
Public Notice

**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers**
Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to
Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 2006-1404

Date: August 14, 2007

Notice No. 07-34

Closing Date: September 13, 2007

1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).
2. APPLICANT: Reliant Energy Northeast Management Company
121 Champion Way, Suite 200
Canonsburg, PA 15317
(724) 597-8630
3. LOCATION: Keystone Power Generating Station, 313 Keystone Drive, Shelocta, Plum Creek Township, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania. The site is located off of State Route 210, adjacent to Plum Creek and Crooked Creek, a tributary to the Allegheny River.
4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The project proposes to install and maintain a Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) scrubber system at the Keystone Station. The FGD scrubber will remove sulfur dioxide from the flue gas produced from the combustion of coal by the stations two coal-fired boilers and facilitate the production of gypsum. Specific construction activities include the construction of two absorber towers and a new chimney, a water intake structure located in Plum Creek, a limestone stockpile area, a gypsum handling and storage facility, a wastewater treatment facility, and a new construction access road. A 1.8 mile rail line consisting of two parallel tracks will be constructed to deliver raw materials, primarily limestone, to the plant and transport synthetic gypsum, a co-product of the FGD scrubber process, out of the plant. The line is designed to support 130 rail cars which is the standard interstate overall train length.

The proposed project at the Keystone Station will result in adverse impact to 1.02 acres of wetlands regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 0.32 acres of isolated wetlands

not regulated by the CWA, and 747 feet of jurisdictional stream channel located in six unnamed tributaries to Crooked Creek. The site contains 17.22 acres of emergent, shrub/scrub, and forested wetlands located in 18 areas of which 12 areas containing 16.89 acres are considered jurisdiction under the CWA. The stream impacts are a result of culvert installation for roadways and the rail line. The scrubber facility will impact one isolated 0.11 acre PEM wetland; the waste water treatment plant will impact one isolated 0.02 acre PEM wetland; the 1.8 mile rail cradle will impact 0.98 acres of PFO wetlands located adjacent to Crooked Creek and 567 feet of channel in 4 tributaries; the access road will impact 70 feet of unnamed stream 2; the limestone storage area will impact 0.17 acres of isolated PEM wetlands, 0.06 acres of jurisdiction wetland located adjacent to unnamed stream 1B, and 110 feet of stream 1B. The new pump house water intake structure to be constructed along Plum Creek will consist of a 7-foot wide open concrete channel recessed approximately 15 feet from the stream bank connecting to a 50 foot long sub-surface 7 foot square concrete vault. The pump house will be elevated above the 100 year flood elevation. Approximately 5 million gallons of water per day (mad) will be withdrawn from Plum Creek for use by the FDG scrubber and the wastewater treatment facility. The water withdraw will not inhibit the applicants ability to maintain the required flow rate of 30 cubic feet per second (cuffs) (19 mad) required in Crooked Creek below the existing water intake or the required 3.09 cuffs in the North Branch of Plum Creek below the Keystone Reservoir.

The wastewater from the FGD scrubber system will be conveyed approximately 15 miles via a newly constructed wastewater pipeline to discharge in Pool 6 of the Allegheny River at approximately river mile 40. Discharge to the Allegheny River is required in order to meet the water quality based effluent limits in the treated wastewater. It is anticipated that the facility will treat and discharge an average of 360,000 gd. The proposed alignment of the pipeline is along an existing overhead electric transmission corridor owned by Allegheny Power. Additionally, an intermediate holding facility between the site treatment plant and the pipeline is currently under investigation, and if proposed, will be reviewed with the pipeline activity. Once the exact route is determined, wetlands and streams will be delineated to determine potential adverse aquatic impacts. If required, a compensatory mitigation plan will be developed. A revised Public Notice will be issued for that phase of the project.

The need for the FGD scrubber installation is to reduce the sulfur dioxide and mercury emissions from the facility. The FGD scrubber will remove 98 % or more of the sulfur dioxide thereby reducing emissions by approximately 170,000 tons annually, and 90 % of the mercury generated from burning coal.

Adverse aquatic resource impacts were reduced from 3.9 acres of wetland impacts and 1,647 feet of stream impacts by reducing the limestone storage area thereby avoiding a significant impact to unnamed tributary 1 and adjacent wetlands, and utilizing a tiered retaining wall system for the rail line as it crosses wetland 1 thereby reducing impacts to this forested wetland complex from 2.85 acres to 0.9 acres and reducing stream crossing impacts by 266 feet. Arched culverts with natural bottoms are proposed for the two crossings of unnamed tributary 1. Proposed compensatory wetland replacement will be the construction of 3.48 acres of wetland within the floodplain of Crooked Creek adjacent to the non-impacted wetland 1. It will consist of 2.98 acres of PSS with PFO clusters and 0.5 acres of riparian PSS adjacent to 1,385 feet of replacement stream channel. Seven upland islands totaling 0.40 acres containing mature trees will be incorporated into the complex and utilized to establish required grades. A 15 foot wide upland floodplain forest habitat buffer will be maintained between the existing wetland 1 and the replacement wetland to be used as a wildlife corridor, and the established riparian corridor of Crooked Creek will be maintained. The proposed plan will result in impacts to 365 of an abandoned man-made agricultural drainage ditch.

Drawings of the proposed project are attached to this notice.

5. PENNSYLVANIA WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: The applicant is required to obtain an encroachment permit which includes State 401 Water quality Certification from the:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Southwest Regional Office, Soils and Waterways Section
400 Waterfront Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745

Telephone: 412 442-4000

6. IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project activity at the Keystone Station is not likely to affect the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This Public Notice serves as a request to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

In correspondence dated July 19, 2007, to GAI Consultants, Inc., the USFWS indicated that the proposed outfall in Pool 6, Allegheny River was located within the known range of seven listed, endangered or threatened freshwater mussel species. Therefore, all areas of the Allegheny River that will be directly or indirectly affected by the pipeline construction or effluent should be surveyed for mussels. Upon completion of the requested survey, the Corps will continue informal consultation with the USFWS, and either determine "no affect", "not likely to adversely affect", or "likely to adversely affect". A "no affect" or "not likely to adversely affect" determination will require written concurrence from the USFWS to conclude the informal consultation. If adverse affects are identified, formal consultation will be initiated with the USFWS.

7. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Nation Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).

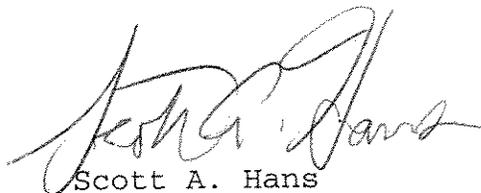
8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

9. EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact 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 proposals 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, flood plain 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 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 Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, 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 the 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 overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

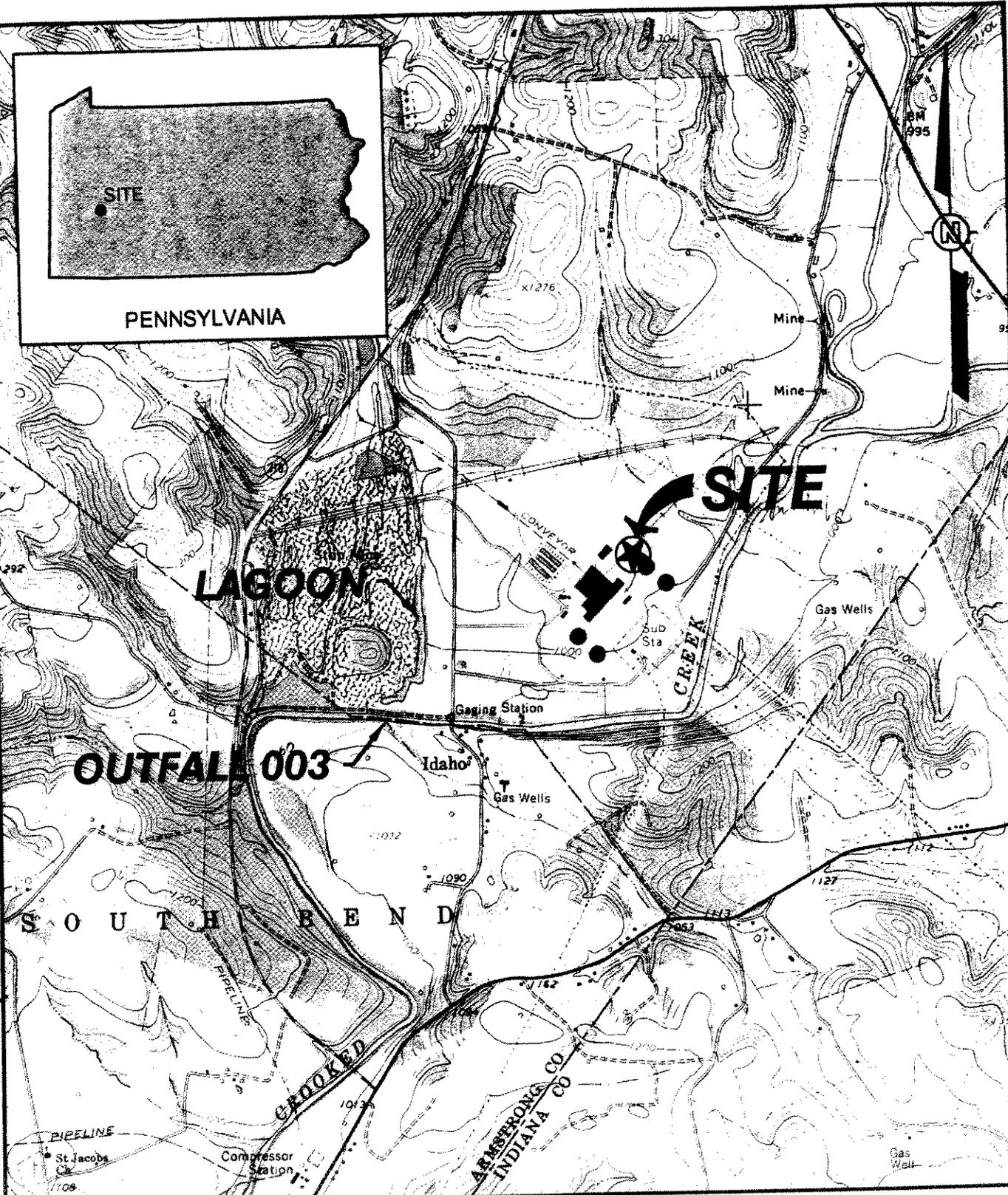
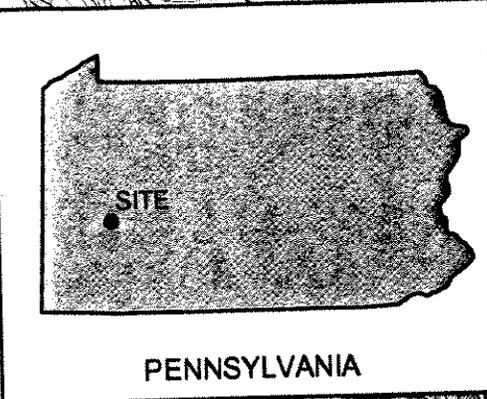
10. RESPONSES: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Marcia H. Haberman, at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7361, or by e-mail at Marcia.H.Haberman@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2007-679 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:



Scott A. Hans
Acting Chief, Regulatory Branch

DRAWING NUMBER 1188230010-A4
 APPROVED BY
 CHECKED BY
 DRAWN BY
 DESIGNED BY
 DATE
 OFFICE Pittsburgh, PA



Project: 1188230010A4.dwg
 Date/Time: Jan 22, 2007 - 3:40pm
 Plotted By: greg.jones

SCALE

0 2000 4000 FEET

REFERENCE:
 USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP, 7.5 MINUTE SERIES
 ELDERTON, PENNSYLVANIA QUADRANGLE, DATED 1964,
 PHOTOREVISED 1973, SCALE: 1"=2000'

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 6/13

Shaw Shaw Environmental, Inc.

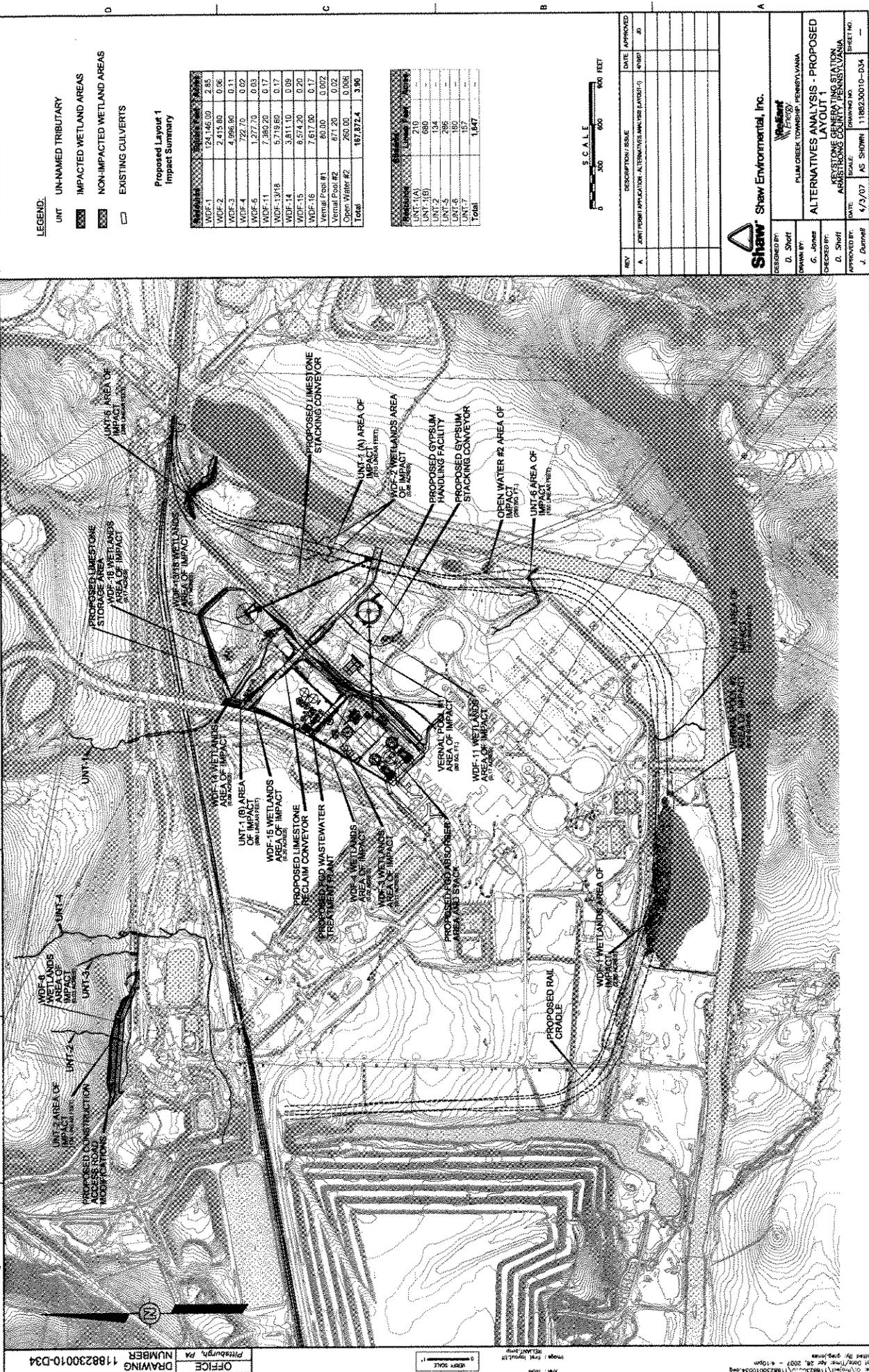
Reliant
 Energy

PLUM CREEK TOWNSHIP, PENNSYLVANIA

FIGURE 1

SITE LOCATION MAP

KEYSTONE GENERATING STATION
 ARMSTRONG COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



LEGEND:

- UNIT UN-NAMED TRIBUTARY
- IMPACTED WETLAND AREAS
- NON-IMPACTED WETLAND AREAS
- EXISTING CULVERTS

Proposed Layout 1
Impact Summary

UNIT	AREA (SQ. FEET)	PERCENT
WDF-1	124,146.00	2.83
WDF-2	2,415.80	0.56
WDF-3	4,896.90	0.11
WDF-4	722.70	0.02
WDF-5	1,377.70	0.03
WDF-6	7,860.20	0.17
WDF-13A18	5,719.00	0.13
WDF-14	3,811.10	0.09
WDF-15	6,274.20	0.14
WDF-16	7,617.90	0.17
Vernal Pool #1	80.00	0.002
Vernal Pool #2	871.20	0.02
Open Water #1	260.00	0.006
Open Water #2	260.00	0.006
Total	487,872.4	3.96

UNIT	AREA (SQ. FEET)
UNIT 1(A)	210
UNIT 1(B)	680
UNIT 2	134
UNIT 3	286
UNIT 4	150
UNIT 5	150
Total	1,647



REV	DESCRIPTION / ISSUE	DATE APPROVED
A	APPROVAL APPLICATION ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS LAYOUT 1	4/10/07

Shaw Environmental, Inc.

DESIGNED BY: D. Short
 DRAWN BY: C. Jones
 CHECKED BY: D. Short

DATE: 4/10/07
 AS SHOWN: 1188230010-D34
 SHEET NO: 2

PROJECT: ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS - PROPOSED LAYOUT 1
 CLIENT: ALLEGHENY GENERATING STATION

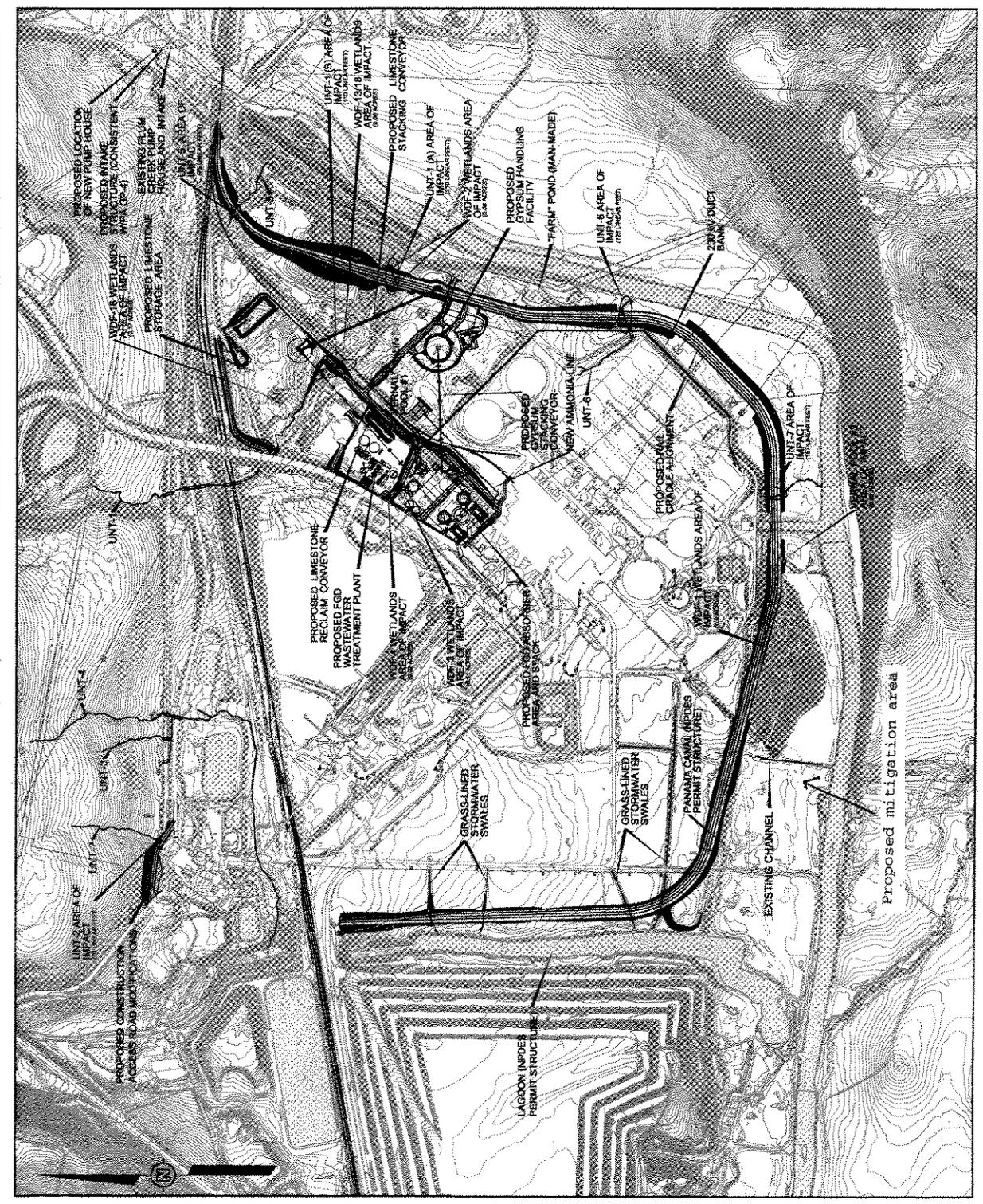
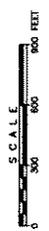
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- LEGEND:**
- UNT UN-NAMED TRIBUTARY
 - NON-IMPACTED WETLAND AREAS
 - IMPACTED WETLAND AREAS
 - REGULATORY FLOODWAY (50 FEET FROM TOP OF STREAM BANK)
 - EXISTING CULVERT

Proposed Layout 2
Impact Summary

Wetland Code	Area (sq. ft.)	Acres
WDF-1	39,254.00	0.90
WDF-2	2,415.80	0.06
WDF-3	4,996.90	0.11
WDF-4	722.70	0.02
WDF-13/18	2,613.60	0.06
WDF-16	7,617.00	0.17
Vertical Pool #2	871.20	0.02
Total	58,441.20	1.34

Unit	Area (sq. ft.)	Acres
UNIT-1(A)	210	0.00
UNIT-1(B)	110	0.00
UNIT-2	70	0.00
UNIT-5	75	0.00
UNIT-6	125	0.00
UNIT-7	350	0.00
Existing Channel	350	0.00
Total	1,112	0.03



REV	DESCRIPTION / ISSUE	DATE APPROVED
A	MARCH 23, 2007 PRE-APPLICATION MEETING	3/29/07 JAK

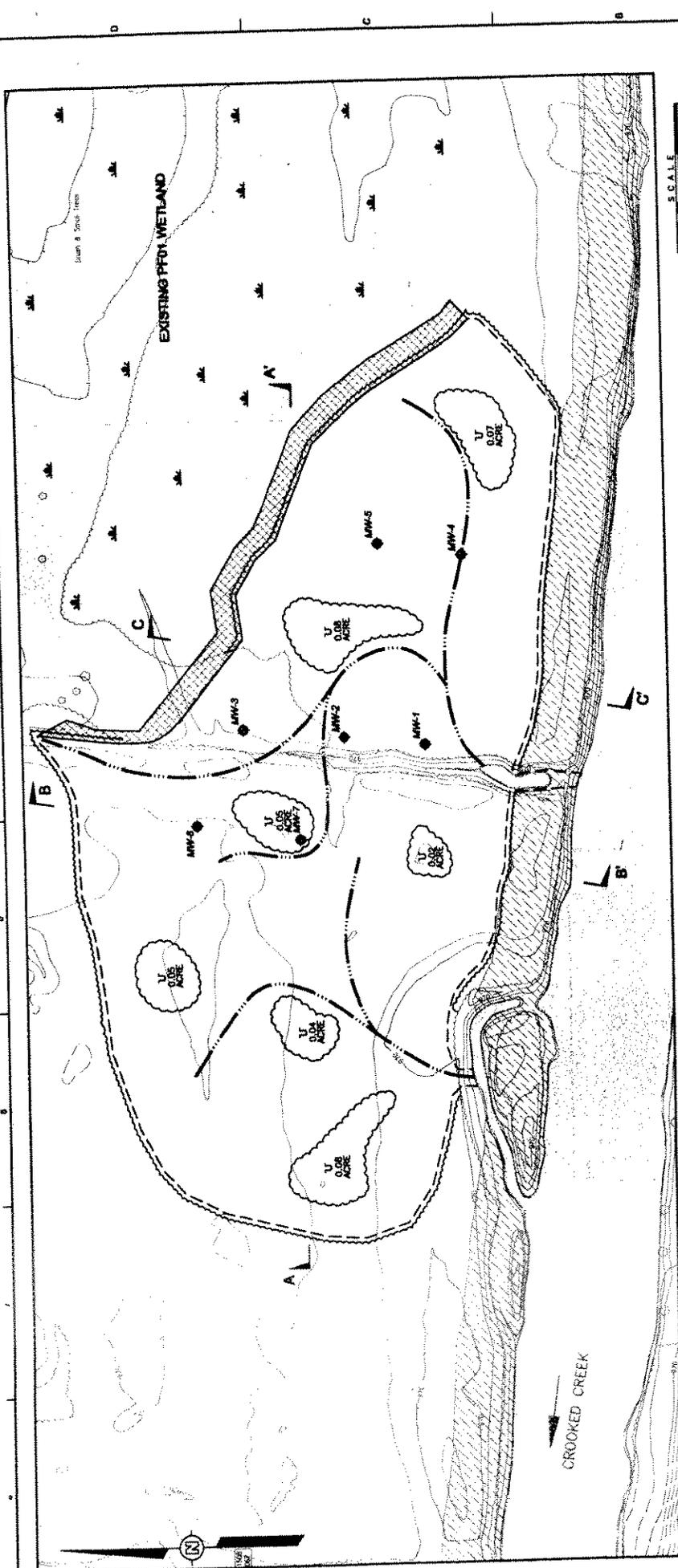
Shaw Shew Environmental, Inc.
PREFERRED DESIGN

DESIGNED BY: J. Kibburg
DRAWN BY: C. Jones

ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS - PROPOSED LAYOUT 2
KEVATONE GENERATING STATION
ARMSTRONG COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

DATE: 3/15/07 AS SHOWN 1188230010-D38
SCALE: SHEET NO. 1

P.N. 07-34
8/13



REV	DESCRIPTION/DATE	DATE APPROVED
A	APR. 10, 2007 DESIGN PRELIMINARY	UTM

Shaw Environmental, Inc. 1000 N. 10th Street P.O. Box 1000 Harrisburg, PA 17103-1000	
DESIGNED BY:	J. February
DRAWN BY:	C. J. Jones
CHECKED BY:	D. Short
APPROVED BY:	J. Darnell
DATE:	4/11/07
SCALE:	AS SHOWN
PROJECT NO.:	1186230010-D35
SHEET NO.:	2

- 970 --- EXISTING CONTOUR
- A-A' --- CROSS SECTION LOCATION
- LEGEND:**
- WETLAND MITIGATION AREA ENVELOPE (3.88 ACRES MINUS UPLAND ISLANDS)
 - U UPLAND (EXISTING CANOPY & SHRUB LAYER) ISLANDS (8.4 ACRES)
 - PROPOSED STREAM LOCATIONS (1,286 LINEAR FEET)
 - 15 FOOT EXISTING FORESTED UPLAND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR
 - EXISTING PALUSTRINE, FORESTED BROAD-LEAVED DECIDUOUS (PFD1) WETLAND
 - REGULATORY FLOODWAY (50 FEET FROM TOP OF STREAM BANK)
 - PROPOSED TREE LINE
 - EXISTING PIEZOMETER TO DEFINE WETLAND HYDROLOGY

OFFICE NUMBER 1186230010-D35
 DRAWING NUMBER
 Pittsburgh, PA

Printed by program
 Plot Date/Time: Apr 28, 2007 - 3:22pm
 File: C:\Program Files\ESRI\MapInfo\MapInfo\1186230010\1000.dwg

P.N. 07-34
 9/LB



Group A
Proposed Riparian Wetland Area Trees and Shrubs

Group B
Proposed Riparian Wetland Area Trees and Shrubs

Group C
Proposed Transition Zone Trees and Shrubs

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

These species will be installed in clusters of trees in the wetlands.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

These species will be installed in clusters of trees in the wetlands.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

These species will be installed in clusters of trees in the wetlands.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

LEGEND:

- EXISTING PAULSTINE, FORESTED BROAD-LEAVED DECIDUOUS (PPO1) WETLAND
- REGULATORY FLOODWAY (50 FEET FROM TOP OF STREAM BANK)
- WETLAND MITIGATION AREA ENVELOPE (3.98 ACRES MINUS UPLAND ISLANDS)
- PROPOSED NEW STREAMS (0.1 ACRE)
- PLANTING ZONE A (0.5 ACRES)
- PLANTING ZONE B (2.86 ACRES)
- PLANTING ZONE C (0.16 ACRES)
- EXISTING CANOPY AND SHRUB LAYER UPLAND ISLAND (0.26 ACRES)
- 16 FOOT EXISTING FORESTED UPLAND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

Group A
Proposed Riparian Wetland Area Based List:

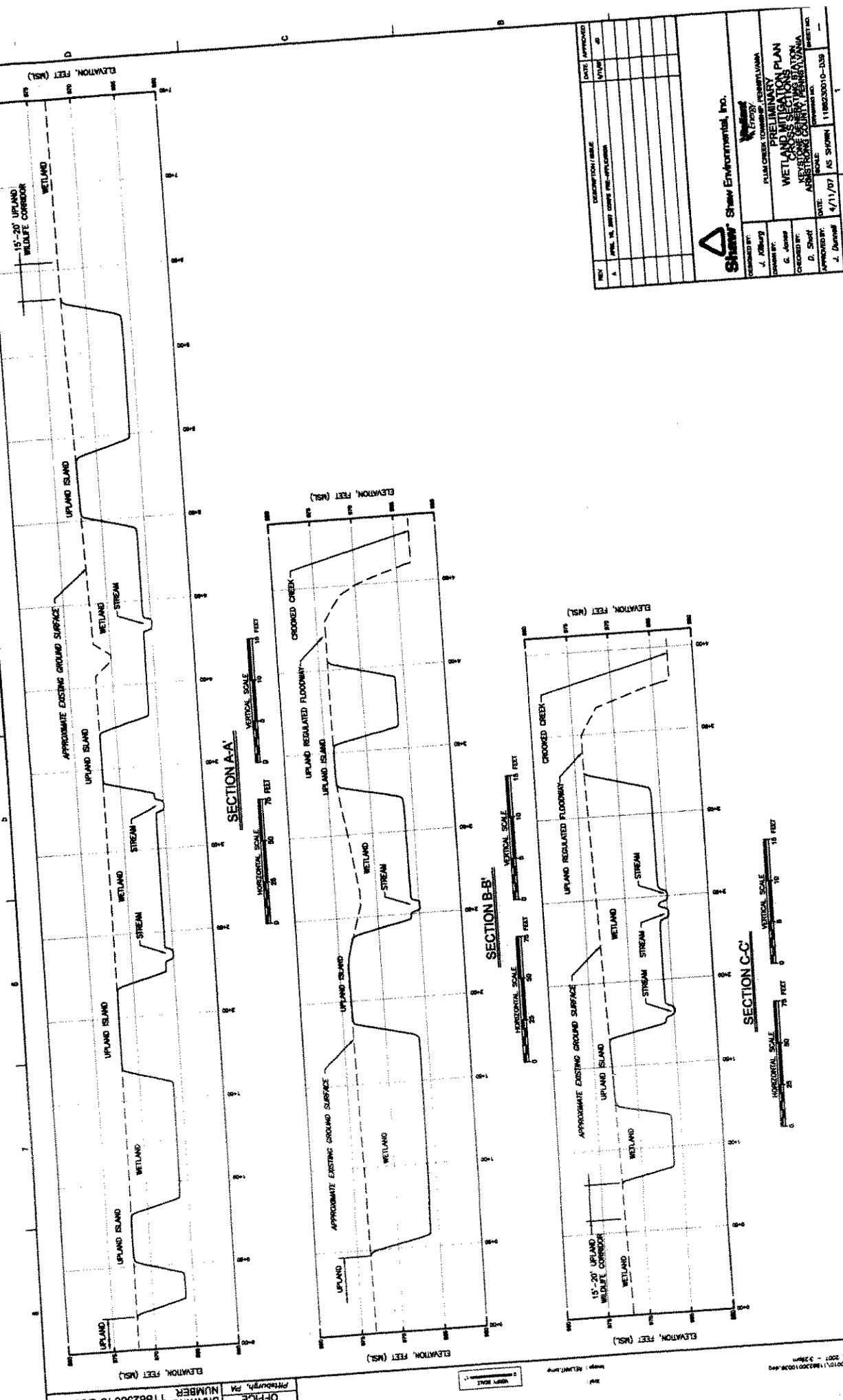
Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

Group B
Proposed Riparian Wetland Area Based List:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...

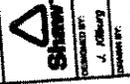
Group C
Proposed Transition Zone Based List:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Size
...



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION / ISSUE	APPROVED
A	APRIL 16, 2007	ISSUE FOR PERMITTING	J. J. [Signature]

DESIGNED BY:	J. J. [Signature]
DRAWN BY:	G. [Signature]
CHECKED BY:	D. [Signature]
APPROVED BY:	J. [Signature]
DATE:	4/11/07
SCALE:	AS SHOWN
SHEET NO.:	118230010-13B



OFFICE NUMBER 118230010-039
 Pittsburgh, PA

P.N. 07-34
 11/B

