

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

April 1, 2024

Regulatory Division Western Evaluation Branch

Project Manager: Michael H. Herrmann Jr. (504) 862-1954 michael.h.herrmann@usace.army.mil

Application #: MVN-2022-01198-WLL

# **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).

### PROPOSED SOLAR FARM AND APPURTENANT STRUCTURES IN BEAUREGARD PARISH

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Singer Solar, LLC, c/o: HYDRIK, ATTN: Michael J. Henry, 2323 Highway 190 E, Suite 2, Hammond, LA 70401.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Located in Beauregard Parish, within Deridder, Louisiana, (30.7019, -93.3353), as shown within the attached drawings. (Hydrologic Unit Code 08080205, Calcasieu Watershed)

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** Clear, grade and deposit fill for the purpose of constructing a 200 megawatt solar project in Beauregard Parish. The project will be located on a 2,661-acre tract of land located in the City of Deridder, LA and will permanently impact 11.42 acres of degraded pine plantation wetlands and 3.14 acres of bottomland hardwoods through fill and construction of access roads and structures; and permanently convert 976.17 acres of wetland pine plantation habitat and 4.56 acres of bottomland hardwoods to herbaceous habitat through mechanized clearing and installation of solar panels and appurtenances. Fill operations will include the deposition of approximately 59,100 cubic yards of earthen material into wetlands, as foundation for access roads, switchyard and a substation. If a Department of the Army permit is found to be in the public interest, the applicant has proposed to mitigate unavoidable wetland impacts by purchasing credits at an approved and acceptable mitigation bank within the N.O. District.

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, Michael H. Herrmann 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 New Orleans District is presently unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places at or near the proposed work but is pending further review in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. 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 (SHPO), and federally listed tribes regarding potential impacts to cultural resources. A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey has been conducted for the project site and is currently being reviewed by the Louisiana SHPO.

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. The applicant submitted a completed T&E assessment with their application. Based on the applicant's provided Information Planning and Consultation (IPaC) assessment for Endangered Species in Louisiana, as signed on January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the project would have no effect to any listed species.

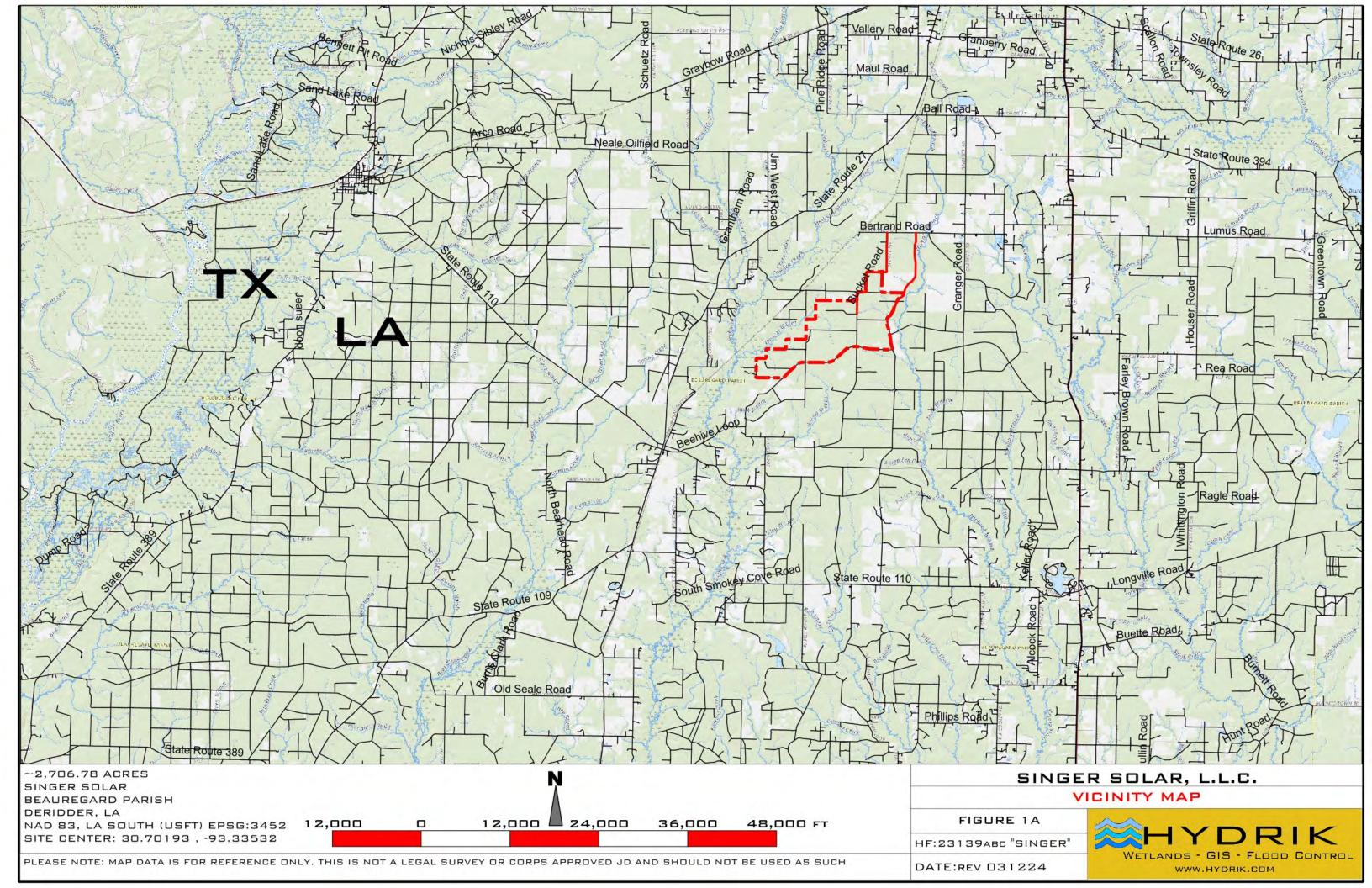
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. *Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not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

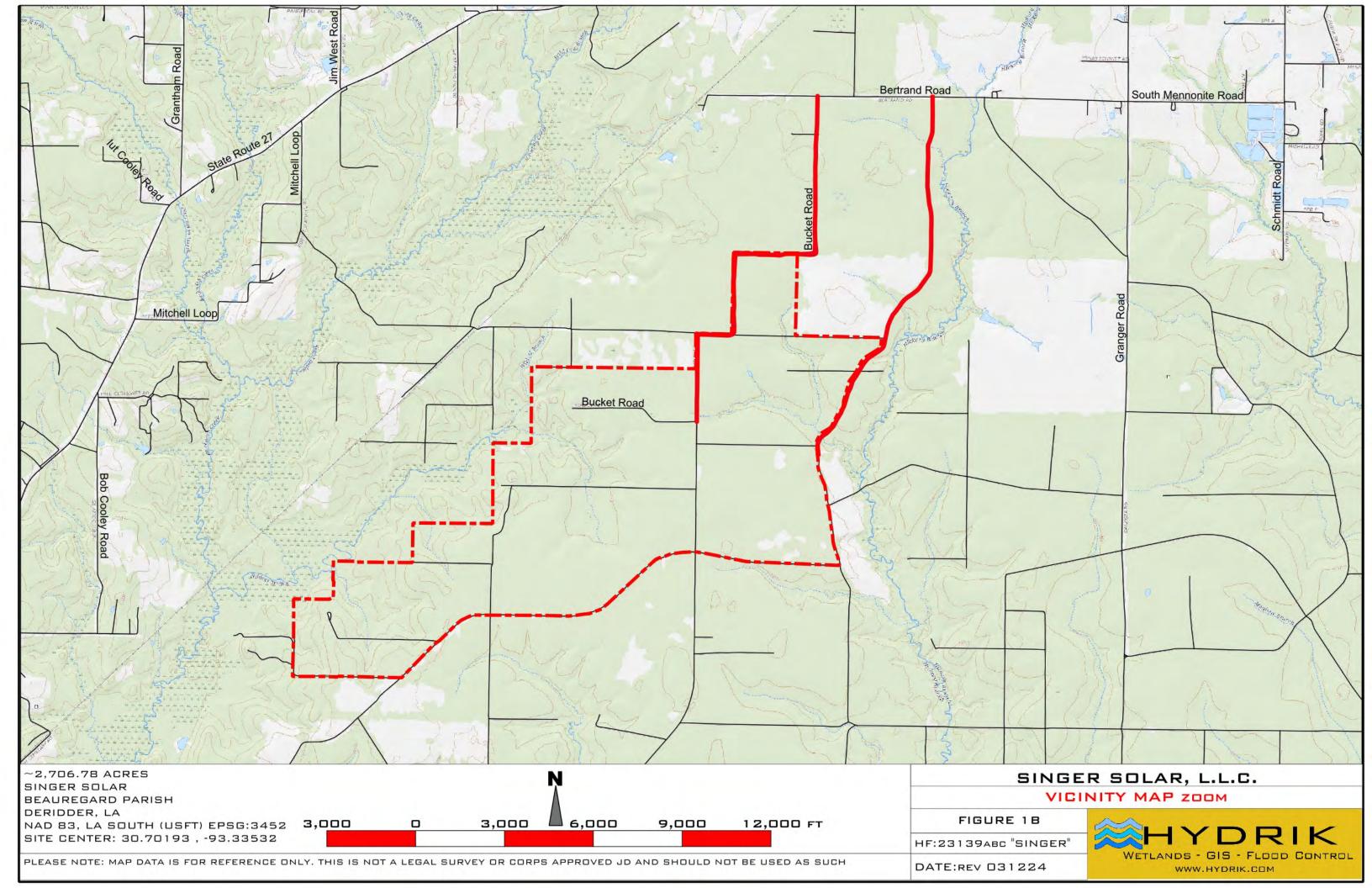
Any person may request within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing, and can be <u>preferably</u> emailed to the USACE project manager 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







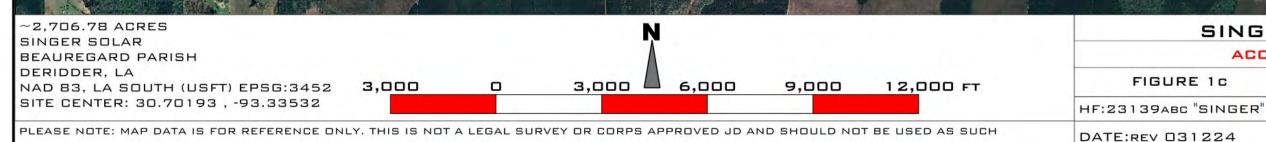
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LEGEND

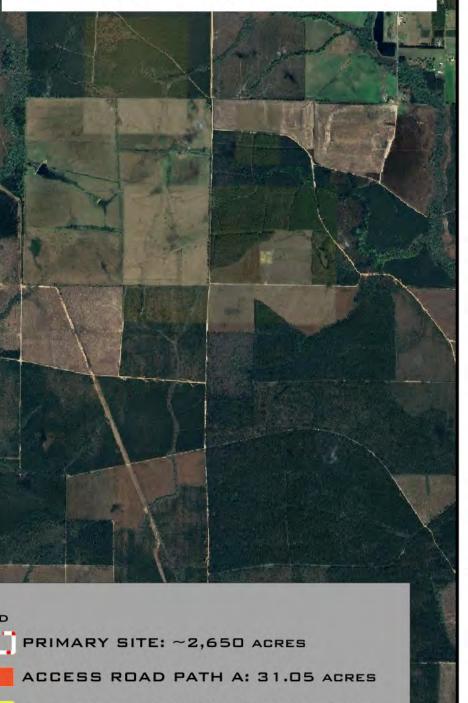
### 36.73 ACRES

(25.73 ACRES OUTSIDE OF PREVIOUSLY DELINEATED 2,650 ACRES) (11 ACRES WITHIN OF PREVIOUSLY DELINEATED 2,650 ACRES)



ENTRANCE/EXISTING ACCESS ROAD A (TO BE IMPROVED) 30.737408°, -93.304988 °

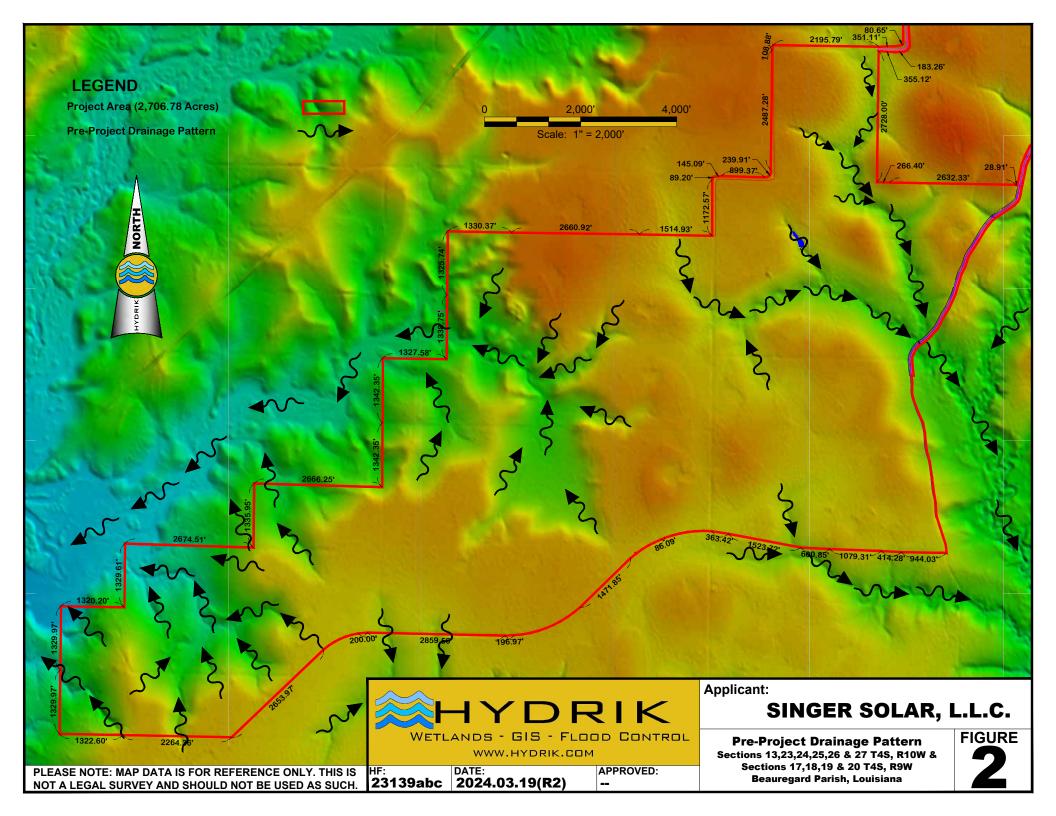
31.05 ACRES OUTSIDE OF PREVIOUSLY DELINEATED 2,650 ACRES

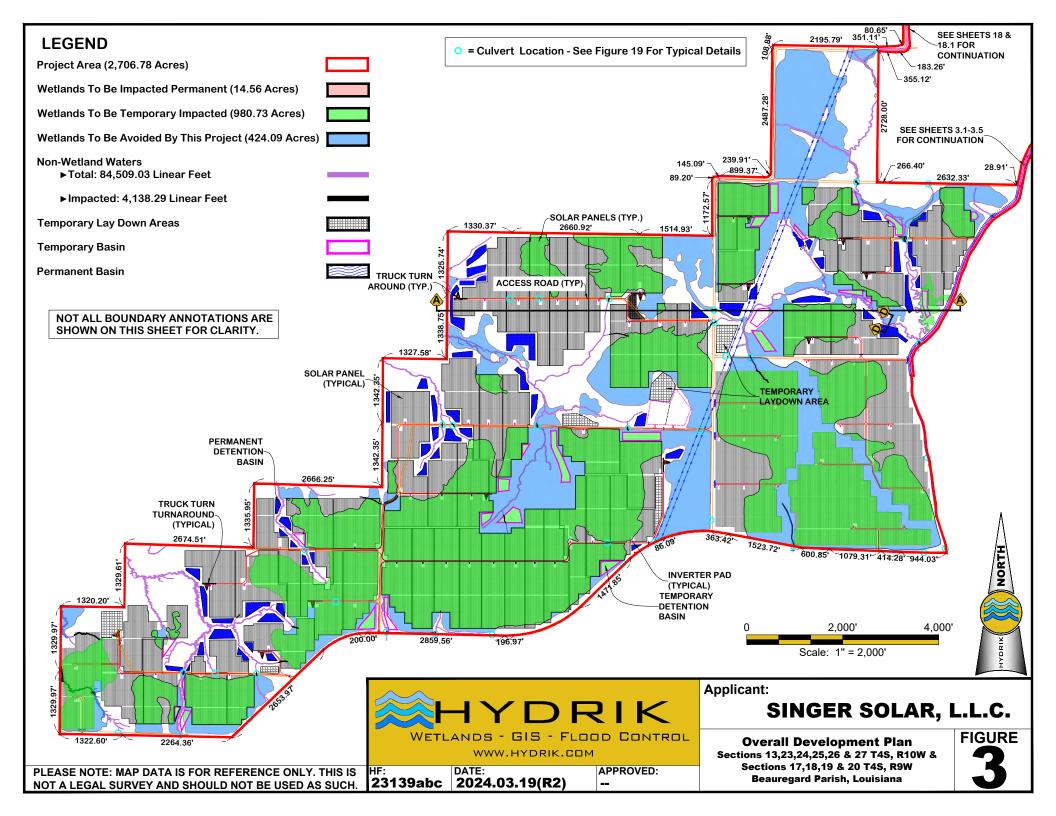


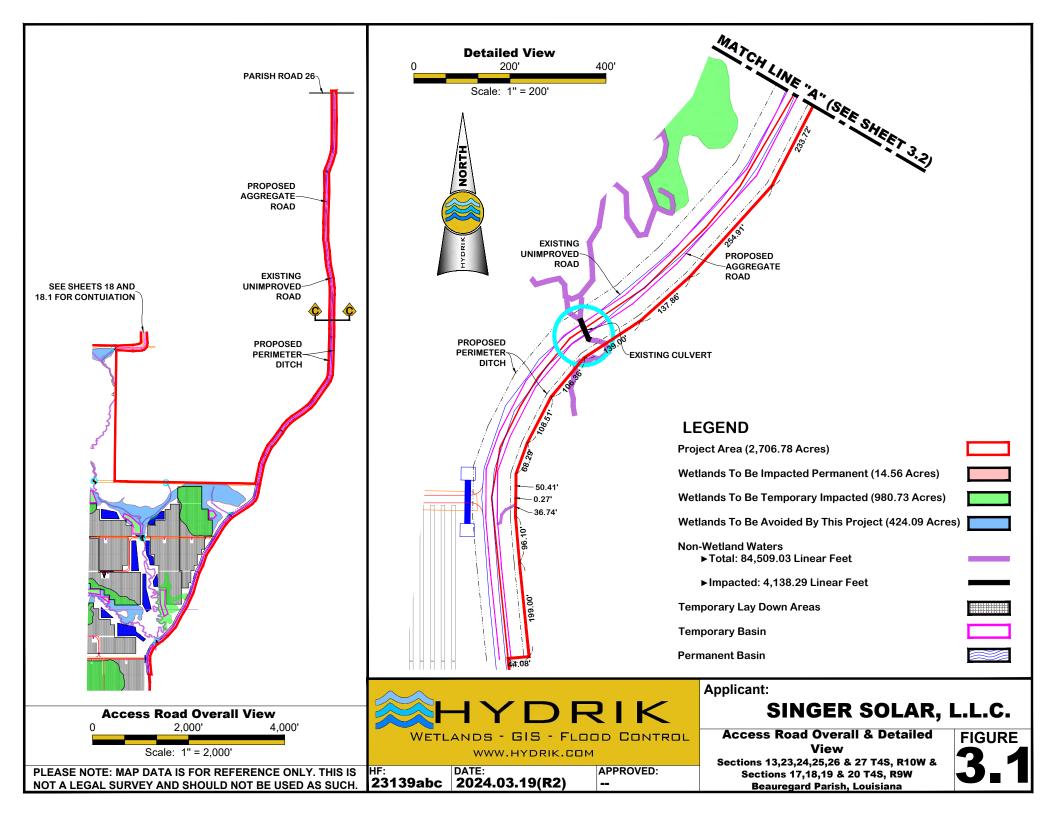
ACCESS ROAD PATH B: 25.73 ACRES

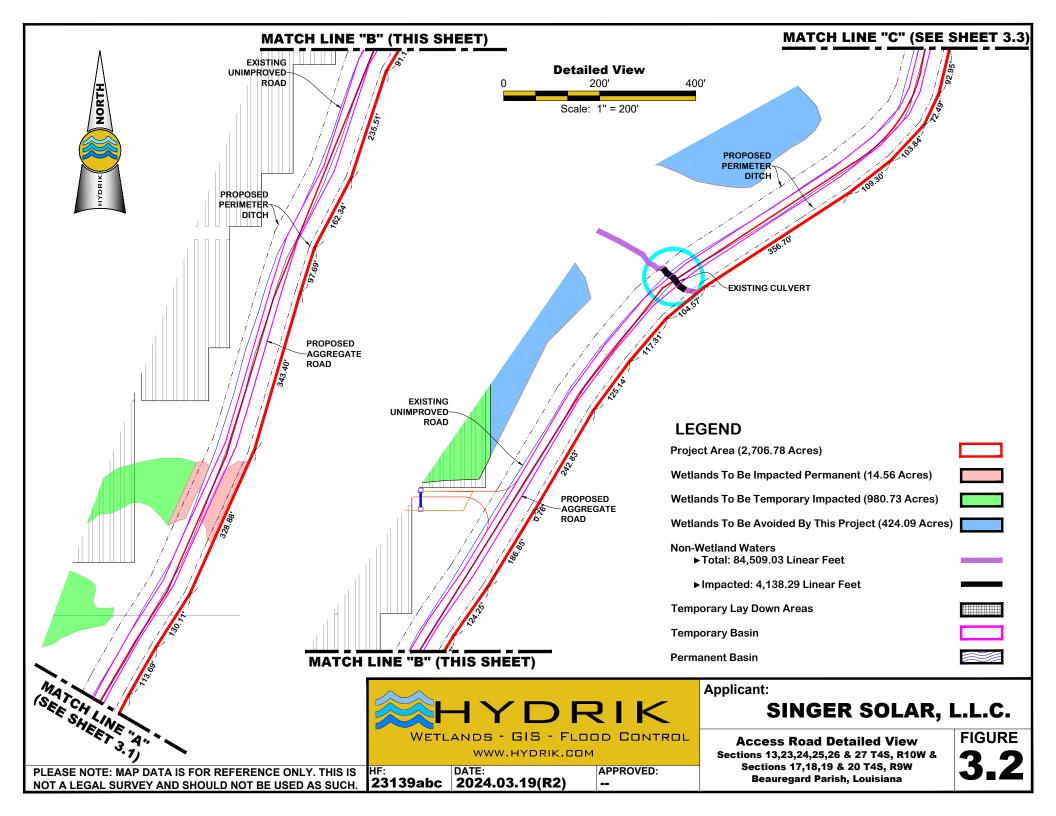
# SINGER SOLAR, L.L.C.

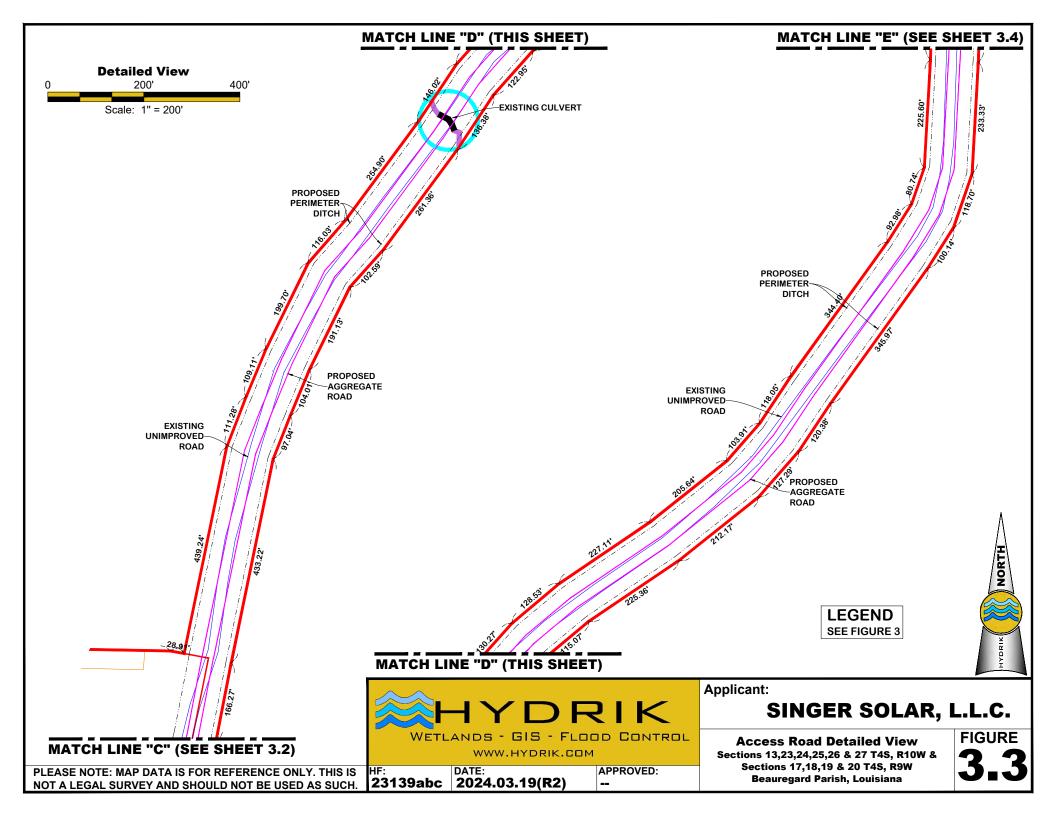


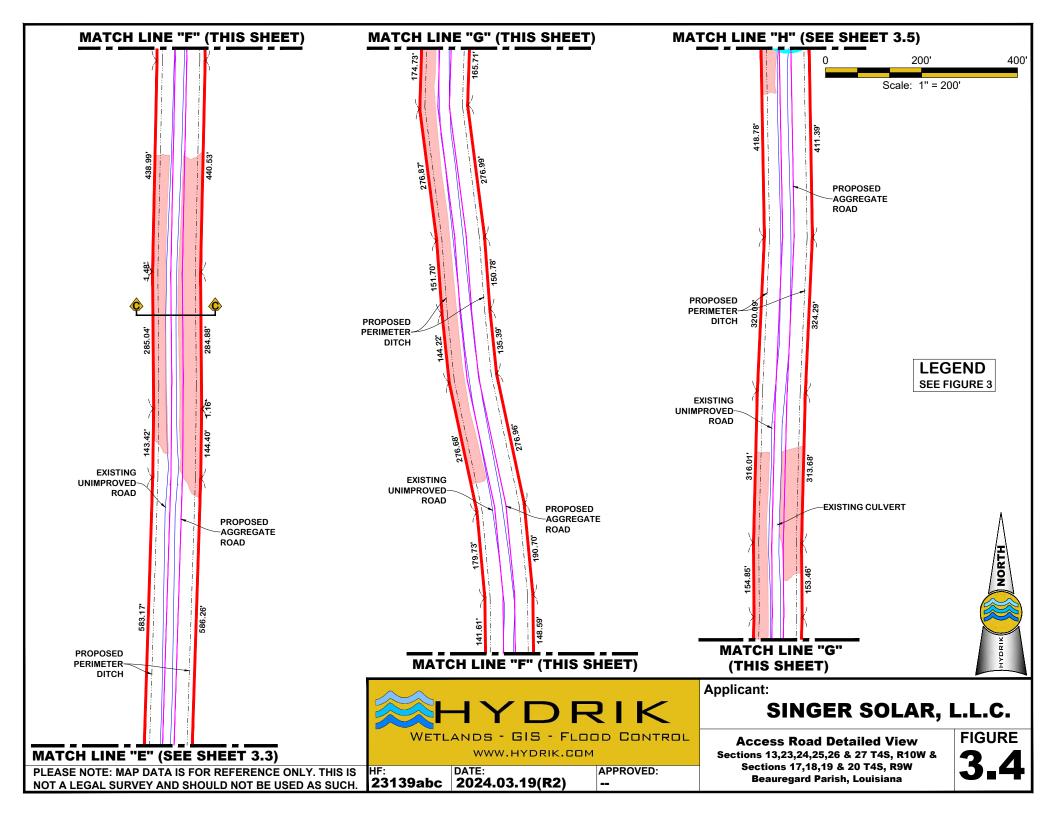


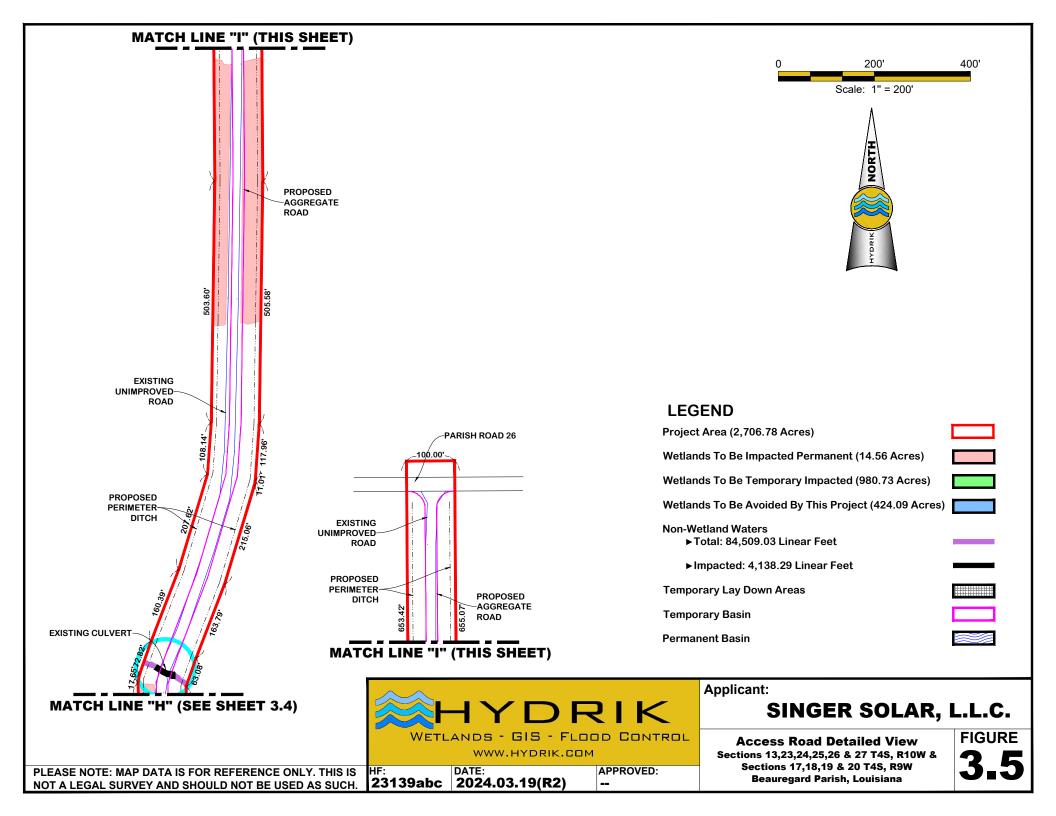


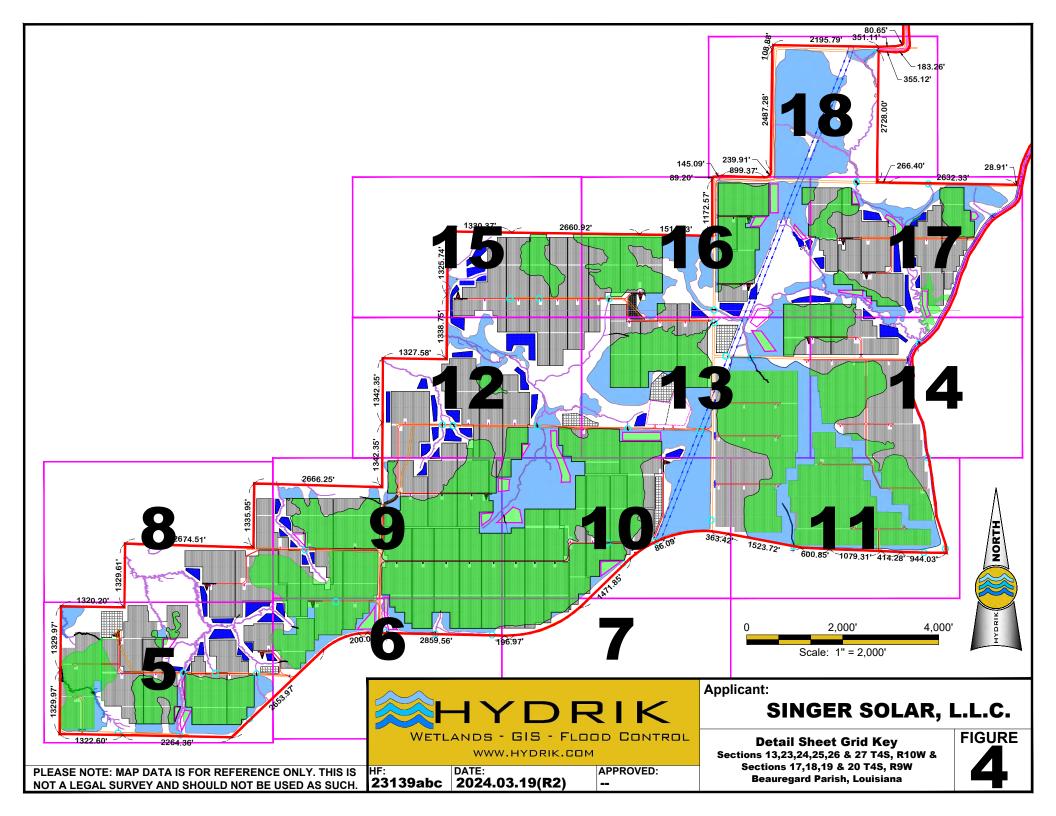


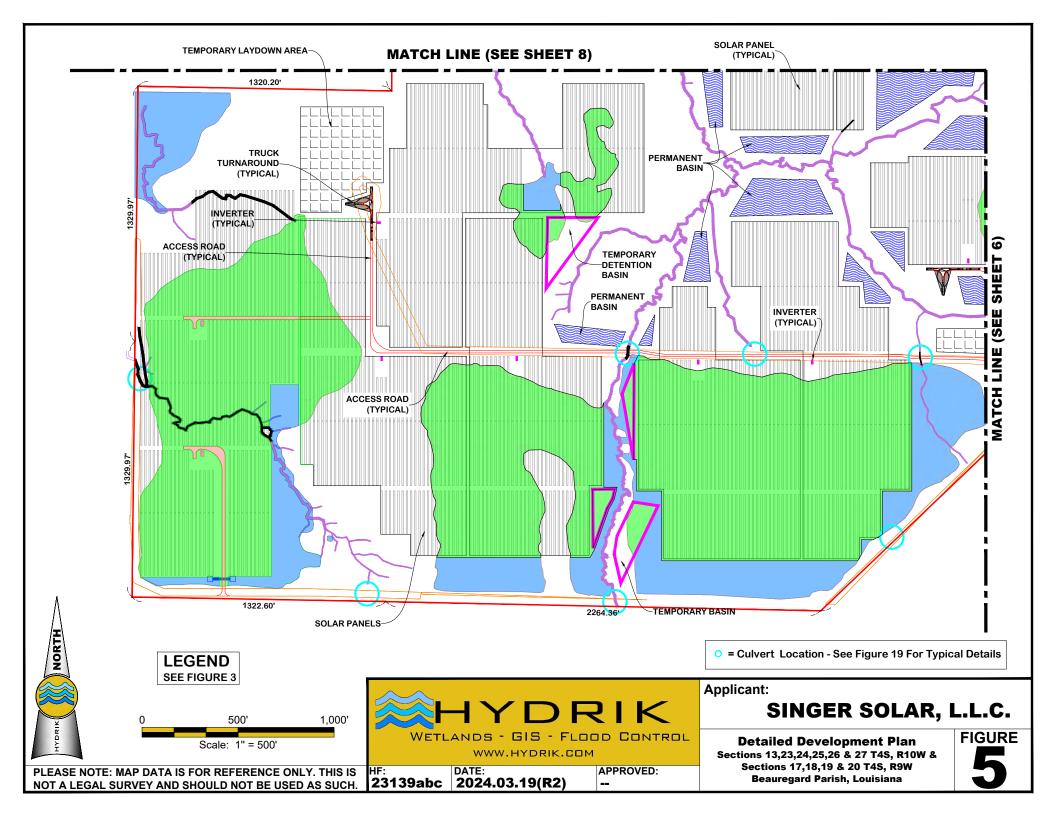


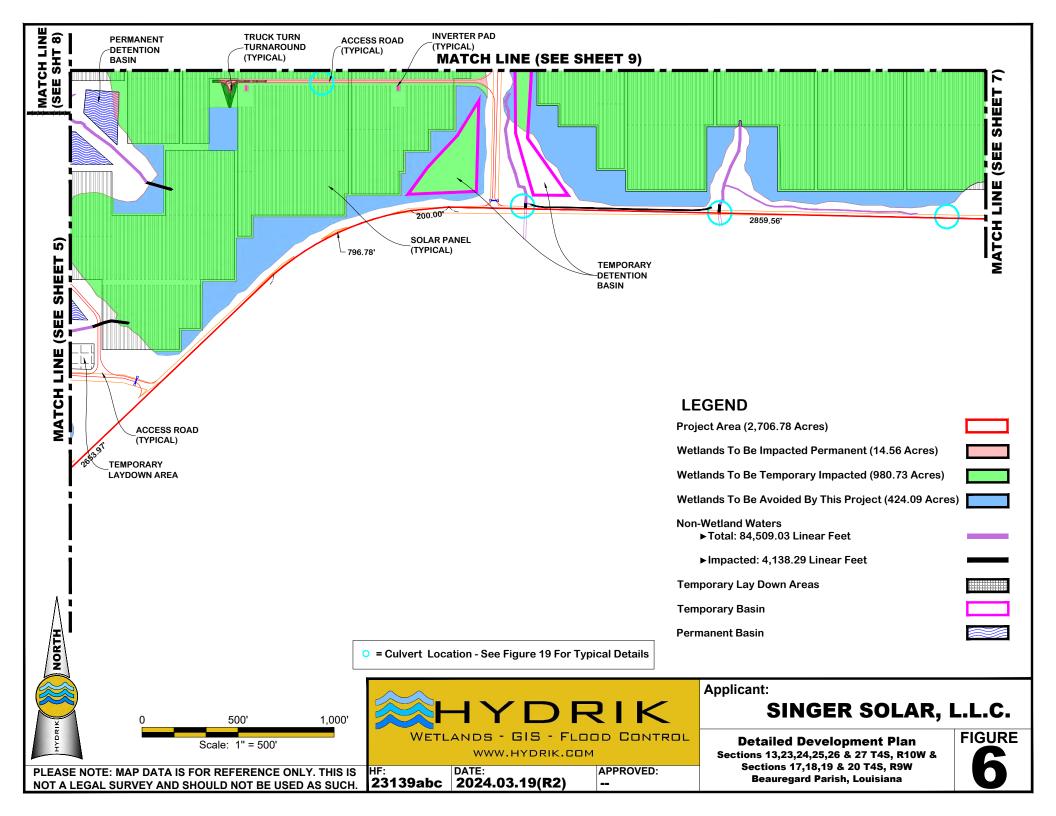


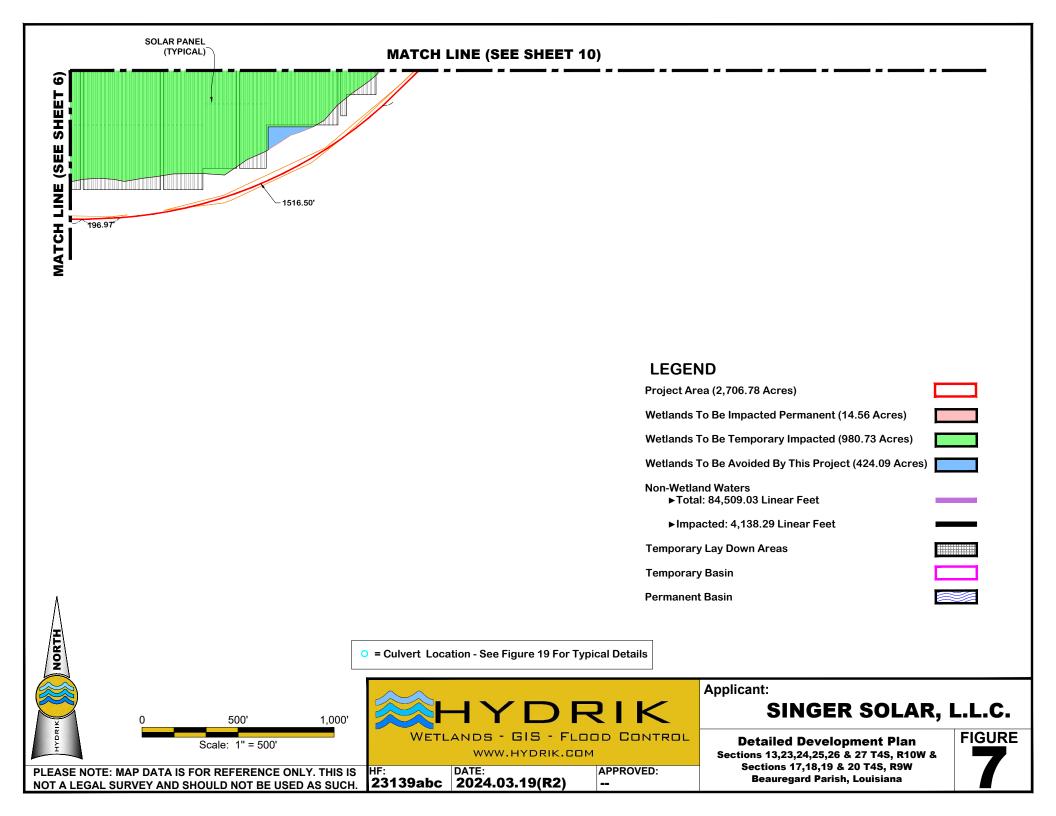




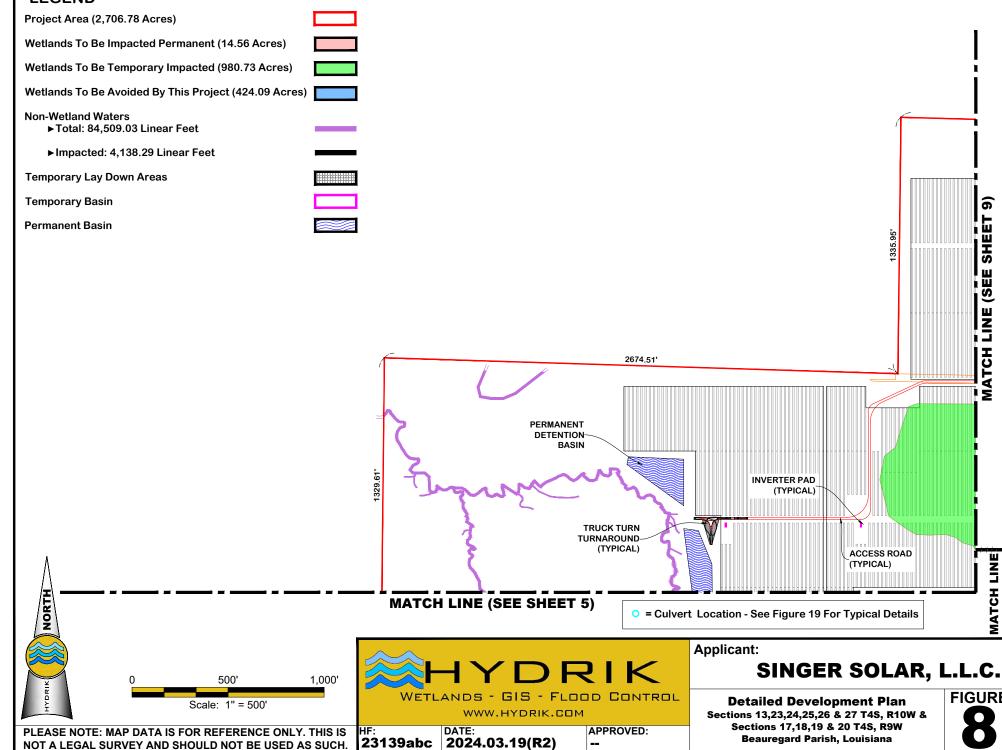








## LEGEND





MATCH LINE (SEE SHT 6)

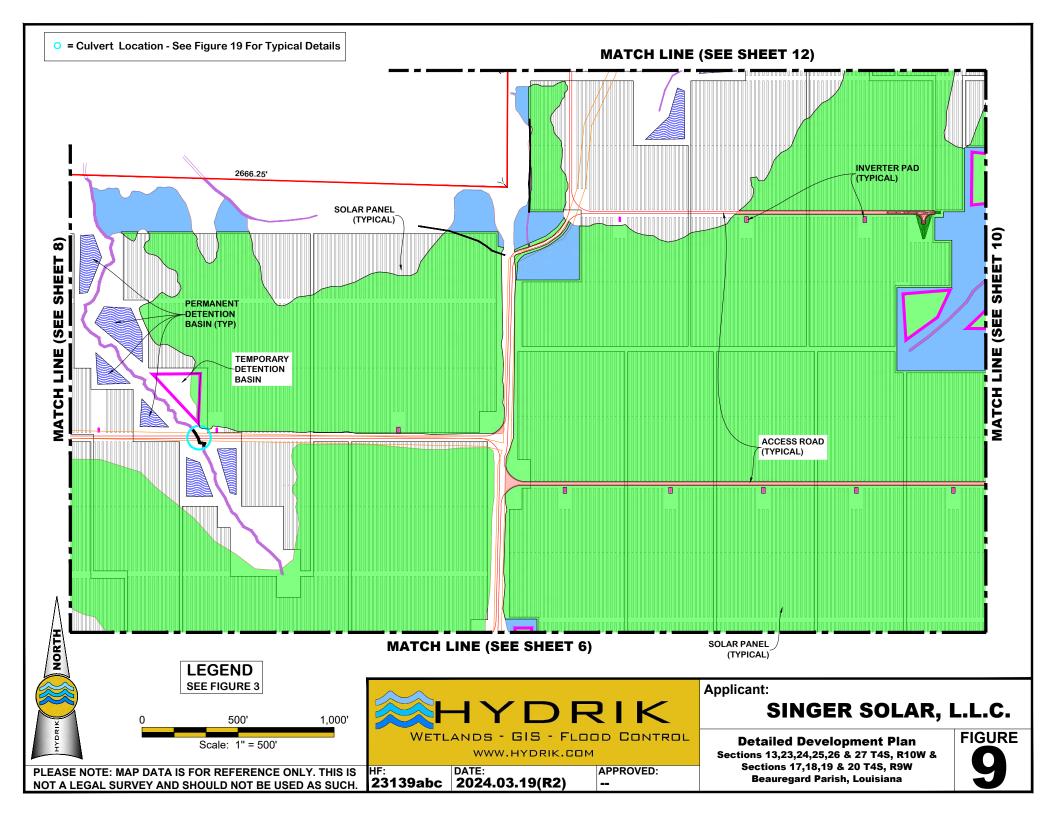
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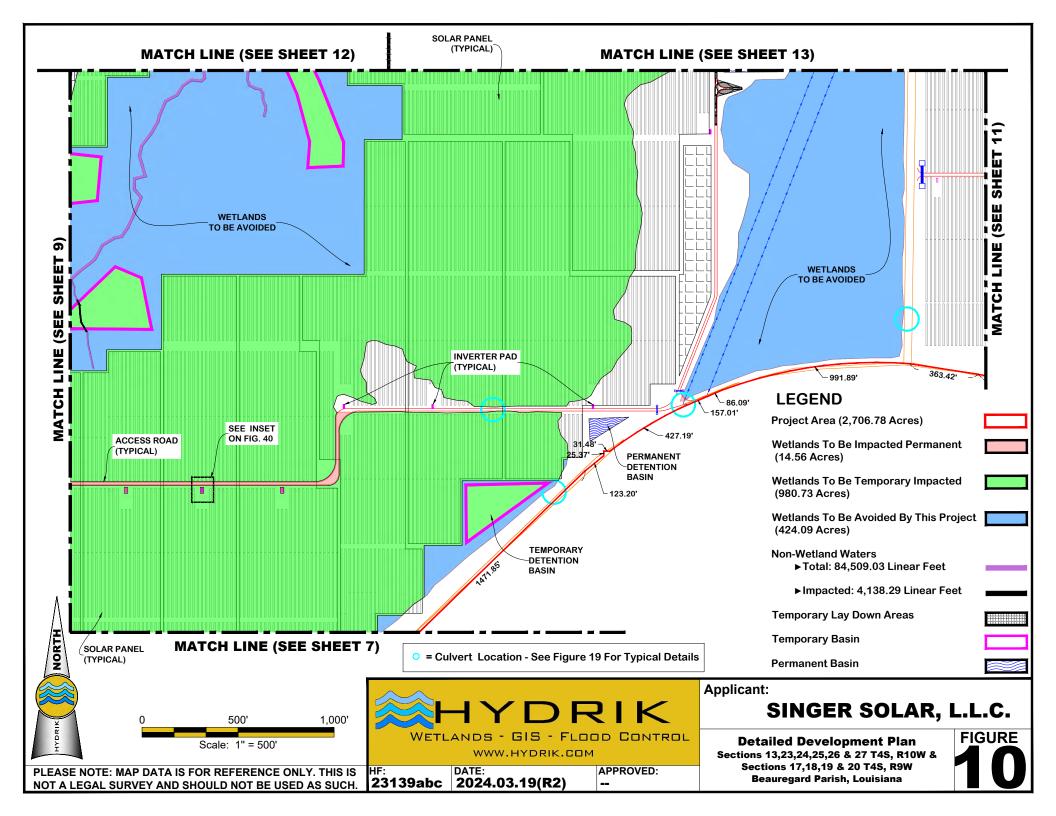
SHEET

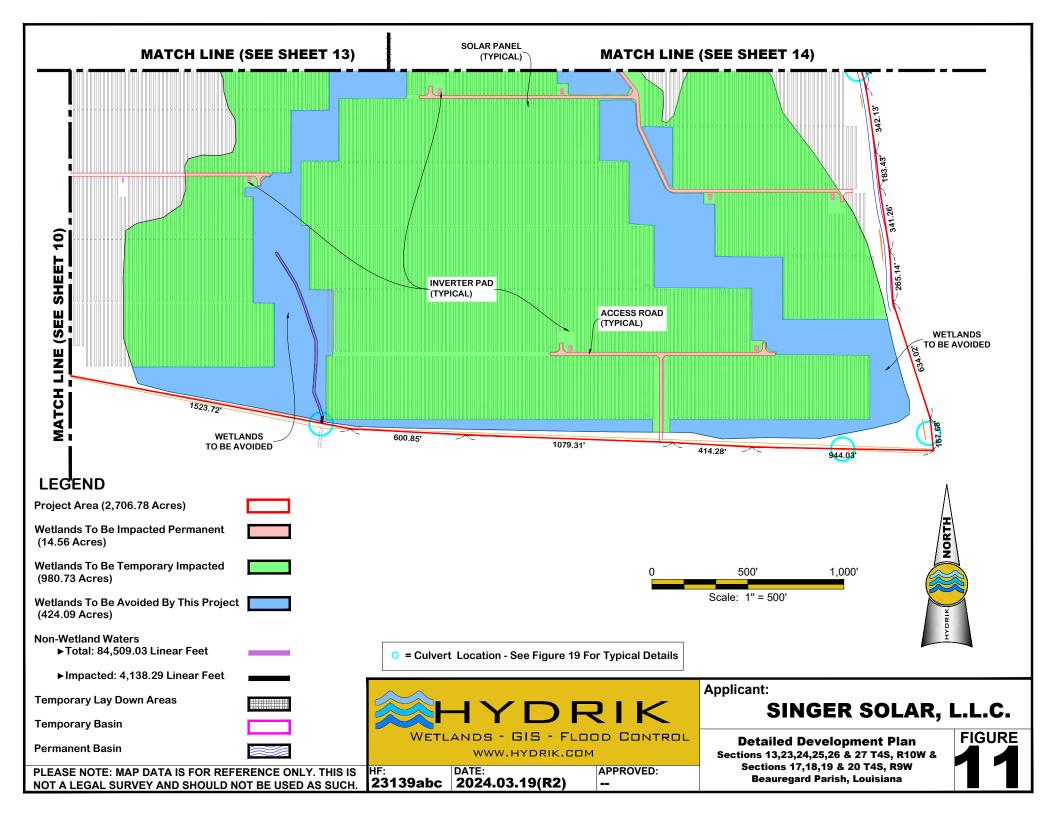
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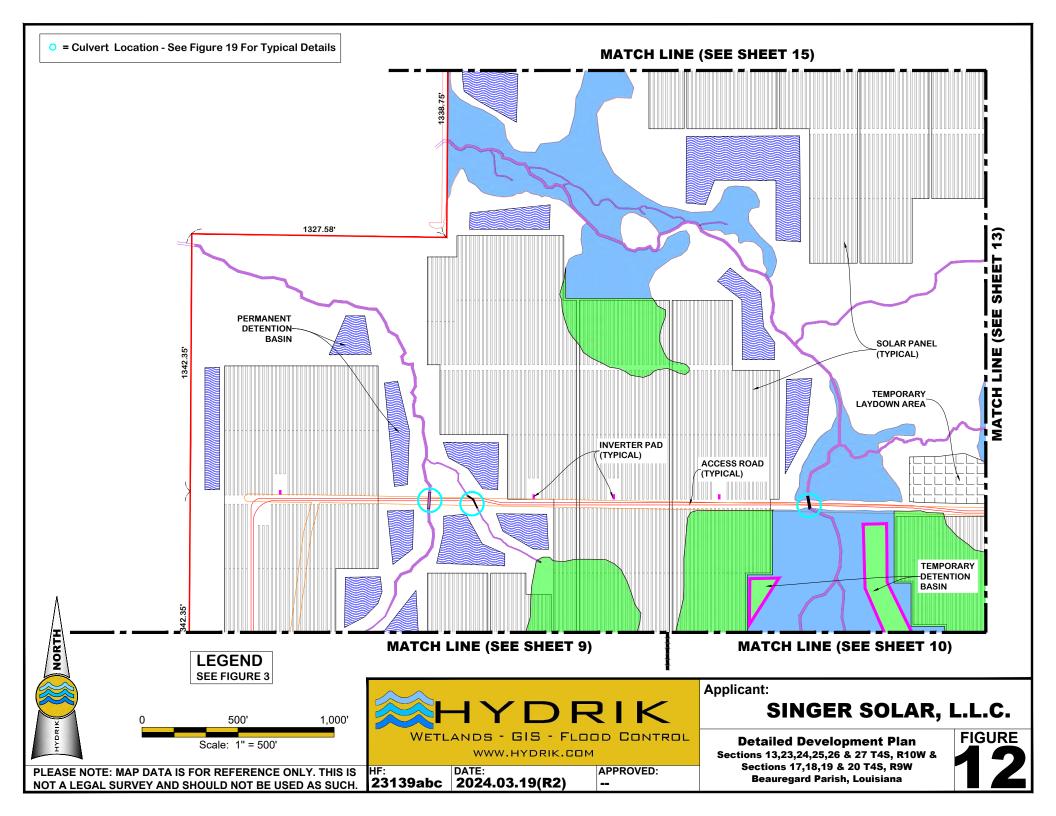
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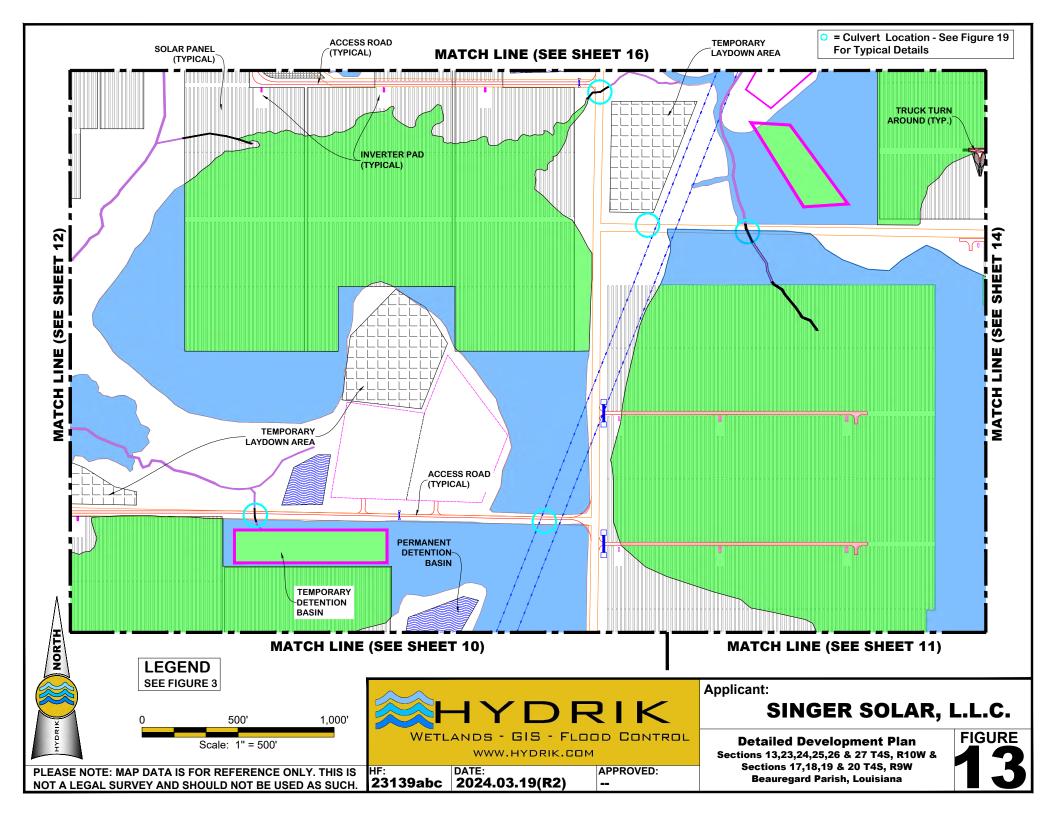
MATCH

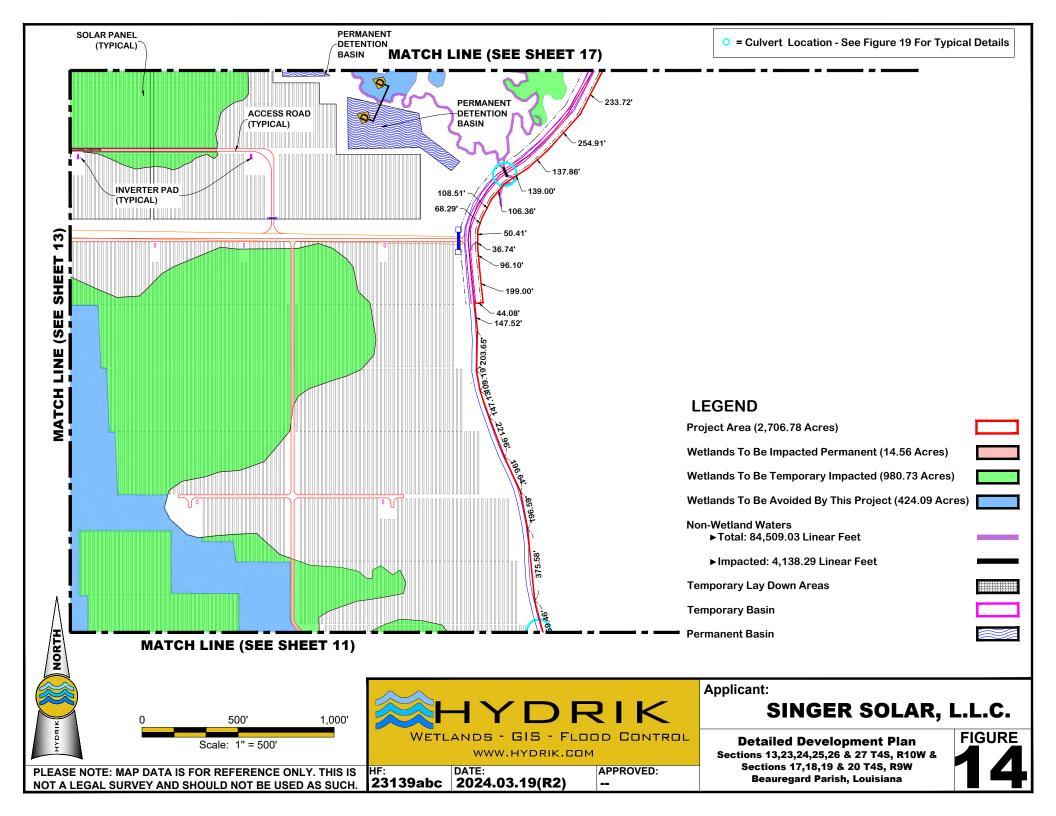












#### LEGEND • = Culvert Location - See Figure 19 For Typical Details Project Area (2,706.78 Acres) Wetlands To Be Impacted Permanent (14.56 Acres) Wetlands To Be Temporary Impacted (980.73 Acres) Wetlands To Be Avoided By This Project (424.09 Acres) **Non-Wetland Waters** ► Total: 84,509.03 Linear Feet ► Impacted: 4,138.29 Linear Feet **Temporary Lay Down Areas Temporary Basin** SOLAR PANEL Permanent Basin (TYPICAL) 1330.37 2660.92' PERMANENT DETENTION BASIN 16) MATCH LINE (SEE SHEET 325.74' TRUCK TURN AROUND (TYP.) ACCESS ROAD (TYPICAL) **INVERTER PAD** (TYPICAL) NORTH **MATCH LINE (SEE SHEET 12)** SOLAR PANEL (TYPICAL) **Applicant:** SINGER SOLAR, L.L.C. 500' 1,000' FIGURE WETLANDS - GIS - FLOOD CONTROL **Detailed Development Plan** Scale: 1" = 500' WWW.HYDRIK.COM Sections 13,23,24,25,26 & 27 T4S, R10W & Sections 17,18,19 & 20 T4S, R9W DATE: APPROVED: PLEASE NOTE: MAP DATA IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY. THIS IS HF: **Beauregard Parish, Louisiana** 23139abc 2024.03.19(R2) NOT A LEGAL SURVEY AND SHOULD NOT BE USED AS SUCH.

