

Commission Meeting

August 25th, 2025



Opening Agenda Items

- Quorum
- Declarations of Conflict of Interest
- Approval of minutes from June 23rd, 2025
- Public comment

Executive Director's Report

Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director

Agenda Item 4



Executive Director's Report

- Sen. McCormick's Energy and Innovation Summit at CMU



- USDA State Director Mike Cabell Visit



Executive Director's Report

- DC Fly-In September 16th
 - County Spotlight Meeting
- FTA Recertification Process is Complete
 - Final report issued
- DOT Recertification – In-person sessions earlier this month
 - Awaiting final report
 - Thank you to the commissioners who joined us for the public meeting!

USACE Presentation on Shallow Land Disposal Area

Steven Vriesen and Craig DeBiase, U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers

Agenda Item 5



SHALLOW LAND DISPOSAL AREA (SLDA)



Project Fast Facts

- **Location/Site:** 23 miles NE of Pittsburgh (Parks Township, PA) / 44 acres
- **History:** NUMEC buried radiological waste in 10 trenches during the 1960s
- **Authority:** SLDA added to Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) by Congress in 2002
- **Objective:** Safely excavate, process, transport, and properly dispose 30,000 cubic yards of radiological waste
- **Risks:** Worker exposure to radiation and beryllium, and community safety.
- **Schedule:** Remediation is expected to take approx. six years through 2032

SLDA WASTE COMPOSITION & PACKAGING

Waste Composition:

- Trench wastes resemble buried trash.
- Random mixtures of radiologically and chemically contaminated debris including lab waste, old equipment, building materials, protective clothing, general maintenance materials, and possibly a truck.

Waste Packaging

- Heavy duty, sealed plastic bags (IP-1 containers)
- Steel bulk containers, a.k.a., intermodal containers (IMCs)



Excavated Material (2011)



SLDA WASTE TRANSPORTATION

USACE transports waste in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations regarding the interstate shipment of wastes.

- All acceptable wastes will be packaged, marked, labeled, and manifested for transport per DOT and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requirements.
- Shipments of low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) that are under the normal weight/width/height do not require PADOT permitting.
- USACE personnel will inspect transport vehicles and waste containers at the SLDA project to ensure compliance with DOT regulations and that shipping equipment is suitable for transport of hazardous materials.
- Energy Solutions will ensure they are using transporters who are licensed to transport hazardous wastes in PA.
- Twelve waste shipments per week are planned – two days per week with three trucks delivering two waste containers per day.
- Wastes will be driven on designated routes to a licensed railroad transload facility (Alaron Corp.) in Wampum, PA, about 60 miles NW of the site.
- No immediate hazards from waste exposure are anticipated in the unlikely event of a transport incident.





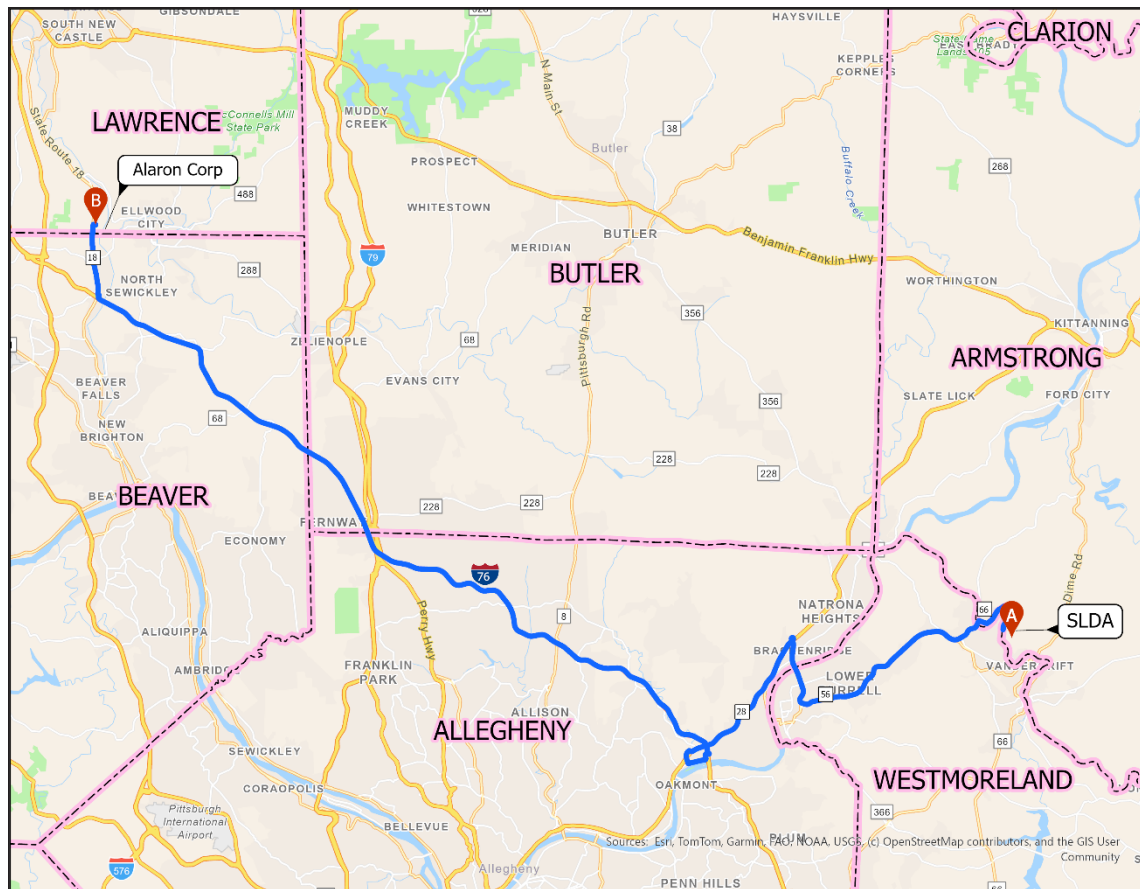
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of Engineers®

SLDA WASTE TRANSPORT PRIMARY ROUTE

PRIMARY ROUTE

Directions from SLDA site:

1. Turn right onto PA-66 N
2. Turn left onto 3rd Street
3. Continue onto S Leechburg Hill Rd
4. Continue straight onto PA-56 W
5. Continue onto PA-366 W
6. Merge onto PA-28 S towards Pittsburgh
7. Take Exit 11 for PA-910 toward I-76 / Pa Turnpike / Harmar
8. Take the PA-910 E ramp to Oakmont/Pa Turnpike
9. Turn left onto PA-910
10. Turn left onto Freeport Rd
11. Merge onto I-76 W via the ramp to Ohio
12. Take Exit 13 for PA-18 toward Ellwood City / Beaver Falls
13. Merge onto PA-18 N / Big Beaver Blvd
14. Alaraon Corporation will be on the right.





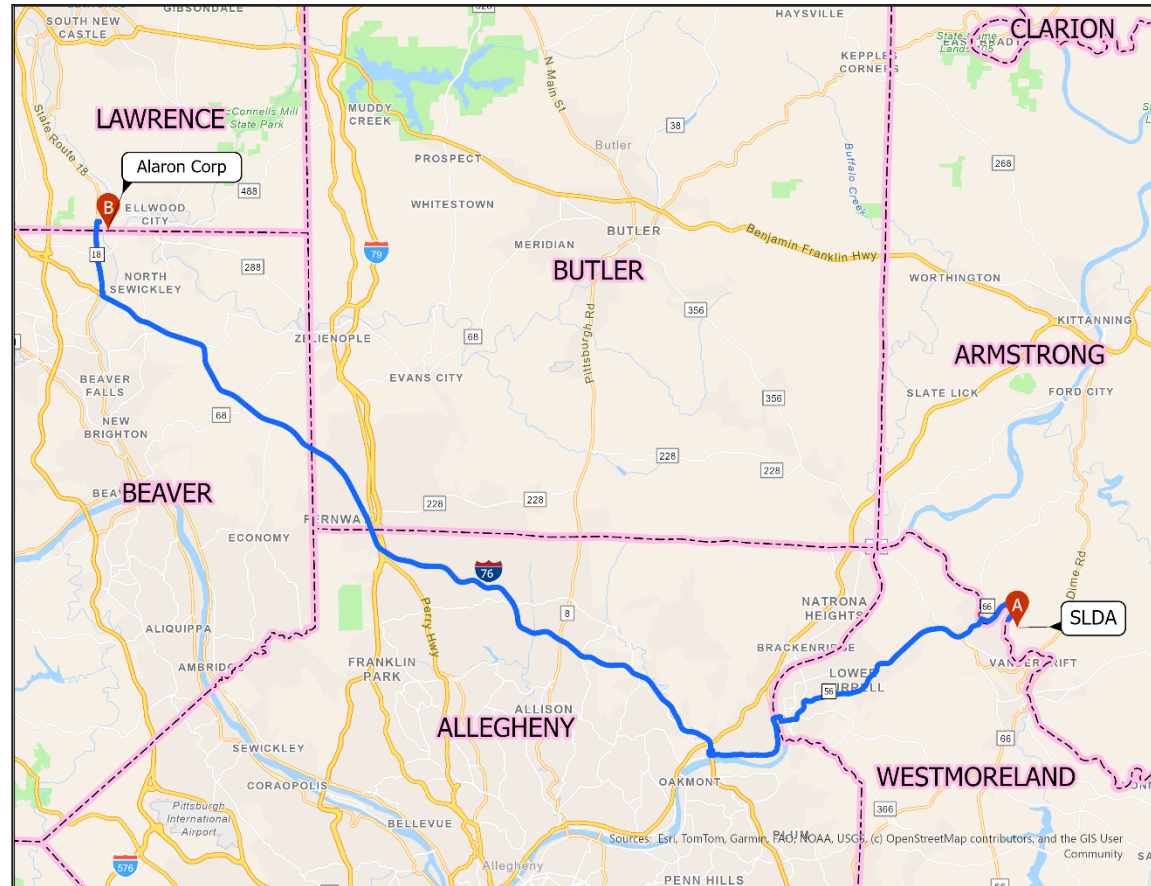
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SLDA WASTE TRANSPORT ALTERNATE ROUTE

ALTERNATE ROUTE

Directions from SLDA site:

1. Turn right onto PA-66 N
2. Turn left onto 3rd Street
3. Continue onto S Leechburg Hill Rd
4. Continue straight onto PA-56 W
5. Turn right onto PA-56 W / 7th Street
6. Continue straight onto 7th Street
7. Turn right onto Industrial Blvd / PA-56 Truck
8. Turn left onto C.L. Schmitt Bridge / New Kensington Bridge
9. Turn left onto Freeport Rd/Old Rte 28
10. Continue onto Pittsburgh St / Freeport Rd
11. Merge onto I-76 W via the ramp to Ohio
12. Take Exit 13 for PA-18 toward Ellwood City / Beaver Falls
13. Merge onto PA-18 N / Big Beaver Blvd
14. Alaraon Corporation will be on the right.



Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FDOT, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Transportation Report

Lillian Gabreski, Director of Transportation

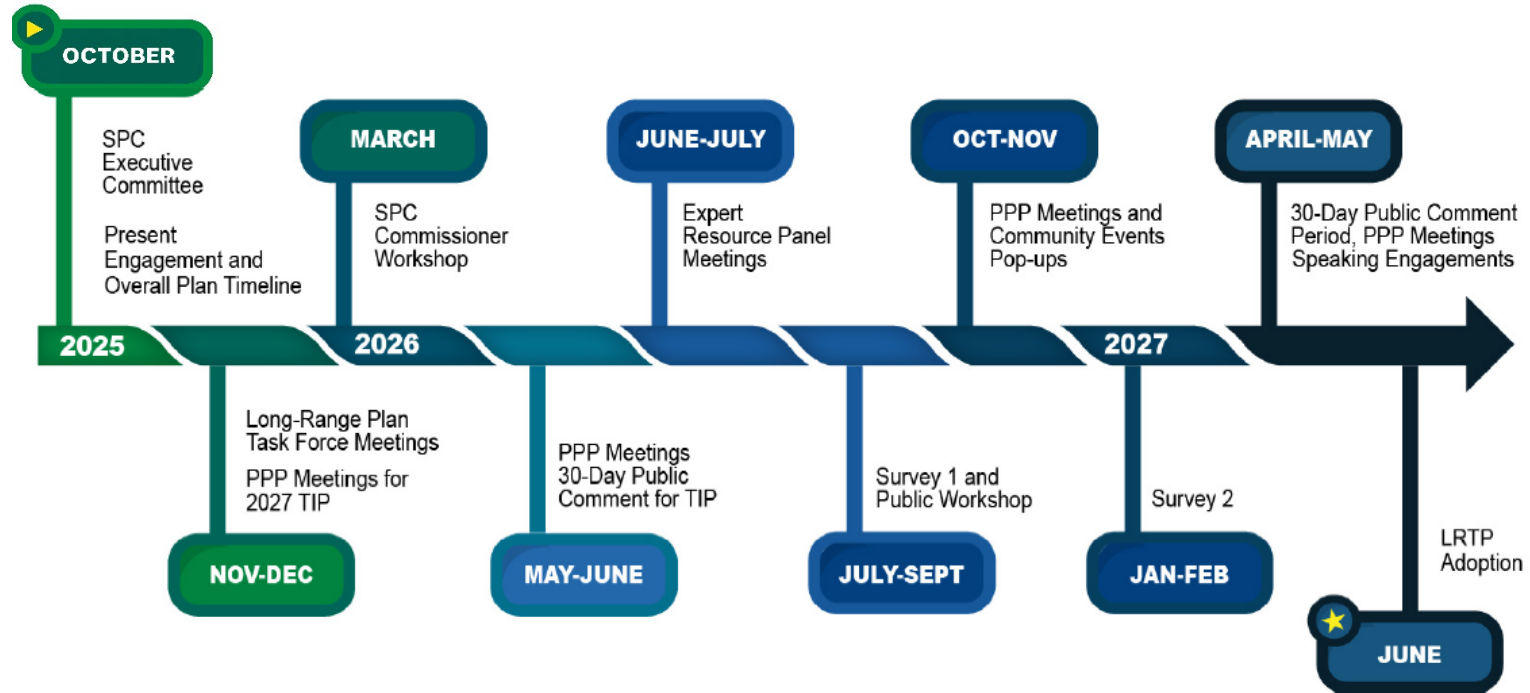
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Transportation Report

- FTA Triennial Review – Final Report Issued
- DOT TMA Certification Review – Debrief to occur in September
 - Thank you for participating!
- PennDOT NEVI Program is underway again – DOT Interim Guidance Issued
- Transit Operators Meetings being scheduled in member counties
- TIP Development Underway
 - Public Meetings being scheduled for Fall
- Long Range Plan
- SPC Competitive Programs

Long Range Plan Update



SmartMoves Development

- **Task Force Creation:** SPC identifies experts in planning across the region through the creation of a Task Force.
- **SPC Commissioner Workshop:** SPC and consultant team identify “forces of change” then convene with commissioners to present findings and begin discussion on strategies. Held at California University.
- **Expert Panel #1:** Workshop with 5 Breakout Groups – Each chaired by County Commissioner – held at Marriot City Center
- **Expert Panel #2:** Workshop with 5 Breakout Groups – Each chaired by County Commissioner – held at Regional Learning Alliance in Cranberry Township
- **Regional Plan Workshop:** All-day event at Station Square – focused on urgency of each force of change and priority investment in strategies developed by expert panels



2025 SPC Competitive Program Milestones



Important Milestone Dates for 2027-2030 TIP	
May TTC Meeting	Process Update
End of May 2025	Program Guidance finalized
June 2, 2025	Application period opens
June 10, 2025	Application and Project Delivery Webinar
July 17, 2025	DEADLINE: Pre-application due
By July 31, 2025	SPC provides detailed application information to applicant
September TTC Meeting	Status Update
September 15, 2025	DEADLINE: Detailed Application period closes
October – November	Application review and technical scoring by SPC staff
October – November	Deliverability evaluation by deliverability evaluation committee
October – November (TBD) Selection Committee Mtgs 1 & 2	Candidate project applications review, technical scoring review, deliverability review
Late November (TBD) Selection Committee Mtg 3	Project technical and deliverability scoring discussed and finalized. Project selection recommendations made.
December TTC Meeting	Projects recommended by TTC as part of pre-draft 2027 TIP
December SPC Executive Committee Meeting	Projects approved as part of pre-draft 2027 TIP

Strategic Initiatives Report

Dj Ryan, Director of Communications and Strategic Initiatives

Agenda Item 7



Strategic Initiatives Report

- Newsletter Refresh
 - Subscribe on spcregion.org
 - We want to highlight your success – let us know!
- Events Dashboard
 - Online calendar for all SPC meetings/workshops/etc.
- Regional Freight Plan
 - Initial meetings underway
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)
 - Public meetings ongoing
 - Expect final draft for public comment late fall

Strategic Initiatives Report

- Public Meetings
 - 2027 TIP PPP meetings scheduled for this fall
 - DOT Recertification Public Meeting
- NEVI Program
 - Was paused for the last few months
 - Target communities in each county for expanded charging infrastructure
 - Public suggestions will be compiled and sent to county planning offices

Strategic Initiatives Report

- PBDA Announced preliminary approval of \$800M in funding to 21 ISPs
- Company info and amounts are available on the PBDA website
- Specific geography is TBA
- “Will connect all Pennsylvanians with high-speed internet”
- Map forthcoming from PBDA
- Strongly urge counties to utilize public comment process by **THIS FRIDAY**



**Pennsylvania Broadband
Development Authority**

**Pennsylvania Broadband
Development Authority
Announces Provisional
Approval of Nearly \$800
Million in BEAD Grants That
Will Connect All
Pennsylvanians with High-
Speed Internet**

Workforce and Economic Development Report

Jennifer Lasser, Director of Workforce and Economic Development

Agenda Item 8



Workforce & Economic Development Update & Priorities August- Sept 2025

- Business Finance
 - 6 Loans in for FY 25/26
 - 2M+ in pipeline
- Export
 - Bring the Word to PA – Sept 12
- Water Resource Center
 - Chartiers Creek Support
 - Army Corps Project
 - CPRG Meetings
- DCED – PREP/Engage
 - Waiting on State Budget to pass
- ARC – Grant Season Kicks off!
 - POWER/Area Development/ARISE
- Build Back Better
 - Dollar Re-Allocation Project
 - 13 months remaining
- Speaking Engagements
 - Data Centers
 - Workforce Needs
 - Rural Relationship Building

ARC POWER initiative is open

- For coal communities in Appalachia that meet one of the following funding priorities: fostering entrepreneurial activities, developing industry clusters in communities, building a competitive workforce, or broadband
- POWER is competed across Appalachia
- Requests can go up to \$2M
- Must contact state program manager with LOI ahead of due date
- Match does not have to be secured at time of full application submission, but does need to be secured by 3/20/26
- If awarded, start date is 5/1/26
- Construction, implementation, and planning allowable

If interested, contact Faith Collins: fcollins@spcregion.org

ARC POWER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Notice of Solicitation of Applications (or NOSA) available online
- Letter of Intent (LOI) due: September 12, 2025
- Applications due: October 22, 2025.
- IMPORTANT: Applicants must get in touch with the state program manager(s) ahead of LOI submission with a draft of your LOI. The state program managers for Pennsylvania are:

Jennifer Lench, jlench@pa.gov

Lauren Atwell-Bass, laatwellba@pa.gov

If interested, contact Faith Collins: fcollins@spcregion.org

Fancy Food Show – 2025

- June 29th-July 1st
- Held in New York City
- SPC's Rena & Jackie, Pitt SBDC and SPC regional small businesses attend to connect with buyers
- Sponsored by DCED PREP and Regional Export Network (REN) Program
- Additional PREP dollars via DCED we were able to send more businesses this year – we pay for entrance fee and booth rental cost

SPC Regional Businesses in attendance

- Best Ever Granola (Warrendale PA)
- Bumbleberry Farms (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Evanly Bakes (New Kensington, PA)
- My Favorite Sweet Shoppe (Carnegie PA)
- Uncle Jammy's Sauces & Seasonings (Pgh, PA)
- Two Ugly Muggs (West Mifflin, PA)

Spotlight: Fancy Food Show NY - EXPORT



Spotlight: NACO – Rural Leaders for Economic Mobility

- July 10th 2025
- Held in Philadelphia PA
- Part of NACO pre-sessions
- SPC asked to serve on panel discussing innovative approaches to rural population loss, philanthropic investment and implementation of data informed solutions to build resilient economies



Spotlight: Western Pennsylvania Data Center Education Workshop

- August 7th 2025
- Held at IUP
- Discussion on Data Centers, Workforce Needs and Career Pathways
- Presentations from Robin Gorman, Gwen Ross, Panel Discussion and more!



Spotlight: DDAA Conference - Pittsburgh

- July 28-29th 2025
- Pittsburgh PA
- Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) held their training conference here in Pittsburgh – visitors from 13 states
- ARC Gayle Manchin, Jenn Apicella Pittsburgh Robotics were key note speakers
- Tours to Hazelwood Green & CMU Robotics
- SPC provided assistance with conference planning, attended the event and presented at the conference on partnerships
- Largest attendance in recent years.



Spotlight: Fayette Housing Roundtable

- August 6th 2025
- Hosted by Fayette County Economic Development Coalition
- Held at Penn State Fayette
- Data Presentation – Patrick Bowen
- Builder Panel
- Discussion about housing needs, workforce, current challenges and opportunities



Other Business

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Next Meeting: October 27th, 2025

Agenda Item 10



Adjourn

