HDD PA-WA-0106.0000-SR

Given the design, the threat of inadvertent return has been reduced to the maximum extent practicable and in this case that threat is considered to be medium. Implementing this design, along with adherence to the Pennsylvania Pipeline Project Inadvertent Return Contingency Plan will ensure inadvertent impacts, if they were to occur, are also minimized to the maximum extent.

The horizontal directional drill is designed to prevent open cutting on a hillside. There are no crossings of roads, water bodies, or wetlands, nor are any of these features close to the drill location. The drill parallels the existing ME1 12" pipeline drill. No geotechnical boring was completed at this location.

There is no current geotechnical data on which to determine soil types and potential loss of drilling fluid causing the risk to be higher than locations with good drilling soils. However, there are also no major environmental areas of impact (wetlands, waterways, etc.) so the environmental risk for inadvertent returns is medium. As such it is recommended that additional inspection in the area surrounding the drill be in place to monitor for potential inadvertent returns.

