



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-2014-01078-WCA
Issue Date: October 21, 2014
Expiration Date: November 19, 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), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

APPLICANT: North Hudson Sewerage Authority
1600 Adams Street
Hoboken, New Jersey 07030

ACTIVITY: Discharge fill material into waters of the United States to facilitate the construction and installation of a new Solids and Floatables Screening Facility within the Hudson River.

WATERWAY: Hudson River

LOCATION: Township of Weehawken, Hudson County, New Jersey.

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.

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ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE PREPARED IN 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. 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.

Reviews of activities pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will 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 the applicant will obtain a water quality certificate or waiver from the appropriate state agency in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act prior to a permit decision.

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 Jersey State, the applicant's certification and accompanying information is available from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Coastal Management Program, P.O. Box 418, 401 E. State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08625, Telephone (609) 633-2201. Comments regarding the applicant's certification, and copies of any letters to this office commenting upon this proposal, should be so addressed.

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In addition to any required water quality certificate and coastal zone management program concurrence, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

(New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Waterfront Development Permit)

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any 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) 790-8412 and ask for James Cannon.

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>.

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



for Jodi M. McDonald
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

WORK DESCRIPTION

The applicant, the North Hudson Sewerage Authority, has requested Department of the Army authorization to discharge fill material into waters of the United States to facilitate the construction and installation of a 7,190 square foot Solids and Floatables Screening Facility within the Hudson River, in the Township of Weehawken, Hudson County, New Jersey.

The proposed work would involve the discharge of approximately 5,225 cubic yards of fill material into approximately 0.142 acres of waters of the United States to facilitate the construction and installation of an approximately 108-foot long by 67-foot wide Solids and Floatables Screening Facility (SFSF). The SFSF would be constructed at the terminus of an existing outfall structure and new parallel outfall associated with an existing Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) that discharges to the Hudson River. The proposed SFSF would consist of two cast-in-place concrete netting chambers each measuring approximately 47-foot long by 22-foot wide. One chamber would be connected to the existing W1234 outfall, through which CSO currently flows untreated, with a 72-inch high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe, and the second chamber would be connected to a new outfall with 96-inch HDPE pipe. At the end of each concrete chamber, two unidirectional tide valves would be installed to allow the screened CSO to flow into the Hudson River. The netting chamber portion of the facility would be surrounded by an approximately 88-foot long by 67-foot wide steel sheet pile wall. A 67-foot wide by 20-foot long pile supported portion of the SFSF would extend off its eastern side of the steel sheet pile wall. Four unidirectional tide valves, two at end of each concrete chamber would be constructed through the seaward side of the steel sheet pile wall. Screened CSO storm water would flow through the netting chamber valves prior to its discharge to the Hudson River. The applicant has stated that the construction and installation activities associated with the proposed SFSF would take approximately 18 months to complete.

Activities associated with the installation of the proposed SFSF would include the following:

New Dredging with Upland Disposal: As part of the installation activities associated with the SFSF, an 88-foot long by 67-foot wide steel sheet pile coffer dam (5,850 square feet) would be installed within the Hudson River. A total of approximately 2,115 cubic yards of sediment would be dredged, using a land based excavator, from within the coffer dam area. An additional 110 cubic yards would be dredged from a 1,000 square foot area located outside the steel sheet coffer dam (and beneath the pile support platform area) along its eastern side to facilitate the installation of flexible tide valves at the tail end of the SFSF. Turbidity curtains would be installed around the 1,000 square foot area to minimize turbidity during the dredging activities.

All dredged material would be placed within a watertight container located on a barge, and hauled offsite for testing and disposal to a state approved upland site. The proposed steel sheet pile coffer dam would remain in place and be used as part of the permanent wall structure for the SFSF. It is anticipated that the proposed dredging activities would take approximately two weeks to complete.

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Piling Foundation: Approximately 145 12-inch diameter steel pilings would be installed within steel sheet pile area to support the SFSF concrete platform base.

Platform: Upon completion of the pile installation activities, a concrete platform would be installed on top of the piles at the base of coffer dam to support the SFSF.

Upon completion of the SFSF installation activities within the cofferdam, a platform would be constructed on top of the SFSF that would allow for a public viewing area that would overlook the Hudson River and New York skyline. Ornamental trees, benches, and decorative lighting would be installed in this public viewing area. Cleaning and maintenance access to the SFSF would occur from the public platform area via metal and concrete hatches.

The applicant stated that project impacts to waters of the United States have been avoided and minimized by a reduced SFSF design plan, a reduced steel sheet pile wall, and by the placement of turbidity curtains around the proposed 1,000 square foot dredging area situated outside the steel sheet wall.

The applicant additionally stated that: Various upland alternative locations were evaluated that included the use of various alternative technologies along the alignment of the existing W1234 outfall. All project design alternatives were evaluated on their impacts to land, system hydraulics, water quality, aquatic impacts, and operations and maintenance requirements. Proposed upland alternative project locations were evaluated at Park Avenue, Waterfront Terrace, and Harbor Boulevard. The Park Avenue location was not feasible as the Lincoln Tunnel off/on ramps would not yield enough space to construct the SFSF facility. The Waterfront Terrace location yielded flooding in the surrounding area due to the system hydraulics which would have a high energy gradient in this location. The Harbor Boulevard location was eliminated due to engineering and site constraints of keeping the W1234 outfall active during construction. The preferred project alternative was selected based on its minimal impact to the public during construction and maintenance activities, and the system hydraulics of the preferred site would have the lowest energy gradient.

To compensate for the 0.142 acres of permanent impacts to waters of the United States, the applicant proposes to purchase 0.142 acres of mitigation credits from a federally approved wetland mitigation bank located within the Hackensack Meadowlands District.

The applicant has stated that the proposed project would ensure compliance with their existing New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJDES) permit for the Adams Street Wastewater Treatment Plant, and would meet the conditions of the existing New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Administrative Consent Order (ID No. NEA 020001-46440). The proposed SFSF would capture solids and floatables greater than a half-inch in size from storm water that is conveyed through the CSO prior to its discharge to the Hudson River, and would result in increased filtration of CSO during storm events and improve water quality within the Hudson River.

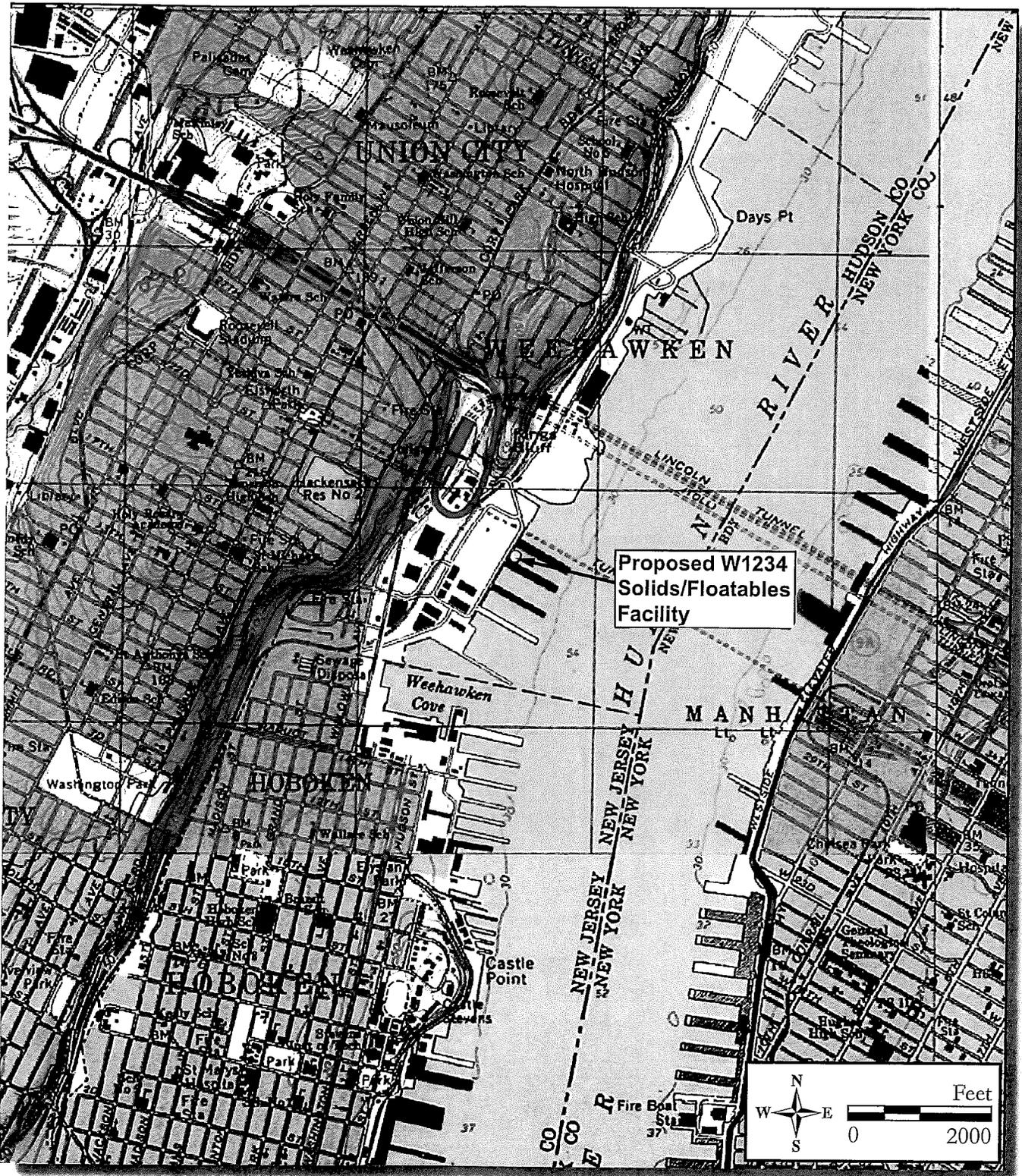
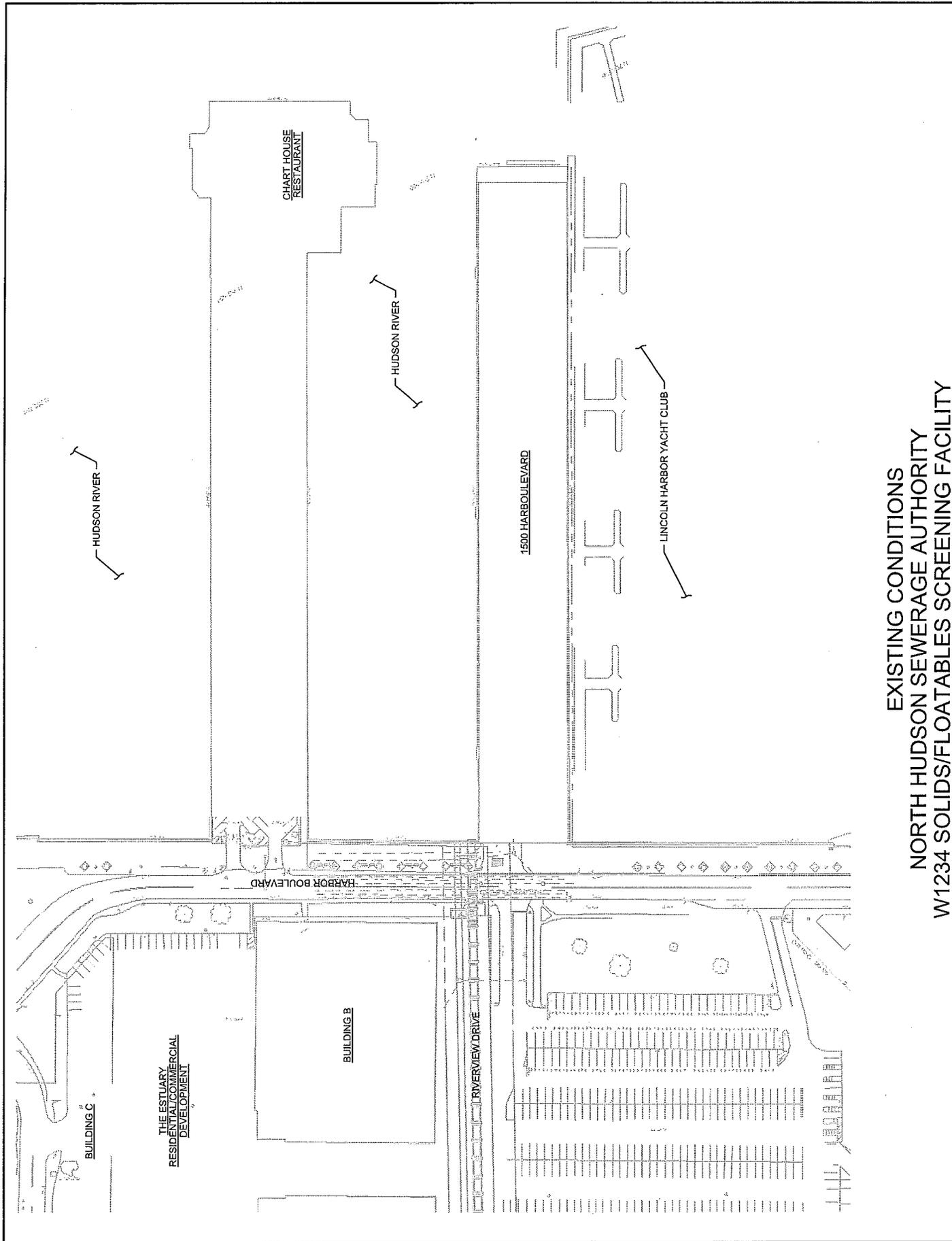


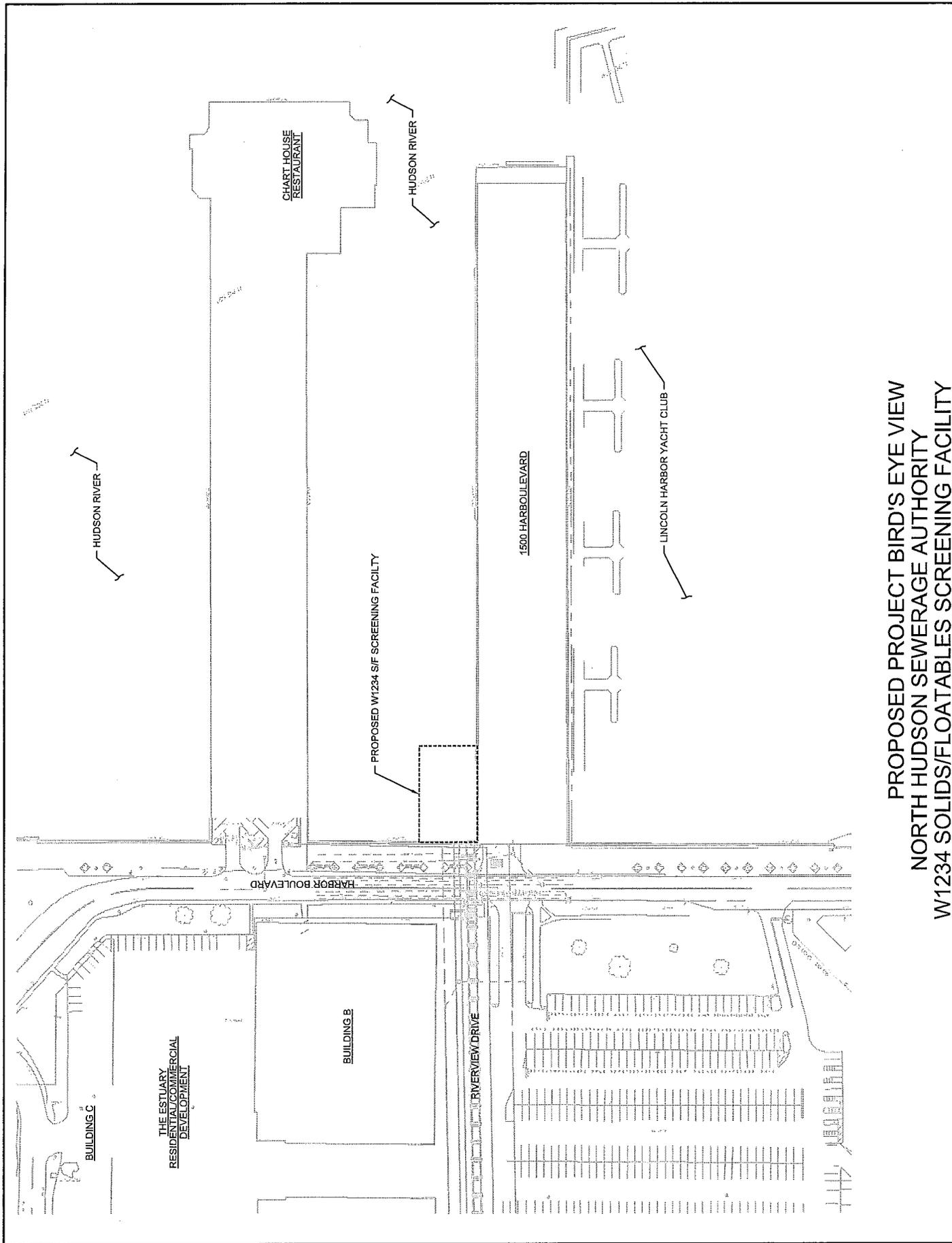
Figure 1 of 9

Figure 1.2: U.S.G.S. Map
 (from 1967 U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle: Weehawken, NJ-NY [Photorevised 1981]).



EXISTING CONDITIONS
 NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
 W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
 WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

Figure 2 of 9



PROPOSED PROJECT BIRD'S EYE VIEW
 NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
 W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
 WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

Figure 3 of 9

DREDGING AREA
NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

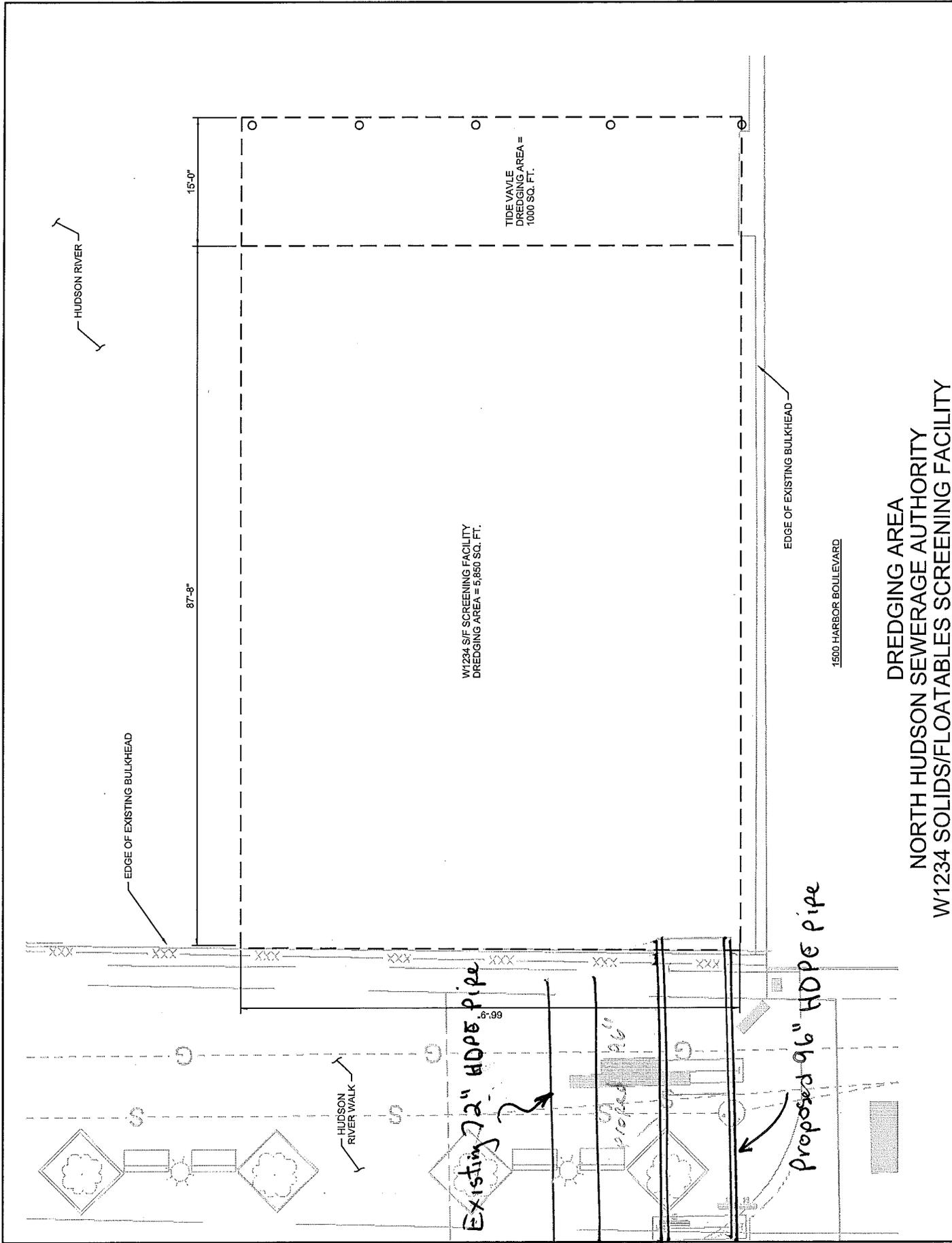
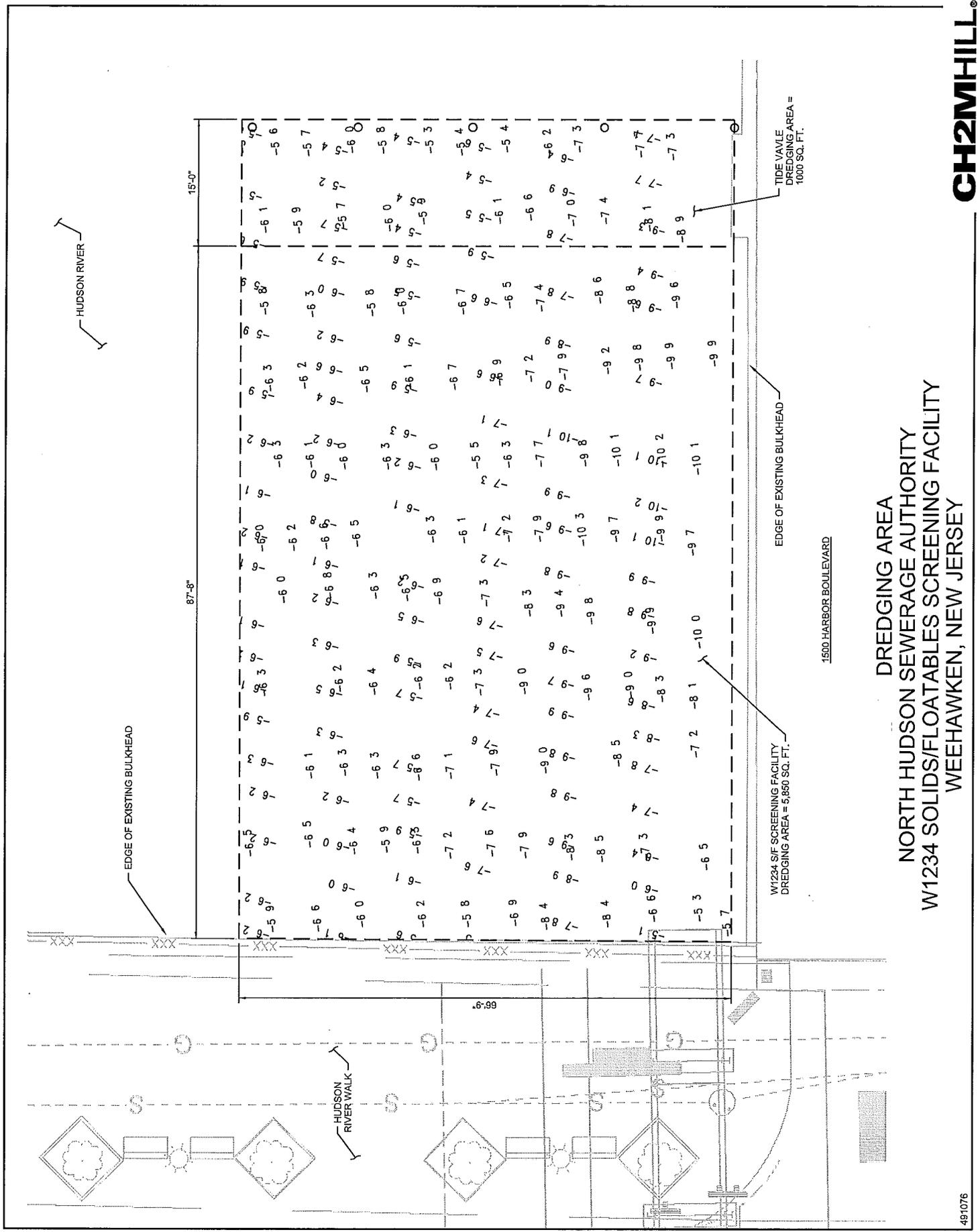
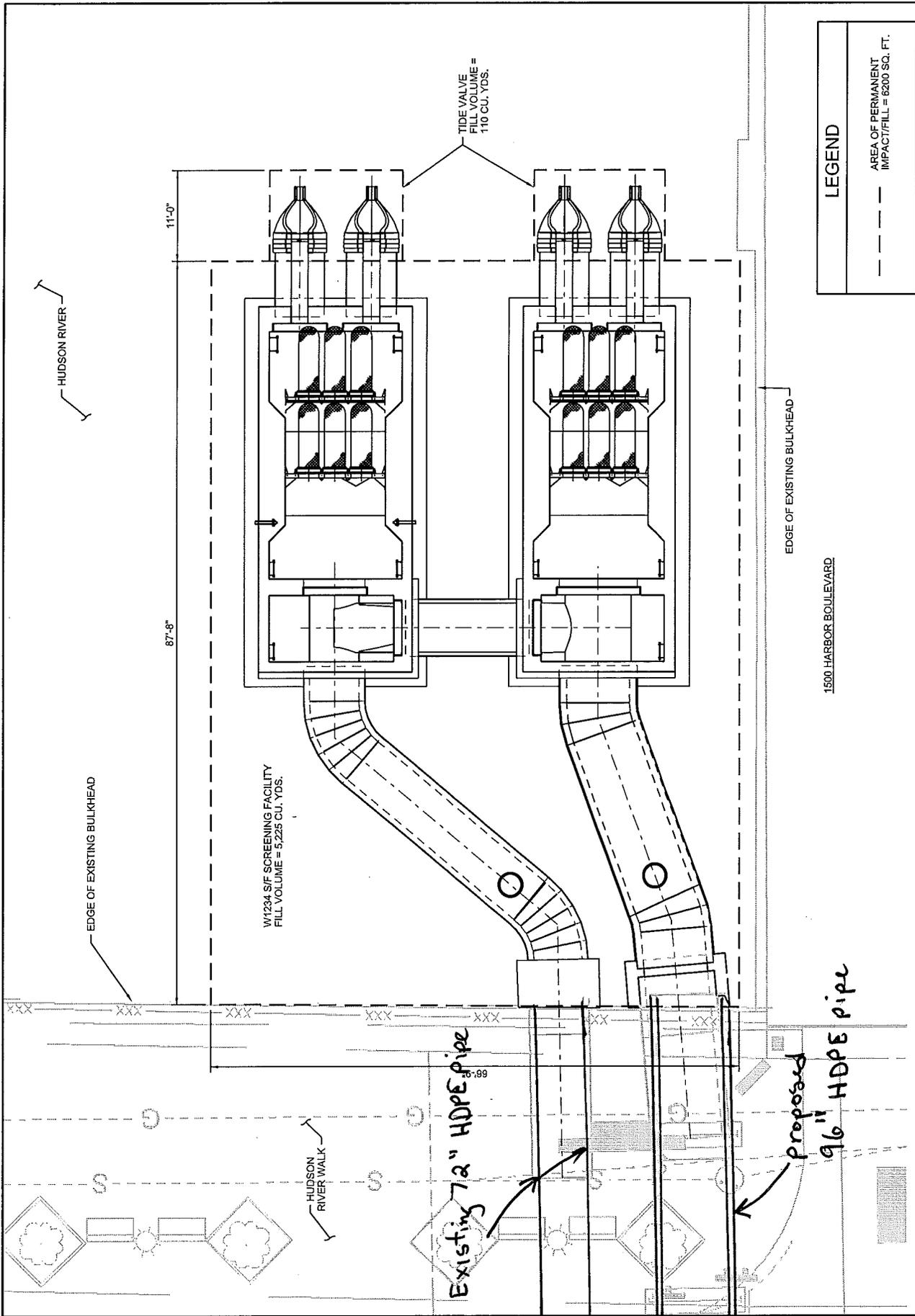


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DREDGING AREA
NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

Figure 5 of 9



LEGEND	
---	AREA OF PERMANENT IMPACT/FILL = 8200 SQ. FT.

AREA OF IMPACT
 NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
 W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
 WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

Figure 6 of 9

PROPOSED PROJECT BUILD OUT
NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

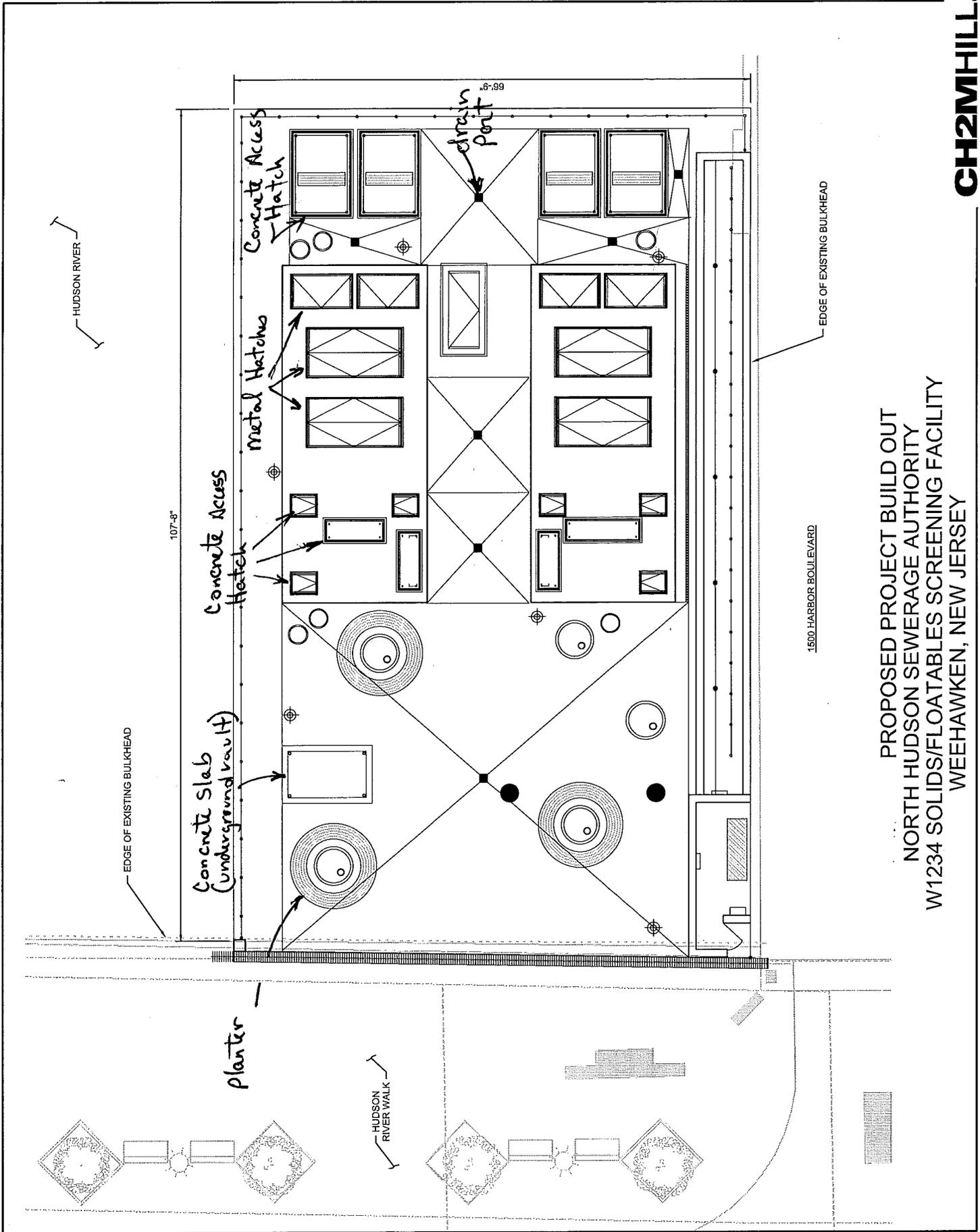
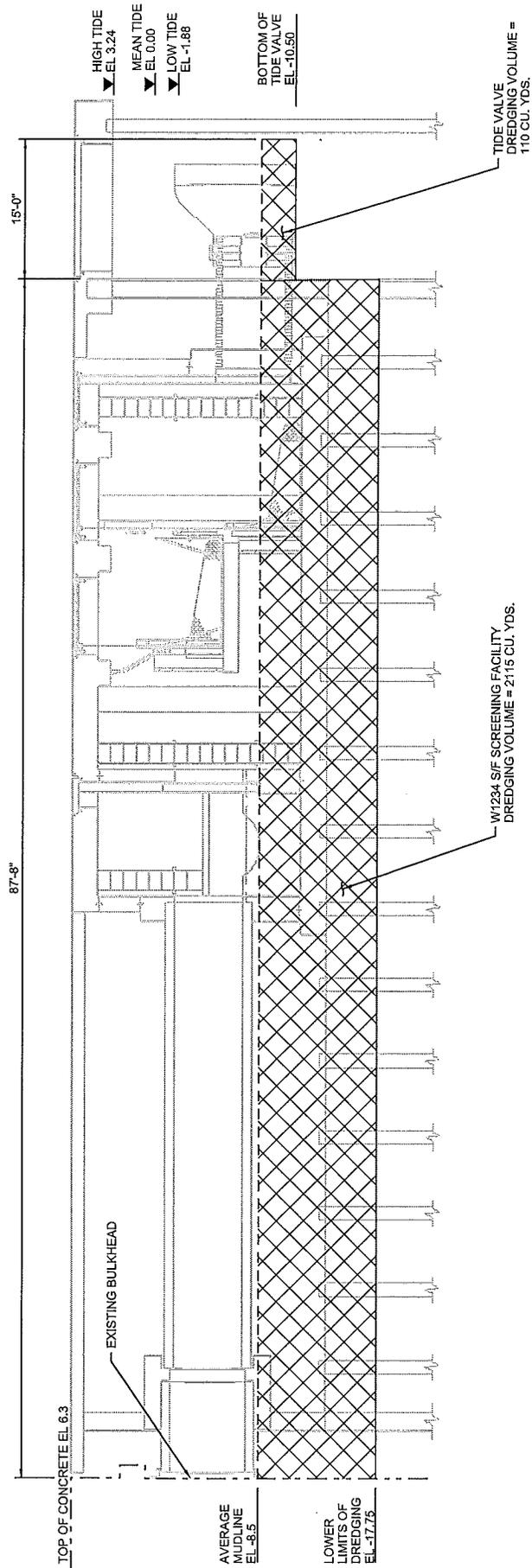


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CROSS SECTION OF DREDGING AREA
 NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
 W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
 WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

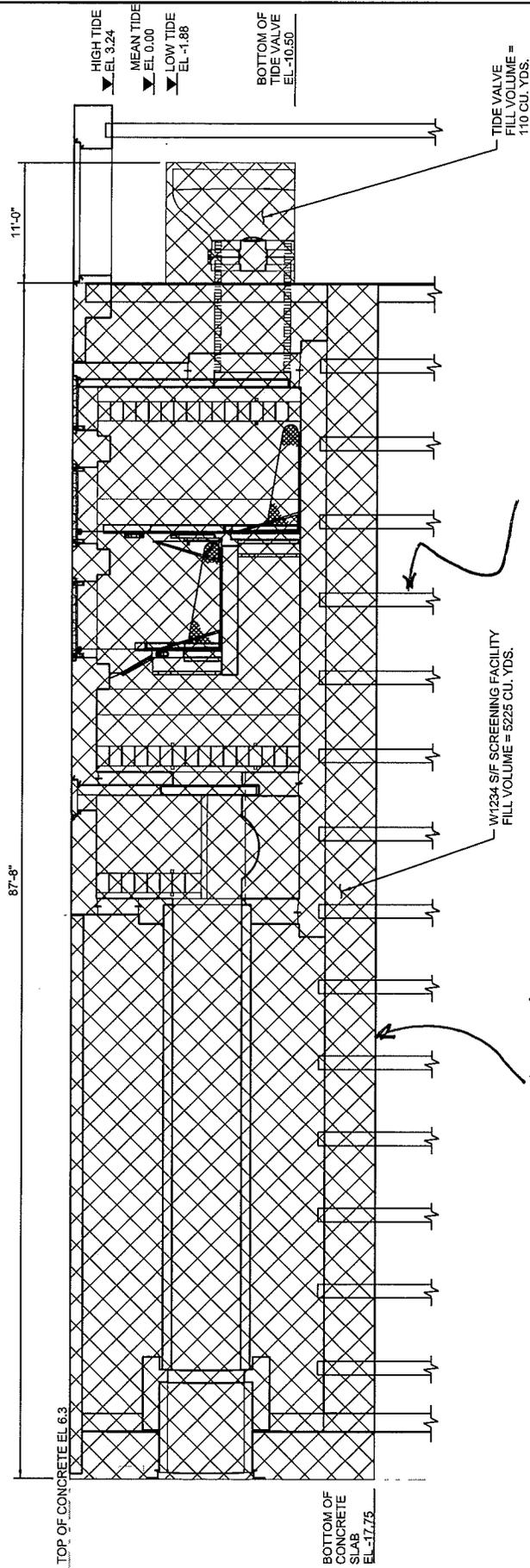
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CROSS SECTION OF FILL AREA
 NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
 W1234 SOLIDS/FLOATABLES SCREENING FACILITY
 WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

Figure 9 of 9