



From the November 2023 Public Meeting

Newsletter No. 1

June, 2024

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration project team would like to provide an update on the US 219 Meyersdale, PA to Old Salisbury Road, MD project. This newsletter will cover a few different topics related to the project:

1. Launch of our Project Email Distribution List,
2. Results from the November 2023 Public Meeting,
3. Updates to the detailed alternatives, and
4. Project schedule/What's next.

As the team continues to work on the project, no significant changes have occurred since the November 2023 public meetings. As a result, the team will focus on preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) so the project can be advanced as quickly as possible.

Project Email Distribution List

The project team worked with Garrett County, Somerset County, and US 219 organizations to pull together an email distribution list consisting of individuals interested in the US 219 project. The team utilized email addresses provided at the public meetings, and obtained contact information for public officials, emergency service providers, community services, local organizations, project specific support groups, and permitting agencies. If you received this newsletter through email, then you are on the distribution list. If you received this newsletter through the mail, and would like to receive future emails, please send your contact information to us219news@kci.com. The project team will continue to send out project updates to this email distribution list.

Recap from the November, 2023 Public Meeting



Salisbury, PA Volunteer
Fire House (11/16/23)
140 Total Attendees



Virtual Public
Meeting (11/21/23)
6 Total Attendees



39 Survey Comment
Forms Received



6 Filled out the voluntary
Information Survey



DU



DU-Shift



E



E-Shift



Attendees were asked to rank alternatives in order of preference. Alternative E-Shift continues to be the alternative most preferred by the public.

● Most Preferred
 ● 2nd Preferred
 ● 3rd Preferred
 ● Least Preferred

Updates to the Detailed Alternatives

The project team has been evaluating modifications to the Detailed Alternatives to avoid and/or minimize potential impacts to environmental, cultural and socioeconomic resources, including wetlands/watercourse, farmlands, historic properties, Section 4(f)/2002 resources, State Game Lands (SGL), and homes. Specific resources, as shown on the map below include: Historic Resources, Section 4(f) and Section 2002 (PA equivalent of federal Section 4(f) resources).

Historic Resources/Section 4(f)/Section 2002

1 Tomlinson Inn and Little Meadows	5 Lowry Farm
2 Pennsylvania/Maryland Mason-Dixon Marker	6 Miller Farm
3 Jacob Glotfelty Barn*	7 S.J. Miller School*
4 Deal Farm	*No Impact with any alternative

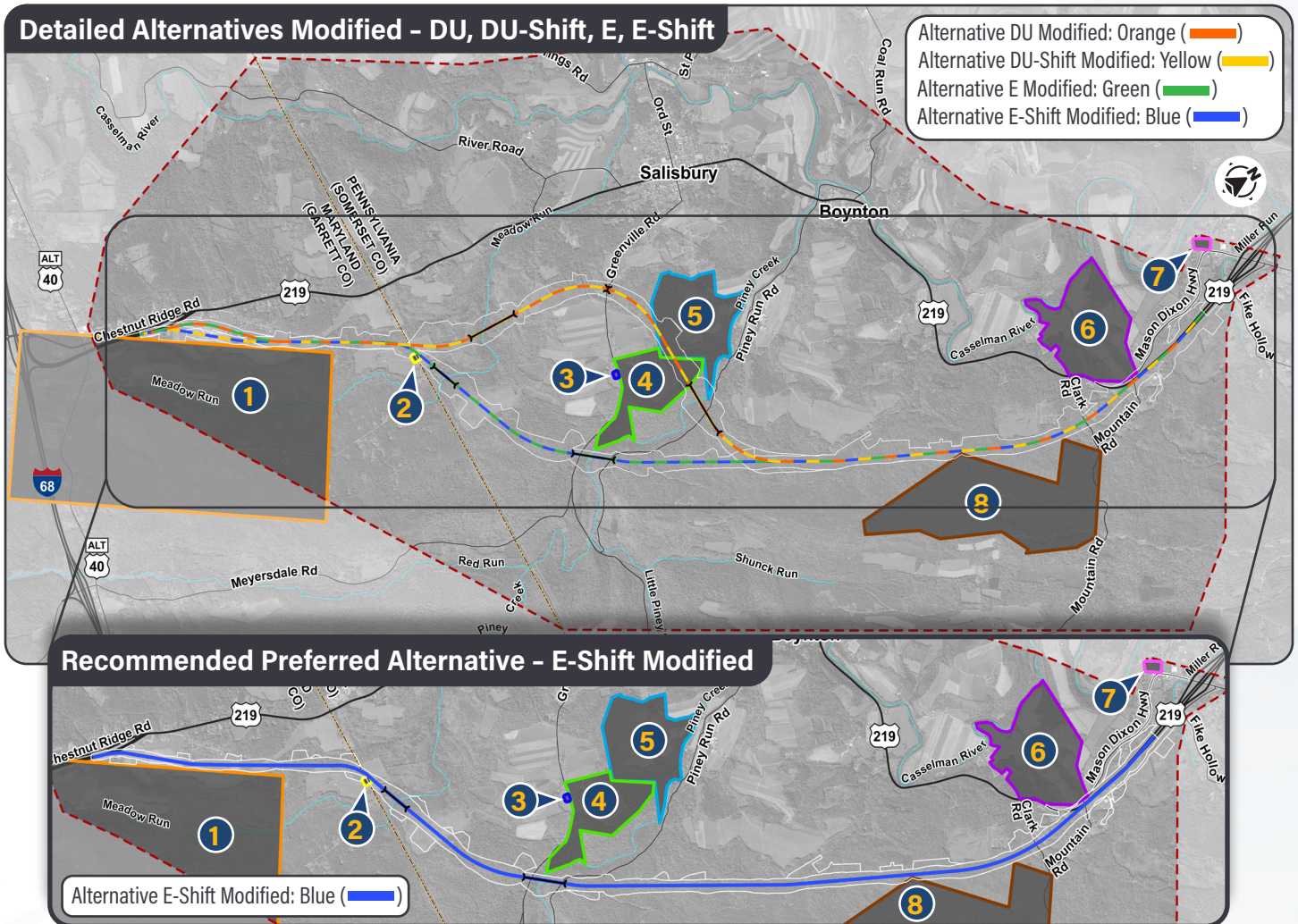
Game Lands/Section 4(f)/Section 2002

8 Pennsylvania State Game Land 231

The project team utilized a number of different strategies to avoid these resources. They adjusted the alternatives location by moving them slightly to the east or west within the Limit of Disturbance (LOD), they reduced the median width in some locations and they reduced the width of the buffer between the cut/fill line and LOD. Alternatives E and E-Shift were modified to avoid all of these resources while staying as far away from homes along Salisbury Road as possible. Alternatives DU and DU-Shift would still impact the Deal Farm and the Lowry Farm, both of which are historic resources. Because all four alternatives were modified during this process, the names of the alternatives have also changed.


- Alternative DU = Alternative DU Modified
- Alternative DU-Shift = Alternative DU-Shift Modified
- Alternative E = Alternative E Modified
- Alternative E-Shift = Alternative E-Shift Modified


Impact quantities for all resources were recalculated following these modifications and are presented in the tables to the right. Alternatives E Modified and E-Shift Modified continue to have the fewest of environmental impacts.



Environmental Resources Impact Table

 Socioeconomic	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
Residential Displacements (#)	12	9	12	9	9	8	9	8
Commercial Displacements (#)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
State Game Land (acres)	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
 Aboveground Historic Resources	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
Mason Dixon Marker (#)	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Tomlinson Inn/Little Meadows (acres)	10.1	0	30.3	0	9.9	0	30.1	0
Lowry Farm (acres)	23.7	23.4	23.7	23.4	0	0	0	0
Miller Farm (acres)	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
Deal Farm (acres)	16.4	16.2	16.4	16.2	1.7	0	1.7	0
 Archaeology	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
Prehistoric Probability - High (acres)	133.6	50.0	133.6	50.0	132.2	48.6	132.2	48.6
Prehistoric Probability - Moderate (acres)	76.8	47.6	76.8	47.6	63.7	30.7	63.2	33.0
Prehistoric Probability - Low (acres)	361.3	266.3	376.4	266.2	302.8	192.1	317.1	192.1
Historic Probability - High (acres)	42.8	16.6	42.8	16.6	27.4	13.9	27.4	13.9
Historic Probability - Moderate (PA only) (acres)	22.0	13.2	22.0	13.2	16.7	11.7	16.7	11.7
Historic Probability - Low (PA only) (acres)	282.8	227.1	282.8	227.1	198.3	146.8	198.3	146.8
 Mining & Potential Hazardous Waste	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
Surface Mining Boundaries (acres)	341.5	319.7	343.0	319.6	239.9	212.7	241.4	212.7
Deep Mine Boundaries (acres)	25.0	22.9	25.0	22.9	25.0	23.0	25.0	23.0
Area Of Concern Sites (#)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
 Engineering	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
Natural Gas Pipeline (linear feet)	487.1	397.7	487.1	397.7	951.6	873.8	951.6	873.8
Length of Alignment (miles)	8.7	8.3	8.7	8.3	8.4	7.9	8.3	7.9
Limit of Disturbance Acreage	725.8	628.7	739.2	626.2	675.8	560.9	689.3	558.7
 Natural Resources	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
 Forestland	459.6	431.4	459.6	430.0	438.2	389.8	437.6	388.8
Deciduous Forestland (acres)	200.7	185.6	200.7	184.2	272.6	245.8	270.9	244.8
Evergreen Forestland (acres)	1.9	0	1.9	0	8.4	3.8	9.2	3.8
Mixed Forestland (acres)	257.0	245.8	257.0	245.8	157.2	140.2	157.5	140.2
Forest Interior Dwelling Species Habitat (MD Only)	-	6.7	-	6.7	-	6.5	-	6.5
 Farmland	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
Productive Cropland/Pasture (acres)	71.4	53.5	91.5	53.7	53.8	37.8	73.8	38.0
Maple Sugar Production Forest (acres)	23.7	23.1	23.7	23.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Productive Farms (#)	11	9	11	9	8	6	8	6
Prime Farmland Soils (acres)	39.0	32.9	39.0	32.9	26.3	19.9	26.3	19.9
Soils of Statewide Importance (acres)	141.6	102.9	149.0	102.9	120.8	82.0	127.6	81.9
Preferential Tax Assessment (acres)	146.7	74.92	170.3	75.18	106.2	36.14	129.7	36.36
 Other	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone (acres)	12.3	12.3	12.3	12.3	7.1	4.7	7.1	4.7
Potential Bat Hibernacula (#)	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0
 Natural Resources	DU	Modified	DU-Shift	Modified	E	Modified	E-Shift	Modified
 Wetland (Acres)	14.35	12.28	14.45	12.14	12.80	10.65	12.68	10.51
Palustrine Emergent PEM	4.29	3.55	4.39	3.41	3.27	2.48	3.16	2.34
Palustrine Emergent/Palustrine Forested PEM/PFO	0.52	0.49	0.52	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49
Palustrine Forested PFO	4.99	4.66	4.99	4.66	4.61	4.23	4.61	4.23
Palustrine Forested/Palustrine Scrub Shrub PFO/PSS	2.57	2.25	2.57	2.25	2.57	2.25	2.57	2.25
Palustrine Scrub Shrub PSS	1.65	1.33	1.65	1.33	1.51	1.19	1.51	1.19
Palustrine Scrub Shrub/Palustrine Emergent PSS/PEM	0.34	0	0.34	0	0.34	0	0.34	0
Palustrine Open Water POW	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
 Streams (Linear Feet)	29,173	26,485	29,549	26,485	29,295	24,276	29,675	24,276
Perennial	17,556	16,772	17,882	16,772	19,936	17,649	20,262	17,649
Intermittent	8,721	7,547	8,771	7,547	6,710	5,648	6,764	5,648
Ephemeral	2,232	2,166	2,232	2,166	1,985	1,429	1,985	1,429

 Lowest Impact per category by alternative

 Highest Impact per category by alternative

Project Schedule/What's Next

The project team is currently preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) which is the document that will discuss the four alternatives and their associated impacts. The team will also be proposing mitigation in some cases where resources cannot be avoided. The document will be made available to the public for review and a public hearing will be held to allow the public an opportunity to comment on the alternatives presented. The public hearing will be held in fall 2024. Because the team has continued to receive the same results from the public when asked about the preferred alternative and based on coordination with the permitting agencies and associated environmental impacts, Alternative E-Shift Modified is the Draft Recommended Preferred Alternative. Following the analysis of alternatives that will be documented in the DEIS and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), an alternative will be selected and advanced into final design and construction.

In addition to the DEIS, the team has been working with the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the Maryland Department of the Environment on the waterway permits that will be required to

construct this project. The federal waterway permit is referred to as a 404 permit and each state will issue a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC). Both states have their own wetland and waterway permit programs. The Maryland Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permit will be obtained during the National Environmental Policy Act process and the Pennsylvania Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit will be obtained in Final Design. Regulations require that the federal permit be issued 90 days after the Record of Decision (ROD). As a result, the waterway permit is also going to be part of the public hearing. Federal and state regulations require the public have an opportunity to comment on the waterway permits. Additional information about the waterway permit will be made available prior to the public hearing.

A public hearing brochure will be prepared and distributed prior to the public hearing. This brochure will summarize the information in the DEIS and provide information about the alternatives, impacts and mitigation. Information about the public hearing - when, where and what time - will also be included. The brochure will be distributed approximately one-month in advance of the public hearing.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



PHASE 1: ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

Public Meeting No. 1 to Present Detailed Alternatives - **JUNE 23, 2022**

Public Meeting No. 2 to Present Detailed Alternatives - **NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

Newsletter No. 1 to Present Recommended Preferred Alternative - **SPRING 2024**

Circulate Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) - **FALL 2024**

Conduct Public Hearing - **FALL 2024**

Public Meeting No. 3 to Present Preferred Alternative & Mitigation - **SPRING 2025**

Complete Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and issue Record of Decision (ROD) - **SUMMER 2025**

WE ARE
HERE



PHASE 2: PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING (FULLY FUNDED)

Complete Preliminary Engineering Design - **2023 to 2025**



PHASE 3: FINAL DESIGN (FULLY FUNDED)

Complete Final Design & Right-of-way Acquisition - **2025 to 2028**



PHASE 4: CONSTRUCTION (CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING)

Complete Construction - **2029 to 2031**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please submit comments via the project website or by sending comments to Michael Stone, P.E. PennDOT project manager at 814.696.7157 or micstone@pa.gov.

For more information on the project including the history of the project, planned work and future meeting dates, please visit the website: penndot.pa.gov/US219meyersdalesouth

