



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of Construction & Facilities Management
Washington DC 20420

August 26, 2022

Sent via email

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft NEPA Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Land Acquisition for the Future Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery Expansion, Rittman, Ohio

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment. The Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed acquisition of approximately 156 acres of land currently occupied by the Rawiga Golf Club at 10353 Rawiga Road in Seville, Ohio (Site) for the future expansion of the adjacent Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery (OWRNC, located at 10175 Rawiga Road in Rittman, Ohio). The expansion would allow the OWRNC to provide for the burial needs of the regional Veteran community for approximately 50 additional years. VA proposes to purchase the Site and lease it back to the current owners for continued operation of the golf course for at least 15 years, until expansion of the OWRNC becomes necessary. The current Site owners have offered to sell the Site to VA.

VA prepared the Draft EA in accordance with the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S. Code 4321-4370h), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508), and VA Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26). The public comment period ends on September 26, 2022.

The Draft EA is available for review at the Wayne County Public Library – Rittman Branch, located at 49 West Ohio Avenue in Rittman, Ohio and on the VA website at:

<https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/index.asp>

VA will prepare and publish a Final EA following the comment period. The Final EA will summarize and address comments on the Draft EA.

Please email comments by September 26, 2022, to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery Expansion Draft EA". For additional information or questions, please contact Jason Sturm at jason.sturm@va.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn Elliott".

Glenn Elliott
Director, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

FIGURE 1

SITE LOCATION MAP

**Proposed Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery Expansion Site
10353 Rawiga Road
Seville, Ohio**

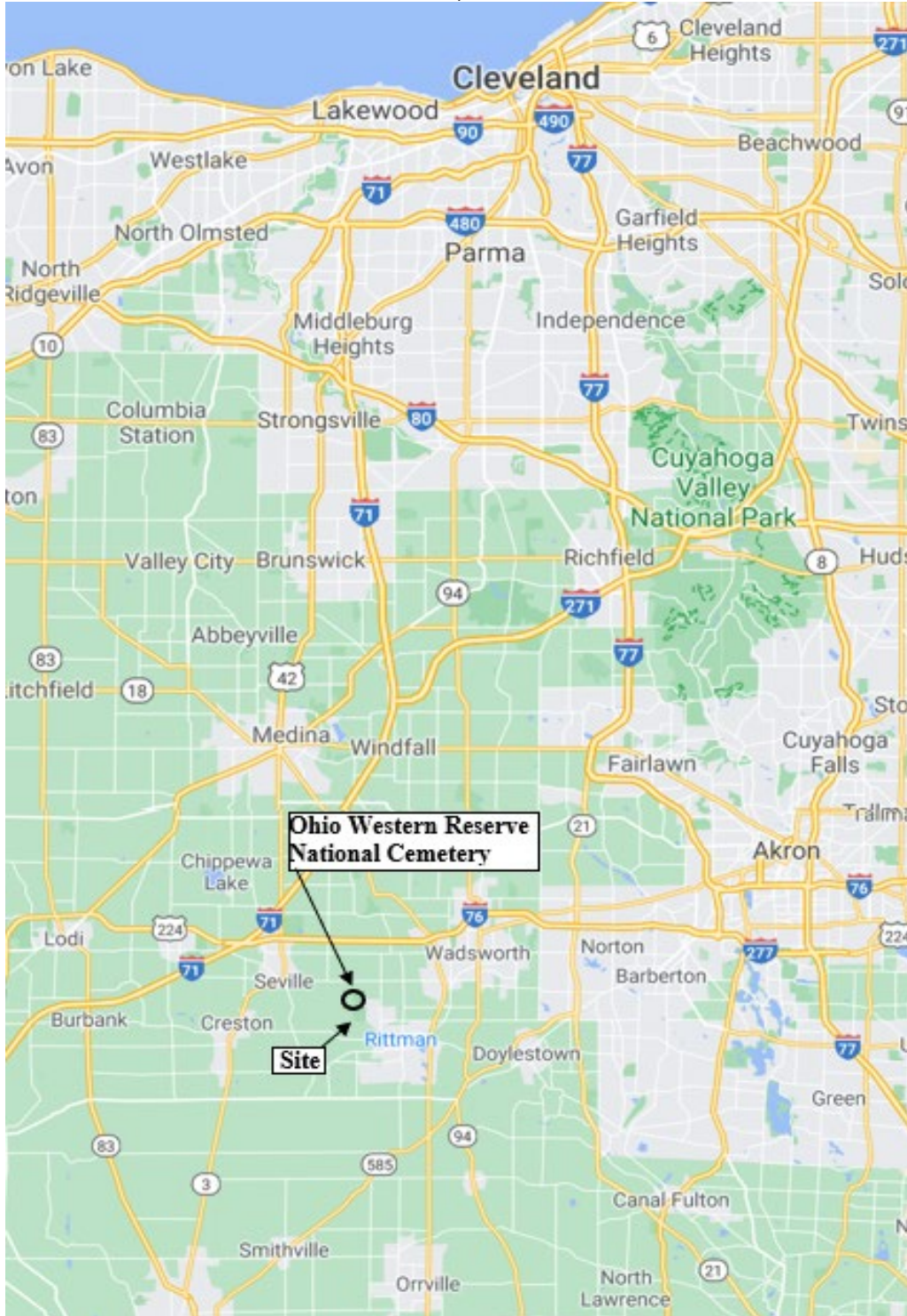


FIGURE 2

TOPOGRAPHIC LOCATION MAP
Proposed Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery Expansion Site
10353 Rawiga Road
Seville, Ohio

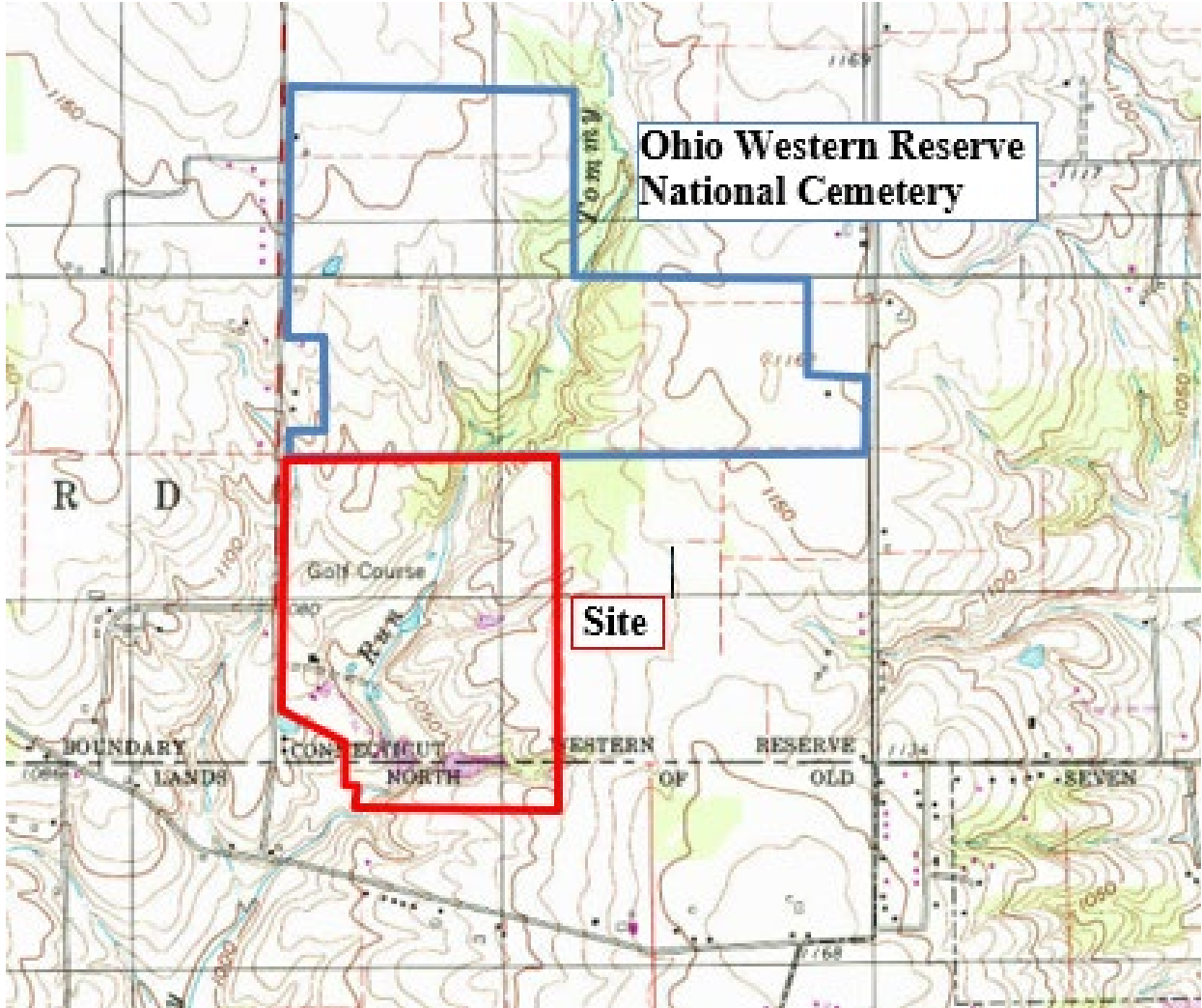


FIGURE 3

SITE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

**Proposed Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery Expansion Site
10353 Rawiga Road
Seville, Ohio**

