered Species Biologist

\*Additional information referred to above may be found on our website at:  
<http://nyfo.fws.gov/es/section7.htm>

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources  
New York Natural Heritage Program**

625 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Albany, New York 12233-4757  
Phone: (518) 402-8935 • FAX: (518) 402-8925

Website: [www.dec.state.ny](http://www.dec.state.ny).



June 13, 2005

Walter Bakowski  
Tetra Tech, Inc.  
133 Federal Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Mr. Bakowski:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to an Environmental Assessment for the proposed Tri-Lakes Transmission Project- new electric transmission lines, area as indicated on the map you provided, located in the Villages of Tupper Lake and Lake Placid, St. Lawrence County.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities, and other significant habitats, which our databases indicate occur, or may occur, on your site or in the immediate vicinity of your site. The information contained in this report is considered sensitive and may not be released to the public without permission from the New York Natural Heritage Program.

The presence of rare species may result in this project requiring additional permits, permit conditions, or review. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the appropriate NYS DEC Regional Office, Division of Environmental Permits, at the enclosed address.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our databases. We cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. This information should not be substituted for on-site surveys that may be required for environment impact assessment.

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

Sincerely,  
  
Nicholas B. Conrad, Information Services  
NY Natural Heritage Program

Encs.

cc: Reg. 6, Wildlife Mgr.  
Peter Nye, Endangered Species Unit, Albany







**VASCULAR**

**PLANTS**

*Huperzia selago*

Office Use

Fir Clubmoss

NY Legal Status: Endangered

NYS Rank: SH; Historical

7

Global Rank: G5; Demonstrably secure

County: St. Lawrence

Town: Colton

Location: Colton

Directions: The plant was collected from an exposed hilltop at an undetermined location in the Town of Colton.

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11 Records Processed