Urban Engineers, Inc. performed construction management services for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation on the Lackawanna Valley Industrial Highway project in Lackawanna County. This four-lane, limited access highway includes 16 miles of new roadway between Scranton and Carbondale, six interchanges, and improvements to bring the new interchange with I-380 and I-81 up to modern high speed standards. The spectrum of construction activities required to complete this project included the relocation of 17 million cubic yards of earth, the pouring of 760,000 square yards of concrete pavement, the erection of 40 bridges, 25 retaining walls, and the completion of 14 major drainage structures and 10 wetland replacement sites.

This major interstate highway facility involved the coordination of more than 18 civil construction professionals, including a project manager, five construction engineers, four schedule engineers, an environmental manager, two environmental technicians, a traffic engineer, two geotechnical engineers, a computer technician, and additional administrative support staff, as well as six subconsultant firms.

Much of the route of the LVIH is located near abandoned anthracite coal mines which poses a unique engineering and construction challenge. Construction of the project involved an extensive mine void stabilization program consisting of locating mines and evaluating their conditions. Methods of subsurface stabilization included a regimen of remote flushing and grouting, or excavation of mined areas. Boring information and visual inspection by means of a borehole camera were used to evaluate the mines and determine treatment methods.