# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

**August 25, 2014**


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

(504) 862-1301
Project Manager
Neil T. Gauthier
Neil.T.Gauthier@USACE.army.mil
MVN 2014-01775-CM

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Certifications Section
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(225) 219-3225
Project Manager
Elizabeth Johnson
WQC Application Number
WQC 140821-01


Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the US Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [ ] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] 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, Water Quality Certifications Section, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

## PROPOSED ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY IN ASCENSION PARISH

**NAME OF APPLICANT**: Shell Chemicals LP, c/o CK Associates, Attn: Brian Newman, 17170 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

**LOCATION OF WORK**: Section 13, T10S-R2E, approximately 2 miles southeast from Geismar, Louisiana, in Ascension Parish, within the Lake Maurepas Basin, in hydrologic unit (HUC 08070204), as shown on the attached drawings.

**CHARACTER OF WORK**: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to clear, grade, excavate, and deposit fill and aggregate materials to construct and maintain an alkoxylation production facility and its associated infrastructure for the purpose of increasing the production of materials for use in the development of surfactants. Approximately 232,000 cubic yards of earthen fill, gravel/crushed stone, and concrete, will be hauled in and deposited to achieve required grade elevation requirements. The facility will include boilers, storage tanks, reactors, cooling towers, warehouses, offices, and support buildings. Additional infrastructure to be placed will include a new railroad and pipe rack between the existing Shell Chemical facility and the proposed facility, an access road, detention pond, and the relocation of an existing drainage ditch. The proposed project is situated on an approximately 40.46-acre tract which contains approximately 22.6 acres of forested wetlands and approximately 0.7 acre

of "other waters of the US". A Preliminary analysis has determined that the proposed project would directly impact 22.6 acres of forested wetlands.

The applicant has designed the project to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable. Any further reduction would limit usage of the property and, therefore deem the project impracticable. As compensation for unavoidable wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to mitigate in-kind wetland credits from a Corps approved mitigation bank located in the watershed.

The comment period for the Department of Army will close in **20 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. 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 application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

## 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 US 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 US 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.

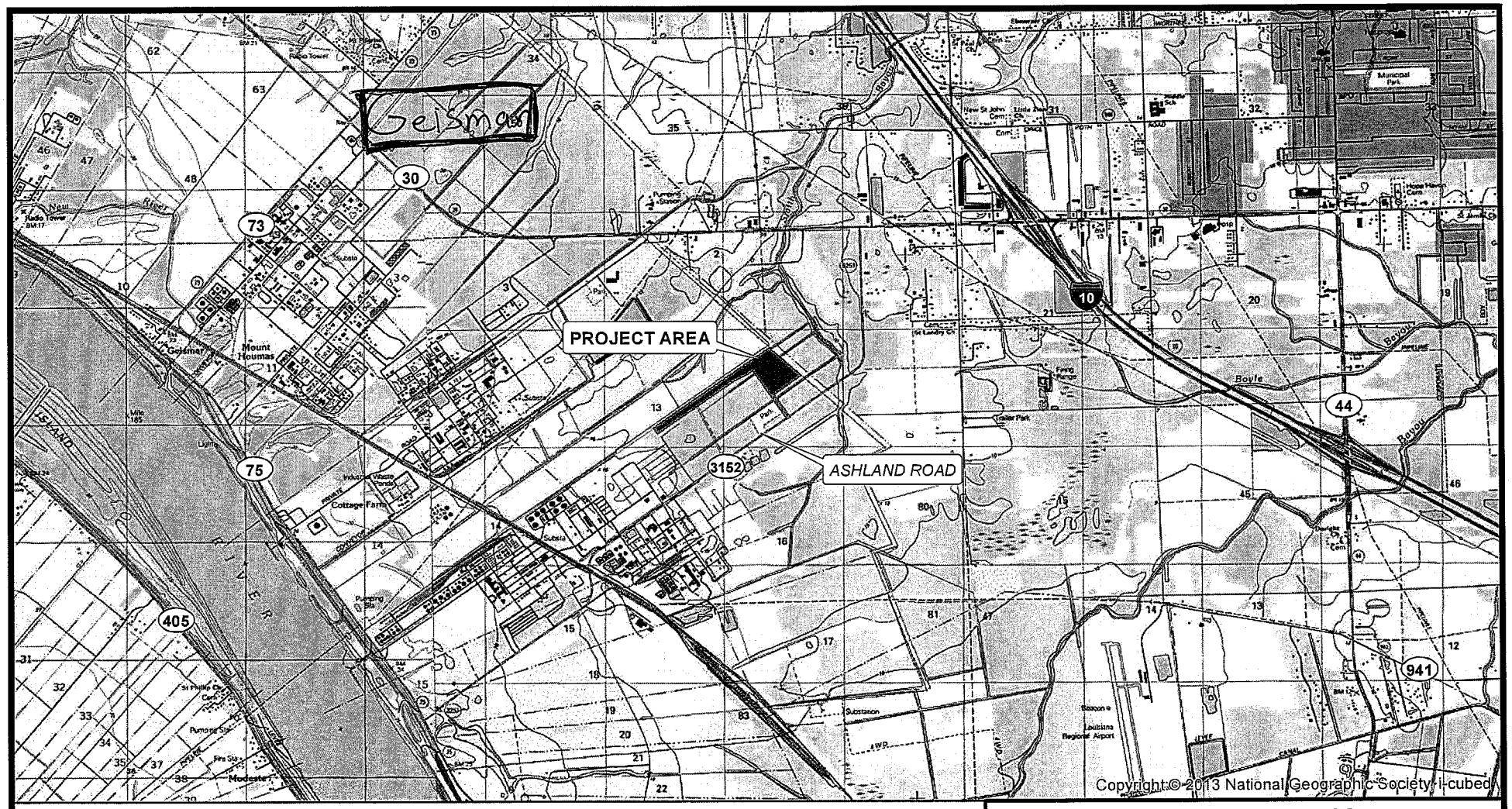
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of up to **n/a** acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid 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 water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications Section 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.

JOHN M. HERMAN
Chief, Central Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosures





Project Area (40.46 acres)

N

S

0 0.5 1 2

Miles

REFERENCE

USGS 24K SERIES TOPO MAP, GONZALES, LA

esri Partner Network Silver

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

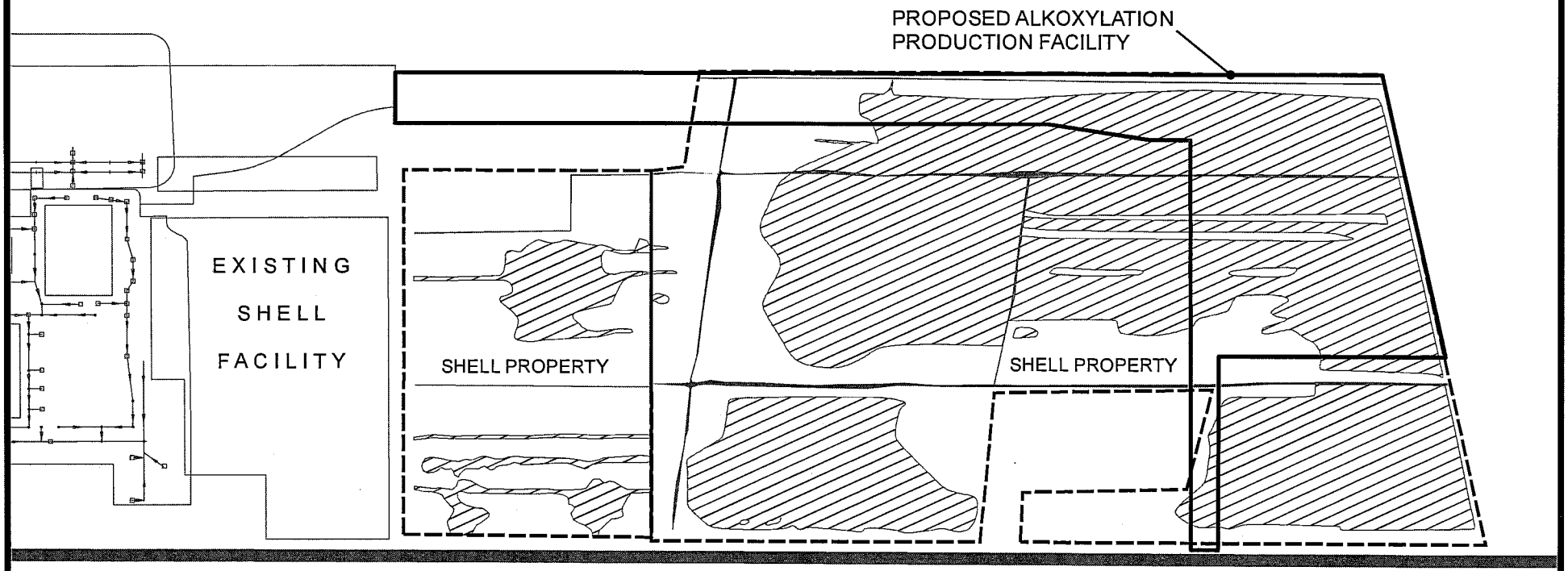
# VICINITY MAP

ASCENSION PARISH, LA

CK Associates Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CAL/AM10.2.2 |
| Checked: | BN |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/12/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-18 |

**FIGURE 1** of 16




Project Area (40.46 acres)

Shell Property (176 acres)

Other Waters of the US (2.50 acres)

Wetlands (82.48 acres)

0 300 600 1,200

Feet

esri Partner Network Silver

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

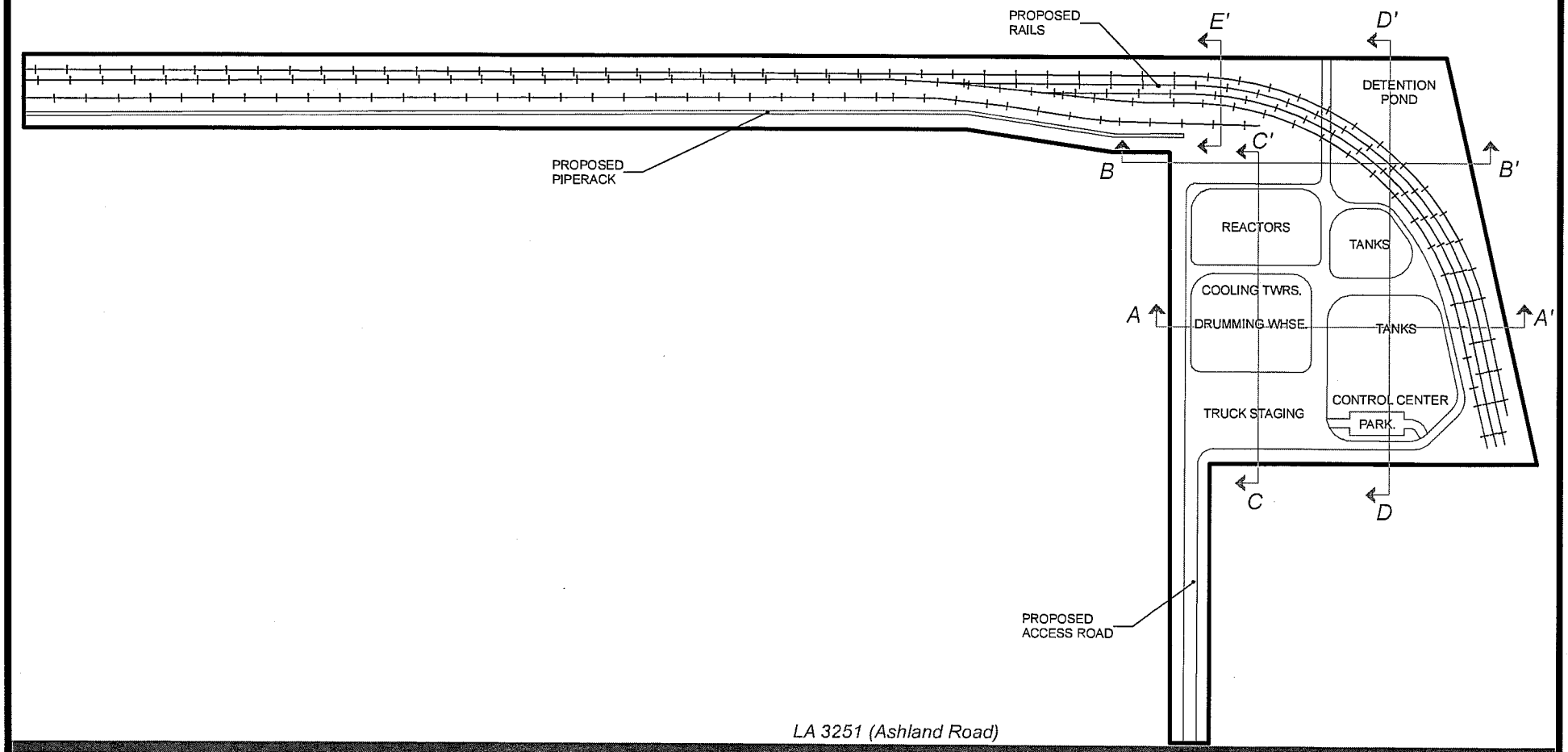
# EXISTING CONDITIONS

ASCENSION PARISH, LA

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CAL/AM10.2.2 |
| Checked: | BN |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/30/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-19 |

**FIGURE 2 of 16**




Project Area (40.46 acres)

N

S

0 300 600

Feet

NOTE: FACILITY LAYOUT PROVIDED BY SHELL.

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

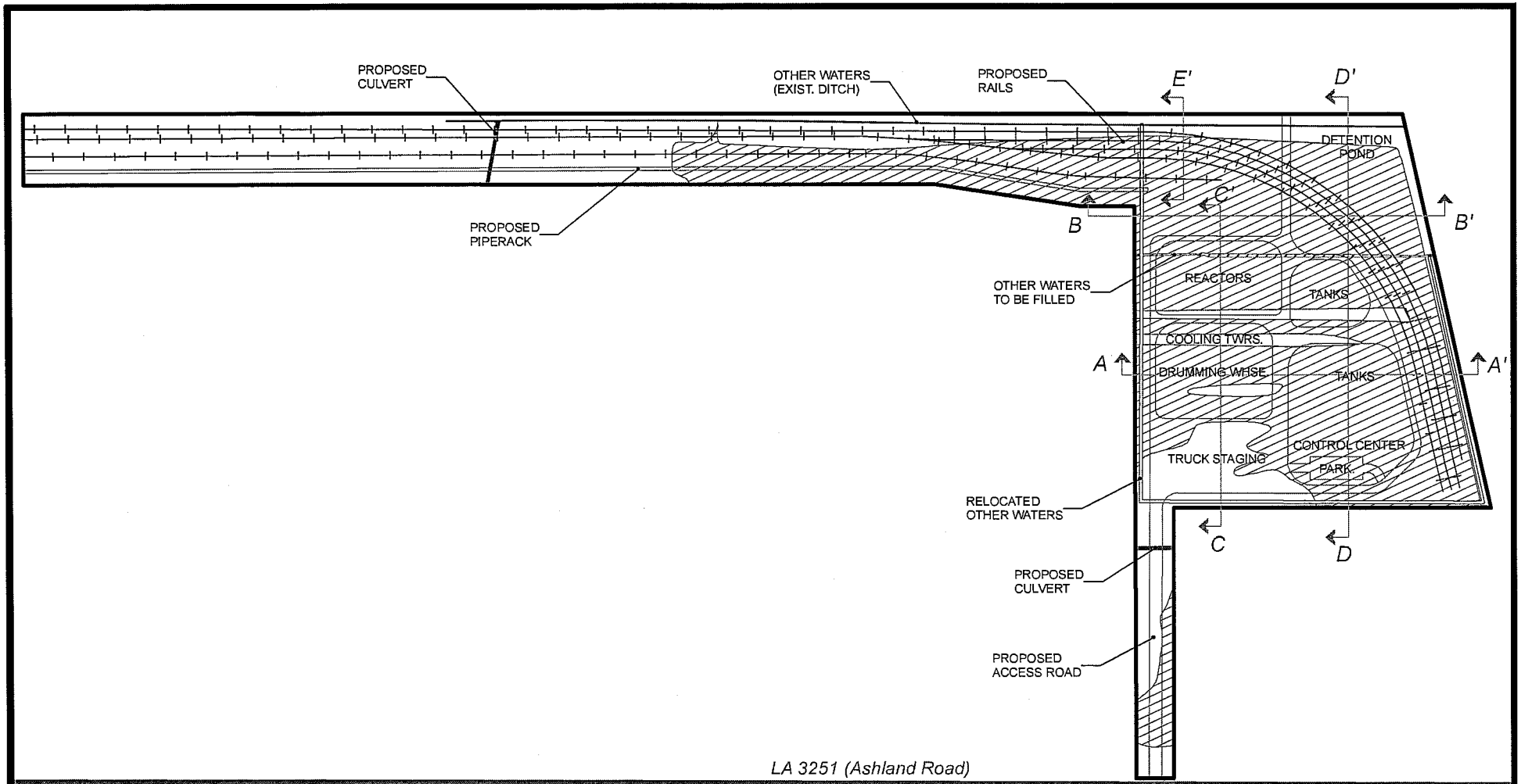
# PROPOSED FACILITY LAYOUT

ASCENSION PARISH, LA

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CAL/AM10.2.2 |
| Checked: | BN |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/30/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-20 |

**FIGURE 3** of 16




Project Area (40.46 acres)

Wetlands (22.56 acres)

Other Waters of the US (0.41 acres)

Relocated Other Waters of the US (0.51 acres)

Other Waters of the US to be Filled (0.14 acres)

N

S

0 300 600

Feet

NOTE: FACILITY LAYOUT PROVIDED BY SHELL.

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GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

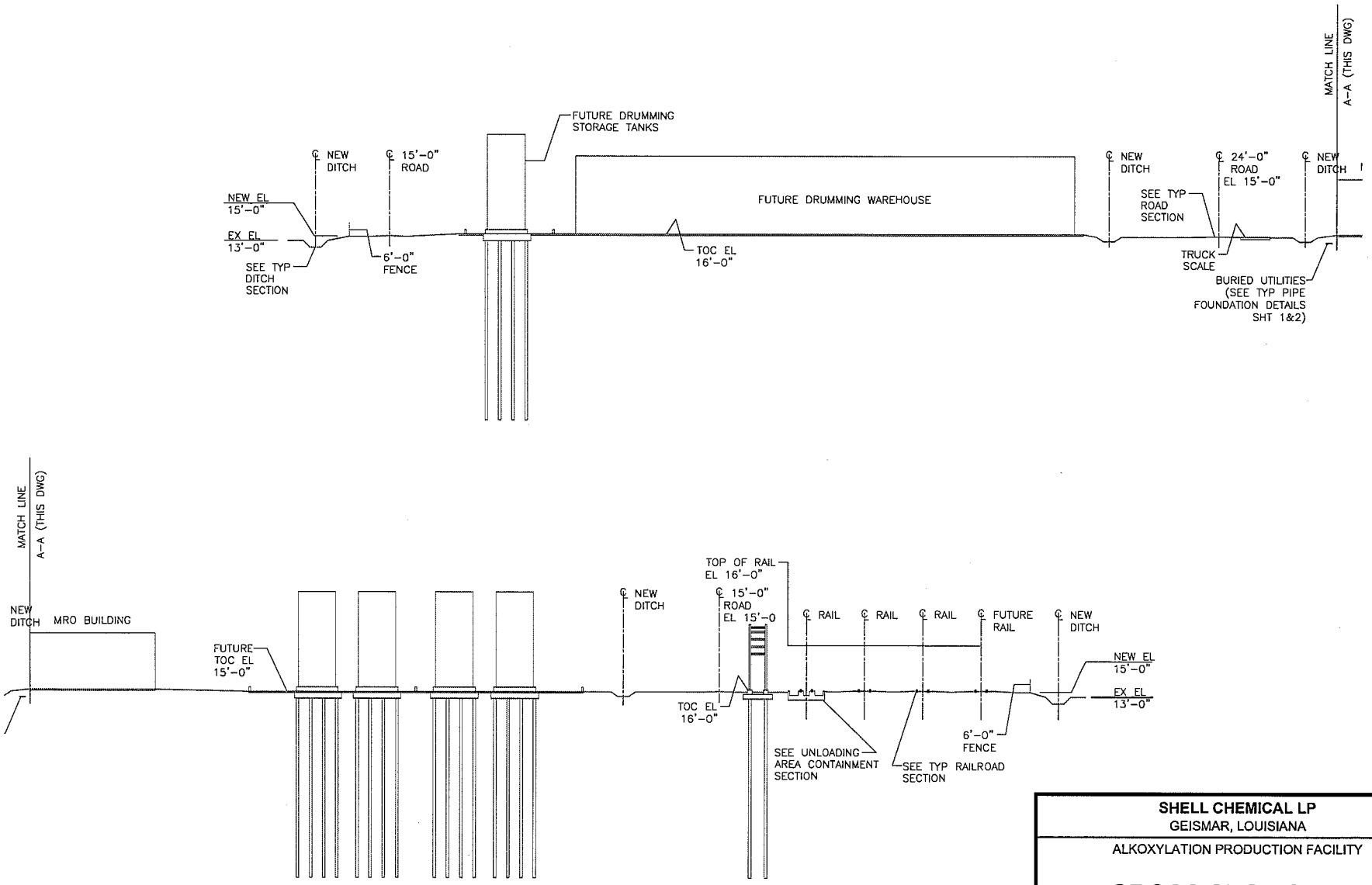
# PLAN VIEW

ASCENSION PARISH, LA

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CAL/AM10.2.2 |
| Checked: | BN |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/30/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-21 |

**FIGURE 4 of 16**




NOTE: CROSS SECTION A - A' PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

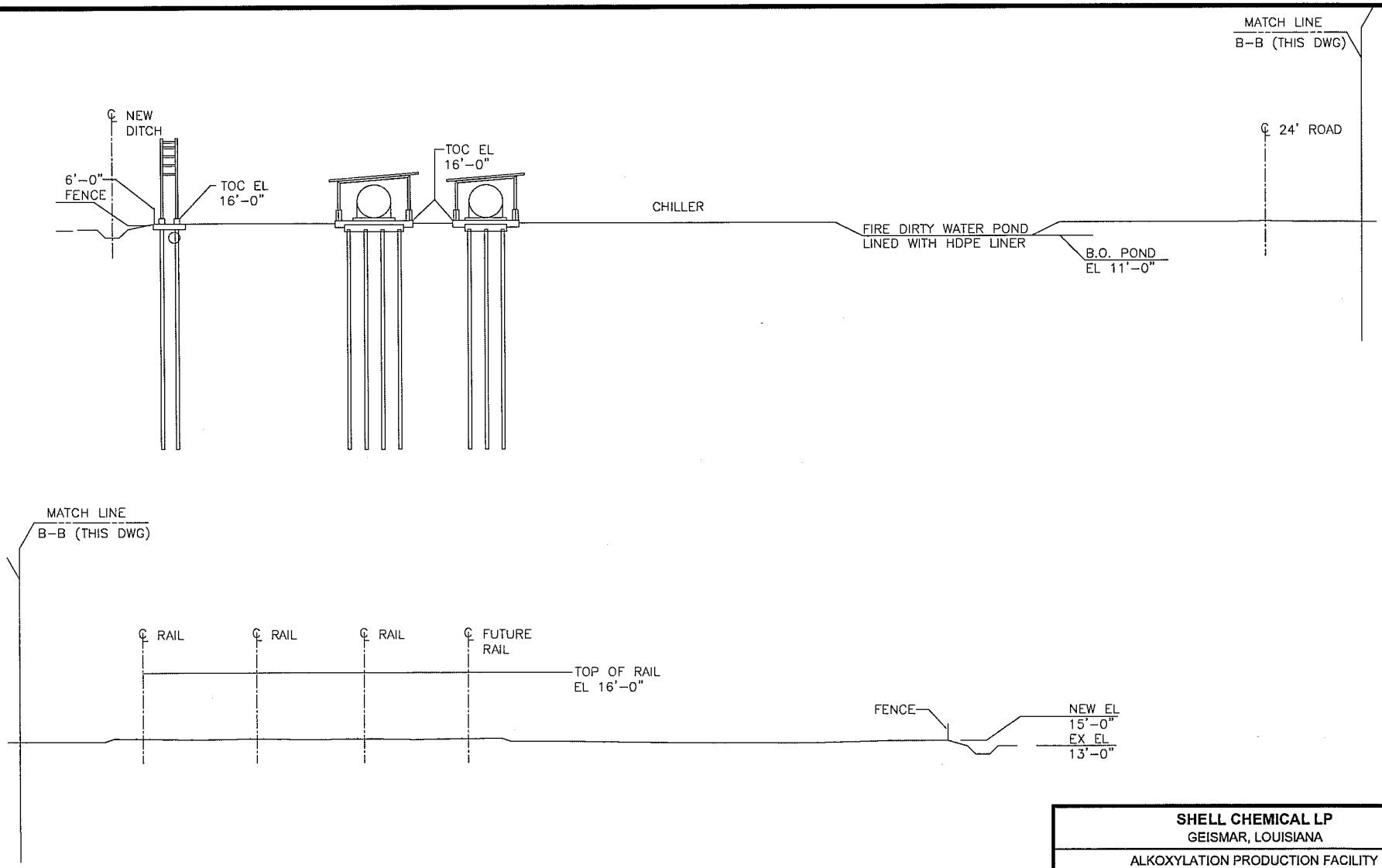
# CROSS SECTION A-A'

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-07 |

**FIGURE 5 of 16**




NOTE: CROSS SECTION B - B' PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

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ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# CROSS SECTION B-B'

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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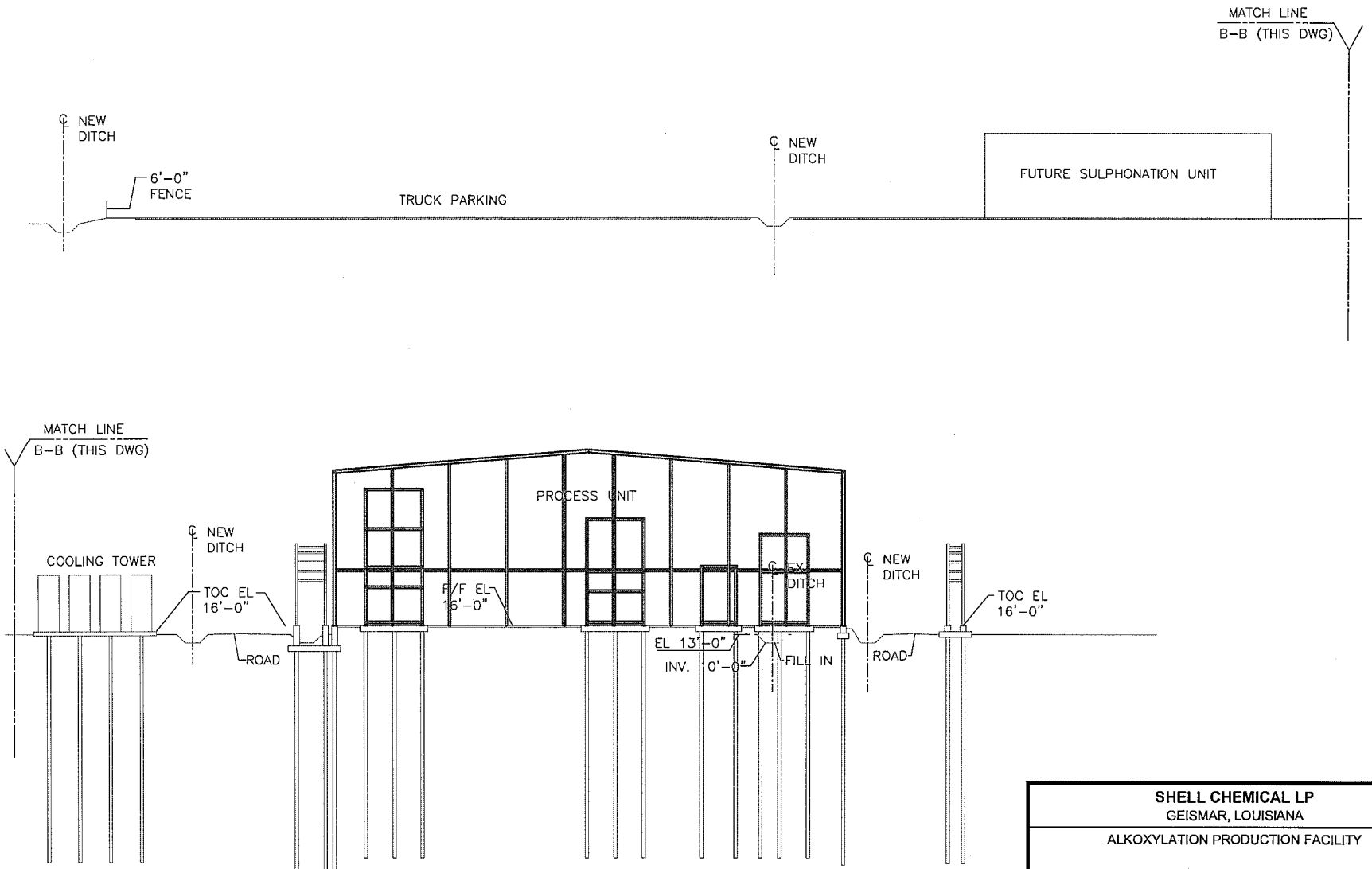
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-08 |

**FIGURE 6 of 16**




NOTE: CROSS SECTION C - C' PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# CROSS SECTION C-C'

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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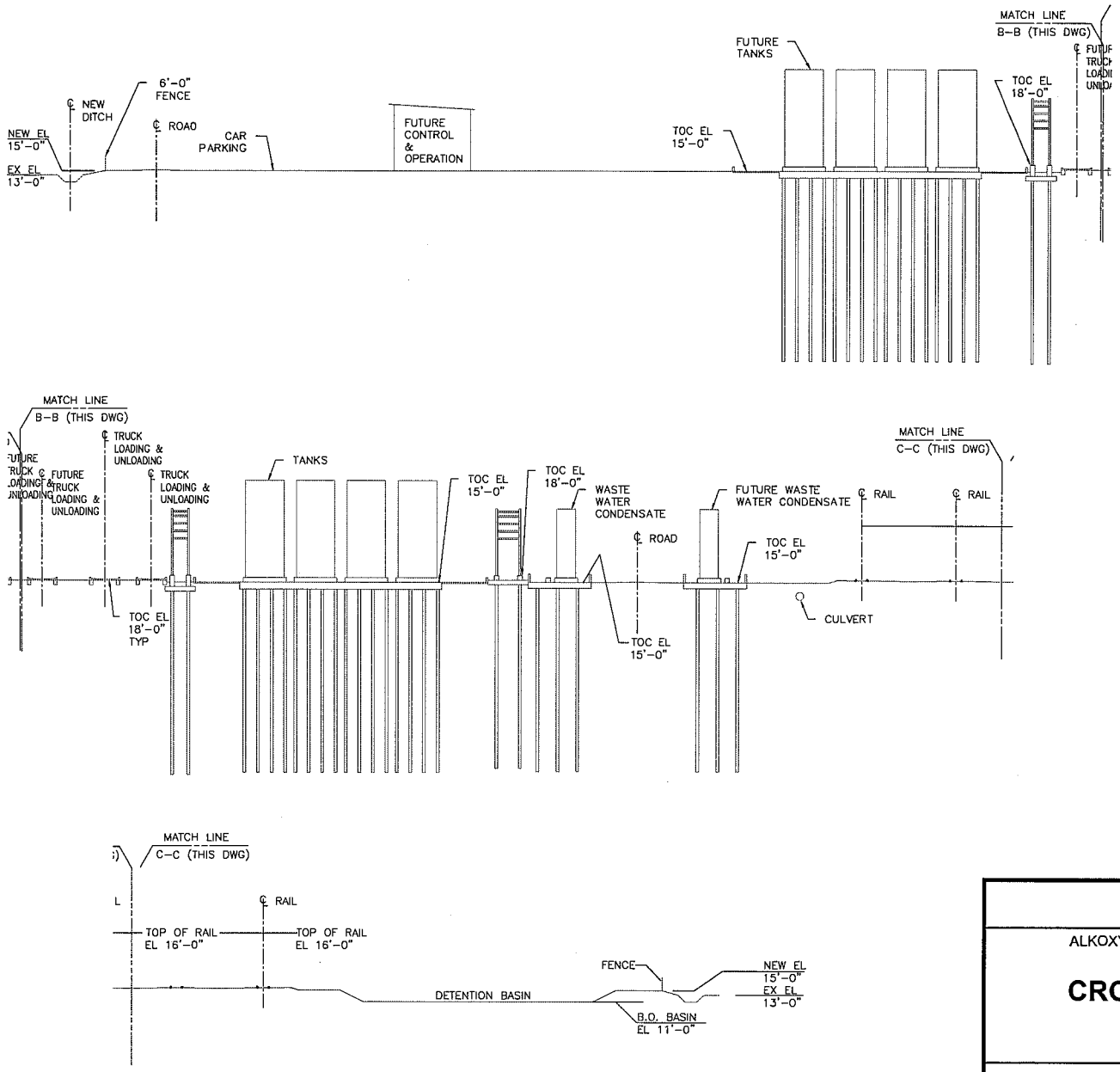
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-09 |

**FIGURE 7 of 16**




NOTE: CROSS SECTION D - D' PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# CROSS SECTION D-D'

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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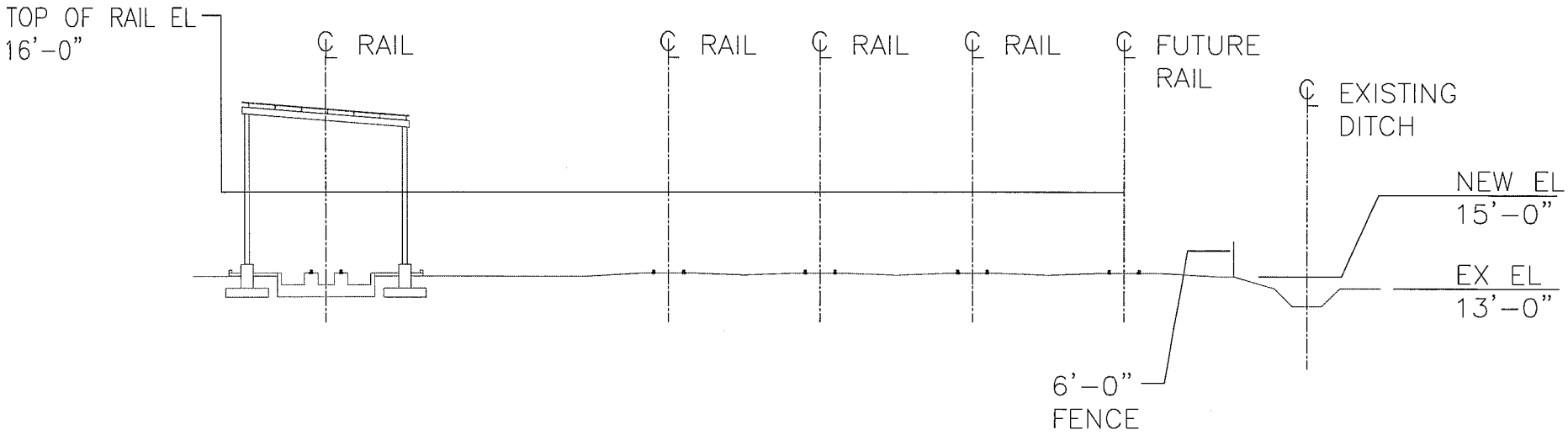
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-10 |

**FIGURE 8 of 16**




NOTE: CROSS SECTION E - E' PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# CROSS SECTION E-E'

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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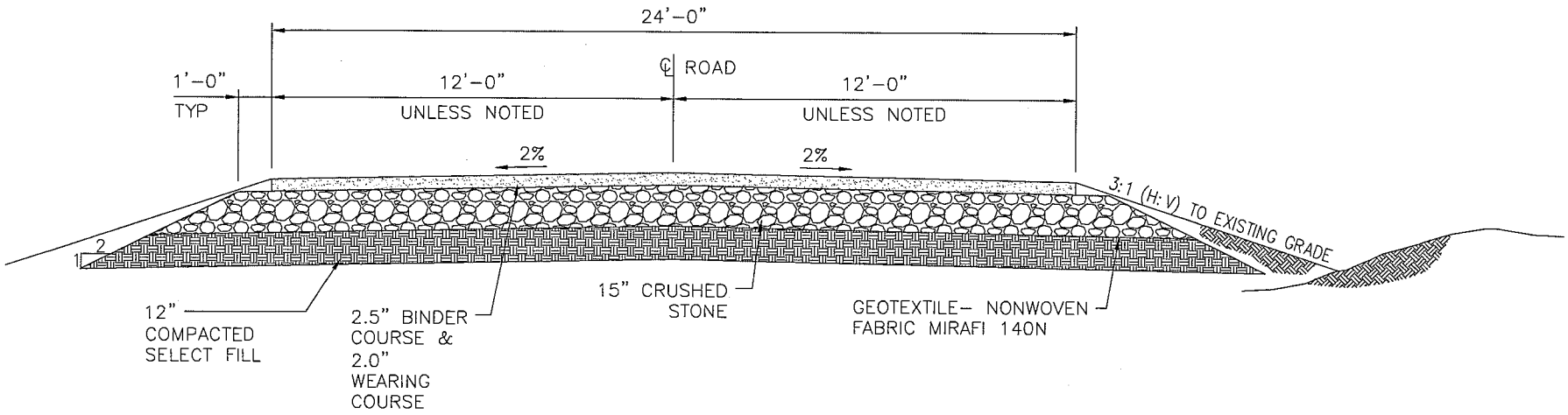
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-11 |

**FIGURE 9 of 16**




NOTE: TYPICAL ROAD SECTION PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# TYPICAL ROAD SECTION

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
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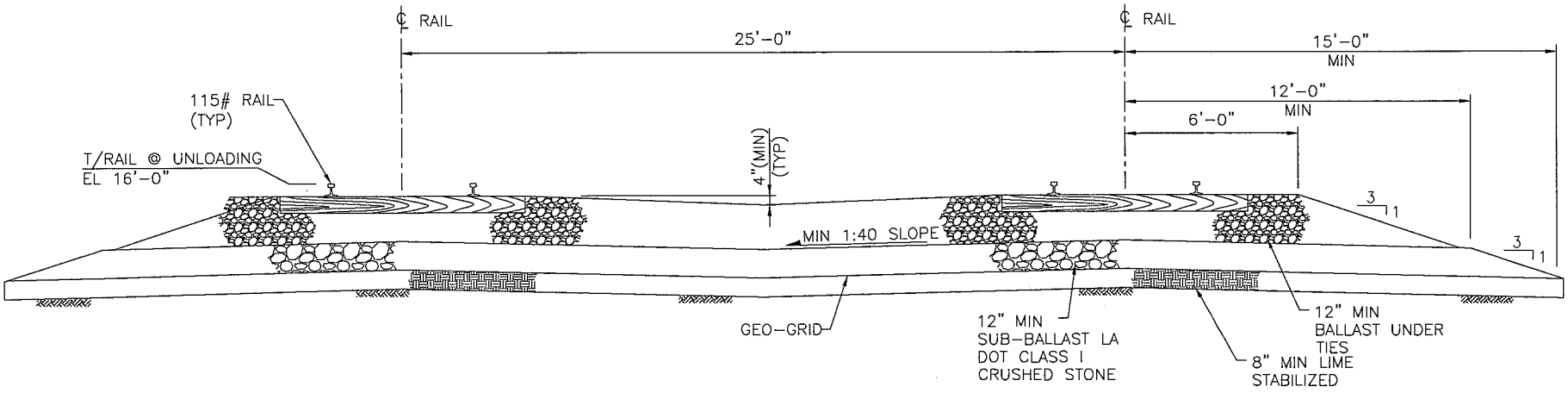
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-12 |

**FIGURE 10 of 16**




**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# TYPICAL RAILROAD SECTION

ASCENSION PARISH

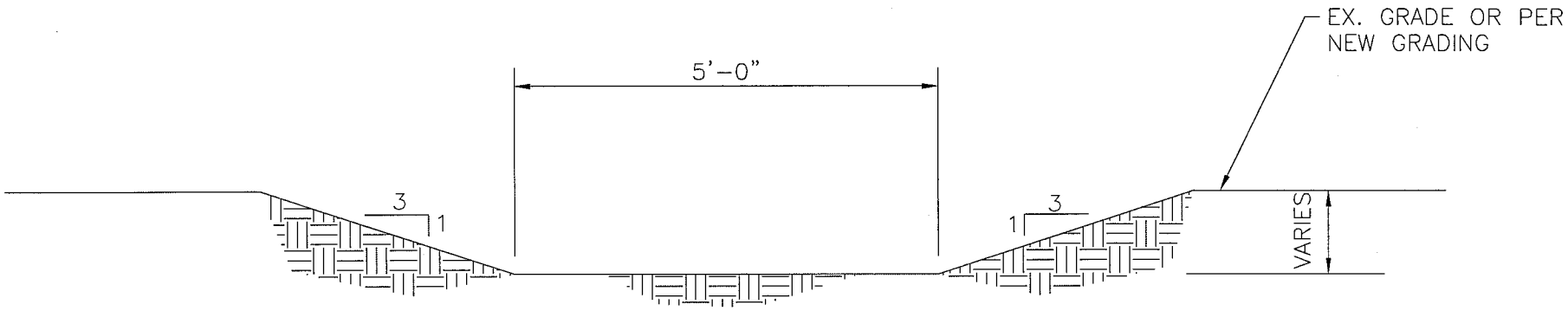
CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-13 |

**FIGURE 11 of 16**

NOTE: TYPICAL RAILROAD SECTION PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE




NOTE: TYPICAL DITCH SECTION PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

AKLOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# TYPICAL DITCH SECTION

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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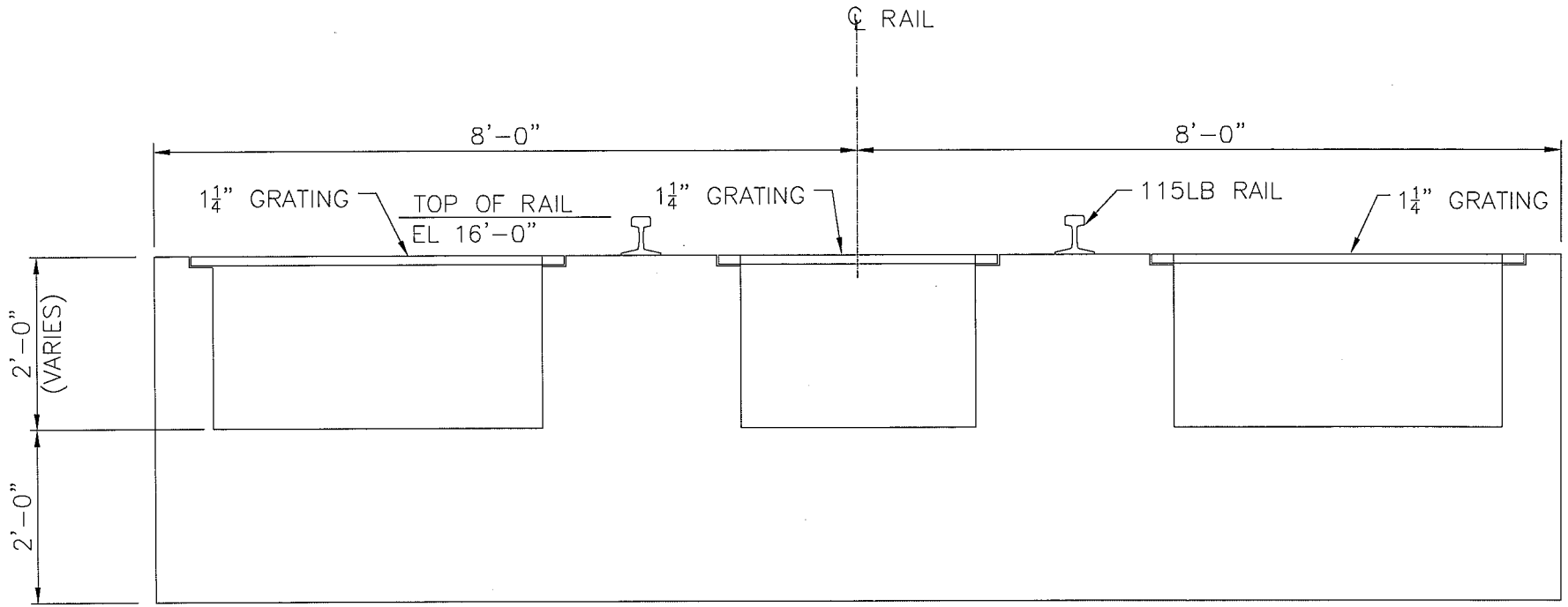
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-14 |

**FIGURE 12 of 16**




**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# UNLOADING AREA CONTAINMENT SECTION

ASCENSION PARISH

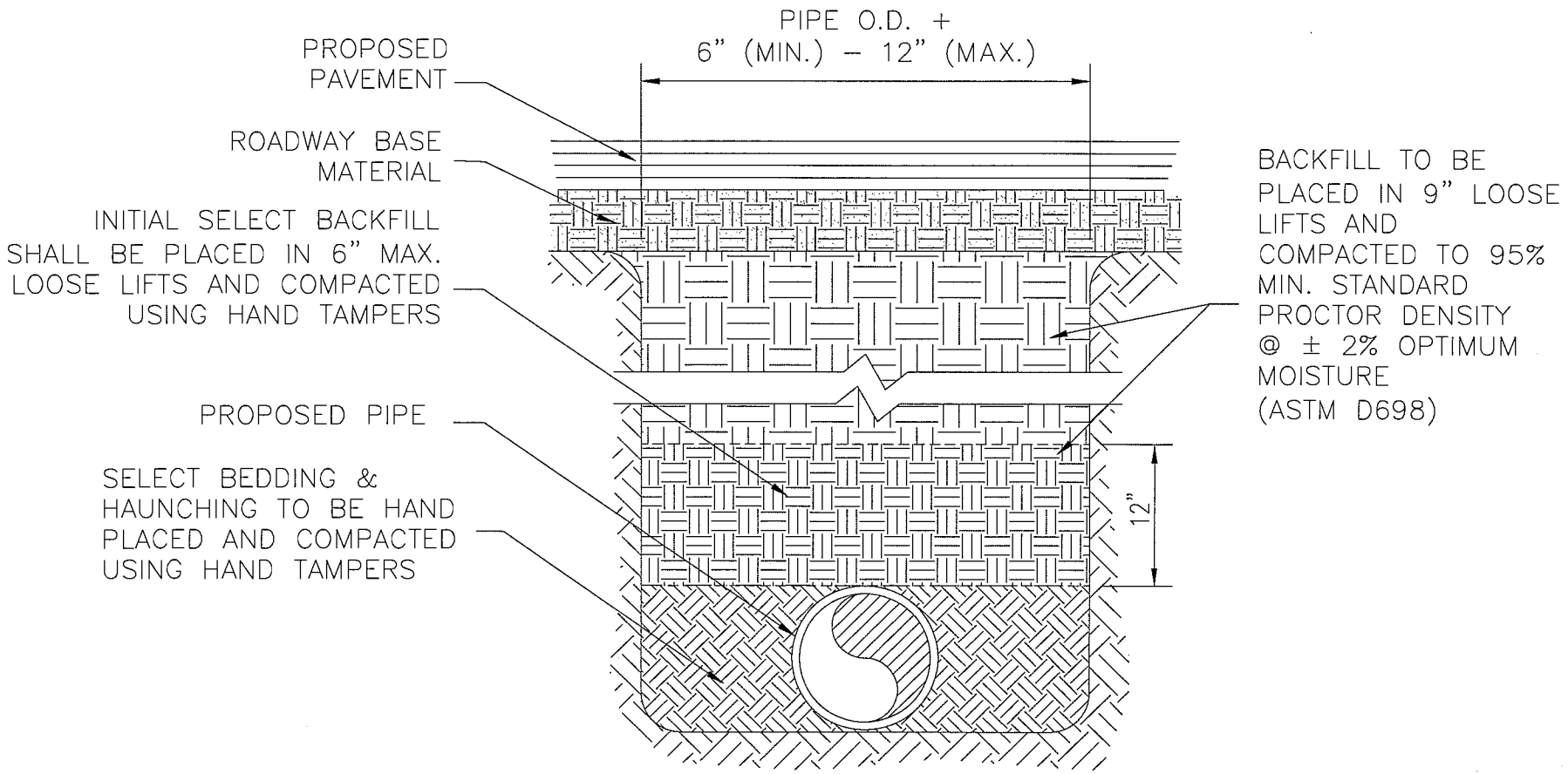
CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-15 |

**FIGURE 13 of 16**

NOTE: UNLOADING AREA CONTAINMENT SECTION PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE




NOTE: 1.) TYPICAL PIPE FOUNDATION DETAIL IMPROVED (ROADWAY) SURFACES PROVIDED BY SHELL.
2.) THIS DETAIL SHALL APPLY AT ALL PROPOSED IMPROVED SURFACES. FOUNDATION SHALL EXTEND A MINIMUM OF 2' BEYOND ROADS.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

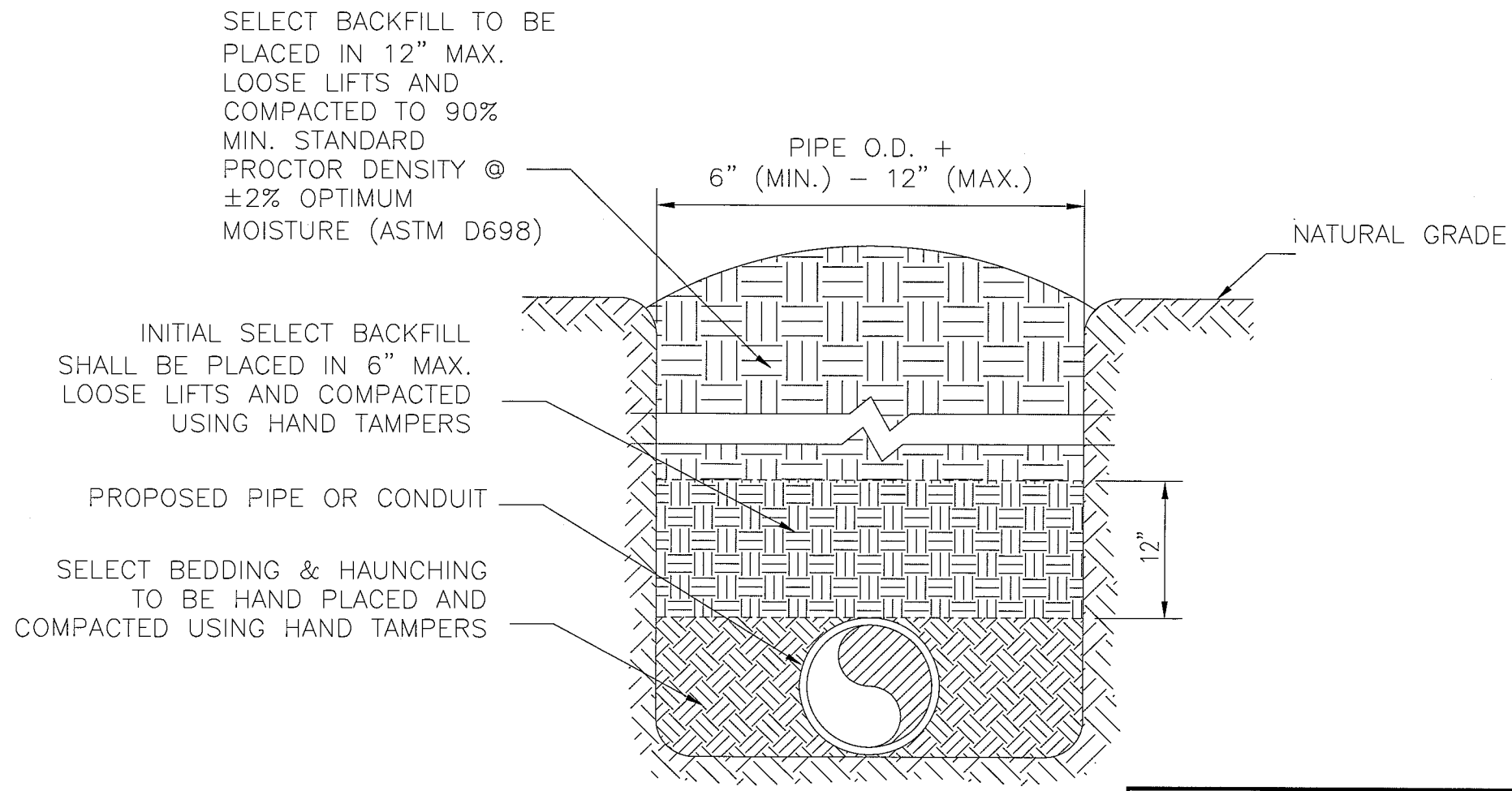
# TYPICAL PIPE FOUNDATION DETAIL IMPROVED (ROADWAY) SURFACES

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

| | |
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-16 |

**FIGURE 14 of 16**




NOTE: TYPICAL PIPE FOUNDATION DETAIL UNIMPROVED SURFACES PROVIDED BY SHELL.

NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

ALKOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# TYPICAL PIPE FOUNDATION DETAIL UNIMPROVED SURFACES

ASCENSION PARISH

CK Associates Environmental Consultants

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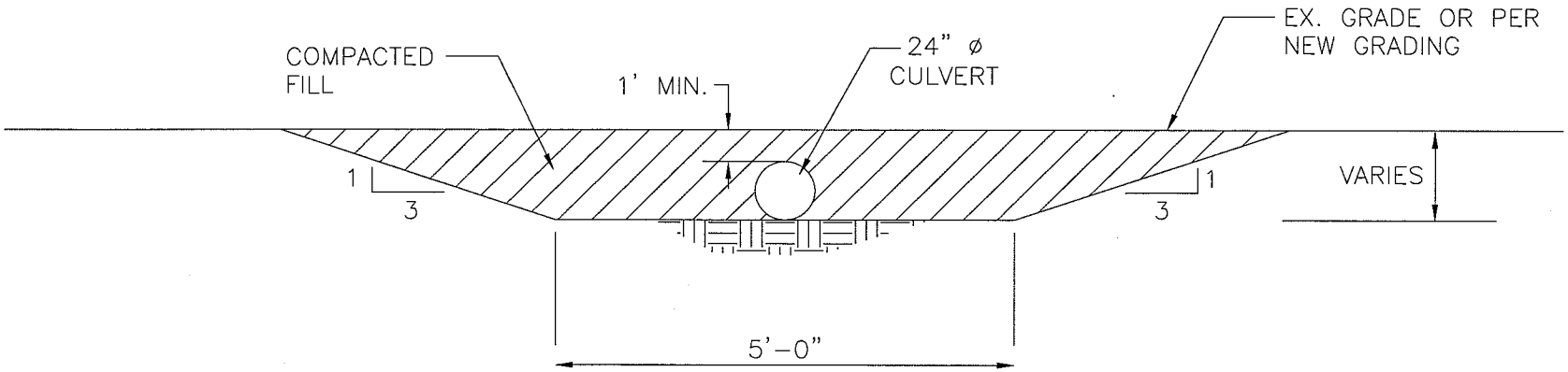
|---|---|
| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BS |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-17 |

**FIGURE 15 of 16**




NOT TO SCALE

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP**
GEISMAR, LOUISIANA

AKLOXYLATION PRODUCTION FACILITY

# TYPICAL CULVERT SECTION

ASCENSION PARISH

CK ASSOCIATES Environmental Consultants

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| Drawn: | CPL/ACAD |
| Checked: | BN |
| Approved: | TW |
| Date: | 6/2/14 |
| Dwg. No.: | A10074-22 |

**FIGURE 16 of 16**