

Environmental Studies and Permits Summary

AES has completed various surveys to support Project design and permitting needs. The findings of these studies were used to guide Project design to minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources. A summary of the environmental studies completed on the Project and the anticipated agency coordination and other permit approvals to be completed on the Project is included below.

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Study Completed	Approval Type	Regulatory Agency	Project Status
Wetland Delineation – Completed May 2023	Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 & Nationwide Permit (NWP) CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification	U.S. Army Corps of Engineering (USACE) Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)	<p>A wetland delineation was completed per the standards outlined in the USACE 1987 Manuel and Regional Supplement.</p> <p>Current Project design avoids impacts to wetlands. As Project design develops, the Project will continue to be evaluated to comply with local, state, and federal requirements. If impacts are required later in the design process, these impacts would be approved by and permitting through the USACE prior to the start of construction.</p> <p>Multiple MV lines cross wetlands, however, wetland impacts are avoided as crossings will be installed via horizontal directional drilling (HDD) so no permits are required</p>

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Qualitative Habitat Assessment (QHA) – Completed August 2023	Endangered Species Act (ESA) Wildlife Diversity Program	Consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (LDWF)	<p>A QHA was completed by recording all habitat types on the Project and determining if the present habitat can support federal and state threatened and endangered species.</p> <p>There is no suitable habitat for Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (federally and state endangered species) in old-growth pine forests, which will not be disturbed by the Project.</p> <p>Potential habitat for the Alligator Snapping Turtle (proposed federally and state endangered) was identified on the Project, however, there are no anticipated impacts to the potential habitat as we are avoiding wetland and watercourses.</p> <p>The current Project design will not impact listed species' habitats and no impacts to species is expected. As Project design develops, the Project will continue to be evaluated to comply with local, state, and federal requirements</p>

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Cultural Resources Desktop Report & Survey – Ongoing	National Historic Preservation Act Section 106	Louisiana Office of Cultural Development – Division of Archaeology (LDOA).	<p>A Cultural Resources Desktop Report identified areas with high probability of containing archeological artifacts was completed in August 2023. Surveys of the high probability zones are ongoing. The Project is not anticipated to impact Section 106 resources.</p> <p>The Project intends to obtain concurrence on the cultural resources survey findings prior to going to construction.</p>
Phase I Environmental Site Assessment – Completed July 2023	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	No Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) were identified onsite. No further coordination with the EPA is required.
Hydrology Study – Completed July 2023	FEMA Conditional Letter of Map Revision/Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR/LOMR)	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	The Project does not propose construction within the FEMA Floodplain. Permitting through FEMA will not be required.

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<p>Hydrology Study – Completed July 2023</p> <p>Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)</p>	<p>Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) Permit LAR100000</p>	<p>LDEQ</p>	<p>Detailed Project design is ongoing. A LDEQ permit is required for construction disturbing more than 5 acres of land. The results of the Hydrology Study will be utilized to develop a SWPPP to LPDES standards for approval prior to construction.</p>