

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Attachment E

SOIL MAP

TEXAS
BROWNSVILLE SHEET

SOIL PROFILE (3 feet deep)

Clayey
C

Laredo
silty clay loam
Si+I

Laredo
silt loam
Si+I

Laredo
clay
C

Laredo
silty clay
Si+I

Laredo
clay
Si+I

Point Isabel
clay
C

Bay Grande
silt loam
Si+I

Bay Grande
silt loam
Si+I

Bay Grande
silt loam
Si+I

Bay Grande
silt loam
Si+I

Bay Grande
silt loam
Si+I

LEGEND
C Clay
Si+I Heavy silty loam
Si+I Silty clay loam
Si+I Silt loam
Si+I Silty clay
Si+I Fine sandy loam

LEGEND

C
Clayey clay

Si+I
Laredo silty clay loam

Si+I
Laredo silt loam

Si+I
Laredo silty clay

Si+I
Laredo clay

Si+I
Laredo silty clay

Si+I
Laredo clay

Si+I
Point Isabel clay

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

Si+I
Bay Grande silt loam

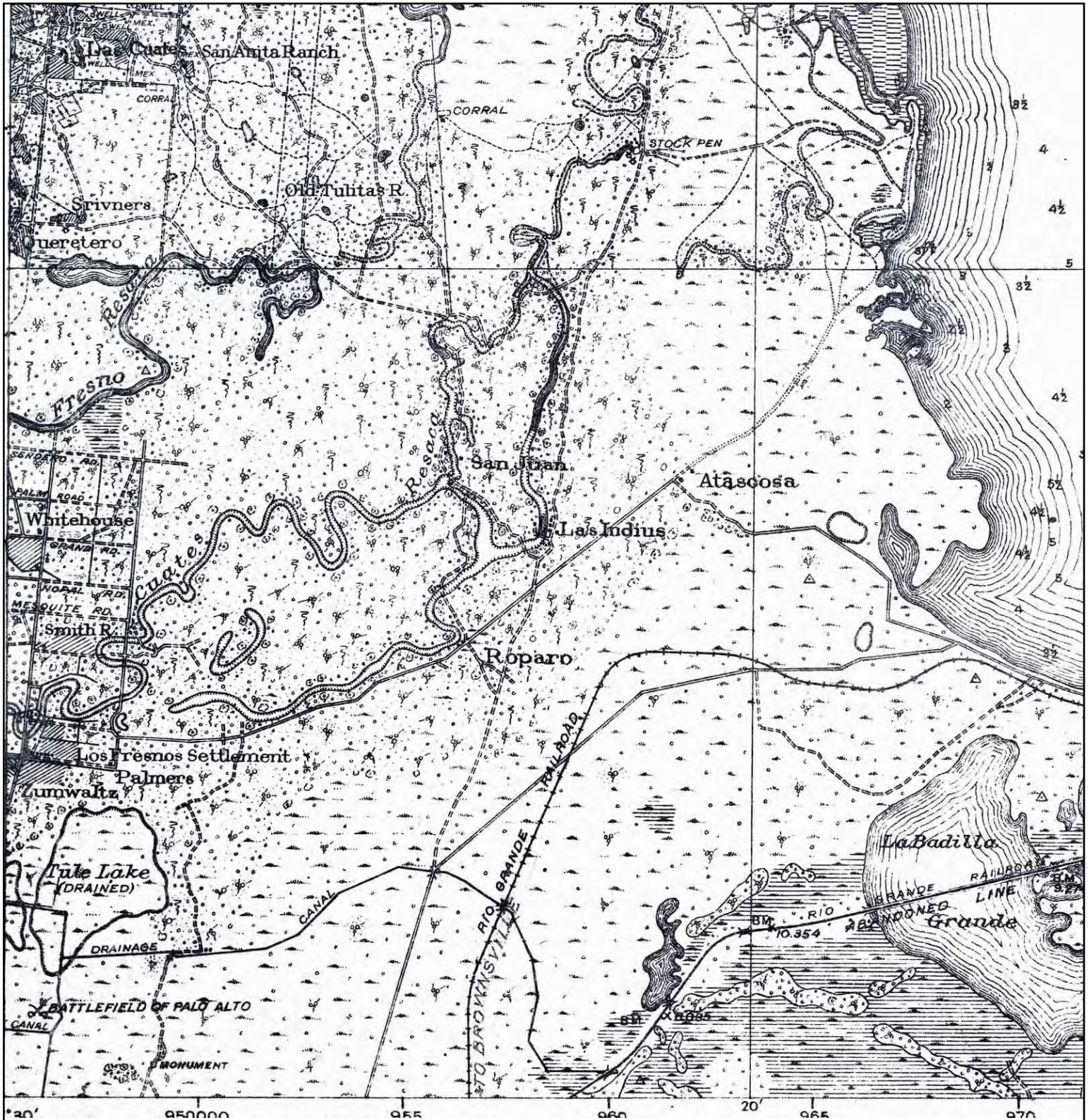


Soils surveyed by
A.W. Mangum and One Leg
1907

Scale 1 inch = 1 mile

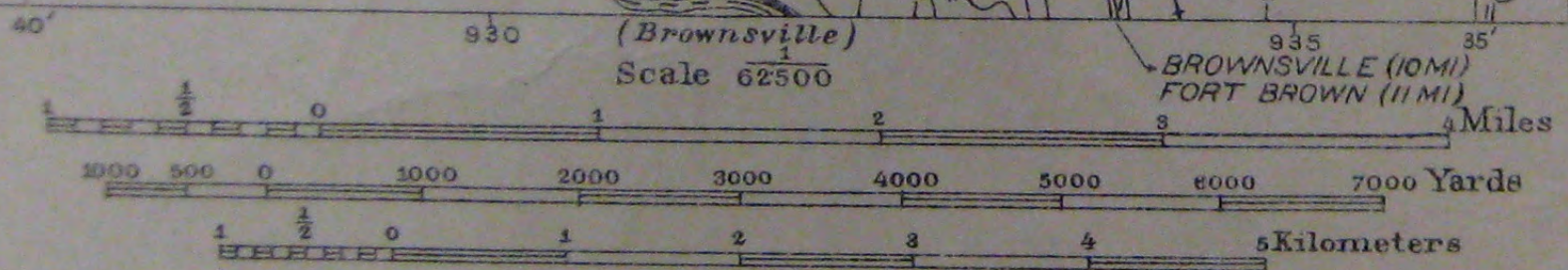
Field Operations
Bureau of Soils
1907

Historical Topographic Map



<p>N ↑</p>	<p>TARGET QUAD NAME: POINT ISABEL MAP YEAR: 1922 SERIES: 30 SCALE: 1:125000</p>	<p>SITE NAME: Tenaska - Brownsville ADDRESS: Cameron County Brownsville, TX 78526 LAT/LONG: 26.027 / -97.501</p>	<p>CLIENT: ERM - Southwest, Inc. CONTACT: Amanda Ragatz INQUIRY#: 3490366.1 RESEARCH DATE: 01/09/2013</p>
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Attachment H

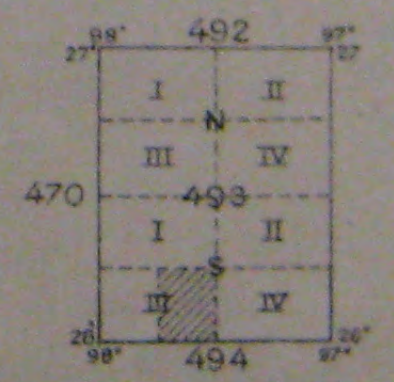


Contour interval 5 feet
Datum is mean sea level

FIVE THOUSAND YARD GRID COMPUTED FROM "GRID SYSTEM FOR PROGRESSIVE MAPS
IN THE U.S." ZONE D. U.S.C. & G.S. SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO 59
(THE LAST THREE DIGITS OF THE GRID NUMBERS ARE OMITTED)

NOTE: USERS OF THIS MAP ARE REQUESTED TO MARK HEREON CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS WHICH COME
TO THEIR ATTENTION AND MAIL DIRECT TO "ENGINEER EIGHTH CORPS AREA, FT. SAM HOUSTON, TEX."

NOTE: Southern Pacific Railroad and extensions of Missouri Pacific Railroad added from survey made in 1928.



APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION 1925
ANNUAL MAGNETIC INCREASE 2'

HARLINGEN, TEXAS.

EIGHTH CORPS AREA ENGINEER REPRODUCTION PLANT
1928.

2697-210

HARLINGEN 7 MI.
SAN BENITO 1 MI.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
O. C. DANCY, COUNTY JUDGE
G. J. WHEIKEL, S. H. BELL, J. S. BROWN, AND J. F. BAUGHN
W. O. WASHINGTON, COUNTY ENGINEER

TEXAS
(CAMERON COUNTY)
BARREDA QUADRANGLE



Topography by R.W. Burchard, W.B. Upton, Jr.,
W.R. Chenoweth and H.S. Milsted
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
Control by U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
and International Boundary Commission
Surveyed in 1930

APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION, 1930

Scale 3000
1 Mile
5000 2500 0 5000 Feet
1 Kilometer

Contour interval 1 foot
Datum is mean sea level

Polyconic projection, North American datum
5000 yard grid based upon U.S. zone system, D
Irrigation canals are not contoured

HARD IMPERVIOUSLY SURFACED ROADS
OTHER MAIN TRAVELED ROADS
INFORMATION FURNISHED BY CAMERON COUNTY, 1932

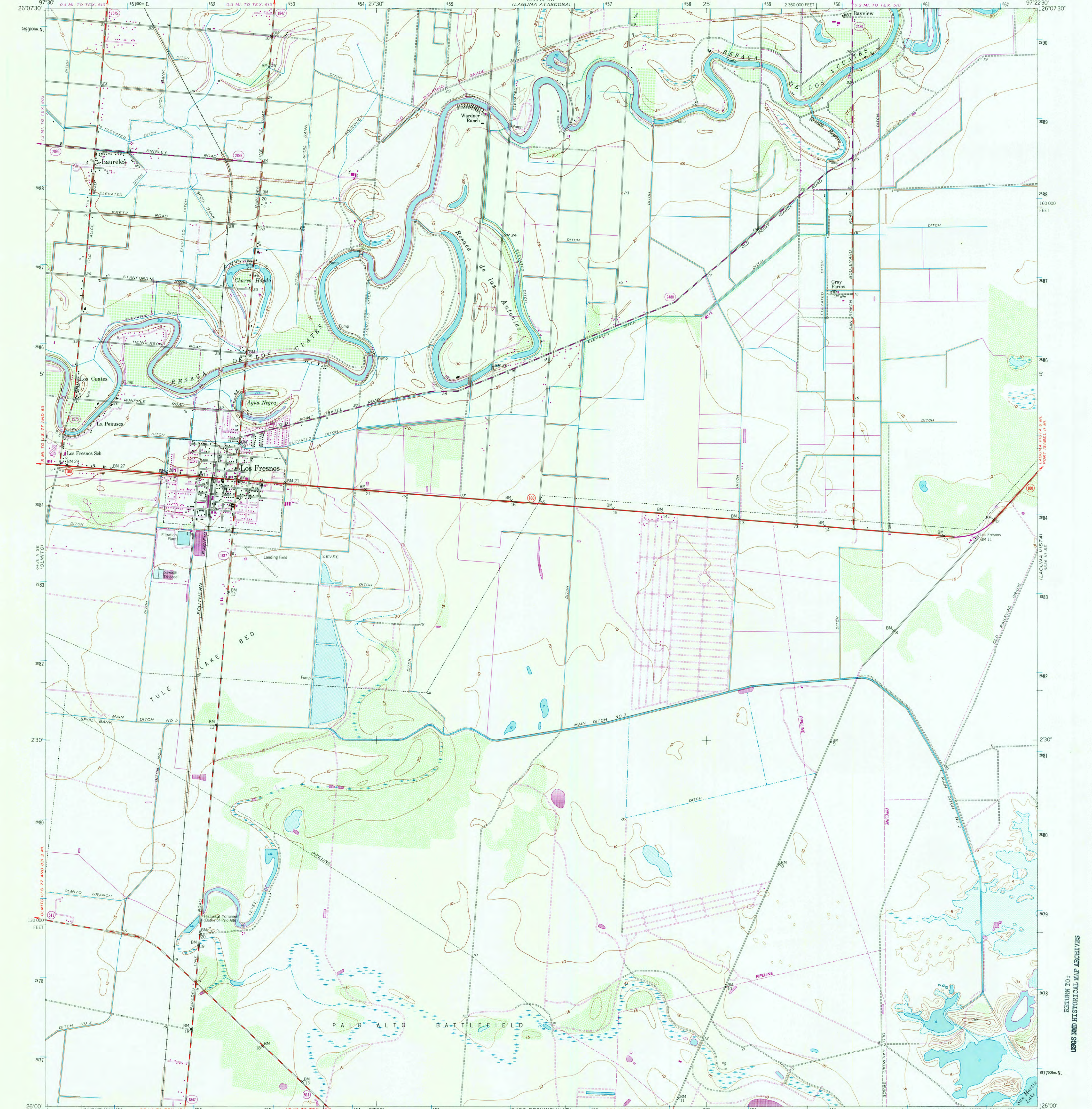
U. S. Board on
Geographical Names

BARREDA, TEX.
Edition of 1936



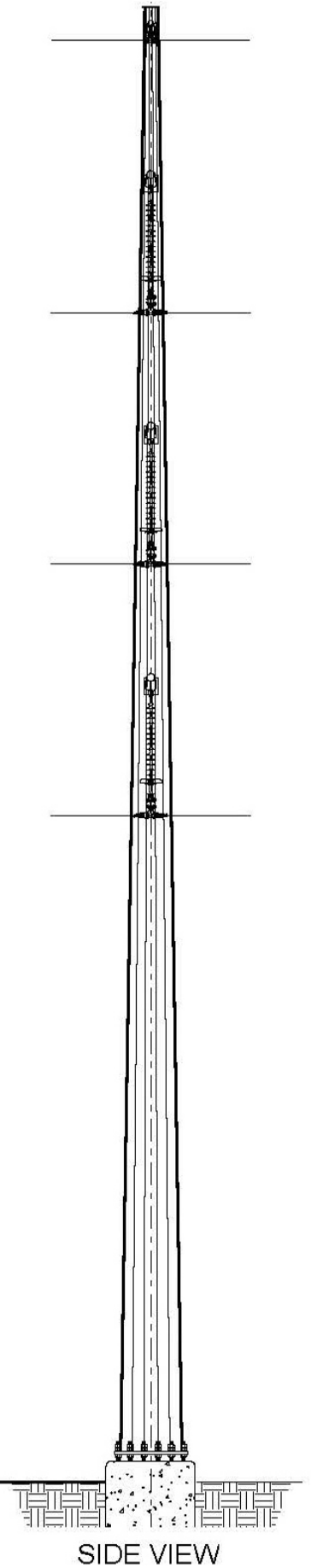
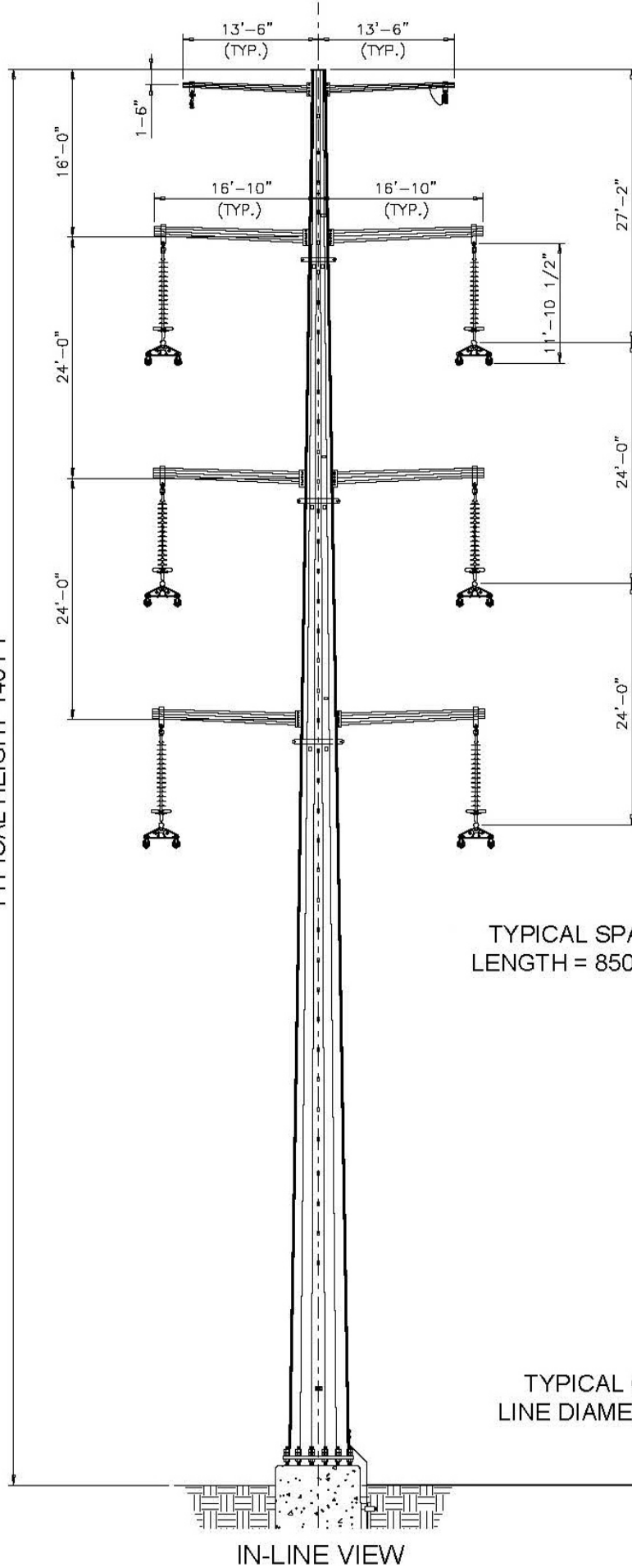
CGI-2G-18

4-10



Attachment I

TYPICAL HEIGHT 140 FT



Single-Pole

Attachment J

Memorandum



Date: April 28, 2014

To: John Uphoff, Tenaska

From: Chris Howell, Burns & McDonnell

Re: Response to NPS Inquiry regarding Noise

Below is a response to the NPS inquiry regarding noise impacts of the proposed Brownsville Generating Station. Each NPS comment regarding noise is restated and then a response is presented.

Palo Alto Battlefield NHL

Audible/Noise Effects

Section 6.2.3, pp. 70-71 Ambient Baseline Applicability

The NPS appreciates the effort to estimate audible effects using an ambient sound level measurement as a baseline for determination of effects in the area. We expressed concern on 3/04/14 and 3/07/14 via e-mails and meetings about the use of site MP3 as a surrogate for ambient sound levels at Palo Alto Battlefield NHP and NHL. Our concern is that due to proximity of site MP3 to Highway 550 and an asphalt plant, the recorded ambient sound levels may be higher than in the NHP and NHL, and therefore, generating station noise effects to more distant locations in the NHP and NHL will be underestimated using data from site MP3.

Response: We have updated the impacts previously presented as Table 6.5 to incorporate analysis using MP3 and MP4, and also adjustments to the ambient sound levels as detailed below. Due to the amount of data now being presented, the revised Table 6.5 is attached as Table 6-5a.

Section 6.2.3, pp. 70-72 Audibility Greater than Ambient Increase Noticeability

We appreciate the effort to estimate audible effects to the historic property. We shared our concerns in 3/04/14 and 3/07/14 e-mails and meetings about logarithmic addition of sound levels as an estimate audibility or noticeability of noise. Because the generating station is a new noise source with different broadband and/or tonal characteristics than the ambient sound level, we do not believe that ambient sound level increases will provide a conservative estimate. We anticipate that audibility and noticeability of the generating station will be greater than the “just noticeable” and “clearly noticeable” criteria traditionally utilized for increases in the same sound source.

Response: While rules-of-thumb for broadband noise were stated in the submission, no determination of audibility was performed. However, the current acoustical environment in the area contains sounds from various broadband-type sources – there are two highways, an asphalt plant, a water treatment facility outfall to the ditch next to proposed facility, etc. All of these sources are broadband-type sources similar to what would

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emanate from a power plant. Therefore, noise from the power plant, assuming the magnitude did not significantly increase existing levels, should not be considered intrusive.

Section 6.2.3, Table 6-5, p. 71 Representative Locations for Historic Property Effects

The NPS suggests that the receiver locations in Table 6-5 and Figures 6-6 and 6-7 (pp. 73 and 74) be updated to better represent sensitive cultural soundscape locations (for the historic property).

These locations include:

- Living History Area / Picnic Area (adjacent to each other)
- Battlefield Overlook
- End of Mexican Line Trail (optional—can be omitted)
- End of the U.S. Line Trail
- Historic Road (in NE corner of park)

Receiver names, UTM coordinates, and a map were provided in a 3/17/14 e-mail. We recommend that the projected generating station noise level be compared to the estimated ambient sound level at these locations (using adjusted data from MP3 and/or MP4—see below).

Response: The locations of these receivers have been incorporated into the revised and attached Figure 6-6 and Figure 6-7. Additionally, the attached Table 6-5a incorporates MP4. The ambient sound levels presented for MP4, where appropriate, have been adjusted per the face-to-face discussions on 3/12/14. Those adjustments involved generally reducing sound by 3 decibels per doubling of distance. This was accomplished using the equation $L_{p2} = L_{p1} - 10 \log (D_2/D_1)$; where L_{p1} is a known sound level at distance 1 (D_1) from a listener, and L_{p2} is an unknown sound level at known distance 2 (D_2) from a listener.

Sec. 6.2.3, Tables 6-4 and 6-5, pp. 70-71 Adjustment of Ambient for the NHP and NHL

Especially given our concerns for ambient applicability and potential underestimation of audible effects, we appreciate our 3/12/14 face-to-face meeting with Tenaska and the exchange of information on how to reduce effects to the historic property. The NPS understands that the acoustic consultant noted the presence of asphalt plant noise at MP3 during midday hours but an absence during other hours. After discussion of the data and contributing noise sources, the NPS suggests that Tenaska's acoustic consultant attempt to filter or adjust ambient sound levels at site MP3 and/or MP4 to eliminate the asphalt plant noise and account for greater distances (and expected lower noise levels) from Highway 550. This approach will help to better justify use of MP3 and/or MP4 as a surrogate for ambient sound levels at more distant locations in the NHP

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and NHL, which were not measured directly.

Response: Burns & McDonnell noise specialists attempted to filter and/or manipulate the data measured for MP3 and MP4 such that they may be used as a surrogate for the five locations identified within the NHP and NHL. Per NPS suggestion, the L_{50} statistical metric was considered so as to remove the influence of transient sound sources. Next, the distance to the nearest roadway (Highway 500) was considered when appropriate, as described below the table. Below is a table of distances to each location, including MP3 and MP4 for reference. The last column included in the table states which measurement point from the original study was used as a surrogate for actual data at that location. A surrogate point denoted as "MP# adjusted" indicates that the measured sound level at the measurement point indicated (i.e., MP4) was adjusted and used for the identified location. The adjustment was made to account for the identified location being located farther from Highway 550 than the identified measurement point.

Distance to NHP/NHL Location from Nearest Roadway

Identified Location	Distance to Nearest Roadway (meters)	Surrogate MP
MP3	690	-
MP4	830	-
Living History Area / Picnic Area	450	MP3
Battlefield Overlook	1050	MP4
End of Mexican Line Trail	990	MP4
End of the U.S. Line Trail	1400	MP4 adjusted
Historic Road	4090	MP4 adjusted

The Living History Area/Picnic Area is actually closer to the highway than any of the measurement points, but to be conservative, the same L_{50} value as MP3 was used. The Battlefield Overlook and the End of Mexican Line Trail are both slightly farther away from the highway than MP4, but not significantly so. Therefore, the MP4 L_{50} values were used for both locations without adjustment. For the End of U.S. Line Trail and the Historic Road, an adjustment was made to the MP4 L_{50} values to account for the greater distances from Highway 500 than MP4. That adjustment entailed subtracting 3 decibels for every doubling of distance from the highway (standard rule of thumb for sound attenuation from a line source – the highway). The results are detailed below and in the attached figures and table.

Section 6.2.3, Tables 6-4 and 6-5, pp. 70-72 Need for Mitigation

The predicted noise level increases in Table 6-5 are anticipated to increase further with the lower ambient sound levels expected in the NHP and NHL. In addition, the NPS anticipates that audibility and noticeability of the generating station will be greater than predicted using the "just

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Page 4

noticeable” and “clearly noticeable” criteria for Table 6-5 noise level increases. Given that audible effects to the historic property would very likely be greater than predicted, the NPS urges Tenaska to consider all reasonable techniques for mitigation of noise to the NHP and NHL. The NPS gathered from our 3/12/14 face-to-face meeting with Tenaska that the noise specifications of generating station equipment have already been established and the creation earth berms is one of the only practical options for noise mitigation. The NPS requests that Tenaska create a new figure in addition to Figure 6-7 that shows predicted generating station noise contours with the addition of an earth berm on the east side of the generating station. We also request that Tenaska and its noise consultant carefully consider minimum earth berm height and the height of high sound pressure level (SPL) noise sources such as blowers, turbine inlets/exhausts, compressors, and steam blows from pressure release valves. Wherever possible, the height of high SPL noise sources should be kept or moved below the height of the earth berm. The earth berm may also be used to minimize the visual effects of light and moving steam on the landscape.

Response: Presented in the revised Table 6-5a are the surrogate L_{50} data, modeling results, cumulative sound levels (i.e., logarithmic addition of surrogate L_{50} and modeling results), and the expected increases over the surrogate L_{50} sound levels. Results are presented for the base facility operation and then an alternate scenario where a 15-foot tall berm is constructed.

To graphically demonstrate the effect the berm would have towards reducing sound levels in the NHP and NHL, Figures 6-7a and Figure 6-7b have been created and are attached. Figure 6-7a represents the base, no-berm scenario while Figure 6-7b represents the 15 foot berm scenario. As can be seen in the attached table and figures, a 15-foot tall berm has a minimal effect on reducing sound level impacts in the NHP and NHL (i.e., there is predicted to be less than a 3-dB decrease due to the berm).

CJH

Attachments

Memorandum



Attachments

Table 6-5a Surrogate NHP and NHL L50 Sound Levels and Expected Brownsville Generating Station Impacts

L50 Sound Levels

Time Period	MP	L50 (dBA)	Adj. to 1400 (dBA)	Adj. to 4090 (dBA)
12-2 PM	MP3	41.4		
6-8 PM	MP3	43.7		
12-2 AM	MP3	36.4		
6-8 AM	MP3	38.3		
12-2 PM	MP4	41.0	38.7	34.1
6-8 PM	MP4	40.1	37.8	33.2
12-2 AM	MP4	43.2	40.9	36.3
6-8 AM	MP4	33.0	30.7	26.1

Surrogate Point Designation

MP	Distance to HWY (m)	Surrogate MP
MP3	690	
MP4	830	
Living History Area	450	MP3
U.S. Line Trail	1050	MP4
Battlefield Overlook	990	MP4
Mexican Line Trail	1400	MP4 adjusted
Historic Road	4090	MP4 adjusted

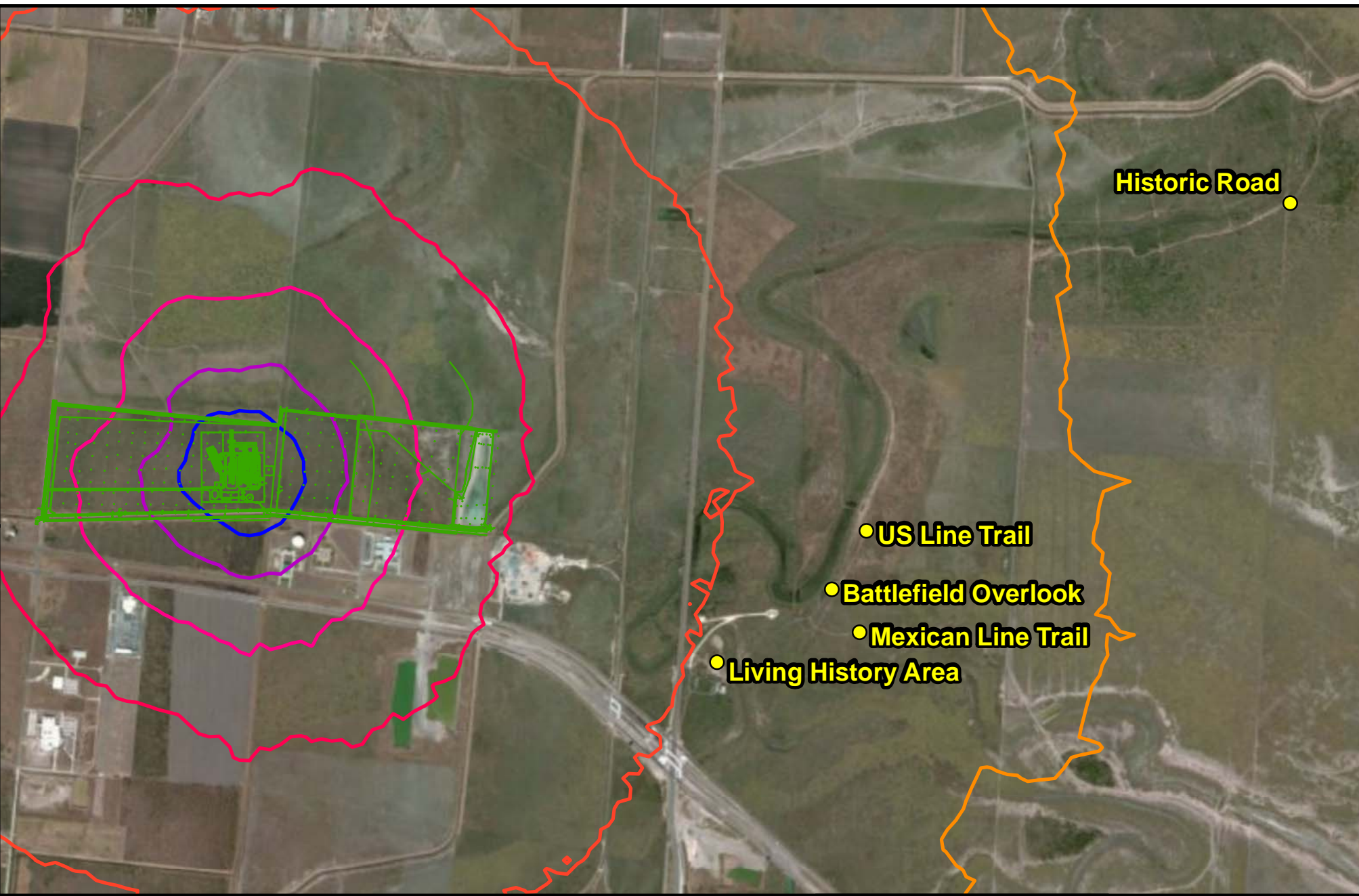
Modeling Results

MP	No Berm(dBA)	15' Berm(dBA)
MP3		
MP4		
Living History Area	44.4	42.5
U.S. Line Trail	42.6	40.7
Battlefield Overlook	43.0	41.0
Mexican Line Trail	43.0	40.6
Historic Road	37.6	35.8

Cumulative Impacts Analysis

Loc.	Time Period	Surrogate L50 (dBA)	No Berm SPL (dBA)			With 15' Berm SPL (dBA)			Benefit provided by 15' Berm Over Base (dBA)*
			Predicted	Cumulative	Increase	Predicted	Cumulative	Increase	
Living History Area	12-2 PM	41.4	44.4	46.2	4.8	42.5	45.0	3.6	1.9
	6-8 PM	43.7	44.4	47.1	3.4	42.5	46.2	2.5	1.9
	12-2 AM	36.4	44.4	45.0	8.6	42.5	43.5	7.1	1.9
	6-8 AM	38.3	44.4	45.4	7.1	42.5	43.9	5.6	1.9
US Line Trail	12-2 PM	41.0	42.6	44.9	3.9	40.7	43.9	2.9	1.9
	6-8 PM	40.1	42.6	44.5	4.4	40.7	43.4	3.3	1.9
	12-2 AM	43.2	42.6	45.9	2.7	40.7	45.1	1.9	1.9
	6-8 AM	33.0	42.6	43.1	10.1	40.7	41.4	8.4	1.9
Battlefield Overlook	12-2 PM	41.0	43.0	45.1	4.1	41.0	44.0	3.0	2.0
	6-8 PM	40.1	43.0	44.8	4.7	41.0	43.6	3.5	2.0
	12-2 AM	43.2	43.0	46.1	2.9	41.0	45.2	2.0	2.0
	6-8 AM	33.0	43.0	43.4	10.4	41.0	41.6	8.6	2.0
Mexican Line Trail	12-2 PM	38.7	43.0	44.4	5.7	40.6	42.8	4.0	2.4
	6-8 PM	37.8	43.0	44.2	6.3	40.6	42.4	4.6	2.4
	12-2 AM	40.9	43.0	45.1	4.2	40.6	43.8	2.8	2.4
	6-8 AM	30.7	43.0	43.3	12.5	40.6	41.0	10.3	2.4
Historic Road	12-2 PM	34.1	37.6	39.2	5.1	35.8	38.0	4.0	1.8
	6-8 PM	33.2	37.6	38.9	5.8	35.8	37.7	4.5	1.8
	12-2 AM	36.3	37.6	40.0	3.7	35.8	39.1	2.8	1.8
	6-8 AM	26.1	37.6	37.9	11.8	35.8	36.2	10.2	1.8

* This column demonstrates the berm's impact on modeled values only, not the overall impacts as those are more subject to ambient sounds. A minimum increase or decrease of 3 dBA between two sound levels is generally accepted as the amount that is required before a person perceives the difference in sound levels.



- | | |
|----------|----------|
| — 40 dBA | — 55 dBA |
| — 45 dBA | — 60 dBA |
| — 50 dBA | — 65 dBA |

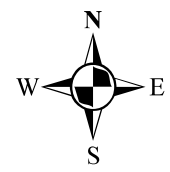
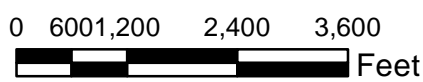
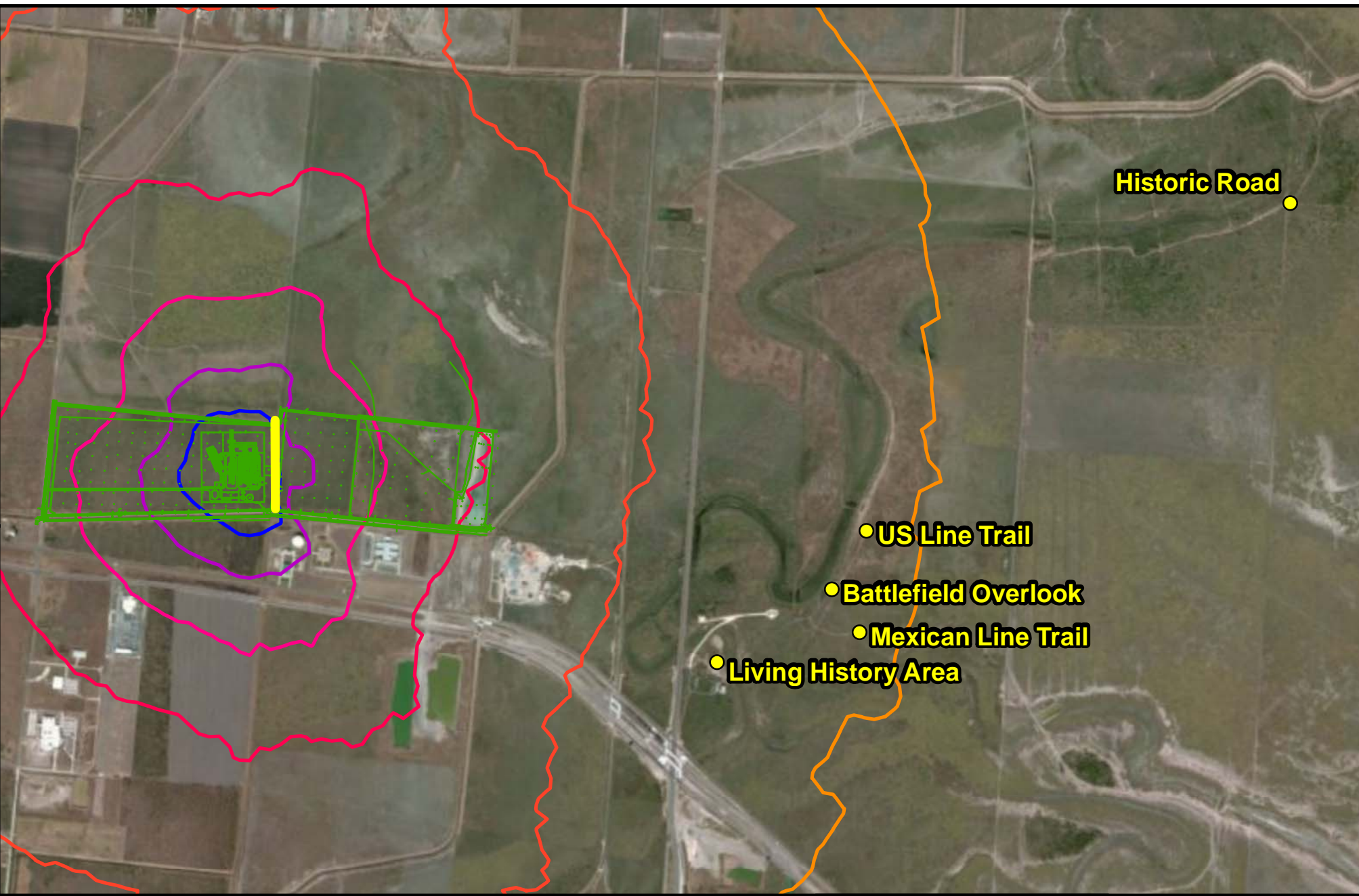


Figure 6-7a
Sound Contours at
Palo Alto Battlefield
National Park

Copyright 2013 Burns & McDonnell Engineering Co., Inc. Revision: Apr 21, 2014



- 40 dBA
- 45 dBA
- 50 dBA
- 55 dBA
- 60 dBA
- 65 dBA
- 15-Foot Tall Berm

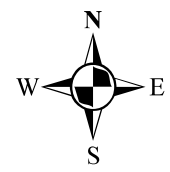
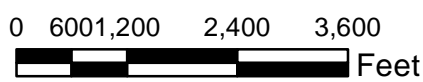
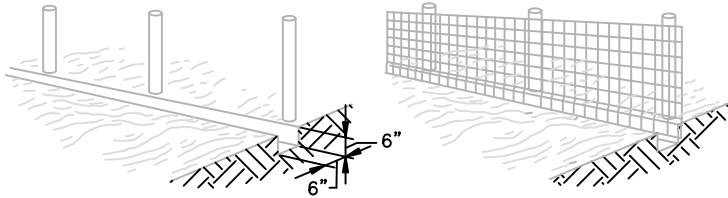


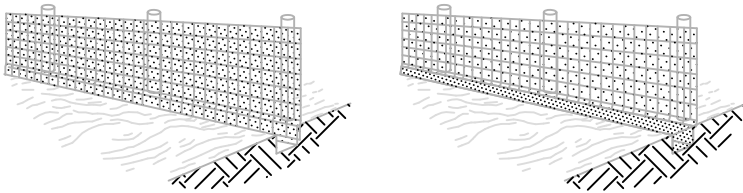
Figure 6-7b
Sound Contours
with 15-Foot Berm at
Palo Alto Battlefield
National Park

Attachment K

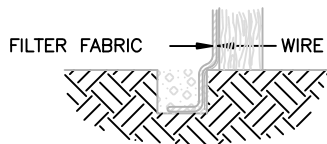
1. SET POSTS AND EXCAVATE A 6"X6" TRENCH UPSLOPE ALONG THE LINE OF POSTS.
2. STAPLE WIRE FENCING TO THE POSTS.



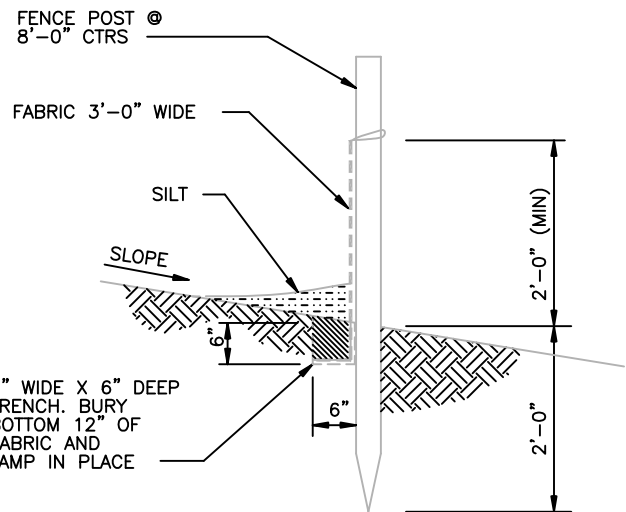
3. ATTACH THE FILTER FABRIC TO THE WIRE FENCE AND EXTEND IT INTO THE TRENCH.
4. BACKFILL AND COMPACT THE EXCAVATED SOIL.



EXTENSION OF FABRIC AND
WIRE INTO THE TRENCH



PLANS



ELEVATION

SILT FENCE CONSTRUCTION DETAIL
NO SCALE

