Attachment 28 to PLA-6219 Ecology III, Inc. May 5, 2004. Wetland Delineation for West Building Area Susquehanna Steam Electric Station

(NRC Document Request 74)

FOR WEST BUILDING AREA SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION

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WETLAND DELINEATION FOR WEST BUILDING AREA SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION

A delineation of wetlands was made for a possible parking lot expansion near the West Building at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station on 29 March and 27 April 2004. The survey included lands surrounding the West Building, west of TR438 (Confers Lane), and around the Towers Club, east of TR438, in Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Wetlands occur north of the West Building, west of the building except for an upland ridge, and south of the building. Wetlands also occur east of TR438 in a depression between the Towers Club driveway and the Gate 50 access road and south of the Gate 50 access road.

Wetlands north and west of the West Building are classified as emergent perennial palustrine wetlands according to Cowardin et al. (1979). Dominants include arrowwood, broad-leaf meadowsweet, red canary grass, wrinkle-leaf goldenrod, giant goldenrod, sensitive fern, and Asiatic tearthumb. Wetland status of species and additional species used in delineation are listed in Table 1. Soils are mapped as Chenango gravelly loam (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1981). This is not listed as a hydric soil by the U. S. Department of Agriculture (1987), but it may have hydric inclusions. Soil tests indicated hydric soil, 10YR 5/2, with bright chroma mottles. Data from this community are given in Appendix I, Plot No. 1.

Wetlands west of the West Building are classified as emergent perennial and scrub shrub wetlands (Cowardin et al. 1979). Dominants include red maple, arrowwood, broad-leaf meadowsweet, reed canary grass, and giant goldenrod. Soils are mapped as Rexford loam (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1981), which is listed as a hydric soil (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1987). Soil tests indicated hydric soil, 10YR 4/1, with bright chroma mottles. Data from this community are given in Appendix I, Plot No. 2.

Wetlands south of the West Building and south of the Towers Club are classified as forested palustrine wetlands (Cowardin et al. 1979). Dominants include pin oak, red maple, arrowwood, northern spicebush, high-bush blueberry, skunk cabbage, cinnamon fern, and sensitive fern (Table 1). Soils are mapped as Rexford silt loam and Atherton silt loam (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1981); both are listed as hydric soils (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1987). Soil tests indicated saturated soil, 10YR 4/1, with bright chroma mottles. Data from this community are given in Appendix I, Plot No. 3 (south of West Building) and No. 4 (south of Towers Club).

Wetlands were delineated in accordance with the *Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory 1987). The wetland boundaries were marked with red wire flags as follows (see map):

- 1-48 South and west of West Building
- 49-80 North of West Building
- T1-15 Between Towers Club and Gate 50 access
- T16-27 South of Gate 50 access

The hillside north of the wetland at the West Building and north of the Towers Club is upland. Vegetation consists of northern red oak, black oak, black cherry, red maple, flowering dogwood, northern spicebush (Towers Club side only), garlic mustard, and hay-scented fern. Soils are mapped as Oquagga and Lordstown extremely stony silt loam (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1981). These are not listed as hydric soils (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1987). Soil tests indicated stony soil, 10YR 4/4-4/6, with no mottles or other hydric soil features. Data from this community are given in Appendix A, Plot No. 5 and No. 6.

Upland field vegetation occurs between the West Building and the dikes surrounding the pond (and on the dikes) and on a low ridge west of the fence. Vegetation consists of Virginia pine and gray birch on the low ridge, with multiflora rose, Allegheny blackberry, staghorn sumac, autumn olive, wrinkle-leaf goldenrod, orchard grass, broom-sedge, and Asiatic tearthumb. Soils are mapped as Chenango gravelly loam and Rexford loam. Rexford is listed as a hydric soil; Chenango is not listed as hydric (U. S. Department of Agriculture 1987). Soil tests indicated non-hydric soils, 10YR 4/3-4/4, with no mottles or other hydric soil features. Data from these areas are given in Appendix I, Plot No. 7 and No. 8.

The lawn areas around the buildings are also mostly upland (probably on fill around the West Building). Vegetation consists of lawn grasses. Soils are mapped as Rexford loam, but did not match this soil description. Soil tests indicated non-hydric soils, 10YR 4/4-4/5. Data from this area are given in Appendix I, Plot No. 9.

Upland areas could be used for the parking lot expansion where wetlands would not need to be disturbed for access. The best would appear to be the low ridge west of the existing fence. There is also some area behind the Towers Club that might be utilized. The area around the existing pond would not be large enough and the hillsides to the north are too steep. South of both buildings is nearly all forested wetlands which should not be considered. Crossing, filling, or encroaching on wetlands would require permits from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the PA Department of Environmental Protection.

References

- Cowardin, L. M., V. Carter, F. C. Golet, and E. T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of wetland and deepwater habitats of the United States. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.
- Environmental Laboratory. 1987. Corps of Engineers wetlands delineation manual. Technical. Report. Y-87-1, U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.
- Reed, P. N. 1988. National list of plant species that occur in wetlands: Pennsylvania. National Wetlands Inventory, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, St. Petersburg, FL.
- U. S. Department of Agriculture. 1981. Soil survey of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Soil Conservation Service.
- U. S. Department of Agriculture. 1987. Hydric soils of the United States. Soil Conservation Service.

Table 1

Plant species (common and scientific names) used in wetland delineation for West Building Area, Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Salem Township, Pennsylvania, 29 March and 27 April 2004.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Wetland Status*		
Red maple	Acer rubrum	Fac		
Brookside alder	Alnus serrulata	Obl		
Northern spicebush	Lindera benzoin	Facw		
Sensitive fern	Onoclea sensibilis	Facw		
Cinnamon fern	Osmunda cinnamomea	Facw		
Reed canary grass	Phalaris arundinacea	Facw		
Asiatic tearthumb	Polygonum peroliatum	Fac		
Pin oak	Quercus palustris	Facw		
Silky willow	Salix sericea	Obl		
Giant goldenrod	Solidago gigantea	Facw		
Wrinkle-leaf goldenrod	Solidago rugosa	Fac		
Broad-leaf meadowsweet	Spiraea latifolia	Fac		
Skunk cabbage	Symplocarpus foetidus	Obl		
Common cattail	Typha latifolia	Obl		
High-bush blueberry	Vaccinium corymbosum	Facw		
Arrowwood	Viburnum dentatum	Fac		

^{*} Classification according to U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Reed 1988).

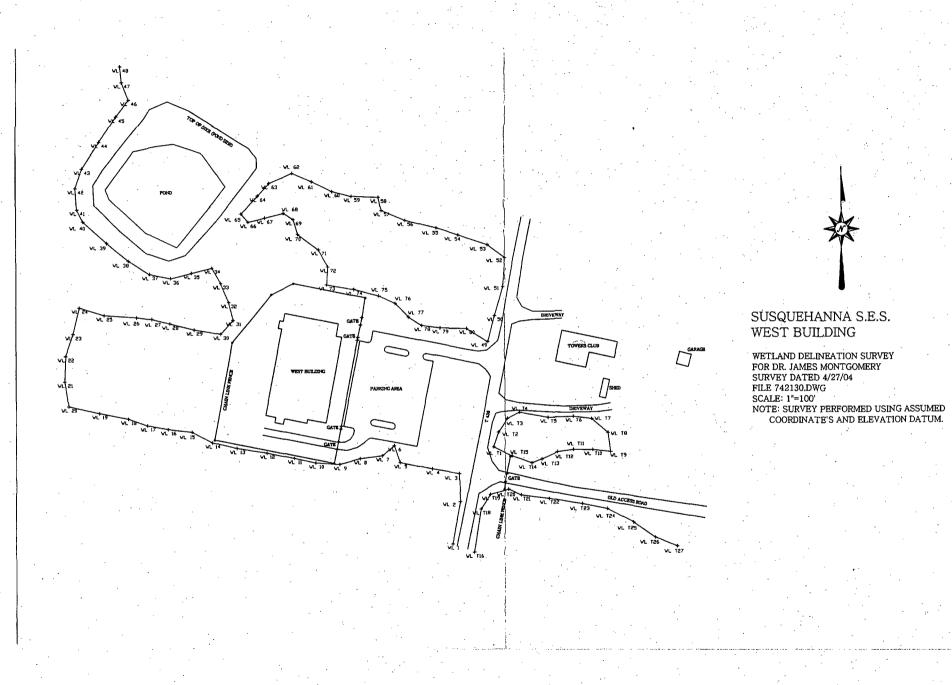
Obl = Obligate wetland species (almost always occur in wetlands)

Facw = Facultative wetland species (usually occur in wetlands)

Fac = Facultative species (equally likely to occur in wetlands or nonwetlands)

Facu = Facultative upland species (usually occur in uplands)

Upl = Upland species (not listed in wetland inventory)



APPENDIX I

Data Sheets From

Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987)

For Community Types Described in This Report

DATA FORM 1 WETLAND DETERMINATION

Applicant Name:	Application Number:		Project Name: West Bldg	
State: YA County: L	Uzerne Legal Descr			
Date: 3/29/04 P1	ot No.:	Sectio	n: N. f Parkin, L.	, +
Vegetation [list the three	c dominant species	in each vegeta	tion layer (5 if	
only 1 or 2 layers)]. In	dicate species with	observed morp	hological or known	
physiological adaptations	with an asterisk.			
	icator		Indicator	
Species Sta	atus <u>S</u>	Species	Status	
Trees	Herbs			
1. (nome)	7. /	Chalaris arvic	- ·	
2.	8.	Solidano rug.	osa Fac	:
3.	9	Solidare gion	inton facu	
Saplings/shrubs	Woody 1			
4. Vibernum dentatur	_		(Lili) Facu	٠
5. Spiraca Intifolia	Fac 11.	Polygonum pe	Alista Fre	
6.	12.			
% of species that are OBL,	, FACW, and/or FAC:	100. Other in	ndicators:	_ •
Hydrophytic vegetation: Y	les X No	Basis: 1007.	FAC IT > SIT	
				-
<u>Soil</u>				
Series and phase: Chenany	generally loam on hydr	ic soils list	? Yes ; No X	
Mottled: Yes X; No	•			_
Gleyed: Yes No X				_
Hydric soils: YesXN				٠.
 -				•
Hydrology			• •	
Inundated: Yes X; No_	. Depth of stan	ding water:	Z "	
Saturated soils: Yes X				٠.
Other indicators:	•			-
Wetland hydrology: Yes X	: No . Basis	: _saturated	n.l	- `
Atypical situation: Yes_				-`
Normal Circumstances? Yes				
Wetland Determination: We		; Nonwet	land	
Comments:		,		_
	Datam	nined by: /	14 h	
	ne re tu	ILIEU DY: /.	Marchan and	

DATA FORM 1 WETLAND DETERMINATION

Applicant Application Project Name: West Bldg Name: 11 L Number: State: PA County: Luzeme Legal Description: Township: Salem Date: 3/29/04 Plot No.: 2 Section: W. F Wut & Id, Vegetation [list the three dominant species in each vegetation layer (5 if only 1 or 2 layers)]. Indicate species with observed morphological or known physiological adaptations with an asterisk. Indicator Indicator Status Species -Species Status Trees Herbs 7. Phalamis aroudinacan 1. Acer ruboum 8. Solidase giganten 3. 9. Woody vines Saplings/shrubs FAC 4. Viburnum dentatum 10. Fac 5. Spiream Inti Filia 11. 12. % of species that are OBL, FACW, and/or FAC: 100. Other indicators: Hydrophytic vegetation: Yes X No . Basis: 1007. Fact yer Soil Series and phase: Rexford Loam On hydric soils list? Yes X; No ... Mottled: Yes X; No . Mottle color: 10 Y R Y / Y ; Matrix color: 10 Y R Y / Y . Gleyed: Yes____ No__X Other indicators:___ Hydric soils: Yes / No ; Basis: mothed law chroma Hydrology Inundated: Yes___; No_X_. Depth of standing water:__ Saturated soils: Yes X; No ____. Depth to saturated soil: ___ Other indicators: Wetland hydrology: Yes X; No . Basis: saturated Atypical situation: Yes ; No X . Normal Circumstances? Yes X No ... ____; Nonwetland_ Wetland Determination: Wetland X Comments:

Determined by: / Montannany

DATA FORM 1 WETLAND DETERMINATION

Name: frL	Number:	Name: West Bldg
State: TA County: Luzerne		
Date: 3/29/04 Plot No.	: Sect	:10n: wet woods Sof West Bl
Vegetation [list the three domi	nant species in each vege	tation layer (5 if
only 1 or 2 layers)]. Indicate	species with observed mo	rphological or known
physiological adaptations with	an asterisk.	
Indicator		Indicator
Species Status	Species	Status
Trees	Herbs	<i>N</i>
1. Queres, palviters Face	7. Symploenin	, toetidus Oli
2. Acer rubrum fac	8. Oneclem 1e	millio Frew
3.	9.	
Saplings/shrubs	Woody vines	
4. Vaccinium corymborum f	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
5. Vilumin dentatum F		
6. Lindern benzoin F	·ω 12.	
% of species that are OBL, FACW		
Hydrophytic vegetation: Yes X	No Basis: 100	7. Fac or > 11p.
<u>Soil</u>		
Series and phase: Atherton silt		•
Mottled: Yes X; No		*
Gleyed: Yes X No Oth		
Hydric soils: Yes No	; Basis: mottled gles	· · d sail
Hydrology		
Inundated: Yes X; No	Depth of standing water:	2 "
Saturated soils: Yes X ; No_	Depth to saturated	soil:
Other indicators:		•
Wetland hydrology: Yes X ; N	Basis:	ted soil
Atypical situation: Yes; N	<u> </u>	
Normal Circumstances? Yes X	No	
Wetland Determination: Wetland	X Nonw	etland
Comments:		
	Determined by:	1. Montania
	<u> </u>	1 0

DATA FORM I

Applicant Name: Pr	Application Number:	Project Name: Tower, Cl. L
State: PA County: Luzeme		
Date: 4/12/04 Plot No.	: Sec	tion: Tower Club 5.d
Vegetation [list the three domin	nant species in each veg	etation layer (5 if
only 1 or 2 layers)]. Indicate	species with observed m	orphological or known
physiological adaptations with a	nn asterisk.	
Indicator		Indicator
Species Status	Species	<u>Status</u>
Trees	Herbs	
1. Acer nubrum fre		
2. Quereus palastris Face	8. Osmanda	civin money Free
3.	9.	
Saplings/shrubs	Woody vines	
4. Viboraum dentatum far	10. Viti 5/	<u>-</u>
5. Lindern benzoin Fac	- 11.	
6.	12.	
% of species that are OBL, FACW,	and/or FAC: 100. Othe	r indicators:
Hydrophytic vegetation: Yes \underline{x}	No Basis: 100	7. fac or > say.
So11		
Series and phase: Rextord H	loam On hydric soils 1	ist? Yes X : No .
Mottled: Yes X; No	•	•
Gleyed: YesNo_X Othe		
Hydric soils: Yes ✓ No		
Hydrology		
Inundated: Yes X; No	Depth of standing water	:3 4
Saturated soils: Yes X; No		
Other indicators: tee h		•
Wetland hydrology: Yes X; No		ted punded soil .
Atypical situation: Yes; No		
Normal Circumstances? Yes X	No	
Wetland Determination: Wetland	X ; Nor	wetland
Comments:		
	Determined by:	1. Montgomen,
	_	7

DATA FORM I

Applicant Name: ۲/L	Application Number:	Project Name: West B(d;
State: PA County:	Luzerne Legal Description	on: Township: Salem
Date: 3/29/04 I	Plot No.: 5	Section: hilll. N. J. w.
Vegetation [list the thr	rec <u>dominant</u> species in ea	ach vegetation layer (5 if
only 1 or 2 layers)]. I	Indicate species with obse	erved morphological or known
physiological adaptation	ns with an asterisk.	
	ndicator Status Spec	Indicator Status
Trees	<u>Herbs</u>	
1. Quereus rubra		iarra petiolata facu
2. from rection 3.	Facu 8. 9.	
Saplings/shrubs	Woody vines	<u>.</u>
4. Corne, Florida		icodendron radience Fac
5. Quereus ribra	Facu 11.	
6.	12.	
Z of species that are OB	L, FACW, and/or FAC: 18.	Other indicators: none.
Soil Series and phase: ext st		soils list? Yes; No_X
the state of the s		; Matrix color: 10 YR 4/4.
	Other indicators:	
Hydric soils: Yes	No x ; Basis: No i	adjentor,
Hydrology		
Inundated: Yes; No	X. Depth of standing	water:
Saturated soils: Yes	; No_ χ Depth to sa	sturated soil: > 15 "
Other indicators:		<u> </u>
Wetland hydrology: Yes_	; NoX Basis:	no indicators.
Atypical situation: Yes	; NoX	
Normal Circumstances? Y	es_X_No	
Wetland Determination:	Wetland	; Nonwetland X
Comments:		
	Determined	i by: 1 Montamen

DATA FORM 1

Applicant Name: <u>PPL</u>	Application Number:	Project Name: Tower, Club
State: PA County: Luze	che_Legal Description	n: Township: Salaa
Date: 4/12/04 Plot No	o.:6	Section: Town Chil s
Vegetation [list the three don	ninant species in each	ch vegetation layer (5 if
only 1 or 2 layers)]. Indicat	e species with obser	rved morphological or known
physiological adaptations with	an asterisk.	
Indicato Species Status	or Specie	Indicator Status
Trees	Herbs	
1. Queres, velution U	,1 7. Ly.	podium observe Face
		taration pronotice Unl
3. Aver retrum	9.	
Saplings/shrubs	Woody vines	
4. Corner Horida	10.	
5. Linder hendoin	11.	
6.	12.	
of species that are OBL, FAC	W, and/or FAC: 28.	Other indicators:
Hydrophytic vegetation: Yes		
So11		
Series and phase: ext steam si	litown It loam On hydric so	oils list? Yes : No 🗵
fottled: Yes ; No X .		
Gleyed: Yes No X Ot		
lydric soils: YesNo_X		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
lydrology		
nundated: Yes; No_X	Depth of standing	water:
Saturated soils: Yes; No	the state of the s	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
other indicators:	•	
Wetland hydrology: Yes;		indicators
Atypical situation: Yes;		
Normal Circumstances? Yes X		
Vetland Determination: Wetlar		; Nonwetland X
Comments:		
	Determined	by: / MA +
	Secermined	y. J. Windaway

DATA FORM 1. WETLAND DETERMINATION

Name: // L		Application Number:			ect :_ West Bla
State: /A Count	y: Luzerne	_Legal Desc	ription:	Township:	Salem
Date: 3/29/04	Plot No.:	7		Section:	dike + hill
	*				
Vegetation [list the	threc <u>domin</u>	ant species	in each	vegetation	layer (5 if
only 1 or 2 layers)].	Indicate	species with	h observe	d morpholo	gical or know
physiological adaptat:	ions with a	n asterisk.	, t		
Species	Indicator Status		Species		ndicator Status
Trees		Herbs			
1. —				sa rugara	
2.		8.	Dacty	Ir. olomar	ata facu
3.		9.	Polyoon-	- pertoli	ntim fac
Saplings/shrubs		Woody	vines		
4. Rub., alleuhenie-	ing Faci	10.	÷ '		
5. Rhu, typhina		11.			
6. Roia multiflora	Fac	12.			
7 of species that are	OBL, FACW,	and/or FAC:	<u> 33</u> . o	ther indic	ators:
Hydrophytic vegetation					
Soil Series and phase: Che					•
Mottled: Yes; No					eolor: 10 /121/
Gleyed: YesNo_					
Hydric soils: Yes	NO <u>_X</u> ;	Basis:	ho in	dicators	
Hydrology					_
Inundated: Yes;					
Saturated soils: Yes_		Depth	to satur	ated soil:	> (8"
Other indicators:		·	·	<u>. ' . ' . ' . '</u>	
Wetland hydrology: Ye			ls: <u>n</u> o	indian	tori
Atypical situation: Y	es; No_	<u>X</u> .			
Normal Circumstances?	Yes X	٠ <u> </u>			
Wetland Determination:	Wetland_		;	Nonwetland	X
Comments:			* * *	•	
					•
		Dete	rmined by	: 1 m	ntomery

DATA FORM I

Applicant Name: PPL	Application Number:	Project Name: <u>Weid</u>	Bld,
State: PA County: Lutern	Legal Description:	Township: Sale	un_
Date: 3/29/04 Plot No.	.:8	Section: W.f W.	+ 164,
			2.10
Vegetation [list the three dom:	inant species in each	vegetation layer (5 1f
only 1 or 2 layers)]. Indicate	species with observe	d morphological or	known
physiological adaptations with	an asterisk.		
Indicator Species Status	r Species	Indicator Status	
Trees	Herbs		
1. Pinus virginiana Upt		-7	Fac
2. Betala populitalia Fac	8. Androp	·a · viginicus	Facu
3.	9. Dactyl	ri dlamarata	Facu
Saplings/shrubs	Woody vines		. %
4. Rosa multifler Facu	10		•
5. Elengues anglestitalin Fac	11.		
6.	12.		
% of species that are OBL, FAC	I, and/or FAC: 28. C	ther indicators:	<u> </u>
Hydrophytic vegetation: Yes	No X. Basis:	4070 Fact sen	•
Soil Soil			
Series and phase: Rexford lo	on hydric soil	ls list? Yes X ;	No
Mottled: Yes; No \times N			
Gleyed: Yes No_X Oth	ner indicators:	и в	<u> </u>
Hydric soils: YesNo_X	; Basis: ne inc	lienturi	<u> </u>
Hydrology			
Inundated: Yes; No_X			
Saturated soils: Yes; No	χ . Depth to satur	rated soil: > 18"	· .
Other indicators:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·
Wetland hydrology: Yes;	No_X Basis:	indicatori	
Atypical situation: Yes;	No <u>X</u> .		
Normal Circumstances? Yes X	No		:
Wetland Determination: Wetland	d;	Nonwetland X	
Comments:			
			-
	Determined b	y: 1 montino	
	•	, v *	~

DATA FORM 1

Applicant Name:		Application Number:		Proje Name:	ct We.+	blds.
State: 1A Count	y: Luzerne	Legal Desc	ription:	Township:_	Salem	•
Date: 3/29/04	Plot No.:	9		Section:	lawn	
Vegetation [list the	three domina	nt species	in each	vegetation	layer (5	if
only 1 or 2 layers)].	Indicate s	pecies with	h observe	d morpholog	ical or	known
physiological adaptat	ions with an	asterisk.	• .			
Species	Indicator Status	• .	Species		dicator tatus	
Trees		Herbs	•			
1. — · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		7. 8. 9.	lawn	graises		
Saplings/shrubs		Woody	vines	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		
4		10.				
5.		11.				
6.	•	12.				4.
% of species that are	OBL, FACW,	and/or FAC:	01	her indica	tors:	•
Hydrophytic vegetation						
		· ———.				
Soil Series and phase: 1	ll on extend loam	On hyd	lric soils	s list? Ye	s;	No
Mottled: Yes; No	o <u>X</u> . Mot	tle color:	~	; Matrix c	olor: 10	YR 5/4.
Gleyed: Yes No	X Other	indicators	: <u>и</u>	one		· ·
Hydric soils: Yes	No <u>Y</u> ;	Basis:	no ind	ientors		·•
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •				
Hydrology	•		•			
Inundated: Yes;	No_X. D	epth of sta	inding wat	er:		<u> </u>
Saturated soils: Yes	; No <u>×</u>	Depth	to satura	ated soil:	> 10, 4	4 FIII.
Other indicators:	none					· •
Wetland hydrology: Ye	es; No_	X . Basi	ls: <u>h</u> o	indicat	,,,	· · · · · · · · ·
Atypical situation:	Yes <u>X</u> ; No_	·•				
Normal Circumstances?	Yes <u>X</u> N	o				
Wetland Determination	: Wetland		; l	Nonwetland	У	
Comments: 4-8" to	red stone	. ≠iu			· .	
		Deter	mined by	: 1. m	ntame	~