

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

October 14, 2014

United States Army
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Water Quality Certification
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(504) 862-2041 FAX (504) 862-2117
robert.m.tewis2@usace.army.mil
Project Manager
Robert Tewis
Permit Application Number
MVN-2013-02952-ETT

(225) 219-3225;
Fax (225) 219-3156
Project Manager
Elizabeth Johnson
WQC Application Number
WQC-140328-02

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), New Orleans District (CEMVN) pursuant to: 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).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

CONSTRUCT WELL PAD FOR A SINGLE VERTICAL EXPLORATORY WELL, IN ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA

NAME OF APPLICANT: Helis Oil & Gas Company, LLC, (Helis), Attention: Mike Barham, 228 St. Charles Avenue, Ste. 192, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130.

LOCATION OF WORK: North of Interstate-12, east of LA Highway 1088, abutting the west side of Log Cabin Road, at Latitude: 30.38778, Longitude -89.97861, within the Liberty Bayou-Tchefuncta River Watershed (HUC # 08090201) of the Lake Pontchartrain Drainage Basin in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

BRIEF FILE SUMMARY: On April 14, 2014, CEMVN published a public notice for a proposed ±10.55 acre well pad that would accommodate an oil and gas exploration well and up to 10 subsurface hydraulic fracturing production wells. Two time extensions to the comment period were granted and the comment period ended June 16, 2014. On July 29, 2014, a geological review meeting (GR) coordinated by CEMVN and facilitated by the Louisiana Geological Survey was held to discuss geological aspects associated with the proposal. The GR was attended by the applicant and their consultants along with other state and federal resource agencies representatives. The focus of discussion was on the viability of the proposed location as a production site for fossil fuels to be extracted from the Tuscaloosa Shale Play.

Upon reviewing the information presented by Helis, the consulting geologist at the GR recommended that a single exploratory well be constructed for the purpose of obtaining more data to better assess the site's viability as an oil and gas production site. CEMVN concurred with that recommendation concluding that the site's viability for production of fossil fuels, at this juncture, is speculative and that processing an application for a production site would not be in accordance with the Corps Regulatory Guidance requirements stipulating avoidance and minimization procedures to be followed for proposed wetland impacts nor would it be in the public interest. CEMVN requested Helis to submit revised plans proposing a single exploratory well for the purpose of obtaining the additional data/information necessary for CEMVN to evaluate whether the site is the less environmentally damaging alternative, in the public interest and for the applicant's desired goal of producing fossil fuels in this geographical area.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Clear, grade, excavate, and fill to construct a well pad and make access road improvements to install and service a single drill rig for the purpose of obtaining geological data from this area of the Tuscaloosa Shale Play. The proposed well pad site is 3.21 acres, of which 2.81 acres are jurisdictional wetlands. Access road improvements and the construction of a guard shack would result in an additional 0.32 acre of wetland impacts for a total of 3.13 acres of wetlands to be directly impacted by the proposed work. The site plans have incorporated a ditch and ring levee abutting and circumventing the drill pad and would be contiguous with a planned 125 ft elevated entrance driveway. The drill pad surface has been designed with sloping features to drain stormwater to a 2,500 sq ft drainage sump within the drill site and abutting the perimeter ditch. The design is for the purpose of managing stormwater runoff within the drill pad site for containment, use and proper disposal. The applicant states that $\pm 800,000$ gallons of water would be required for this single vertical well operation and that it would be obtained from private ponds. The drill rig deck design incorporates a basement/sump underneath the rig to capture drill deck drainage for collection, transport and proper offsite disposal. The applicant proposes to install so called "sentinel wells" up-gradient and down-gradient of the well site to assess and monitor water quality of the Southern Hills Aquifer in the vicinity of the well site. The applicant proposes to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts by purchasing the appropriate credits from a Corps approved mitigation bank.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **30 days** from the date of this joint 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 and/or this WQC request and 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**. Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above. In accordance with the Corps Regulatory Policies found within 33 CFR Part 325, Paragraph 325.2 (d) (2), this comment period is not to exceed 30 days from the date of this joint public notice.

Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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.

The Corps is unaware of any species or designated critical habitat, listed by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), which may be directly affected by the proposed activity. Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any ESA listed species nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any ESA listed species. CEMVN's final determination, relative to project affecting any ESA listed species or any designated critical habitat, is subject to review by and coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

This notice initiates the EFH consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposal would result in temporary adverse impacts to N/A acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. CEMVN's 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, Office of Environmental Services, 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.

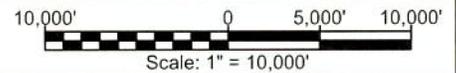
Michael V. Farabee
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Attachments



NOTE:
THE CONTENTS OF THESE PLANS ARE INTENDED
EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PERMITS

VICINITY MAP



HELIS OIL & GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.

PROPOSED DRILLSITE & STRUCTURES

Eads Poitevent No. 1 Well

Section 34, T7S-R12E

St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana



Lafayette New Orleans Houston
135 Regency Sq. Lafayette, LA 70508
Ph. 337-237-2200 Fax. 337-232-3299
www.fenstermaker.com

DRAWN BY: TSM

REVISED: 3/14/2014

DATE: 1/15/2014

PROJ. MGR.: RLL

08/28/2014

SHEET 1 OF 8 SHEETS

09/05/2014

FILENAME: T:\2013\2130980\DWG\ENVIROMENTAL\Poitevent COE 082814.dwg



Proposed Bypass Area, Wing, Culverts & Structures -
(NAD83)
LAT. 30°24'09"
LONG. 89°58'06"
See Sheets 3 & 4

Proposed Bypass Area -
(NAD83)
LAT. 30°23'49"
LONG. 89°58'17"
See Sheet 5

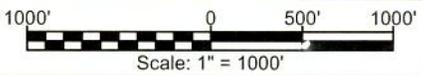
Existing Access Road-
To be Boarded (±6717'x14')

Proposed Drillsite & Structures
Helis Oil & Gas Company, L.L.C.
Eads Poitevent No. 1 Well
(NAD27)
X= 2,427,211
Y= 628,309
(NAD83)
LAT. 30°23'16"
LONG. 89°58'43"
See Sheets 6 & 7



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PROJECT PLAN VIEW

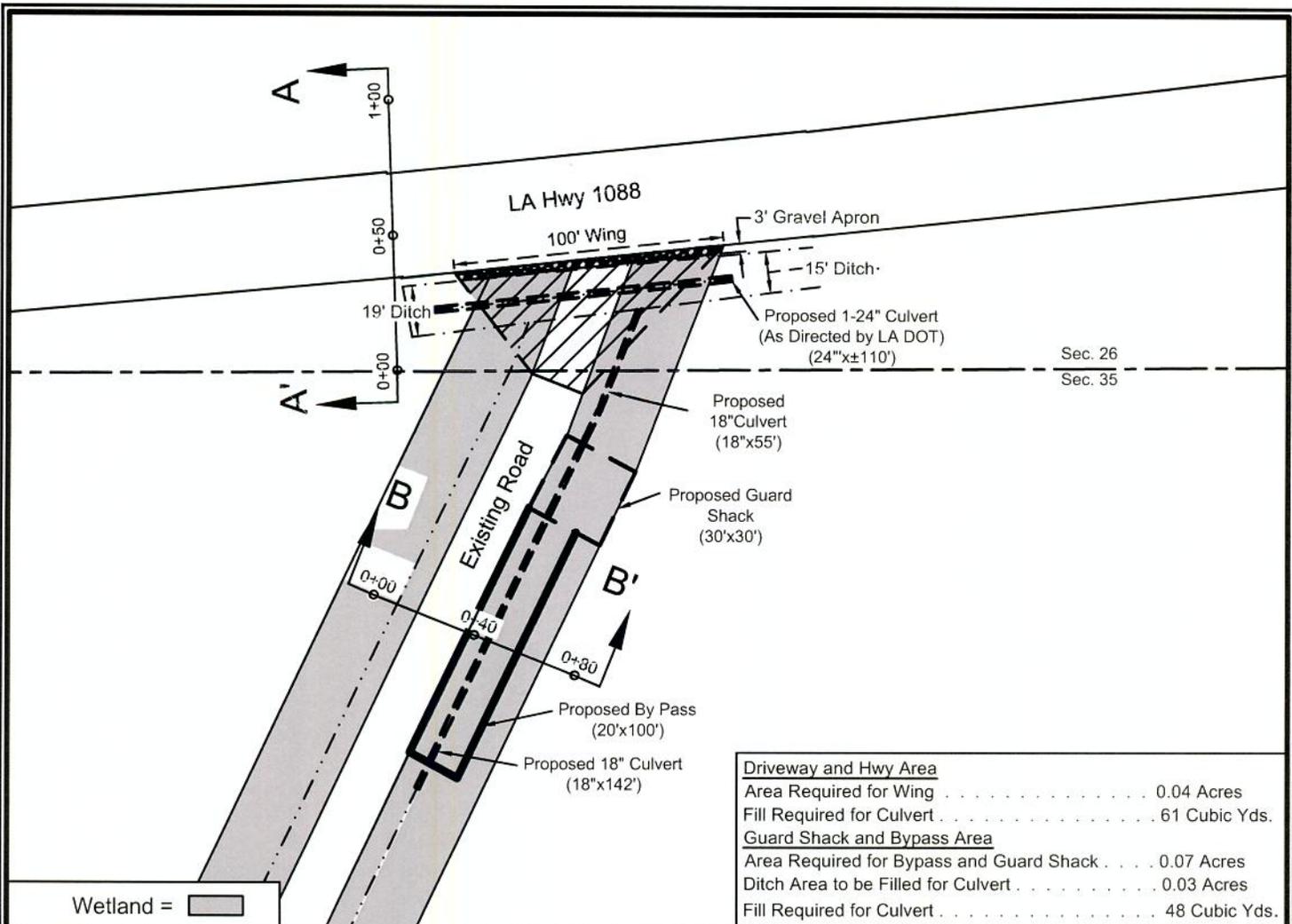


HELIS OIL & GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
PROPOSED DRILLSITE & STRUCTURES
Eads Poitevent No. 1 Well
Section 34, T7S-R12E
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana



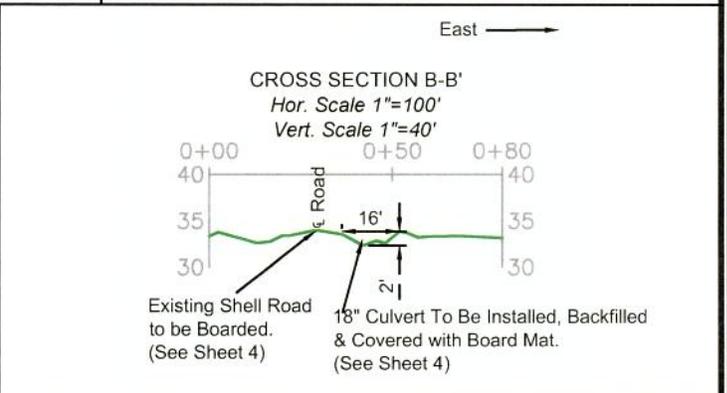
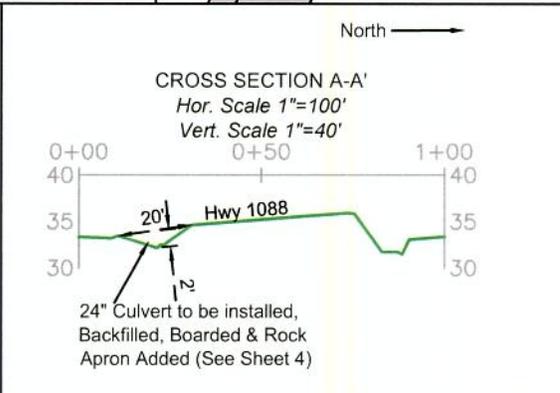
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PROJ. MGR.: RLL	08/28/2014	SHEET 2 OF 8 SHEETS
FILENAME: T:\2013\2130980\DWG\ENVIROMENTAL\Poitevent COE 082814.dwg	09/05/2014	



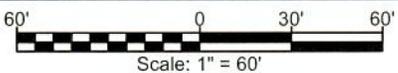
Driveway and Hwy Area	
Area Required for Wing	0.04 Acres
Fill Required for Culvert	61 Cubic Yds.
Guard Shack and Bypass Area	
Area Required for Bypass and Guard Shack	0.07 Acres
Ditch Area to be Filled for Culvert	0.03 Acres
Fill Required for Culvert	48 Cubic Yds.

Wetland =



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PLAN VIEW DRIVEWAY, GUARD SHACK & BYPASS



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Eads Poitevent No. 1 Well
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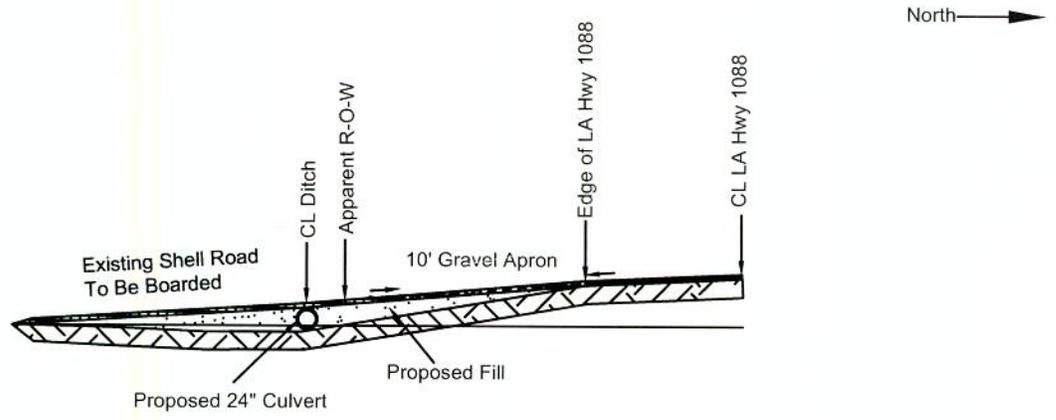
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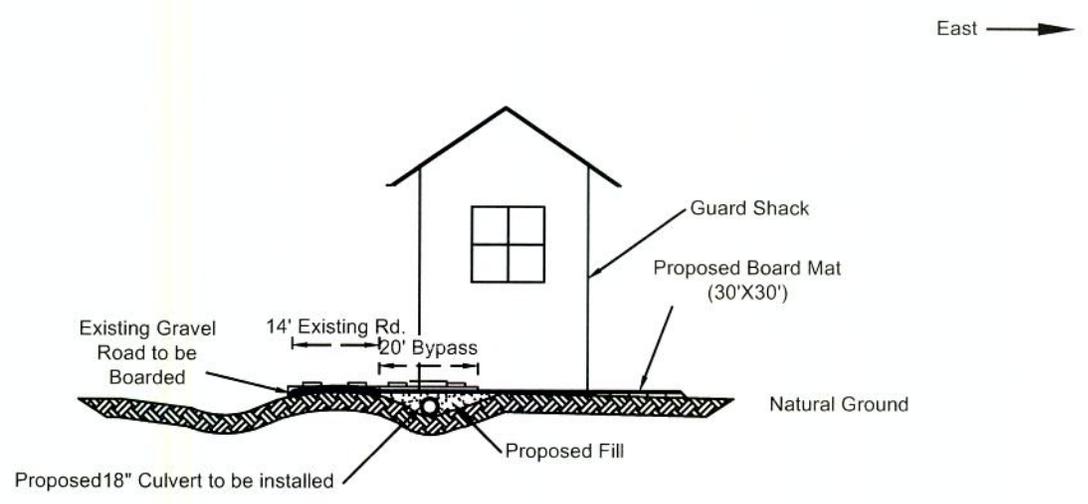
SHEET 3 OF 8 SHEETS

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TYPICAL DRIVEWAY WITH CULVERT INSTALLATION

No Scale



TYPICAL BYPASS, GUARD SHACK & CULVERT INSTALLATION

No Scale

Culvert to be installed in ditch, filled and covered with Boarded Mat or Boarded Bypass.

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HELIS OIL & GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.

PROPOSED DRILLSITE & STRUCTURES

Eads Poitevent No. 1 Well

Section 34, T7S-R12E

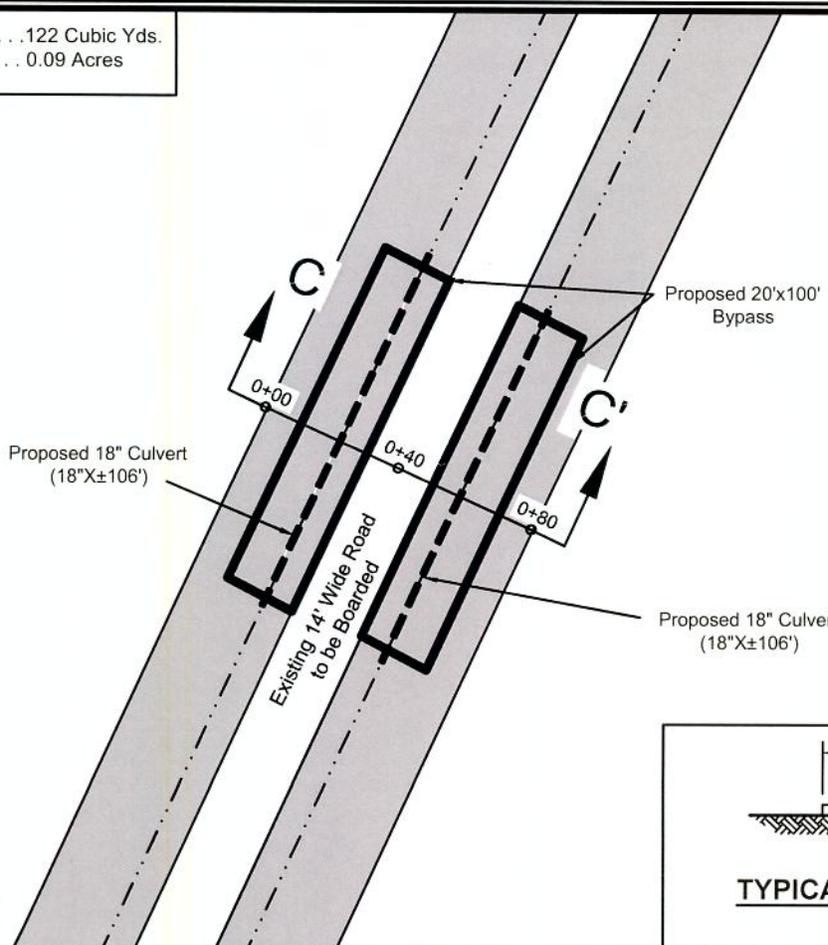
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana



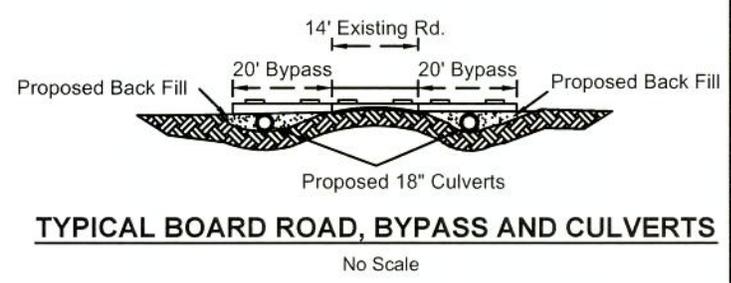
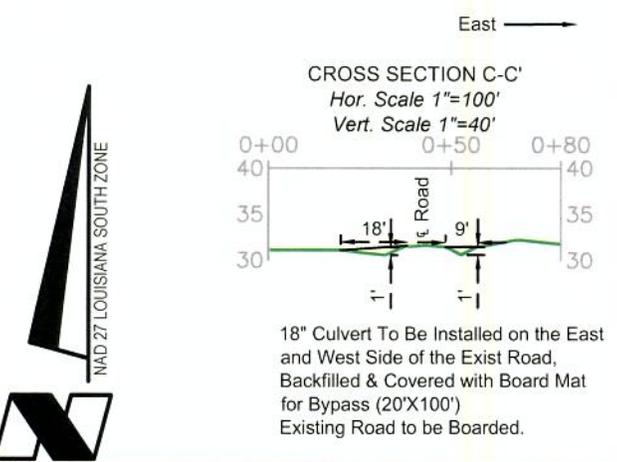
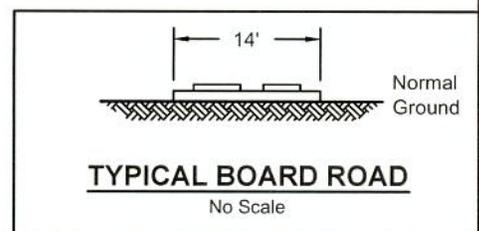
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Fill Required for Culverts. 122 Cubic Yds.
 Area Required for Culverts. 0.09 Acres

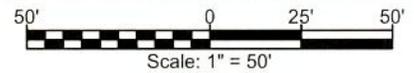


Wetland =



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PLAN VIEW BYPASS



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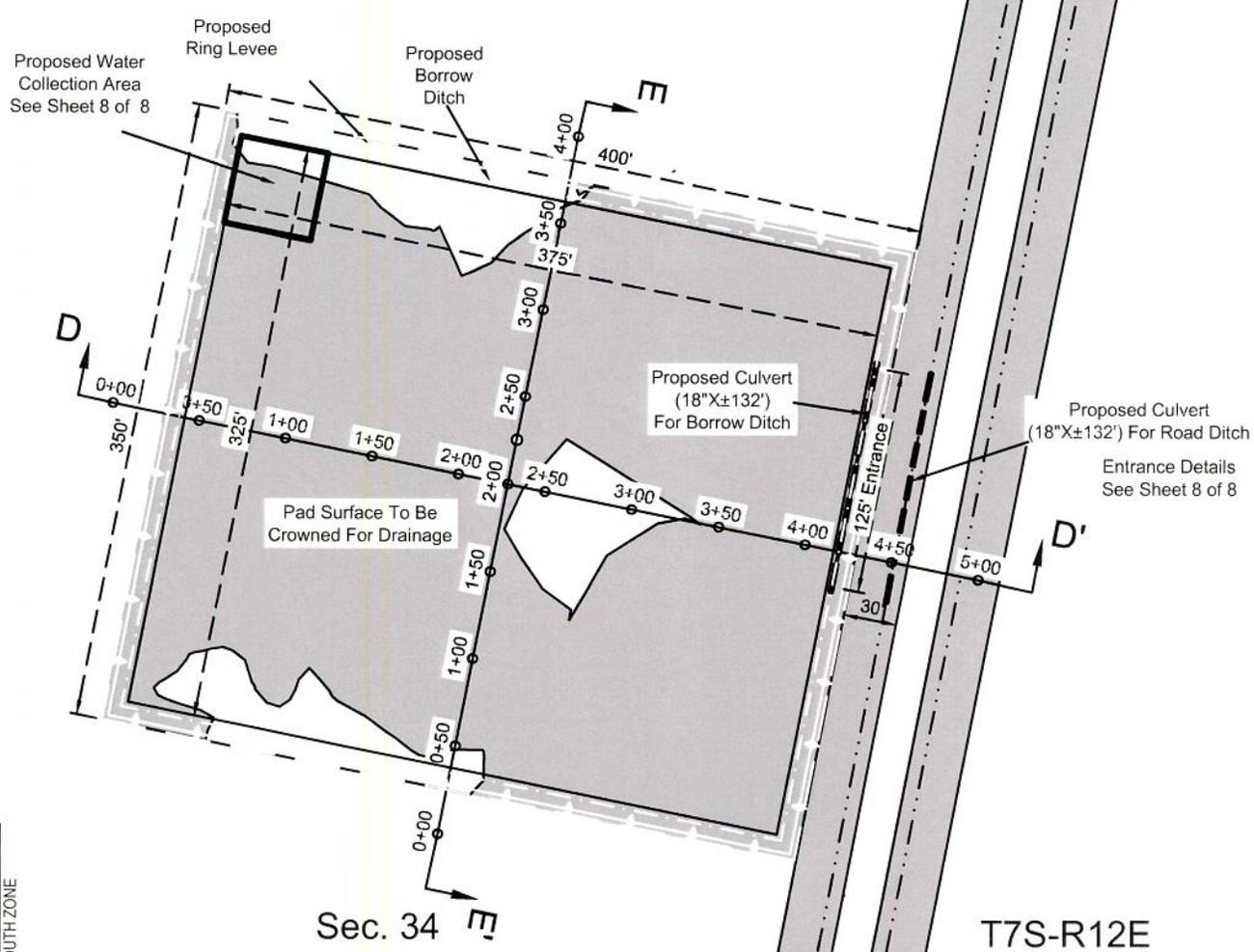
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 09/05/2014

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 SHEET 5 OF 8 SHEETS

FILENAME: T:\2013\2130980\DWG\ENVIROMENTAL\Poitevent COE 082814.dwg

- Ring Levee
- - - Borrow Ditch
- · - · - Road Ditch
- - - - - Culvert

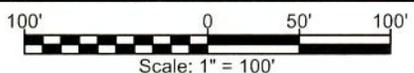


Excavation/Fill Required for Borrow Ditch/Ring Levee . . .	492 Cubic Yds.
Fill Required for Drill Pad	10,776 Cubic Yds.
Fill Required for Entrance	1,500 Cubic Yds.
Area Required for Entrance	0.09 Acres
Wetland = Wetland Area	2.81 Acres



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PLAN VIEW PAD AREA



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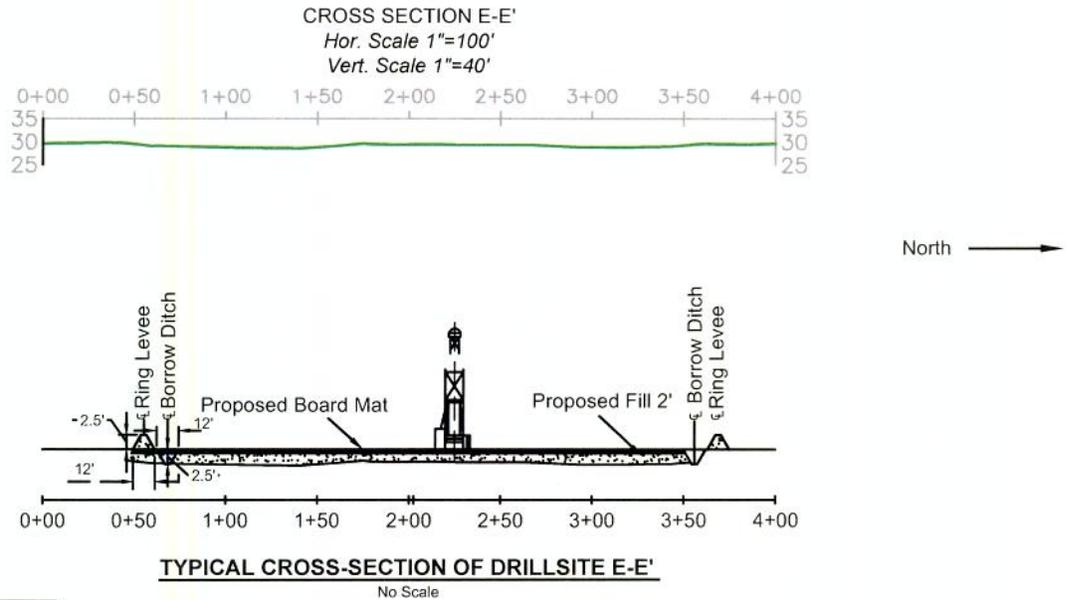
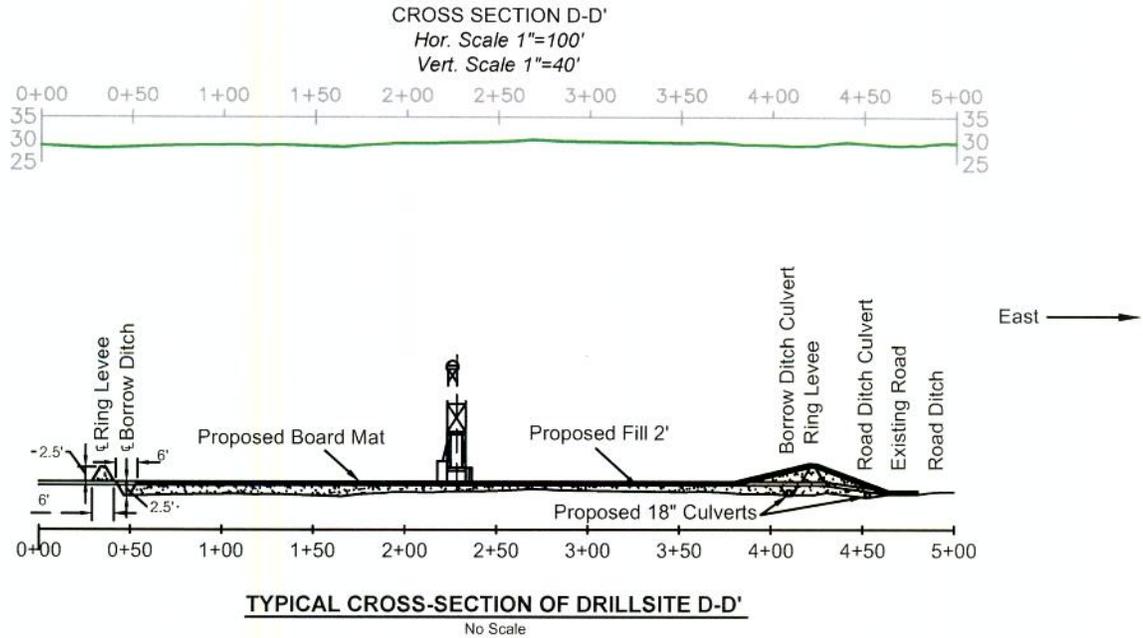
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 St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana



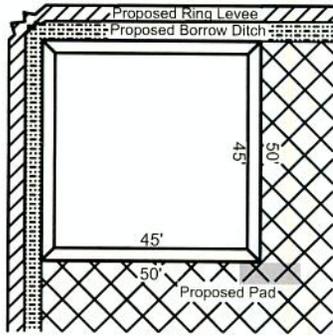
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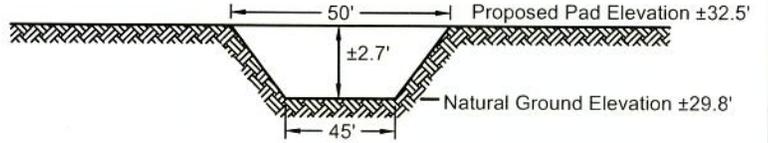
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 SHEET 7 OF 8 SHEETS

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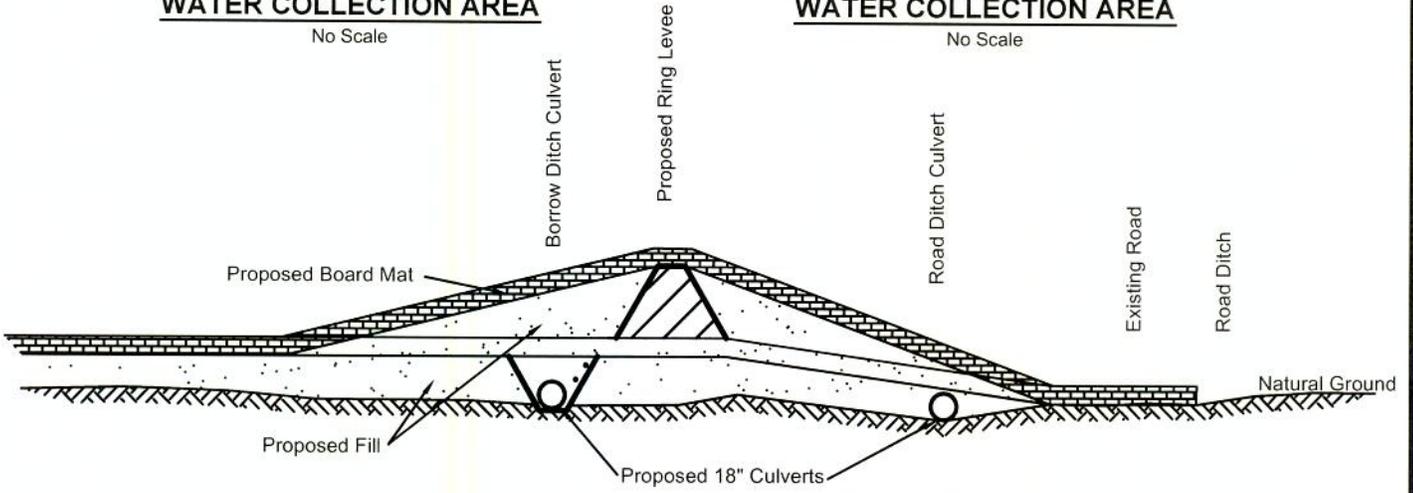
PLAN VIEW OF TYPICAL WATER COLLECTION AREA

No Scale



PROFILE OF TYPICAL WATER COLLECTION AREA

No Scale



PROFILE OF TYPICAL PAD ENTRANCE

No Scale

NOTES:

1. Material for drillsite levees will be taken from within the leveed perimeter.
2. Closure procedures, including onshore land treatment and/or offsite disposal of mud pit contents and other drilling residues, shall be conducted in accordance with appropriate Federal and State Regulations.
3. In order to ensure the safety of all parties, the permittee shall contact the Louisiana ONE CALL System (1-800-272-3020), a minimum of 48 hours prior to the commencement of any excavation (Digging, Dredging, Jetting, etc.) or demolition activity.

NOTES - DRY HOLE SCENARIO

1. The boards will be removed from the access road and drill pad.
2. The drill site and ring levees will be degraded within 90 days following abandonment. The levee material will be deposited, to the maximum extent practicable, into the borrow areas from which the material was excavated and the area will be leveled to as near pre-project conditions as practicable.
3. The drill pad site will be allowed to naturally re-vegetate.

DISCLAIMER: At this time, C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, LLC has not performed nor was asked to perform any type of engineering, hydrological modeling, flood plain, or "No Rise" certification analyses, including but not limited to determining whether the project will impact flood hazards in connection with federal/FEMA, state, and/or local laws, ordinances and regulations. Accordingly, Fenstermaker makes no warranty or representation of any kind as to the foregoing issues, and persons or entities using this information shall do so at their own risk.

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HELIS OIL & GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.

PROPOSED DRILLSITE & STRUCTURES

Eads Poitevent No. 1 Well

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