

## Bulavinetz, Richard

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**From:** Megan\_Seymour@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2010 2:54 PM  
**To:** Bulavinetz, Richard  
**Subject:** Re: Davis-Besse Transmission line corridor  
**Attachments:** pic14604.gif

Rich,

To clarify, all transmission lines are existing, however vegetative maintenance along the lines may be necessary?

The initial map provided with the submission last year did not indicate the location of all transmission lines. Based on the map you just provided, and assuming these already exist but are subject to maintenance, the main issue I see is with Bald eagles. Ottawa County has one of the highest densities of eagle nests in Ohio. Relevant to the transmission lines and the Davis Besse property, there are nests in proximity to the following areas:  
2 nests on the Davis Besse property--one on the northwest corner and one on the southeast side of Navarre Marsh (land leased to Ottawa NWR)  
2 nests along the Toussaint River in proximity to the Lemoyne Line  
2 nests along the Beaver Line north of the Portage River  
MANY nests along the west side of Sandusky Bay, in the vicinity of the Beaver Line  
MANY nests on the north side of State Route 2 in Ottawa County, which runs parallel to the Bayshore Line (on Ottawa NWR and Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources Wildlife areas)

I would suggest you provide us with a shapefile of the transmission lines so we can evaluate which nests fall within really close proximity (660 feet) of the lines/facility and for which reaches of transmission lines we would strongly recommend implementation of seasonal restrictions relative to bald eagle nests, as included in our letter from December 2009, or other measures as necessary to protect bald eagles.

Another concern is that both Ottawa and Lucas County, are known to support populations of the Eastern prairie fringed orchid, a Federal threatened species. This tall, showy orchid is found in wet prairies, sedge meadows, and moist road-side ditches. It may even occur in areas that are regularly disturbed by mowing/burning if suitable water regimes are present. If vegetative maintenance is proposed in wetland areas similar to that described here, we typically recommend that surveys for this species be conducted in early July when the orchids are in bloom. If orchids are found, further coordination with this office is recommended.

Finally, if vegetative maintenance is proposed within wetland areas in general, I would suggest coordination with the Buffalo District of the Corps of Engineers. I do not think they would regulate most vegetative clearing, but it may depend on the method/equipment being used and the current vegetative state of the wetland (emergent vs. forested, etc). I would suggest that you check with Paul Wetzel ([paul.f.wetzel@usace.army.mil](mailto:paul.f.wetzel@usace.army.mil), 419-898-3491) for additional information.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
Megan

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