

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

October 5, 2015

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

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

Project Manager: James W. Little, Jr.
(225) 342-3099 / fax: (225) 342-9439
James.little@usace.army.mil
Permit Application Number:
MVN-2015-01130-WII

Project Manager:
Elizabeth Hill
(225) 219-3225 / fax: (225) 219-3156
WQC Application Number:
WQC 150806-04

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).

The application has also been mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in Louisiana Revised Statute 30:2074 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-17).

CONSTRUCT A NEW BRINE EXTRACTION FACILITY IN ST. LANDRY PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Rapiere Resources Company, c/o Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., Attn: Mr. Spencer D. Varnado, 5420 Corporate Blvd., Suite 202, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

LOCATION OF WORK: In St. Landry Parish, North 30.537814, West -91.912553, located approximately 2.8 miles east of Port Barre, Louisiana, as shown on the attached vicinity map. (Hydrologic Unit Code 08080102, Vermilion-Teche Basin)

CHARACTER OF WORK: Clear, grade, fill and/or excavate and construct four brine extraction wells, one leaching facility, two brine storage ponds, an electrical substation with powerlines, approximately 1.5 miles of access roads, and approximately 1.75 miles of pipelines. During construction approximately 36,046 cubic yards of fill will be discharged, of this total, approximately 30,733 cubic yards will be onsite soil, and 5,313 cubic yards of clean aggregate fill from offsite. Project implementation would temporarily impact approximately 11.53 acres and permanently impact 9.93 acres of jurisdictional forested wetlands. The applicant proposes to purchase compensatory mitigation acres from a CEMVN approved mitigation bank in the area.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **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 submitted 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 forwarded 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, faxing, 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. 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.

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 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, pre-historical, 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.

Based on the South Louisiana **Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES)**, as signed on October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and using the determination key on 6 August 2015, it has been determined that the 21.46 acres of jurisdictional forested wetlands to be impacted resulted in "No Effect" for the following species: Louisiana black bear, Interior Least Tern, West Indian Manatee, Piping Plover, Red-Cockaded Woodpecker, Pallid Sturgeon, Dusky Gopher Frog, Ringed map turtle, and Gopher Tortoise.

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 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.

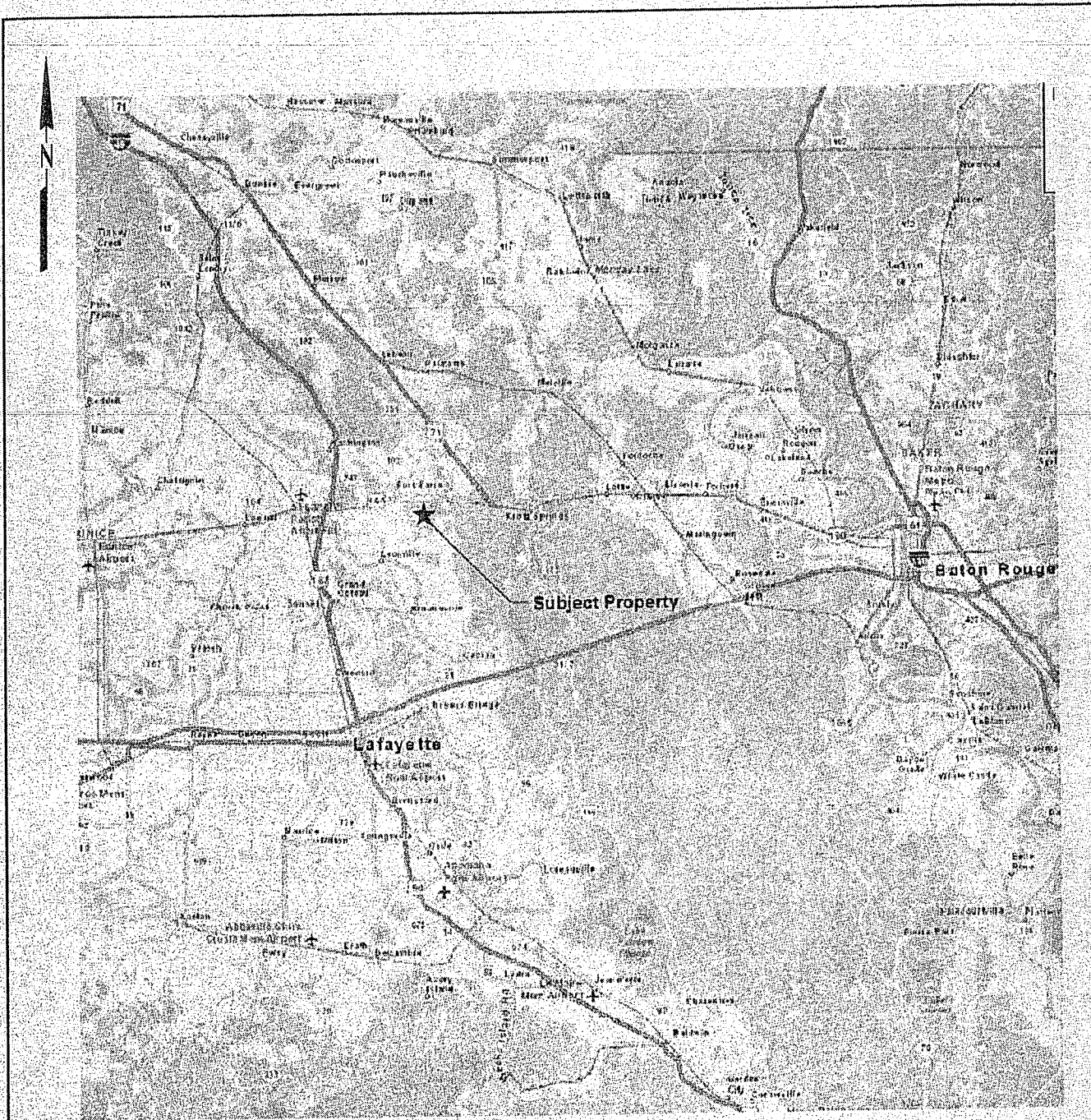
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not 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.

Darrell S. Barbara
Chief, Western Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure



VICINITY MAP

BASE MAP: PORT BARRE, LA.



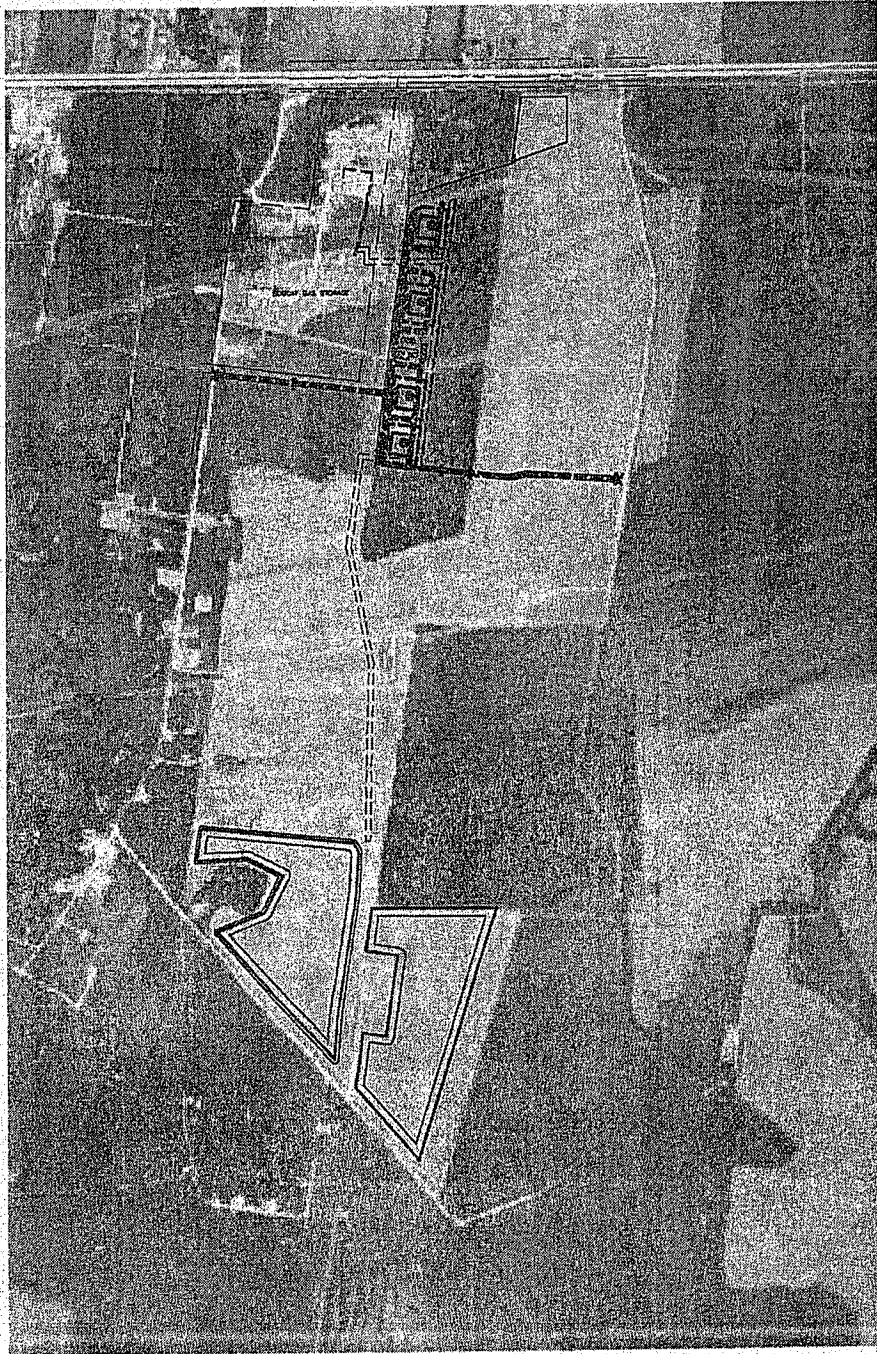
**RAPIERE RESOURCES
COMPANY**

RAPIERE RESOURCES COMPANY
PORT BARRE, LA.

VICINITY MAP

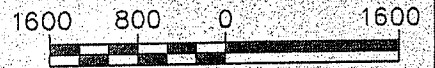
DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/6/15	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-1

ACAD FR: GA-PERM-FIGURE-1



SITE LAYOUT

BASE MAP: PORT BARRE, LA.



SCALE: 1" = 1600'



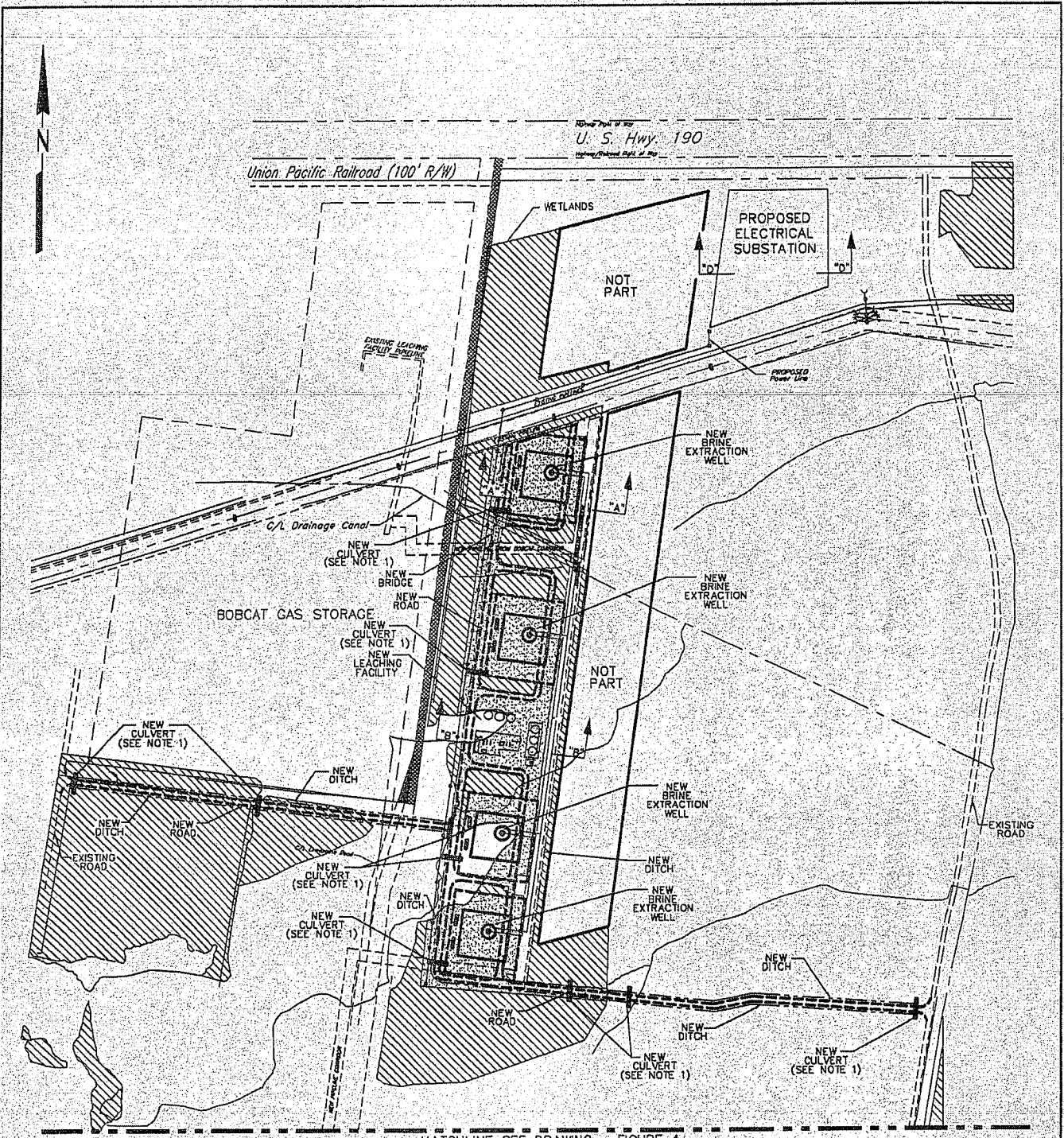
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ENTIRE SITE LAYOUT

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/6/15	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-2

ACAD FILE: GA-PFRM-FIGURE-2



MATCHLINE SEE DRAWING - FIGURE 4

FACILITY PLAN

BASE MAP: PORT BARRE, LA.



SCALE: 1' = 600'

LEGEND



= WETLANDS



= PROPOSED FILLED WETLANDS

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 FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
4. TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,048 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.



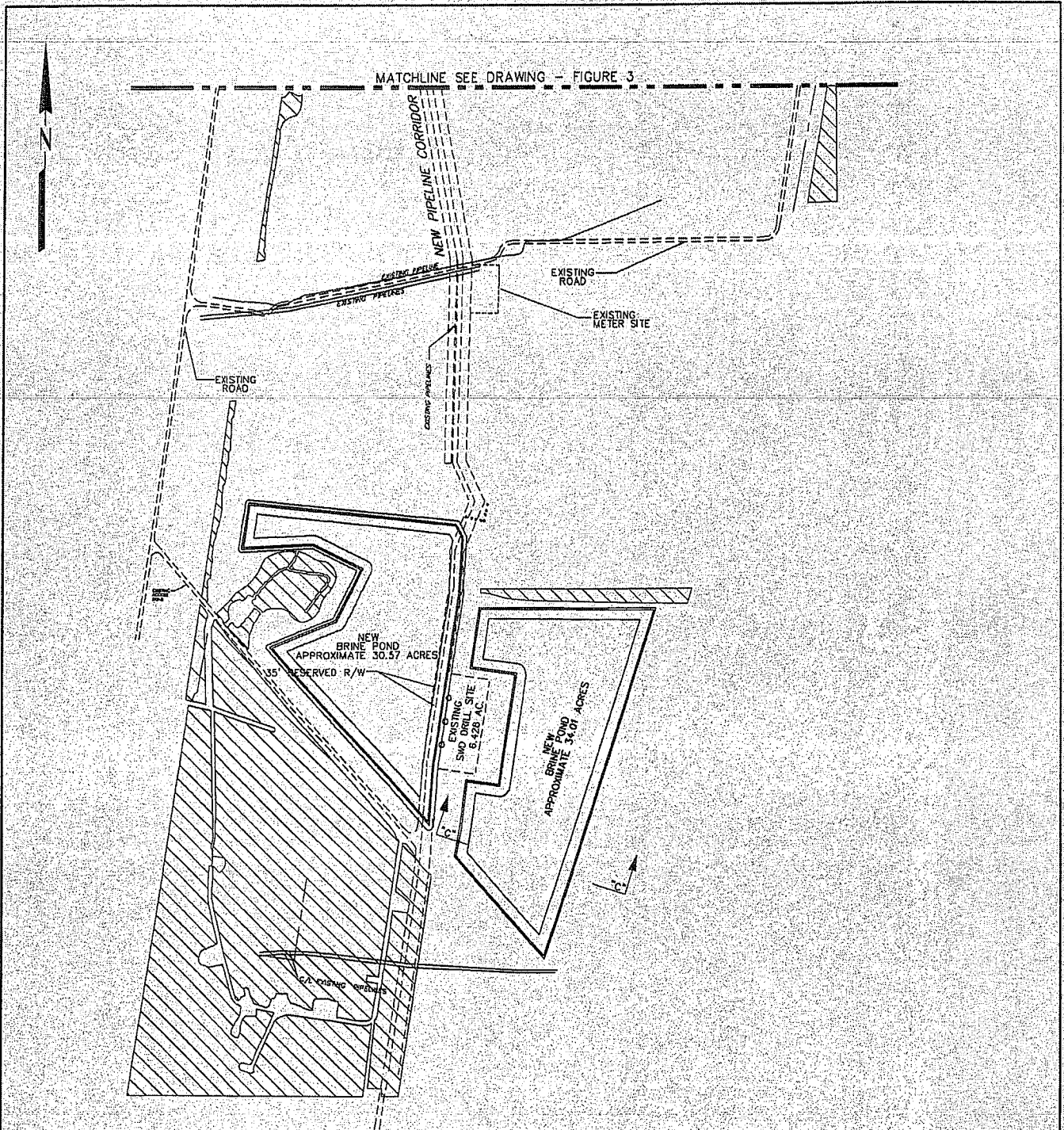
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STORAGE SITE LAYOUT

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/8/15	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-3

ACAD FILE: GA-PFRM-FIGURF-3



MATCHLINE SEE DRAWING - FIGURE 3



NOTES:

1. 20% OF CULVERT TO BE BELOW BOTTOM OF DITCH.
2. TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION = 21.48 ACRES.
3. TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS PERMANENTLY FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
4. TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,046 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

BRINE POND PLAN

BASE MAP: PORT BARRE, LA.

900 450 0 900



SCALE: 1" = 900'

LEGEND

= WETLANDS

= ACCESS ROADS



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PORT BARRE, LA.

BRINE POND LAYOUT

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/8/13	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-4

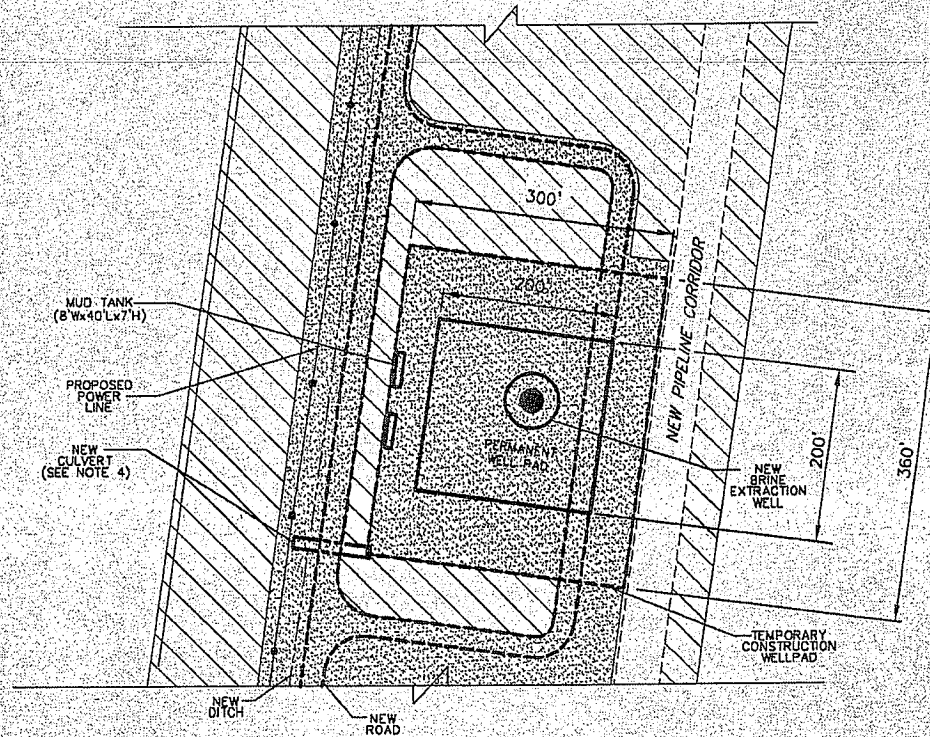
LEGEND



= WETLANDS



= PROPOSED FILLED WETLANDS



NOTES:

1. 20% OF CULVERT TO BE BELOW BOTTOM OF DITCH.
2. TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION = 21.48 ACRES.
3. TOTAL AREA OF WETLANDS PERMANENTLY FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
4. TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,046 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

TYPICAL EXTRACTION WELL PAD

BASE MAP: PORT BARRE, LA.



SCALE: 1" = 200'



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


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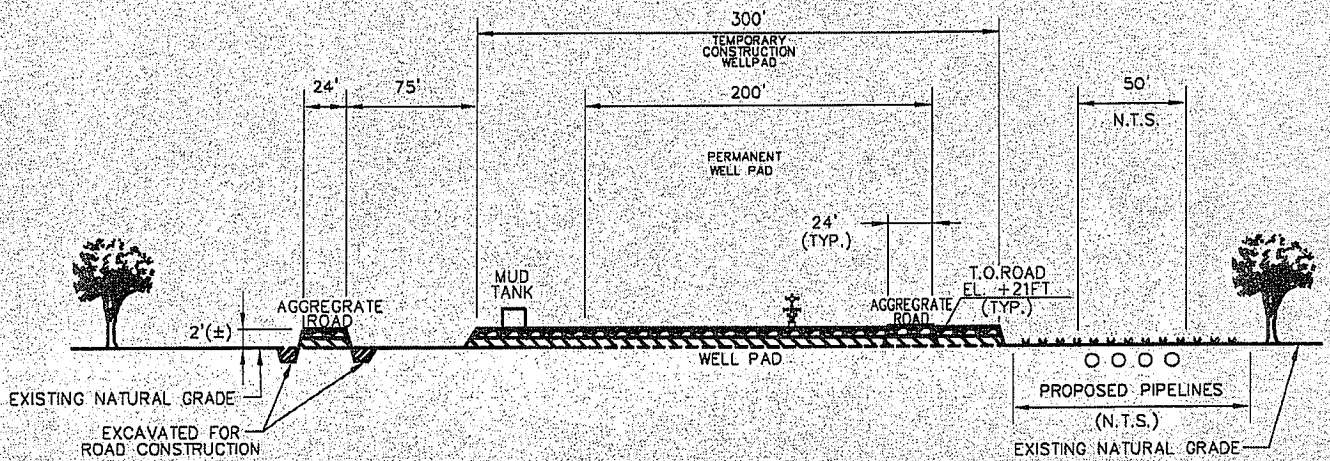
TYPICAL WELL LAYOUT

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
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ACAD FILE: GA-PRFM-FIGURE-5

LEGEND

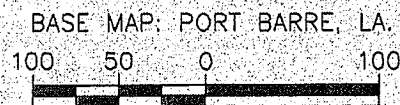
-  = TO BE EXCAVATED
-  = TO BE FILLED
-  = AGGREGATE



- 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 FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
 4. TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 38,048 CU. YARDS ± OF WHICH 9,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

SECTION "A-A"

TYPICAL BRINE EXTRACTION WELL LOCATION



SCALE: 1" = 100'






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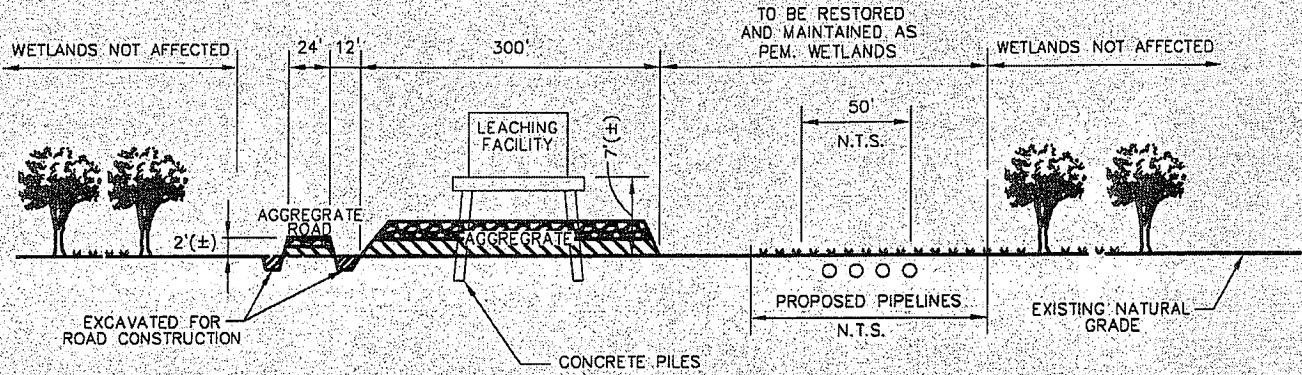
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TYPICAL WELL CROSS SECTION

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
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LEGEND

-  = TO BE EXCAVATED
-  = TO BE FILLED
-  = AGGREGATE



- 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 FILLED = 9.93 ACRES.
 4. TOTAL VOLUME OF WETLANDS FILLED = 36,046 CU. YARDS, ± OF WHICH 5,313 CU. YARDS IS AGGREGATE.

SECTION "B-B"

CROSS-SECTION OF PROPOSED LEACHING FACILITY AND PIPELINES



SCALE: 1" = 200'



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


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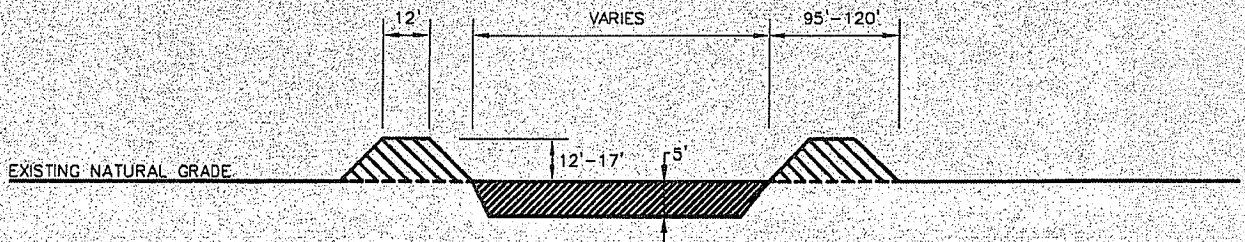
LEACHING FACILITY CROSS SECTION

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/6/18	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-7

ACAD FILE: GA-PFRM-FIGURE-7

LEGEND

-  = TO BE EXCAVATED
-  = TO BE FILLED
-  = AGGREGATE



- NOTES:
1. TOTAL AREA FILL FOR BRINE LEVEES = 400,000 cu. yds.
 2. FILL TO BE COMBINATION OF ON-SITE EXCAVATED MATERIAL AND OFF-SITE CLEAN FILL.

SECTION "C-C"

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION OF BRINE PONDS

BASE MAP: PORT BARRE, LA.



SCALE: 1" = 200'



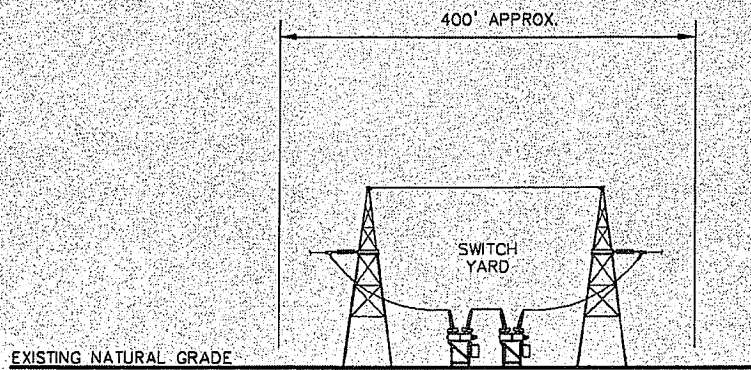
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TYPICAL BRINE POND CROSS SECTION

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
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ACAD FILE: GA-PFRM-FIG1RF-8



NOTES:

SECTION "D-D"

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION OF PROPOSED
ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION



SCALE: 1" = 200'



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TYPICAL BRINE POND CROSS SECTION

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/6/15	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-8

ACAD. FILE: GA-PFRM-FIGURE-8

LEGEND

-  = TO BE EXCAVATED
-  = TO BE FILLED
-  = AGGREGATE



SECTION "E-E"

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION OF STORAGE TANKS CONSTRUCTION



SCALE: 1" = 200'



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BRINE PONDS

DATE	SCALE	JOB NO.	DRAWING NO.
4/8/15	SHOWN	20130150	FIGURE-10

ACAD FILE: CA-PFRM-FIGURE-10