

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps
of Engineers
New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, N.Y. 10278-0090
ATTN: Regulatory Branch

In replying refer to:
Public Notice Number: NAN-2014-00011-EYA
Issue Date: June 27, 2014
Expiration Date: July 27, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York District, Corps of Engineers has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

APPLICANT: Emerald Networks Limited
South Bank House
Barrow Street
Dublin 4, Ireland

ACTIVITY: Installation of underwater fiber optics telecommunication cable.

WATERWAY: Atlantic Ocean

LOCATION: Near the coast of Mastic Beach, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York.

A detailed description and plans of the applicant's activity are enclosed to assist in your review.

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 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 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 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.

**ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE PREPARED IN
PLEASE USE THE 18-CHARACTER FILE NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

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WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THIS OFFICE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity. Comments provided will become a part of the public record for this action.

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate Federal agency to determine the presence of and potential impacts to listed species in the project area or their critical habitat.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA/FS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The proposed work, fully described in the attached work description, could cause the disruption of habitat for various lifestages of some EFH-designated species as a result of a temporary increase in turbidity during construction. However, the New York District has made the preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effects are not likely to be substantial because it is expected that fish populations would avoid the small area of disturbance. Further consultation with NOAA/FS regarding EFH impacts and conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

Based upon a review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, there are no known sites eligible for, or included in, the Register within the permit area. Presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost by work accomplished under the required permit.

Pursuant to Section 307 (c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456 (c)], for activities under consideration that are located within the coastal zone of a state which has a federally approved coastal zone management program, the applicant has certified in the permit application that the activity complies with, and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with, the approved state coastal zone management program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state's concurrence with, objection to, or waiver of the applicant's certification. No permit decision will be made until one of these actions occurs. For activities within the coastal zone of New York State, the applicant's certification and accompanying information is available from the Consistency Coordinator, New York State Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources and Waterfront Revitalization, Coastal Zone Management Program, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12231, Telephone (518) 474-6000. Comments regarding the applicant's certification, and copies of any letters to this office commenting upon this proposal, should be so addressed.



In order for us to better serve you, please complete our Customer Service Survey located at: <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/CustomerSurvey.aspx>

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any

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persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice. If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact this office at (917) 790 - 8092 and ask for Jun Yan.

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>



Jodi M. McDonald
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

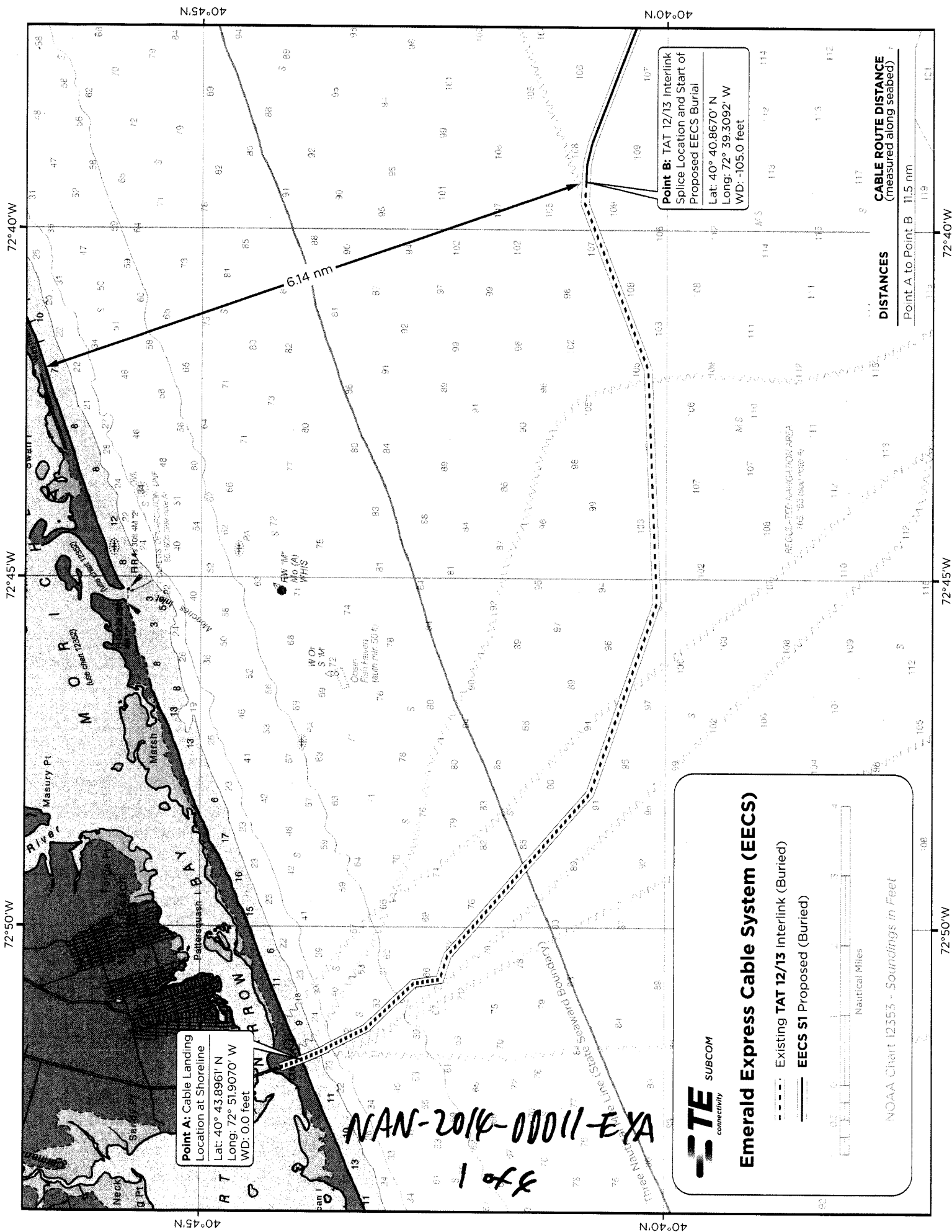
WORK DESCRIPTION

The applicant, Emerald Networks Limited, has requested Department of the Army authorization for installation of underwater fiber optics telecommunication cable, in the Atlantic Ocean, near the coast of Mastic Beach, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York.

The work would involve installation of approximately 350.7 nautical miles (NM) of 0.45-inch diameter underwater fiber optics telecommunication cable. The cable will be spliced into an existing fiber optic cable located approximately 6.14-NM from the shoreline. Starting at the splice point, the new cable will be buried for approximately 108.5-NM heading east. The cable will be buried via a sea plow, in a trench measuring approximately 2.46 feet wide and 4.9 feet below the seabed. In the area where the cable is to be buried, the route is first cleared of any debris by the use of a pre-lay grapnel run to clear the installation route of debris. The width of the grapnel run is less than a 3.28 feet wide. Once the route is cleared, the sea plow will simultaneously plow a trench and lay the cable on the sea floor at a speed of approximately 0.3 – 1 knots. From the location of approximately 1,500-meter of ocean depth, the remaining 242.2-NM cable will be laid on the ocean bottom to the edge of the waters of United States. The cable will then be installed in the Atlantic Ocean to terminate at Ireland. The cable splice point is located in the Atlantic Ocean, near the Mastic Beach, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York.

The applicant has stated that they have avoided, minimized, and mitigated for impacts proposed to the maximum extent practicable by limiting construction to the smallest area practicable.

The stated purpose of this project is to install telecommunication to facilitate communication.



Point A: Cable Landing Location at Shoreline
 Lat: 40° 43.8961' N
 Long: 72° 51.9070' W
 WD: 0.0 feet

Point B: TAT 12/13 Interlink Splice Location and Start of Proposed EECS Burial
 Lat: 40° 40.8670' N
 Long: 72° 39.3092' W
 WD: -105.0 feet

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TE SUBCOM
 connectivity

Emerald Express Cable System (EECS)

- Existing TAT 12/13 Interlink (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Buried)

NOAA Chart 12353 - Soundings in Feet

Nautical Miles

DISTANCES
 Point A to Point B 11.5 nm

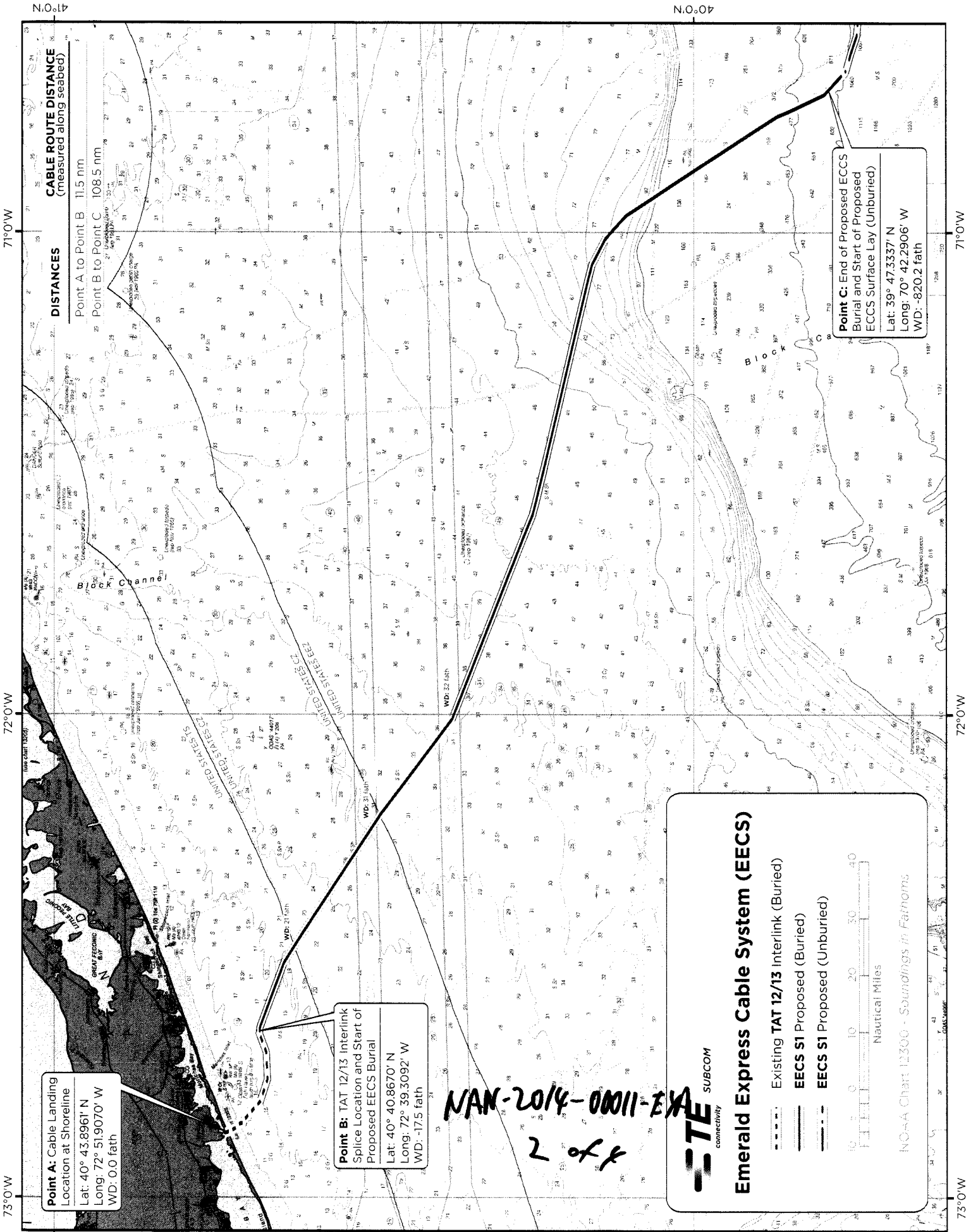
CABLE ROUTE DISTANCE
 (measured along seabed)

72°50'W 72°45'W 72°40'W

72°50'W 72°45'W 72°40'W

40°45'N 40°40'N

40°45'N 40°40'N



Point A: Cable Landing Location at Shoreline
 Lat: 40° 43.8961' N
 Long: 72° 51.9070' W
 WD: 0.0 fath

Point B: TAT 12/13 Interlink Splice Location and Start of Proposed EECS Burial
 Lat: 40° 40.8670' N
 Long: 72° 39.3092' W
 WD: -17.5 fath

Point C: End of Proposed EECS Burial and Start of Proposed EECS Surface Lay (Unburied)
 Lat: 39° 47.3337' N
 Long: 70° 42.2906' W
 WD: -820.2 fath

DISTANCES
 Point A to Point B 11.5 nm
 Point B to Point C 108.5 nm

Emerald Express Cable System (EECS)

- Existing TAT 12/13 Interlink (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Unburied)

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 connectivity

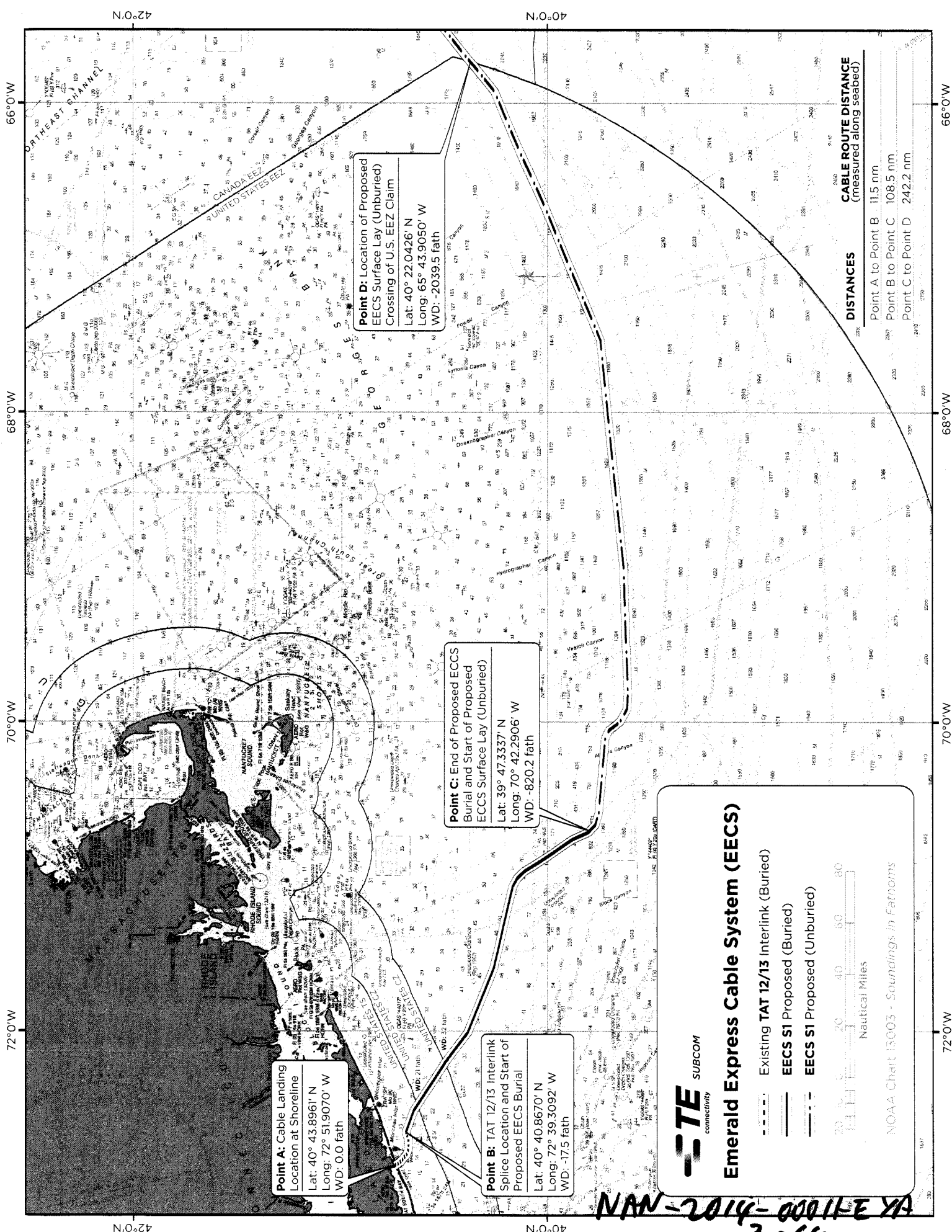
Emerald Express Cable System (EECS)

- Existing TAT 12/13 Interlink (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Unburied)

0 10 20 30 40
 Nautical Miles

NOAA Chart 12300 - Soundings in Fathoms

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Point A: Cable Landing
 Location at Shoreline
 Lat: 40° 43.8961' N
 Long: 72° 51.9070' W
 WD: 0.0 fath

Point B: TAT 12/13 Interlink
 Splice Location and Start of
 Proposed EECS Burial
 Lat: 40° 40.8670' N
 Long: 72° 39.3092' W
 WD: -17.5 fath

Point C: End of Proposed EECS
 Burial and Start of Proposed
 EECS Surface Lay (Unburied)
 Lat: 39° 47.3337' N
 Long: 70° 42.2906' W
 WD: -820.2 fath

Point D: Location of Proposed
 EECS Surface Lay (Unburied)
 Crossing of U.S. EEZ Claim
 Lat: 40° 22.0426' N
 Long: 65° 43.9050' W
 WD: -2039.5 fath

TE SUBCOM
 connectivity

Emerald Express Cable System (EECS)

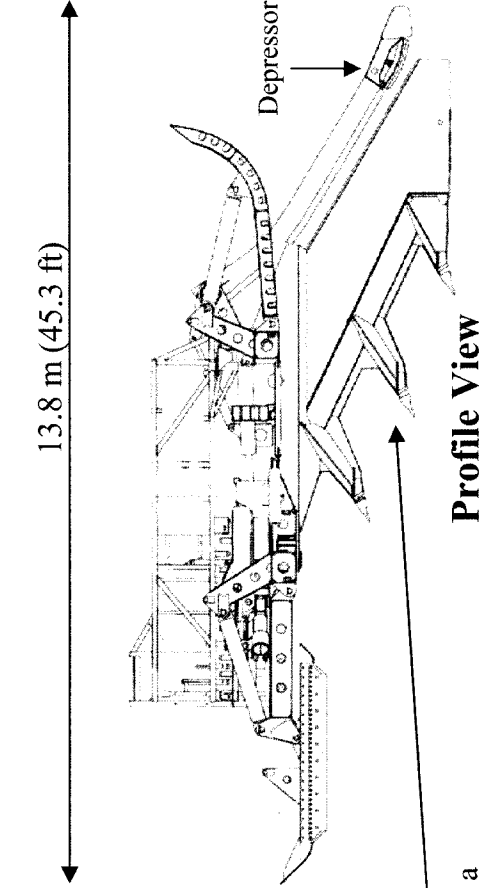
- Existing TAT 12/13 Interlink (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Buried)
- EECS S1 Proposed (Unburied)

0 20 40 60 80
 Nautical Miles

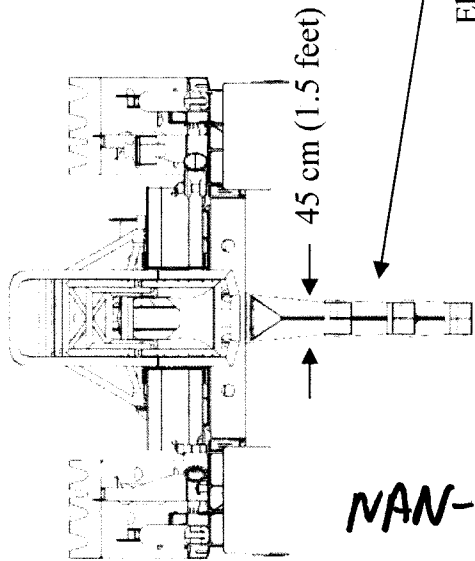
NOAA Chart 13003 - Soundings in Fathoms

DISTANCES	CABLE ROUTE DISTANCE (measured along seabed)
Point A to Point B	11.5 nm
Point B to Point C	108.5 nm
Point C to Point D	242.2 nm

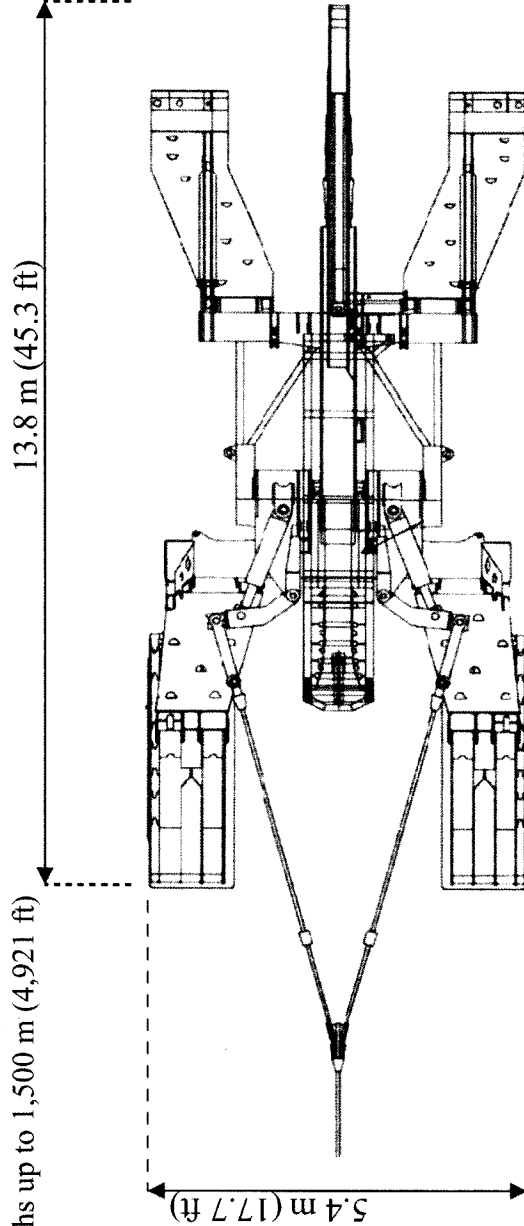
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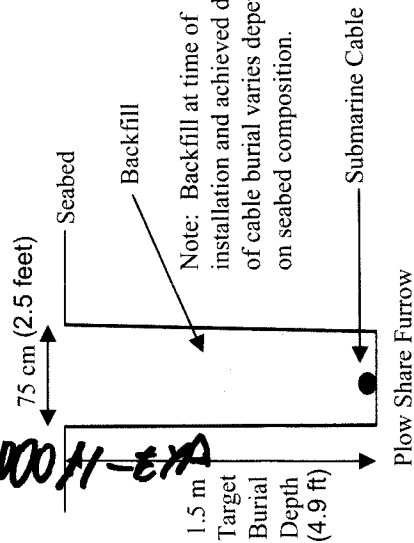
Element penetrating the seabed to a maximum of 3.0 meters (9.8 ft) in water depths up to 1,500 m (4,921 ft)



Front View



Note: Backfill at time of installation and achieved depth of cable burial varies depending on seabed composition.



NAN-2014-0011-EXA

**Emerald Express Cable System (EECS)
Conceptual 1.5 Meter Cable Burial**

**TE SubCom's SEA STALLION EB3 Trench
and Bury Cable Plow System**