



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT  
7400 LEAKE AVENUE  
NEW ORLEANS LA 70118-3651

January 29, 2024

Regulatory Division  
Western Evaluation Branch

Project Manager:  
James W. Little, Jr.  
(504) 862-1879  
[james.little@usace.army.mil](mailto:james.little@usace.army.mil)

Application #: MVN-2015-01130-WII

## **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: [ ] 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), and/or [ ] Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. Section 408).

### **HAZELWOOD BRINE EXTRACTION PROJECT IN ST. LANDRY PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Hazelwood Holdings, LLC, c/o: Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., Attn: Mr. Spencer Varnado, 5420 Corporate Blvd., Suite 202, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Off of U.S. Highway 190, approximately 2.8 miles east of Port Barre, Louisiana, in St. Landry Parish, 30.537815 North, -91.912553.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** Clear, grub and grade an approximately 200-acre site to construct a new brine extraction facility, to include four brine extraction wells and ancillary support facilities. A similar project was issued under the above permit number on 9 November 2016. That permit expired and Hazelwood is proposing minor modifications and a time extension of the permit. The overall project impacts have decreased from those previously permitted, with brine ponds and their associated pipelines being removed from the project. Overall wetland impacts have remained the same for both permanent and temporary impacts. The applicant previously purchased 31.3 acres of bottomland hardwood mitigation credits from Bayou Choupique Mitigation Bank on 19 September 2016 for 11.53 acres of temporary impacts and 9.93 acres of permanent impacts. The project has been configured to include the previously permitted well locations and layout. The locations of the four bring wells were dictated by the geology of the salt dome, compliance with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources regulations, and proximity to the adjacent Bobcat Gas Storage Facility.

The comment period on the requested Department of the Army Permit will close **20 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 request, and must be submitted so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters and/or comments concerning the subject permit application must reference the Applicant's Name and the Permit Application Number and can be preferably emailed to the Corps of Engineer's project manager listed above or forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGW, James W. Little, Jr.** Individuals or parties may also request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by mail or preferably by emailing the specified project manager listed above. Any request for an extension of time to comment 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 Branch Chief will review the request and the requester will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous and inclusive of the initial comment period and will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days. This public notice is also available for review online at <https://go.usa.gov/xennJ>

### **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 possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. As deemed necessary, copies of this public notice will be sent to the State Archeologist, State Historic Preservation Officer, and federally listed tribes regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Based on a letter dated July 13, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has determined that the project is located within an area where waters are known to be utilized by the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) and determined that the activity is not likely to adversely affect this species. If the DA permit is approved, the permittee will be required to follow the IPaC mitigative conditions for the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*).

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal may result in the destruction, alteration, and/or disturbance 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 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality before a Department of the Army permit could be issued.*

Any person may request 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, and can be preferably emailed to the USACE project manager listed above or mailed to the address listed above.

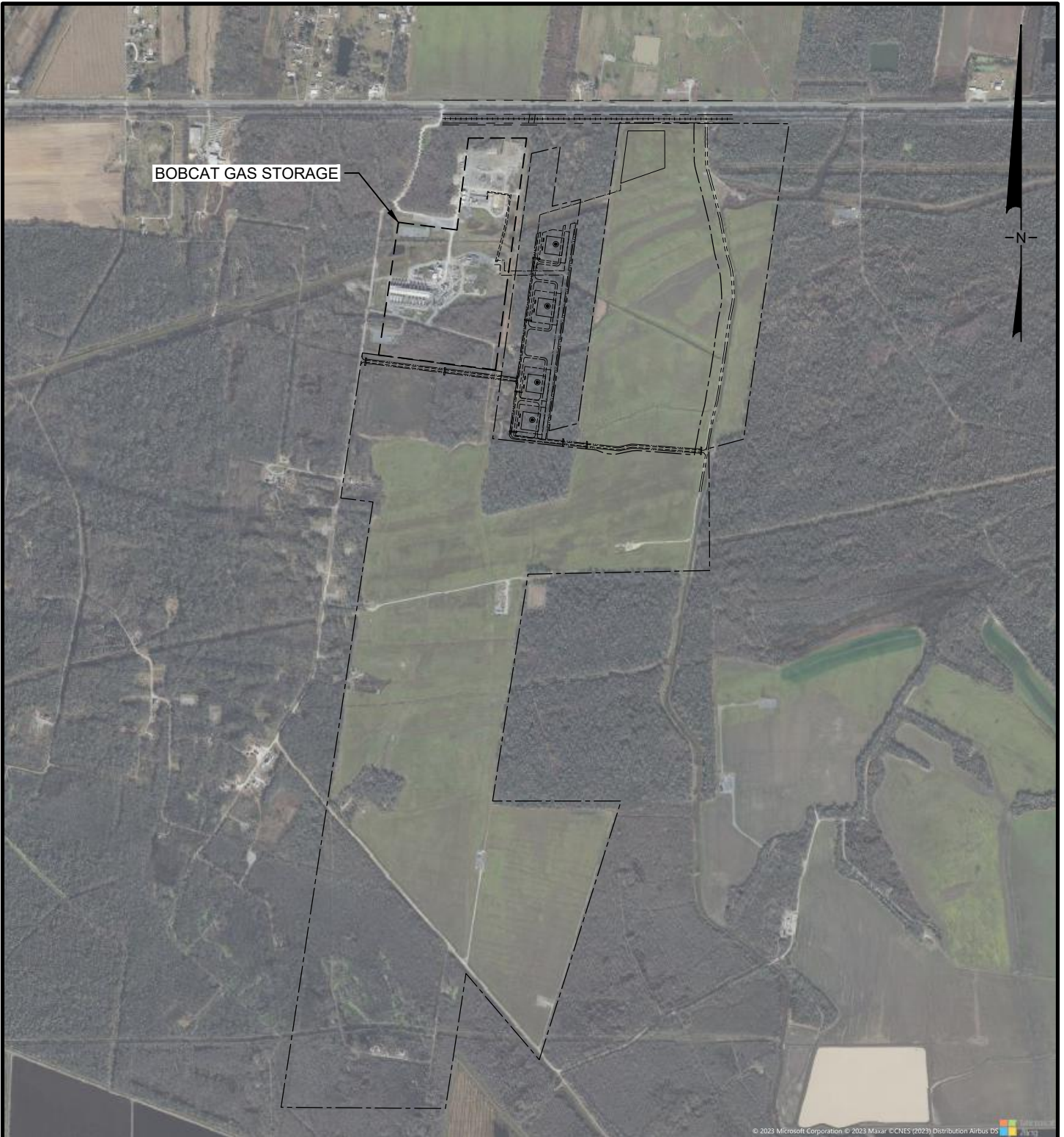
You are invited to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Darrell S. Barbara  
Chief, Western Evaluation Branch  
Regulatory Division

Enclosures







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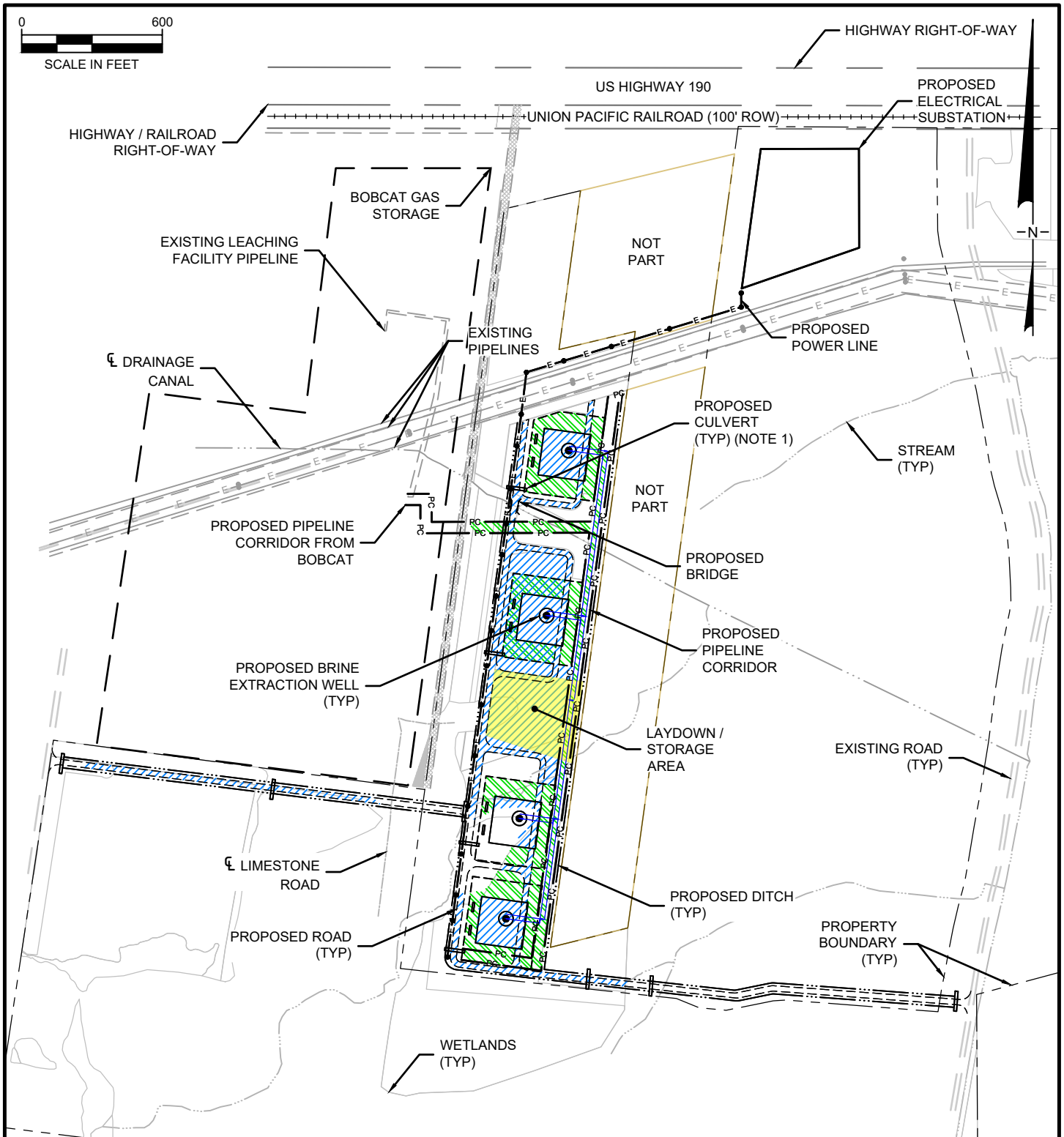
**SITE LAYOUT**  
HAZELWOOD HOLDINGS, LLC  
HAZELWOOD ENERGY HUB  
PORT BARRE, LOUISIANA

**Geosyntec**  
consultants

PROJECT NO: GXE6347

MAY 2023

FIGURE  
2



## LEGEND

	PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	TEMPORARY IMPACTED WETLANDS 11.53 ACRES
	PERMANENT IMPACTED WETLANDS 9.93 ACRES

## NOTES:

1. 20% OF CULVERT TO BE BELOW BOTTOM OF DITCH.
2. TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION = 21.46 ACRES.
3. TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS PERMANENTLY IMPACTED = 9.93 ACRES AND THE TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS TEMPORARILY IMPACTED = 11.53 ACRES. WETLANDS TEMPORARILY IMPACTED INCLUDE FORESTED WETLANDS CONVERTED TO EMERGENT WETLANDS.
4. TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,046 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

**FACILITY PLAN - PERMANENT AND  
TEMPORARY IMPACTED WETLANDS**  
HAZELWOOD HOLDINGS, LLC  
HAZELWOOD ENERGY HUB  
PORT BARRE, LOUISIANA

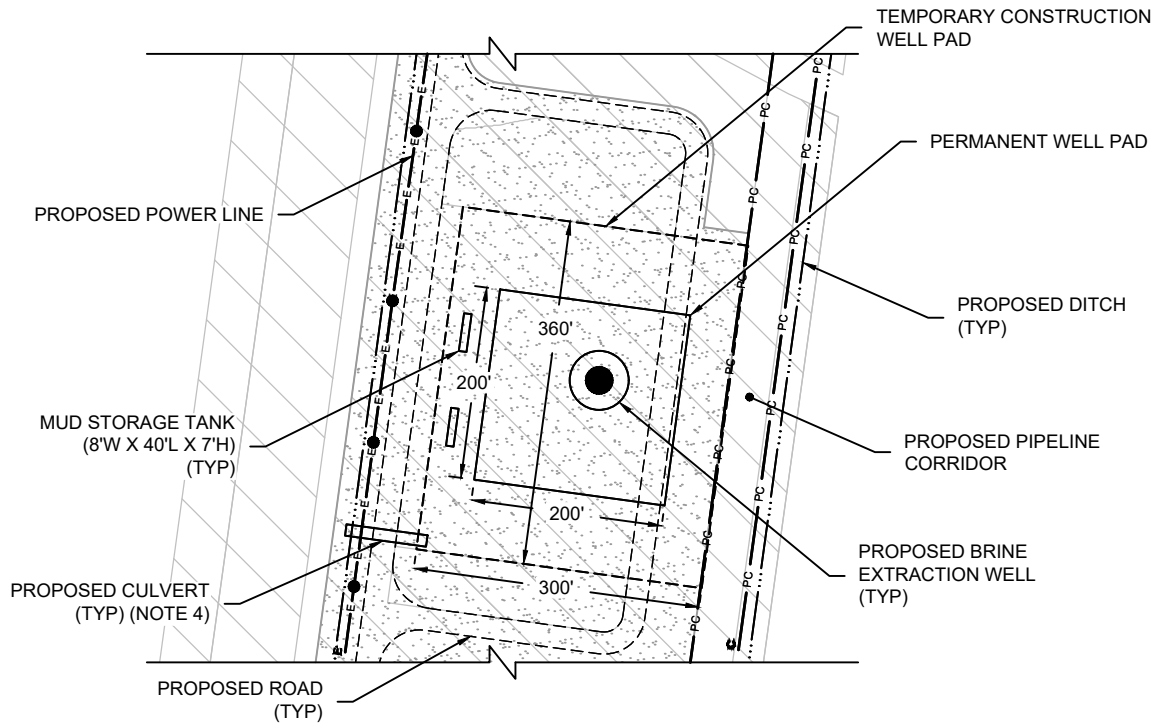
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

PROJECT NO: GXE6347

MAY 2023

FIGURE

3



## LEGEND

	PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLANDS
	PROPOSED FILLED WETLANDS

### NOTES:

- 20% OF CULVERT TO BE BELOW BOTTOM OF DITCH.
- TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION = 21.46 ACRES.
- TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS PERMANENTLY FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
- TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,046 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

**TYPICAL EXTRACTION WELL PAD**  
HAZELWOOD HOLDINGS, LLC  
HAZELWOOD ENERGY HUB  
PORT BARRE, LOUISIANA

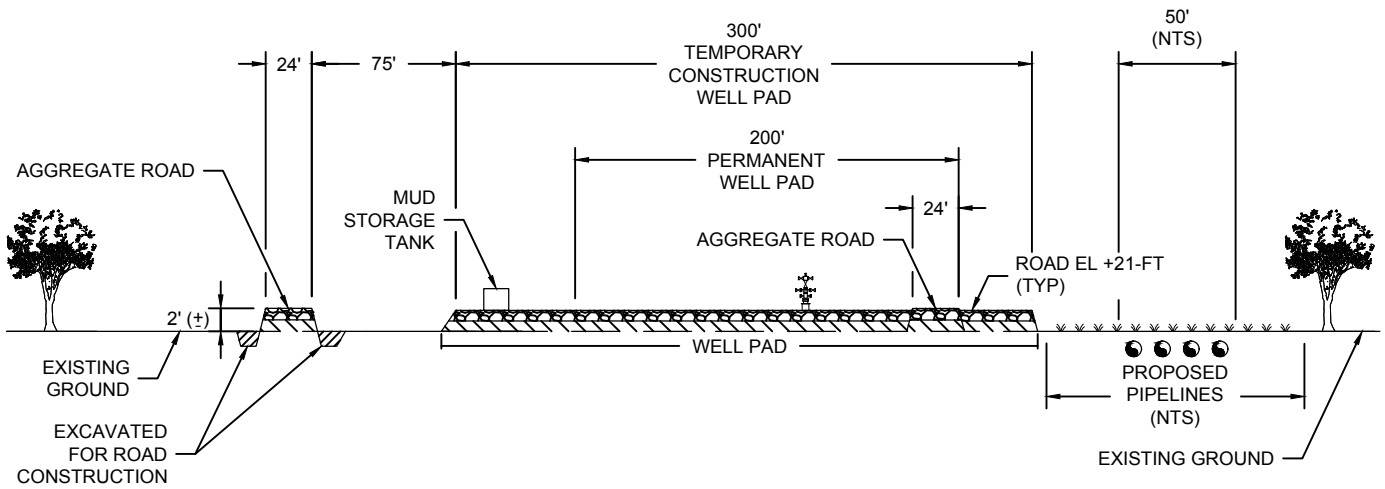
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

PROJECT NO: GXE6347

MAY 2023

FIGURE

4



### LEGEND

	TO BE EXCAVATED
	TO BE FILLED
	AGGREGATE

### NOTES:

- 20% OF CULVERT TO BE BELOW BOTTOM OF DITCH.
- TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION = 21.46 ACRES.
- TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS PERMANENTLY FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
- TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,046 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

**TYPICAL BRINE EXTRACTION  
WELL LOCATION**  
HAZELWOOD HOLDINGS, LLC  
HAZELWOOD ENERGY HUB  
PORT BARRE, LOUISIANA

**Geosyntec**  
consultants

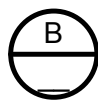
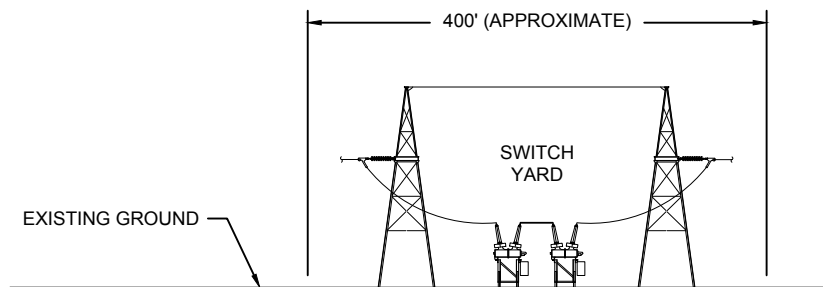
PROJECT NO: GXE6347

MAY 2023

FIGURE  
5



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SECTION

B-B - ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION

SCALE: 1" = 50'

**TYPICAL ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION**  
HAZELWOOD HOLDINGS, LLC  
HAZELWOOD ENERGY HUB  
PORT BARRE, LOUISIANA

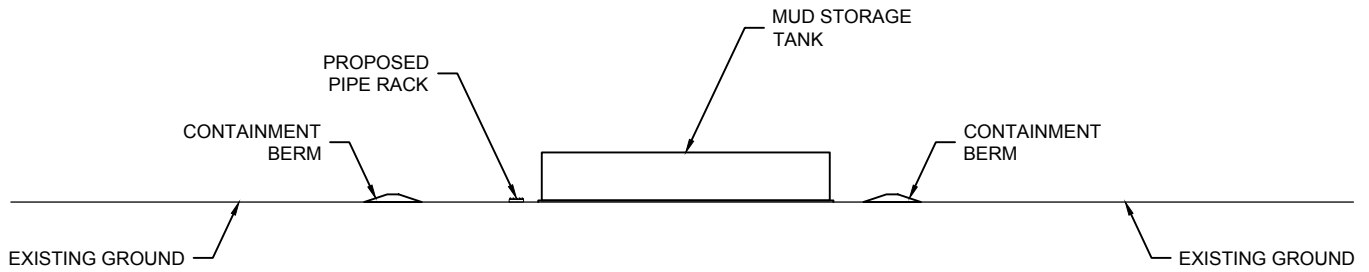
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

PROJECT NO: GXE6347

MAY 2023

FIGURE  
6

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SECTION  
C-C - MUD STORAGE TANK  
SCALE: 1" = 100'

**TYPICAL MUD STORAGE TANK**  
HAZELWOOD HOLDINGS, LLC  
HAZELWOOD ENERGY HUB  
PORT BARRE, LOUISIANA

**Geosyntec**  
consultants

PROJECT NO: GXE6347

MAY 2023

FIGURE  
7