



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: April 6, 2010
Comment Period Ends: May 6, 2010
File Number: NAE-2009-2334
In Reply Refer To: Susan K. Lee
Phone: (978) 318-8494
E-mail: susan.k.lee@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to **conduct work in waters of the United States** as described below.

APPLICANT

Northeast Utilities Service Company, P.O. Box 270, Hartford, CT 06141-0270

ACTIVITY

Excavate/backfill and side cast excavation materials in 2288 SF of water areas below ordinary high water (OHW) of the Naugatuck River for the construction of approximately 198 LF new 16" concrete-encased gas pipeline beneath the Naugatuck River in Waterbury, Connecticut. The proposed gas pipeline crossing will cross the Naugatuck River just to the north of the South Leonard Street Bridge. Pipeline construction will be by open cut across the river with bedding and backfill for pipeline installation. Temporary fill for construction access ramps will be required from each bank of the river. The riverbed will be restored to preconstruction elevation and contours. The proposed river crossing is a component of the Yankee Gas Waterbury - Wallingford Project to provide a new gas main for the distribution of additional gas supplies to the greater Waterbury service area. The proposed pipeline will originate from the Yankee Gas facility at 47 Eagle Street, exit from the south end of the plant site, cross the Naugatuck as above, and traverse along mostly state highways, primarily Route 68 (within the public right-of-way), through Waterbury, Naugatuck, Prospect, Cheshire, and end in Wallingford at the intersection of Route 68 and Route 150 in Wallingford.

A detailed description and plans of the activity are attached.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK

The work is proposed in the Naugatuck River just north of the South Leonard Street Bridge in Waterbury, Connecticut. The proposed location (Naugatuck River crossing) on the USGS WATERBURY, CONN. Quadrangle sheet is Lat 41°-31'-51.6" N, Lon 73°-2'-24" W.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
 Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
 Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact 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 may reasonably 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, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production 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 need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

SECTION 106 COORDINATION

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur at the project site. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate Federal Agency concur with our determination.

The States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved **Coastal Zone Management Programs**. Where applicable the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's

consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, License or Assent from State.
- Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Susan Lee at (978) 318-8494, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367 (if calling from within Massachusetts).

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

In accordance with 33 CFR 325.2(a)(8), we publish monthly a list of permits issued or denied during the previous month at www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg, under the heading "Monthly General and Individual Permit Authorizations." Relevant environmental documents and the SOFs or RODs are available upon written request and, where applicable, upon the payment of administrative fees. Also visit www.nae.usace.army.mil for more information on the New England District Corps of Engineers programs.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.



Robert J. DeSista
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE

The proposed work involves the discharge of dredged and fill material for the construction of a gas pipeline crossing under the Naugatuck River in Waterbury, CT. The proposed pipeline crossing is associated with the Waterbury-Wallingford Project, which involves the expansion of the Yankee Gas Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant vaporization process at its Waterbury plant and construction of 16 miles of new 16" diameter pipeline between Waterbury and Wallingford, including the new under river crossing of the Naugatuck River in Waterbury.

The pipeline construction will originate from the south end of the Eagle Street facility in Waterbury facility, will cross the Naugatuck River just to the north of the South Leonard Street Bridge, and travel overland following mostly state highways, primarily Route 68 (within the public right-of-way) through Waterbury (6,750 feet), Naugatuck (12,700 feet), Prospect (24,500 feet), Cheshire (27,900 feet), and end in Wallingford (10,400 feet). The project terminus will be near the intersection of Route 68 and Route 150 in Wallingford.

Yankee Gas proposes to install the 16" gas main beneath the Naugatuck River by open-cutting of the riverbed, followed by bedding/backfill and installation of the pipeline within the trench. The river crossing is proposed under dry conditions; river flow will be forced (under low-flow conditions) from one bank to the other using a Porta-Dam system. Access to the riverbed for pipeline installation will be from temporary fill ramps from each riverbank within the Porta-Dam containment. Each access ramp will extend approximately 43 LF beyond OHW line from each bank. Minor additional dewatering of the work area will likely be necessary. Water will be pumped through a water treatment system (Frac-Tank) before discharge back to the river. Once the pipeline has been installed, all temporary fill materials will be removed and all disturbed areas will be restored (see MITIGATION below). The Naugatuck River has a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established floodway and 100-year floodplain, which will be temporarily impacted by this project. The anticipated beginning of construction is summer 2010. The duration of the pipeline installation across the Naugatuck River is expected to be 5-6 weeks.

The project includes associated work at the Yankee Gas facility in Waterbury. The existing Yankee Gas facility has three vaporizers rated at approximately 30,000 thousand cubic feet/day (Mcf/day). A fourth vaporizer with a capacity of 45,000 Mcf/day will be added to increase the design output of the plant from 60,000 Mcf/day to 105,000 Mcf/day. The installation of the fourth vaporization unit will be immediately adjacent to the three existing vaporizers. A fourth water glycol heater will also be added to the heater building, which currently houses three water glycol heaters (one for each existing vaporizer). Additionally, Yankee Gas proposes to install a third, in-tank liquid pump in the spare pump tube that currently exists in the LNG tank. This pump can be added without taking the tank out of service. The third pump, like the two existing pumps, will pump LNG out of the tank to the vaporizers, where it will be converted to natural gas vapor.

There will be two interconnections with the existing gas distribution system, one in Cheshire (in the vicinity of Cheshire Academy) and the other in Wallingford at the termination point at the intersection of Route 68 and Route 150 in Wallingford. Pressure regulating stations will be constructed at these two locations for the interconnections. The Cheshire regulator station will be installed as an in-ground regulator station design (in vaults), and the Wallingford regulator station will be installed within an aboveground structure.

The work is shown and described on the enclosed plans entitled "YANKEE GAS – WATERBURY TO WALLINGFORD LINE", on six (6) sheets, sheets 1-4 of 4 dated "12-09-2009", sheet 1 of 1 dated "04-01-2010".

The purpose of the project is as follows:

- Expands the existing LNG facility to increase peak output and connect two large load centers additionally resolving a system constraint in South Meriden/Cheshire area.
- Allows Yankee Gas to resolve low pressure issues in areas of potential growth and avoids approximately \$15 million of capital related distribution system upgrades
- Integrates 2 large load areas of Yankee Gas systems (16 miles of 16-inch pipe), enhancing both reliability and flexibility
- Enables Yankee Gas to address currently bottlenecked load.

The following table presents a summary of the regulated activities.

Water/Wetland Impacts

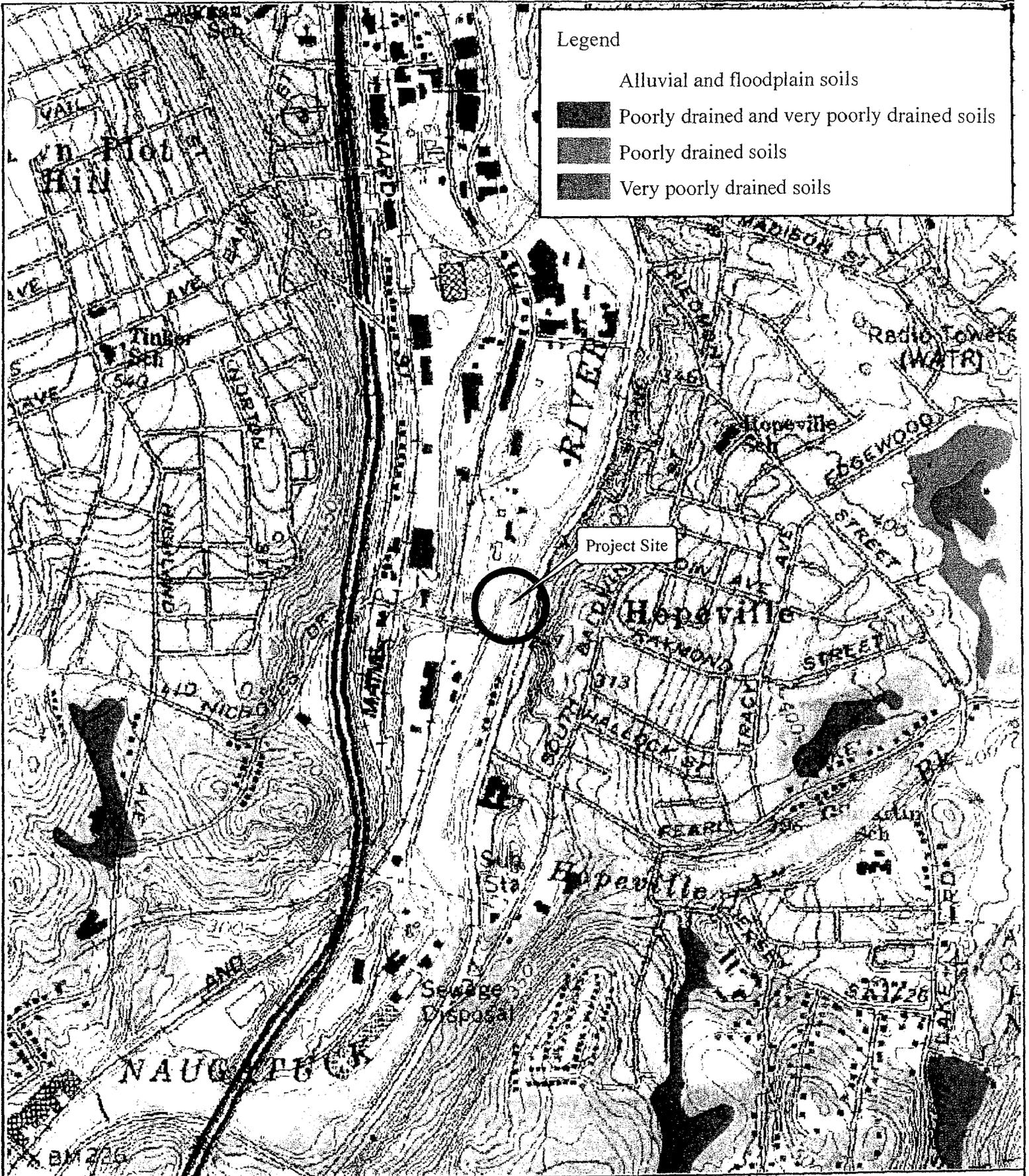
Phase 1 – West Bank		
Regulated Area	Area of Impact (sf)	Volume of Fill (cy)
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	998	124
FEMA Floodway	1,464	175
100-Year Floodplain	1,320	174
Phase 2 – East Bank		
Regulated Area	Area of Impact (sf)	Volume of Fill (cy)
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	1,290	168
FEMA Floodway	1,730	226
100-Year Floodplain	1,564	216

MITIGATION

The applicant has avoided and minimized wetland and watercourse impacts to the greatest extent feasible while still achieving the overall project goals, objectives, and design standards. Impacts will be avoided and minimized through the use of standard erosion controls and use of a Porta-Dam system to allow work in dry conditions during the river crossing construction. The river crossing will be scheduled during the low-flow summer season to minimize the potential for sedimentation in the river. The temporary access ramps will be removed after completion of the water crossing, and riverbanks restored and enhanced.

The applicant proposes a combination of onsite fishery habitat and riparian zone enhancements to compensate for unavoidable impacts to wetlands/waters associated with the excavation of the existing river substrate and bedding and backfill for installation of the new gas main beneath the Naugatuck River in Waterbury.

After pipeline installation within the trench, a natural stream bottom that matches existing riverbed conditions will be installed over the pipeline. It is anticipated that the contractor will reuse the substrate material that was excavated during the pipeline installation. In addition to restoring the natural stream bottom, Yankee Gas proposes to install a series of boulder clusters within the Naugatuck River for fishery habitat and to restore and enhance riverbank areas disturbed by pipeline construction with riprap stabilization and floodplain species plantings. This proposed mitigation is intended to provide improved stream fishery habitat, stabilized and vegetated riverbanks, and maintain existing flood flow and low flow conditions in the river.



Legend

-  Alluvial and floodplain soils
-  Poorly drained and very poorly drained soils
-  Poorly drained soils
-  Very poorly drained soils

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Yankee Gas Pipeline Installation Project

MMI#: 3710-04
MXD: H-wetsoil.mxd
SOURCE:
<http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/>

N

**NRCS Wetland Soil
and Location Map**

LOCATION:
Waterbury, CT

DATE:
November 2009

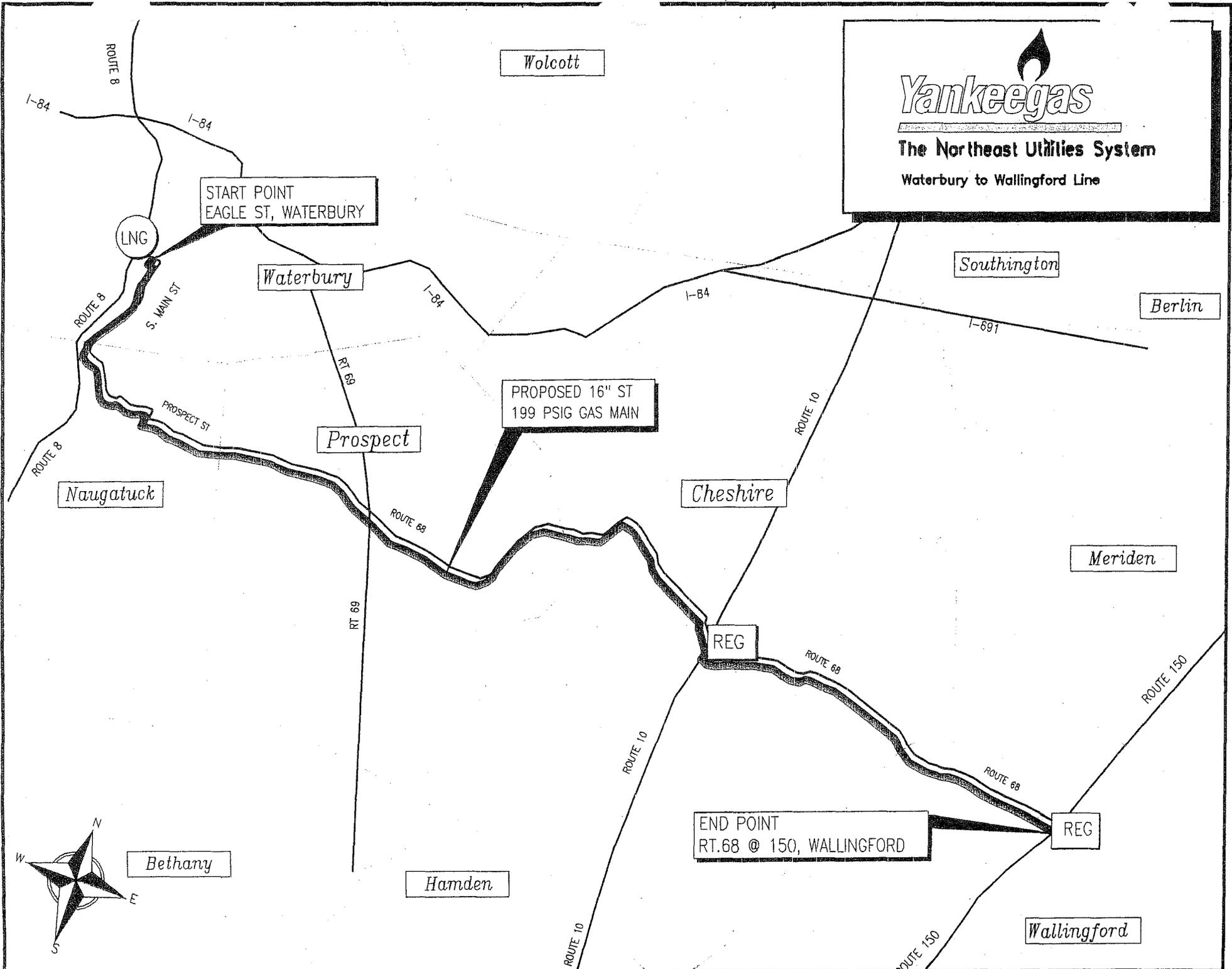
SCALE:
1" = 1,000'

SHEET:
Figure 1



The Northeast Utilities System

Waterbury to Wallingford Line



START POINT
EAGLE ST, WATERBURY

LNG

Waterbury

Prospect

Cheshire

REG

END POINT
RT.68 @ 150, WALLINGFORD

REG

Wolcott

Southington

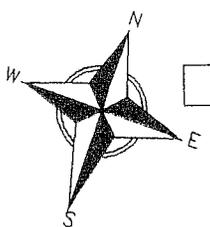
Berlin

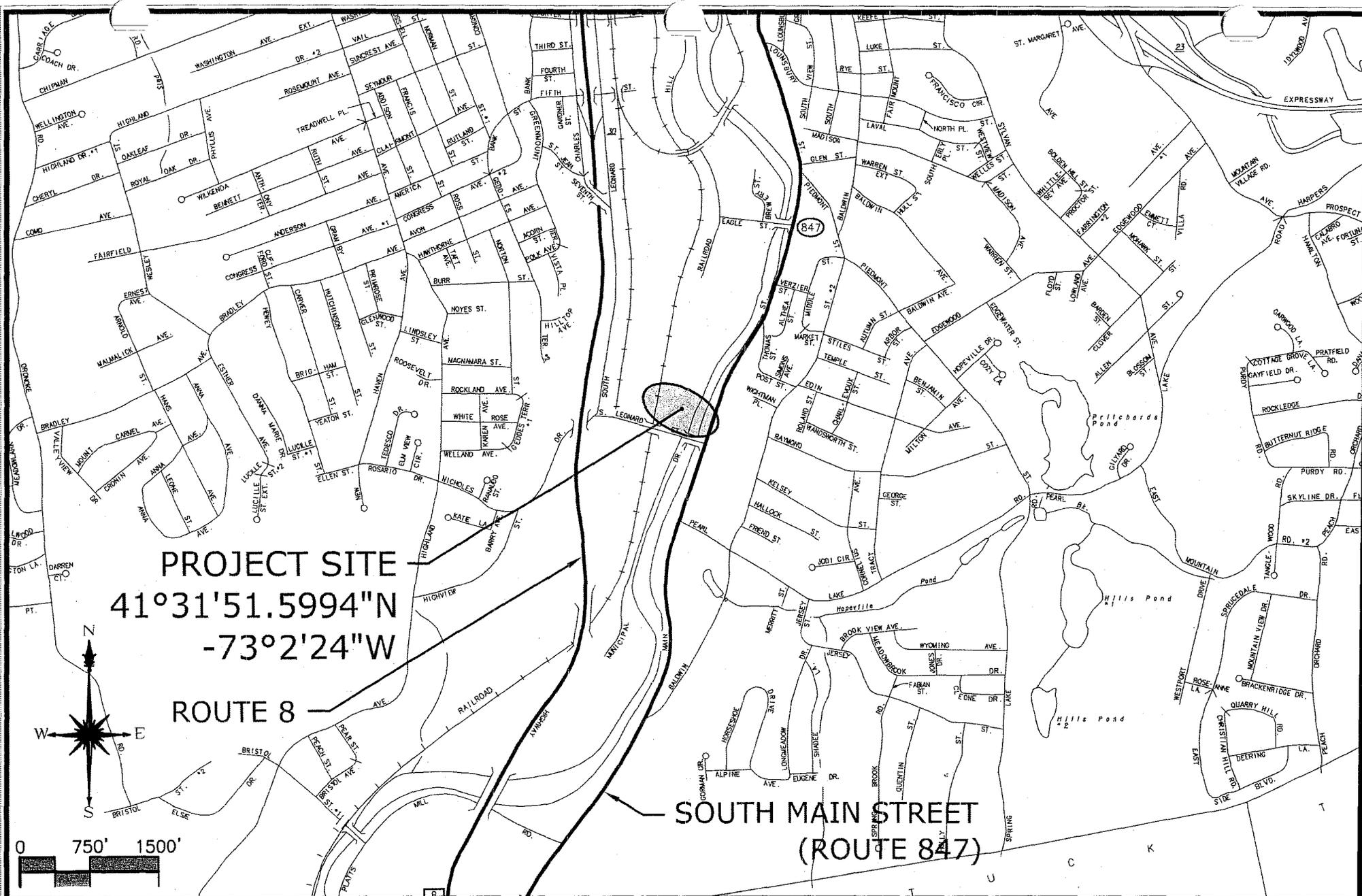
Meriden

Bethany

Hamden

Wallingford





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YANKEE GAS - WATERBURY TO WALLINGFORD LINE

ON: ---
 AT: ---

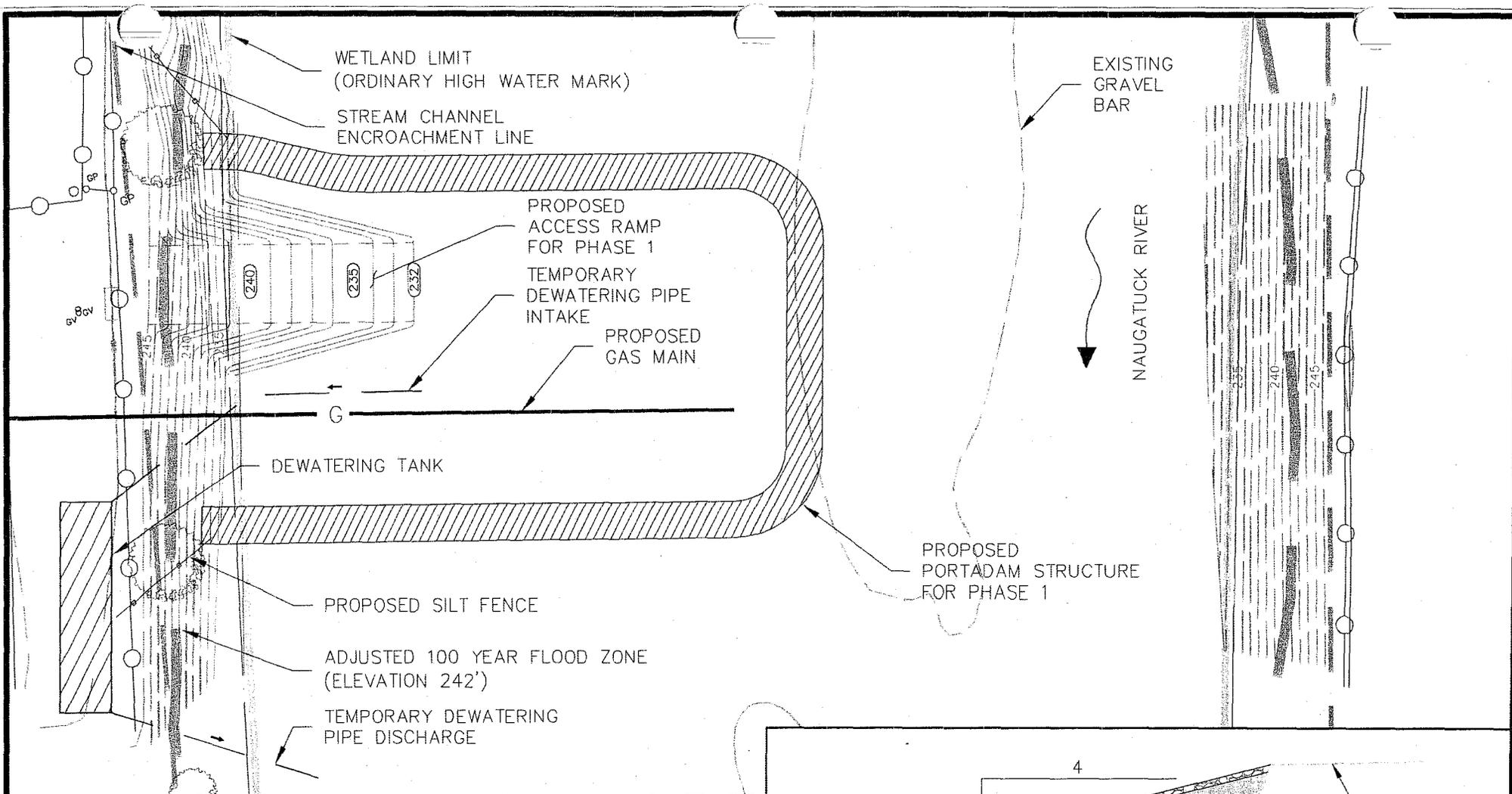
SITE VICINITY MAP

APPLICANT:

DATE: 12-09-2009

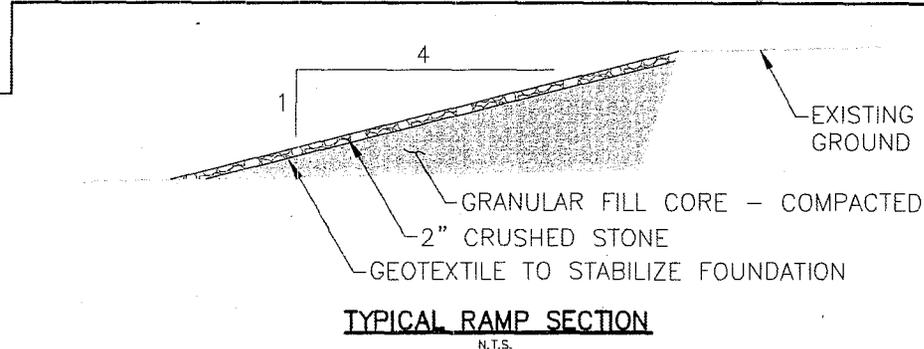
SHEET:

SCALE: 1"=1500'



PHASE 1 TEMPORARY REGULATED ACTIVITIES

	TEMPORARY FILL VOLUME	TEMPORARY AREA OF DISTURBANCE
WETLAND & WATERCOURSE	124 C.Y.	998 S.F.
100 YEAR FLOOD ZONE	174 C.Y.	1,320 S.F.
STREAM CHANNEL ENCROACHMENT LINE	175 C.Y.	1,464 S.F.



TYPICAL RAMP SECTION
N.T.S.



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YANKEE GAS - WATERBURY TO WALLINGFORD LINE

ON: ---
AT: ---

REGULATED ACTIVITIES - PHASE 1

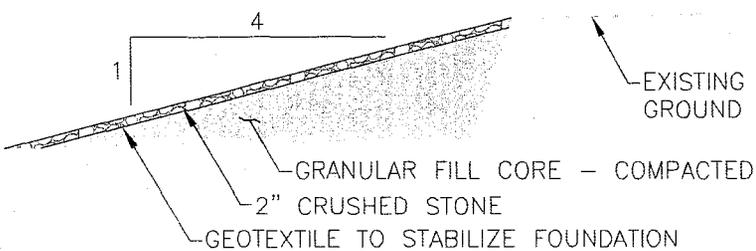
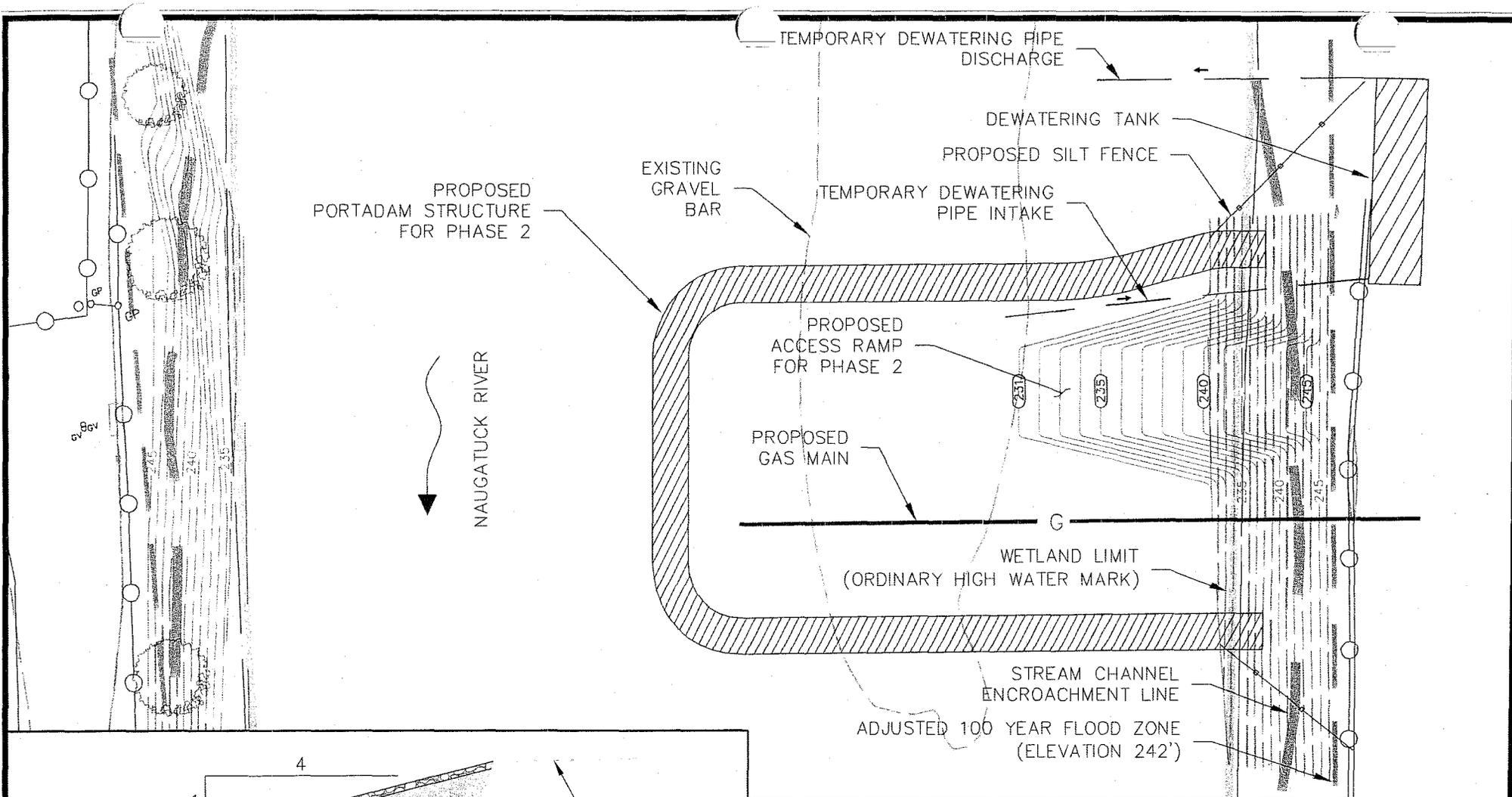
APPLICANT:

DATE: 12-09-2009

SCALE: 1"=30'

SHEET:

1 OF 4



TYPICAL RAMP SECTION
N.T.S.

PHASE 2 TEMPORARY REGULATED ACTIVITIES

	TEMPORARY FILL VOLUME	TEMPORARY AREA OF DISTURBANCE
WETLAND & WATERCOURSE	168 C.Y.	1,290 S.F.
100 YEAR FLOOD ZONE	216 C.Y.	1,564 S.F.
STREAM CHANNEL ENCROACHMENT LINE	226 C.Y.	1,730 S.F.

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YANKEE GAS - WATERBURY TO WALLINGFORD LINE

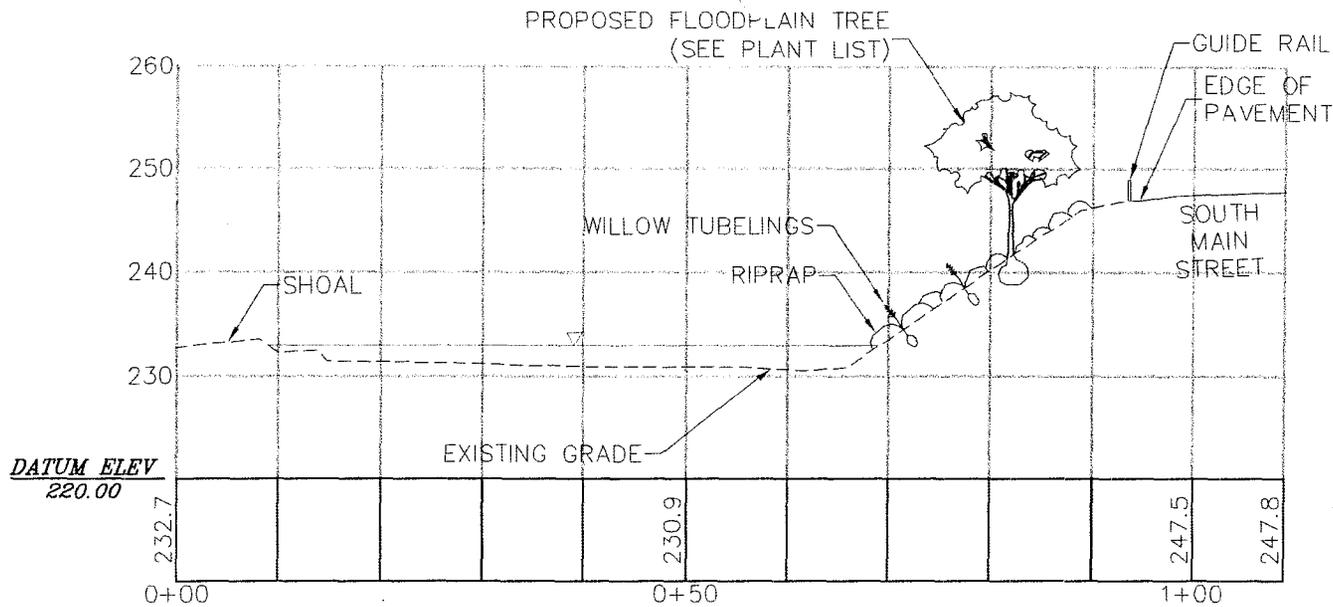
DN: ---
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REGULATED ACTIVITIES - PHASE 2

APPLICANT:

DATE: 12-09-2009
 SCALE: 1"=30'

SHEET:
2 OF 4



RIPARIAN ZONE RESTORATION PLANT LIST

<u>QTY</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SCIENTIFIC NAME</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
60	PUSSY WILLOW	SALIX DISCOLOR	TUBELING
60	STREAMCO WILLOW	SALIX PURPUREA	TUBELING
2	SYCAMORE	PLATANUS OCCIDENTALIS	6'-8'
2	SILVER MAPLE	ACER SACCHARINUM	6'-8'
2	COTTONWOOD	POPULUS DELTOIDES	6'-8'

PLANTING NOTES:

1. CONTRACTOR TO PACK HOLES BETWEEN RIPRAP VOIDS WITH SOIL THAT CAN SUPPORT WILLOW TUBELINGS.
2. CONTRACTOR TO EXCAVATE AREAS OF TREE PLANTING POCKETS WITHIN RIPRAP. PLACE TREE IN PLANTING HOLE AND BACKFILL HOLE WITH TOPSOIL.
3. ANY EXPOSED SOIL AREAS SHALL BE SEEDED WITH NEW ENGLAND WILDLIFE/CONSERVATION SEED MIX


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YANKEE GAS - WATERBURY TO WALLINGFORD LINE

DN: ---
 AT: ---

MITIGATION PLAN 1

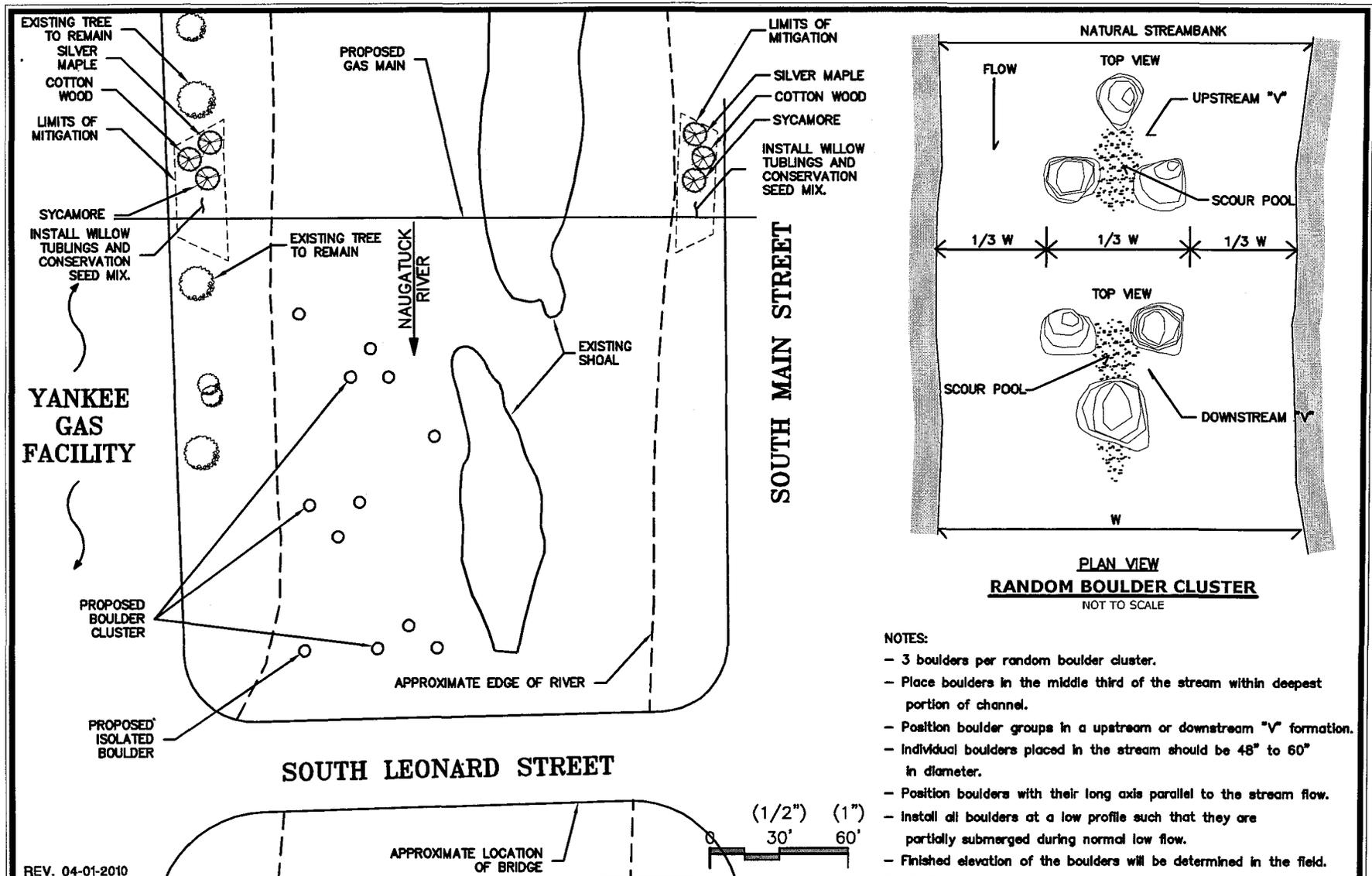
APPLICANT:

DATE: 12-09-2009

SCALE: 1"=20'

SHEET:

3 OF 4



REV. 04-01-2010

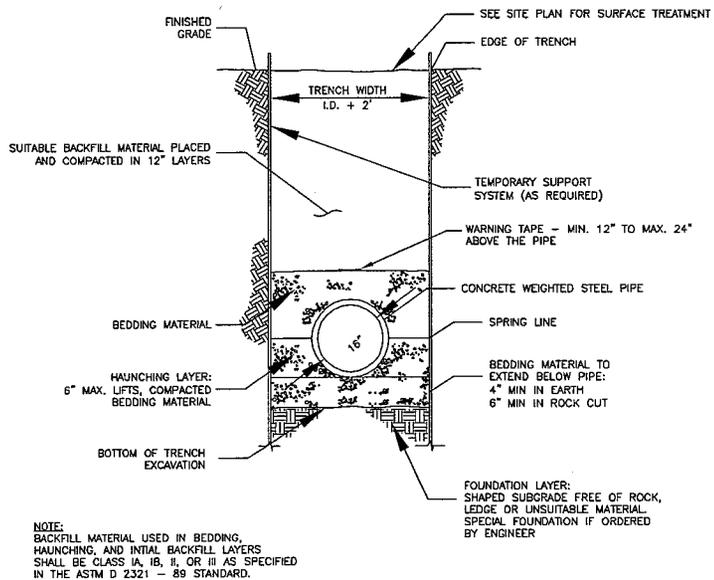
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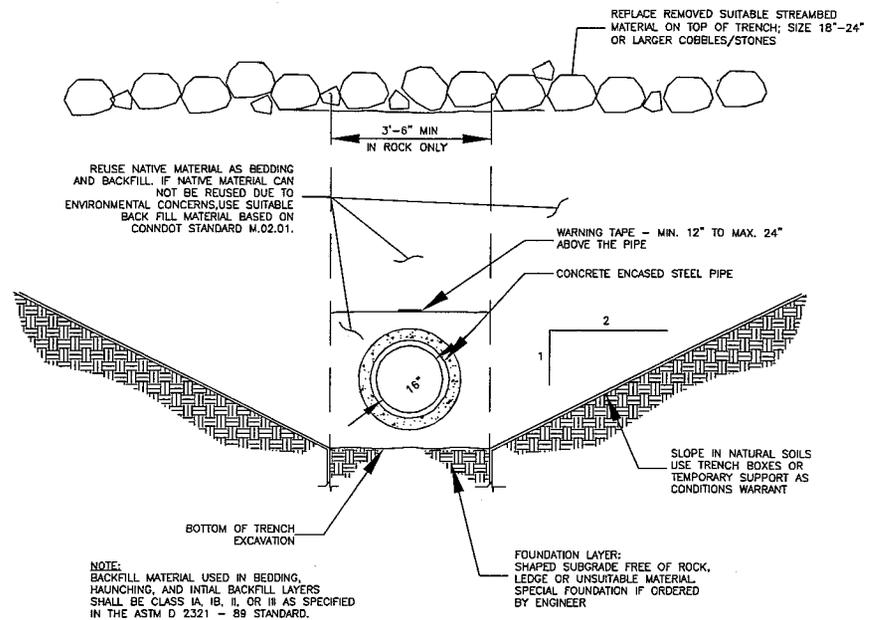
ON: ---
AT: ---

MITIGATION PLAN 2

APPLICANT: ---	
DATE: 12-09-2009	SHEET:
SCALE: 1"=60'	4 OF 4



PIPE TRENCH DETAIL
N.T.S.



STREAM BOTTOM PIPE TRENCH DETAIL
N.T.S.

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YANKEE GAS - WATERBURY TO WALLINGFORD LINE

ON: ---
 AT: ---

TRENCH DETAILS

APPLICANT:

DATE: **04-01-2010**

SHEET:

SCALE: **N.T.S.**

1 OF 1