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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AST</td>
<td>Aboveground Storage Tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CERCLIS</td>
<td>Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEIS</td>
<td>Draft Environmental Impact Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEQ</td>
<td>Department of Environmental Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DMME</td>
<td>Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERNS</td>
<td>Emergency Response Notification System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHWA</td>
<td>Federal Highway Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEF</td>
<td>Hazardous Equipment or Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISTEA</td>
<td>Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAST</td>
<td>Leaking Aboveground Storage Tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUST</td>
<td>Leaking Underground Storage Tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSL</td>
<td>Mean Sea Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEPA</td>
<td>National Environmental Policy Act of 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPL</td>
<td>National Priority List –Superfund Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP/PC</td>
<td>Pollution Complaint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCRIS</td>
<td>Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UST</td>
<td>Underground Storage Tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VDOT</td>
<td>Virginia Department of Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VRP</td>
<td>Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this technical report is to document the contamination screening undertaken as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Coalfields Expressway Location Study in southwest Virginia. Screening the project study area for potential contamination is done to avoid costly construction delays due to encountering unexpected soil or groundwater contamination. Identification of potential problem areas early in the process also allows remediation responsibilities to be assigned, and costs to be borne, during right of way acquisition prior to construction. This report is prepared in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Technical Advisory 6640.8A, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and NEPA’s implementing regulations.

This report identifies areas of known or potential contamination in the study area whose presence may affect project right of way acquisition and construction. The report includes a description of the project, project setting and land use in the study area. It also provides a description of each site of potential concern as well as a discussion of methodologies used to identify these sites.

1.1 PROJECT SETTING

The study area is located in Wise, Dickenson, and Buchanan counties in Southwest Virginia (see Exhibit 1). The study area comprises a portion of the Cumberland Mountain section of the Appalachian Plateau physiographic region, which is characterized by steep slopes, V-shaped valleys, and narrow floodplains. Compared to other mountainous areas of Virginia, elevations in the study area are relatively low. Elevation varies from 295 meters (966 feet) above mean sea level (MSL) near Harmon Junction to 750 meters (2460 feet) above MSL near the West Virginia State line.
2. **BUILD ALTERNATIVES**

Over the course of the project, nine project alternatives were established for consideration. The No-Build Alternative and five Build Alternatives have been retained for further study. For purposes of this report, only the build alternatives (the only alternatives involving significant construction) require discussion.

This section describes the five proposed build alternatives, shown on Exhibit 2. As the study progresses and more information is obtained, portions of different alternatives may be combined to form the final alternative.

**Alternative A** – Begins at Pound in Wise County with its connection to Route 23 near Horse Gap. It travels east along the northern town limits of Pound to Route 83. It then follows the Route 83 alignment to the vicinity of Route 621 in Dickenson County. Alternative A parallels Route 621 for approximately one mile and heads east north of Clintwood. Traveling along Big Ridge in a northeasterly direction, it passes north of Haysi and crosses the Russell Fork just south of its connection with the Pound River. From there, it travels east to Bull Gap in Buchanan County. From Bull Gap, Alternative A travels in a southeasterly direction and passes close to the Grundy Airport and crosses Route 460 south of Grundy. It continues to the east along the ridge top, paralleling Route 83 approximately one mile to the south, until it ties to Route 83 at the West Virginia State line near Paynesville.

**Alternative B** – Begins at Pound in Wise County with its connection to Route 23 near Horse Gap. It travels east, paralleling Route 83 an average of one half mile to the north, to Route 621 in Dickenson County. From there, it continues eastward to the north of Clintwood. Traveling along Big Ridge in a northeasterly direction, it passes just to the north of Haysi and crosses the Russell Fork approximately one half-mile north of the Haysi town limits. From there, it travels along Barts Lick Creek, to a point just south of Bull Gap and parallels the Route 609 alignment in Buchanan County. From near the Route 609/Route 460 intersection, Alternative B parallels Route 460 until they cross in the vicinity of Route 460/Route 656 intersection. It then continues eastward, parallel to Looney Creek. For the remainder, it travels along the
Potential Contamination Sites Survey

ridge top, paralleling Route 83 an average of one and one-half miles to the north, until it ties to Route 83 at the West Virginia State line near Paynesville.

**Alternative C** – Begins at Pound in Wise County with its connection to Route 23 near Horse Gap. It travels east along the northern town limits of Pound to Route 83. It follows the Route 83 alignment to the vicinity of Route 621 in Dickenson County. From there, the alignment parallels Route 72 to the south for a short distance, then turns east, traveling on the ridge top along the southern town limits of Clintwood. Alternative C turns and travels in a northeasterly direction close to the Dickenson County Technology Park, until it follows the same alignment as Alternatives A and B. From this point, it travels across Cranes Nest River and along Big Ridge in a northeasterly direction and passes north of Haysi, along the town limits. Continuing east, it travels near Poplar Gap and parallels Routes 614 and 615 in Buchanan County and crosses Route 460 in Grundy in the vicinity of Route 615. Alternative C travels east through Grundy along the ridge top and parallels Route 83 approximately one mile to the south until it ties to Route 83 at the West Virginia State line near Paynesville.

**Alternative D** – Begins just south of the Pound town limits in Wise County, with its connection to Route 23. It travels in a northeasterly direction along the town limits until it meets Route 83 and continues to the east along the Route 83 alignment to the vicinity of Route 621 in Dickenson County. From there, the alignment parallels Route 72 to the south for a short distance, then turns east, traveling on the ridge top along the southern town limits of Clintwood. At the southeastern corner of Clintwood, Alternative D realigns with Route 83 and either follows the alignment or parallels the alignment south of the McClure River to the southern town limits of Haysi. From there, it crosses Routes 80/83, traveling east along the ridge top, to a point near Poplar Gap in Buchanan County. From Poplar Gap, it travels in a southeasterly direction and passes close to the Grundy Airport. It continues east along the ridge top, paralleling Route 83 approximately one mile to the south. From there, it parallels Compton Mountain and Route 639 to the West Virginia State line with a connection to Route 635 in West Virginia.

**Alternative E** – Begins just south of the Pound town limits in Wise County, with its connection to Route 23. It travels in a northeasterly direction along the town limits, crosses Route 83, and parallels Route 83 one-half mile to the north until it realigns with Route 83 in Dickenson County west of Clintwood. It continues along Route 83 and then turns and parallels Route 72 to the south for a short distance, then turns east, traveling along the southern limits of Clintwood. At
the southeastern corner of Clintwood, Alternative E parallels Route 83 south of the McClure River to the southern town limits of Haysi. From there, it crosses Routes 80/83, traveling east to a point near Poplar Gap in Buchanan County. At this point, the alignment turns in a northeasterly direction until it turns east paralleling Route 460. Alternative E crosses Route 460 near its intersection with Route 656. It continues to the east, paralleling Looney Creek and then Route 83 approximately one and one-half miles to the north along the ridge top until it ties to Route 83 at the West Virginia State line near Paynesville.

3. METHODOLOGY

Preparing this report involved using several methods of locating potential contamination sites. Database searches, aerial reviews, and field surveys for each of the corridors was performed. Once this information was gathered and cross-referenced, 22 potential contamination sites were determined within the corridors of the five alternatives. Specific site information such as property owners, property boundaries, and agency file information was located if available.

3.1 DATABASE SEARCH

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) databases were searched for potential contamination sites. This involved performing corridor searches for each of the five alternates. Databases searched include:

**DEQ**
- VA WASTE (Solid Waste Sites)
- UST (Underground Storage Tank-registered)
- LUST/LAST (Leaking Underground Storage Tank)
- VRP SITES (Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program)
- PREP (Pollution Complaints)

**EPA**
- NPL (National Priority List-Superfund Sites)
- CERCLIS (Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System-Potential Superfund Sites)
- RCRIS (Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System)
- ERNS (Emergency Response Notification System)
The database searches identified a relatively small number of sites for a project of this scale. There were 212 potential sites identified within the study area, but only 19 could be mapped. The low number of mappable sites was mostly due to the limited address information for the project area. Counties in the study area have not developed Enhanced 911 systems and therefore do not have an addressing system that allows for physical location of a site based on street name and number. (The counties primarily use post office box numbers and rural route numbers for addresses.) Also, database information for unmapped sites did not include latitude and longitude. Typically, database information for potential contamination sites in more urban or developed areas have coordinates assigned to them. Only five of the 19 mapped sites were located within the corridors established for each proposed segment.

3.2 PAST LAND USE RESEARCH

Historic aerial photos were reviewed to help determine potential contamination site locations. These aerials, reviewed at the VDOT Central Office, were from the years 1969 (Dickenson County), 1971 (Buchanan County) and 1977 (Wise County). The scale of the aerials did not allow for the determination of most types of commercial or industrial land uses. However, the historic aerials did allow for comparison with recent aerials (1997) to locate areas that may have been previously developed but are now vegetated. These comparisons did not reveal any of these types of sites.

3.3 FIELD SURVEY

Field reviews provided business names, land uses, and site characteristics of properties located within the corridors of the five build alternatives. Special attention was given to businesses that might handle hazardous materials or petroleum products, generate hazardous waste, or may have handled these materials in the past. These businesses may include gas stations, landfills, refineries, chemical plants, coal purification plants, battery recycling facilities,
mining operations, dry cleaning firms, motor vehicle repair and maintenance operations, printing, and warehousing. Of the 22 total potential contamination sites, 17 of the sites were located during the field survey. The five sites found from the database searches were also reviewed during the field survey.

4. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following section discusses each of the 22 sites identified by the database searches and field survey. It also discusses Hazardous Equipment and Facility (HEF) sites provided by the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME).

4.1 DATABASE SEARCH AND FIELD SURVEY

Table 1 references all properties by site name and a corresponding number. Most of these facilities are automobile repair shops, gas stations with USTs, and abandoned storage tanks.

Approximate construction limits have been determined for the five alternatives. Table 1 also indicates whether or not the site falls within the construction limits for a proposed segment, and which alternatives the segment helps make up. The following paragraphs contain information about each site, and Exhibit 3 shows approximate site locations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Number</th>
<th>Name/Description</th>
<th>Alternates</th>
<th>Construction Limits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>106A</td>
<td>5 ASTs</td>
<td>A, C, D</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106B</td>
<td>Engine Repair Shop</td>
<td>A, C, D</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106C</td>
<td>Body Shop</td>
<td>A, C, D</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106D</td>
<td>Storage Tanks/Misc. Equipment</td>
<td>A, C, D</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106E</td>
<td>Storage Tanks</td>
<td>A, C, D</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108A</td>
<td>Sayler's Texaco</td>
<td>C, D, E</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108B</td>
<td>Air Conditioning and Heating Company</td>
<td>C, D, E</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109A</td>
<td>Auto Repair/Garage</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109B</td>
<td>Gas Station</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109C</td>
<td>83 Gas and Grocery</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1 Continued

Potential Contamination Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Number</th>
<th>Name/Description</th>
<th>Alternates</th>
<th>Construction Limits</th>
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<tr>
<td>109D</td>
<td>Auto Repair/Auto Sales</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>154A</td>
<td>Transformers</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156A</td>
<td>Dumping Site</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156B</td>
<td>Auto Body Repair</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>158A</td>
<td>IceKimo Wholesale Company</td>
<td>A, C, D, E</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209A</td>
<td>Landfill – Buchanan County</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Waste Cells-No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>237A</td>
<td>McClanahan’s Body Shop</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>238A</td>
<td>Wheel Alignment</td>
<td>B, E</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>238B</td>
<td>Auto Parts</td>
<td>B, E</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>302A</td>
<td>Abandoned Garage</td>
<td>B, E</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>336A</td>
<td>Gas Station</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>336B</td>
<td>Body Shop</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Site #: 106A
Site Description: 5 ASTs
Location: Route 83, North of Pound
Photo #: 1
This site contains five aboveground storage tanks (ASTs). Also, soil is being stored under tarps at this facility. (Specific tank information such as size, content and age is unknown.) The status of the soil is also unknown. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies.

Site #: 106B
Site Description: Engine Repair Shop
Location: Route 632, Meades Fork Road
Photo #: 2
This facility appeared to be out of business. There were no pumps, venting or other visual signs of USTs and none are recorded with DEQ. This site is not listed on the EPA’s Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS), and therefore, it is not a small quantity generator or treatment, storage and disposal (TSD) facility.
Exhibit 3
Site #: 106C  
**Site Description:** Body Shop  
**Location:** Route 632, Meades Fork Road  
**Photo #:** 3  
This facility is located adjacent to Orvis Small Engine. The area surrounding the building was clear of any debris. There were no visible signs of USTs and none are recorded with DEQ. This site is not listed on the EPA database as a RCRIS site.

Site #: 106D  
**Site Description:** Storage Tanks/Misc. Equipment  
**Location:** Route 632, Meades Fork Road  
**Photo #:** 4  
This site has ten storage tanks located near several large buildings. The tanks were extremely rusted. Several other pieces of equipment were on the property, including a truck trailer, backhoe, and several other construction type trucks. The owner or nature of this site is unknown. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 106E  
**Site Description:** Storage Tanks  
**Location:** Between Route 83 and Route 632  
**Photo #:** 5  
This site contained three old storage tanks, as well as several tires and miscellaneous automobile parts. The owner or nature of this site is unknown. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 108A  
**Site Description:** Sayler’s Texaco  
**DEQ Facility ID:** 1024513  
**Location:** Route 83  
**Photo #:** 6  
This gas station has several pump islands. This site is found on the DEQ registered UST tracking database. The number of USTs at this site is unknown. A Pollution Complaint (PC) was filed with DEQ on 12/21/88 regarding one UST. The gasoline tank was removed and PC# 89-0696 was closed.
Site #: 108B  
**Site Description:** Air Conditioning and Heating Company  
**Location:** Route 72  
**Photo #:** 7  
This is a sales, installation and repair business for A/C and heat pumps. This site is not listed on the EPA database as a RCRIS facility.

Site #: 109A  
**Site Description:** Auto Repair/Garage  
**Location:** Route 83  
**Photo #:** 8  
This site is an automobile repair/garage facility. There were no visible signs of USTs at this site. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 109B  
**Site Description:** Gas Station  
**Location:** Route 83  
**Photo #:** 9  
This service station has one pump island with four pumps. The number and condition of USTs for this site is unknown. There is no recorded information with the environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 109C  
**Site Description:** Gas Station  
**DEQ Facility #:** 1027296  
**Location:** Route 83  
**Photo #:** 10  
Signs at this site advertised home heating oils 1 and 2, motor oil, and sales of commercial and residential tanks. A Pollution Complaint was filed with DEQ on March 18, 1994 due to a leaking underground storage tank (LUST). Since then, remediation has occurred at this site and PC #94-2972 has been closed. The number of storage tanks at this site is unknown.

Site #: 109D  
**Site Description:** Auto Repair/Auto Sales  
**Location:** Route 83
**Site #**: 154A  
**Site Description**: Transformers  
**Location**: Route 672, northeast of Clintwood  
**Photo #**: 12 & 13  
There are approximately 10 pole mounted, electrical transformers being stored on this site. These transformers were cylindrical in shape and approximately 3’ high. The owner of this site is unknown. The property mostly consists of forested and pasture lands.

**Site #**: 156A  
**Site Description**: Dumping Site  
**Location**: Route 624  
**Photo #**: 14  
This is a dumping site located on property owned by the Paramount Coal Corporation at the Coal Branch Surface Mine. Debris at this site included old automobiles, barrels, miscellaneous car parts, tires and two old storage tanks. There is no recorded information with the environmental agencies for this site.

**Site #**: 156B  
**Site Description**: Auto Body Repair  
**Location**: Route 624  
**Photo #**: Not Available  
This is a small garage for automobile repair. This site is not listed on the EPA database as a RCRIS facility and there are no USTs recorded with DEQ.

**Site #**: 158A  
**Site Description**: IceKimo Wholesale Ice Company  
**EPA #**: VA0001017710  
**Location**: Route 83  
**Photo #**: 15  
Approximately 25 ice machines were located in front of two buildings that occupy this site. IceKimo trucks, as well as additional ice machines, were also located on the opposite side of Route 83. This site has been listed on the EPA
Facility Index System in the Enforcement Docket Database since March 1995. The Enforcement Docket system tracks civil judicial cases against environmental polluters. The EPA contacted IceKimo in 1995 regarding a complaint of toxic releases of ammonia reported at the Clintwood facility. IceKimo did not respond to the complaint and the EPA assessed penalties. The case was closed in 1997.

**Site #:** 209A  
**Site Description:** Buchanan County Landfill  
**Permit #:** 000218  
**FIPS #:** 027  
**Location:** Route 615  
**Photo #:** 16 & 17

This site is the former Buchanan County Landfill, sometimes referred to as the Hoot Owl Landfill. This facility opened in 1968 and closed in the spring of 1994. However, a sign at the landfill states that it still accepts brush, stumps and white goods (appliances). Solid waste is presently shipped out of the county for disposal. The 80-acre facility is classified as a sanitary landfill, and is listed on DEQ’s Solid Waste database. Although property boundary information was unavailable, it does not appear that a proposed corridor would impact the landfill property. According to mapping provided by the Southwest Regional DEQ Office, the waste cells are not located within a proposed corridor. The facility is likely unlined, and could pose contamination threats due to subsurface migration of hazardous materials. Exhibit 4 depicts waste cell limits.

**Site #:** 237A  
**Site Description:** McClanahan’s Body Shop  
**EPA #:** VA0000447581  
**Location:** Route 604  
**Photo #:** 18

This site is listed on the EPA’s RCRIS database as a class C (exempt small quantity) site. This facility was found to be in compliance during a June 27, 1996 inspection by DEQ. DEQ also lists ignitable waste and paint solvents as materials used at this facility. There are no USTs recorded with DEQ for this site.
Site #: 238A  
Site Description: Wheel Alignment  
Location: Route 460  
Photo #: 19  
This garage specializes in tire changes, rotations and alignments. This site is not listed on the EPA database as a RCRIS facility.

Site #: 238B  
Site Description: Auto Parts  
Location: Route 460  
Photo #: 20 & 21  
This facility is an automobile junkyard consisting of approximately 30 cars and 10 buses. Miscellaneous parts are also scattered over the property. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 302A  
Site Description: Abandoned Garage  
Location: Route 83  
Photo #: Not Available  
This site houses an abandoned repair/garage facility. Contents of the site included cars, tires, and miscellaneous parts. There were no visible signs of USTs; however, the site was covered with debris. A mobile home located on the site appeared to be occupied. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 336A  
Site Description: Gas Station  
Location: Route 83/460  
Photo #: 22  
This gas station had several pump islands. The number of USTs at this site is unknown. There is no recorded information with environmental agencies for this site.

Site #: 336B  
Site Description: Body Shop  
Location: Route 615  
Photo #: 23
This is the site of an automobile repair shop. This site is not listed on the EPA database as a RCRIS facility and there are no USTs recorded with DEQ.
Exhibit 4
4.2 VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MINES, MINERALS AND ENERGY

The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) maintains mapping of hazardous equipment or facilities (HEF) located within the study area. Approximately 90% of these sites were mapped between 1980 and 1986. According to DMME, HEF sites typically consist of tippels, facilities used to load coal onto trucks or railcars. These tippels can range in size from roughly 10’ X 10’ to several stories high and often occur at mine openings. Although specific site information is not available for HEF sites, a DMME representative stated that it is possible to find batteries and transformers (used to provide electricity to the mines), and different types of mine equipment stored at these locations. The term hazardous, as used by DMME, has a much broader definition than that of hazardous as discussed in this report. Exhibit 3 shows the locations of the HEF sites.
5. References


Photo 1 – ASTs

Photo 2 – Engine Repair Shop
Photo 3 – Body Shop

Photo 4 – Storage Tanks
Photo 5 – Storage Tanks

Photo 6 – Sayler’s Texaco
Photo 7 – Air Conditioning and Heating Company.

Photo 8 – Auto Repair/Garage
Photo 9 – Gas Station

Photo 10 – 83 Gas and Grocery
Photo 11 – Auto Repair/Auto Sales

Photo 12 – Transformers
Photo 13 – Transformers

Photo 14 – Dumping Site
Photo 15 – IceKimo Wholesale Ice Company

Photo 16 – Buchanan County Landfill
Photo 17 – Buchanan County Landfill

Photo 18 – McClanahan’s Body Shop
Photo 19 Wheel Alignment

Photo 20 – Auto Parts
Photo 21 – Auto Parts

Photo 22 – Gas Station
Photo 23 – Body Shop