



**LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVANCY PROTECTS AN ADDITIONAL 365 ACRES WITHIN THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS IN LANCASTER AND YORK COUNTIES - PART OF THE PPL/TALEN/BROOKFIELD PROJECT**

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*Supports long-term preservation of scenic properties including Shenks Ferry Wildflower Preserve, Pinnacle, Kelly's Run, Lock 12, and York County Otter Creek natural lands.*

PPL Holtwood LLC/Talen Energy recently transferred an additional 365 acres of land to the Lancaster County Conservancy for long-term preservation.

This acquisition included the final transfers of land which forms part of the Shenks Ferry Wildflower Preserve, Kellys Run and Pinnacle in Lancaster County and natural lands adjacent to Otter Creek in York County. A total of 13 tracts valued at over \$1.8 million dollars were transferred through donation and grant funding. This is the final Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant funded transfer in this public-private partnership that started in the 1990s. An additional 467 acres will be donated by Brookfield sometime in the future.

This project began over 2 decades ago with studies conducted by PADCNR and The Conservation Fund. This work has advanced to protect almost 2,000 acres of natural lands through transfer to Lancaster County Conservancy. The lands are owned and managed by the Conservancy for the public benefit and are open to the public for hiking, fishing, hunting, bird watching, and education.

Approximately 100 acres including Pinnacle Overlook will be transferred to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to be included in Susquehannock State Park.

On December 21, 2012, in a landmark decision, The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission granted PPL Holtwood's request to transfer up to 1,260 acres of land to LCC. In that decision FERC stated "...we believe that allowing the proposed lands to be removed from the project boundary and transferred to the Conservancy to be managed under the Conservation Initiative is in the public interest, and should therefore be approved." This is part of the continuing transfers from Talen Energy and Brookfield Renewable Energy. Brookfield expects to transfer ownership of additional properties over the next year,

including lands along Fox Hollow, Safe Harbor, and in Pequea in Lancaster County, and near Lock 12 and McCalls Ferry Road in York County.

These land transfers support a regional Conservation Initiative developed by PADCNr to conserve a greenway corridor of river lands along the Lower Susquehanna River known as the Susquehanna Riverlands. The Susquehanna Riverlands were recognized by PADCNr as worthy of protection and enhancement for the public benefit. This initiative has received broad support from federal, state, and local agencies, government, non-profits, businesses, and individuals and was funded by millions of dollars in grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, The Conservation Fund, Lancaster and York Counties, and private donors. As part of the land transfers within the Susquehanna Riverlands PPL Holtwood/Talen Energy is donating all proceeds from the grant funded transfers into the Ralph H. Goodno restricted endowment fund that will be used to protect, promote, and manage the Susquehanna Riverlands.

**“Just as a landmark conservation achievement such as this brings so much to so many, it never would have been possible without so many bringing so much of their time and commitment to make it happen,” said DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn. “We salute the efforts of Talen Energy, Brookfield Renewable Energy, Lancaster County Conservancy and many other partners who worked so hard to enhance and protect the Susquehanna Riverlands for generations to come.”**

“This incredible public-private partnership combines protection of our limited forests and water resources with the long term management, enhancement, and economic growth of the Susquehanna Riverlands. Lancaster County Conservancy is grateful to PPL, Talen Energy, Brookfield Renewable Energy, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, The Conservation Fund, Lancaster County, and York County, for their continued commitment to funding the permanent preservation of this scenic and historic landscape and the trails that connect it”, said Kate Gonick, In-House Counsel and Director of Land Protection.