



US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: January 16, 2008
Comment Deadline: February 14, 2008
Corps Action ID #:1998-01941
TIP Project No. R-2502

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application from the **North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)** seeking Department of the Army authorization **to discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States** associated with **construction of US 1 from SR 1001 (Marston Road) in Richmond County to the existing multi-lane facility north of the Moore County Line, North Carolina.**

Specific plans and location information are described below and shown on the attached plans. This Public Notice with all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands

Applicant: North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
c/o Dr. Gregory J. Thorpe, PhD, Manager
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-1598

Authority

The Corps will evaluate this application and decide whether to issue, conditionally issue, or deny the proposed work pursuant to applicable procedures under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

Location

The proposed 8.3 mile roadway widening project is located beginning at SR 1001 (Marston Road) in Richmond County and continuing to the existing multi-lane facility north of the Moore County Line in Moore County, North Carolina. The proposed project is located in adjacent wetlands and tributaries that are hydrologically connected to the Lumber River, Hydrologic Cataloging Unit 03040203. The project is more specifically located starting at Latitude 34.99 N, Longitude 79.58 W and ending at Latitude 35.06, Longitude 79.49.

Background

A Final State Environmental Assessment (SEA) was approved on September 28, 2000 and on March 30, 2005 a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was approved for the

proposed US 1, TIP R-2502 project, State Project Number 6.589009T. The social, economic, and environmental impacts associated with various alternatives, including the No-build alternative, have been described in the above referenced environmental document. The NCDOT SEA and FONSI for R-2502 is available for review at the Wilmington Regulatory Field Office of the Wilmington District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 69 Darlington Avenue, Wilmington, North Carolina, or at the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Transportation Building, 1 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Applicant's Stated Purpose

The purpose of the proposed highway is to improve the level of safety and the traffic carrying capacity along US 1 within the project area.

Existing Site Conditions

The project is located within the Coastal Plain Physiographic Province with the northern two thirds of the project located in the Lumber River subbasin 03-07-50, USGS 8-digit hydrological unit 03040203 and the southern third of the project located in the Yadkin River subbasin 03-07-16, USGS 8-digit hydrological unit 03040201. Drowning Creek, a perennial stream in the Lumber River Basin, is the only jurisdictional stream crossed by the proposed project. This section of Drowning Creek has NC Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) best usage classification of WS II Sw HQW which refers to those waters protected as water supplies that are generally in predominantly undeveloped watersheds. Swamp waters (Sw) is a supplemental water classification for waters which have low velocities and other natural characteristics which are different from adjacent streams. High Quality Waters (HQW) is a supplemental water classification for waters which are rated as excellent based on biological and physical/chemical characteristics through Division monitoring or special studies.

The Biotic communities identified in the project area include maintained lawns, roadside shoulder, successional pine forest, xeric sandhill scrub, coastal plain small stream swamp (variant) blackwater subtype and streamhead pocosin. Topography is characterized as nearly level terrain with an average elevation at approximately 380 feet above mean sea level (MSL).

There are five riverine wetland areas found within the project study area. Three of the five wetlands are located adjacent to streams and are classified as coastal plain small stream swamps. One wetland is classified as successional pine forest and one wetland is classified as a streamhead pocosin.

Project Description

The following description of the work is taken from data provided by the applicant. The proposed project would widen US 1 to a four lane divided highway, with 46-foot median, from SR 1001 (Marston Road) in Richmond County to the existing multi-lane

facility north of the Moore County Line totaling 8.3 miles. The existing 298-foot long, 25.9-foot wide bridge crossing Downing Creek will be replaced with two 440-foot long, 40-foot wide pre-stressed modified concrete girder bridges, which will span the entire creek. A temporary work bridge spanning Downing Creek will be used for construction of the new bridge. Wetland impacts due to the proposed construction will occur at nine sites. Table 1 contains a summary of the proposed jurisdictional wetland resources. The project will also include the relocation of existing above ground utility lines resulting in 21 square feet of wetland impacts associated with the placement of twelve utility poles.

Table 1. Summary of Impacts

Site #	Permanent wetland impacts (ac.)	Cowardin Classification	Community Type
1	0.06	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
2	0.18	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
3	0.83	PFO6C	Streamhead Pocosin
4	0.49	PSS1C	Successional Pine Forest
5	1.27	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
6	0.12	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
7	1.47	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
8	0.76	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
9	0	PFO6F	Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp
Total	5.18		

The project impact areas are located in the Lumber River Basins (Hydrologic Unit 03040203). The applicant proposes to utilize the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) to provide the necessary compensatory mitigation for the unavoidable wetland impacts associated with this project.

Other Required Authorizations

This notice and all applicable application materials are being forwarded to the appropriate State agencies for review. The Corps will generally not make a final permit decision until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (PL 92-500). The receipt of the application and this public notice combined with appropriate application fee at the North Carolina Division of Water Quality central office in Raleigh will constitute initial receipt of an application for a 401 Water Quality Certification. A waiver will be deemed to occur if the NCDWQ fails to act on this request for certification within sixty days of the date of the receipt of this notice in the NCDWQ Central Office. Additional information

regarding the Clean Water Act certification may be reviewed at the NCDWQ Central Office, Transportation Permitting Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260. All persons desiring to make comments regarding the application for certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act should do so in writing delivered to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ), 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260 Attention: Mr. Brian Wrenn by February 7, 2008.

Cultural Resources

The Corps has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and is not aware that any registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area or will be affected by the proposed work. In addition, NCDOT archaeologist identified nine archaeological sites within the project area with two of the sites requiring additional survey work. After completion of the additional survey work, all nine sites were determined not to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. However, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be located within the project area and/or could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species

NCDOT has conducted surveys along the proposed project corridors to identify suitable or critical habitat for species listed as federally endangered or threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Based on information provided by NCDOT, the Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed project activities requiring DA authorization would have no effect on six of the listed species known to occur within Richmond and Moore Counties. These species are the Cape Fear Shiner, *Notropis mekistocholas*; Michaux's sumac, *Rhus michauxii*; American chaffseed, *Schwalbea americana*; Rough-leaved loosestrife, *Lysimachia asperulaefolia*; Shortnose sturgeon, *Acipenser brevirostrum*; and Carolina heelsplitter, *Lasmigonia decorata*. However, it has been determined that the proposed project activities requiring DA authorization may affect the Red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW), *Picoides borealis*, a federally listed endangered species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in a letter dated February 11, 2004, concurred with the NCDOT biological conclusions that the proposed highway project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the RCW. The District Engineer, based on available information, is not aware that the proposed activities requiring DA authorization will affect any other species not listed above, or their critical habitat, designated as endangered or threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Evaluation

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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, flood plain values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), 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. For activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines.

Commenting Information

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials, including any consolidate State Viewpoint or written position of the Governor; Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity and to determine the LEDPA for the project. 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

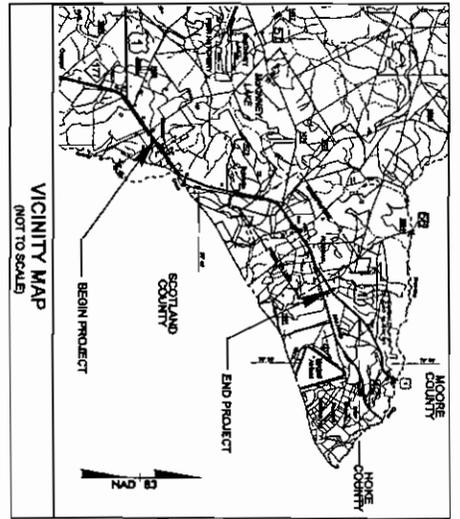
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing shall be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received by the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, until 5pm, February 14, 2008. Comments should be submitted to Mr. Richard K. Spencer, Wilmington Regulatory Field Office, P.O. Box 1890, Wilmington, North Carolina 28402-1890.

CONTRACT:

TIP PROJECT: R-2502A

See Sheet 1-A For Index of Sheets



Revised ROW 6-7-07

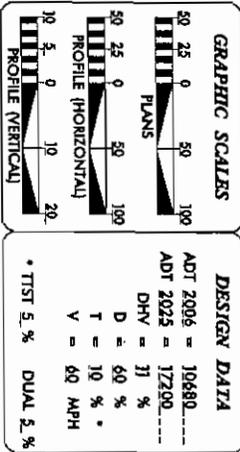
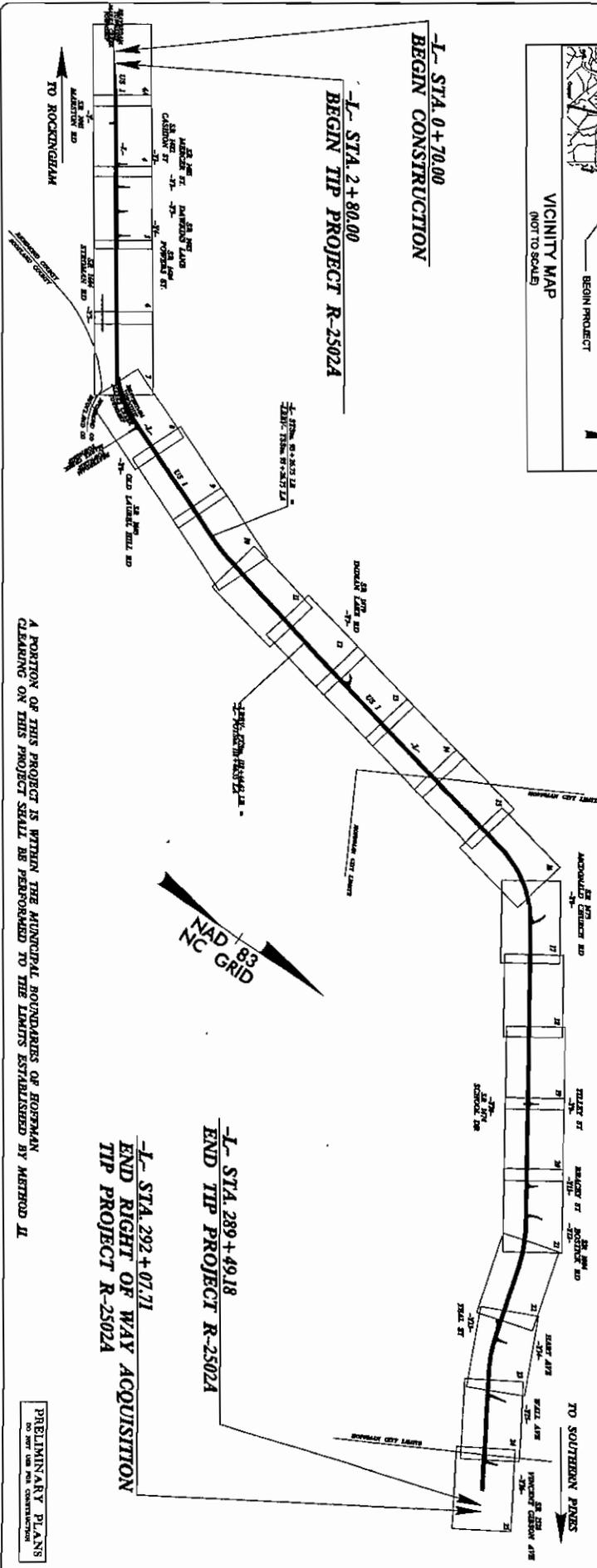
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

RICHMOND COUNTY

LOCATION: US 1 FROM SOUTH OF SR 1001 (MARSTON RD)
TO NORTH OF SR 1528 (VINCENT GIBSON AVE)
JUST NORTH OF HOFFMAN
TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, PAVING & DRAINAGE

RECEIVED
NOV 29 2007
REGULATORY
WILM.FD.OFC.

FILE NO.	8113 PROJECT APPROVAL NO.	NO.	DATE
NC R-2502A		1	
PROJECT NUMBER	34458.11	DATE	NOV
PROJECT TITLE	34458.21	DATE	NOV



DESIGN DATA

ADT 2006 = 10680

ADT 2025 = 17290

DHV = 31 %

D = 60 %

T = 10 %

V = 60 MPH

• TTST 5. %

• DUAL 5. %

PROJECT LENGTH

TOTAL LENGTH TIP PROJECT R-2502A 5.68 MI

PRELIMINARY PLANS

APPROVED FOR CONSTRUCTION

DESIGNED BY	DATE	CHECKED BY	DATE
E. G. WETHERILL, PE	APRIL 8, 2005	R. A. MAY, PE	
PROJECT ENGINEER		PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER	

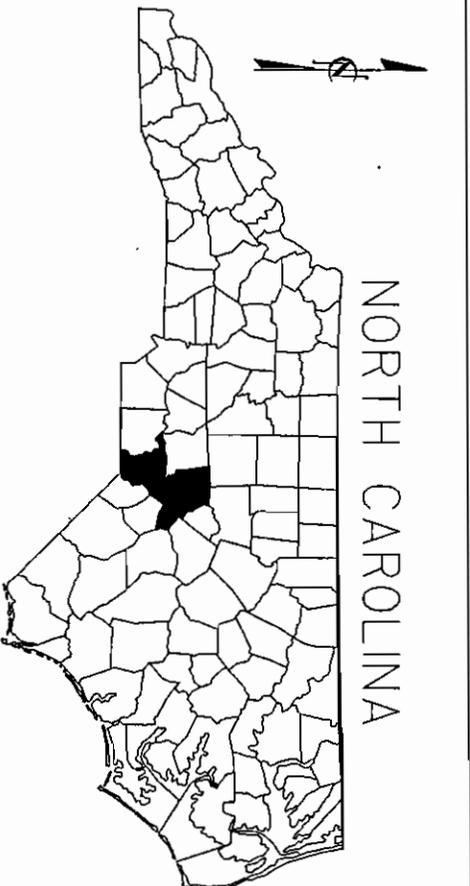
RIGHT OF WAY DATE: APRIL 8, 2005

LETTING DATE: JUNE 17, 2008

PROJECT CONTRACT: NC DOT CONTRACT

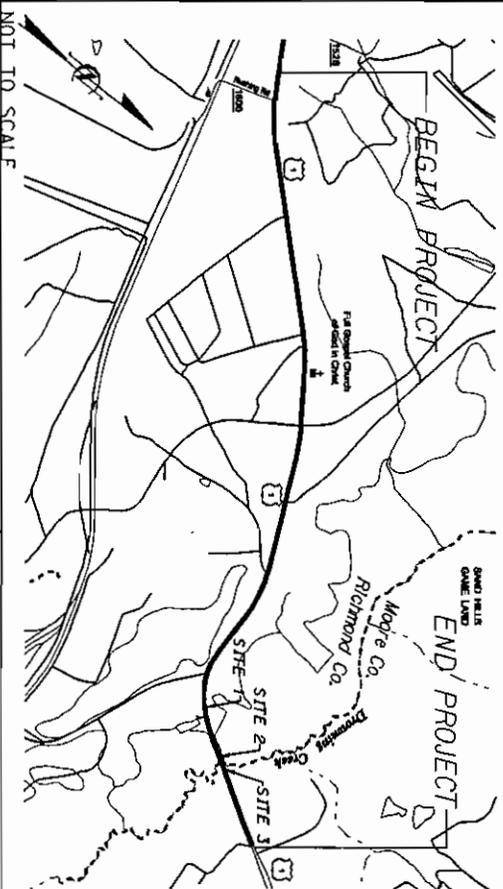
A PORTION OF THIS PROJECT IS WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES OF HOFFMAN CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD II

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA



NORTH CAROLINA

Utility Permit Drawings



NOT TO SCALE

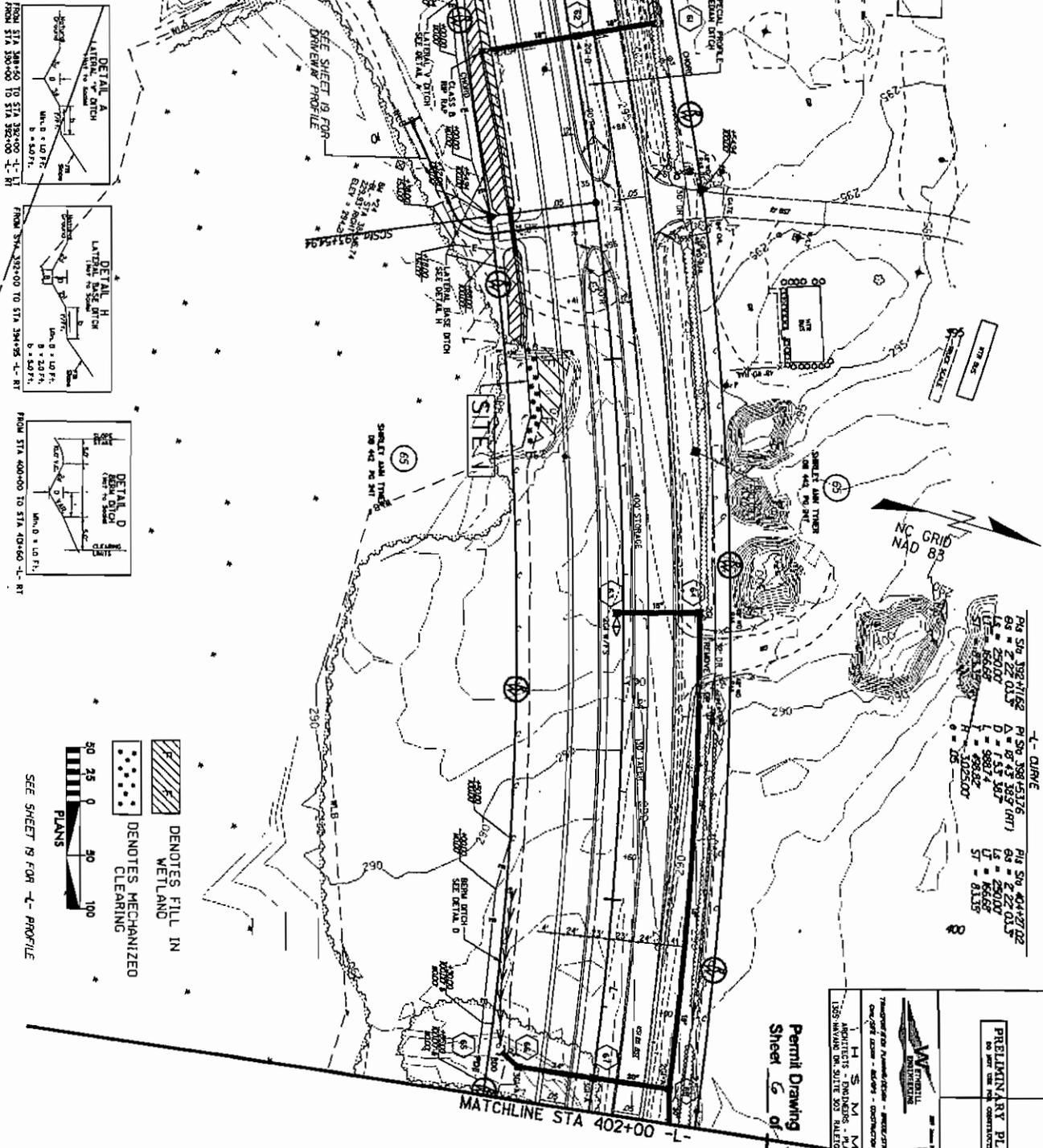
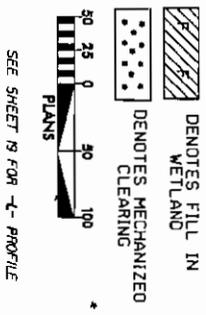
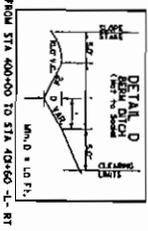
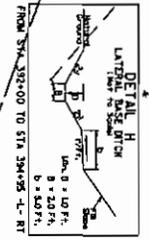
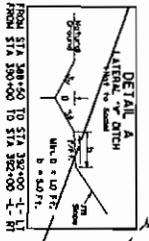
SITE
MAP

NCDOT
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 RICHMOND / MOORE COUNTIES
 PROJECT: 444811 (R-2502B)
 WIDENING OF US 1
 FROM NORTH OF SR 1528 TO
 THE EXISTING DIVIDED FACILITY
 NORTH OF THE RICHMOND
 COUNTY LINE

SHEET 1 OF 6 06/27/07

MATCHLINE STA 388+50 -L-

MATCHLINE STA 402+00 -L-



NC GRID NAD 83

Sta	388+50	390+00	392+00	394+00	396+00	398+00	400+00	402+00
ELEV	156.68	156.68	156.68	156.68	156.68	156.68	156.68	156.68
ST	6135	6135	6135	6135	6135	6135	6135	6135

Permit Drawing
Sheet 6 of 16

PRELIMINARY PLANS

PROJECT NUMBER: R-2502B
SHEET NO: 11

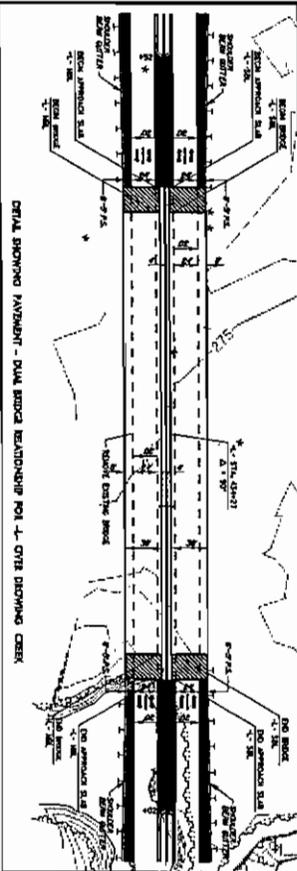
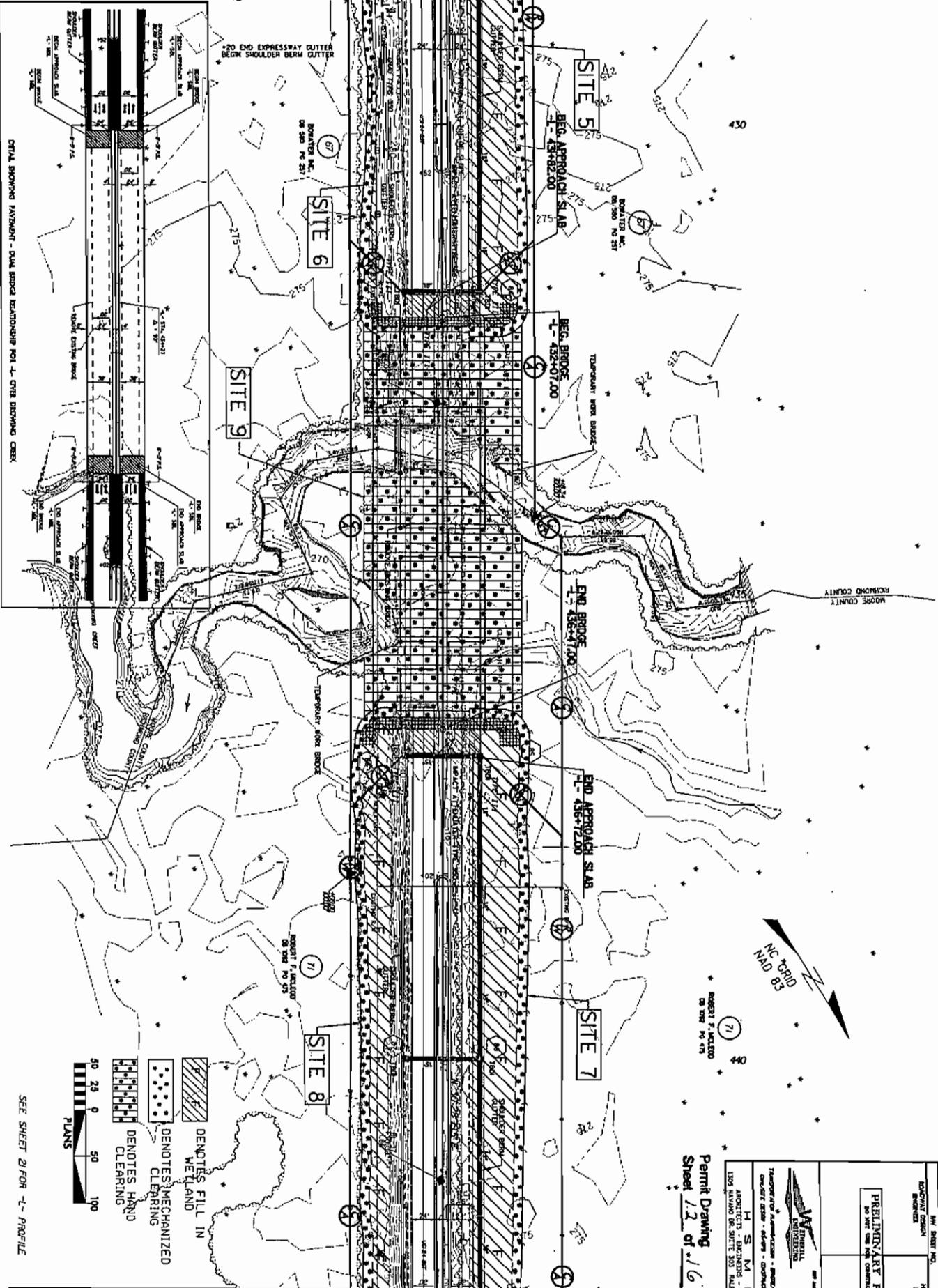
DATE: 8/17/91

SCALE: AS SHOWN

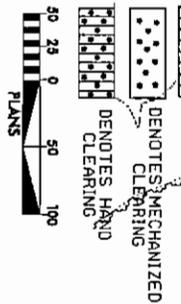
DESIGNED BY: [Name]
CHECKED BY: [Name]
APPROVED BY: [Name]

1555 NAVAJO DR. SUITE 202 RALEIGH, NC 27609

MATCHLINE STA 428+50 -L-



SEE SHEET 2/ FOR -L- PROFILE



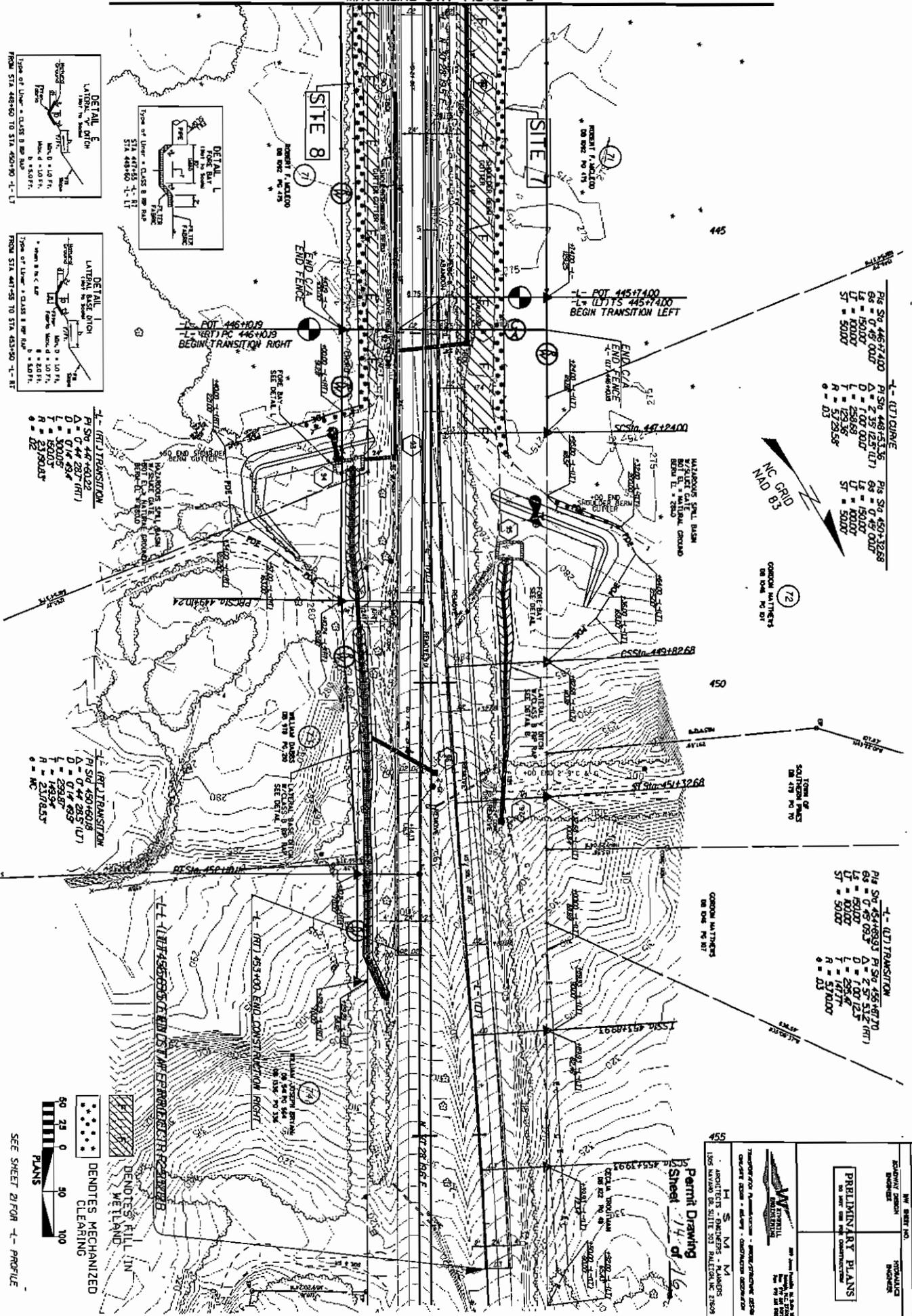
Permit Drawing Sheet 12 of 16

<p>WINTERHILL CONSULTANTS, INC. 1325 WINDYBROOK DRIVE, SUITE 303, WILMINGTON, NC 28403 TEL: 754-345-1100 FAX: 754-345-1101</p>		<p>PROJECT REFERENCE NO. R-25028</p>	<p>SHEET NO. 14</p>
<p>ARCHITECTS - ENGINEERS - PLANNERS 1325 WINDYBROOK DRIVE, SUITE 303, WILMINGTON, NC 28403 TEL: 754-345-1100 FAX: 754-345-1101</p>	<p>H S M M</p>	<p>ENGINEER</p>	<p>INITIALS</p>
<p>PRELIMINARY PLANS</p>			

ENGLISH

MATCHLINE STA 442+50 -L-

MATCHLINE STA 442+50 -L-



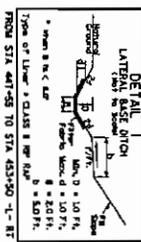
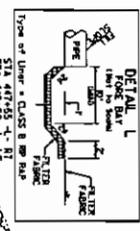
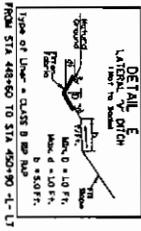
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LT = 100.00	L = 258.68	LT = 100.00
ST = 500.00	R = 5729.58	ST = 500.00
	Δ = 0.3	



1- (U) TRANSITION

PI Sta. 454+89.93	PI Sta. 455+87.70
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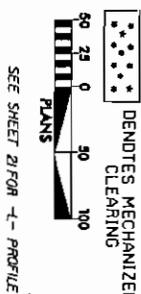


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PI Sta. 447+48.22	PI Sta. 447+28.7 (HT)
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ST = 500.00	R = 150.03
	Δ = 23/80.33

1- (U) TRANSITION

PI Sta. 450+60.8	PI Sta. 450+60.8 (U)
BS = 150.00	Δ = 0.14 (3.9)
LT = 100.00	L = 239.97
ST = 500.00	R = 147.70
	Δ = 23/80.33



SEE SHEET 21 FOR 1- PROFILE

ENGLISH

PROJECT IMPROVEMENT NO.	6-2502B	SHEET NO.	75
DESIGNER	H S M	DATE	8/17/99
APPROVED	H S M	SCALE	AS SHOWN
Permit Drawing Sheet 14 of 16			