



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

September 15, 2014

Operations Division  
Eastern Evaluation Section

Project Manager  
Jennifer Burkett  
(504) 862-2045  
jennifer.e.burkett@usace.army.mil  
SUBJECT: MVN 2014-2117 EBB  
(Gulf of Mexico) 1427

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [X] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [ ] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

### **DECOMMISSION SIXTEEN-INCH PIPELINE IN GULF OF MEXICO OFF OF PLAQUEMINES PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Texas Eastern Transmission, LP c/o SWCA Environmental Consultants at 5745 Essen Lane, Suite 105, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Main Pass Area Blocks 93, 94, 95, and 102, Gulf of Mexico, off of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** To decommission approximately seven miles of the 16-inch natural gas pipeline 40-B-3, originating at Main Pass Block 95, crossing the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet Channel to Mobile Ship Channel Safety Fairway, and ending at the Main Pass Block 102 subsea tie-in assembly. The natural gas pipeline will be flushed with seawater, depressurized, and forty feet cut from the ends, which will be filled with epoxy, laid on the seafloor, and covered with mix bags. A 3'x 40' end connector/valve/launcher will be installed at each end to enable future pigging of the remaining 4.1 miles of line to be kept in service. All excavated pipe will backfilled to a minimum depth of 3 feet below the mud line. No excavation will take place within the Safety Fairway. All of the remaining abandoned line will be buried 10 to 12 feet below the mud line within the Safety Fairway and 9 to 11 feet if outside of it. This is a modification to a permit originally issued on February 14, 1968. No special aquatic sites will be affected by this project; no mitigation is anticipated.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit will close **15 days** from the date of this public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being

solicited from anyone having interest in this permit must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH**. **Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.**

The decision as to whether a permit will be issued will be based on an evaluation of the impact of the proposed work on navigation and national security.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of N/A acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

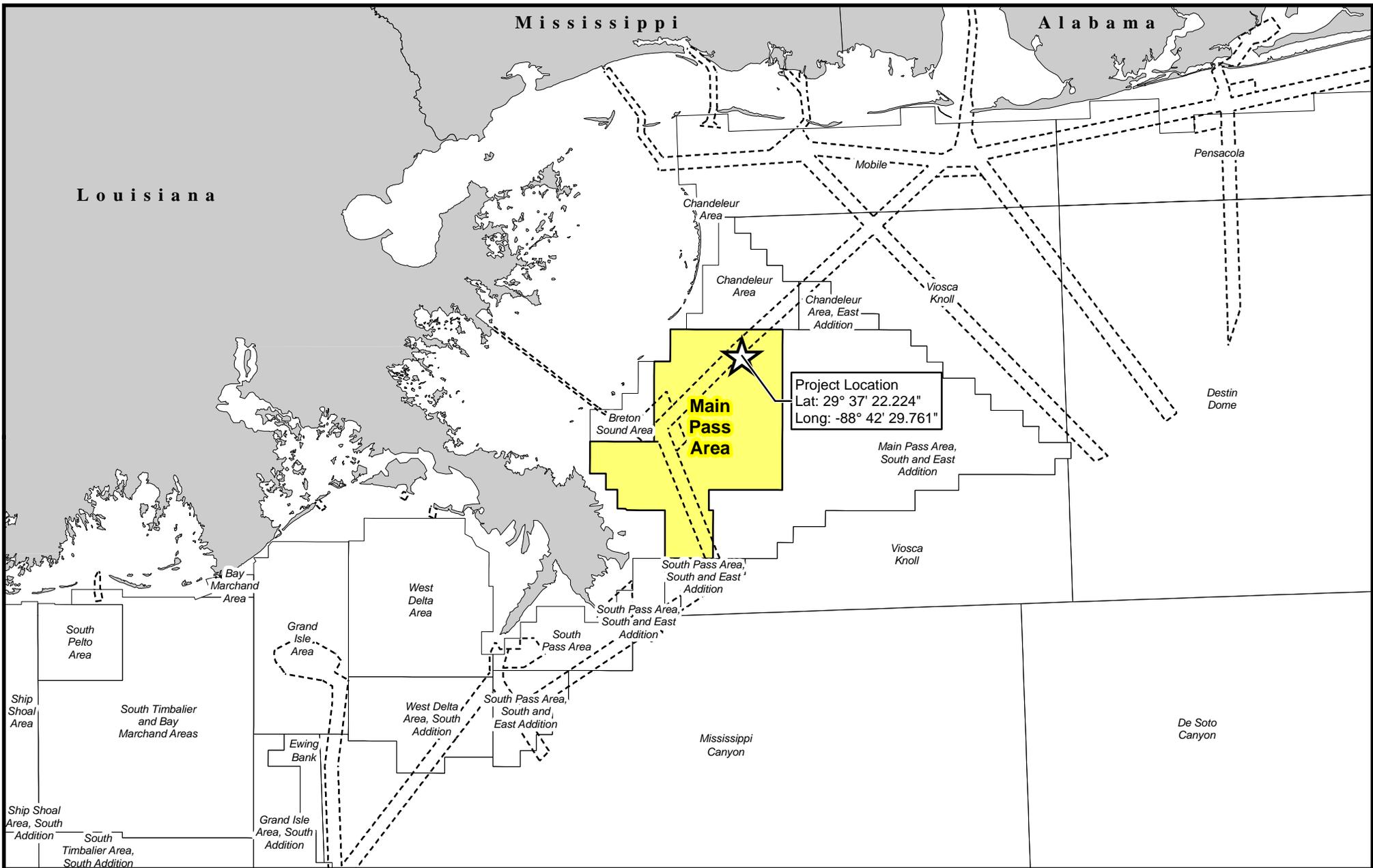
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality before a permit is issued.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Michael V. Farabee  
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Enclosures



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS  
 5745 Essen Lane, Suite 105  
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70810  
 (225) 663-3830 phone  
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 www.swca.com

**SPECTRA ENERGY**

**VICINITY MAP**

**LINE 40-B-3 ABANDONMENT  
 16" OFFSHORE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE  
 BLOCKS 93, 94, 95, & 102  
 MAIN PASS AREA**

**Legend**

- Project Location
- Fairway

Base Imagery Provided By:

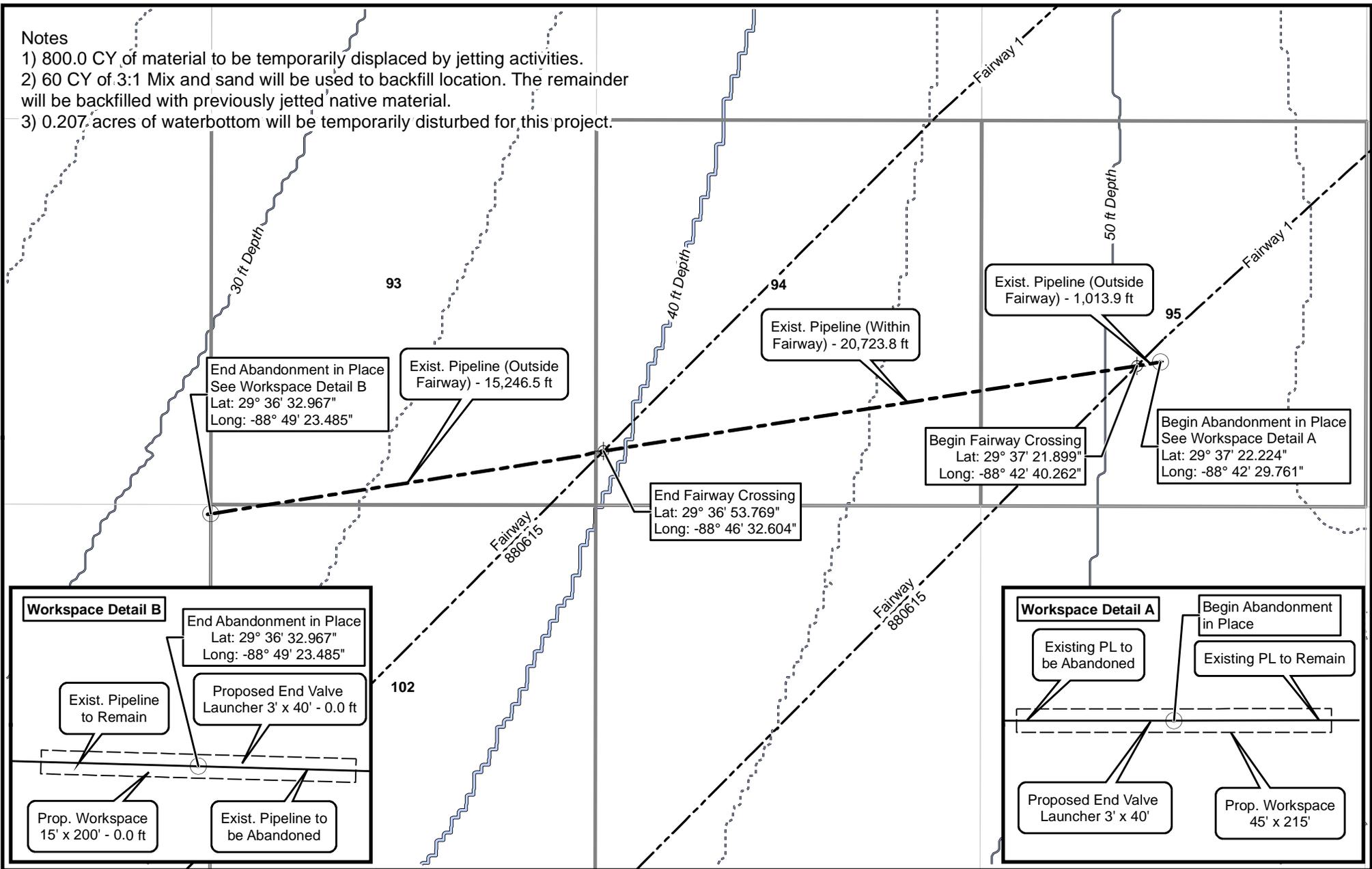


Drawn By:	JR
Approved By:	CF
Submittal Date:	5/29/2014
Revision # - Date:	-
SWCA Project No:	-
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Coord. System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Louisiana Offshore FIPS 1703 Feet	



**Notes**

- 1) 800.0 CY of material to be temporarily displaced by jetting activities.
- 2) 60 CY of 3:1 Mix and sand will be used to backfill location. The remainder will be backfilled with previously jetted native material.
- 3) 0.207 acres of waterbottom will be temporarily disturbed for this project.



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**SPECTRA ENERGY**  
**PLAN VIEW**  
**LINE 40-B-3 ABANDONMENT**  
**16" OFFSHORE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE**  
**BLOCKS 93, 94, 95, & 102**  
**MAIN PASS AREA**

**Legend**

- Project Begin/End
- ⊕ Fairway Crossing Begin/End
- Exist. Pipeline (Within Project Scope)
- - - Prop. Workspace 15' x 200'
- - - Fairway

**Lease Blocks**

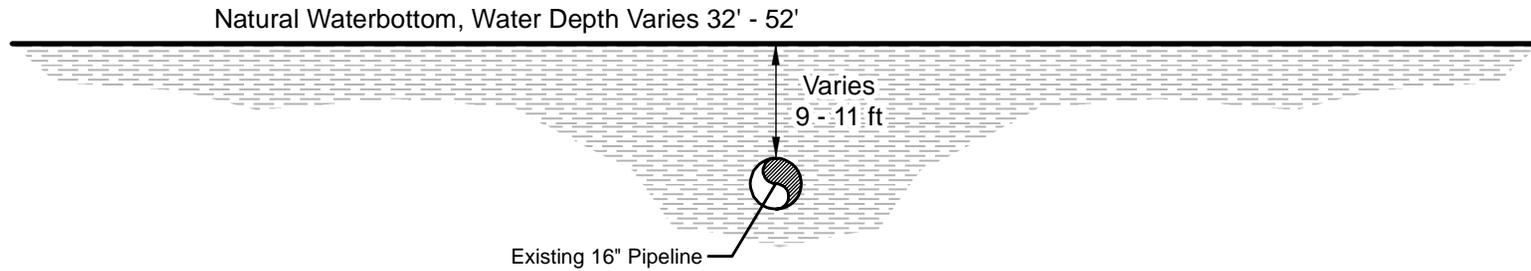
- Lease Blocks Not Crossed by Project Area
- Lease Blocks Crossed by Project

**CRM Water Depth Contours**

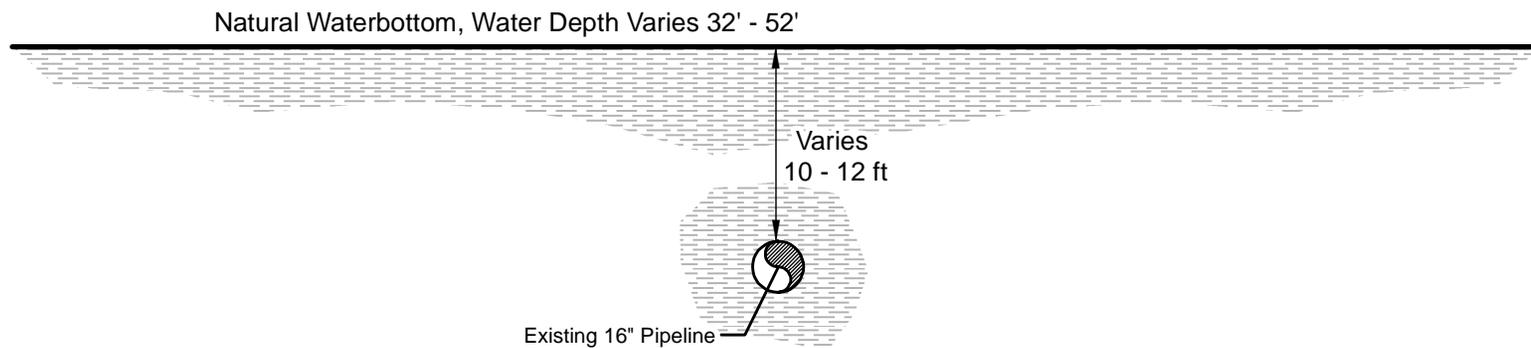
- Index
- Intermediate
- ⋯ Supplementary

Base Imagery Provided By:

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**Typical Cross Section A**  
 Exist. Conditions for Pipeline Locations Outside Fairway  
 N.T.S.



**Typical Cross Section B**  
 Exist. Conditions for Pipeline Locations Inside Fairway  
 N.T.S.

**SWCA**

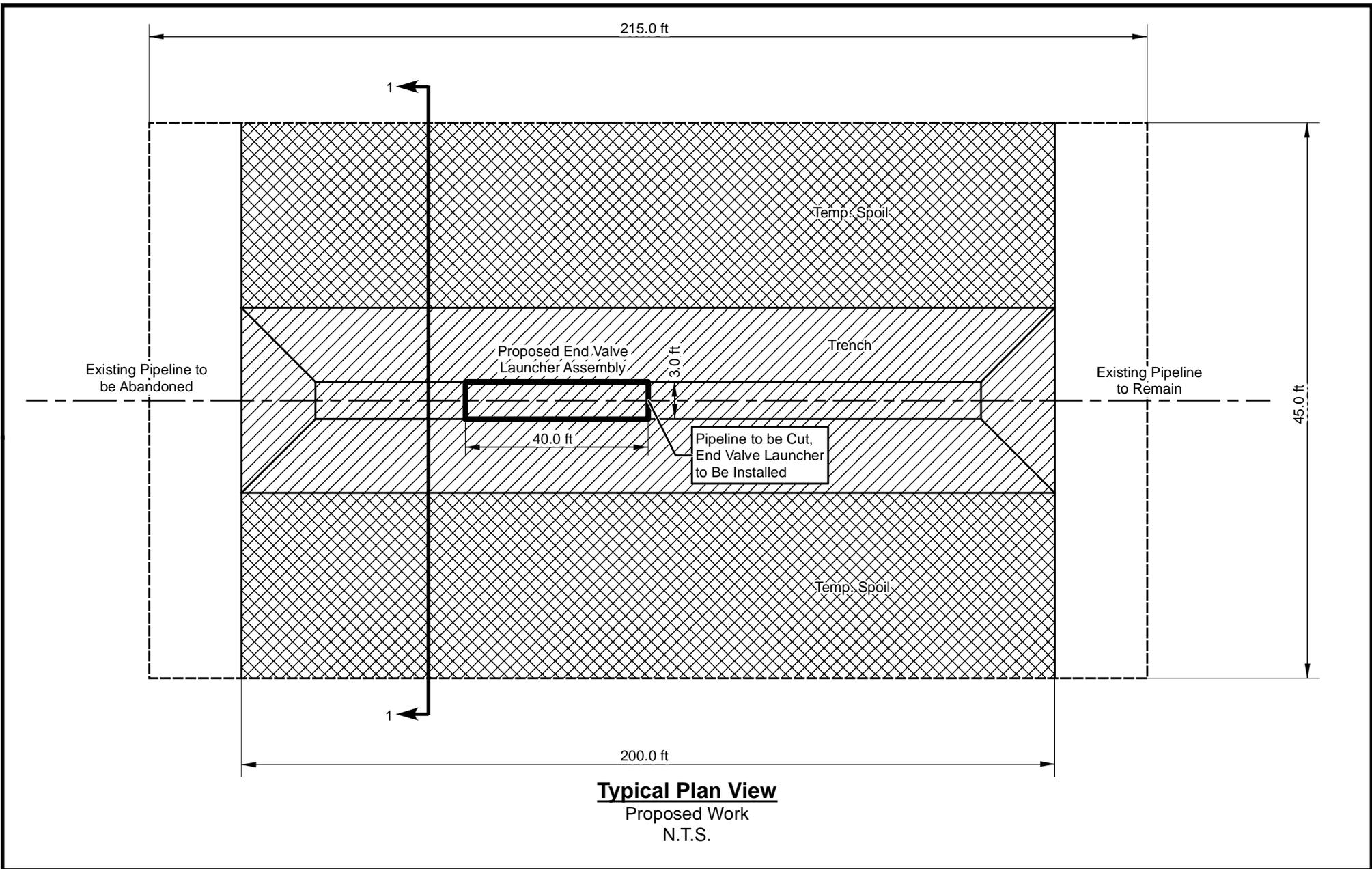
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**SPECTRA ENERGY**

**CROSS SECTIONS**

**LINE 40-B-3 ABANDONMENT  
 16" OFFSHORE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE  
 BLOCKS 93, 94, 95, & 102  
 MAIN PASS AREA**

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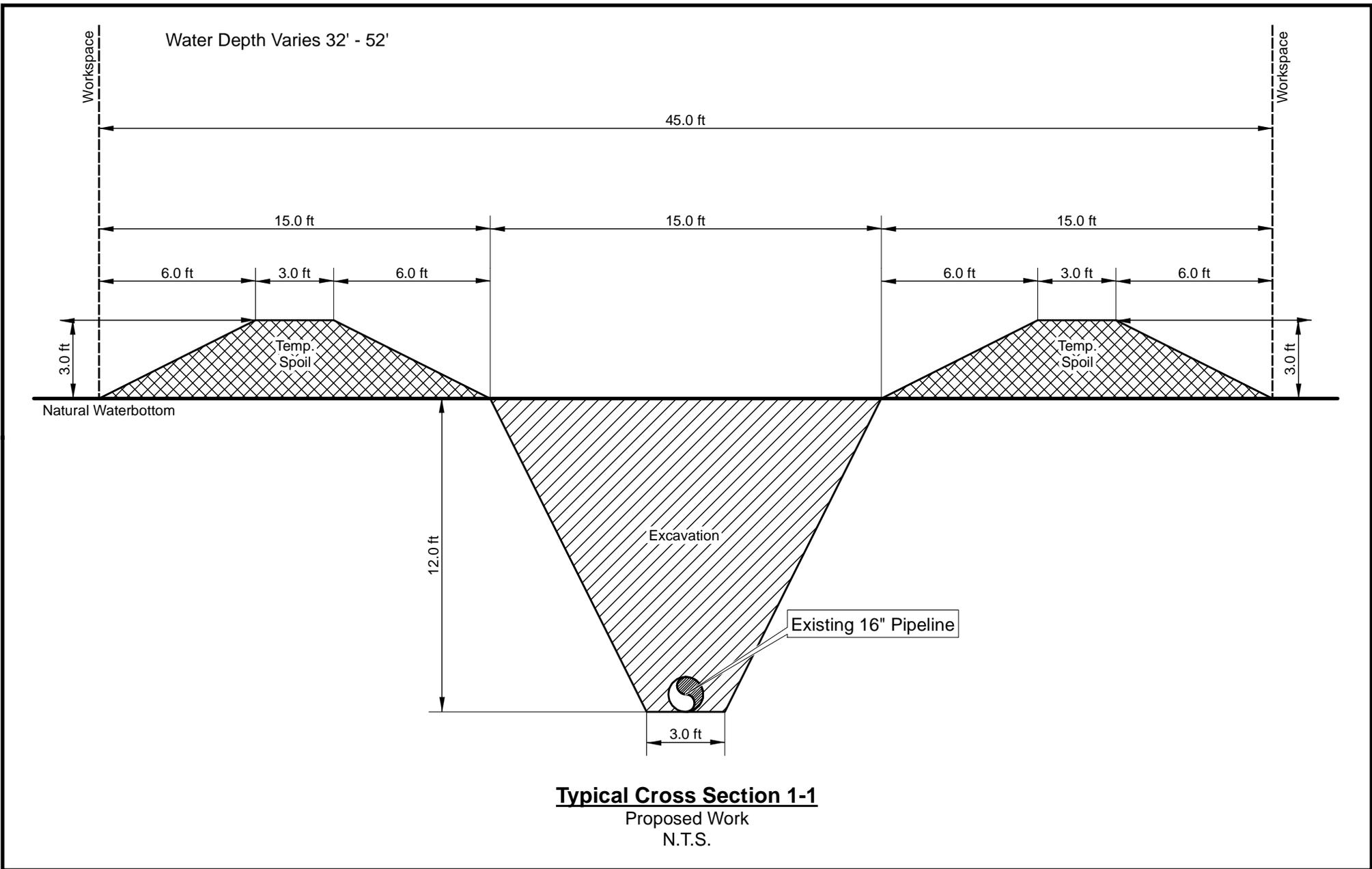


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**SPECTRA ENERGY**  
**PROPOSED WORK DETAILS**  
  
**LINE 40-B-3 ABANDONMENT**  
**16" OFFSHORE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE**  
**BLOCKS 93, 94, 95, & 102**  
**MAIN PASS AREA**

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