

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

30 September 2019

United States Army  
Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Regulatory Branch  
7400 Leake Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

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

(504) 862-2045  
[jennifer.e.burkett@usace.army.mil](mailto:jennifer.e.burkett@usace.army.mil)  
Project Manager  
Jennifer Burkett  
Permit Application Number  
MVN 2019-0766 EBB

(225) 219-3225  
Project Manager  
Elizabeth Hill  
WQC Application Number  
WQC 190930-02

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 [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 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).

## OIL WELL IN PLAQUEMINES PARISH

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Houston Energy Operating, L.P. c/o C.L. Jack Stelly & Associates, Attention: Tyler Oubre, at Post Office Box 53353, Lafayette, Louisiana 70505

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Between Billet Bay and Garden Bay, approximately six miles southwest of Empire, in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Hydrologic Unit Code: 08090301 – Central Louisiana –Coastal  
Latitude: 29.338344, Longitude: -89.723803

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** To dredge for access and install and maintain a 84' x 271' shell pad and 7' x 16' well head protector, requiring temporary impacts to approximately 160 acres of non-vegetated waterbottoms. Approximately 105,569 cubic yards will be dredged for the 16,706' access channel and well slip and 843 cubic yards for the shell pad area, with spoil to be placed twenty-five feet from the channel so as not to decrease water depth by more than six inches. The well pad will require 2,529 cubic yards of shell be spread over 0.52 acres of non-vegetated waterbottom. Well placement will require temporary installation of 13 five-pile clusters and a drill barge, all of which will be removed once drilling is complete and the well head protector is installed. No adverse impacts to special aquatic sites are proposed; no compensatory mitigation is anticipated at this time.

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 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 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, nor habitat designated as critical to the recovery of any species, listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The proposed activity is “not likely to adversely affect” the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Interior, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of this species. Concurrence has been received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service per the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana, dated October 22, 2014. Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Activities required.

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 160 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.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

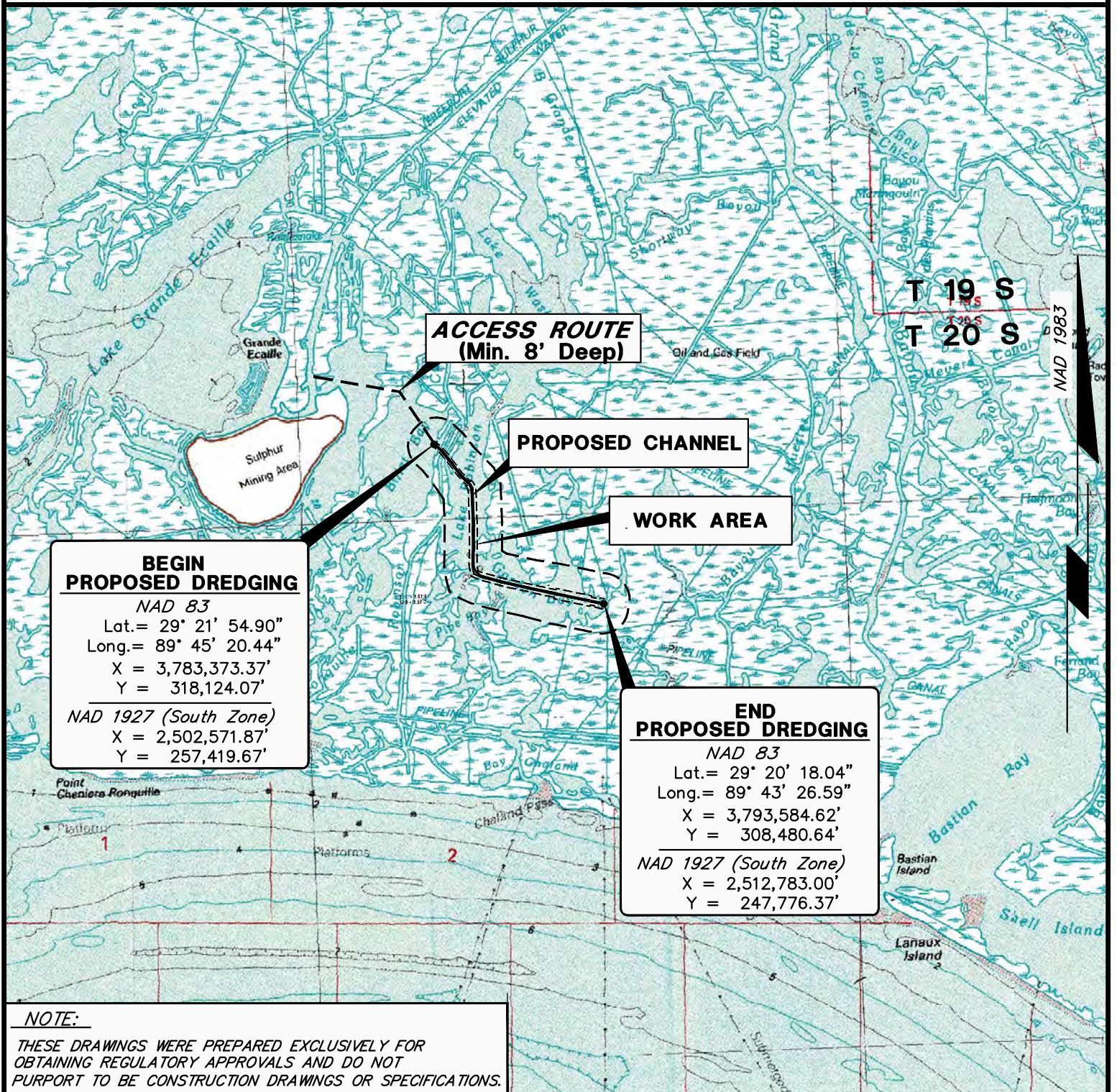
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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





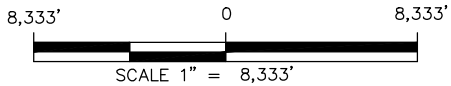
**BEGIN PROPOSED DREDGING**  
 NAD 83  
 Lat.= 29° 21' 54.90"  
 Long.= 89° 45' 20.44"  
 X = 3,783,373.37'  
 Y = 318,124.07'  
 NAD 1927 (South Zone)  
 X = 2,502,571.87'  
 Y = 257,419.67'

**END PROPOSED DREDGING**  
 NAD 83  
 Lat.= 29° 20' 18.04"  
 Long.= 89° 43' 26.59"  
 X = 3,793,584.62'  
 Y = 308,480.64'  
 NAD 1927 (South Zone)  
 X = 2,512,783.00'  
 Y = 247,776.37'

**NOTE:**  
 THESE DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY FOR OBTAINING REGULATORY APPROVALS AND DO NOT PURPORT TO BE CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS OR SPECIFICATIONS.

**VICINITY MAP**

REPRODUCED FROM USGS "MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA, LOUISIANA",  
 1 : 100,000 QUAD..



PREPARED BY:  
 C. L. JACK STELLY & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
 143 WALL STREET, LA 70506  
 PH. (337) 237-0746  
 FILE NO. 15181-20283-C1-R1.DWG

**PROPOSED DREDGING**

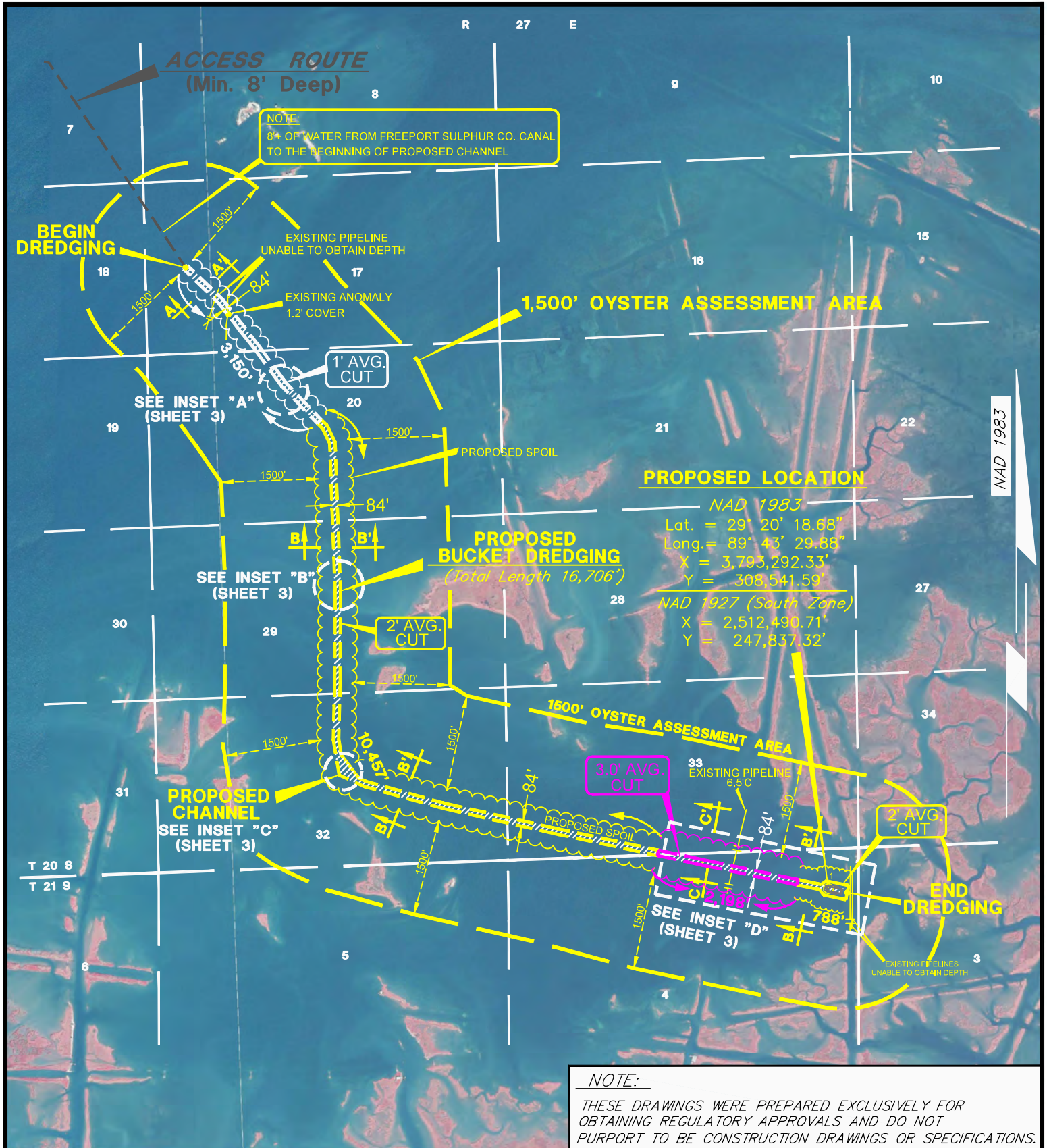
*LL&E Well No. 1*  
 LAKE WASHINGTON AREA  
 PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA

APPLICATION BY: HOUSTON ENERGY OPERATING, L.P.  
 JUNE 24, 2019 HOUSTON, TEXAS

REVISIONS:  
 JULY 22, 2019

SHEET 1 OF 7

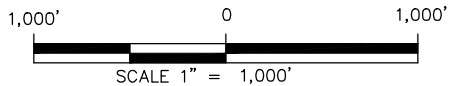




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**LOCATION MAP**

REPRODUCED FROM 2008 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY



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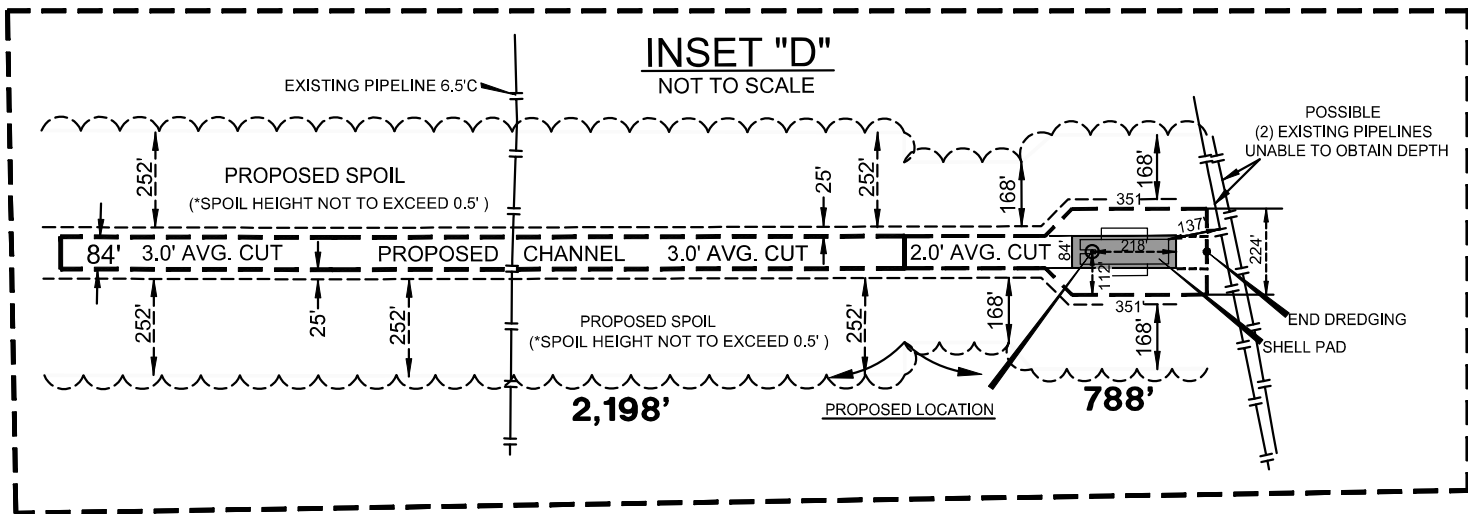
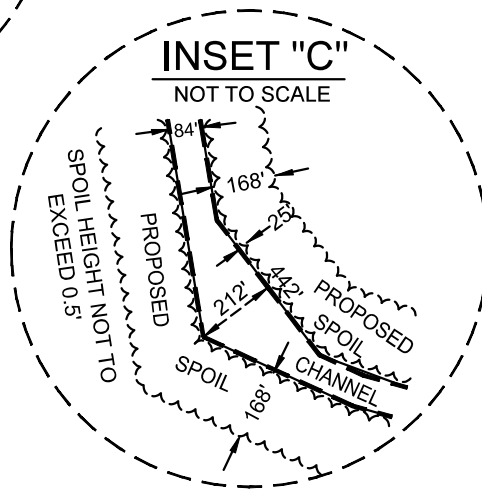
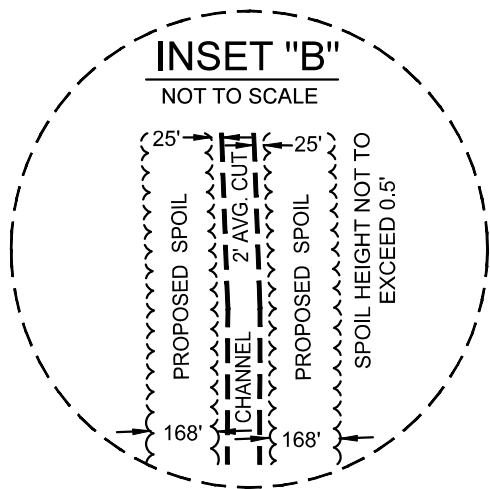
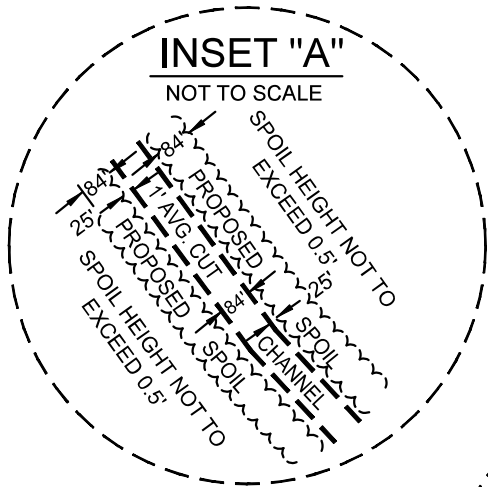
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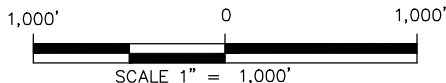
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**LOCATION MAP**

REPRODUCED FROM USGS "WILKINSON BAY", LA 7.5' QUAD.



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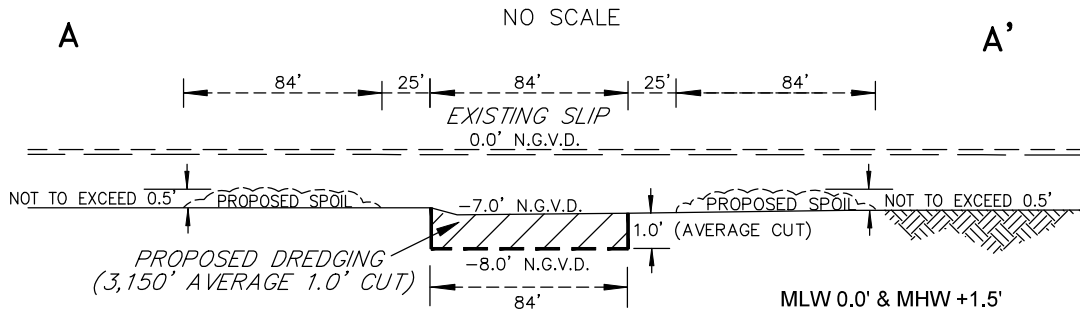
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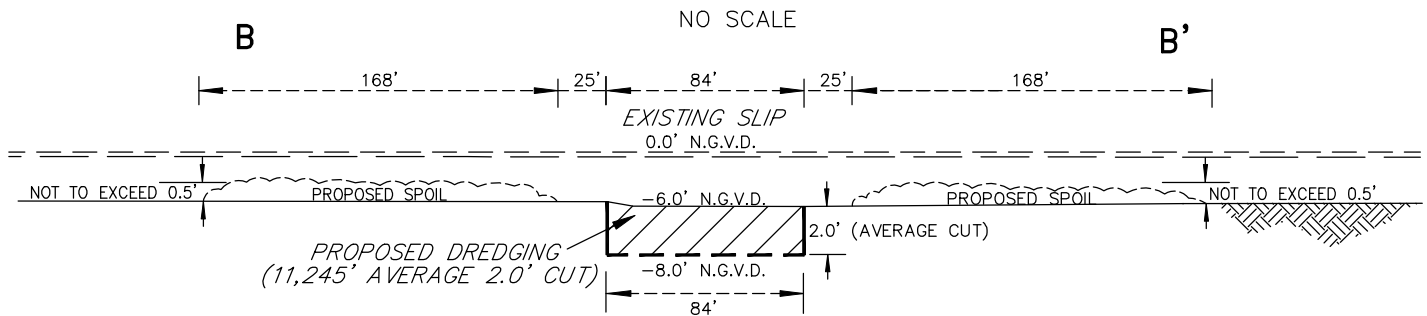
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SHEET 3 OF 7

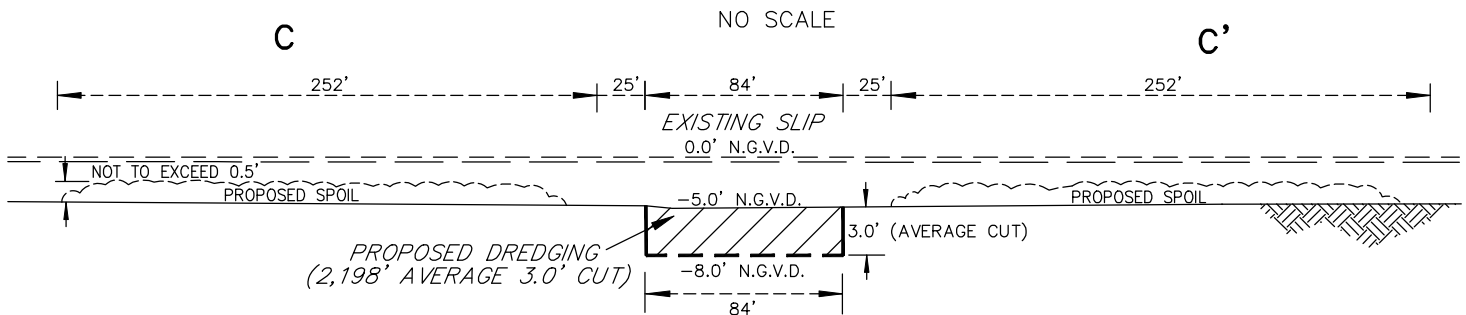
### TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION A-A'



### TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION B-B'



### TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION C-C'

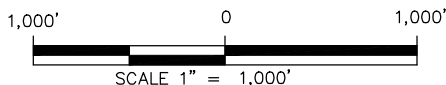


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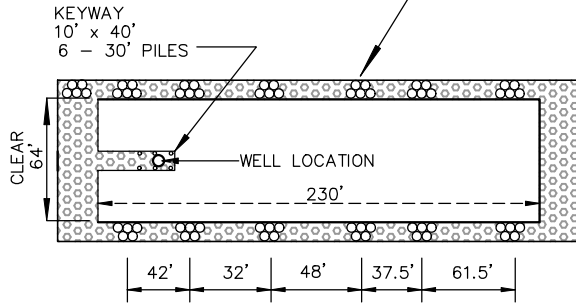
REVISIONS:  
JULY 22, 2019

SHEET 4 OF 7

**NOTE :**

13 Temporary 5-Pile Clusters  
To Be Driven To Assist in  
Removing Drill Barge From Location.  
Temporary Clusters To Be  
Pulled When Permanent Well  
Guard is Installed.

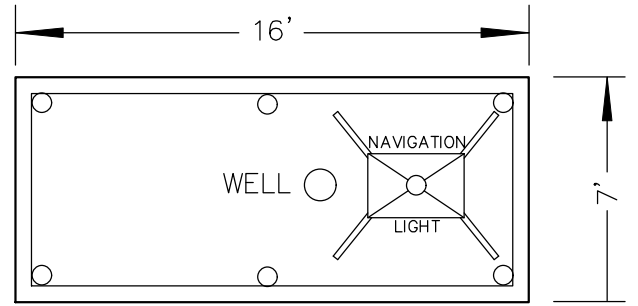
M.H.W. = +1.50' N.G.V.D.  
M.L.W. = +0.00' N.G.V.D.



**TOP VIEW**

SCALE: 1" = NO SCALE

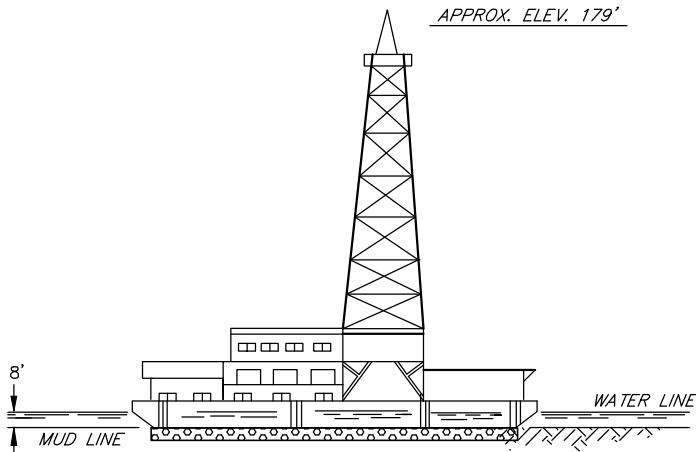
**TYPICAL  
POWER DRILL BARGE**



**TOP VIEW**

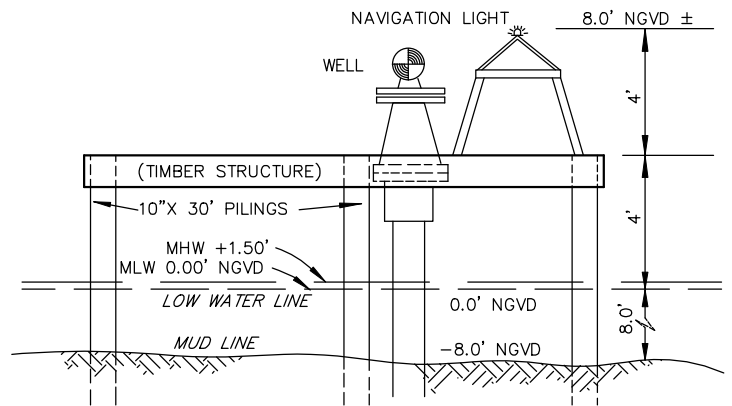
SCALE: 1" = 6'

**TYPICAL  
WELL HEAD PROTECTOR**



**ELEVATION**

HORZ. & VERT. SCALE: 1" = 100'



**ELEVATION**

HORZ. & VERT. SCALE: 1" = 6'

**NOTE:**

RIG MOVE TO BE DONE DURING HIGH TIDE.

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SHEET 5 OF 7

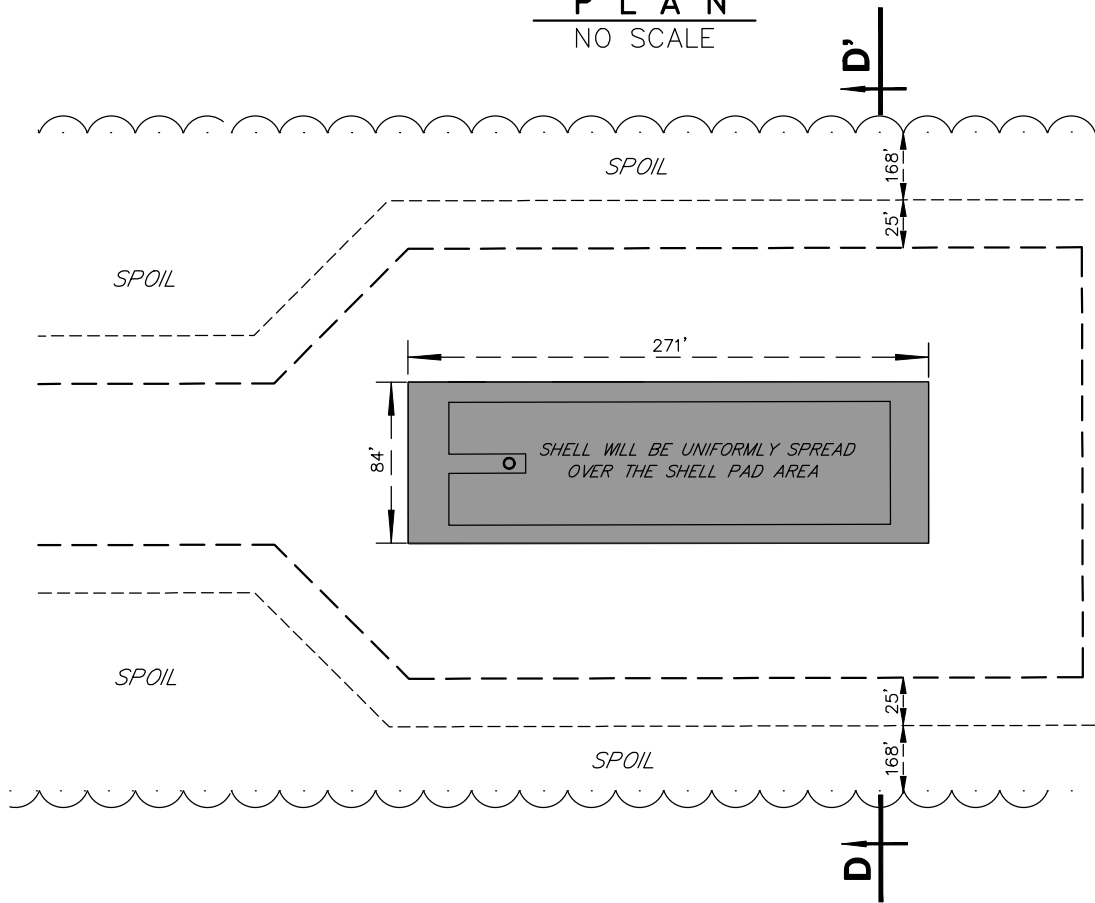
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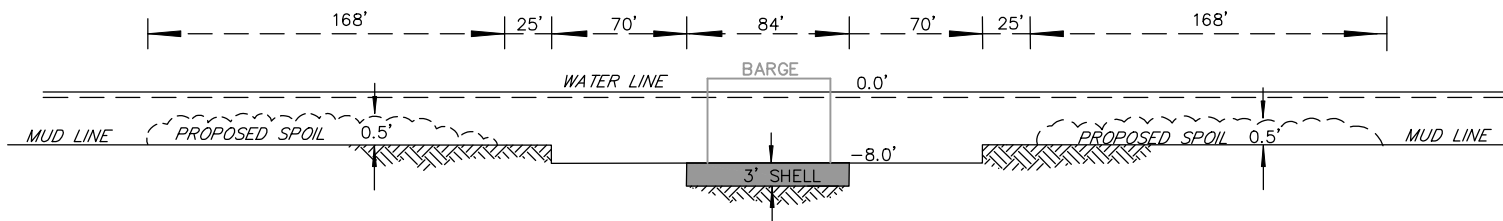
**P L A N**  
NO SCALE



**NOTES:**

- 1.) IF NECESSARY, APPROX. 843 CU. YDS TO BE EXCAVATED FROM SHELL PAD AREA, WITH SPOIL PLACED SO AS NOT TO DECREASE WATER DEPTH BY MORE THAN 0.5 FEET.
- 2.) APPROXIMATELY 2,529 CU. YDS. OF SHELL REQUIRED FOR SHELL PAD.

**CROSS SECTION D-D'**  
**SHELL PAD DETAIL**  
NO SCALE



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SHEET 6 OF 7

GENERAL NOTES:

- 1) Approximate total of 106,412 cu. yds. of dredging required for the proposed channel, slip and shell pad area.  
(Approx. 105,569 cu. yds. of dredging for the proposed channel, and slip)  
(Approx. 843 cu. yds. of dredging for the proposed shell pad area with spoil placed so as not to decrease water depth by more than 0.5 feet..)
- 2) As-built drawings and/or plats shall have written on them the date of completion of said activities and shall be submitted to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, P.O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487 within 30 days following project completion.
- 3) All structures, facilities, wells, and pipelines/flowlines occurring in open water areas or in oilfield canals or slips shall be removed within 120 days of abandonment of the facilities for the herein permitted use unless prior written approval to leave such structures in place is received from the Coastal Management Division. This condition does not preclude the necessity for revising the current permit or obtaining a separate Coastal Use Permit, should one be required, for such removal activities.
- 4) Structures must be marked/lighted in accordance with U. S. Coast Guard Regulations.
- 5) In order to ensure the safety of all parties, the permittee shall contact the LOUISIANA ONE CALL at (1-800-272-3020) a minimum of 48 hours prior to the commencement of any excavation or demolition activity.
- 6) All vessels will have a maximum draft of 7' or less.
- 7) Applicant shall not discharge any drilling and/or workover effluent except for flocculated filtered water.
- 8) Applicant shall not discharge any human waste which does not meet or exceed the requirements of the Department of Health and Hospitals.
- 9) Applicant shall not discharge any produced waters.
- 10) Applicant is subject to all applicable state laws related to damages which are demonstrated to have been caused by this proposed action.
- 11) Applicant shall use any dredged material beneficially to create/restore emergent wetlands or place the material in open water in such a manner not to decrease the water depth greater than six inches.
- 12) Applicant shall provide to the LDWF a water bottom assessment (unless waived by LDWF) that meets LDWF protocol prior to commencement of the activity. A waiver request must be submitted to LDWF in writing and must state the justification for the request. Applicant may, at the request of LDWF and prior written approval of OCM, be required to modify the project if the proposed location unnecessarily impacts oyster reefs.

NOTE:

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SHEET 7 OF 7