

SLW proposes to use an overhead crossing of the Chaumont River and floodway for the overhead transmission line. This is the only crossing of a 100-year floodplain within the Project layout. All temporary disturbances and permanent structures associated with the proposed wind farm will be located outside of the 100-year and 500-year floodplains. Potential impacts to surface waters will be minimal and will only occur during the construction of the Project. Potential impacts during construction will result from clearing and grading near stream banks and will be kept to a minimum to prevent significant disturbance to the habitats associated with the creek and its tributaries. Vegetation near the Chaumont River will not be removed to construct the transmission line, as the Chaumont River will be spanned by overhead lines. The Applicant is in the process of preparing a Joint Wetland Permit Application to the NYSDEC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for regulated activities located in state jurisdictional waters or waters of the United States.

3.2.2.3 Mitigation Measures

The Project has been designed to avoid and minimize surface water impacts to the greatest extent practicable. Impacts to streams and wetlands will be avoided and minimized through crossing waterbodies in the fewest locations possible and giving preference to existing crossings or narrow crossings when impacts are unavoidable.

Since completion of the DEIS Project components were relocated at the following locations to specifically avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands and/or waterbodies:

- WTG 21 was eliminated;
- access road between WTGs 27 and 28 was eliminated;
- access roads to WTGs 20, 22, 23, 28, 32, 35, and 44 were moved;
- underground cable routing to WTGs 7, 32, and 47, and;
- between WTGs 10 to 20 and 14 to 15 were moved.

SLW is also committed to the use of environmentally friendly culvert types (i.e., bottomless or arched culverts with a gravel base) as an alternative to traditional closed culverts to minimize stream impacts (Exhibit 3.2.1). Bottomless culverts use the natural channel bed and maintain the integrity of the aquatic system. They provide sufficient water depth, reduce excessive velocity, and provide adequate space which collectively promote safe

Exhibit 3.2.1 - Bottomless Culvert

