



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

August 29, 2022

Regulatory Division  
Central Evaluation Branch

Project Manager  
Kenny Blanke  
(504) 862-1217  
Kenneth.G.Blanke@usace.army.mil

SUBJECT: MVN-2020-01238-CQ

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received by the District engineer for a Department of the Army permit to authorize the following 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).

### **INDUSTRIAL METHYL METHACRYLATE PRODUCTION FACILITY NEAR GEISMAR IN ASCENSION PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc., c/o Providence Engineering, Attn: Regina Staten, 1201 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** In an approximate 77.03-acre site located along and southeast of LA Hwy. 30, in Section 3, Township 10 South, Range 2 East, near Geismar, Louisiana, in Ascension Parish, within the Pontchartrain Basin in hydrologic unit (HUC 08070202), as shown on the attached drawings (Latitude 30.207568 N, Longitude -90.996031 W).

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to clear, grade, excavate and deposit fill to construct and maintain an approximate 77.03-acre industrial methyl methacrylate production facility which includes access roads, construction laydown areas, drainage gully, onsite attenuation and stormwater retention ponds, culverts, drainage infrastructure, and other appurtenances. The project proposes to produce methyl methacrylate (MMA) which is utilized for the production of acrylic polymers, resins, and paints. The proposed facility would operate a new 770 million lbs/annum MMA production facility with units to produce key raw materials of the applicant's Alpha Technology process. Approximately 523,399 of hauled in topsoil/sand material, 48,676 cubic yards of concrete, 39,647 cubic yards of limestone/gravel, 29,748 cubic yards of gravel, and 4,628 cubic yards of asphalt material would be hauled in and placed as fill material in jurisdictional areas. Approximately 40,007 cubic yards of clean silt fill from onsite excavation would be placed as fill material in jurisdictional areas. Approximately 61.35 acres of jurisdictional forested wetlands, 7.1 acres of jurisdictional emergent wetlands, and 0.4 acre of jurisdictional scrub shrub wetlands would be directly impacted as a result of project implementation from fill placement and excavation activities. Approximately 1.44 acres of jurisdictional Other Waters of the US (OWOUS)

would be directly impacted from project implementation. The applicant proposes to utilize best management practices for erosion and siltation control during and after the construction phase of the project. If authorized, the project will receive approval from all appropriate local drainage authorities and sewerage agencies. The applicant has indicated on Sheets 6a-6b of the drawings a number of existing and proposed support features which have either been previously permitted, or have yet to be permitted. The applicant claims that the proposed project has been designed to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable while still achieving their goal and had selected the proposed site based on surrounding existing infrastructure and proximity to the Mississippi River. As compensation for unavoidable wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to use a Corps approved mitigation bank within the watershed of impact.

The comment period for the Department of Army will close in **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 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 preferably emailed to the Corps of Engineers project manager listed above or mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGC, Kenny Blanke**. 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 Branch 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.

### **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. Copies of this notice are made available to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any species, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of such species, listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Utilizing the Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species in Louisiana (IPaC), dated January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity will have no effect on any known 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 NA 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.

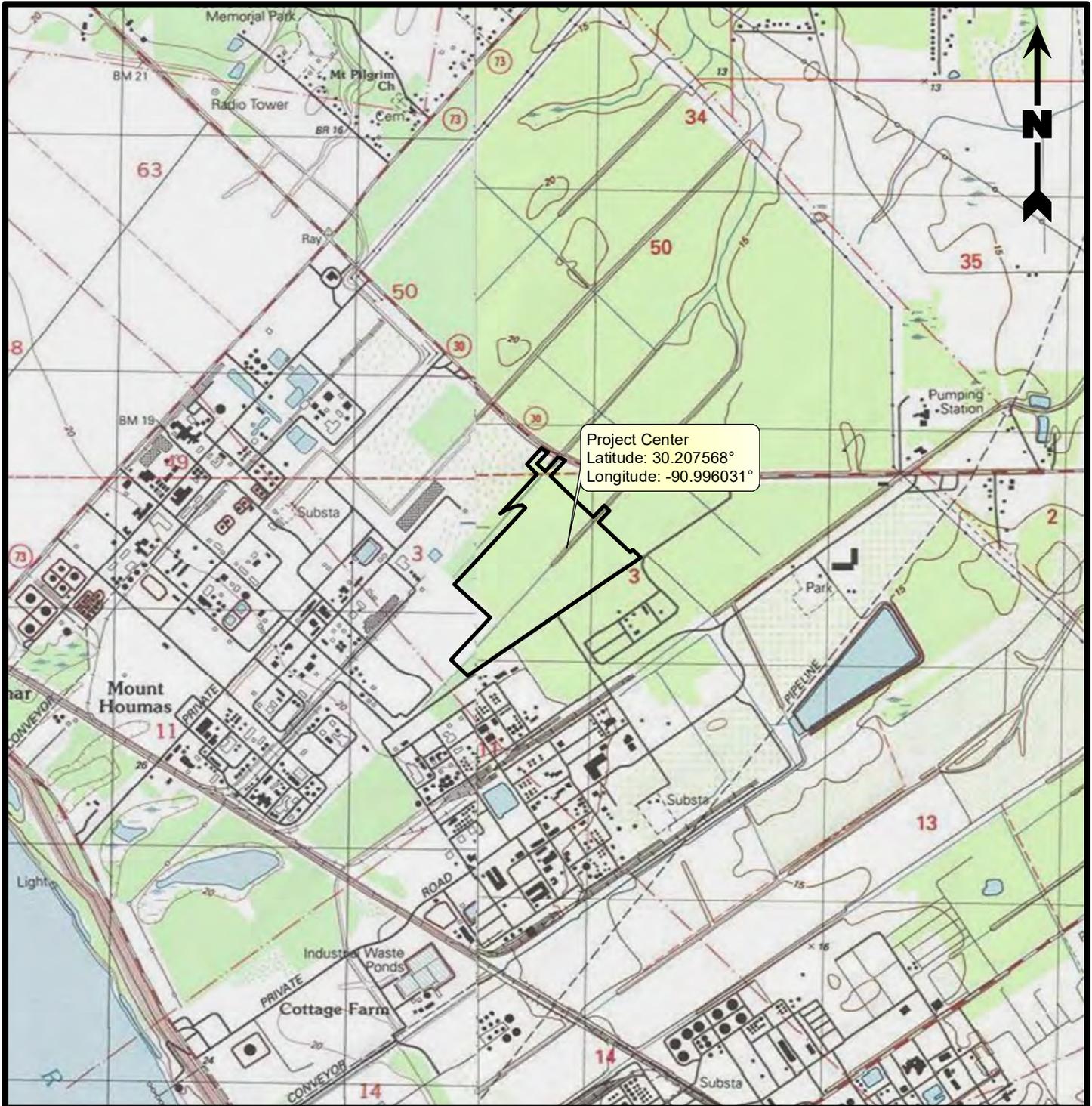
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, 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.

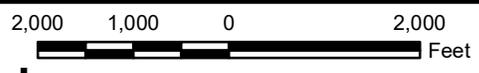
JOHN M. HERMAN  
Chief, Central Evaluation Branch  
Regulatory Division

Enclosures





Project Center  
 Latitude: 30.207568°  
 Longitude: -90.996031°



**Legend**

Project Area (77.03 Acres)

**Reference**

Base map comprised of United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic maps, "Carville, LA" and "Gonzales, LA".

**Site Location Map**

Section 404 Permit Application  
 Ascension Parish, Louisiana

Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.  
 Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



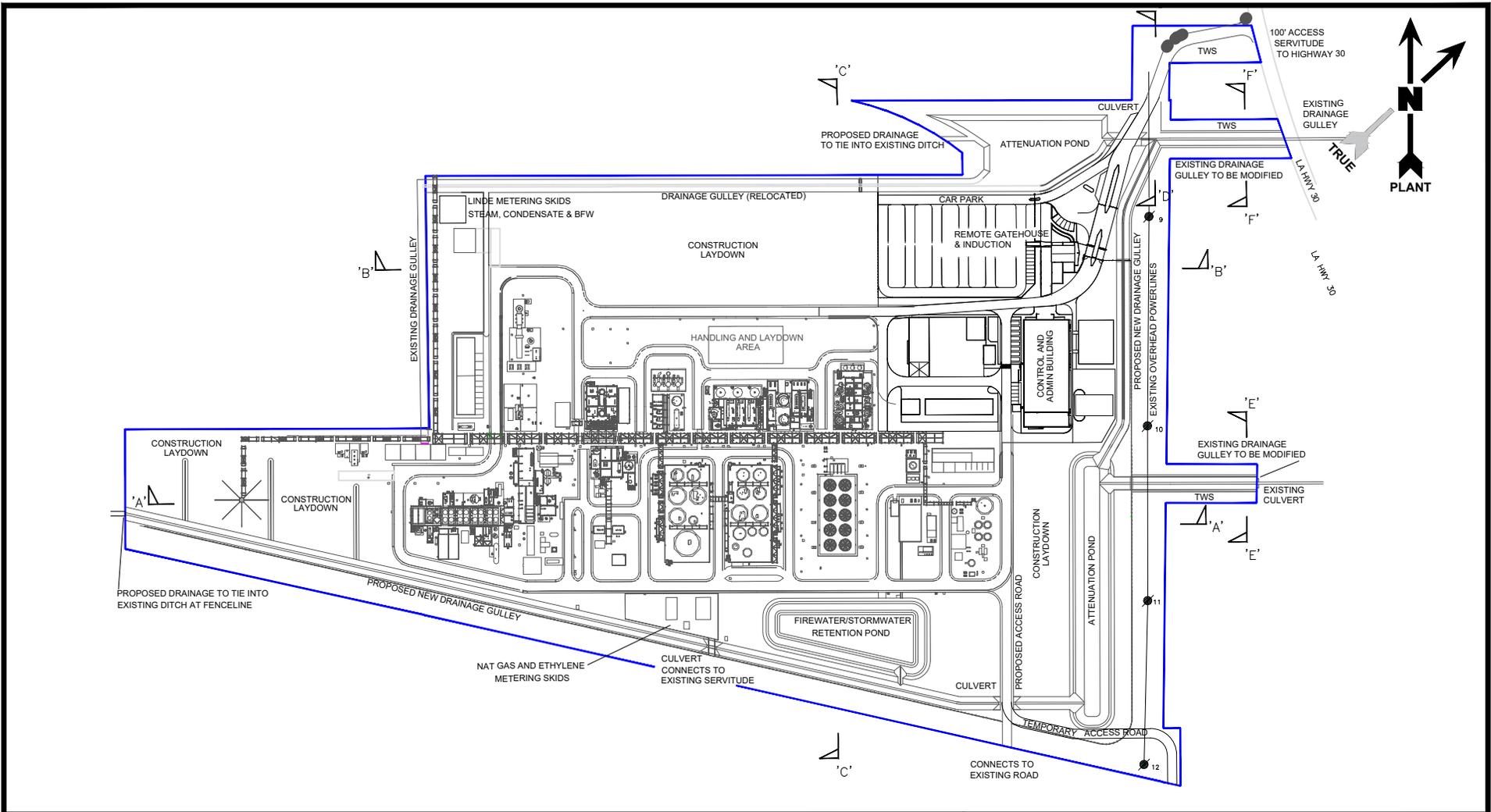
**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	TDJ	08/15/22
Checked By	TDJ	08/15/22
Approved By	TS	08/15/22

Project Number	1388-006
Drawing Number	1388-006-A004

2

Figure



**Legend**

- Facility Features
- Project Area (77.03 Acres)

**Note**

See Figure 8 for additional details of the Modified Drainage Gullies between Highway 30 and the proposed MCC Facility.  
 Entire site to be filled to target elevation of +21.0' NAVD88.

**Reference**

Base map comprised of Bing Maps aerial imagery from (c) 2021. Data from client provided figure "MC-41980-70-AA-DLY-0005" Rev 5.

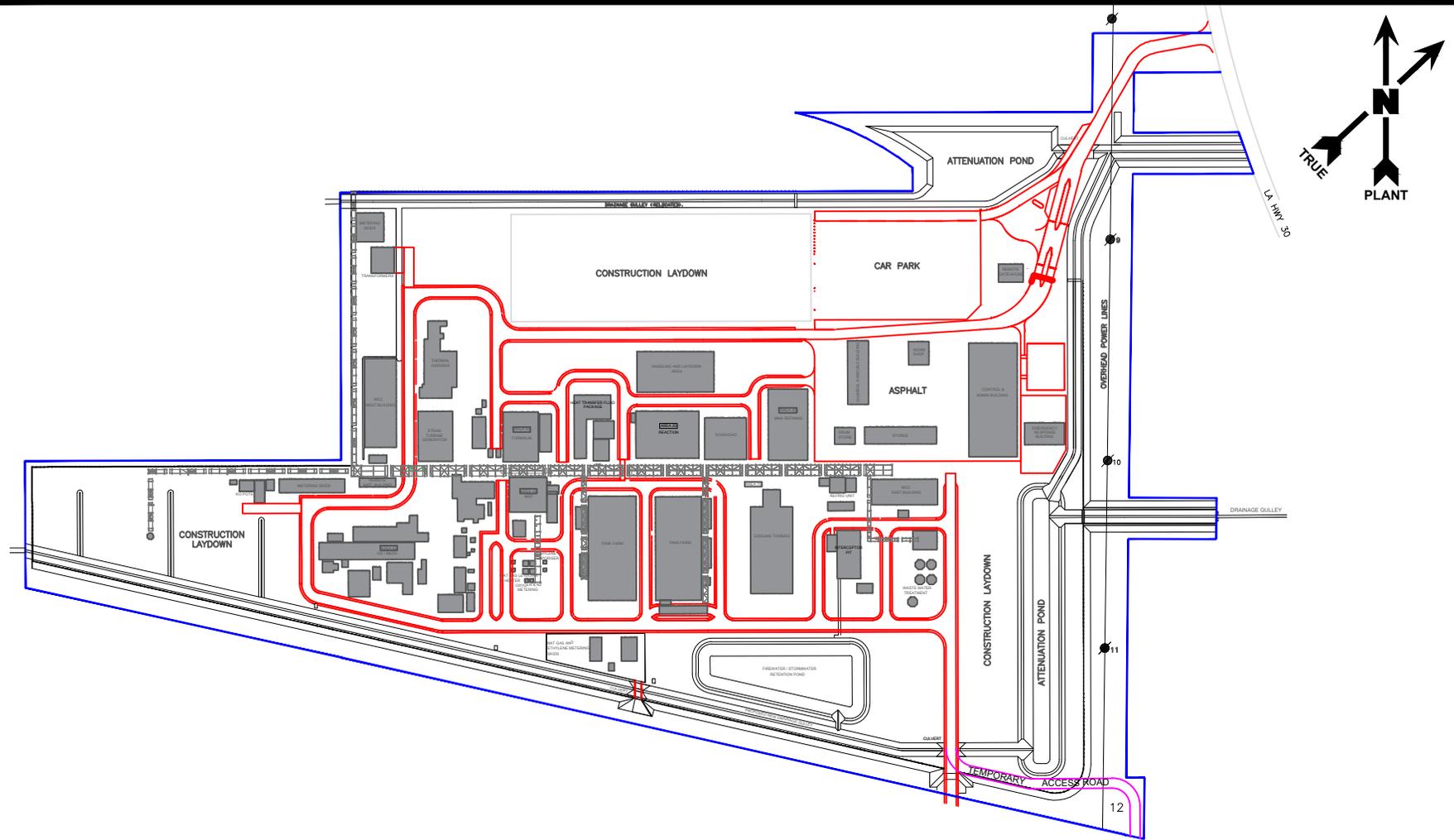
400 0 400  
 Scale: 1" = 400'

**Site Plan**

**Section 404 Permit Application**  
 Geismar, Ascension Parish, Louisiana

**Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.**  
 Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility

Drawn By	TDJ	8/12/22
Checked By	TS	8/12/22
Approved By	RS	8/12/22
Project Number 1388-006		<b>3</b> Figure
Drawing Number 1388-006-A007		



**Legend**

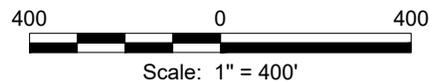
- Concrete Foundations
- Project Area (77.03 Acres)
- Asphalt Fill
- Temporary Limestone Fill

**Note**

Entire site to be filled to target elevation (H.P.P.) of +21.0' NAVD88.

**Reference**

Base map comprised of client provided figure "MC-41980-70-AA-DLY-0001" Rev 5.



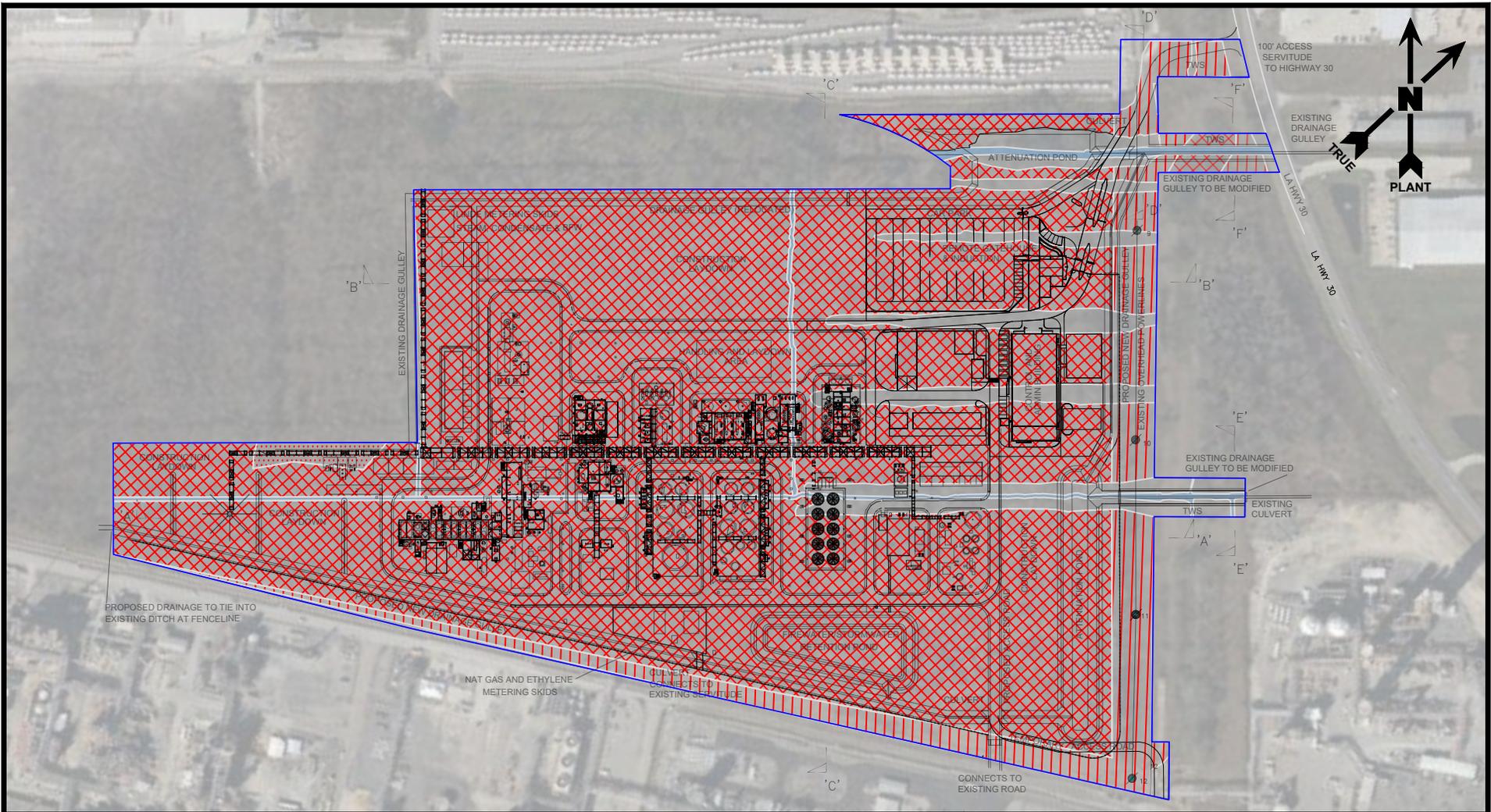
**Foundation Plan**

Section 404 Permit Application  
Geismar, Ascension Parish, Louisiana

Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



Drawn By	TDJ	8/12/22
Checked By	TDJ	8/12/22
Approved By	TS	8/12/22
Project Number 1388-006		<b>4</b> Figure
Drawing Number 1388-006-A006		

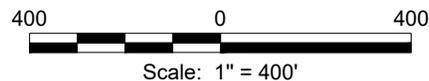


### Legend

- Facility Features
- Project Area (77.03 Acres)
- Impacted Palustrine Scrub-Shrub Wetlands (0.40 Acre)
- Impacted Other Waters of the U.S. (1.44 Acre/4,962 Linear Feet)
- Impacted Palustrine Forested Wetlands (61.35 Acres)
- Impacted Palustrine Emergent Wetlands (7.10 Acres)

### Reference

Base map comprised of Bing Maps aerial imagery from (c) 2021. Data from client provided figure "MC-41980-70-AA-DLY-0005" Rev 5.



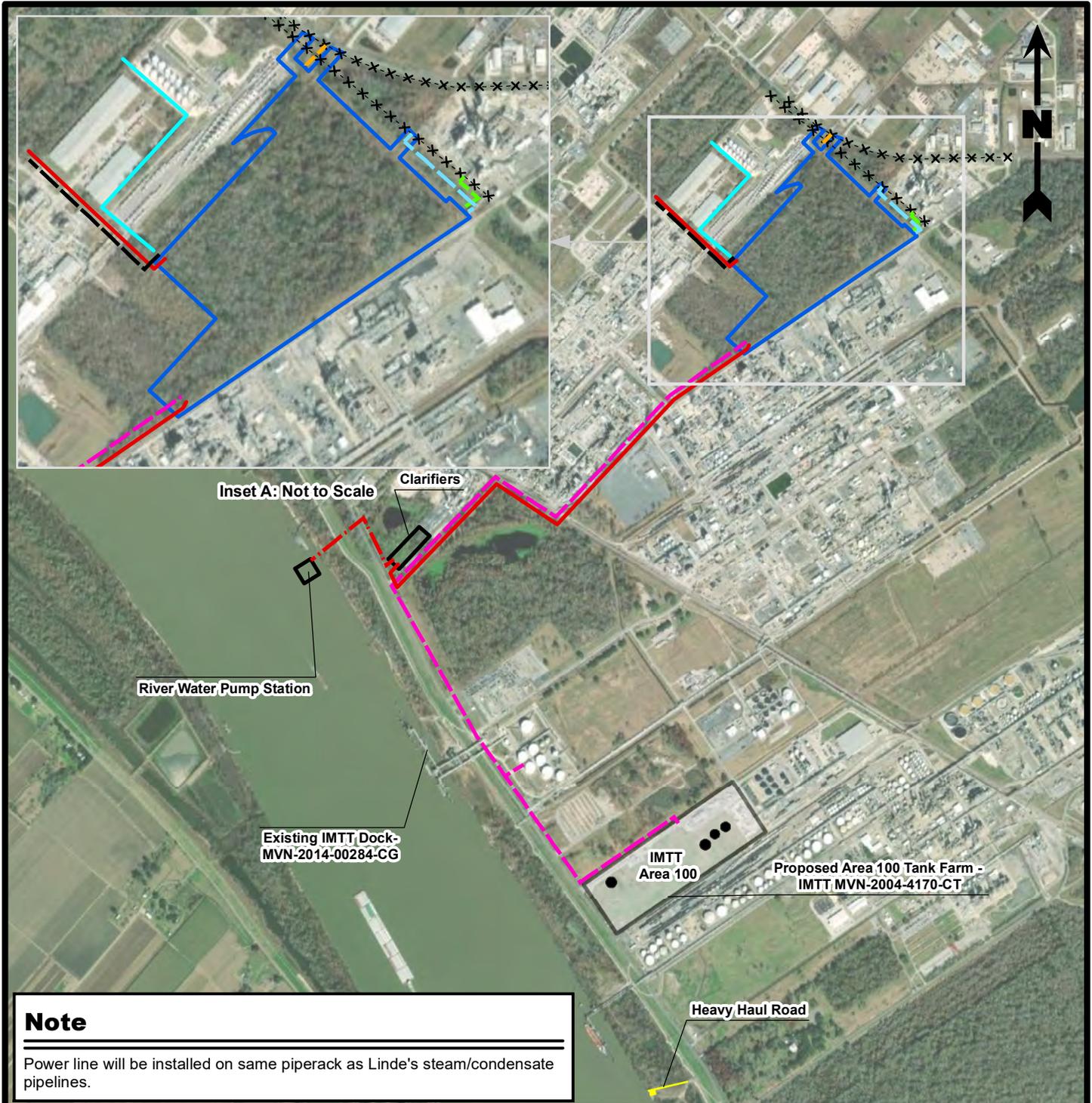
## Aerial Photograph

**Section 404 Permit Application**  
Geismar, Ascension Parish, Louisiana

**Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.**  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



Drawn By	TDJ	8/12/22
Checked By	TS	8/12/22
Approved By	RS	8/12/22
Project Number 1388-006		<b>5</b> Figure
Drawing Number 1388-006-A008		



**Note**

Power line will be installed on same piperack as Linde's steam/condensate pipelines.



**Legend**

- ▭ Proposed Project
- Facility Areas
- Tanks
- Heavy Haul Road
- IMTT Tank Farm (MVN-2004-4170-CT)
- Boardwalk Ethylene Lateral
- Boardwalk Natural Gas Lateral
- Baton Rouge Water
- Company Potable Water Pipeline
- IMTT Pipelines, Piperack and Dock
- Linde Clarified and Waste Water Pipeline
- - - Linde Oxygen Pipeline
- · - · Linde River Water Pipeline
- Linde Steam/Condensate Pipelines
- x-x Existing Lines

**Reference**

Base map comprised of ESRI's World Imagery exported 08/15/22

**Support Features**

**Section 404 Permit Application**  
Ascension Parish, Louisiana

**Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.**  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



Drawn By	TDJ	08/15/22
Checked By	TDJ	08/15/22
Approved By	TS	08/15/22
Project Number		<b>6a</b>
1388-006		
Drawing Number		Figure
1388-006-A013		

Provider/Responsible Party	Feature	Permit Number	PEM Perm 3	PEM Temp3	PSS Temp*3	PSS Perm 3	PFO Temp*3	PFO Perm3	OW Impacts 3
IMTT	Tank Farm1 (Gray)	MVN-2004-4170-CT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Existing Piperack and Dock	MVN-2014-00284-CG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Product Pipelines (Pink dashed)	To Be Permitted	0	2.9	<0.1	0.2	1	<0.1	0.2
Linde	Oxygen Pipeline (Black dashed)	MVN-2021-01219-CG	0	0	0	0	2.3	0.5	0.3
	River Water Pipeline (Red dashed)	MVN-2021-01219-CG	0	<0.1	0	0	2.5	0.2	0.1
	River Water Pump Station/Clarifiers (Black)	MVN-2021-01219-CG	0	0	<0.1	0	0	2.3	0.1
	Clarified and Waste Water Pipelines (Red)	MVN-2021-01219-CG	0	0.9	0.2	<0.1	1	1.5	0.5
	Steam/Condensate Pipelines (Cyan)	MVN-2021-01219-CG	0	<0.1	0.3	<0.1	0.3	<0.1	0.2
Boardwalk Pipeline Partners	Ethylene Lateral (Green dashed)	To Be Permitted	0	<0.1	0	0	0	0	<0.1
	Natural Gas Lateral (Blue dashed)	To Be Permitted	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.1
Baton Rouge Water Company	Potable Water Pipeline Lateral2 (Orange dashed)	To Be Permitted	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Heavy Haul Contractor	Heavy Haul Road (Yellow)	To Be Permitted	0	0.2	0	0	<0.1	0	0
<b>Total Support Feature Impacts (approximate acreage)</b>			0	4.8	0.5	0.2	7.1	4.5	1.5

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> Wetland impacts addressed under MVN-2004-4170-CT (by others)

<sup>2</sup> Wetland impacts mitigated under MVN 2020-01248 (by others)

<sup>3</sup> Acreages are estimated

PEM=Palustrine Emergent

PSS=Palustrine Scrub Shrub

PFO=Palustrine Forested

OW=Other Waters

\* denotes conversion

## Reference

Base map comprised of ESRI's World Imagery exported 08/12/22

## Support Features Table

**Section 404 Permit Application**  
Ascension Parish, Louisiana

**Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.**  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By TDJ 08/12/22

Checked By TDJ 08/12/22

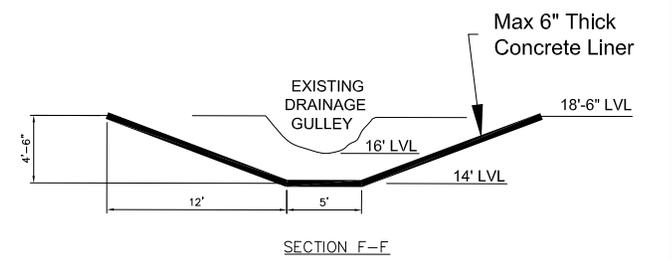
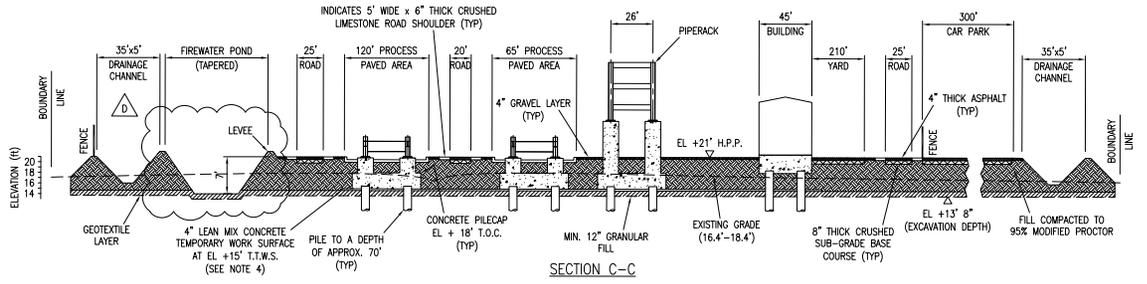
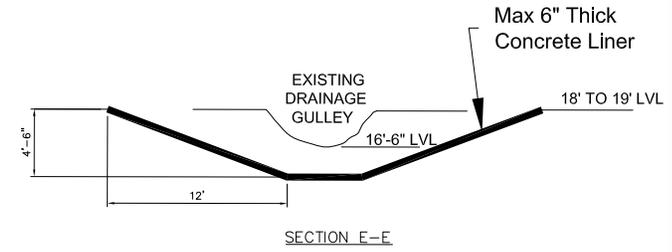
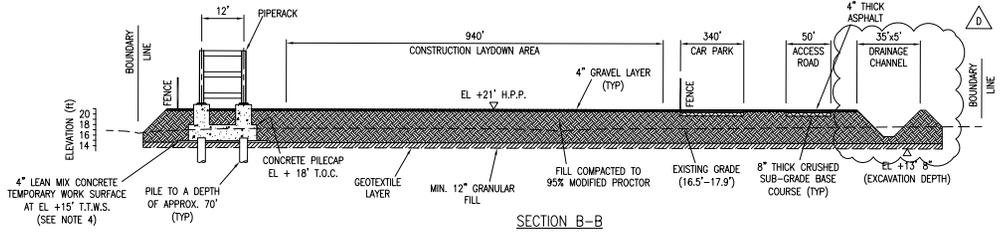
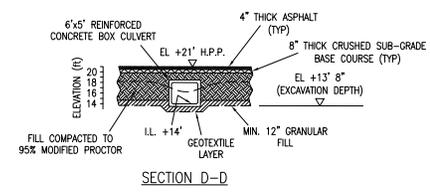
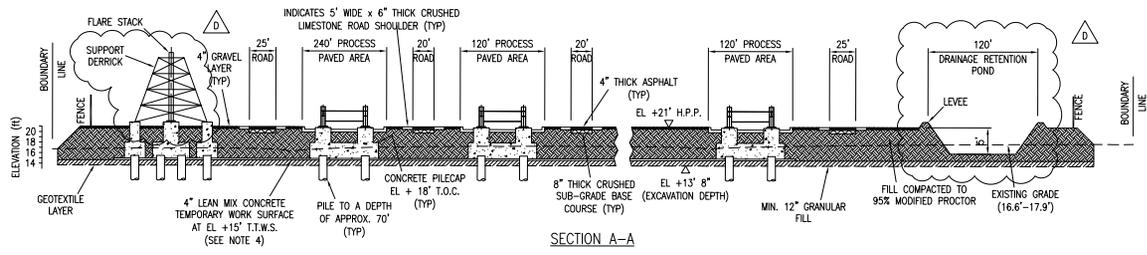
Approved By TS 08/12/22

Project Number  
1388-006

Drawing Number  
1388-006-A020

**6b**

Figure



**Note**

1. For permitting purposes only. (Not for use in construction).
2. Existing grade levels are based on topographical survey.
3. 4" lean mix concrete temporary work surface will be installed during construction (where necessary) to provide a safe and suitable temporary working surface for the installation of foundations, underground piping, manholes, catch basins, etc.
4. H.P.P - High Point of Paving
5. T.O.C. - Top of Concrete
6. T.T.W.S. - Top of Temporary Work Surface

**Reference**

Base drawing comprised of client provided figures "Alpha 3 Project Genesis, Geismar Site, Cross Sections". DWG. No. WO-41980-70-CX-DKP-0002. Dated 1/13/22, and DWG. No MC-41980-70-AA-DLY-005\_05 Permitting Plot Plan". Dated 6/16/22.

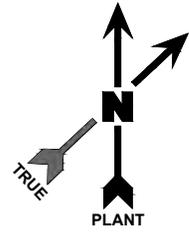
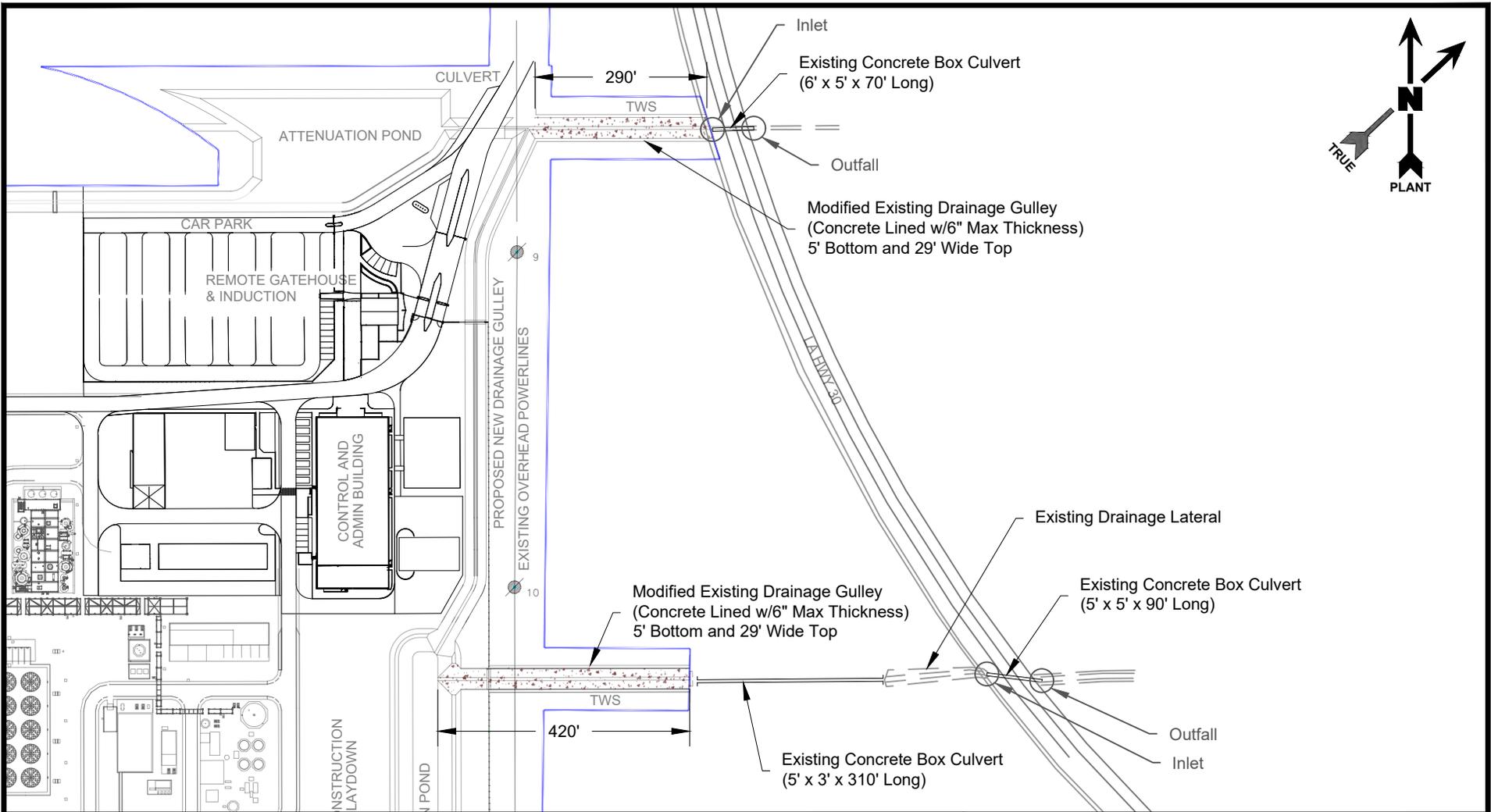
**Profile**

**Section 404 Permit Application**  
Geismar, Ascension Parish, Louisiana

**Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.**  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



Drawn By	DSG	08/11/22
Checked By	DSG	08/11/22
Approved By	DSG	08/11/22
Project Number	1388-006	<b>7</b> Figure
Drawing Number	1388-006-A014	



**Legend**

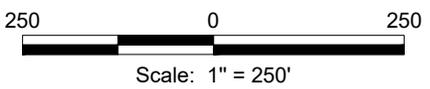
Facility Features  
 Project Area (77.03 Acres)

**Note**

Entire site to be filled to target elevation of +21.0' NAVD88.

**Reference**

Base map comprised of Bing Maps aerial imagery from (c) 2021. Data from client provided figure "MC-41980-70-AA-DLY-0005" Rev 5.



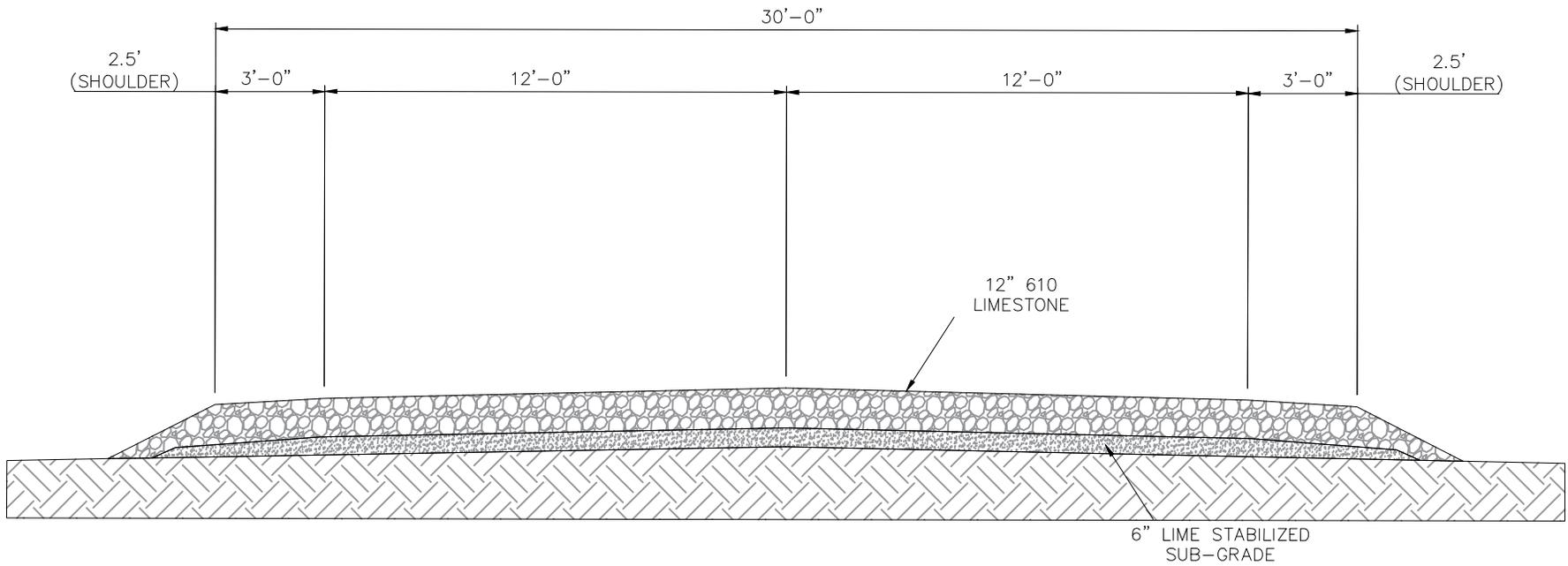
**Drainage Features**

**Section 404 Permit Application**  
Geismar, Ascension Parish, Louisiana

**Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.**  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility

Drawn By	DSG	08/10/22
Checked By	DSG	08/10/22
Approved By	RS	08/10/22
Project Number 1388-006		<b>8</b> Figure
Drawing Number 1388-006-A024		

Providence Engineering and Environmental Group LLC



**Note**

- 1. For permitting purposes only. (Not for use in construction).

**Reference**

Base drawing comprised of client provided figure.

**Temporary Access Road  
Cross-Section**

Section 404 Permit Application  
Geismar, Ascension Parish, Louisiana

Mitsubishi Chemical America, Inc.  
Methyl Methacrylate Production Facility



Drawn By	TDJ	8/15/22
Checked By	TDJ	8/15/22
Approved By	RS	8/15/22

Project Number	1388-006
Drawing Number	1388-006-A025

**9**  
Figure