

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD
(ERR)**


***GOMER SEWER IMPROVEMENTS AREA
PROJECT***

**ALLEN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT NUMBER
B-W-20-1AB-3**

JANUARY 2021

***Prepared by:
Great Lakes Community Action Partnership
Ohio RCAP
127 S. Front Street
Fremont, Ohio 43420***



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD
Allen County Board of Commissioners
GOMER SEWER IMPROVEMENTS AREA PROJECT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT No. B-W-20-1AB-
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

SITE LOCATION MAP
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS & FIELD NOTES CHECKLIST
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EXHIBIT 2..... Floodplain Management
EXHIBIT 3..... Wetlands Protection
EXHIBIT 4..... Coastal Areas Protection Management / Mapping
EXHIBIT 5..... Sole Source Aquifer
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EXHIBIT 7..... Wild & Scenic River Map
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EXHIBIT 10..... Site Contamination
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JANUARY 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Environmental Assessment Worksheet

Grantee	Allen County Commissioners
Grant Number	B-W-20-1AB-3.
Activity Name	Gomer Sewer Improvements Area
Activity Location	Hamlet of Gomer, Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio

Activity Description:

The Allen County Commissioners are proposing the Gomer Sewer Improvement Area project which is an unincorporated area located along the Pike Run in Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has documented nuisance conditions with the area which have violated the State Water Quality Standards due to off lot discharge of sanitary wastes to Pike Run. Individual homes are served by cesspools, septic tanks, or on-site home units which discharge off-site to various storm sewer outlets.

This project proposes a combined total combination of 300 Linear Feet of 12-inch casing HDPE directional bored, 2,800 Linear Feet of 4-inch HDPE, 6,200 Linear Feet of 3-inch HDPE and 4,600 Linear Feet of 2-inch HDPE and 15,100 Linear Feet of 1 1/2" Lateral low pressure collection with 146 individual grinder pumps and a pump station along a 23,000 Linear Feet 6-inch force main to that will be constructed to collect and transport the collected sanitary flows to the American II Wastewater Treatment Plant on Diller Road, Lima, Ohio.

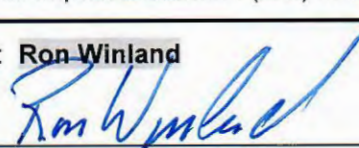
The project area includes the homes within the hamlet of Gomer along Old Lincoln Highway from Sandy Point Road to the east and the Gomer Welcome sign on the west. The project will include the northern most properties south of Pike Run on Gomer Road going south to Ridge Road. All properties along the side streets of Ridge Road and Stemen Street to the south will be in the area of low pressure piping with Grinder pumps as well as the properties on Old Lincoln Highway east of Pike Run including Pike Avenue and Cambria Street to Sandy Point Road.

Determination:

☒ Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), whereby the Responsible Entity may proceed to Dissemination and publication of the FONSI, per regulations found at 24 CFR Section 58.43(a).

☐ Finding of Significant Impact, whereby the Responsible Entity must proceed to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with 24 CFR Part 58, Subparts F or G.

Preparer Name: Ron Winland

Signature:  _____

Date: 1/13/2021

List of Attachments

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Location Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site Photographs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of other Environmental Analyses (if applicable) List:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Relevant Correspondence and Notifications (if applicable) List: Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Army Corps of Engineers (CORPs)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory Checklist Supporting Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment Checklist Supporting Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Combined Notice: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI/RROF) Date: January 14, 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Release of Funds (RROF) Date: February 1, 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Release of Funds (ROF) Date: February 17, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Documentation Describe:



Statutory Checklist Instructions:

For each of the environmental laws and authorities listed below, determine the level of compliance required and provide a narrative explanation and list of supporting documentation. **The narrative must explain decision-making and compliance procedures.** Attach all supporting documentation to this worksheet.

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
Historic Preservation Resources: State Historic Preservation Office HUD Historic Preservation	Yes	<p>An on-line search of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) records indicates historic properties within a one mile radius of the project area. The proposed site is not located within an historic district and has been designed to be compatible with immediate surrounding structures and there is expected to be no effect to historic properties.</p> <p>In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800) the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was consulted with on the proposed project. Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and associated regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, SHPO provided comments in correspondence dated January 3, 2019, and concurs with the opinion that the proposed undertaking will not affect properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No further coordination with the SHPO is necessary, unless the project changes or unless new or additional historic properties are discovered during implementation of this project.</p> <p>The HUD website https://egis.hud.gov/tdat/Query.aspx?state=Ohio was consulted for listing of Native American Tribes located in Allen County, Ohio. Correspondence was sent to the following Tribes seeking comments regarding the proposed project: Delaware Nation, Oklahoma, Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Seneca-Cayuga Nation, Wyandotte Nation, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, and the Shawnee Tribe.</p>

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		<p>The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma responded to our inquiry and advised that no known sites are located in the project area and there are no objections to the proposed project. The Shawnee Tribe also responded to our inquiry and their Tribal Historic Preservation Department concurs that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project. If sites are found during construction, all Tribes request notification.</p> <p>See Exhibit 1 for Ohio State Historic Preservation Office Mapping, historic properties listings, OHPO and Tribal Correspondence.</p> <p>Mitigation: Any excavation by the contractor that uncovers human remains or archaeological deposits shall be immediately reported to the Allen County Commissioners, Ohio Development Services Agency, USDA-Rural Development, and Ohio SHPO. Construction shall be immediately halted pending the notification process and further directions provided after consultation with SHPO and all Indian Tribes listed for Allen County, Ohio.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Floodplain Management</p> <p>Resources: Floodplain Maps Floodplain Administrators HUD Floodplain Management</p>	Yes	<p>In order to determine potential floodplain impacts, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) were reviewed.</p> <p>The project area is situated in FIRM panel numbers 39003C0200D and 390003C0191D, and a section of the low pressure line will be situated in the 100 year floodplain. Streams in the area include Pike Run and unnamed tributaries. A section of the low pressure line will be situated within the 100-year floodplain of Pike Run. Approximately 4,000 feet of low pressure pipeline and 50 grinder pumps will be constructed within the 100-year floodplain of Pike Run. Construction is not expected to adversely impact the floodplain area, as the pipeline will be placed underground and designed not to obstruct flood flows. Conversion of the floodplain will not occur as a result of the low pressure pipeline installation.</p>

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		<p>A portion of the project construction zone is located within a 100-year floodplain; therefore, Executive Order 11988, Floodplain management requirements are applicable. The eight-step decision making process was followed, including public notices and an examination of practicable alternatives. A review of the proposed activities was completed, and the determination was made that the project shall have minimal impact on the community's flood hazard area. Additionally, prior to construction, the project plans will meet any applicable, additional local or federal floodplain requirements set forth by the community's Floodplain Administrator.</p> <p>Exhibit 2 provides the FEMA Floodplain Mapping and a description of the Eight-step decision making process followed for the project.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to construction a Floodplain Permit must be obtained from the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission Floodplain Administrator and construction shall comply with applicable floodplain management regulations. • Impacted floodplain areas must be restored to original contour following completion of construction activities. • Horizontal Directional Drilling construction techniques will be implemented at all stream crossings. At Pike Run, the boring shall result in a minimum 4 feet distance between the bottom of the stream bed and the 3-inch force main. • Impacted floodplain areas shall be seeded with native, non-invasive species following construction work. • Following construction, all impacted floodplain areas shall be seeded with native, non-invasive species.
<p style="text-align: center;">Wetland Protection</p> <p>Resources: NRCS Web Soil Survey National Wetlands Inventory Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water US Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory (Permits)</p>	Yes	<p>The proposed project alignment is limited to roads, road right of ways and residential properties. A review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Maps indicates the potential existence of designated wetlands in the general project area, but not in the proposed alignment areas. The Natural Resources Conservation Service soil mapping for the project area</p>

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HUD Wetlands Protection		<p>indicates the hydric soils also exist within the proposed project area of the pipeline. Hydric soils may indicate the presence of wetlands. However, the majority of the project is located within roadways and upland road right of ways that do not contain wetlands and where soils have been previously disturbed during road construction, installation of utilities and during home construction.</p> <p>The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS) Buffalo District Regulatory Office was consulted regarding the proposed project but did not provide written follow-up comments. A follow-up phone conversation with the Corps Buffalo District, Ohio Permitting Section (Mr. Shawn Blohm) was held on March 22, 2019, to review the proposed project and location, and it was noted that once the owner/operator has completed final design and wetland or stream crossing impacts are anticipated, a pre-application meeting with the Corps is recommended to discuss impacts, permitting and any potential mitigation. Impacts to wetlands and streams channels should be avoided if at all possible. However, the directional drilling or boring below wetland resources would not require a Department of the Army permit. If open cut trenching within wetlands and/or waters is proposed, authorization from the Corps Buffalo Regulatory District is required under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Should the sewer lines and force main be installed using directional drilling or boring methods in order to prevent impacts to wetlands or water, a Corps permit would not be required.</p> <p>The project alignment is limited to roads, road right of ways and residential properties. Work in road right of way will be performed landward of the ordinary highwater mark of the tributaries located within the project area, and will not involve a discharge of dredged or fill material into any wetlands. There will be no in-water work and all stream channels will be horizontally directionally drilled.</p> <p>See Exhibit 3 for Wetland Protection Correspondence and Mapping.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No in-Water work is to occur for the proposed project and impacts to wetlands must be avoided.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetlands within the project area must be avoided by re-alignment or by directional boring under beneath the wetland and the following best management practices are required if boring is utilized: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Document that a qualified professional engineer has determined that the boring or drilling is of sufficient depth below the wetland and the entry and exit points are of sufficient distance laterally from the wetland to avoid puncturing the wetland pan, draining the wetland, or causing similar adverse impacts to the wetland (e.g. at least 6 feet below the water table when wetlands are groundwater dependent). -Avoid construction during sensitive times of year that will impact fish spawning and bird nesting habitats. -Maintain site specific erosion control measures. -Restore the area to preconstruction conditions. -Plant or re-establish vegetative buffers in coordination with an invasive species control plan. -Equipment and material staging areas must be outside of wetland areas.
Coastal Zone Management Resources: Ohio Office of Coastal Management Ohio Coastal Atlas Map Viewer HUD Coastal Zone Management	No	Allen County and the project area are not located within a coastal zone or coastal barrier resources area. There will be no impact to this resource and the project is in compliance. See Exhibit 4 for Ohio Coastal Management Area Mapping.
Sole Source Aquifers Resources: Ohio EPA Sole Source Aquifers in Ohio HUD Sole Source Aquifers	No	The project area is in the vicinity of the Allen County Sole Source Aquifer (SSA). The Gomer Sewer project area is not located within the designated section of the Allen County SSA. The Gomer Sewer project area is situated approximately 1.5 miles east of the designated boundary of the Allen County SSA and involves the construction of a sanitary sewer collection system and pumping of the sewer wastes to the American II Wastewater Treatment facility for treatment. As such, the project will not have an adverse impact or effect on the Allen County SSA. The project is in compliance and expected to have a beneficial effect on

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		<p>localized groundwater quality due to the elimination of failing on-site sewer systems.</p> <p>See Exhibit 5 for Sole Source Aquifer Mapping.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Endangered Species</p> <p>Resources: US Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 information Endangered Species in Ohio Ohio Natural Heritage Database HUD Endangered Species</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFSW) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) report was completed for the proposed project area and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was contacted in relation to the findings of the IPaC. The IPaC report summarizes that the project lies within the range of the Indiana Bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>) and the Northern Long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), a threatened species. According to the IPaC report, there are no critical habitats within the project area.</p> <p>Comments were received from the USFSW regarding federally listed, proposed and candidate species. The USFSW notes that: Due to the project type, size, location, and the proposed implementation of seasonal tree cutting (clearing of trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height between October 1 and March 31) to avoid impacts to the federally listed endangered Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>) and threatened northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), we do not anticipate adverse effects to any federally endangered, threatened, proposed or candidate species. Should the project design change, or during the term of this action, additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.</p> <p>A Data Request was submitted to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for information regarding threatened and endangered species. The ONDR Division of Wildlife (DOW) response to the proposed project note that:</p> <p>The project is within the vicinity of records for the little brown bat (<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>), a state endangered species. Because presence of state endangered bat species has been established in the area, summer tree cutting is not</p>

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
		<p>recommended, and additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence in the area. However, limited summer tree cutting inside this buffer may be acceptable after further consultation with DOW.</p> <p>The Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these bat species predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees.</p> <p>The DOW recommends tree cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible. The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, is conducted to determine if there are potential hibernaculum (a) present within the project area. Information about how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "Range-wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines." If a habitat assessment finds that potential hibernacula are present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to the DOW for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.</p> <p>The DOW reports the project is within the range of the clubshell (<i>Pleurobema clava</i>), a state endangered and federally endangered mussel, the northern riffleshell (<i>Epioblasma torulosa rangiana</i>), a state endangered and federally endangered mussel, and the pondhorn (<i>Unio merus tetralasmus</i>), a state threatened mussel. This project must not have an impact on freshwater native mussels at the project site. This applies to both listed and non-listed species.</p>

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		<p>Per the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol (2020), all Group 2, 3, and 4 streams (Appendix A) require a mussel survey. Per the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol, Group 1 streams (Appendix A) and unlisted streams with a watershed of 5 square miles or larger above the point of impact should be assessed using the Reconnaissance Survey for Unionid Mussels (Appendix B) to determine if mussels are present. Mussel surveys may be recommended for these streams as well. This is further explained within the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol. Therefore, if in-water work is planned in any stream that meets any of the above criteria, the DOW recommends the applicant provide information to indicate no mussel impacts will occur. If this is not possible, the DOW recommends a professional malacologist conduct a mussel survey in the project area. If mussels that cannot be avoided are found in the project area, as a last resort, the DOW recommends a professional malacologist collect and relocate the mussels to suitable and similar habitat upstream of the project site. Mussel surveys and any subsequent mussel relocation should be done in accordance with the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol.</p> <p>The DOW reports the project is within the range of the pirate perch (<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>), a state endangered fish, and the greater redhorse (<i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i>), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from April 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these or other aquatic species.</p> <p>The project is within the range of the upland sandpiper (<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>), a state endangered bird. Nesting upland sandpipers utilize dry grasslands including native grasslands, seeded grasslands, grazed and ungrazed pasture, hayfields, and grasslands established through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 to July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.</p>

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		<p><i>Adverse impacts to the Indiana bat, northern, the northern long-eared bat, the little brown bat and the tricolored bat, are not anticipated. The USFSW IPaC species report does not indicate the presence of critical habitat in the project area. The project area is predominately maintained road and street right of way in residential and open farmland areas that does include dense forest areas. A desktop habitat assessment was completed for the project area, and did not indicate the presence of potential hibernacula within a 0.25 miles of the project area. ONDR Interactive Mine and Karst Mapping for the project area did not indicate any mines or karst areas in eastern Allen County. In addition, the project will include implementation of seasonal tree cutting (clearing of trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height between October 1 and March 31) to avoid impacts to the federally endangered Indiana bat, threatened northern long-eared bat; and the state endangered little brown bat and tri-colored bat. With implementation of this mitigation, we anticipate no effects to these bat species.</i></p> <p><i>The project will not have negative impacts on native freshwater mussels, the pirate perch and the greater redhorse fish species as there will be no in-water work conducted. All stream crossings in the project alignment will be completed via Horizontal Directional Drilling to avoid impacts to stream channels and aquatic species and habitat. There is no anticipated adverse effect to the upland sandpiper as all work is planned in road areas, road right of way and residential lawns.</i></p> <p>See Exhibit 6 for threatened and endangered species source information and USFWS and ODNR correspondence.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance of tree removal or the implementation of seasonal tree cutting (clearing of trees ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) between October 1 and March 31) to avoid impacts to the federally listed endangered Indiana bat and threatened northern long-eared bat. • If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey

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Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
		<p>be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the "OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING". If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, however, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with DOW.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No in-water work is to occur as part of this project in order to avoid impacts to freshwater mussels, fish and other state and federal listed species.
<p style="text-align: center;">Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Resources: ODNR Scenic Rivers HUD Wild and Scenic Rivers</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>According to a review of the Ohio Wild and Scenic Rivers Map, the project is not located near, nor will it impact a listed National Wild and Scenic River.</p> <p>The Gomer Sewer Improvement area is located within the upper Ottawa River Watershed, and Maumee River Basin. The Ottawa River is not designated as wild, scenic or recreational river. The Ottawa River eventually flows into the Maumee River which is designated a State Scenic and Recreational River. However the project area is located over 35 miles to the south of the Maumee River. The proposed project is not anticipated to have adverse impacts on the water quality in the area, or direct impacts to the Ottawa River or Maumee River, as the elimination of failing on-site septic system is expected to improve overall surface and groundwater quality in the project area.</p> <p>No mitigation is required.</p> <p>See Exhibit 7 for Wild and Scenic Rivers Map.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Air Quality</p> <p>Resources: Ohio EPA Asbestos Program Ohio EPA Notification of Demolition and Renovation HUD Air Quality</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for six principal pollutants, called criteria air pollutants. According to the Ohio EPA Division of Air Pollution Control website (https://epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/naaqs), the entire state of Ohio is in attainment for particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, lead and carbon monoxide; with only portions of the state designated nonattainment for ozone and sulfur dioxide. According to the OEPA Division of Air Pollution Control and the USEPA (https://www.epa.gov/green-book) the existing air quality in Allen County currently meets all NAAQS for the criteria air pollutants, with the exception of ozone.</p>

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		<p>Ozone is not directly emitted to the atmosphere from sources. Ozone is a pollutant that is created photochemically in the lower atmosphere from the reaction of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides in the presence of sunlight. The proposed project will not result in an increase of this pollutant, or otherwise affect Allen County's compliance designation for Ozone, or any other air quality standards.</p> <p>No permanent air emissions will be produced in the project area as a result of the proposed project. Short-term, minimal air quality impacts may occur during construction related to mobile equipment, vehicles, and dust created during trenching, excavation, and boring and grading activities. The air pollution contributions by construction equipment will be similar to that of vehicles and trucks that regularly travel through the project area. Contractors will ensure fugitive dust is minimized during construction by applying water or environmentally benign dust suppressants, and use of best management practices and required. For these reasons, the project will not have significant short-term or long-term air quality impacts.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All construction vehicles should be equipped with proper emissions control equipment. • Conduct periodic maintenance of equipment and machinery for proper tuning to minimize exhaust emissions and more. • Utilize best management practices and reasonably available dust control measures, as necessary, during construction to minimize dust generation. • No open-burning of construction material or other wastes.
<p style="text-align: center;">Farmland Protection</p> <p>Resources: NRCS Farmland Protection Policy Act HUD Farmlands Protection</p>	No	<p>The area to be impacted is the Gomer Sewer Improvement Area located in Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio. Sanitary sewer lines will be installed within rights of way of streets and highways, and homeowner lawns in the project areas. The force main alignment to the American II Wastewater Treatment Plant is also planned for road right of way.</p>

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		<p>The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Columbus, Ohio was contacted regarding the proposed project. The NRCS advises no adverse impacts to prime, unique statewide or local important farmland, and that the project is not subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Sections along roads are in urban area and/or right of way.</p> <p>See Exhibit 8 for Farmland Protection Correspondence.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Noise Abatement and Control</p> <p>Resources: HUD Noise Abatement and Control HUD Noise Guidebook HUD Day/Night Noise Level Electronic Assessment Tool HUD Sound Transmission Classification Assessment Tool ODOT Traffic Count Data Ohio Airport Information Airport Master Records and Reports PUCO/ORDC Railroad Information System Federal Railroad Administration Query by Location tool </p>	Yes	<p>Noise levels in the planning area are typical for residential land use and estimated at 40-45 dba. Noise levels along state routes can reach 90 dBA due to increase trucking traffic. Noise associated with the project will be limited to that generated during construction. The noise associated with construction activities will be short in duration and only occur during daylight hours. Backhoes, front-end loaders, horizontal boring units and power tools are typical equipment that may be used during installation.</p> <p>Construction noise will be locally audible, but only slightly higher with respect to normal traffic and gas powered equipment used in the project area. Due to the daytime construction period and the short duration of elevated noise levels associated with the proposed construction, impacts from noise are expected to be minor and temporary. Upon completion of the project, no long-term noise impacts will occur as a result of the project.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to control unnecessary noise and minimize noise to area residents, project construction should be limited to normal daylight working hours. • Construction equipment will be provided with intake silencers and mufflers, as required by safety standards, and maintained in good working order. • Where applicable, local noise ordinances requirements shall be followed as required.
<p style="text-align: center;">Airport Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones</p> <p>Resources: Ohio Airport Information HUD Airport Hazards Airport Master Records and Reports </p>	No	<p>Attached is a map showing the location of the nearest airports to the project area. According to the map, the project is not located within 15,000 feet of a military airfield or within 2,500 feet of a civilian airfield. No mitigation is required.</p>

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Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
<p style="text-align: center;">Explosive and Flammable Operations</p> <p>Resources: HUD Explosive and Flammable Facilities US EPA NEPAassist US EPA Envirofacts HUD Choosing an Environmentally Safe Site Acceptable Separation Distance Calculator Acceptable Separation Distance Guidebook</p>	No	<p>The proposed project does not involve the development, construction, rehabilitation, modernization or conversion of residential housing that will increase residential densities, or conversion (as defined by 24 CFR, Part 51, Subpart C).</p> <p>No mitigation is required.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Site Contamination</p> <p>Resources: HUD Site Contamination US EPA NEPAassist US EPA Envirofacts Ohio Tank Tracking & Environmental Regulations HUD Choosing an Environmentally Safe Site</p>	No	<p>A review of the Ohio Department of Commerce Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks on-line records search identified 230 underground storage tanks (diesel, gasoline, kerosene and aviation fuel) in Allen County. However, no underground storage tanks were identified for the proposed project area, or adjacent properties.</p> <p>A review of the USEPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information (RCRAInfo) database that provides information on hazardous waste handlers (in general, all generators, transporters, treaters, storers and disposers of hazardous waste) and USEPA NEPAassist sites was completed for the project area.</p> <p>According to USEPA NEPAassist and RCRAInfo websites there are no RCRA sites identified within the Gomer Sewer Improvements project area. The closest RCRA identified facilities are located at least 0.5 miles away in Elida, Ohio. It is also not anticipated that the construction and operation of the proposed facility will have an adverse impact on these RCRA facilities. A review of the NEPAassist website does not show any Brownfields, Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), Superfund, or TRI (Toxic Release Inventory) sites within the project area and 0.50 mile radius.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that the proposed project will generate hazardous materials, substances or wastes that may be released at, generated by or required for the construction of the proposed project, or that will have any adverse effect on the</p>

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
		<p>environment or real estate transactions. The HUD Site Contamination Guidance is attached and was reviewed. This project does not involve any residential construction and does not conflict with these regulations.</p> <p>See EXHIBIT 10 for NEPAAssist report, RCRAinfo review and BUSTR listings.</p> <p>Although no mitigation is required for any toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substance, the Grantee will still be asked to follow the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) guidelines during construction. Contractors shall be notified regarding the presence of utilities near the project areas during the pre-construction meeting. Emergency numbers for the local power company, gas company, and other utilities shall be included in the Contractor's site health and safety plan.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Environmental Justice</p> <p>Resources: HUD Environmental Justice US EPA Environmental Justice US EPA EJSCREEN</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The USEPA defines environmental justice as follows: "Fair treatment means no group of people, including racial, ethnic or socioeconomic groups should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal or commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local and tribal programs and policies".</p> <p>The project area includes the homes within the hamlet of Gomer, Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio. An income survey was completed and the project area was identified to be 64.6% low to moderate Income (LMI), with approximately 138 households. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019, Sugar Creek Township has an overall population of 1,324, with a median age of 38.1 years old. Approximately 18.5 percent of the Village population was 65 years or older and 6.3 percent less than 5 years old. The poverty rate was listed at 3.0 percent. The population by race for the Village was listed as White alone, 97.9 percent; Black or African American alone, 0.0 percent; Asian alone 0.0 percent; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, 0.0 percent; Some other race, 1.7 percent and Two or more races, 0.5 percent.</p> <p>It is not expected that minority, racial, ethnic or socioeconomic populations will incur any adverse human health or environmental effects as a result of this</p>

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
		<p>project. The project will provide a beneficial impact on the area by eliminating failing on-site septic systems which pose a health risk to residents of the project area. Temporary adverse impacts will be associated with construction activities including noise, dust, and erosion, disturbance to local roads, yards, and minor traffic disruptions. This will be short-term in nature.</p> <p>The propose project will not have long-term adverse environmental consequences. The proposed project will not generate hazardous wastes and has been developed to minimize environmental impacts. There were no significant adverse environmental socio-economic impacts identified as part of this environmental review and therefore no mitigation is required.</p> <p>Completion of the proposed project will provide a sewage collection system that will serve residents in an area where some private on-lot sewage treatment systems are failing. Implementation of the proposed project will eliminate these systems and improve existing surface and groundwater quality in the area. Overall, the proposed project is expected to maintain and improve the quality of life for residents of the project area.</p>

Environmental Assessment Checklist Instructions:

Evaluate the significance of the effects of the proposed activity on the character, features, and resources of the project area. Provide a narrative explanation and list of supporting documentation. **The narrative must explain decision-making and compliance procedures.** Attach all supporting documentation to this worksheet. For technical assistance, see HUD's [Environmental Assessment Factors Guidance](#).

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Land Development		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	No Impact Anticipated	<p>The Gomer area is located in Sugar Creek Township and is not incorporated; and as such falls under the direction of the Allen County Sanitary Engineering Department with regards to sanitary collection, treatment and disposal. Sugar Creek Township has been zoned since 1988 according to the Preliminary Engineering Report. Most of the property in Gomer is R-1 Residential, with a scattering of small business and commercial operations. The County auditor showing 136 residential and 11 non-residential units within the proposed Gomer Sewer District.</p> <p>Construction activities in the unincorporated areas of Sugar Creek Township will meet land use regulations as the wastewater system improvements are needed infrastructure to ensure the health of residents and environmental quality. The project area will be compatible with current land use in that the project area, which is primarily committed to residential use and will result in no change of land use as place of sewer lines will be underground and primarily within existing road and street right of ways, and residential properties.</p>
Soil Suitability / Slope / Erosion / Drainage / Storm Water Runoff	Requires Mitigation	<p>Allen County is part of the glaciated till plain section of the Central Lowland physiographic province of central Ohio. Allen County lies within the Central Ohio Clayey Till Plain. The Central Ohio Clayey Till Plain is described as a surface of clayey till with well-defined moraines with intervening flat-lying ground moraines and intermorainal lake basins.</p>

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Land Development		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
		<p>Soils in Allen County are dominated by Blount silt loams, Glynwood silt and clay loams, and Pewamo silty clay loams situated on flat lying and slightly sloping areas. Construction will occur primarily in road and street right of ways that have been for the most part, previously disturbed during road construction, installation of other utilities and during home and commercial structures construction.</p> <p>Erosion and sediment controls will be provided to minimize runoff to drainage ditches and local surface waters.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <p>Best management practices for erosion, drainage and storm water runoff will be required during construction. Erosion should be minimized to the maximum extent possible, by installing silt fencing or other erosion control techniques as needed.</p> <p>The project will be required to comply with the Ohio EPA regulations regarding storm water discharges associated with construction activity under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. A) The owner/contractor should apply for, obtain and pay for the NPDES Construction storm water permit; B) The Owner should retain copies of the permit issued by Ohio EPA; C) A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) must be prepared for the construction of the proposed project and associated construction activities. The owner/contractor will submit the Notice of Intent (NOI) to OEPA to ensure that they are covered under the NPDES general permit that is authorized by the OEPA for construction activity. If OEPA does not authorize coverage under the general permit, then the contractor/owner should apply for an individual permit for the proposed project construction; D) The SWP3, the NOI and the letter from Ohio EPA general permit shall be maintained at the construction site at all times E) Provisions of the SWP3 should be incorporated into the plans and specifications for the proposed project construction.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances Including Site Safety and Noise	No Impact Anticipated	<p>No adverse impacts involving hazards or nuisances, including site safety are anticipated. Although no mitigation is required for any toxic, hazardous or radioactive substance, the Grantee will still be asked to follow Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OHSA) guidelines during construction activities to ensure worker and public safety. This will include personal protection equipment to be worn by all contractors; and work zone signs and barriers to notify and reduce public access.</p> <p>Contractors shall be notified regarding the presence of utilities near the project areas during the pre-construction meeting. Emergency numbers for the local power company, other utilities and emergency agencies shall be included in the Contractor's site health and safety plan.</p>

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Land Development		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
		Noise will be controlled by using properly operating equipment and by utilization of construction equipment and vehicles during daylight hours only.
Energy Consumption	No Impact Anticipated	It is not anticipated that adverse energy impacts will be associated with the proposed project. The project will require consumption of energy for power tools and mobile power equipment used during construction; however, this activity will not significantly increase the energy demand in the area. Following construction, energy consumption will be associated with a force main pump station and individual grinder pumps, but will not result in substantial or unsustainable impacts to energy consumption in the project area.

Socioeconomic		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Employment and Income Patterns	No Impact Anticipated	Due to the nature of the project consisting of the installation of a new sewer collection system, it is not anticipated that employment or income patterns will experience any changes or adverse impacts.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	No Impact Anticipated	The proposed project involves construction primarily within public road right of ways and on residential properties in the rural areas of Hamlet of Gomer and Sugar Creek township. The project will replace antiquated and often failing on-lot septic systems in the project area and will not result in demographic changes or displacement. All residents and commercial operations in the project area will have access to new public sanitary sewer collection system. The project is not expected to result in un-sustainable population growth in the project area that would result in demographic changes.

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Community Facilities and Services		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Educational and Cultural Facilities	No Impact Anticipated	No impacts to education or cultural facilities will occur as a result of the project. If schools or cultural facilities are within the project area, they will have access to the new sanitary sewer system as a result of the project.
Commercial Facilities	No Impact Anticipated	No impact is anticipated to commercial facilities as result of this project. Commercial facilities in the project area will have access to the new sewage collection system.
Health Care and Social Services	No Impact Anticipated	The project is not expected to impact health care and social services. All health care providers and social services organizations in the project area will have access to water provided by this project.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	No Impact Anticipated	The proposed project will not have adverse impacts related to solid waste disposal or recycling programs. Construction related debris will be required to be disposed of in accordance with state and local solid waste or construction and demolition debris disposal requirements.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	No Impact Anticipated	The project will not have an adverse impact on wastewater or sanitary sewers in the area. Antiquated on-lot systems in the project are failing and may or could cause public health and water quality issues. Completion of the proposed project will therefore be beneficial to sanitary sewer collection and wastewater treatment and sanitary sewer collection in the project area.
Water Supply	Potentially Beneficial	No adverse impacts to water supply in the project area are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. The elimination of older and failing on-lot septic systems should improve water quality of natural drinking water supplies in the project area, as well as reduce or eliminate the risk of contamination of private water supplies.
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	No Impact Anticipated	The project will not adversely impact public safety, police, fire and emergency medical services. Construction barriers will be implemented for public safety and access maintained for police and emergency vehicles.

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Community Facilities and Services		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	No Impact Anticipated	No adverse impacts to public, open space or recreation areas are anticipated. The project area is predominately road and street right of way along residential and farmland areas.
Transportation and Accessibility	Requires Mitigation	<p>The proposed project will have no long-term adverse impacts on transportation or accessibility. However, short term traffic delays and lane closures may occur near construction areas.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All ODOT and OSHA traffic control regulations must be implemented during construction. • The owner is responsible for obtaining any Ohio Department of Transportation, Allen County, and Sugar Creek Township road right of way permits and/or driveway permits before construction begins. • Specifications for construction entrance, per the Rainwater and Land Development Manual (Rev 2014), and local requirements should be implemented as needed. • Paved areas that have accumulated sediment from construction should be cleaned daily, or as needed. • The contractor shall develop a traffic control plan prior to construction to ensure the safety of the public and contractors working on the project. • At least one lane of traffic should be maintained along the travel route to the construction site. If temporary street/road closures are required, detours must be properly identified and emergency responders notified.

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Natural Features		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	No Impact Anticipated	There are no known unique natural features or water resources in the project area that will be adversely impacted by the proposed project.
Vegetation and Wildlife	No Impact Anticipated	The proposed project is not anticipated to have impacts on any endangered, threatened or candidate species. The project site areas have been previously impacted by roadways, utilities, and residential construction. There is no in-water work proposed as part of the project. The use of native vegetation species will be required for all areas impacted and revegetated.
Other Factors	No Impact Anticipated	The project is not anticipated to produce any other adverse impacts. There are no direct or indirect cumulative impacts associated with the project.

24 CFR Section 58.6 Requirements

Airport Runway Clear Zones and Clear Zones Notification

[24 C.F.R. Part 51.303(a)(3)]

Does the project involve the sale or acquisition of property located within a Civil Airport Runway Clear Zone or a Military Airfield Clear Zone?

- ☒ No. **Attach Source Document:**
(Project complies with 24 CFR 51.303(a)(3).)
- ☐ Yes. **Notice must be provided to buyer.** The notice must advise the buyer that the property is in a Runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone, what the implications of such a location are, and that there is a possibility that the property may, at a later date, be acquired by the airport operator. The buyer must sign a statement acknowledging receipt of this information. (for a sample notice, see the [HUD Exchange](#)) (**attach a copy of the signed notice**)

Coastal Barrier Resources Act

[Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 3501)]

Is the project located in a [coastal barrier resource area](#)?

- ☒ No. **Cite or attach Source Document.**
(Proceed with project.)
- ☐ Yes. Federal assistance may not be used in such an area.

Flood Disaster Protection Act*

[Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4001-4128)]

Does the project involve acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of structures located in a FEMA-identified Special Flood Hazard Area?

- ☒ No. **Attach copy of [Flood Insurance Rate Map](#) (FIRM)**
- ☐ Yes. **Attach copy of [Flood Insurance Rate Map](#) (FIRM)**

Is the community participating in the National Insurance Program (or has less than one year passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards)?

- ☐ Yes. Flood Insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program must be obtained. If HUD assistance is provided as a grant, insurance must be maintained for the economic life of the project and in the amount of the total project cost (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less). If HUD assistance is provided as a loan, insurance must be maintained for the term of the loan and in the amount of the loan (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less).
(**Attach a copy of the flood insurance policy declaration**)

- ☐ No. **Federal assistance may not be used in the Special Flood Hazard Area.**

*Per 24 CFR 58.6(a)(3), this requirement does not apply to State-administered CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.

Statement of Process and Status of Environmental Analysis

Instructions:

Provide a brief description of the administrative procedures associated with the construction and presentation of the environmental review record (ERR). List the Responsible Entity, Certifying Officer, the physical location of the ERR, the dates and comment periods associated with any public notices, and contact information for the submission of comments regarding the ERR.

The Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) prepared the Environmental Review Record (ERR) including the environmental assessment, statutory checklist, public notice and Request of Release of Funds (RROF), on behalf of the Allen County Commissioners. Instructions were provided to the Allen County Commissioners Office regarding the ERR file, public notice and RROF upon on submittal of the ERR to the County.

The Combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI/RROF) For Environmental Assessment followed the Temporary Format that became effective on March 23, 2020 and updated in November of 2020; due to the state of emergency concerning COVID-19. These notices allow the posting of environmental review records (ERRs) on the Grantees website as a temporary alternative. Grantees may post ERRs on their official websites and provide them to individuals upon request via email. The NOI/RROF may only be published when the Environmental Review Record (ERR) is complete and has been signed by the preparer.

- The FONSI and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI/RROF) will be published in the Lima News at least once. The notice must specify, at a minimum, a 15-calendar day period during which persons may evaluate and comment on the ERR. The first day the notice is published is considered day "0;" if the 15th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the period must be extended to the next business day. The record must be readily available for public inspection on the grantee's official website and/or a link to the ERR to the Ohio RCAP website on the first day of the comment period and must remain available until the Office of Community Development (OCD) issues a Project-Specific Release of Environmental Conditions (ROF). The grantee must also provide the ERR upon request electronically via email.
- No portion of the aggregated project may commence, and no funds may be committed, until OCD issues an ROF.
- Prior to submitting a Request for Release of Funds and Certification (RROF), the Responsible Entity must consider any comments received during the published local comment period and, if necessary, make final revisions to the ERR. The Responsible Entity's RROF may be only be signed by the certifying officer after due consideration of all comments.
- At least one business day after the last day of the local comment period, the Responsible Entity may email 1) a signed copy of the RROF; 2) a copy of the published FONSI and NOI/RROF (as it actually appeared in the newspaper); and, if applicable, 3) any other environmental Notices (e.g. Floodplain Management notices) published in association with the project(s), to OCD@development.ohio.gov.
- OCD observes a 15-day comment period beginning the date it receives a valid, executed RROF and associated FONSI and NOI/RROF.

Statement of Process and Status of Environmental Analysis

- OCD will issue an ROF after the 15-day comment period following the receipt of the RROF and successful resolution of any objections received. While the Temporary Format for a FONSI and NOI/RROF is in effect, OCD will not mail a hard copy of the ROF. Grantees may view and download ROF documents in OCEAN.

The Allen County Board of Commissioner is the Responsible Entity.

The Certifying Officer is the President of the Allen County Board of Commissioners.

Description of the Site and Environmental Context

Instructions:

Determine existing conditions and describe the character, features, and resources of the project area and its surroundings. Identify the trends that are likely to continue in the absence of the project.

The project site is situated in Allen County, to the north of Lima, Ohio. Allen County is located in northwest Ohio approximately 21 miles east of the Ohio and Indiana border, 60 miles north of Dayton, Ohio and 70 miles northwest of Columbus, Ohio. Interstate highway 75 runs through the middle of the County. Major transportation routes in the area are U.S. Route 30 and Lincoln Highway traveling in an east-west direction. Water, sand, gravel, limestone and agricultural land are significant natural resources of Allen County.

Correspondence received from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources does not indicate the presence of unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, state nature preserves, state or national parks, state or national forests, national wildlife refuges, or other potential natural areas within the project area, and an additional one-mile radius.

Allen County is part of the glaciated till plain section of the Central Lowland physiographic province of central Ohio. Allen County lies within the Central Ohio Clayey Till Plain. The Central Ohio Clayey Till Plain is described as a surface of clayey till with well-defined moraines with intervening flat-lying ground moraine and intermorainal lake basins. Most of the bedrock in Allen County is either dolomite or limestone. The soils found in the area are of the Blount-Glynwood-Pewamo association, which are characterized as very deep, level to strongly sloping, somewhat poorly drained, moderately well drained, and very poorly drained soils that formed in till. The primary soil classifications in the Gomer area are Blount soils which have limited absorption ratings.

The topography of the area slopes toward Pike Run which runs through the developed areas, and is a tributary of the nearby Ottawa River. The majority of the east end of the developed area is in the 100-year floodplain, which ranges in elevation 773 to elevation 780.

Land use in the project area is primarily residential and agricultural. The Gomer area is located in Sugar Creek Township and is not incorporated; and as such falls under the direction of the Allen County Sanitary Engineering Department with regards to sanitary collection, treatment and disposal. Sugar Creek Township has been zoned since 1988 according to the Preliminary Engineering Report. Most of the property in Gomer is R-1 Residential, with a scattering of small business and commercial operations. The County auditor showing 136 residential and 11 non-residential units within the proposed Gomer Sewer District.

Construction of the proposed project will replace the area's private on-lot septic systems that are often inadequate and/or failing. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has documented nuisance conditions within the area which have violated State Water Quality Standards due to off lot discharges to Pike Run. The failed septic systems have resulted in surface and groundwater contamination, and based upon health and water pollution hazards documented by the Allen County Health Department, Allen County Sanitary Engineering Department and resident complaints, the Gomer Sewer Improvements area will benefit significantly from the proposed new wastewater infrastructure construction. Absent of the proposed project, the trend of failed septic systems will continue and impacts to surface water, groundwater and potential public health hazards will likely continue for the project area.

Description of the Site and Environmental Context

Analysis of Alternatives

Instructions:

Examine alternatives to the project, including the alternative of no action.

According to the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) prepared by Kohli & Kaliher Associates, Inc. (May 2018), each residential unit in the Gomer Sewer Improvement project area, currently has some type of septic tank site, and many of these are discharging off-site. Based upon the size of the majority of the individual parcels in the area, on-site treatment systems will not be an acceptable alternative. The PER states that the Gomer Sewer Improvement Area can be served by three methods for collection of sewage including 1) conventional gravity sewer to a pump station 2) low pressure collection system and 3) combination of gravity and low pressure system to a pump station. Subsequent treatment options would include construction of an on-site centralized WWTP or utilization of an existing WWTP in the area.

Accordingly, the PER evaluated the following six alternatives with varying design options regarding collection and treatment:

Alternative 1: All Gravity with West end Pump Station to American II WWTP - A conventional gravity system requiring a minimum gradient according to pipe size to prevent deposition of solids at the flow rate caused by gravity. Access to the gravity systems is by manholes approximately 400 feet or at changes in slope or direction. A gravity system is designed to maintain a minimum velocity of 2 feet per second per state regulations. The sewer effluent gravity flows to a pump station situated on the west end of the proposed improvement area and from there is pumped to the American II WWTP. Advantages of this gravity sewer systems versus all other options includes no individual electrical connections and minimal mechanical equipment which leads to lower maintenance costs, significant flexibility for growth and the lowest operating and maintenance cost. Disadvantages include higher construction costs as it requires deeper excavation, excavation of bedrock, and removal and replacement of more pavement compared to other alternatives.

Alternative 2: All Gravity with Central Pump Station to American II WWTP – A conventional gravity system that is very similar to Alternative 1. This alternative proposes a centralized pump station that is near more of the residential properties. Advantages of this gravity sewer systems versus all other options includes no individual electrical connections and minimal mechanical equipment which leads to lower maintenance costs, significant flexibility for growth and the lowest operating and maintenance cost. Disadvantages include higher construction costs as it requires deeper excavation, excavation of bedrock, and removal and replacement of more pavement compared to other alternatives. The centralized pump station location is near more residential properties than the remote west end pump station alternative. The centralized pump system location does however, reduce some sewer depth and subsequently some construction costs.

Alternative 3: Combination Gravity & Low Flow Pressure Collection with Pump Station to American II WWTP – This alternative is very similar to Alternatives 1 and 2 above, with gravity flow collection, a pump station and force main to direct flow to the American II WWTP. However, this alternative also includes the installation of lateral low pressure collection lines with 50 individual grinder pumps and a pump station. Advantages of this sewer system versus all other options includes no individual electrical connections, minimal mechanical equipment, which leads to lower maintenance costs, significant flexibility for growth and the lowest operating and maintenance cost. Disadvantages include higher construction costs as it requires deeper excavation, excavation

Analysis of Alternatives

of bedrock, and removal and replacement of more pavement compared to other alternatives. While similar to Alternatives 1 and 2, this system reduces the depth of the gravity sewer 8 feet to 13 feet.

Alternative 4: All Gravity with Pump Station to On-site WWTP – This alternative is similar to alternatives 1 and 2, but involves construction of an on-site treatment system and elimination of a force main to an off-site WWTP. Disadvantages of this system include an increase in personnel, energy costs, land acquisition for the WWTP, and most likely would surpass the technical, managerial and financial capability of the sewer service area. An advantage of this system is the elimination of 4.3 miles of force main installation.

Alternative 5: All Low Pressure Collection System to On-site WWTP – This alternative has the lowest construction cost and also eliminates the force main installation to an off-site WWTP. However, this alternative is the most expensive Annual Cost option due the operation and maintenance costs of the on-site WWTP and the multiple individual pumps. The new WWTP would cause an increase in personnel required and energy costs, most likely surpassing the technical, managerial and financial capacity of the sewer service area.

Alternative 6: All Low Pressure Collection System with Pump Station to American II WWTP – Similar to Alternatives 1 and 2, but involves the installation of all low pressure collection, along with a pump station and force main to the American II WWTP. The shallow depth of the all low pressure collection lines keeps the construction costs lower, but necessitates individual pumps on private property. The operation and maintenance of these multiple pumps results in the second highest annual cost of all options.

After considering monetary and non-monetary factors, Allen County determined to proceed with Alternative 3, Combination Gravity & Low Flow Pressure Collection with Pump Station to American II WWTP. This alternative poses the least environmental impacts long term and offers the least life cycle costs, the second least construction costs, standard depth of sewer and pump station construction, and reduces the number of grinder pumps from 150 for all low pressure to 50 pumps for the combination of the low pressure and gravity system. In addition, since the American II WWTP is available to accept wastewater from Gomer without the need for modification, the PER analysis indicates it is more economical to pump the wastewater to American II than build an on-site WWTP. This alternative will also eliminate local health and environmental risks by providing a public sanitary sewer to an unsewered area.

No Action Alternative:

The “no action alternative”, would result in the unsewered area continuing to use failing on-site septic systems. The present off site discharges to ground water and Pike Run would continue to impair water quality, as would the current and potential health and nuisance conditions related to failing on-site septic systems.

Analysis of Impacts and Mitigation Actions

Instructions:

Summarize and evaluate all potential environmental impacts, whether beneficial or adverse, and the conditions that would change as a result of the project. Describe measures to eliminate, minimize, or mitigate adverse environmental impacts.

The Gomer Sewer Improvements project will have only minimal, short-term environmental impacts. No significant short-term or long-term adverse environmental concerns were identified as related to wetlands, floodplains, historic properties, wildlife habitat and threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, farmland, socioeconomics, and other natural and cultural resources.

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBES MITIGATION MEASURES TO ELIMINATE, MINIMIZE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

HISTORIC PRESERVATION:

- Any excavation by the contractor that uncovers human remains or archaeological deposits shall be immediately reported to the Allen County Commissioners, Ohio Development Services Agency, USDA-Rural Development, and Ohio SHPO, and project funding sources including the Ohio EPA and ODSA. Construction shall be immediately halted pending the notification process and further directions provided after consultation with SHPO and all Indian Tribes listed for Allen County, Ohio.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT:

- Prior to construction a Floodplain Permit must be obtained from the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission Floodplain Administrator and construction shall comply with all applicable floodplain management regulations.
- Original land contours must be restored after completion of construction activities in the floodplain.
- Horizontal Directional Drilling construction techniques will be implemented at all stream crossings. At Pike Run, the boring shall result in a minimum 4 feet distance between the bottom of the stream bed and the 3-inch force main.
- Impacted floodplain areas shall be seeded with native, non-invasive species following construction work.

WETLANDS PROTECTION:

- No in-Water work is to occur for the proposed project and impacts to wetlands must be avoided.
- Wetlands within the project area must be avoided by re-alignment or by directional boring under beneath the wetland and the following best management practices are required if boring is utilized:
 - Document that a qualified professional engineer has determined that the boring or drilling is of sufficient depth below the wetland and the entry and exit points are of sufficient distance laterally from the wetland to avoid puncturing the wetland pan, draining the wetland, or causing similar adverse impacts to the wetland (e.g. at least 6 feet below the water table when wetlands are groundwater dependent).
 - Avoid construction during sensitive times of year that will impact fish spawning and bird nesting habitats.
 - Maintain site specific erosion control measures.
 - Restore the area to preconstruction conditions.
 - Plant or re-establish vegetative buffers in coordination with an invasive species control plan.
 - Equipment and material staging areas must be outside of wetland areas.

ENDANGERED SPECIES:

- Avoidance of tree removal or the implementation of seasonal tree cutting (clearing of trees ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) between October 1 and March 31) to avoid impacts to the federally listed endangered Indiana bat and threatened northern long-eared bat.
- If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the "*OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING*". If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, however, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with DOW.
- No in-water work is to occur as part of this project in order to avoid impacts to freshwater mussels, fish and other state and federal listed species.
- All disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species.

AIR QUALITY MITIGATION:

- All construction vehicles should be equipped with proper emissions control equipment.
- Conduct periodic maintenance of equipment and machinery for proper tuning to minimize exhaust emissions and more.
- Utilize best management practices and reasonably available dust control measures, as necessary, during construction to minimize dust generation.
- No open-burning of construction material or other wastes.

NOISE MITIGATION:

- In order to control unnecessary noise and minimize noise to area residents, project construction should be limited to normal daylight working hours.
- Construction equipment will be provided with intake silencers and mufflers, as required by safety standards, and maintained in good working order.
- Where applicable, local noise ordinances requirements shall be followed as required.

TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION:

- All ODOT and OSHA traffic control regulations must be implemented during construction.
- The owner is responsible for obtaining all ODOT, Allen County, Auglaize Township, Jackson Township and Village right of permits.
- Specifications for construction entrance, per the Rainwater and Land Development Manual (Rev 2014), and local requirements should be implemented as needed.
- Paved areas that have accumulated sediment from construction should be cleaned daily, or as needed.
- The contractor shall develop a traffic control plan prior to construction to ensure the safety of the public and contractors working on the project.
- At least one lane of traffic must be maintained along the travel route to the construction site. If temporary street/road closures are required, detours must be properly identified and emergency responders notified.
- Access must be maintained for emergency vehicles at all times.

EROSION CONTROL / STORMWATER RUNOFF MITIGATION:

- The use of best management practices for erosion, drainage and stormwater runoff will be required during construction.
- Construction areas will be mulched and seeded with native species following construction activities.
- The project will be required to comply with Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water regulations regarding storm water discharges associated with construction activity under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program: A) the owner/contractor should apply for, obtain and pay for the NPDES

Analysis of Impacts and Mitigation Actions

Construction stormwater permit; B) the owner should retain copies of the permit as issued by Ohio EPA; C) a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) must be prepared for the construction of the proposed project and associated construction activities. The owner/contractor will submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Ohio EPA to ensure coverage under the NPDES general permit that is authorized by the Ohio EPA for construction activities; D) the SWP3, the NOI, and Ohio EPA NPDES general permit shall be maintained at the construction site at all times; E) Provisions of the SWP3 should be incorporated into the plans and specifications for the proposed project construction.

SITE CONTAMINATION:

While no mitigation is required for any toxic, hazardous or radioactive substance, the Grantee will still be asked to follow Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) guidelines during construction to ensure worker and public safety. This will include the use of personal protection equipment by contractors, along with warning signs and barriers to limit public access. Contractors shall be notified regarding the presence of utilities near the project areas during the pre-construction meeting, and as work progresses. Emergency numbers for the local electric, gas, phone, cable, water and sewer utilities shall be included in the Contractor's site health and safety plan.

In addition, during construction activities, appropriate safeguards should be in place to ensure that groundwater and soils are protected from contamination. Such precautions would include notifying contractors and subcontractors as to the importance of not endangering groundwater, securing adequate precautions for fueling/servicing construction equipment and developing contingency plans to handle any release of petroleum products or hazardous materials.

Monitoring and Enforcement Procedures

Instructions:

Describe any post-review monitoring or enforcement procedures associated with environmental mitigation actions.

The Contract documents must contain a listing of all mitigation measures and the Contractor will be made aware of the measures required to be implemented during construction.

Upon completion of the project, the Contractor shall submit a written statement or certification asserting that no asbestos containing materials were used in any portion of the construction.

List of Sources, Agencies, and Persons Consulted

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Columbus, OH)
Ohio Department of Natural Resources (Ms. Sarah Tebbe, Columbus)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers– Buffalo Regulatory District
Natural Resources Conservation Service (Jeff Glanville, Columbus Ohio State Office)
Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NEPAassist (https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist)
Ohio Department of Commerce - Ohio Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks (BUSTR) Website (https://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/BUSTRResources)
FEMA Flood Map Service Center (https://msc.fema.gov)
Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (https://www.lacrpc.com/media/109551/Floodplain%20Regs--Allen%20County.pdf)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency EnviroFACTS Website (https://enviro.epa.gov/)
Ohio EPA-Division of Air Pollution Control (https://www.epa.state.oh.us/dapc/general/naaqs)
Steve Kayatin, P.E., Allen County Sanitary Engineering Department
Preliminary Engineering Report Gomer, Ohio, Wastewater Improvement Area, Kohli & Kaliher Associates, Inc. (May 2018)
USFWS IPaC Environmental Conservation Online System (https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/)
ODNR Coastal Management Interactive Map Viewer (http://coastal.ohiodnr.gov/mapviewers http://coastal.ohiodnr.gov/mapviewer)
Ohio SHPO on-line mapping system (https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/state-historic-preservation-office/mapping)
ODNR Coastal Management Map Viewer (http://www.coastal.ohiodnr.gov/mapviewer)
USFWS Coastal Barrier Resources System (https://www.fsw.gov/cbra/maps/index/html).
Hud.gov (https://egis.hud.gov/tdat/Query.aspx?state=Ohio)
U.S. Census data (https://www.census.gov/)
Wild and Scenic Rivers (https://www.rivers.gov/map.php)
ODNR Division of Geological Survey Karst Interactive Map (https://gis.ohiodnr.gov/website/dgs/karst_interactivemap/)

List of Sources, Agencies, and Persons Consulted

ODNR Division of Mineral Resources Mines of Ohio Mapping
<https://gis.ohiodnr.gov/MapView/?config=OhioMines>



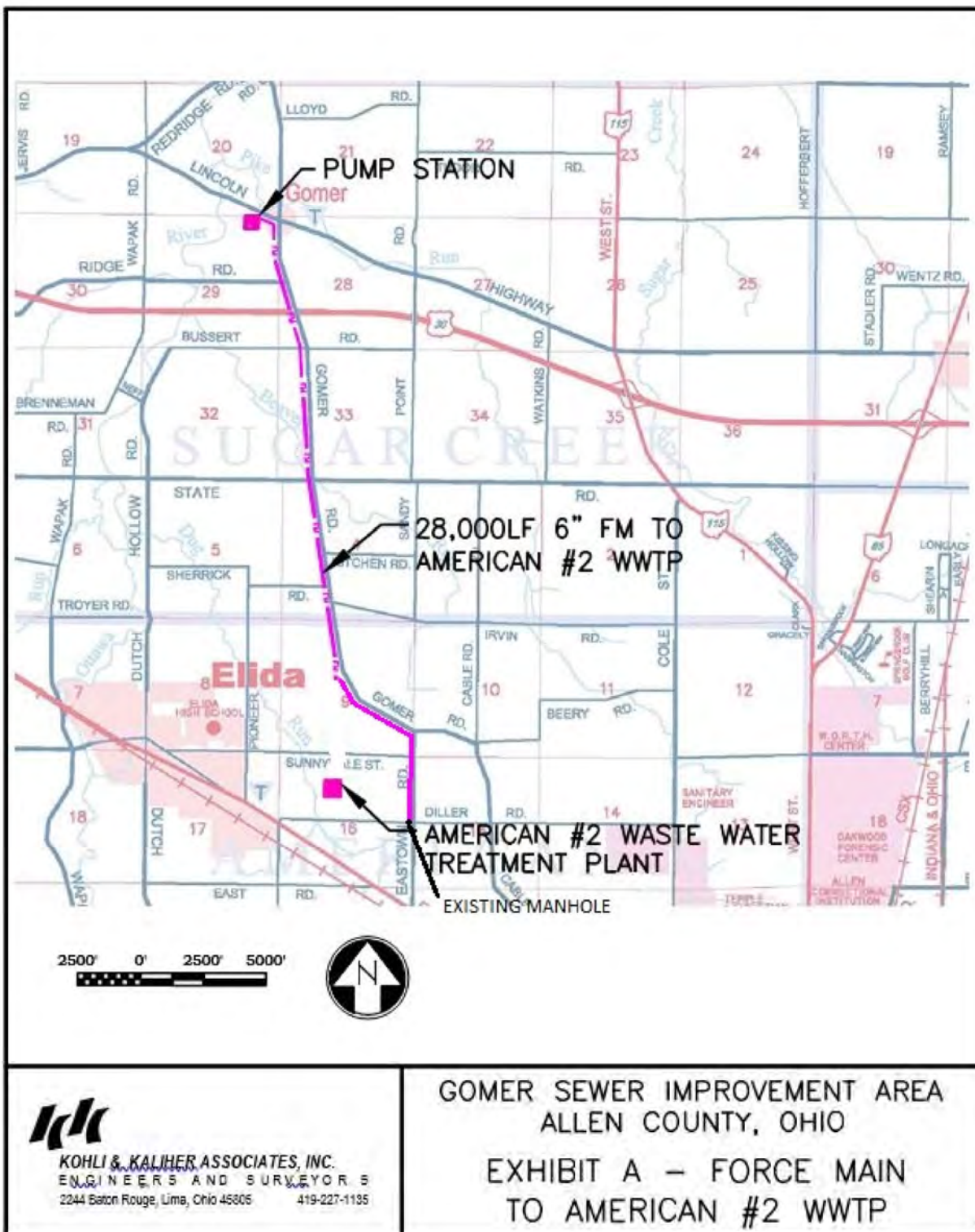
List of Site Visits and Important Meetings

[illegible]

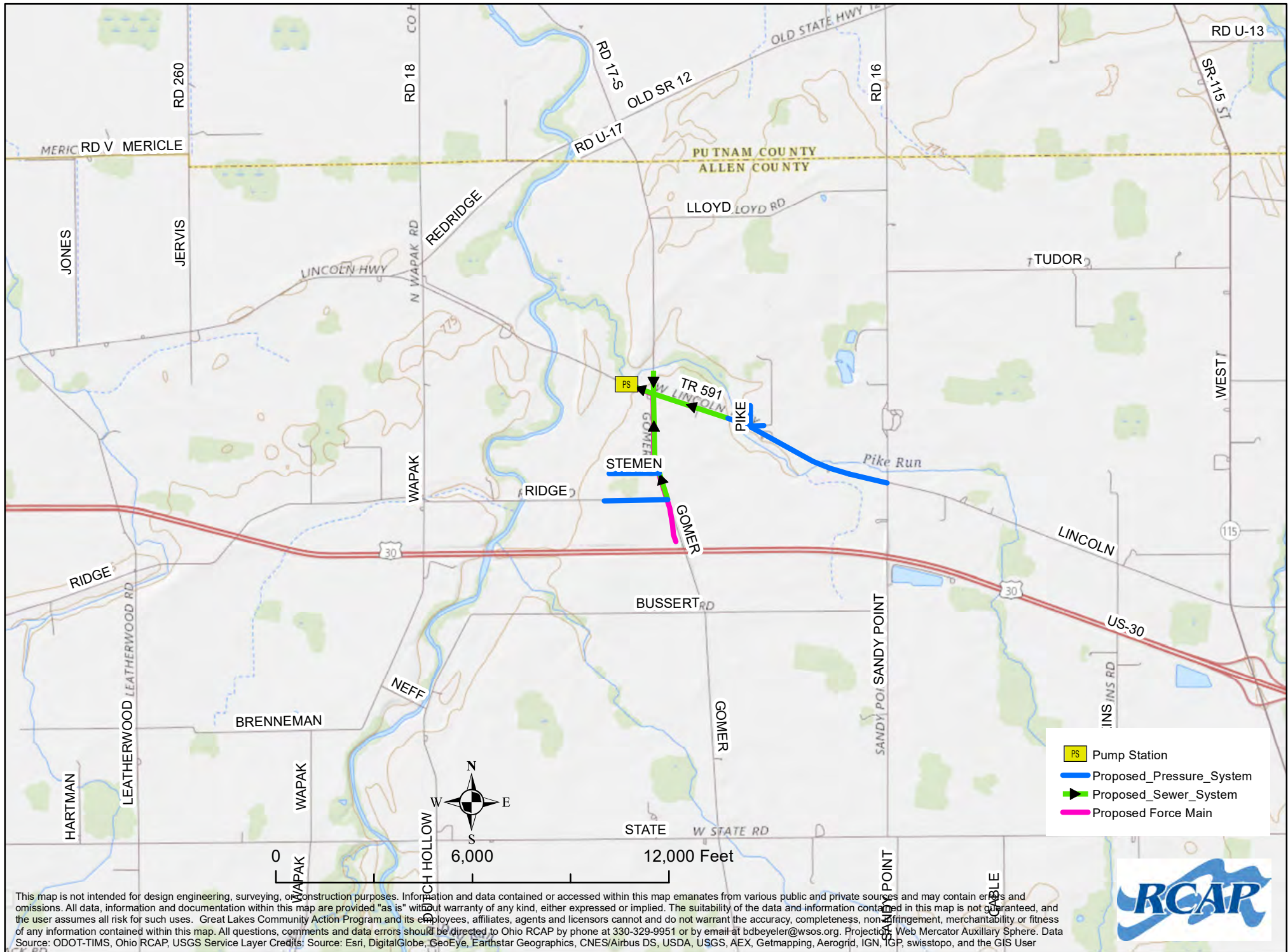
Participants in the Review

[illegible]

SITE LOCATION MAP



Proposed Allen County Sanitary Sewer for Gomer



**SITE PHOTOGRAPHS
&
FIELD NOTES CHECKLIST**

Gomer Sewer Improvement Area Sewer System Study

Pictures for Environmental Report

A: Ridge Road and Gomer Road

1. Ridge and Gomer looking West



2. Ridge Road looking East towards Gomer Road



B: Stemen Street and Gomer Road

1. Stemen and Gomer looking West



2. Stemen looking East towards Gomer Road



C: Gomer Road and Old Lincoln Highway Intersection

1. Gomer Road looking North from Old Lincoln Highway



2. Gomer Road looking South towards Old Lincoln Highway



3. Gomer Road looking East towards Old Lincoln Highway



4. Gomer Road looking West towards Old Lincoln Highway



D: Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road

1. Gomer Road and Old Lincoln Highway looking East



2. Old Lincoln Highway and Pike Avenue looking West towards Gomer Road



3. Old Lincoln Highway and Pike Avenue looking East



4. Old Lincoln Highway and Sandy Point Road looking West



E: Pike Avenue and Old Lincoln Highway

1. Pike Avenue and Old Lincoln Highway looking North



2. Pike Avenue looking South towards Old Lincoln Highway



3. Pike Avenue and Cambria Street Looking East



F. Old Lincoln Highway going West on Gomer Road

1. Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road at the Intersection looking West from South



2. Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road at Intersection looking North from West side



3. Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road at the Intersection looking West beyond business



4. Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road at the Intersection looking East from Western side of Hamlet



G. Gomer Road South of Old Lincoln Highway

1. Gomer Road looking North from West side of Road across from Gomer Church



2. Gomer Road looking East at Gomer Church south of Old Lincoln Highway Intersection



3. Gomer Road looking East at Gomer Museum south of Old Lincoln Highway Intersection



4. Gomer Road and Ridge Street looking north to Stemen Street



5. Gomer Road and Ridge Street looking South to Overpass





**OHCP Environmental Review Record
Field Notes Checklist**

6/99

This checklist is to be completed during the field visit to the project site and is to be attached to the environmental review record (ERR). It will constitute full documentation for some factors in the ERR, and partial documentation for other factors. Some factors on the Checklist require other kinds of documentation (e.g. contacts and correspondence with the State Historic Preservation Office, interviews and correspondence with fire and police, schools, etc.), so those factors are not included in this checklist.

Aggregate all activities that comprise the project (fund with HOME, ESG, CDBG, or any other funds. Provide answers to all questions that can be observed during the field visit. Use spaces provided for any supplemental information and/or for recording any recommended mitigation measures. Use additional sheets if necessary, but key additional information to the relevant questions.

Several different types of maps will be useful on the field visit, such as project plan or plat map, location map showing major features and facilities in the vicinity, USGS topographical map, zoning map, and land use map. Many of the conditions observed can and should be recorded directly on the project plan. Distances to major features and facilities (e.g., schools and fire stations) and a description of the surrounding area are examples. The plan can then be referenced as "source/documentation" on the EA form.

Section 1: General Project Information

Grant Agreement Number(s): B-W-20-1AB-3

Single year or Multi-Year: Single

General or Tier Review: Environmental Assessment

Project Name: Gomer Sewer Improvements Area Project

Activity Name(s) and Grant Agreement Attachment A Number: _____

Wastewater Improvements

Location (Street Address, City, Township, County): Hamlet of Gomer, Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio

Brief Description of Aggregated Project: The project area is unsewered with antiquated and failing on-lot sewer systems.

This project involves the construction of a sanitary sewer collection system and force main to transport collected sewage to the
to the American II Wastewater Treatment Plant II located near Elida, Ohio.

1. Project is in a location described as : ☒ Central City ☐ Suburban ☐ Infill Urban Development
☐ In a Developing Rural Area ☒ In an Undeveloped Area Rural - Hamlet
2. Project is served by: ☐ Paved Access ☐ Public Water ☐ Public Sanitary Sewer ☐ Public Storm Sewers
☒ Gas ☒ Electric ☒ Other Utilities (Specify) _____

3. Is the project an addition to existing development? ☐ Yes ☒ No
4. Are there existing buildings on the site? ☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Is the site covered with trees and non-agricultural vegetation? ☒ Yes ☐ No
6. Is the site presently being farmed? ☒ Yes ☐ No Section of the Force Main

Section 2: Noise

7. Is the project within 1,000 feet of a major road/highway/freeway? ☒ Yes ☐ No
8. Is the project within 3,000 feet of a railroad? ☐ Yes ☒ No
9. Is the project within 15 miles of a military airfield? ☐ Yes ☒ No
10. Is the project within 5 miles of a civil airport? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes was answered to any question 7 - 10, then a noise assessment must be conducted. For airports, use adopted Day/Night Noise Level (DNL) Contours. For projects environments that exceed HUD noise standards, mitigation measures must be conducted.

Project involves installation of sewer lines

Section 3: Floodplain/Wetlands/Coastal Zones

11. Are there drainage, streams, rivers, or coastlines on or near the site? ☒ Yes ☐ No
12. Is the project or access in the floodplain? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(If the project is in the floodplain compliance will require following the 8 step process.)
12. Are there ponds, marshes, bogs, or evidence of jurisdictional wetlands on or near the site? ☒ Yes ☐ No
NEAR THE PROJECT ALIGNMENT
13. Are there soils or vegetation characteristic of wetlands on or near the site? ☒ Yes ☒ No

Section 4: Hazards

14. Are industrial facilities handling explosive or fire-prone material such as liquid propane, gasoline, or other storage tanks visible from the project site? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, check for compliance with 24 CFR Part 51 C, using HUD Hazards Guidebook

15. Is the project within 3,000 feet from the end of a runway at a civil airport? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, check for compliance requirements at 24 CFR Part 51.
16. Is the project within 2 ½ miles from the end of a runway at a military airfield? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, check for compliance requirements at 24 CFR Part 51.
17. Is the project near dump or landfill site? ☐ Yes ☒ No
18. Is the project near an industry disposing of chemicals or hazardous wastes? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Section 5: Compatibility with Surrounding Development

19. Is the project compatible with surrounding area in terms of:

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Land Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Texture, Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Height, Bulk, Mass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Type (Low/high Rise)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building Density	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Arrangement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Population Density	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Light/shadow and Ventilation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Setback	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Landscaping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

20. Will the project be unduly influenced by:

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Building Obsolescence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transition of Land Uses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vacant Buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transition in Density	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Building Deterioration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-conforming Conversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Postponed Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Incompatible Land Uses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obsolete Public Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inadequate off-street Parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Buildings Crowding Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Section 6: Site Accessibility, Parks and Recreation, Commercial/Retail, Transportation

21. Is the project accessible to employment, shopping, and services? ☒ Yes ☐ No
22. Are parks and play spaces available on site or near by? ☐ Yes ☒ No
23. Are commercial/retail shopping centers nearby? ☐ Yes ☒ No
24. Is public transportation service available? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Section 7: Physical Site Suitability

25. Slopes are: ☐ Not applicable ☐ Steep ☐ Moderate ☒ Slight
26. Is there evidence of slope erosion? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Such as extensive gullies/small ravines? Bowed retaining walls? Washing away of top-soil and grasses? Tree movement? Fire scars?)
27. Is there evidence of unstable slope conditions? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Such as trees perpendicular to slope? Vertical cracks at top of slope? Tilted utility poles? Hummocky-undulations on mid to lower slopes?)
28. Is there evidence of ground subsidence on the site? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Section 8: Soil Suitability and Erodibility

29. Soils are: ☒ Loose, Fine Grained Silts ☐ Gravel/sands ☐ Clay (Hard/dry) ☐ Non-expansive
☐ Moderately Expansive ☐ Highly Expansive ☒ Mix of (Check Appropriate Boxes)
30. Are there visual indications of filled ground? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Materials loosely piled on ground? Loose vegetation? Earth has graded appearance or topography appears unnatural in grade as related to the vicinity?)
31. Are there active rills and gullies on site? ☐ Yes ☒ No
32. Is there off-site drainage to site? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Section 9: Natural Hazards

33. Will the project be affected by:

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Faults, Fractures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fire Hazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cliffs, Bluffs, Crevices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wind/sand Storms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Slope-failures from Rains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Poisonous Plants, Insects, Animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unprotected Water Bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Hazardous Terrain Features	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Section 10: Man-made Hazards and Nuisances

34. Will the project be affected by:

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Hazardous Street Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rail Crossing Hazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dangerous Intersections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hazards in Vacant Lots	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inadequate Street Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chemical Tank-car Terminals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sanitary Landfills or Mining Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trucking Terminals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Industrial Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other Hazardous Chemical Storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High Pressure Gas Transmission Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Overhead Transmission Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Cargo Transportation Routes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oil and Gas Wells	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Through Traffic Problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ASTM Phase I Identified Hazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inadequate Screened Drainage Catchment Structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Children's Play Area Located near High Volume Traffic Ways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inadequate Separation of Pedestrian And Vehicle Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unscreened Quarries or Other Excavations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

35. Will the project be affected by:

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Gas, Smoke, Fumes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unightly Land Uses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Odors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Front-lawn Parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abandoned Vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glare from Parking Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rodent and Vermin Problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Billboard Encroachment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industrial Nuisances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Vacant/boarded up Buildings

☐☒

Other

☐☒

Section 11: Air Quality

36. Are there air pollution generators nearby which would adversely affect the site?

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Heavy industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Large parking facilities(1,000+)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Incinerators	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	≥ Six lanes of traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Power generating plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Indoor black mold	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oil refineries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lead	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Asbestos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Section 12: Unique Natural Features and Areas

37. Is the project near natural features such as bluffs and cliffs? ☐ Yes ☒ No

38. Is the project near public or private scenic rivers or areas? ☐ Yes ☒ No

39. Are there natural resources visible on the site or in the vicinity? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Section 13: Additional Documentation

EXHIBIT 1

HISTORIC PRESERVATION



In reply refer to
2018-ALL-43553

January 3, 2019

Cindy Brooks
Ohio RCAP
P.O. Box 509
Freemont, Ohio 43420

Dear Ms. Brooks:

RE: Gomer Wastewater System Improvements, Sugar Creek Township, Allen County,
Ohio

This is in response to correspondence, received on December 7, 2017, regarding the proposed wastewater system improvements at the above location in Allen County, Ohio. My comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

Based on the information submitted, I concur with the opinion that the proposed action will not affect properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless the project changes or unless new or additional historic properties are discovered during implementation of this project. Should this happen, this office should be notified as required by 36 CFR 800.13.

Please be advised that this is a Section 106 decision. This review decision may not extend to other SHPO programs. If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2000, or by email at nyoung@ohiohistory.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan J. Young".

Nathan J. Young, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review



December 3, 2018

Ohio Historic Preservation Office
Attn: Mark Epstein
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211

RE: Gomer Wastewater Improvement Area, Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, OH

Dear Mr. Epstein:

The Allen County Board of County Commissioners, Ohio, are in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for the USDA, Rural Utilities Service in order that it may assess the environmental impacts of the construction to install a new Sanitary Sewer for the Gomer Wastewater Improvement Area, Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio.

Enclosed is a Section 106 Review-Project Summary Form with attached U.S. Geological map(s) that depict the proposal's area of potential effect for all construction activities, photos and a description of the work involved.

Allen County Board of County Commissioners request the assistance of your office in identifying historic properties that are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and that may be affected by the project. Please provide any recommendations you may have to mitigate or avoid these impacts, to properties that may be affected.

We would appreciate a response within 30 days. If you need further information or wish to discuss the project please contact me at 419-332-2078 or cabrookes@glcap.org (please note the change).

Sincerely,

Cindy Brookes
Sr. Rural Development Specialist
Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP)



**OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:
RESOURCE PROTECTION & REVIEW
Section 106 Review- Project Summary Form**

SECTION I. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

This information is: **NEW PROJECT SUBMITTAL**

- a. Project Name: **Gomer Wastewater Improvement Area**
- b. Project Address or Vicinity: **Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road**
- c. City/Township: **Sugar Creek Township**
County: **Allen**
- d. Federal Agency and Contact Person: **USDA/Rural Development**
Scott Shaneyfelt, SEC
614/255-2414
- e. Type of Federal Assistance. **USDA Rural Utilities Services**
- f. State Agency and Contact Person: **NA**
- g. Type of State Assistance: **NA**
- h. Is this project being submitted solely under ORC 149.53? **No**
- i. Consultant and/or Applicant Contact Person: **Cindy Brookes**
Ohio RCAP
419/332.2078
- j. Consultant and/or Applicant Project Reference Number: **NA**
- k. Public Involvement- **Community Meetings and Allen County Sanitary Engineer mail correspondence**

I. Other consulting parties: **NA**

SECTION II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

Project Location

a. USGS Quad Map Name: **Elida**

b. Township/City/Village Name: **Sugar Creek Township, Allen County**

DOES THIS PROJECT INVOLVE ANY GROUND-DISTURBING ACTIVITY? Yes

c. General description of width, length and depth of proposed ground disturbing activity:

See Attached Detailed Project Description

d. Narrative description of previous land use and past ground disturbances, if known:

The proposed site is within a residential hamlet of Sugar Creek Township, Allen County and work will occur within the road or street right of ways and across private property to connect to household or business sewer discharge. The force main will follow the road right of way along Gomer Road and then through agricultural fields to the American II Wastewater Treatment Plant on Diller Road where easements can be obtained.

e. Narrative description of current land use and conditions:

The current area is residential with County and Township Road right of ways. The force main will cross some agricultural fields but easements have not yet been fully determined.

f. Does the landowner know of any archaeological resources found on the property?

No known archaeological sites in the project area. Due to the extreme disturbance of proposed site there is little likelihood of archaeological properties at any of these locations.

g. Provide a local map indicating the location of the project site: **Attached**

h. Provide a detailed written description of the project.

See Attached Description

i. Area of Potential Effect: **Map is attached (Exhibit A)**

j. Written description of the APE: **The project area includes the homes within the hamlet of Gomer along Old Lincoln Highway from Sandy Point Road to the east and the Gomer Welcome sign on the west. The project will include the northern most properties south of Pike Run on Gomer Road going south to Ridge Road. All properties along the side streets of Ridge Road and Stemen Street to the south will be in the area of low pressure piping with Grinder pumps as well as the properties on Old Lincoln Highway east of Pike Run including Pike Avenue and Cambria Street to Sandy Point Road.**

SECTION III. IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

- a. Background Research- **An OHPO On-Line Records Search was conducted. Site visit was conducted. Photos obtained of project area.**
- b. Field Survey- **See attached site photos of project area.**
- c. Eligibility Evaluation- **NA**
- d. Historic Properties Present in the APE: **An on-line records search indicates three (3) National Register listings and fifteen (15) Historic Buildings within a one mile radius of the project area. (See attached documentation)**
- e. Reporting Options: **OHPO On-Line Records Search and Site Visit.**

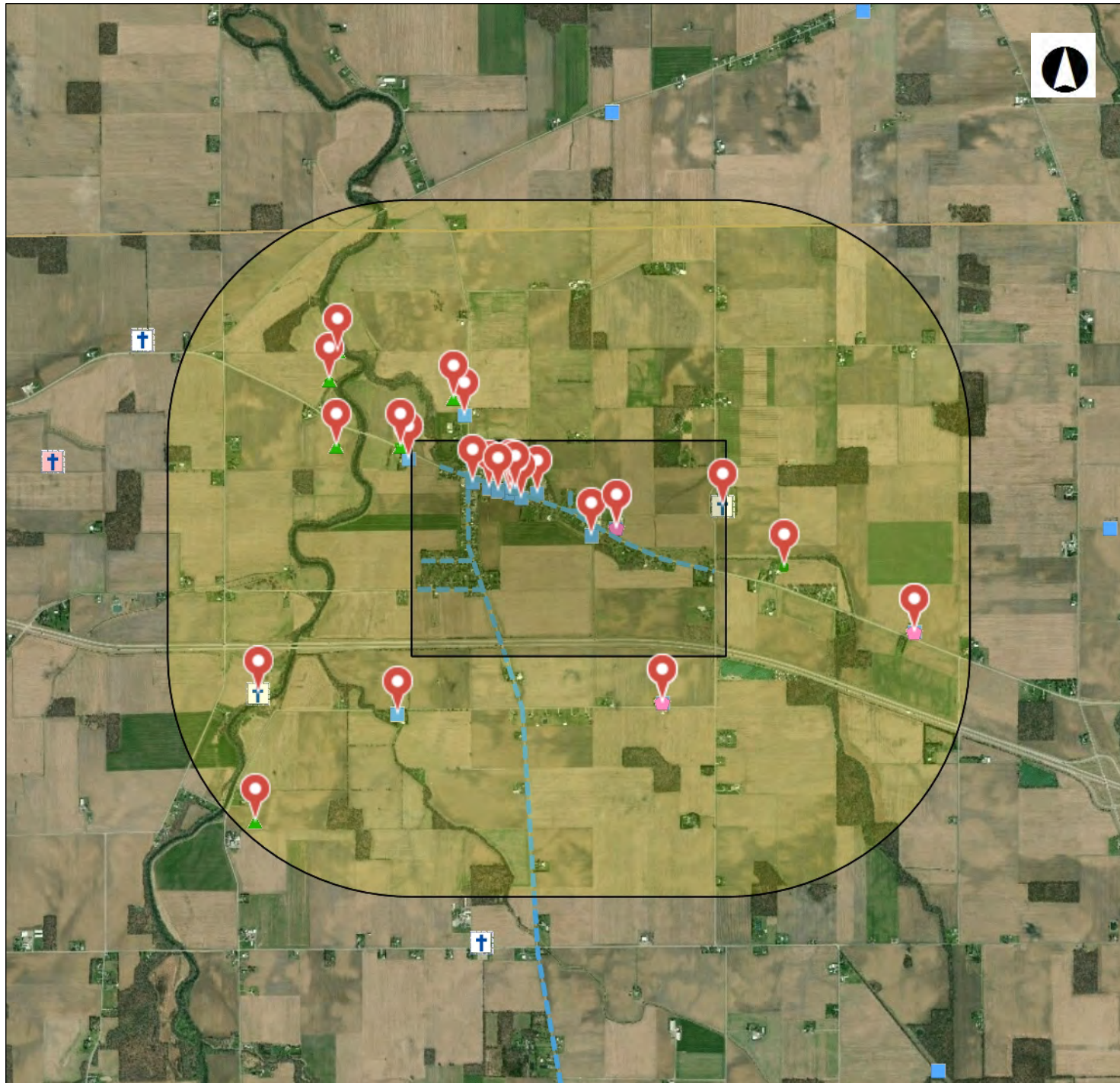
SECTION IV. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

- a. Provide photos of the entire project site: **Attached**
- b. Provide current photos of all buildings/structures/sites: **Attached**
- c. Project plans, specifications, site drawings and any other media presentation that conveys detailed information about your project and its potential to affect historic properties. **Attached**
- d. Copies or summaries of any comments provided by consulting parties or the public: **None**

SECTION V. DETERMINATION OF EFFECT

No historic properties will be affected based on [36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1)].
Please explain how you made this determination:

A determination has been made that the proposed project will not have an adverse effect on historic properties. The proposed project elements will occur on previously disturbed areas within road right of ways and previously disturbed land on individual private properties, no visual structural changes will be required. The immediate project area is a mixture residential and small business.



State Historic
Preservation Office

Legend

NR Listings

- Listed
- National Historic Landmark
- ✕ Delisted

- ◆ NR Determinations of Eligibi
- ▲ Archaeological Sites
- Historic Structures
- Historic Bridges
- Historic Tax Credit Projects

OGS Cemeteries

- ✕ Confident
- ✕ Not Confident

- Dams
- UTM Zone Split
- NR Boundaries
- OAI Site Boundaries
- Phase1
- Phase2

0 0.64 1.28 Miles

1: 50,655

Copyright/Disclaimer

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.

Datum: [Datum]

Projection: WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



[illegible]

		UTM	Location
UTM	UTM	NORTHIN	Confidenc
ZONE	EASTING	G	e

16	738928	4525001	Yes
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16	735878	4523661	Yes
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SENTFRO														
geometry	NADB	LOG	OHPOID	ACRES	AREAS	COUNTY	PHASE	ADDREF	TITLE	AUTHOR1	AUTHOR2	M	YEARS	DRAWERS
Geocortex.Gis.Geometries.Polygon	17012	1005311		0.2325	1	AL	1		Phase I	Keener, Craig S.			2006	Allen
									Cultural					
									Resource					
									Managem					
									ent					
									Survey of					
									a					
									Proposed					
									Cell					
									Tower					
									(TOL-139-					
									Perry					
									East) in					
									Auglaize					
									Township,					
									Allen					
									County,					
									Ohio.					

	OHI	UTM	UTM	UTM	PRESENT	OTHER		PLACE	ARCHITEC	ARCHITEC	HISTORIC	HISTORIC	ACTIVITY		
geometry	NUMBER	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHIN	NAME	NAME	ADDRESS	NAME	TURAL	TURAL	USE 1	USE 2	1	DATE 1	COUNTY
X: - 9371181.4 3602476, Y: 4989358.7 2236051, Z: NaN	ALL00697 02	16	737509	4525042	House		4115 W. Lincoln Highway	Gomer	Craftsman /Arts and Crafts	None	Single Dwelling		Date of significant event	Ca.1921	Allen
X: - 9370941.0 535831, Y: 4989361.5 5812037, Z: NaN	ALL00698 02	16	737691	4525050	Gomer Elementar y School	Sugar Creek Township School	4024 W. Lincoln Highway	Gomer	Neo- Classical Revival	Element	School		Original/ Most significant constructi on	Ca.1914	Allen
X: - 9371175.6 5330358, Y: 4989415.5 2828861, Z: NaN	ALL00699 02	16	737512	4525085	Commerci al Building		4116 W. Lincoln Highway	Gomer	No academic style - Vernacular	None	Retail store/sho p		Date of significant event	Ca.1900	Allen
X: - 9371363.3 6520439, Y: 4989408.3 3572786, Z: NaN	ALL00448 02	16	737370	4525075	Harold Smith House	Dr Jones House	4241 W Lincoln Hwy	Gomer	Gothic Revival	Element Present	Single Dwelling		Original Constructi on	1855	Allen

X: -
9371508.3
6624564,
Y:
4989456.7
5446035, ALL00449
Z: NaN 02 16 737259 4525108 t Village Restaurant Webb Bumford's SEC Gomer Rd & Lincoln Hwy Gomer Vernacular Style Dominant Restaurant/Bar Retail Store/Shop Original Construction 1930 Allen

X: -
9371082.3
878005, Y:
4989318.4
1122558, ALL00450
Z: NaN 02 16 737585 4525014 Joseph & Mary Jo Bell House James Nicholas House 4033 W Lincoln Hwy Gomer Italianate Element Present Single Dwelling Original Construction 1870 Allen

X: -
9371135.1
9141289,
Y:
4989400.9
6711357, ALL00451
Z: NaN 02 16 737543 4525075 Pat Engle House Nicholas House 4068 W Lincoln Hwy Gomer Eastlake Element Present Single Dwelling Original Construction 1875 Allen

X: -
9367628.3
2914792,
Y:
4988144.6
1948587, ALL00452
Z: NaN 02 16 740230 4524213 Ralph L Rode House WW Williams House 2498 W Lincoln Hwy Sugar Creek (Township of) Italianate Element Present Single Dwelling Original Construction 1865 Allen

X: -														
9372072.1														
7643713,														
Y:														
4989661.8					William	William J	4535 W						Original	
1743711, ALL00453					Gudakunst	Jones	Lincoln			Element	Single		Constructi	
Z: NaN	02	16	736827	4525249	House	House	Hwy	Gomer	Stick	Present	Dwelling		on	1870 Allen
X: -														
9371284.9														
5141523,														
Y:														
4989383.2					David &	Dr Richard	4175 W						Original	
72003, Z: ALL00454					Martha	Jones	Lincoln				Single		Constructi	
NaN	02	16	737430	4525058	Britt	House	Hwy	Gomer	Vernacular		Dwelling		on	1865 Allen
X: -														
9371580.6														
2606765,														
Y:														
4990044.9					Doris	JH							Original	
3950735, ALL00455					Clevenger	Clevenger	7785			Element	Single		Constructi	
Z: NaN	02	16	737190	4525550	House	House	Gomer Rd	Gomer	Italianate	Present	Dwelling		on	1869 Allen
X: -														
9370247.3														
5882231,														
Y:														
4989050.1					Willard &	Thomas	3300 W						Original	
7551382, ALL00456					Betty Lou	Watkins	Lincoln			Element	Single		Constructi	
Z: NaN	02	16	738224	4524832	Watkins	House	Hwy	Gomer	Federal	Present	Dwelling		on	1843 Allen

X: -														
9372167.6														
6357814,														
Y:														
4987418.5					Lloyd &	JW	Sugar							
1138536, ALL00489					Joanna	Bussert	4599	(Townshi	Dominant	Single	Original			
Z: NaN	02	16	736809	4523554	Reese Hse	House	Bussert Rd	p of)	Vernacular	Style	Dwelling	on	1870	Allen
X: -														
9369839.8														
9396238,														
Y:														
4987518.2					Owen		Sugar							
192012, Z: ALL00490					Jones &	David	Sugar							
NaN	02	16	738570	4523686	House	House	3530	(Townshi	Element	Single	Original			
					Partch	House	Bussert Rd	p of)	Italianate	Present	Dwelling	on	1870	Allen
X: -														
9370465.8														
660833, Y:														
4988988.3					Ohio		near old							
33071, Z: ALL00540					Electric		Lincoln	Sugar						
NaN	02	16	738060	4524780	Interurban		Hwy	Creek	Original					
					Bridge				on		ca. 1900-	1909	Allen	

geometry	OAI	SITE	QUAD	UTM	UTM	UTM	AFFILIATI	UNKNOWN	PALEOLIT	UNKNOWN	EARLY	MIDDLE	LATE	UNKNOWN	EARLY	MIDDLE	LATE	LATE
	NUMBER	NAME	NAME	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHIN		PREHISTO		ARCHAIC				WOODLA				
X: - 9372768. 35807607 , Y: 4990353. 59355225							Prehistori											
, Z: NaN X: - 9372694. 20412702 , Y: 4990608. 36857894	AL0012		Elida	16	736283	4525754	c	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
, Z: NaN X: - 9373417. 43100996 , Y: 4986474. 12092479	AL0013		Elida	16	736333	4525948	c	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
, Z: NaN X: - 9371676. 16426867 , Y: 4990195. 15299784	AL0014		Elida	16	735885	4522811	c	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
, Z: NaN AL0020			Elida	16	737114	4525661	c	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

X: -

9372142.

60931806

, Y:

4989771.

44789676

Prehistori

, Z: NaN AL0010

Elida

16

736771

4525330 c

0 c

0 c

Yes

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

X: -

9372705.

08910952

, Y:

4989770.

98892449

Prehistori

, Z: NaN AL0011

Elida

16

736345

4525316 c

5 c

Yes

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

[illegible]

No No No No No No No No No No No No No No No No No

No No No No No No No No No No No No No No No No No

TYPE

UNKNOWN

TYPE

N

OTHER

COUNTY

SITE AREA

SETTING

Yes

Allen

45

Open Site

Yes

Allen

216

Open Site

Yes

Allen

Open Site

Yes

Allen

Open Site

Yes Allen 943 Open Site

Yes Allen 326 Open Site

geometry	OBJECTID	SERNO	OHPOID	REFEREN	OHINUM	OAINUMB	UTM	UTM	UTM	MAT_LON	MAT_LAT	COUNTY	PROJECT		PLACENA		DATEIN	DATEOUT
				CE									NAME	ADDRESS	ME	ZIPCODE		
X: - 9367627. 69612272 , Y: 4988145. 2605763, Z: NaN	815	1005311		02			16	740230	4524213			Allen	Gomer East TOL134	2498 West Lincoln Highway	Elida		38803	38819
X: - 9369842. 7310456, Y: 4987525. 62101203 , Z: NaN	816	1005311		02			16	738570	4523686			Allen	Gomer East TOL134	3920 Bossar Rd	Elida		38803	38819
X: - 9370243. 59094267 , Y: 4989061. 28137254 , Z: NaN	817	1005311		02			16	738224	4524832			Allen	Gomer East TOL134	3300 West Lincoln Highway	Elida		38803	38819

PROJECT TYPE	LEADAGE NCY	RESPONS E_C	REVIEWE R_C	ELIGIBILT Y	COMMEN T	NADB1	NADB2	NADB3	Shape
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CELL	FCC	NAE	MLK	YC		Unk			
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CELL	FCC	NAE	MLK	YC		Unk			
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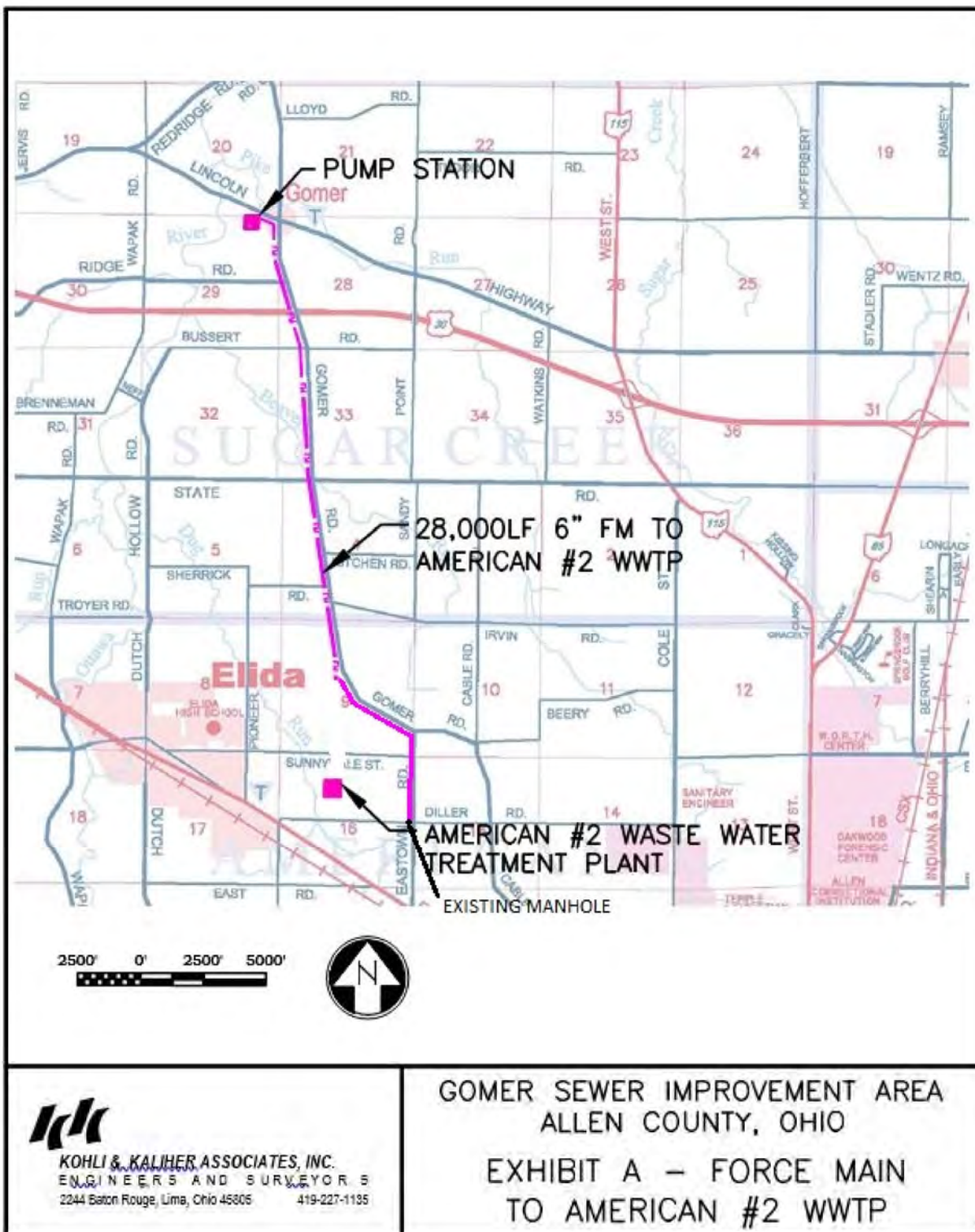
CELL	FCC	NAE	MLK	YC		Unk			
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

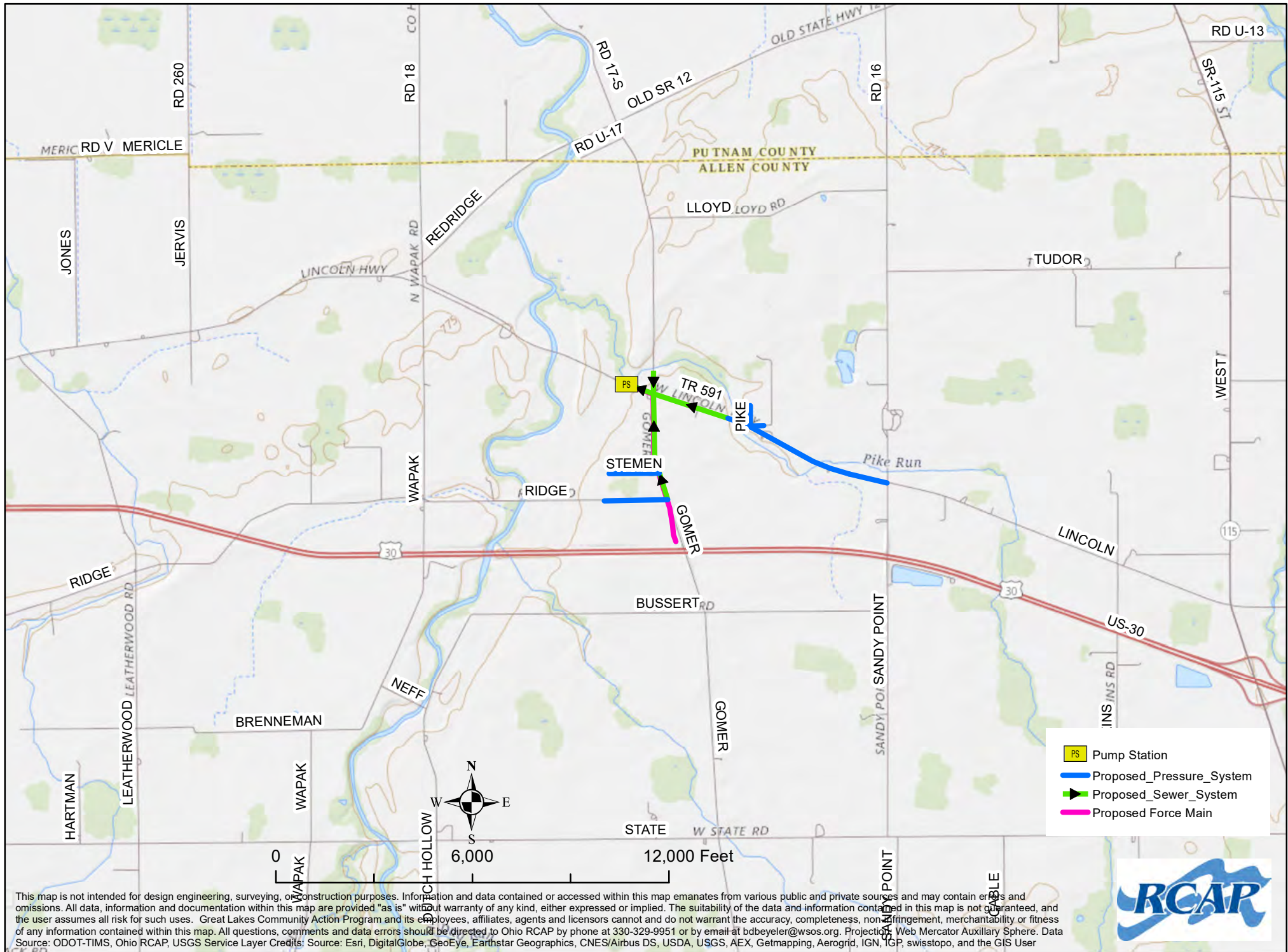
The Allen County Sanitary Sewer District is proposing the Gomer Sewer Improvement Area which is an unincorporated area located along the Pike Run in Sugar Creek Township, Allen County, Ohio. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has documented nuisance conditions with the area which have violated the State Water Quality Standards due to off lot discharge of sanitary wastes to Pike Run. Individual homes are served by cesspools, septic tanks, or on-site home units which discharge off-site to various storm sewer outlets.

This project proposes a combination of 500 Linear Feet of 6-inch and 5,400 Linear Feet of 8-inch gravity sanitary sewer lines and 3,240 Linear Feet of 3-inch HDPE and 4,100 Linear Feet of 2-inch HDPE and 4,000 Linear Feet of 1 ½" Lateral low pressure collection with 50 individual grinder pumps and a pump station along the 28,000 Linear Feet of 6-inch force main to collect and transport the collected sanitary flows to the American II Wastewater Treatment Plant on Diller Road, Lima, Ohio. Additionally, the system will have 230 Type A Sanitary Manholes throughout the system.

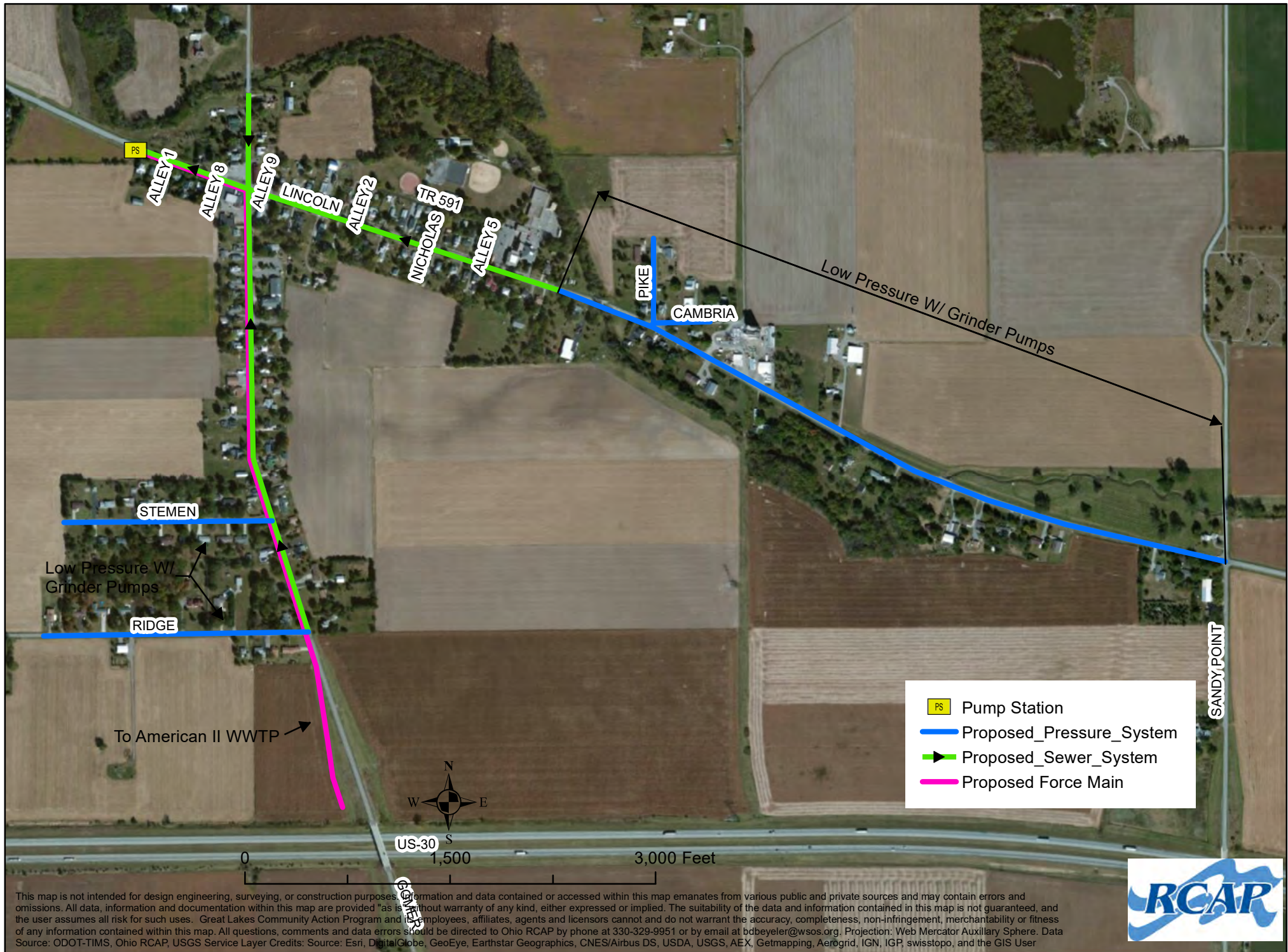
The project area includes the homes within the hamlet of Gomer along Old Lincoln Highway from Sandy Point Road to the east and the Gomer Welcome sign on the west. The project will include the northern most properties south of Pike Run on Gomer Road going south to Ridge Road. All properties along the side streets of Ridge Road and Stemen Street to the south will be in the area of low pressure piping with Grinder pumps as well as the properties on Old Lincoln Highway east of Pike Run including Pike Avenue and Cambria Street to Sandy Point Road.



Proposed Allen County Sanitary Sewer for Gomer



Proposed Allen County Sanitary Sewer for Gomer



Gomer Sewer Improvement Area Sewer System Study

Pictures for Environmental Report

A: Ridge Road and Gomer Road

1. Ridge and Gomer looking West



2. Ridge Road looking East towards Gomer Road



B: Stemen Street and Gomer Road

1. Stemen and Gomer looking West



2. Stemen looking East towards Gomer Road



C: Gomer Road and Old Lincoln Highway Intersection

1. Gomer Road looking North from Old Lincoln Highway



2. Gomer Road looking South towards Old Lincoln Highway



3. Gomer Road looking East towards Old Lincoln Highway



4. Gomer Road looking West towards Old Lincoln Highway



D: Old Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road

1. Gomer Road and Old Lincoln Highway looking East



2. Old Lincoln Highway and Pike Avenue looking West towards Gomer Road



3. Old Lincoln Highway and Pike Avenue looking East



4. Old Lincoln Highway and Sandy Point Road looking West



E: Pike Avenue and Old Lincoln Highway