

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

September 13, 2021

Regulatory Division Western Evaluation Branch Project Manager: Brandon Gaspard Brandon.D.Gaspard@usace.army.mil (504) 862-1280

SUBJECT: MVN-2021-00741-MG

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:

[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).

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Regulatory Division is soliciting comments from all interested parties on the installation of a new bulkhead and storm water collection system at the Bulk Terminal #1 Facility Dock along the Calcasieu River in Westlake, Louisiana. The new bulkhead is proposed for erosion protection and infrastructure for the storm water collection system. The purpose of the storm water collection system is the containment of coke particulates to the Bulk Terminal #1 site and prevention of impacts to the Calcasieu River watershed.

CONSTRUCTION OF A BULKHEAD AND STORM WATER COLLECTION SYSTEM AT BULK TERMINAL #1 IN CALCAISEU PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Southland Environmental, L.L.C., obo Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District; Attn: Jared King; 510 Clarence Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601.

LOCATION OF WORK: The 2.5 acre site is off of the Bayou D' Inde Road and along the Calcasieu River, in Sections 16 and 17, Township 10 South, Range 9 West, Calcasieu Parish Louisiana, as shown on attached drawings.

Center of Location: Latitude: 30.191325° N, Longitude: -93.299558° W. Hydrologic Unit Code: 08080206 – Lower Calcasieu, Calcasieu River Basin.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District is proposing the installation of a bulkhead and storm water collection system along the Calcasieu River, to include backfilling with 12,500 cubic yards of earthen material, 2,800 cubic yards of concrete material, and 4,100 cubic yards of aggregate material.

Approximately 1.17 acres of permanent scrub shrub impacts and 0.7 acres of impacts to Waters of the United States are proposed. If a Department of the Army permit is warranted, the applicant has proposed to mitigate unavoidable wetlands impacts at an approved mitigation bank within the New Orleans District.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit 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 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 emailed to the project manager listed above or mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION. Individuals or parties may also request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by mail or 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 requestor 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.

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. After receipt of comments from this public notice the Corps will evaluate potential impacts and consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Native American Tribes in accordance with Section 106 of the national Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate.

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. Based on the Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species in Louisiana (IPaC), as signed on January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the proposed project was evaluated under the determination key on August 25, 2021 and it has been determined that the proposed project will have "No Affect" the Red Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), and is "Not Likely To Adversely Effect" the West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*).

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 <u>0.01</u> acre(s) 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.

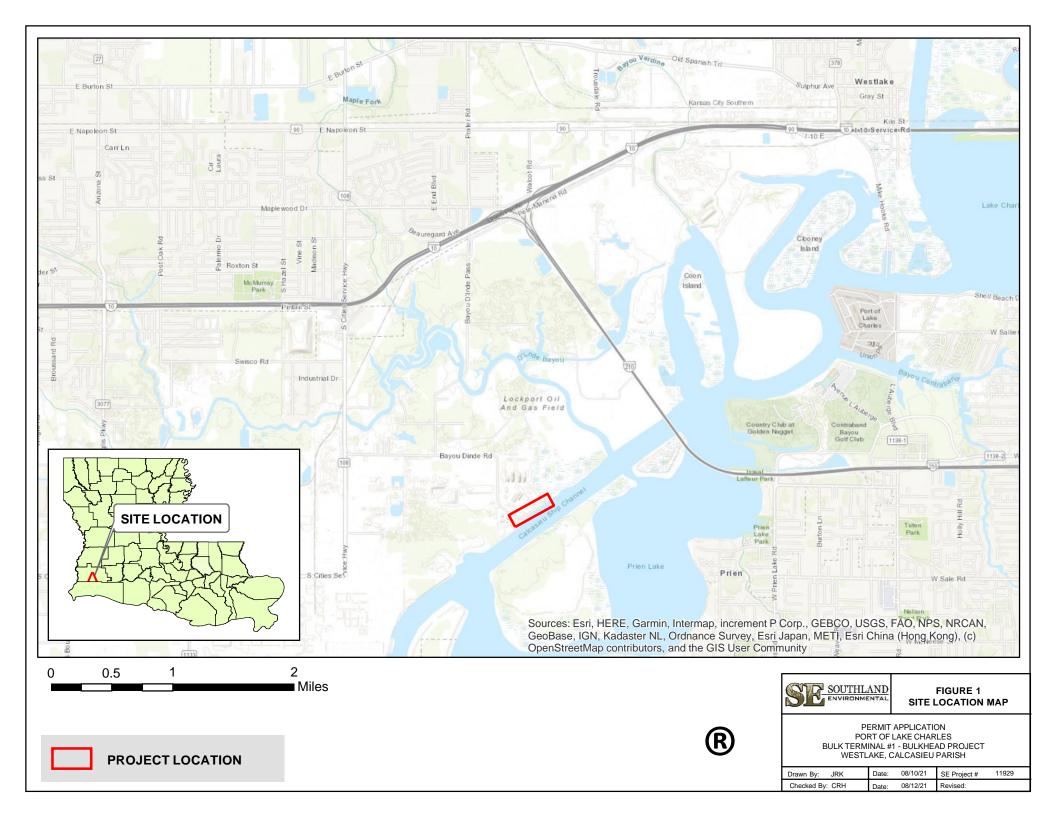
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not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

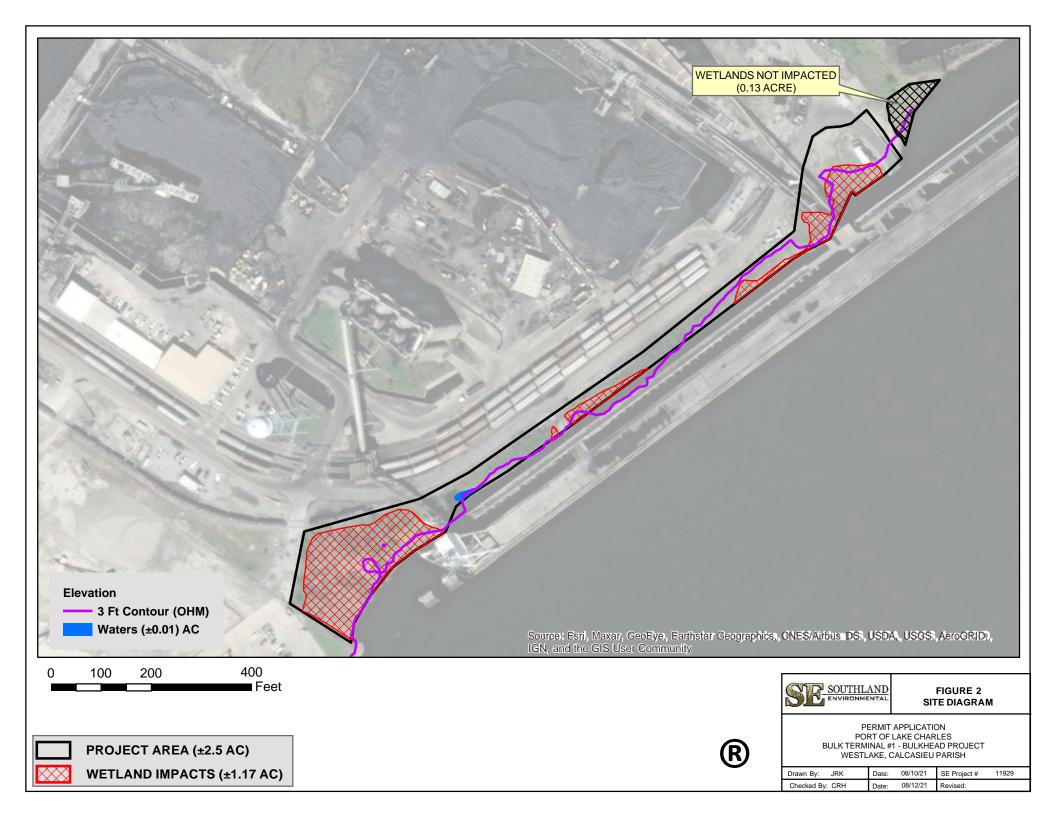
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

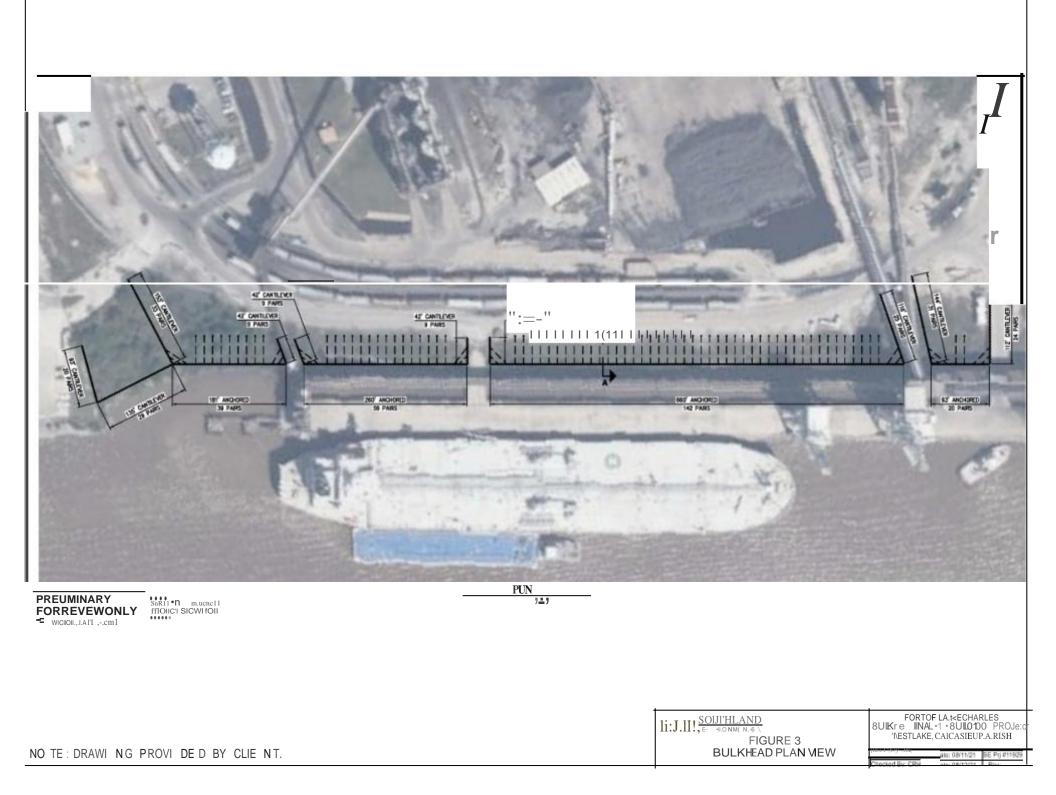
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interested in the matter.

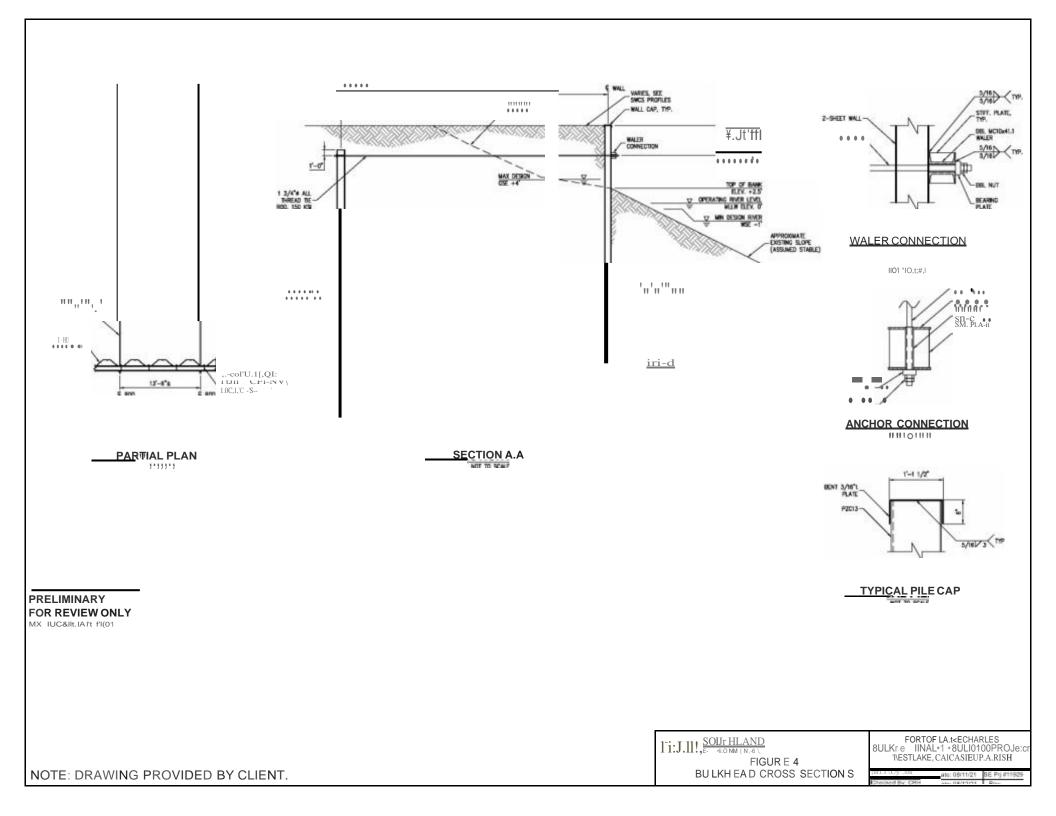
> for Martin S. Mayer Chief, Regulatory Division

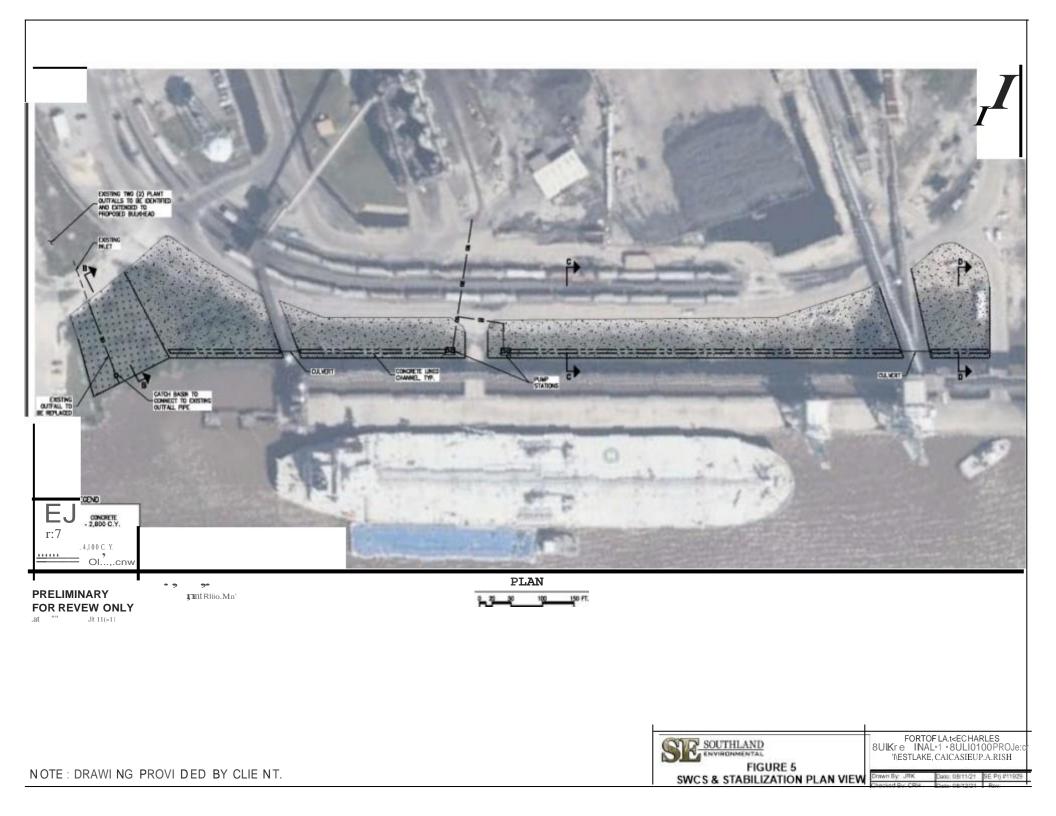
Enclosure

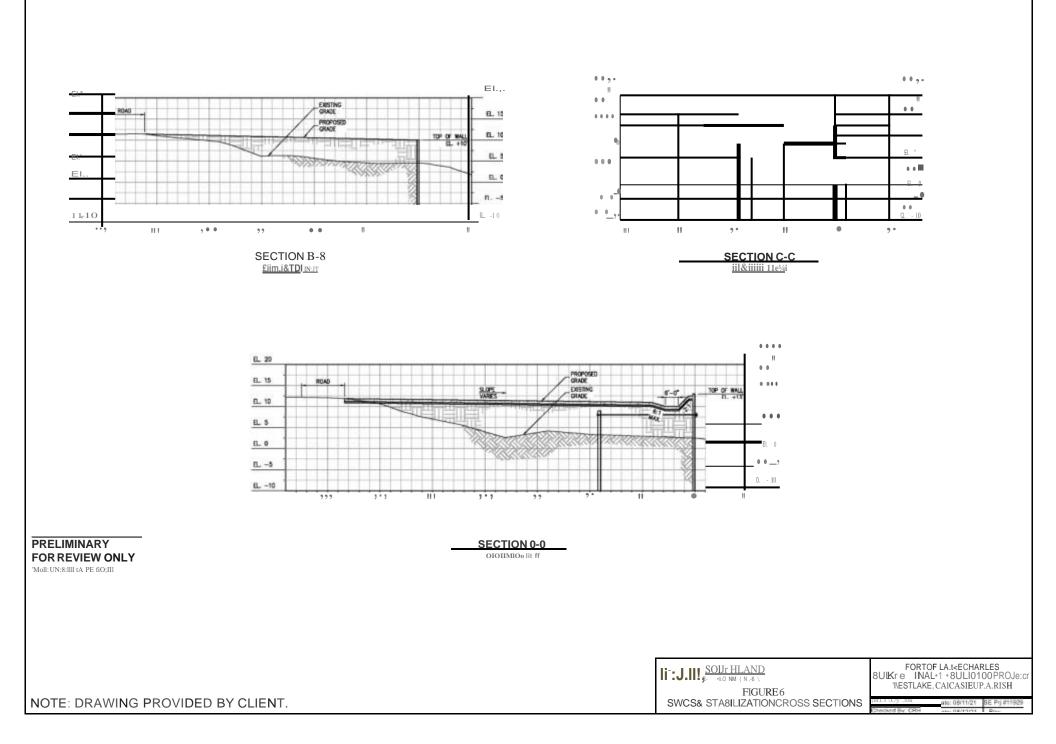


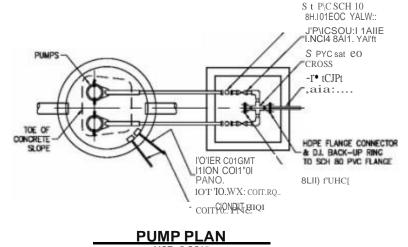




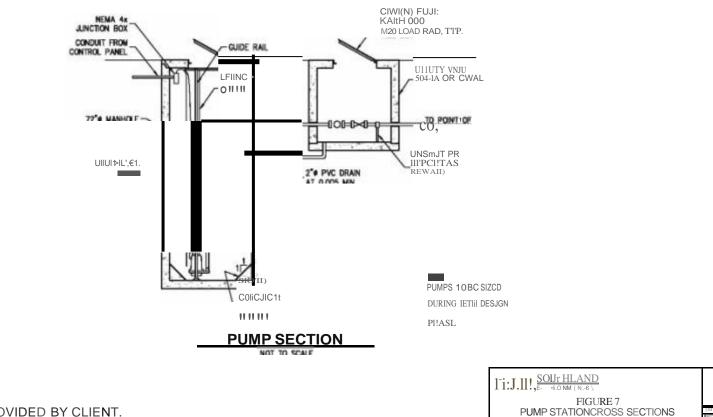








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