NOTICE OF AUTHORIZATION

Permit Number: WRP049867 v. 1 **Date Issued: August 6, 2026**
Site Name: ATC 6530 and Mass overhead transmission line **Expiration Date: August 6, 2031**

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Water Resources Division, P.O. Box 30458, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7958, under provisions of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended; specifically:

- ☐ Part 31, Floodplain Regulatory Authority of the Water Resources Protection.
- ☐ Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams.
- ☒ Part 303, Wetlands Protection.
- ☐ Part 315, Dam Safety.
- ☐ Part 323, Shorelands Protection and Management.
- ☐ Part 325, Great Lakes Submerged Lands.
- ☐ Part 353, Sand Dunes Protection and Management.

Authorized Activity:

Excavate approximately 90 cubic yards of material (60.6 square feet of impact) to conduct 137 soil borings within regulated wetland along the length of the 6530 and Mass overhead transmission line for future pole structures. Each soil boring will consist of a 9-inch diameter auger drilled to a maximum depth of 40 feet. Material removed during drilling shall be returned to the borehole and any remaining space will be back filled bentonite and clean fill. Native wetland topsoil shall be placed at the surface of each borehole and graded to restore original grade.
Structure SB-165 shall be bored outside of the hibernation period of October 15 through April 15 to avoid impacts to listed bat species.
All work shall be completed in accordance with the attached plans and the terms and conditions of this permit.

Authorized Under General Permit Category: GP AA. Survey Activities; Waterbody Affected: Regulated Wetlands
Property Location: Gogebic County: Watersmeet Twp; Ontonagon County: Haight, Stannard, & Greenland Twps

Permittee:
American Transmission Company
801 O'Keefe Road
De Pere, WI 54115

Kayla Conklin

Kayla Conklin
Marquette District Office
Water Resources Division

This notice must be displayed at the site of work.
Laminating this notice or utilizing sheet protectors is recommended.
Please refer to the above permit number with any questions or concerns.

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Approved
Issued On:08/06/2026
Expires On:08/06/2031

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION
GENERAL PERMIT AUTHORIZATION

Issued To:

American Transmission Company
Attn: Andrew Orthober
801 O'Keefe Road
De Pere, WI 54115

Permit No.: **WRP049867 v.1**
Submission No.: **HQP-66A8-T3T65**
Site Name: **ATC 6530 and Mass overhead transmission line**
Issued:
Expires:

This permit is being issued by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Water Resources Division, under the provisions of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA); specifically:

- ☐ **Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams**
- ☐ **Part 323, Shorelands Protection and Management**
- ☒ **Part 303, Wetlands Protection**
- ☐ **Part 325, Great Lakes Submerged Lands**
- ☐ **Part 315, Dam Safety**
- ☐ **Part 353, Sand Dunes Protection and Management**
- ☐ **Part 31, Water Resources Protection (Floodplain Regulatory Authority)**

EGLE certifies that the activities authorized under this permit are in compliance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program and certifies without conditions under the Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401 that the discharge from the activities authorized under this permit will comply with Michigan's water quality requirements in Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the NREPA and associated administrative rules, where applicable.

Permission is hereby granted, based on permittee assurance of adherence to State of Michigan requirements and permit conditions, to:

Authorized Activity:

Excavate approximately 90 cubic yards of material (60.6 square feet of impact) to conduct 137 soil borings within regulated wetland along the length of the 6530 and Mass overhead transmission line for future pole structures. Each soil boring will consist of a 9-inch diameter auger drilled to a maximum depth of 40 feet. Material removed during drilling shall be returned to the borehole and any remaining space will be back filled bentonite and clean fill. Native wetland topsoil shall be placed at the surface of each borehole and graded to restore original grade.

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Structure SB-165 shall be bored outside of the hibernation period of October 15 through April 15 to avoid impacts to listed bat species.

All work shall be completed in accordance with the attached plans and the terms and conditions of this permit.

Authorized Under General Permit Category:	GP AA. Survey Activities
Waterbody Affected:	Regulated Wetlands
Property Location:	Gogebic County, Watersmeet Township Ontonagon County, Haight, Stannard, & Greenland Townships

Authority granted by this permit is subject to the following limitations:

A. Initiation of any work on the permitted project confirms the permittee's acceptance and agreement to comply with all terms and conditions of this permit.

B. The permittee, in exercising the authority granted by this permit, shall not cause unlawful pollution as defined by Part 31 of the NREPA.

C. This permit shall be kept at the site of the work and available for inspection at all times during the duration of the project or until its date of expiration.

D. All work shall be completed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications submitted with the application and/or plans and specifications attached to this permit.

E. No attempt shall be made by the permittee to forbid the full and free use by the public of public waters at or adjacent to the structure or work approved.

F. It is made a requirement of this permit that the permittee give notice to public utilities in accordance with 2013 PA 174 (Act 174) and comply with each of the requirements of Act 174.

G. This permit does not convey property rights in either real estate or material, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or invasion of public or private rights, nor does it waive the necessity of seeking federal assent, all local permits, or complying with other state statutes.

H. This permit does not prejudice or limit the right of a riparian owner or other person to institute proceedings in any circuit court of this state when necessary to protect his rights.

I. This permit shall not be assigned or transferred without the written approval of EGLE.

J. Failure to comply with conditions of this permit may subject the permittee to revocation of permit and criminal and/or civil action as cited by the specific state act, federal act, and/or rule under which this permit is granted.

K. All dredged or excavated materials shall be disposed of in an upland site (outside of floodplains, unless exempt under Part 31 of the NREPA, and wetlands).

L. In issuing this permit, EGLE has relied on the information and data that the permittee has provided in connection with the submitted application for permit. If, subsequent to the issuance of a permit, such information and data prove to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate, EGLE may modify, revoke, or suspend the permit, in whole or in part, in accordance with the new information.

M. The permittee shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Michigan and its departments, agencies, officials, employees, agents, and representatives for any and all claims or causes of action arising from

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acts or omissions of the permittee, or employees, agents, or representative of the permittee, undertaken in connection with this permit. The permittee's obligation to indemnify the State of Michigan applies only if the state: (1) provides the permittee or its designated representative written notice of the claim or cause of action within 30 days after it is received by the state, and (2) consents to the permittee's participation in the proceeding on the claim or cause of action. It does not apply to contested case proceedings under the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, as amended, challenging the permit. This permit shall not be construed as an indemnity by the State of Michigan for the benefit of the permittee or any other person.

N. Noncompliance with these terms and conditions and/or the initiation of other regulated activities not specifically authorized shall be cause for the modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit, in whole or in part. Further, EGLE may initiate criminal and/or civil proceedings as may be deemed necessary to correct project deficiencies, protect natural resource values, and secure compliance with statutes.

O. If any change or deviation from the permitted activity becomes necessary, the permittee shall request, in writing, a revision of the permitted activity from EGLE. Such revision request shall include complete documentation supporting the modification and revised plans detailing the proposed modification. Proposed modifications must be approved, in writing, by EGLE prior to being implemented.

P. This permit may be transferred to another person upon written approval of EGLE. The permittee must submit a written request to EGLE to transfer the permit to the new owner. The new owner must also submit a written request to EGLE to accept transfer. The new owner must agree, in writing, to accept all conditions of the permit. A single letter signed by both parties that includes all the above information may be provided to EGLE. EGLE will review the request and, if approved, will provide written notification to the new owner.

Q. Prior to initiating permitted construction, the permittee is required to provide a copy of the permit to the contractor(s) for review. The property owner, contractor(s), and any agent involved in exercising the permit are held responsible to ensure that the project is constructed in accordance with all drawings and specifications. The contractor is required to provide a copy of the permit to all subcontractors doing work authorized by the permit.

R. Construction must be undertaken and completed during the dry period of the wetland. If the area does not dry out, construction shall be done on equipment mats to prevent compaction of the soil.

S. Authority granted by this permit does not waive permit requirements under Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the NREPA, or the need to acquire applicable permits from the County Enforcing Agent (CEA).

T. Authority granted by this permit does not waive permit requirements under the authority of Part 305, Natural Rivers, of the NREPA. A Natural Rivers Zoning Permit may be required for construction, land alteration, streambank stabilization, or vegetation removal along or near a natural river.

U. The permittee is cautioned that grade changes resulting in increased runoff onto adjacent property is subject to civil damage litigation.

V. Unless specifically stated in this permit, construction pads, haul roads, temporary structures, or other structural appurtenances to be placed in a wetland or on bottomland of the water body are not authorized and shall not be constructed unless authorized by a separate permit or permit revision granted in accordance with the applicable law.

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W. For projects with potential impacts to fish spawning or migration, no work shall occur within fish spawning or migration timelines (i.e., windows) unless otherwise approved in writing by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division.

X. Work to be done under authority of this permit is further subject to the following special instructions and specifications:

1. Authority granted by this permit does not waive permit or program requirements under Part 91 of the NREPA or the need to acquire applicable permits from the CEA. To locate the Soil Erosion Program Administrator for your county, visit https://www.michigan.gov/egle/about/organization/water-resources/soil-erosion/sesc-overview and select “Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Agencies”.
2. The authority to conduct the activity as authorized by this permit is granted solely under the provisions of the governing act as identified above. This permit does not convey, provide, or otherwise imply approval of any other governing act, ordinance, or regulation, nor does it waive the permittee's obligation to acquire any local, county, state, or federal approval or authorization necessary to conduct the activity.
3. No fill, excess soil, or other material shall be placed in any wetland, floodplain, or surface water area not specifically authorized by this permit, its plans, and specifications.
4. This permit does not authorize or sanction work that has been completed in violation of applicable federal, state, or local statutes.
5. The permit placard shall be kept posted at the work site in a prominent location at all times for the duration of the project or until permit expiration.
6. This permit is being issued for the maximum time allowed and no extensions of this permit will be granted. Initiation of the construction work authorized by this permit indicates the permittee's acceptance of this condition. The permit, when signed by EGLE, will be for a five-year period beginning on the date of issuance. If the project is not completed by the expiration date, a new permit must be sought.
7. All areas of ground disturbance near streams must be restored to pre-existing elevations upon completion of the work.
8. The permittee is responsible for acquiring all necessary permissions, easements, and/or rights-of-way before commencing any work authorized by this permit. All construction operations relating to or part of this project shall be confined to the existing right-of-way limits or other acquired easements.
9. The permittee shall implement project design features, which will assure that the authorized project does not result in drainage of the associated wetlands. If the project installation causes drainage, the permittee remains liable and responsible for project modifications, as approved by EGLE, to halt the resultant drainage and to prevent future drainage of the wetland.
10. Temporary construction mats or tracked vehicles shall be utilized to the greatest extent possible to minimize ground compaction and disturbance to waters of the state. Rutting or other soil disturbance shall be restored and stabilized. All revegetation of wetland sites must be with plant species that are native to Michigan according to the Floristic Quality Assessment for the State of Michigan.

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11. The risk of spreading terrestrial and aquatic invasive species during the project will be minimized through measures like visually inspecting and removing any plants, mud, and water from equipment and vehicles and disinfecting and drying equipment and vehicles between sites.

Issued By: Kayla Conklin

Kayla Conklin
Marquette District Office
Water Resources Division

THIS GENERAL PERMIT AUTHORIZATION MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PERMITTEE TO BE VALID.

I hereby assure that I have read, am familiar with, and agree to adhere to the terms and conditions of this authorization.

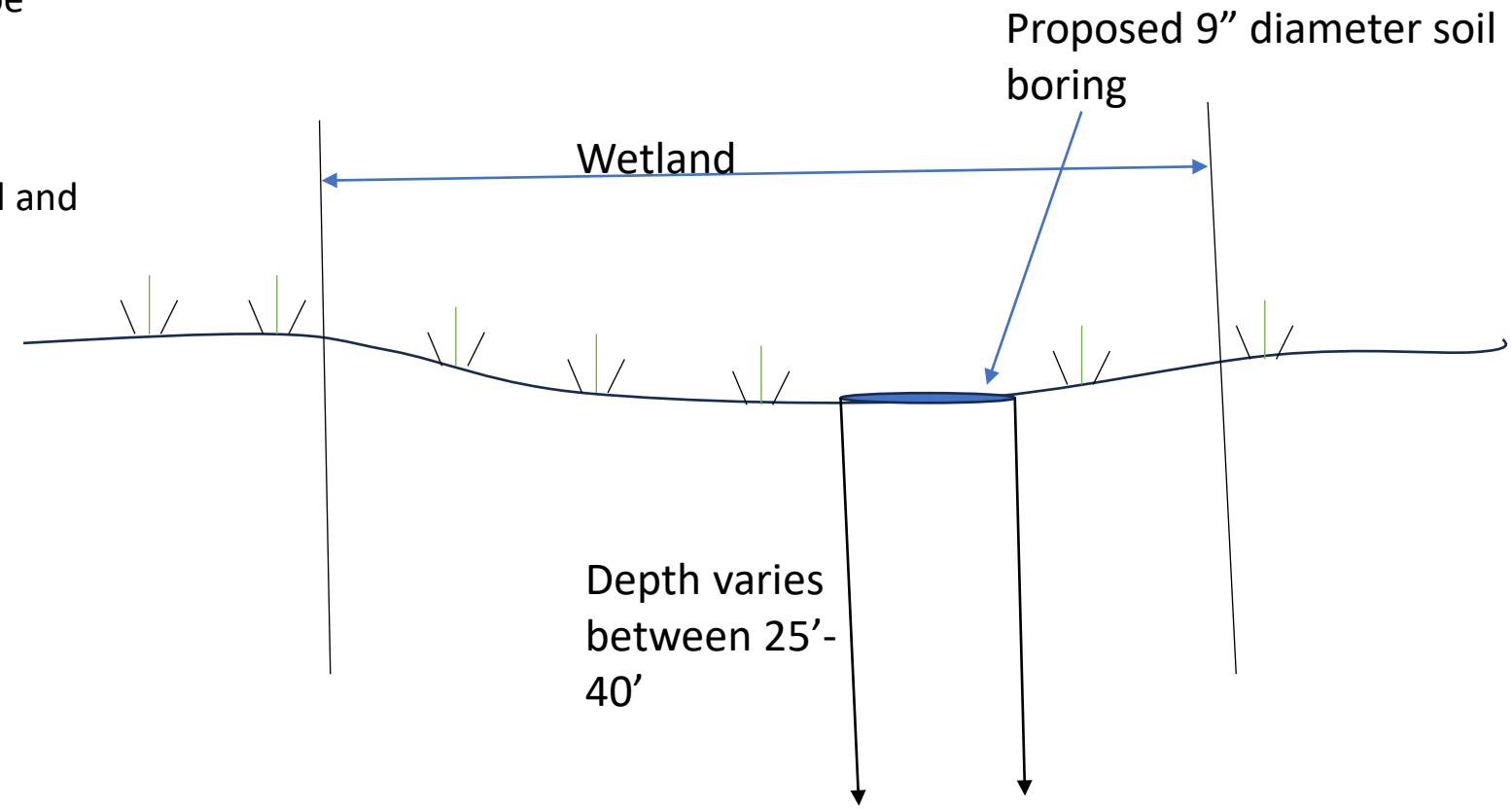
_____ _____

Permittee Signature Date

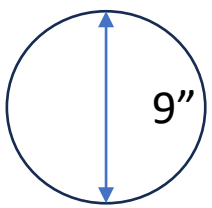
cc: Tom Clement, Merjent, Agent
Watersmeet Township Clerk
Gogebic County CEA
Gogebic County Clerk
Haight Township Clerk
Stannard Township Clerk
Greenland Township Clerk
Ontonagon County CEA
Ontonagon County Clerk

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-Proposed soil borings in wetland will be backfilled with spoils removed.
- Spoils will be temporarily placed on geotextile fabric or in uplands.
-Topsoil will be segregated from subsoil and placed over the subsoil during backfill operations.



Maximum Diameter of Soil Borings at Surface



Drawing not to scale

American Transmission Company Western UP Reliability Project

Proposed Soil Borings

Watersmeet Township, Gogebic County & Haight, Stannard and Greenland Townships, Ontonagon County.

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0100700
Project Name: Western UP Reliability Project Soil Borings
Project Type: Transmission Line - Maintenance/Modification - Above Ground
Project Description: Complete soil borings for planning purposes for potential rebuild of an existing overhead transmission line.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@46.8212847,-88.97836225499952,14z



Counties: Michigan and Wisconsin

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