

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE
WATERSHED PROTECTION BRANCH

September 19, 2024
Notice Issue Date

Ellijay & East Ellijay / Gilmer County
City / County

October 18, 2024
Notice Close Date

TSV-061-24-01
Control Number

Whitepath Tap 46 kV Transmission Line
(GPS Coordinates: 34.6866, -84.4869)

Activity

This notice is issued to inform the public of a receipt of an application for a variance submitted pursuant to a state environmental Law. The public is invited to comment during the 30-day period on the proposed activity. Site plans are available for review and are located in the following EPD office: Watershed Protection Branch File Room, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, West Tower, Balcony, Suite 418, Atlanta, GA 30334. Please contact GORArequest.Water@dnr.ga.gov to schedule an appointment to review the plans. Since the EPD has no authority to zone property or determine land use, only those comments addressing environmental issues related to air, water, and land protection will be considered in the application review process. Comments may be submitted via e-mail to: EPDcomments@dnr.ga.gov. Comments may also be provided in writing to: Program Manager, Nonpoint Source Program, Erosion and Sedimentation Control, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1452 East, Atlanta, GA 30334. The words “Buffer Variance Comment”, including the Control Number shown above, should be placed in the e-mail subject line (if sent via e-mail) or on the top of the first page of written comments to ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the appropriate staff.

Type of Permit Application: Variance to encroach within the 50-foot State waters buffer.

Applicable Law: Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act O.C.G.A. § 12-7-1 et seq.

Applicable Rules: Erosion and Sedimentation Control Chapter 391-3-7

Basis under which variance shall be considered {391-3-7-.05 (2)(a-k)}: (a) & (k)2

Description and Location of Proposed Activity:

The proposed project involves the construction of an approximately 10.9-mile corridor of new overhead electric power transmission line within the City of Ellijay, the City of East Ellijay, and unincorporated Gilmer County. Disturbance of the buffer is necessary in order to perform vegetation removal, install four new transmission line structures, and improve electrical service reliability and operations for the Gilmer County area. A Buffer Mitigation Plan and the purchasing of mitigation credits will be implemented to address major impacts. The proposed project will result in 1,978 total linear feet (77,389 total square feet) of buffer disturbance lasting approximately 11 months. The project is located on Briar Creek and several unnamed tributaries to Careteccay River, Ellijay River, Little Turniptown Creek and Briar Creek of the Coosawattee Watershed (03150102).

Name and Address of Permit Applicant: Dana Heil
Georgia Transmission Corporation
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, Georgia 30084

Summary of Rules Requirements for Variance Application:

The application for a variance must include an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan with control measures based on sound conservation and engineering practices which meet or exceed the standards in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia" and which will minimize erosion and deposition of sediments on adjacent lands or into State waters.

For Additional Information Contact: Samantha DeLucca
Environmental Compliance Specialist
EPD Watershed Protection Branch
Nonpoint Source Program
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East
Atlanta, GA 30334
Telephone: (470) 684-0095