

35th Southwest Geotechnical Engineering Conference

Geotechnical Challenges – New Orleans USACE

***Mark Woodward, PE
Jehu Johnson, EI
Geotechnical Branch
New Orleans District***














28 April 2010



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Slide 1

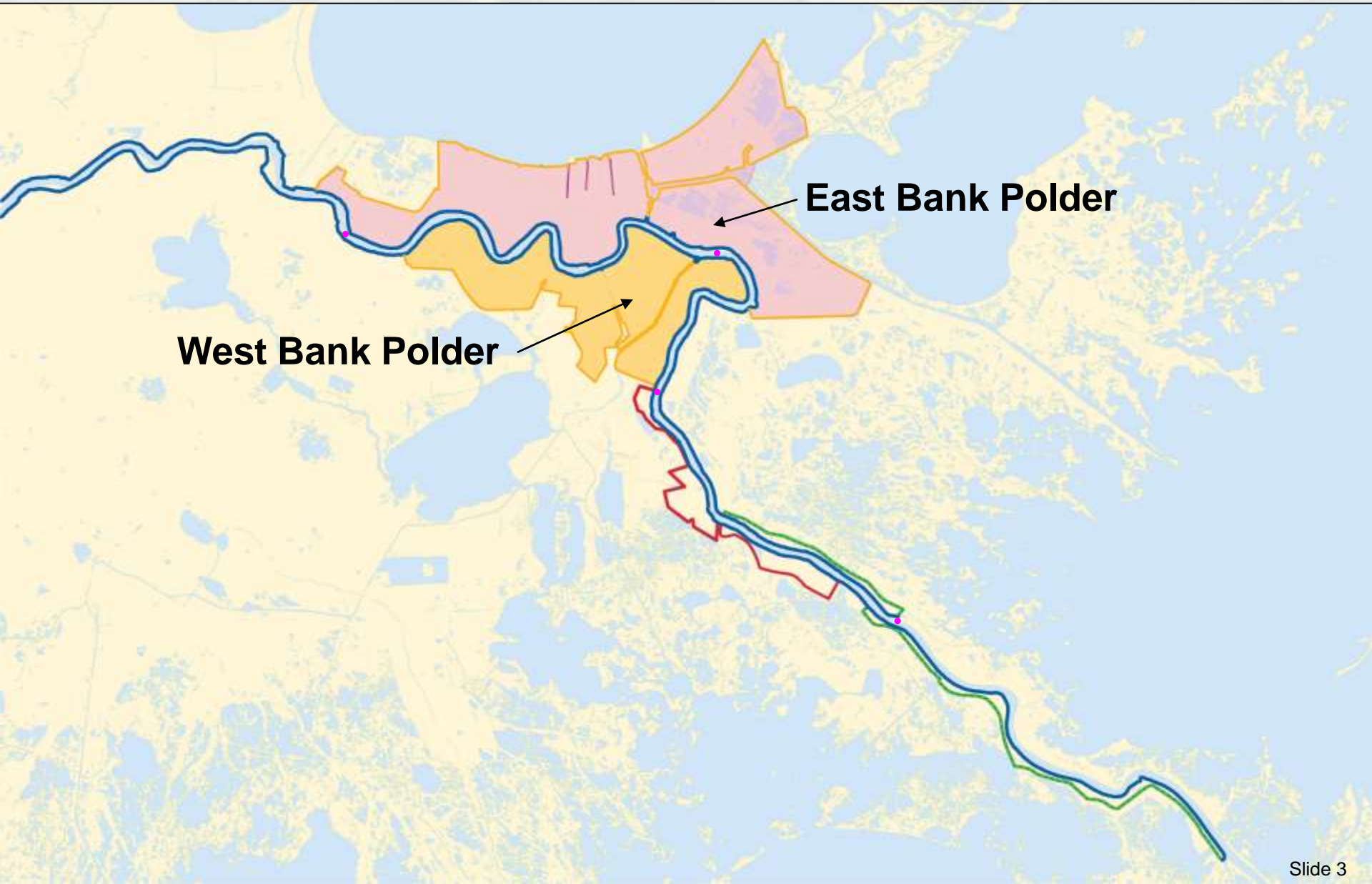
New Orleans District

-  New Orleans District Boundary
-  Gulf Intracoastal Waterway
-  Mississippi River and Tributaries Levee
-  Hurricane Protection Levee
-  Bank Protection
-  Deep Draft Waterway
-  Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
-  Acquisitions
-  Freshwater Diversion Structure
-  Saltwater Barrier
-  Lock
-  Control Structure
-  Pumping Station



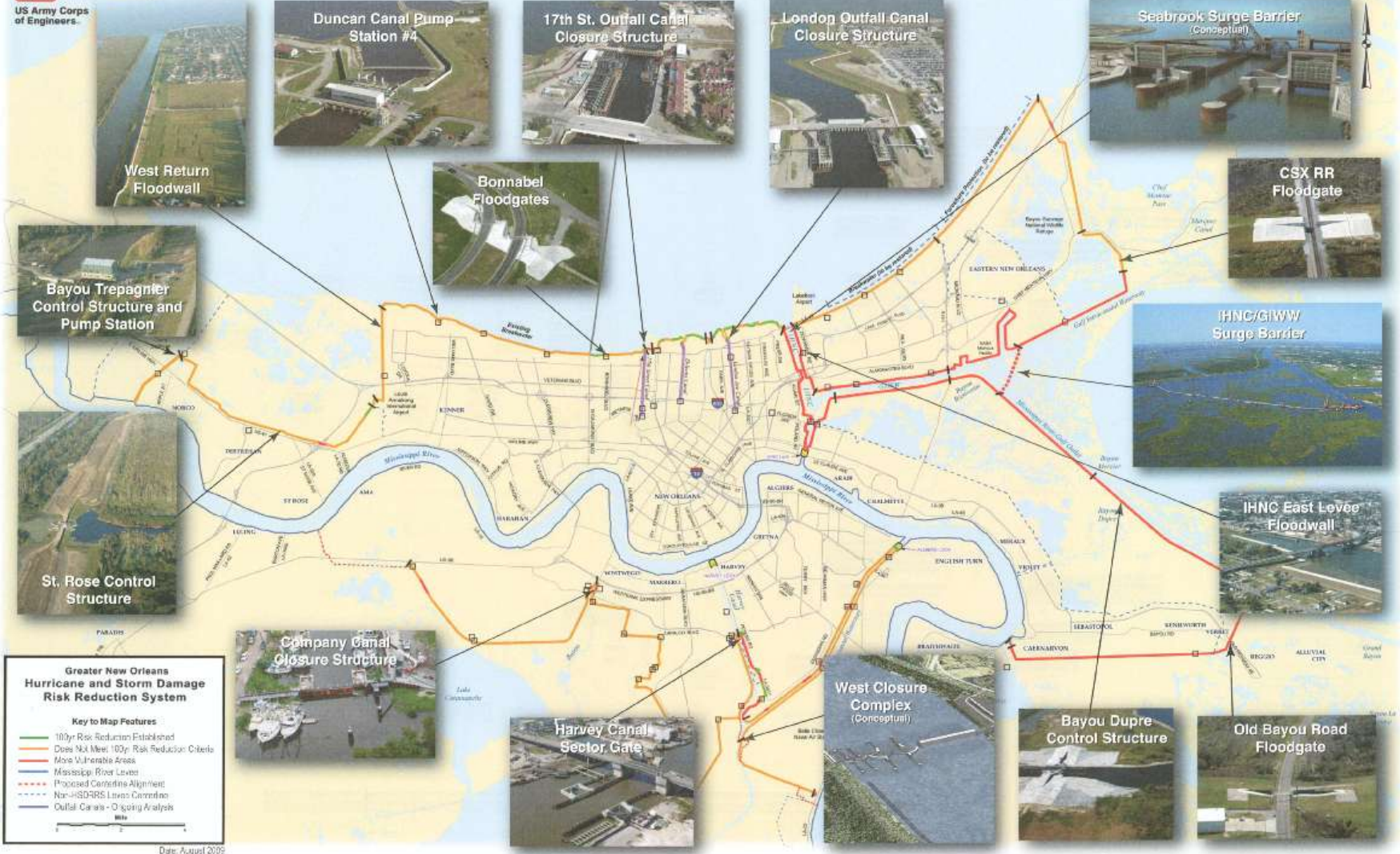
New Orleans Area

Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System





GREATER NEW ORLEANS HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM (HSDRRS)



Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System

Key to Map Features

- 100yr Risk Reduction Established
- Close to 100yr Risk Reduction Criteria
- Most Vulnerable Areas
- Mississippi River Levee
- Proposed Centerline Alignment
- Non-HSDRRS Levee Centerline
- Outfall Canals - Ongoing Analysis

Mile

Date: August 2009



HSDRRS Geotechnical Design Complexities

- ✦ **Enormity of Soil Samples (min. 500 ft. o.c.) with expedited due dates for design**
- ✦ **Evaluation of unprecedented number of laboratory & field soil tests**
 - **Over 40,000 soil strength tests**
 - **Over 50,000 Atterberg Limit tests**
 - **Over 4,000 consolidation tests**
 - **Over 1,800 CPT soundings**
 - **Over 300 GeoProbes**
- ✦ **Multitude of slope stability runs, with a multitude of soil stratifications**
- ✦ **Modifications to the two Spencer Slope Stability Software Programs – SlopeW & UTEXAS4 – on a National level due to soft soils & geotextiles in SE LA**
- ✦ **Assessment/Validity of results**
 - **Soil Strengths**
 - **CPT Data**
 - **Critical Failure Planes**
- ✦ **Results impact both Levee Footprint & Cost**

HSDRRS Unparalleled Design Support

Design Support From:

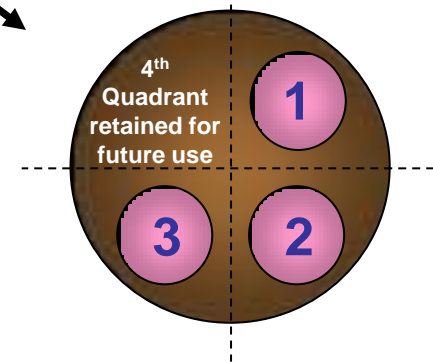
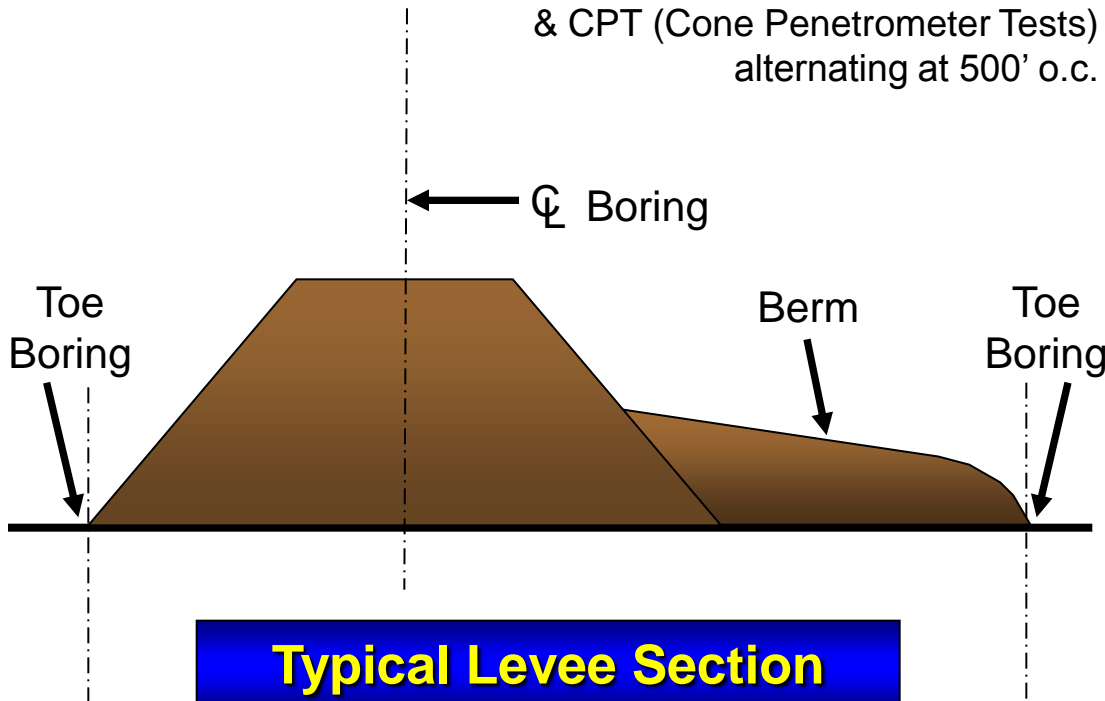
- ✦ **Five MVD Districts: St. Paul, Rock Island, St. Louis, Memphis & Vicksburg**
 - **Rock Island District & Above Districts – Major Contributors to West Closure Complex & West Bank Projects**
 - **Districts assumed “ownership” of work in lieu of brokering**
- ✦ **Embedded Contractor Workforce in Civil, Geotechnical, Project & Structural Design, including Dutch Contingent in Hydraulic Design**
- ✦ **Embedded Contractor Workforce in GIS & Surveying Support**
- ✦ **Large Capacity in A/E Contract Services**
 - **Surveying & Mapping (6 contracts, \$35M)**
 - **Hydraulic Design (4 contracts, \$9M)**
 - **General Design (24 contracts, \$98M)**
 - **\$100M Geotechnical Exploration & Testing, with state of the art soils lab**
 - **Joint Venture consisting of two national and two local firms**

Typical Levee Section & Geotechnical Field Investigation

☒ Levee

5" Diameter Soil Boring

5" Diameter Undisturbed Soil Borings
& CPT (Cone Penetrometer Tests)
alternating at 500' o.c.



Circular Soil Sample
cut into 4 Quadrants
with 3 samples tested
(trimmed circular)





Consolidation Specimen Preparation

DO NOT DISTURB LAB

FOR INFORMATION ONLY
TAM 02 PT

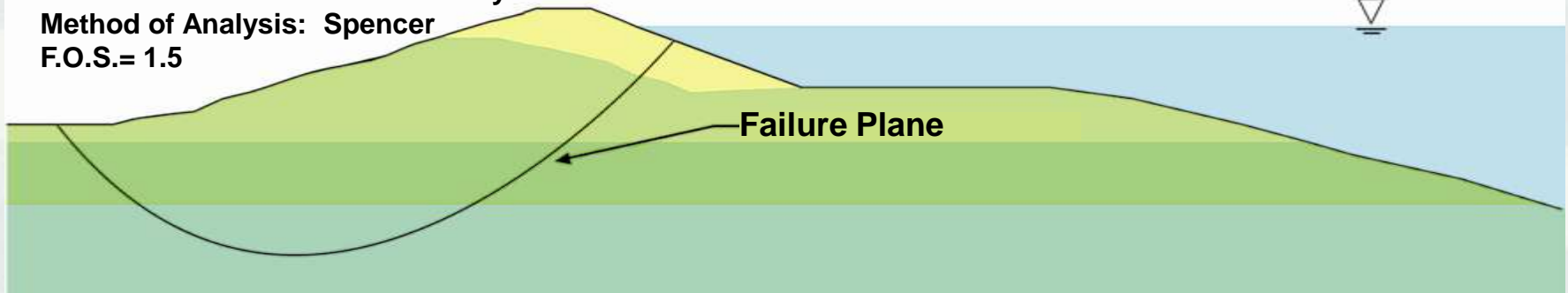
Current Geotechnical Levee Criteria

HSDRRS Criteria

Protected Side

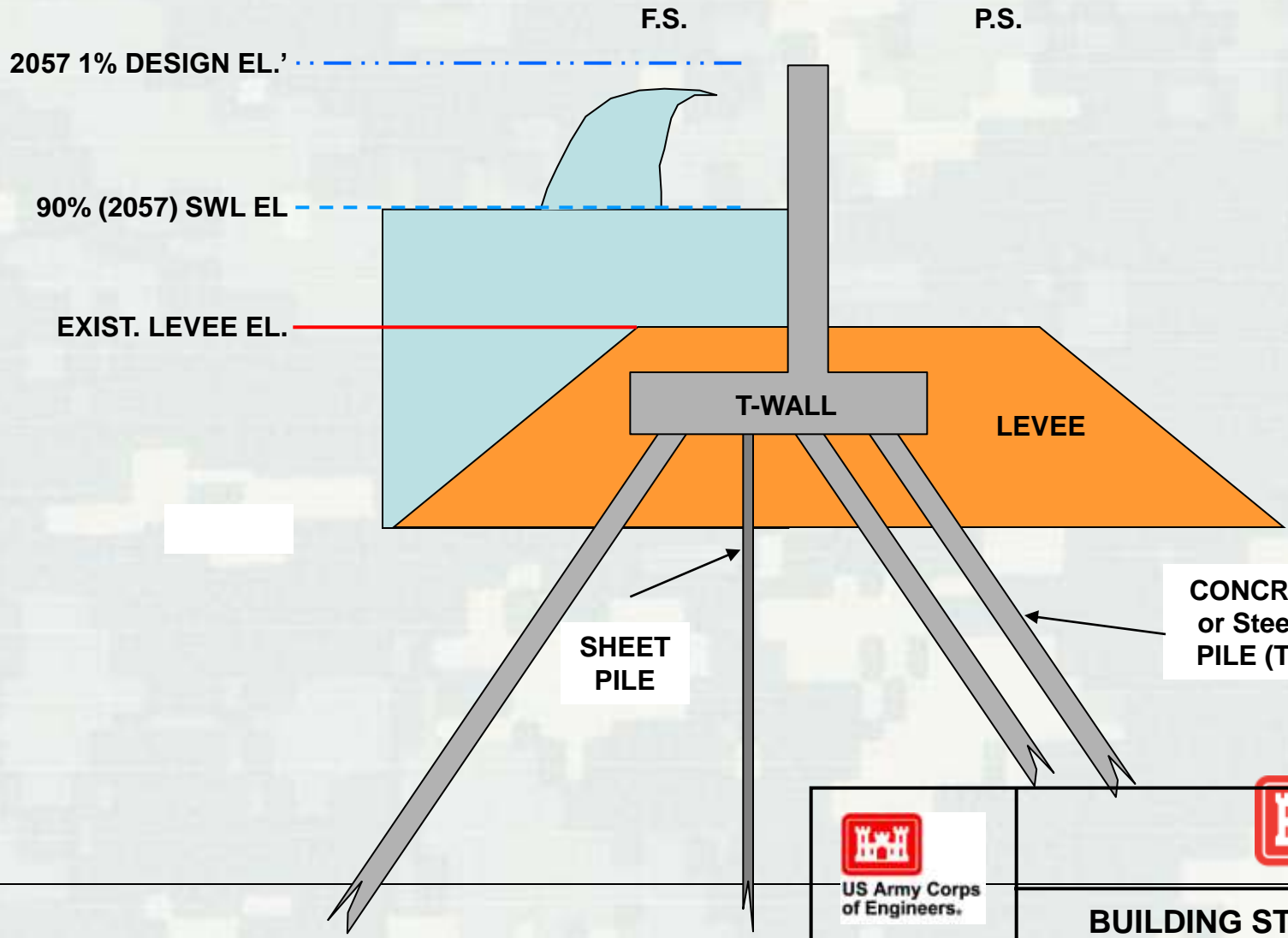
Method of Failure: Global Stability
 Method of Analysis: Spencer
 F.O.S.= 1.5

Design Still Water Elevation
 (90% assurance)
 for Hurricane Condition



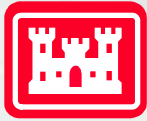
Required Minimum Factor of Safety

Analysis Condition	Spencer Method	MOP
End of Construction	1.3	1.3
Design Hurricane (SWL)	1.5	1.3
Water at Project Grade (Levees)	1.4	1.2
Water at Construction Grade (Levees)	1.2	N/A
Extreme Hurricane (Water @ Top of I-Walls)	1.4	1.3
Extreme Hurricane (Water @ Top of T-Walls)	1.4	1.2
Low Water (Hurricane Condition)	1.3	1.3
Low Water (Non-Hurricane Condition) S-Case	1.4	1.3



Seepage Concerns on Mississippi River Levees





US Army Corps
of Engineers

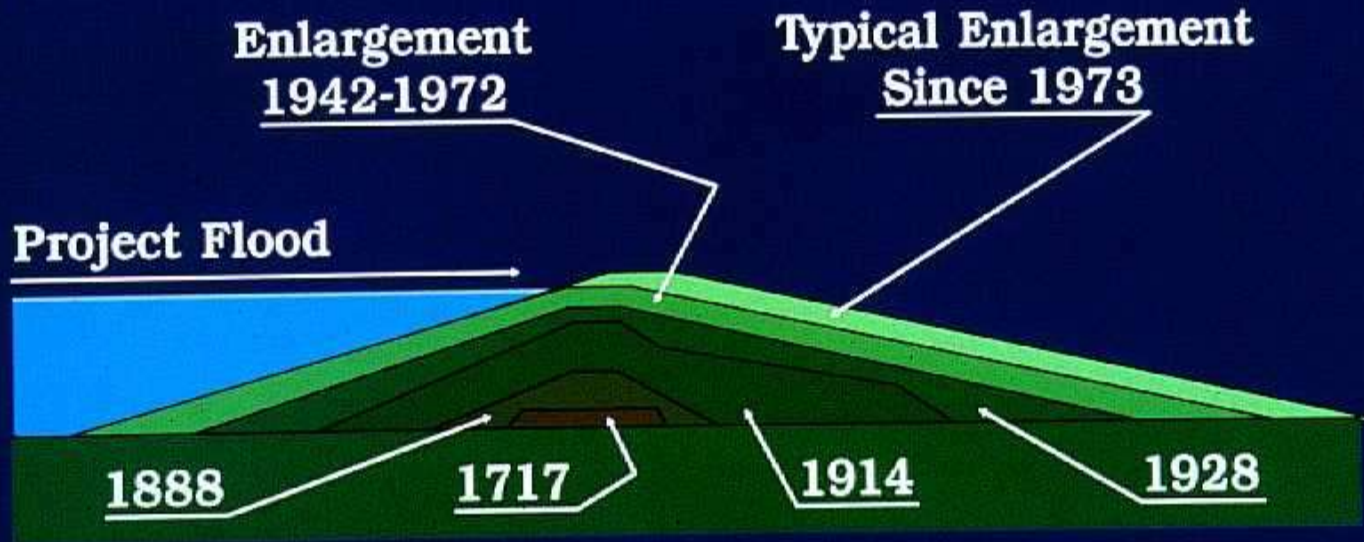
HIGH WATER EFFECTS ON FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS

- Overtopping
- Sand Boils
- Seepage
- Sloughing
- Wave Wash
- Erosion



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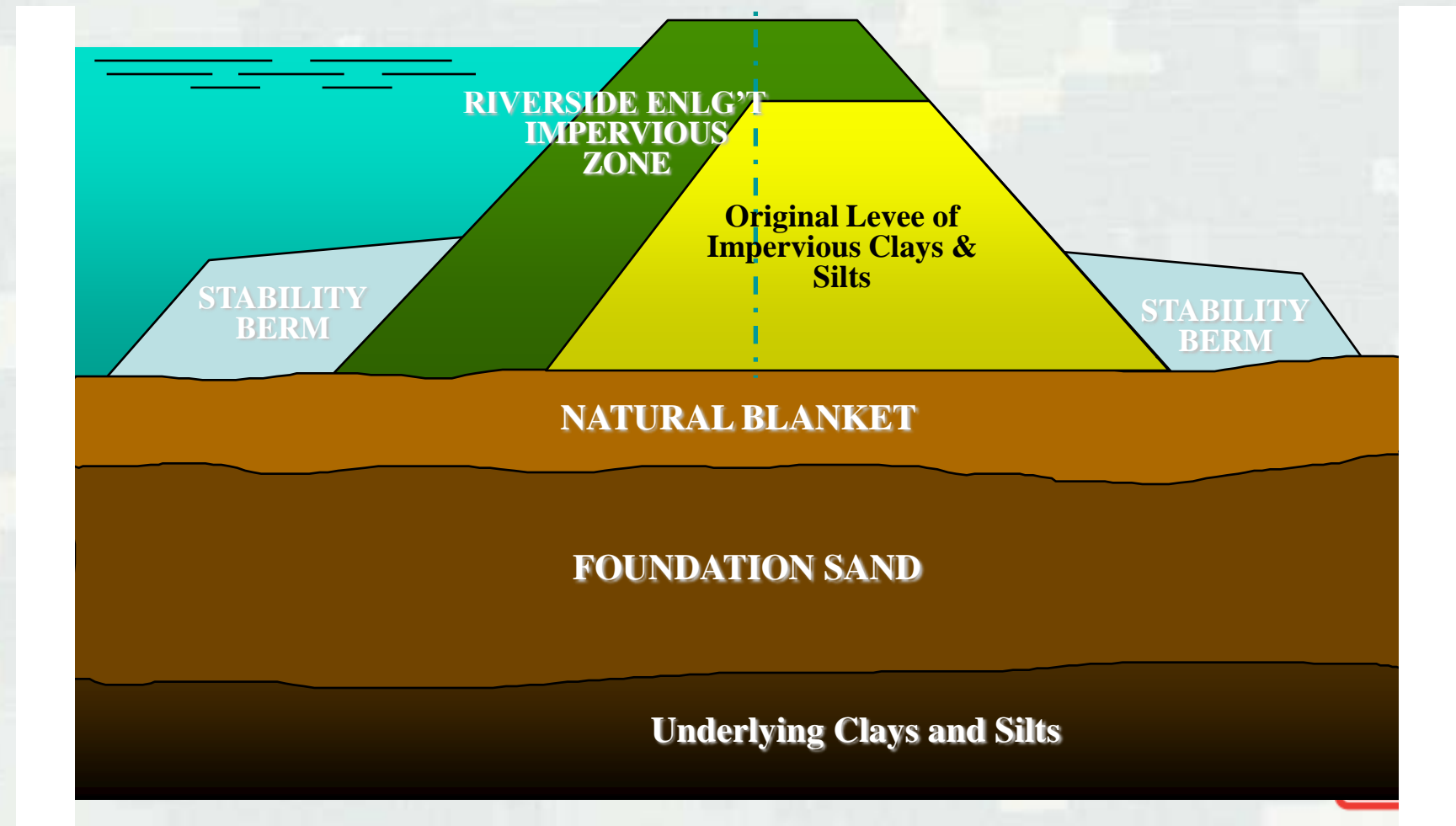
Evolution of Mississippi River Levees

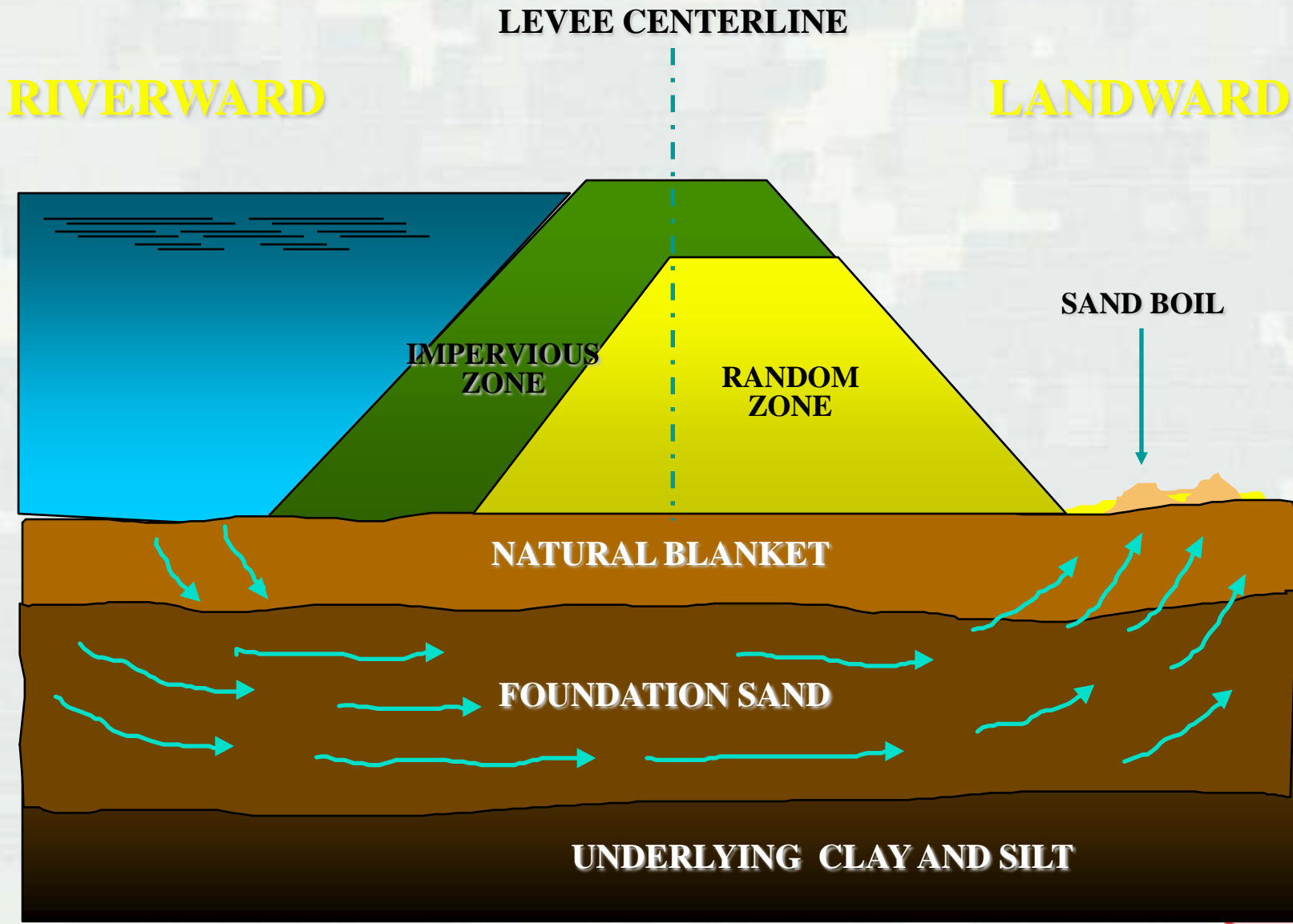


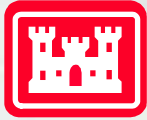
RIVERWARD

LANDWARD

LEVEE CENTERLINE







US Army Corps
of Engineers

EFFECTS OF SANDBOILS

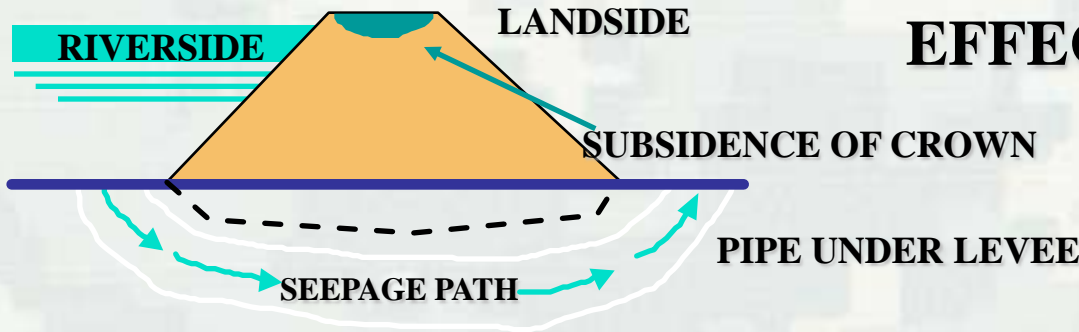
- **Development of pipe under the levee**
The pipe develops from the landside toward the flood side. Material is ejected in a cone shape around a spring head. The levee crest may be noticed to sag.
- **Sloughing of landside levee slope near the toe**
- **Development of a landside shear or slide**



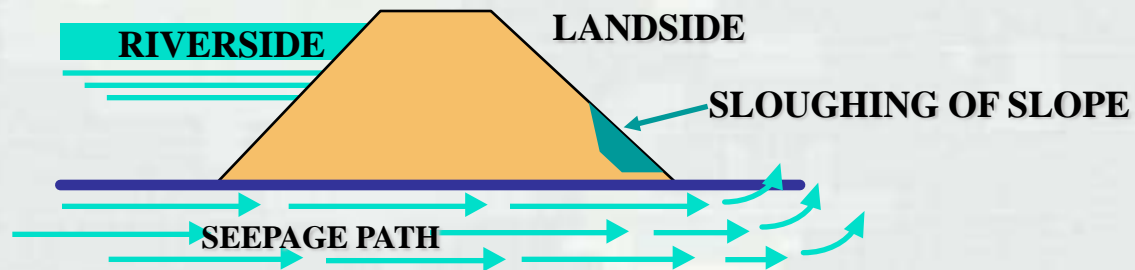
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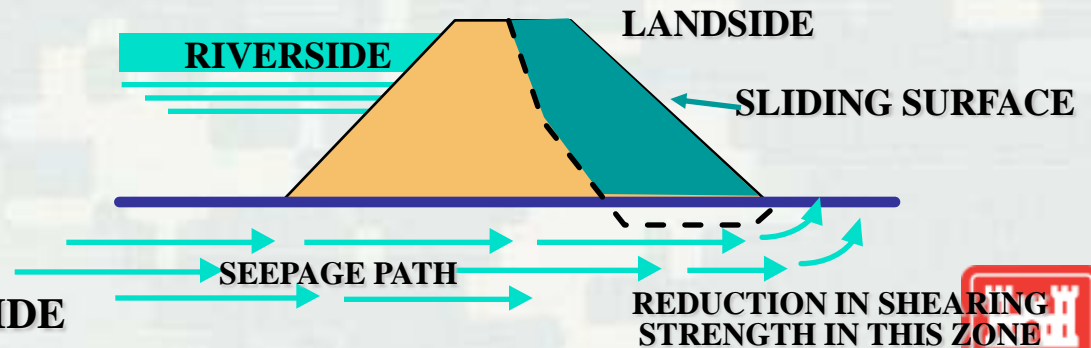
EFFECTS OF SAND BOILS ON LEVEE



DEVELOPMENT OF PIPE UNDER LEVEE
FIG. 1



SLOUGHING OF LANDSLIDE SLOPE DUE TO
RAVELLING AND UNDERCUTTING OF TOE
FIG. 2



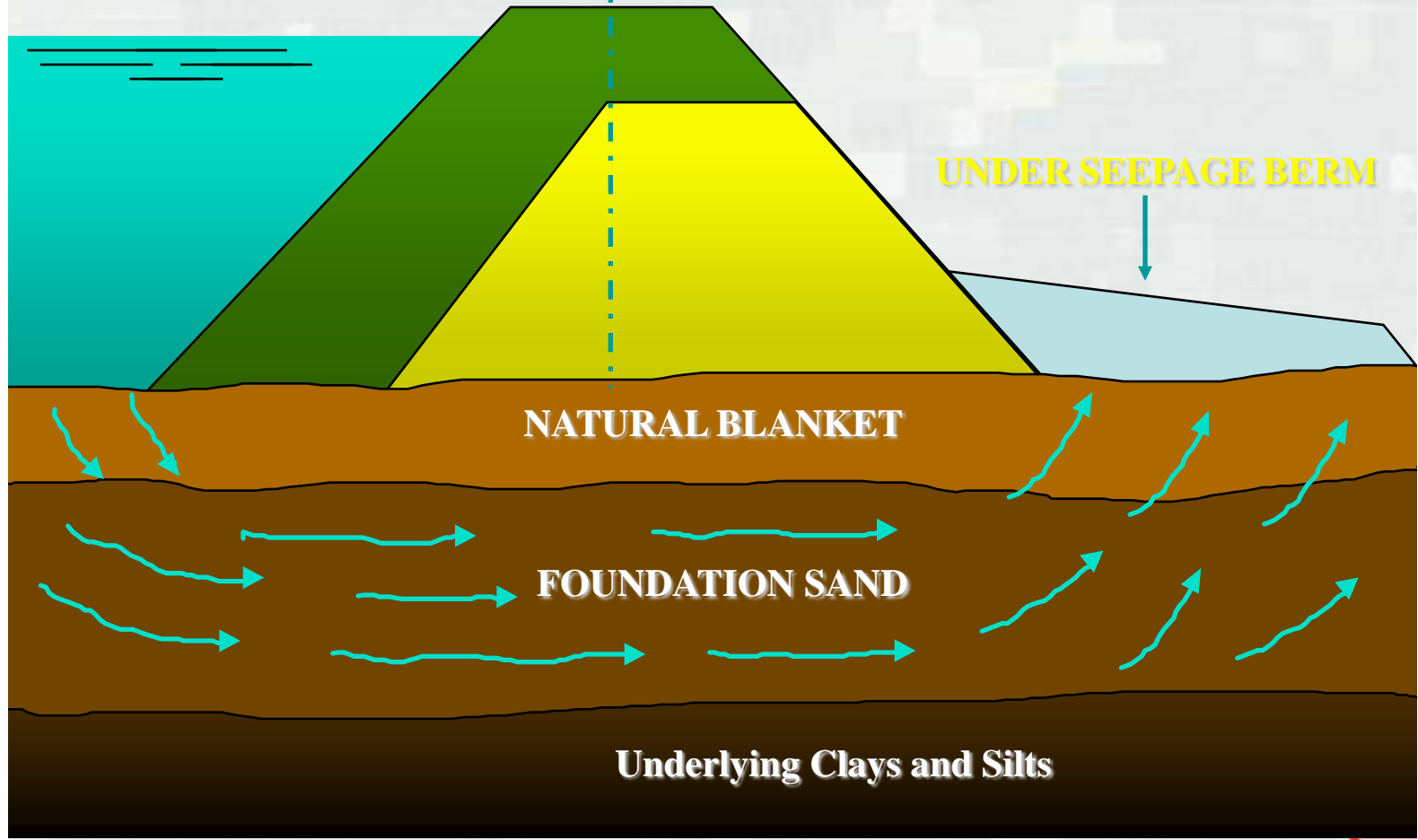
DEVELOPMENT OF SHEAR SLIDE
FIG. 3



LEEVE CENTERLINE

RIVERWARD

LANDWARD



UNDER SEEPAGE BERM

NATURAL BLANKET

FOUNDATION SAND

Underlying Clays and Silts

LEVEE CENTERLINE

RIVERWARD

LANDWARD

Piezometric Head

PONDED SEEPAGE
Look for Sand Boils

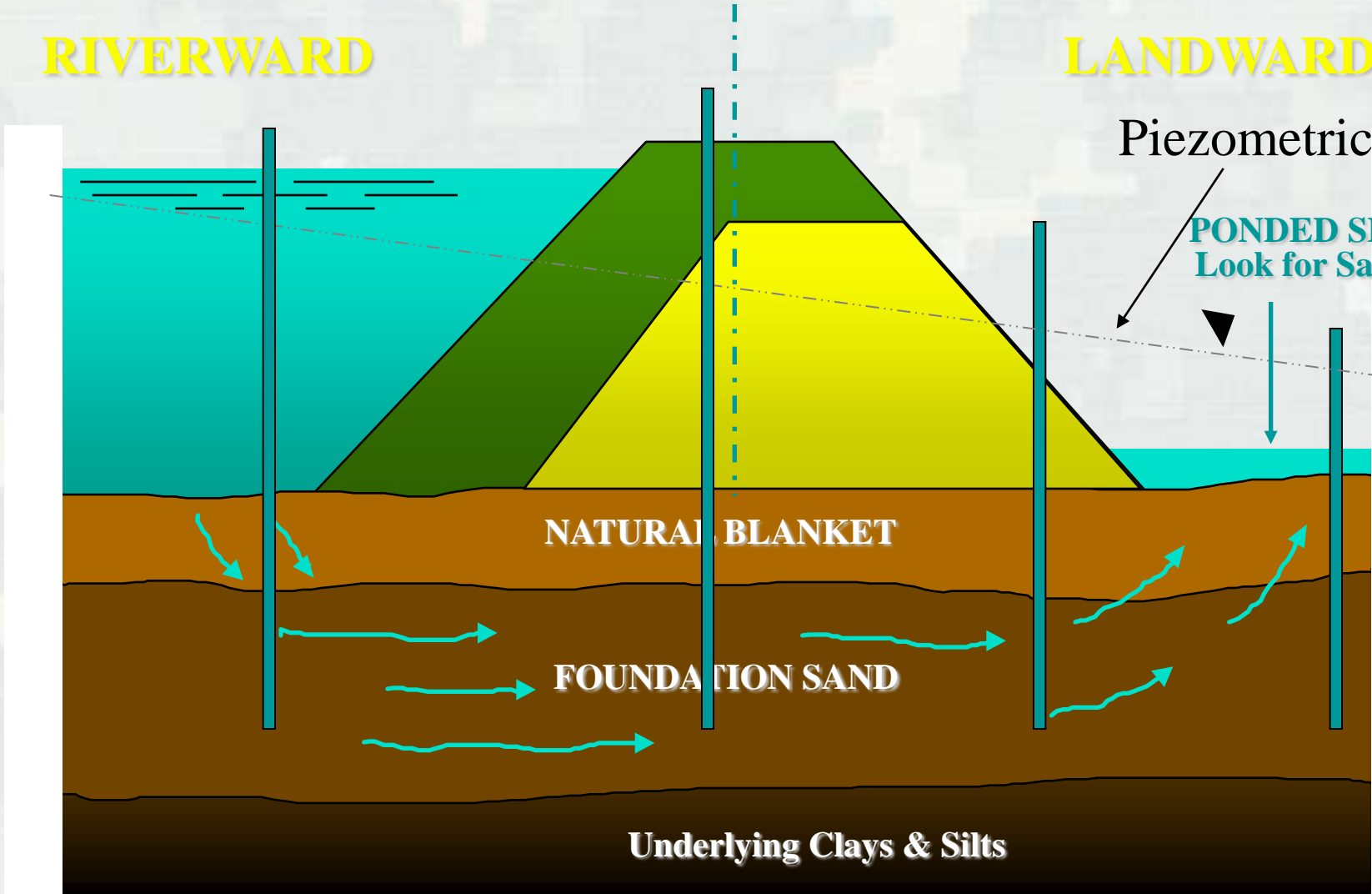
NATURAL BLANKET

FOUNDATION SAND

Underlying Clays & Silts

Under Seepage Event with Leakage at Levee

Toe

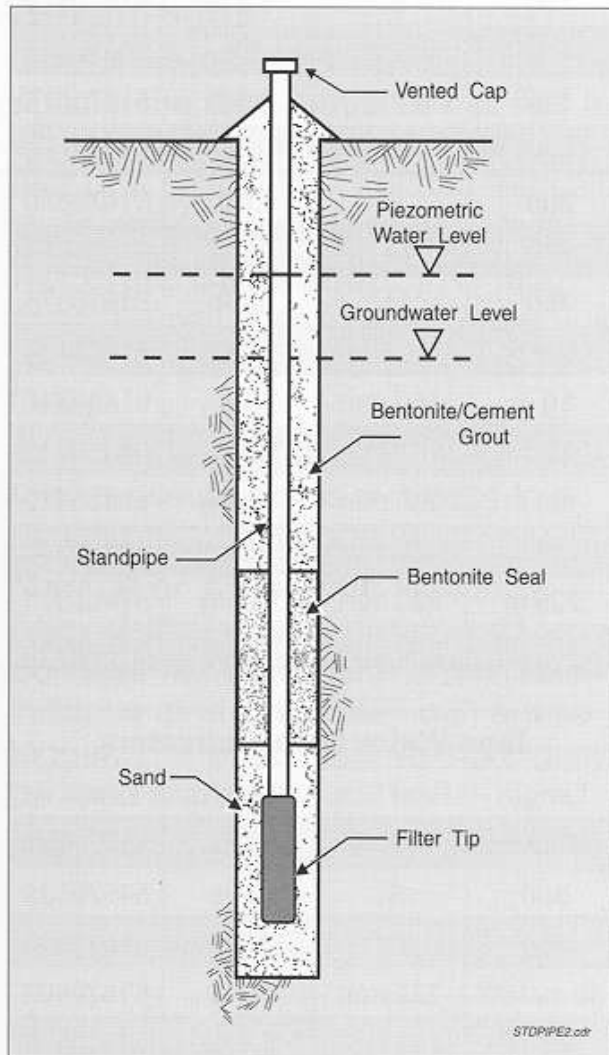




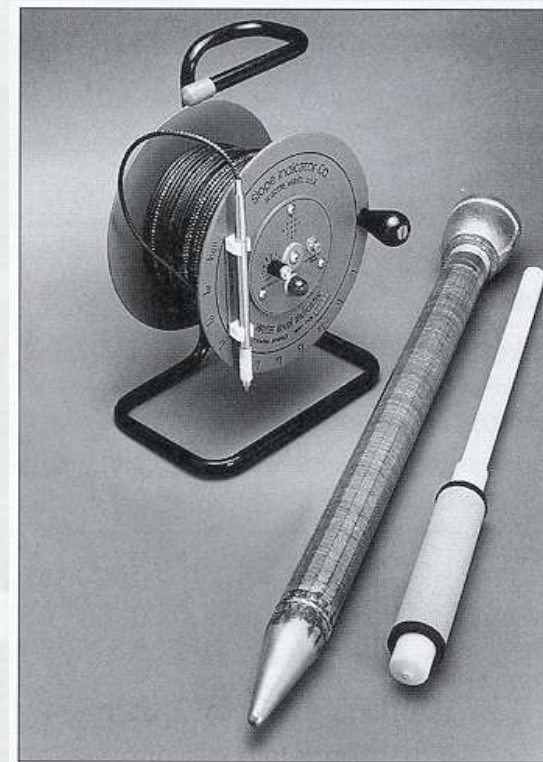
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Open System Piezometers



Standpipe (Casagrande) Piezometer



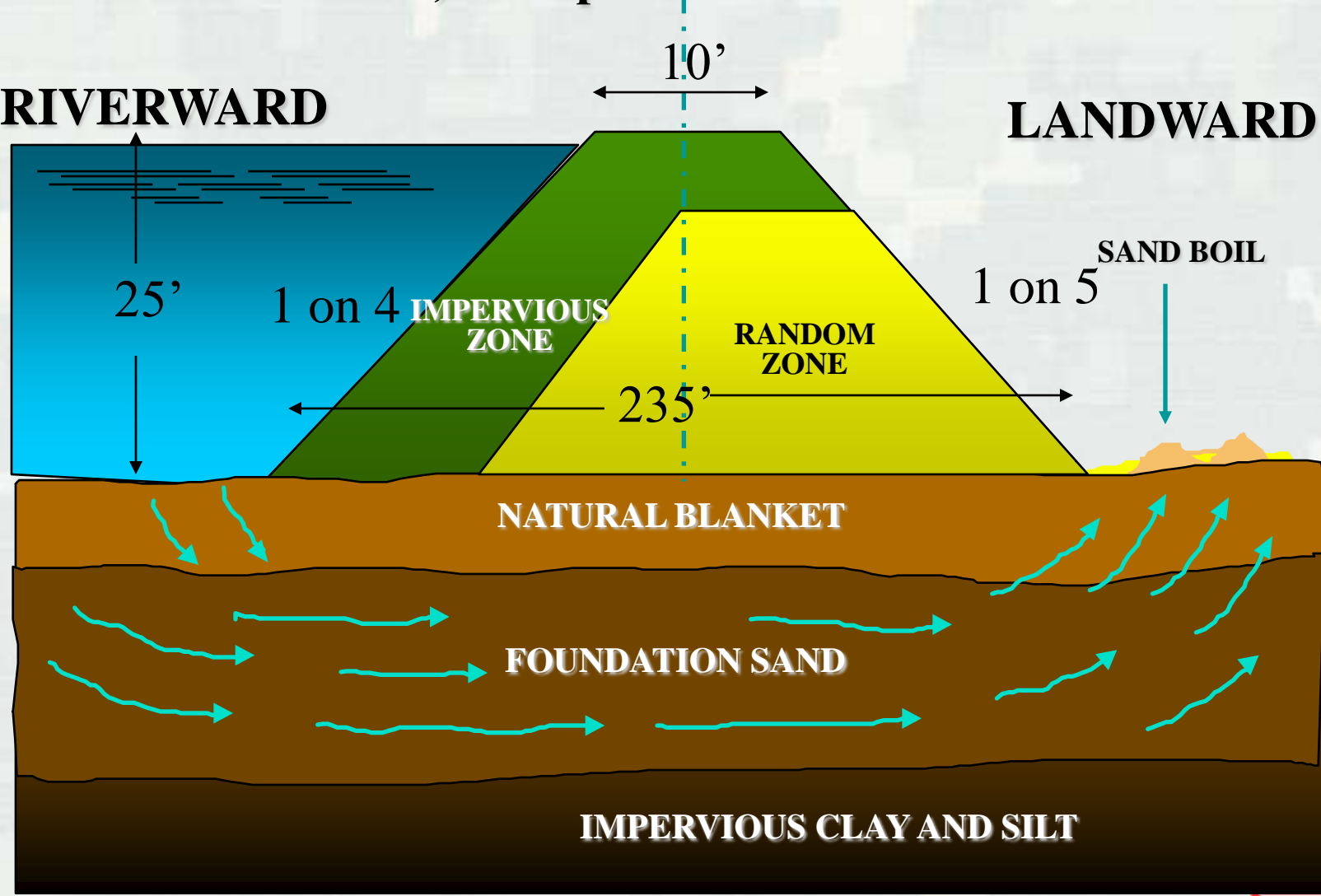
Water Level Indicator and Filter Tips.







For $K=1.0 \times 10^{-2}$ cm/sec, a drop of water can travel 235' in 8.5 days





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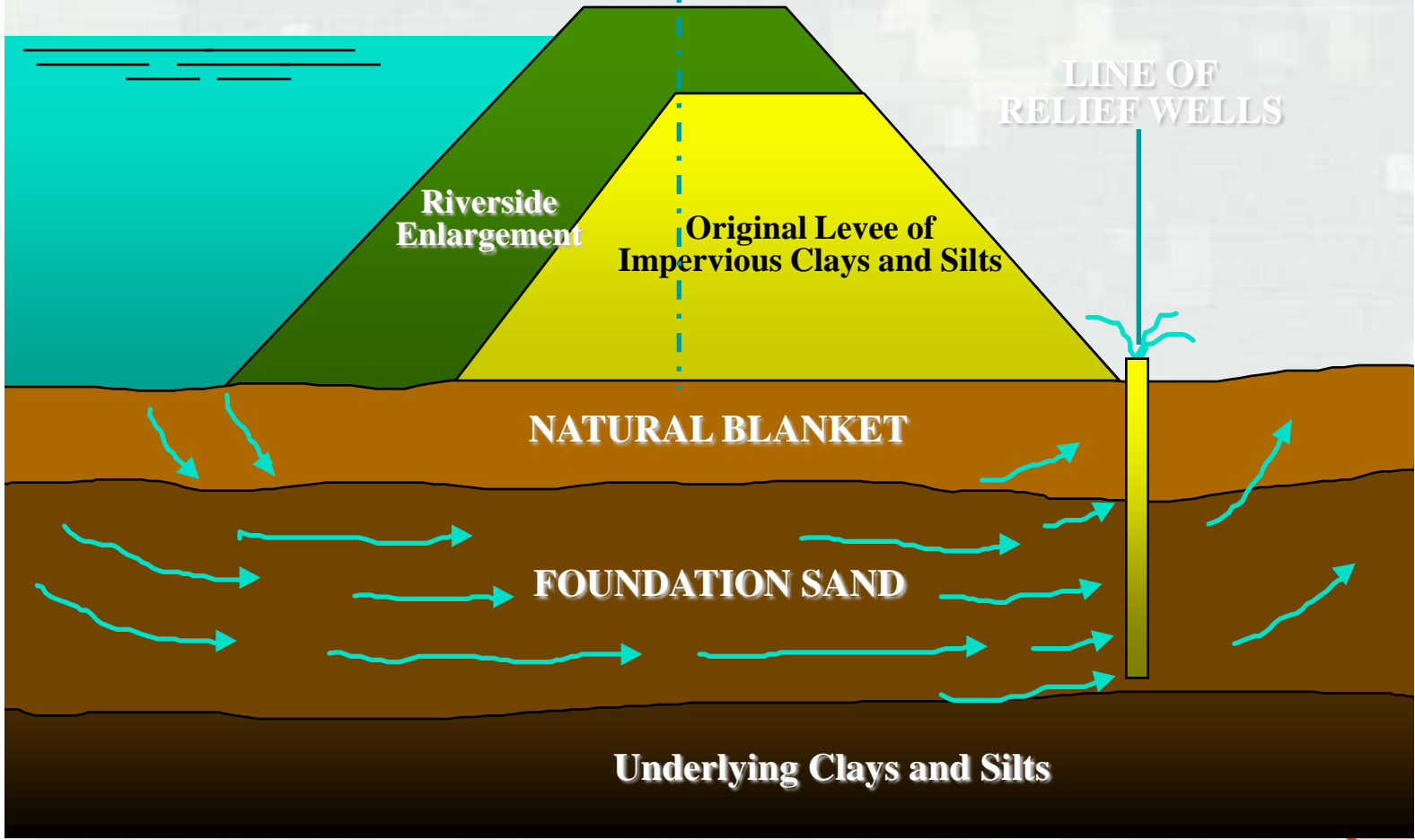


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LEVEE CENTERLINE

RIVERWARD

LANDWARD



LINE OF RELIEF WELLS

Riverside Enlargement

Original Levee of Impervious Clays and Silts

NATURAL BLANKET

FOUNDATION SAND

Underlying Clays and Silts

RIVERWARD

LANDWARD

LEEVE CENTERLINE

Piezometric Head

PONDED SEEPAGE
Look for Sand Boils

RIVERSIDE ENLARGED IMPERVIOUS ZONE

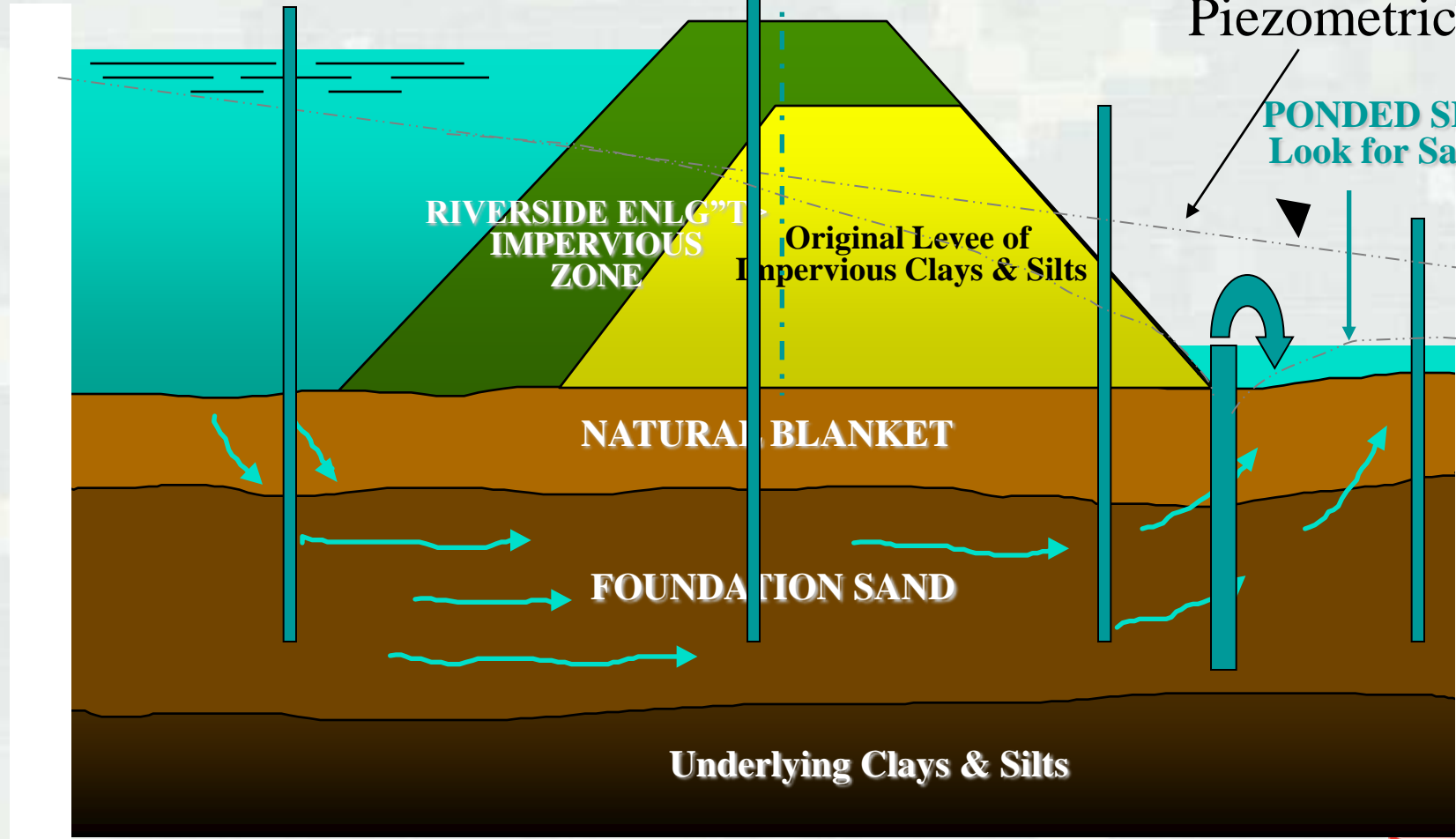
Original Level of Impervious Clays & Silts

NATURAL BLANKET

FOUNDATION SAND

Underlying Clays & Silts

Under Seepage Event with Leakage at Levee Toe



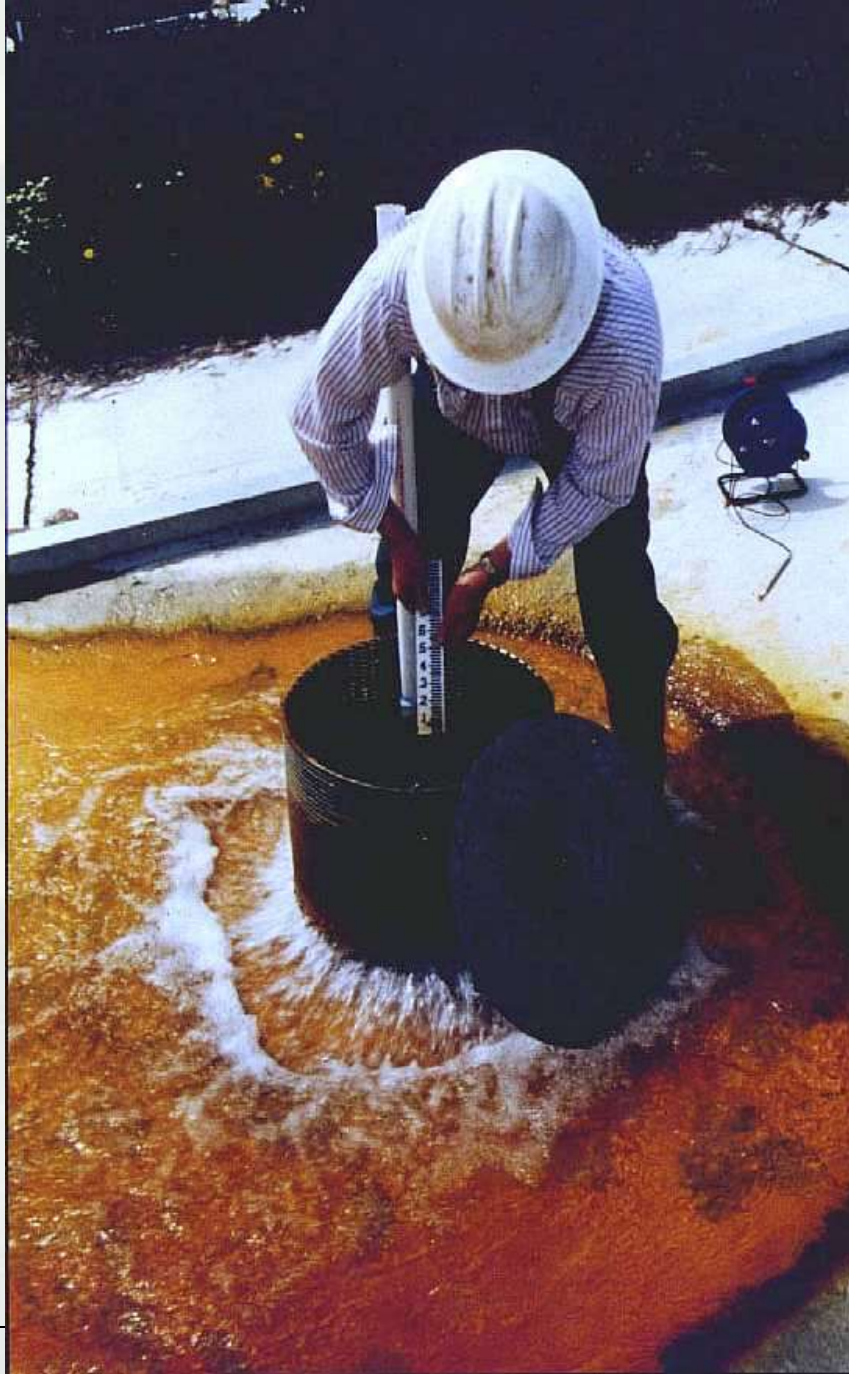


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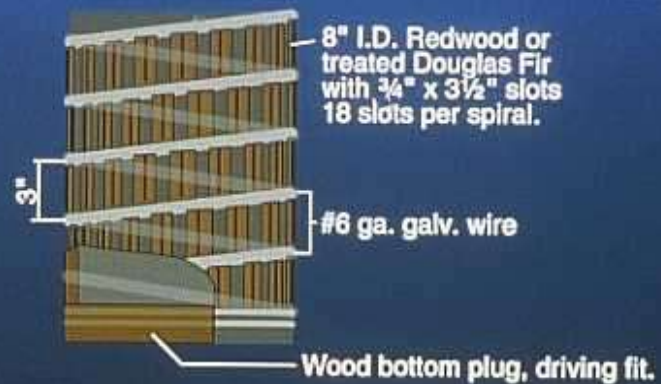
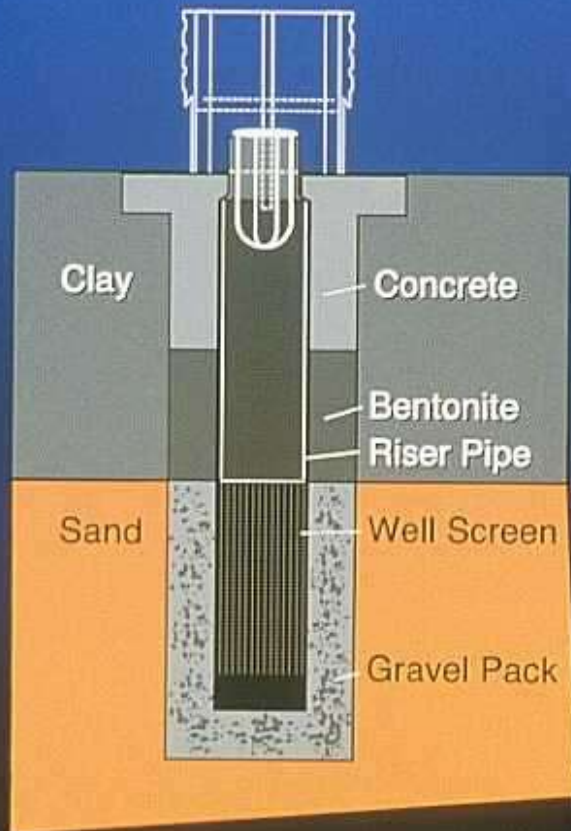
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RELIEF WELL CROSS SECTION



DETAIL OF WOOD SCREEN
Not to scale



Open barrel used
to control sandboils





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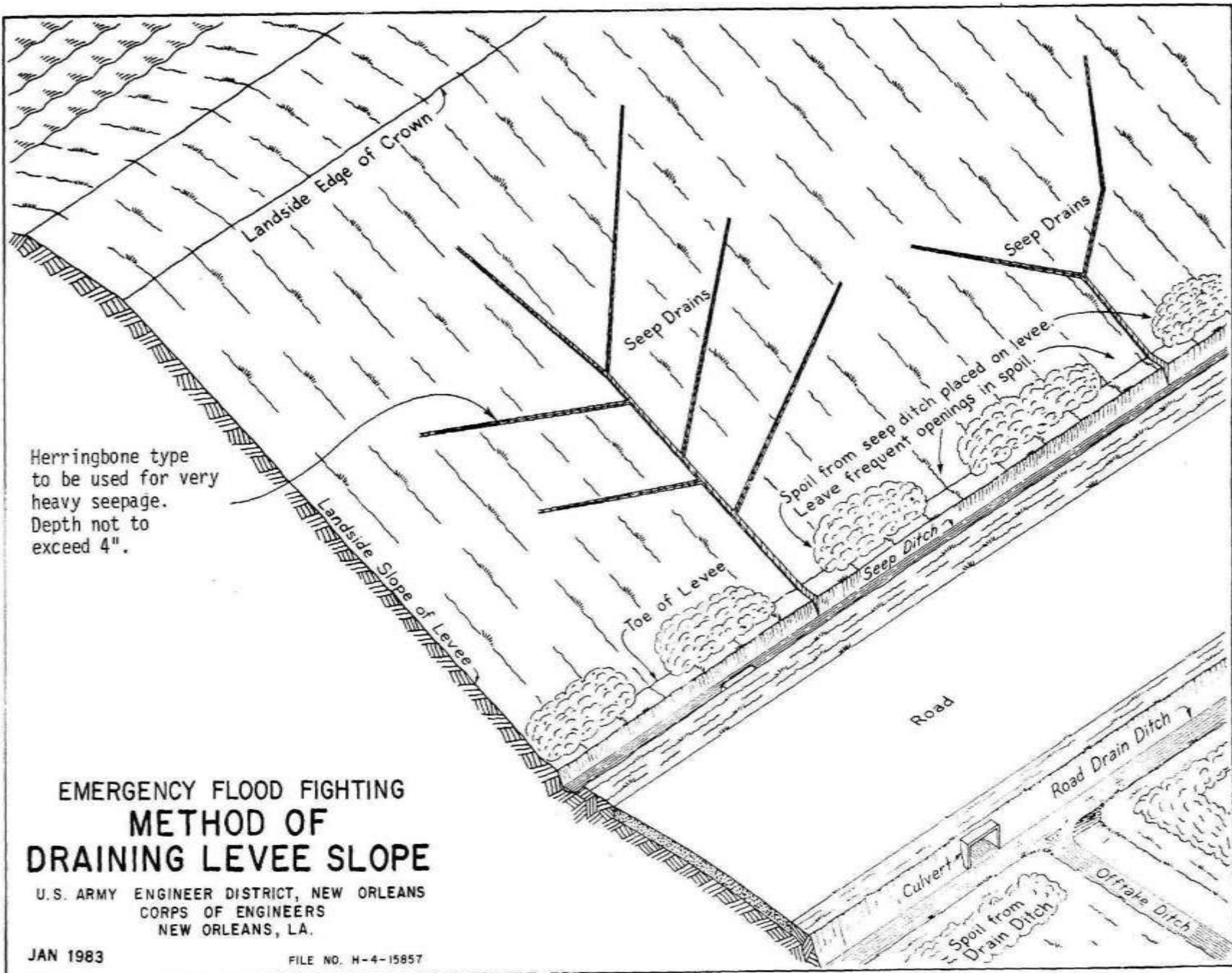


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Herringbone type
to be used for very
heavy seepage.
Depth not to
exceed 4".

EMERGENCY FLOOD FIGHTING METHOD OF DRAINING LEVEE SLOPE

U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, NEW ORLEANS
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

JAN 1983

FILE NO. H-4-15857

PLATE I



Deep Soil Mixing



Deep Soil Mixing

- Inject lime, cement, slag, fly ash, etc. into soil
- Mix thoroughly
- Creates a pozzolanic reaction in the soil/cement mass



Deep Mixing Design Parameters

▪ **WET MIXING**

- Water/binder ratio
- Binder load
- Number of shafts to suit application
- Spoil disposal

WET METHOD

- Excellent overlap
- Adaptable to multiple augers
- High strength
- Spoil disposal

▪ **DRY MIXING**

- Binder load
- Mixing energy
- Rate of penetration
- Soil moisture

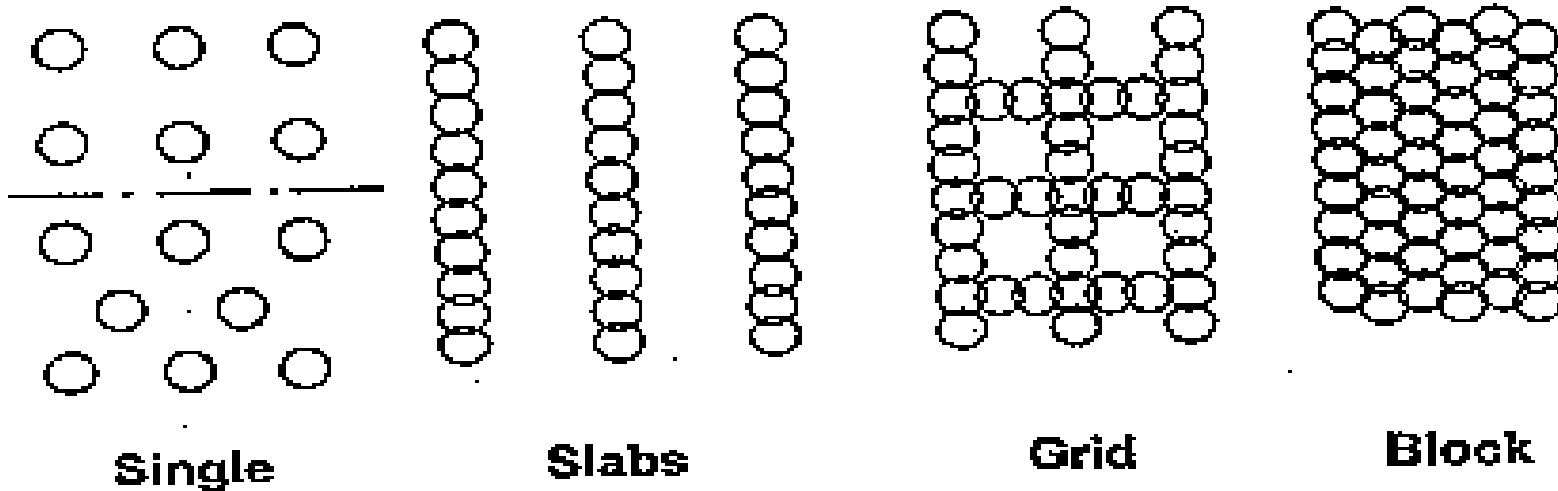
DRY METHOD

- No spoil
- No water needed
- Medium to high strength



Design for the purpose

- Stability and support – strength, array, length, uniformity
- Seepage cutoff – continuity, overlap, length, permeability
- Seismic retrofit – All of the above

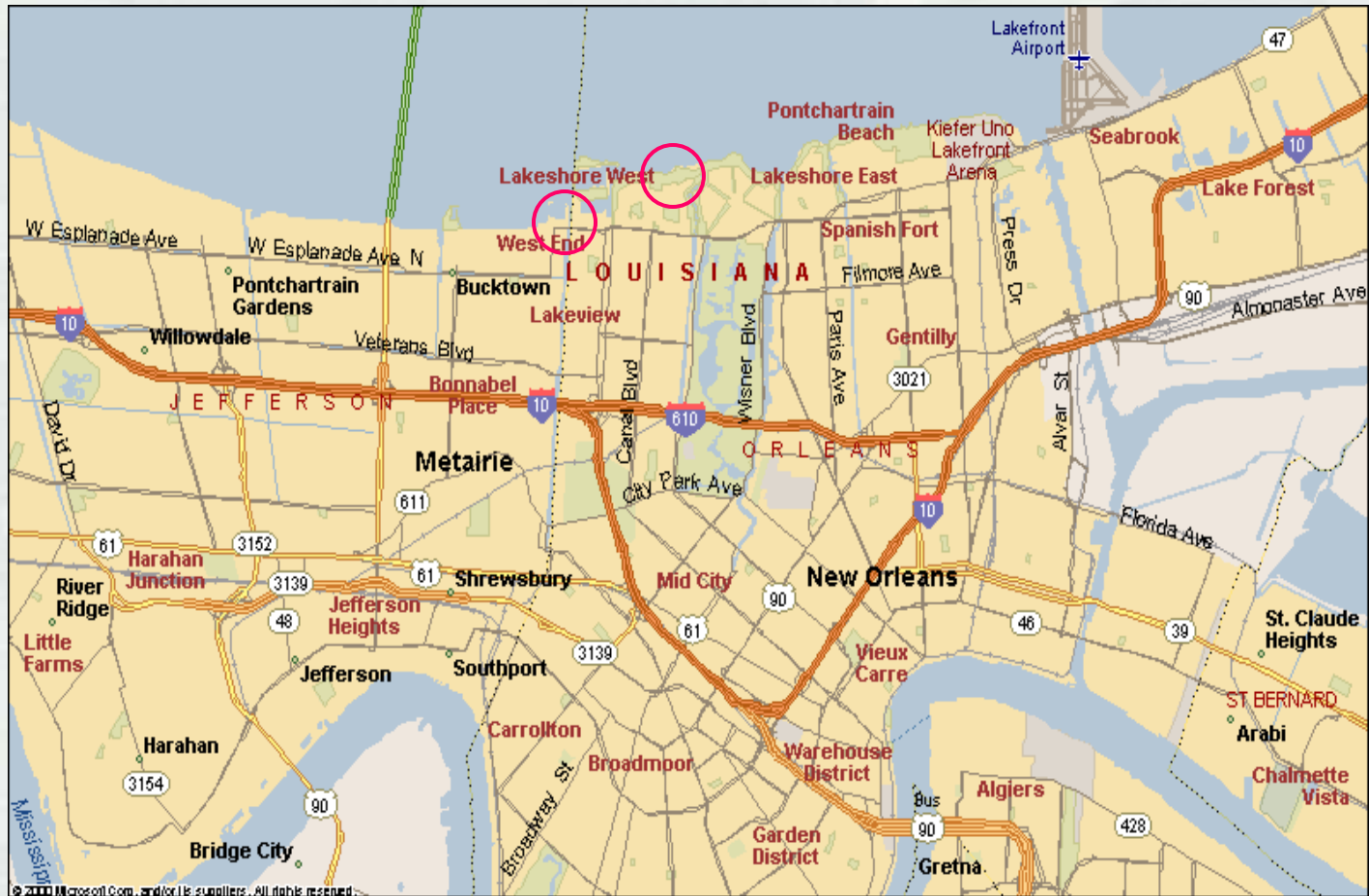


Three DM Applications

- Resist deflection of major structures
- Buttress existing floodwalls
- Reinforce new embankments



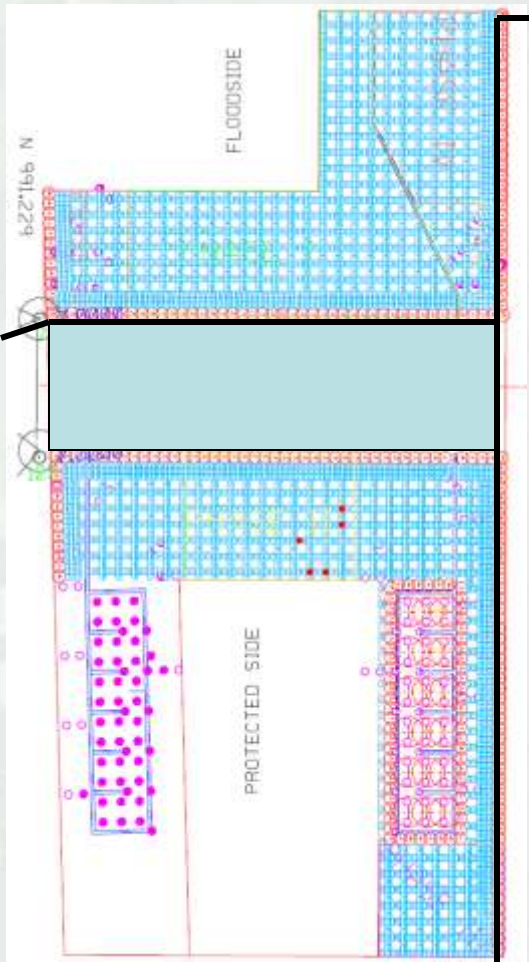
Major Structures - 17th Street & Orleans Avenue Canals Interim Closure Structures (2006)



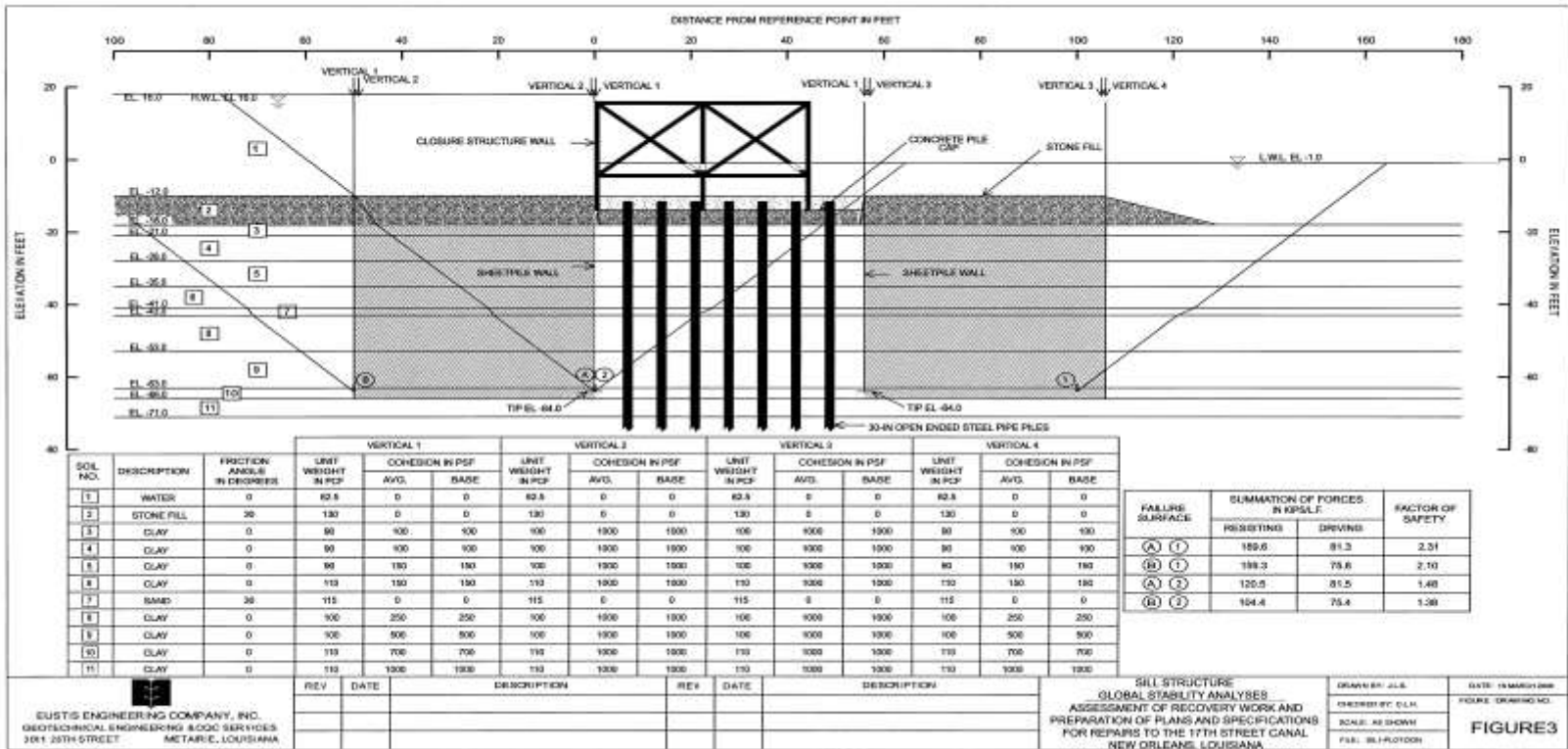
17th Street Canal Interim Closure Structure (2006)



17th Street Canal Interim Closure Structure (2006)



17th Street Canal Interim Closure Structure (2006)



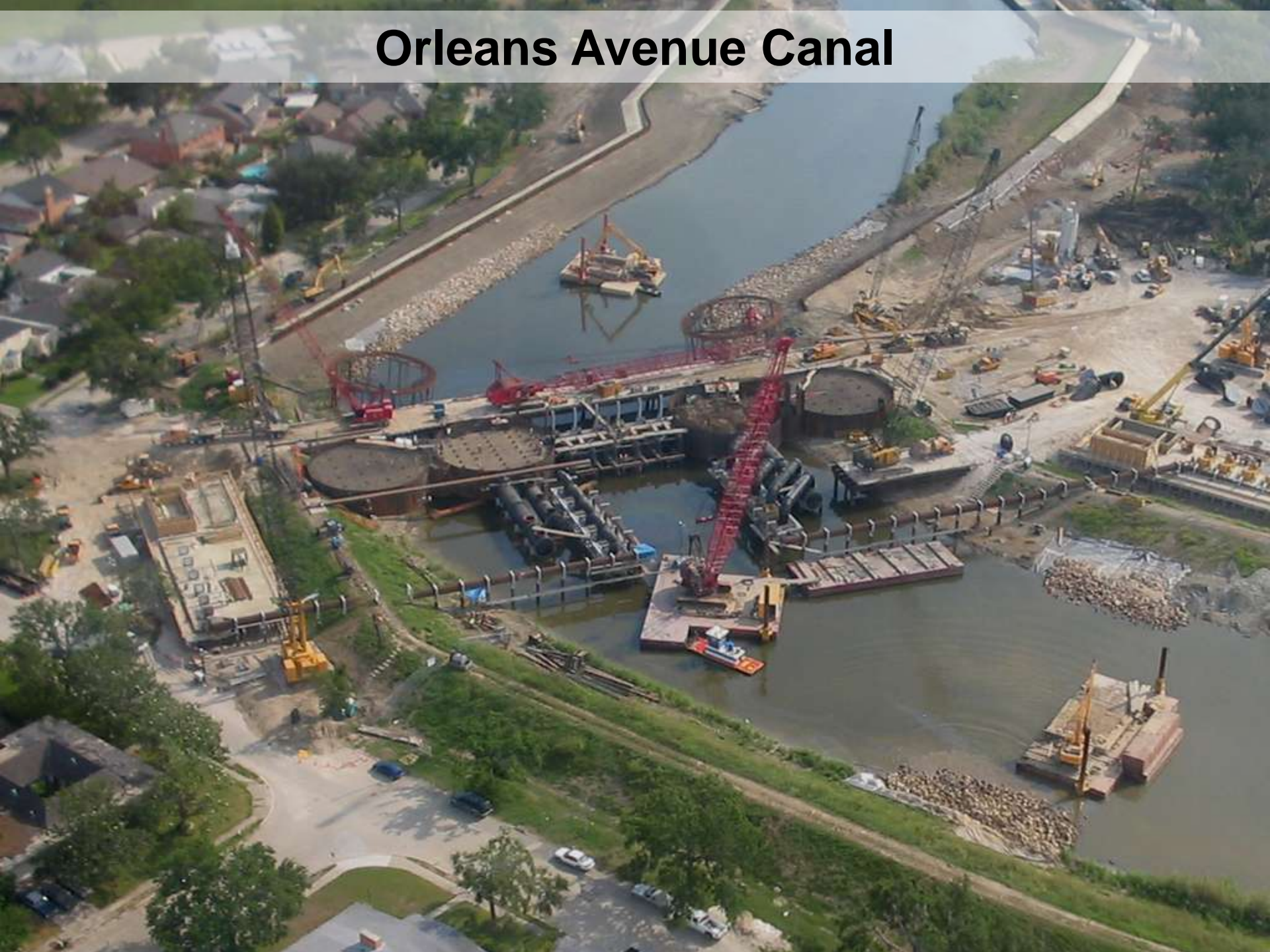


Orleans Avenue Canal Interim Closure Structure (2006)



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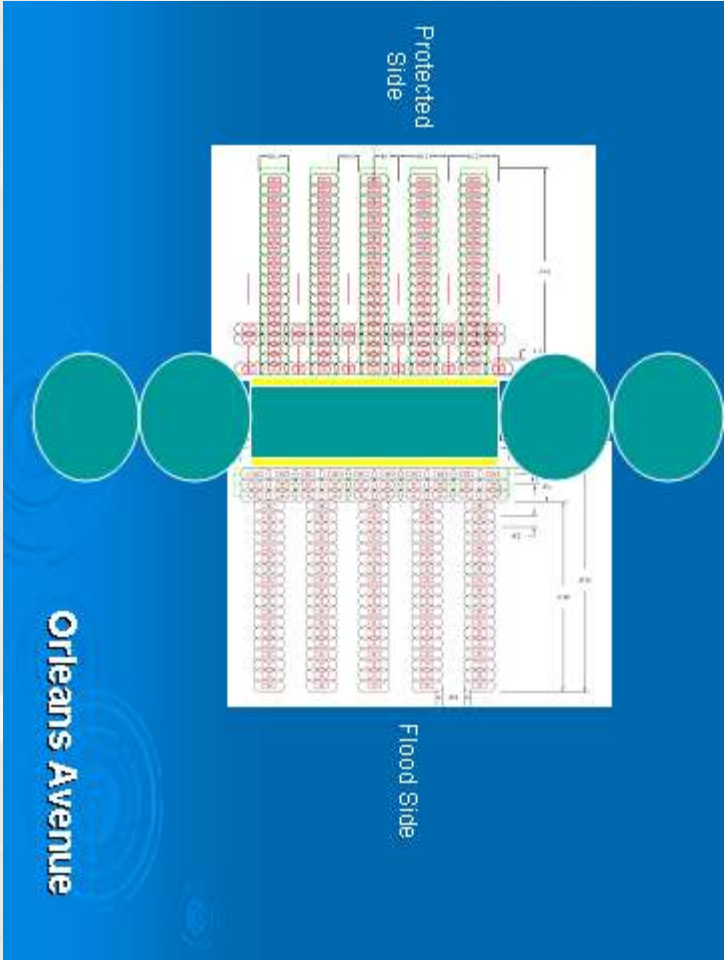
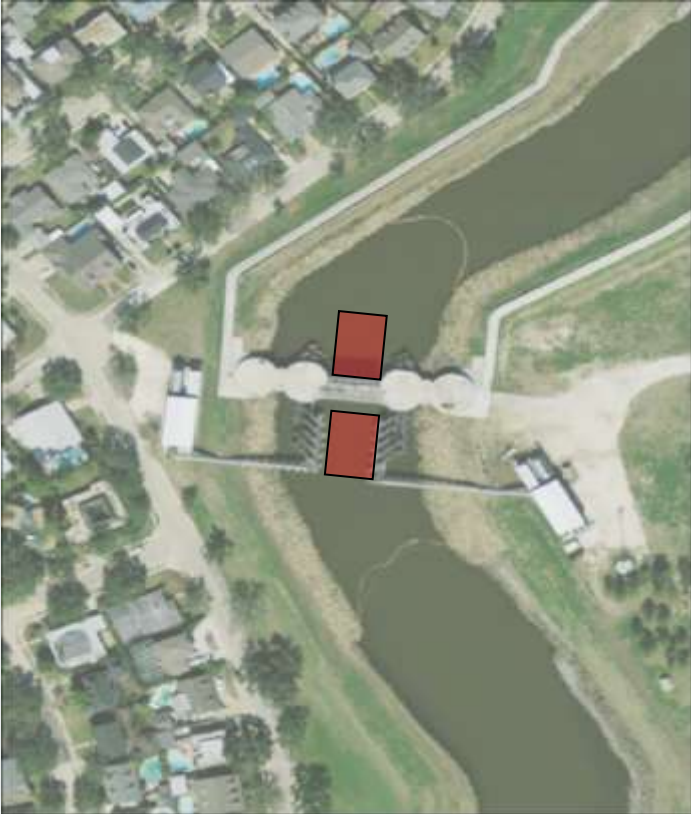
Orleans Avenue Canal



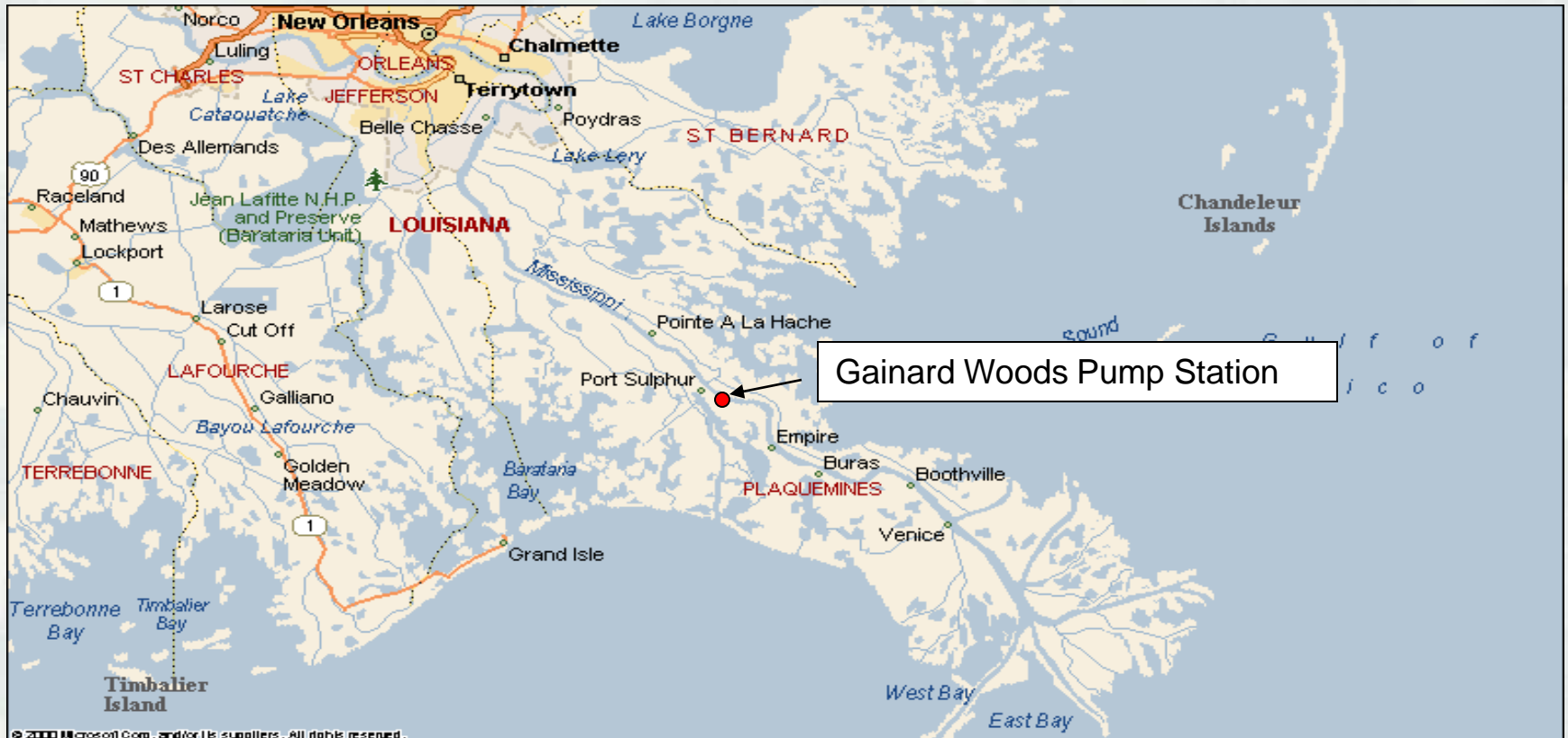
Orleans Avenue Canal Interim Closure Structure (2006)



Orleans Avenue Canal Interim Closure Structure (2006)



Gainard Woods Pump Station Plaquemines Parish



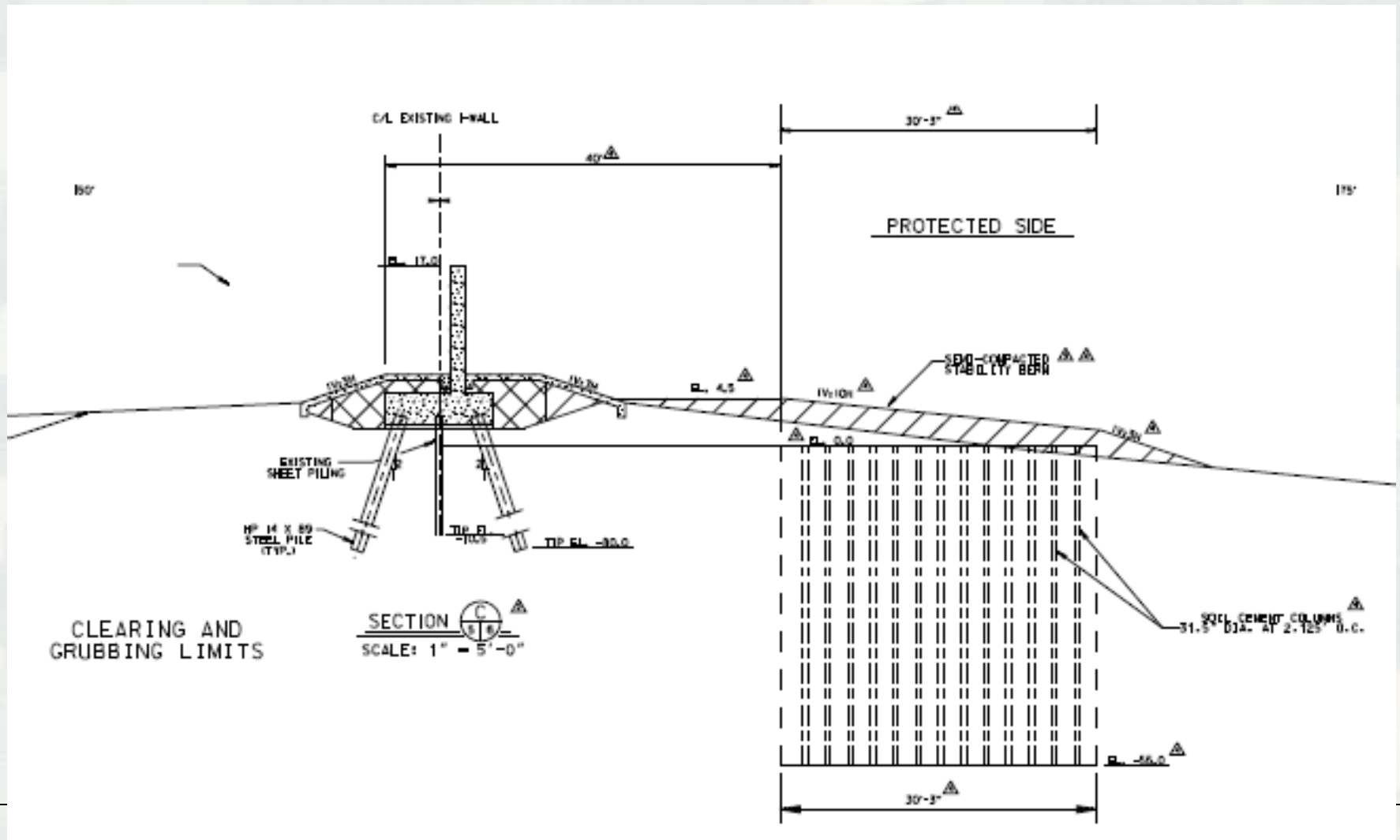
Floodwalls – Gainard Woods Pump Station (2006)



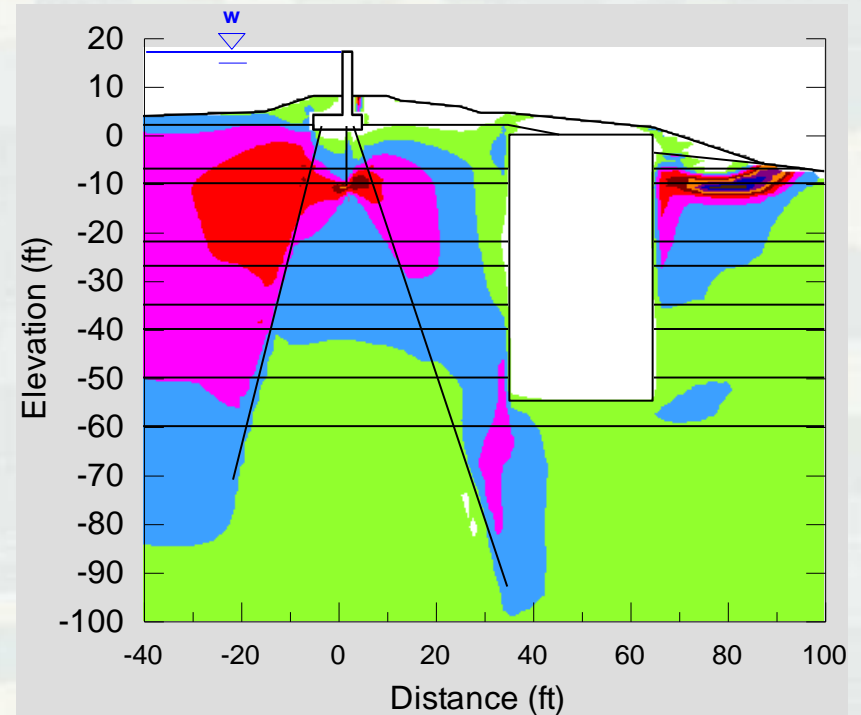
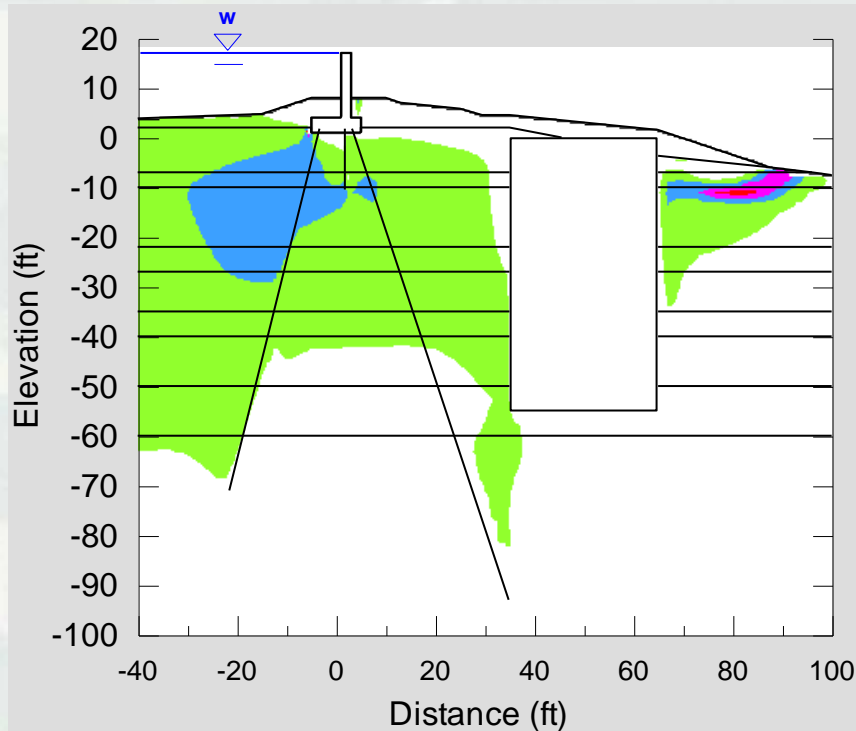
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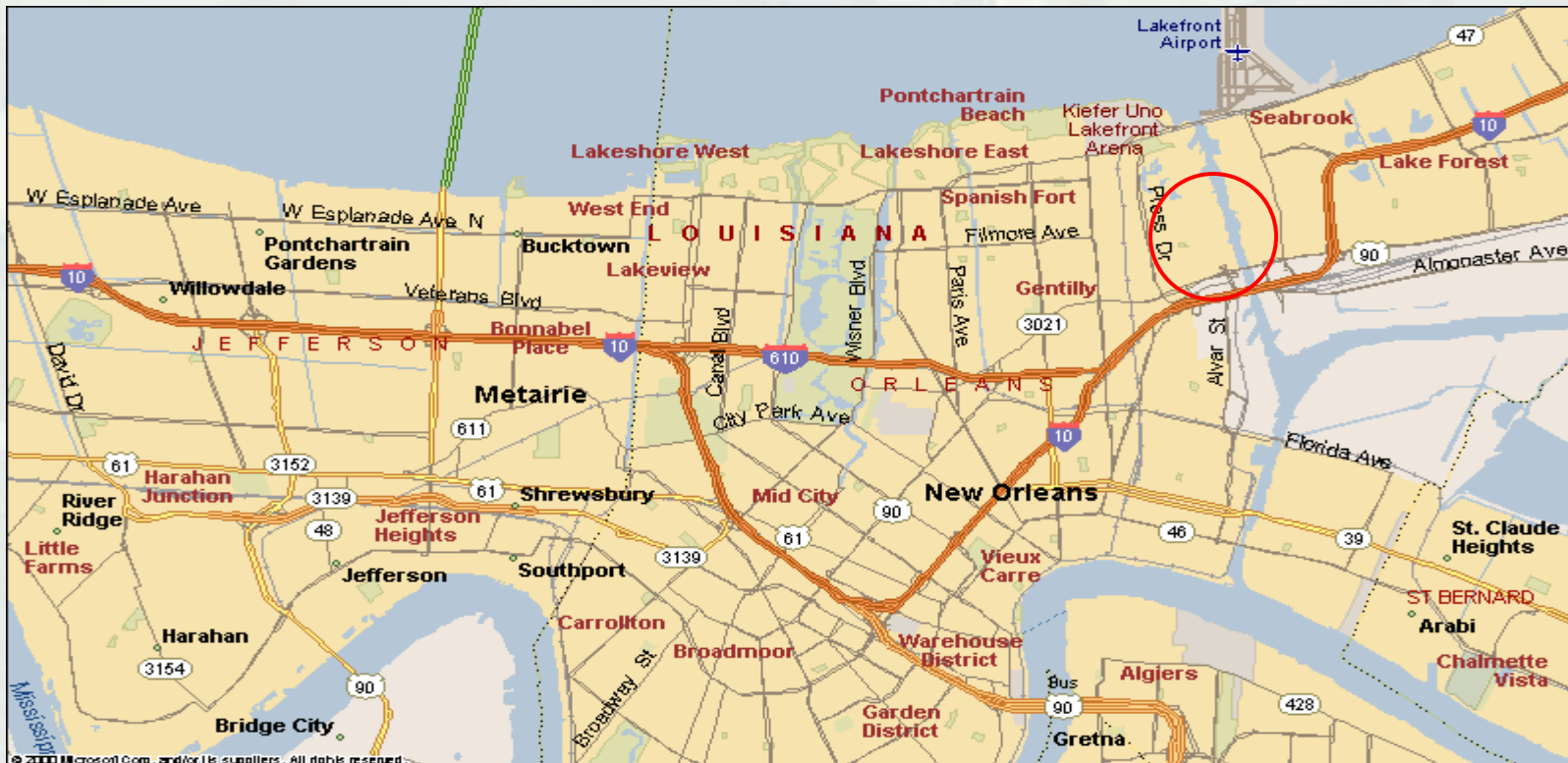
Gainard Woods T-Wall (2006)



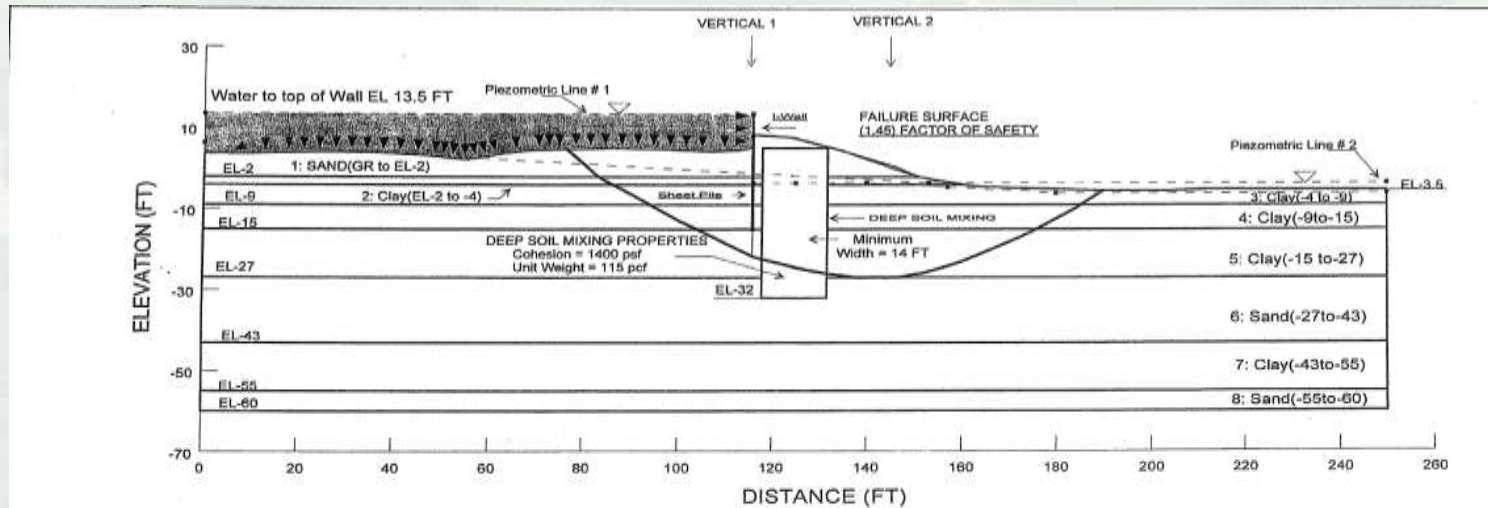
Floodwalls – Gainard Woods Pump Station (2006)



Floodwalls – Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (2009)



IHNC Floodwall Reinforcement (May 2009)



IHNC MODS - SOIL REACH B-1A: CROSS SECTION AT STATION 232+00

Soil Layer Number	Description	Friction Angle (degrees)	Unit Weight (pcf)	Vertical 1			Vertical 2			
				Cohesion (psf)	Top (psf)	Center (psf)	Bottom (psf)	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion (psf)	Top (psf)
1	Sand	30	122	0	0	0	122	0	0	0
2	Clay	0	116	250	250	250	116	250	250	250
3	Clay	0	116	200	200	200	116	200	200	200
4	Clay	0	105	325	325	325	105	275	275	275
5	Clay	0	106	326	392	460	106	325	392	460
6	Sand	30	122	0	0	0	122	0	0	0
7	Clay	0	115	900	900	900	115	900	900	900
8	Sand	33	122	0	0	0	122	0	0	0

NOTES:

1. STABILITY ANALYSES PERFORMED BY "SPENCER PROCEDURE" USING SLOPEW 2007.
2. PIEZOMETRIC LINE # 1 SHOWN TO MODEL PRESSURES IN FILL SANDS.
3. PIEZOMETRIC LINE # 2 SHOWN TO MODEL PRESSURES FROM BURIED BEACH SANDS.

URNS COOLEY DENNIS, INC.
 GEOTECHNICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS
 Ridgeland • Biloxi • Hattiesburg • Memphis

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION

REACH III: IHNC WEST LEVEE MODS & IHNC LOOK TO SEABROOK BRIDGE
 SLOPE STABILITY ANALYSES
 ALTERNATIVE #2 DEEP SOIL MIXING WATER TO TOP OF WALL
 Reach B-1A Sta 230+00 to 233+00

DESIGNED BY: V.E.G. DATE: 10 NOV 2008
 DRAWN BY: V.E.G. FIGURE / DRAWING NO.
 SCALE: AS SHOWN
 FILE: MK09PR01A15793.DWG **A-12**



IHNC Floodwall Reinforcement (May 2009)



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Homeplace Levee Enlargement Plaquemines Parish

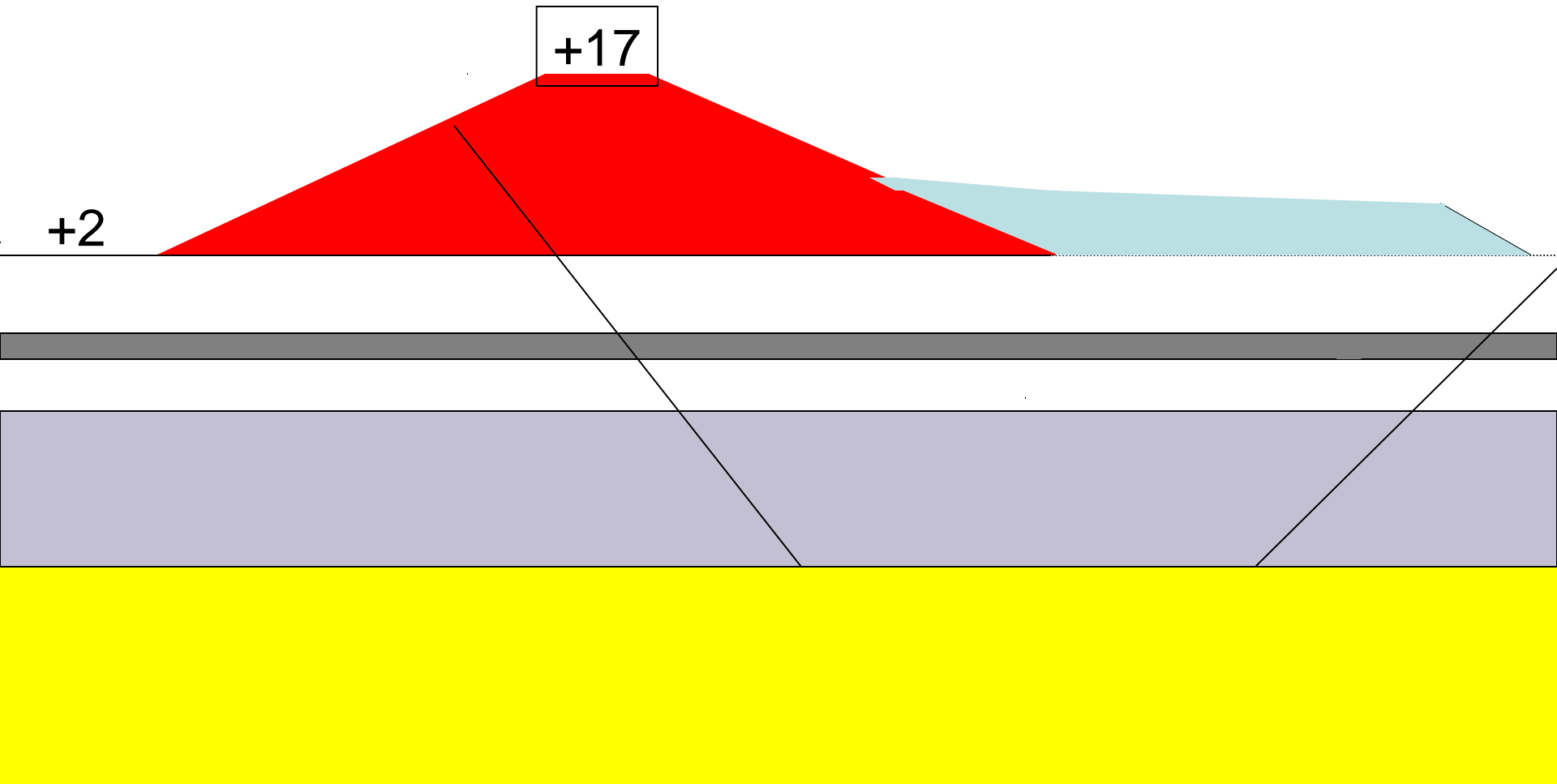


Levees – Homeplace Levee Enlargement (P24) (2006)

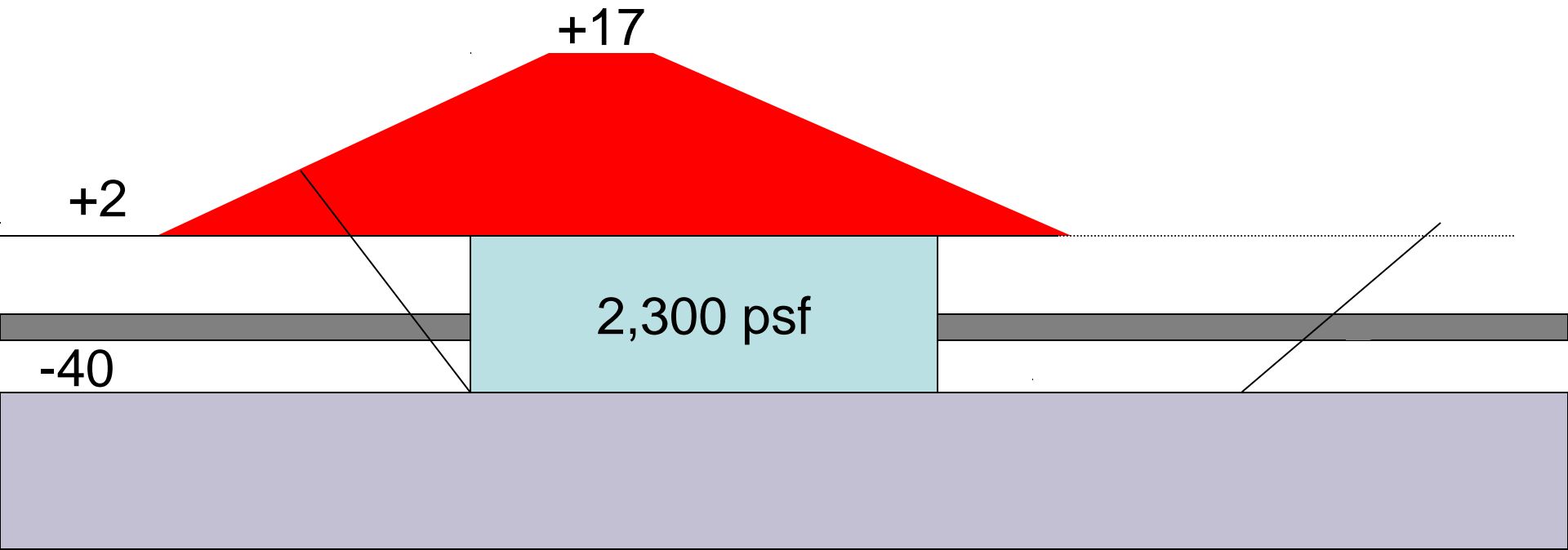


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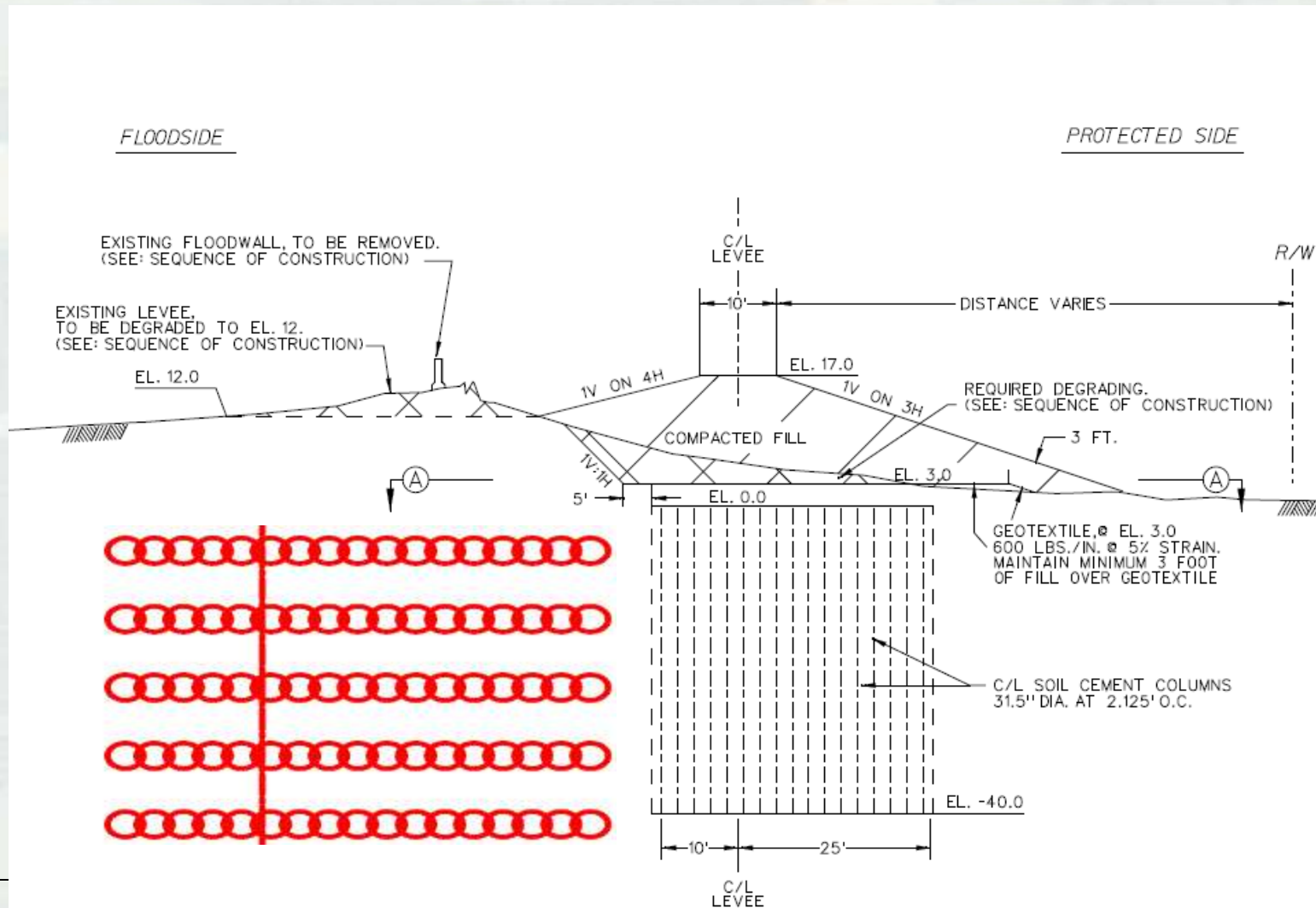
Berm needed to achieve safety factor of 1.30



To achieve $SF = 1.30$; Foundation improved from 270 psf to 2300 psf



Homeplace Levee Enlargement (P24) (2006)



Homeplace Levee Enlargement (P24) (2006)

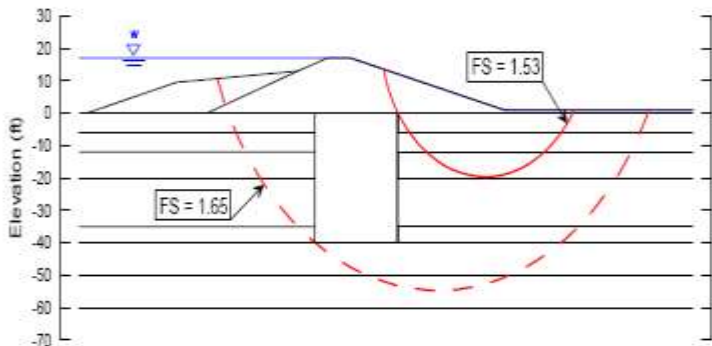


Figure 3a. Circular Surfaces, Spencer's Method

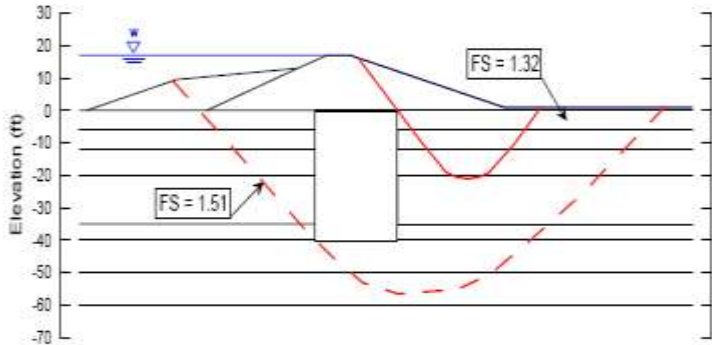
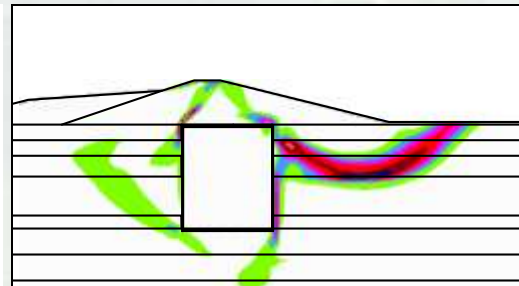
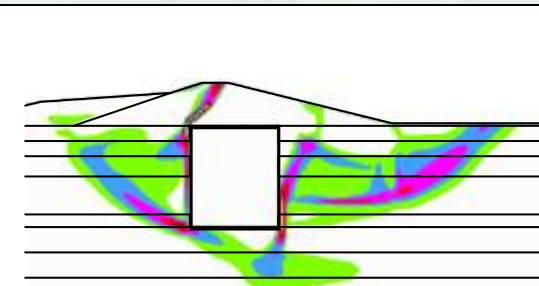


Figure 3b. Non-Circular Surfaces, Spencer's Method

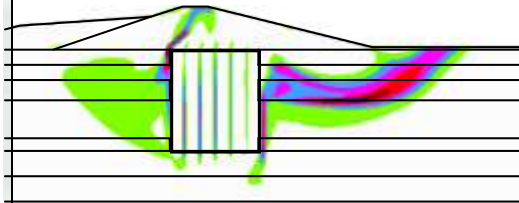
Figure 3. Limit Equilibrium Analysis Failure Surfaces, UTEXAS3 Critical Surfaces



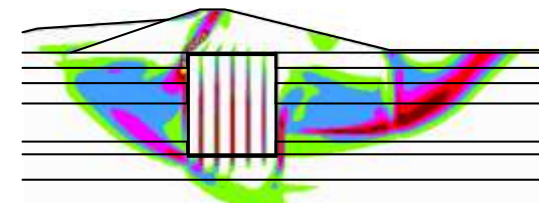
**FIG 4a. Shallow Surface (FS=1.33)
100% Efficiency of Joints**



**FIG 4b. Deep Surface (FS=1.51)
100% Efficiency of Joints**



**FIG 4c. Shallow Surface (FS=1.29)
0% Efficiency, 5 Vertical Joints**



**FIG 4d. Deep Surface (FS=1.37)
0% Efficiency, 5 Vertical Joints**



Construction of DMM Shear Walls



Unconfined Compressive Strength Test Results for P24 DMM Cores

Number of Tests: 2081

Mean UCS: 2145 kN/m² (311 psi)

Standard Deviation: 1259 kN/m² (183 psi)

Coefficient of Variation: 0.59

**UCS = 690 kN/m² (100 psi) was used for
design**

P-24 Final Section



Design Guide for Levees and Floodwall Stability Using DM Shear Walls

- Limit equilibrium analysis
- Combines sliding, overturning and internal shear analyses
- Uses reliability factors for material and stability safety factors
- Uses CDIT 2002 as basis for analysis

DESIGN GUIDE FOR LEVEE AND FLOODWALL STABILITY USING DEEP- MIXED WALLS

by
George Filz and Eddie Templeton
February 10, 2009



QA/QC Testing

- Reverse Column Penetration Testing
- Pressuremeter
- Cone Penetrometer Testing
- Borehole Camera
- Exhumation (Exposure, Excavation)
- Sonic Drilling
- Coring and Compressive Strength Testing



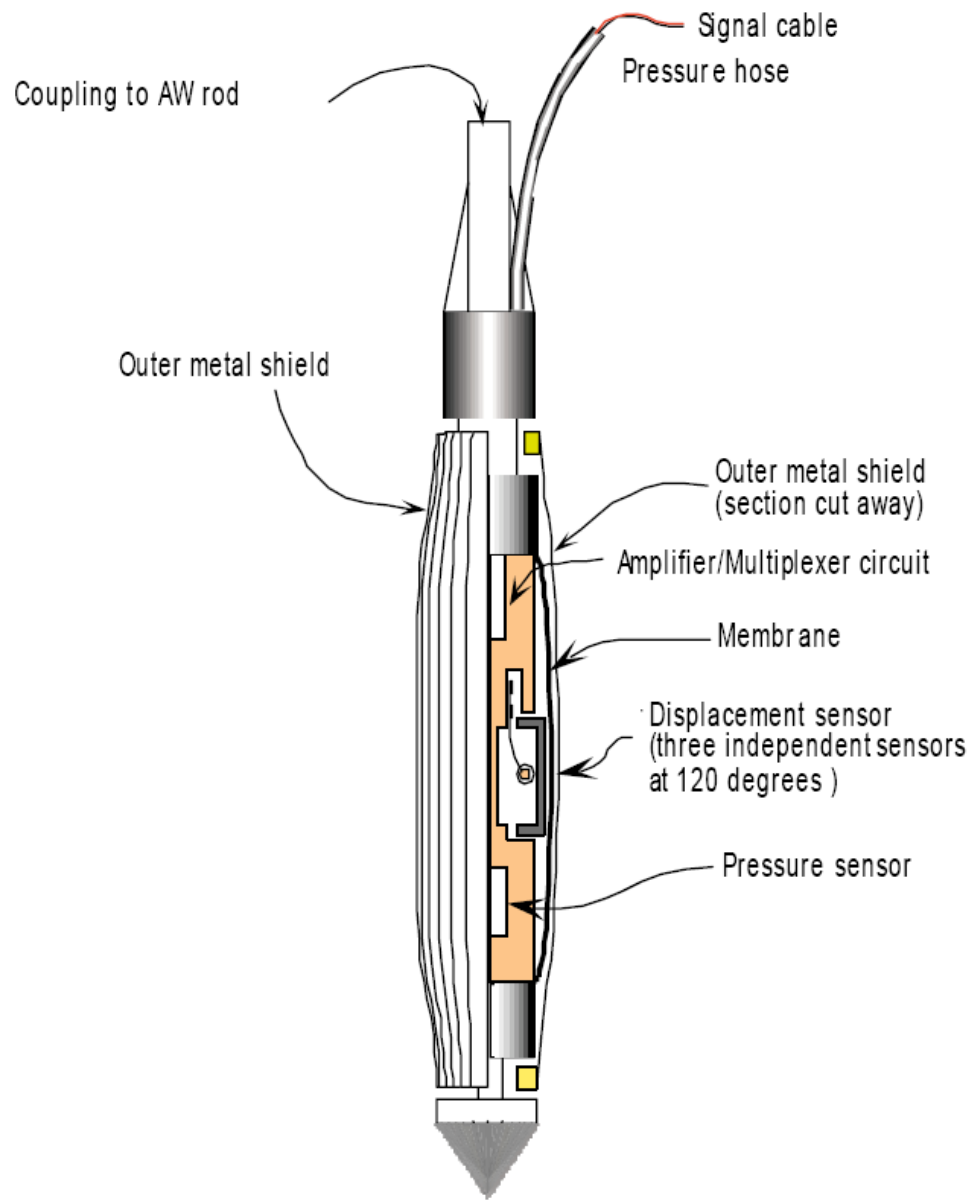


Fig. 1. Schematic details of the pressuremeter



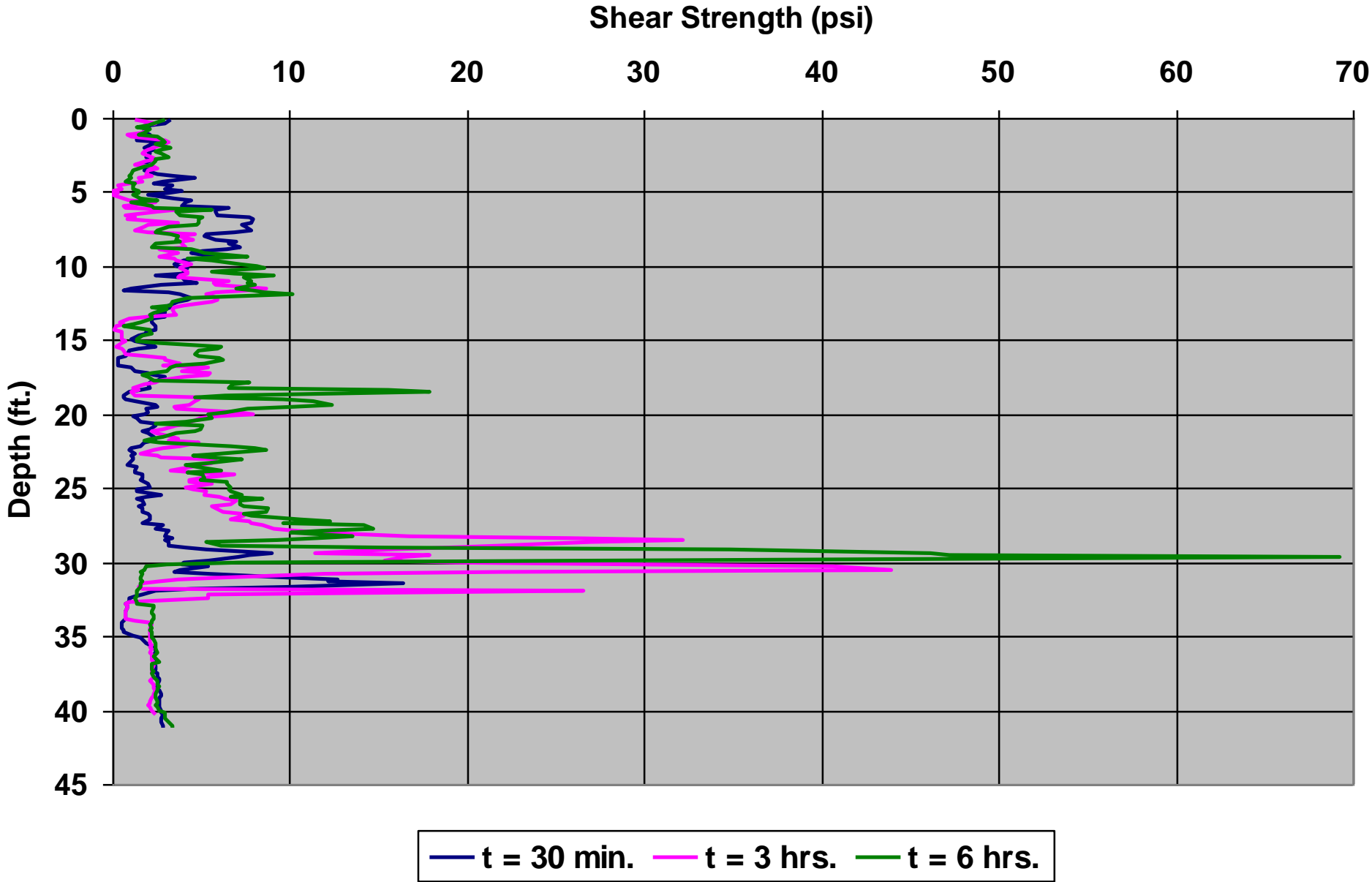


Pressuremeter

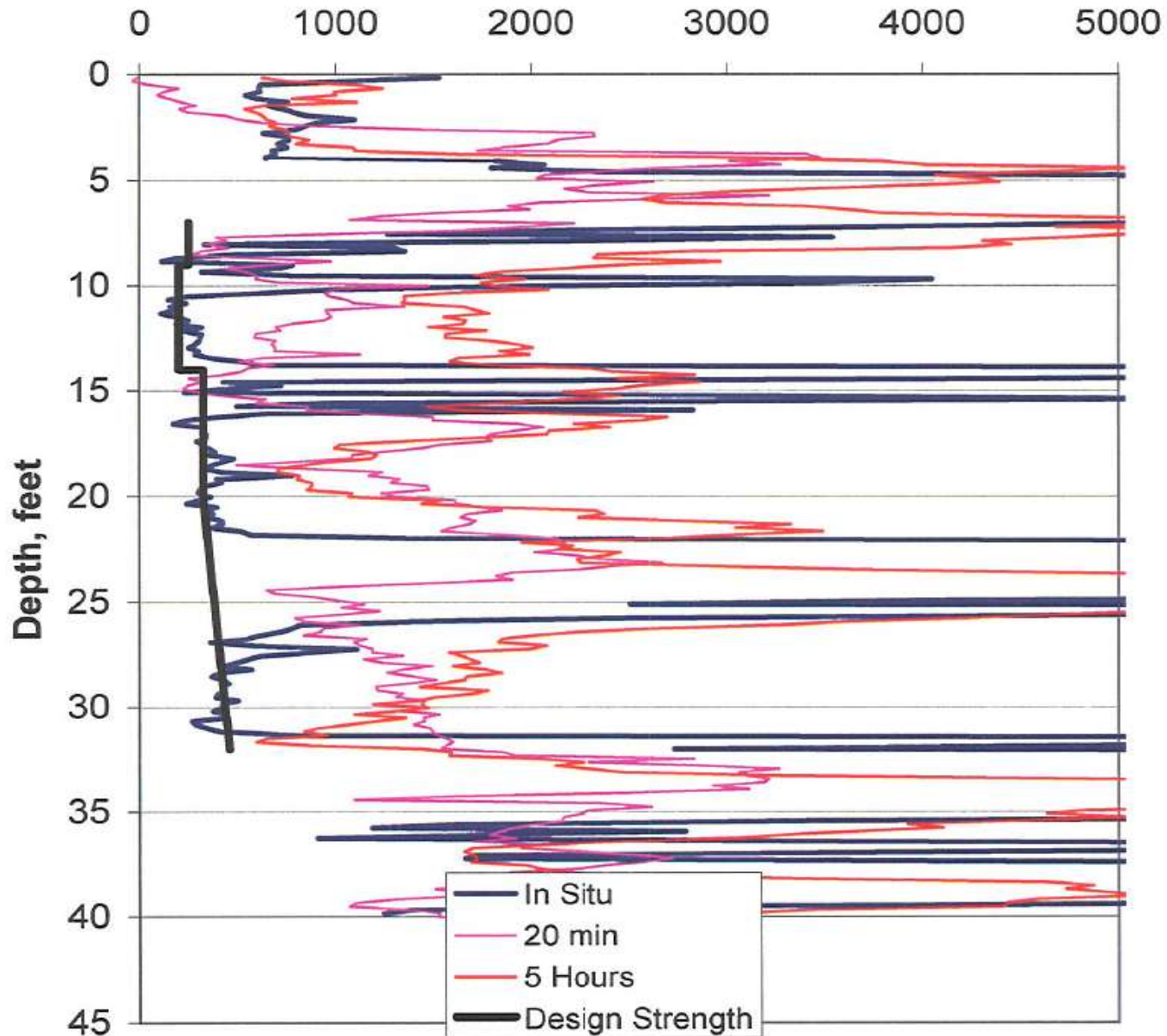
- Use to great success during 2003 Test Section
- Utilized for Q/A and Q/C in 2008
- Can be used to determine limit pressure, which can be obtain shear strength
- Limit pressure is assumed to occur when volume is doubled
- Poisson's ratio assumed to be 0.33
- Column Modulus can also be determined



IHNC CPT Data



Undrained Strength ($N_c = 20$) Cohesion, psf



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NOAA.gov

+000.0f



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Column Exhumation









Sonic Drilling Rig



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Sonic Drilling Cores



Wet Grab Sampling



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LPV – 111



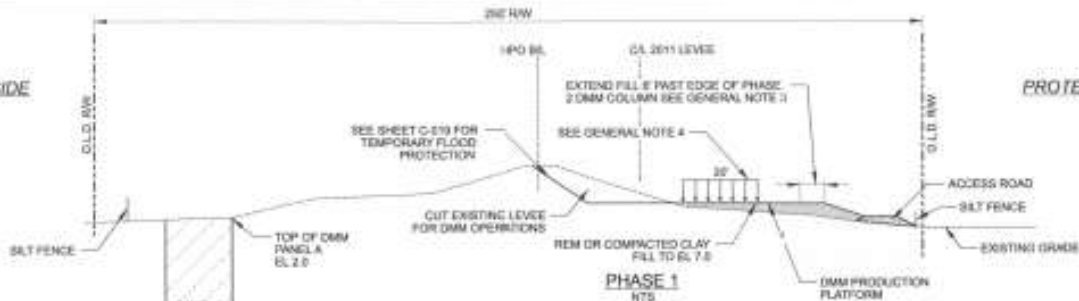
LPV - 111

- Largest Deep Soil Mixing Project in the World
- 1.7 million cubic yards of soil will be treated.
- 5.3 miles of Levee will be raised from 17 feet to 28 feet
- Soil mixing extends to -67 ft deep and varies in width from 54 ft to 98 ft



FLOOD SIDE

PROTECTED SIDE



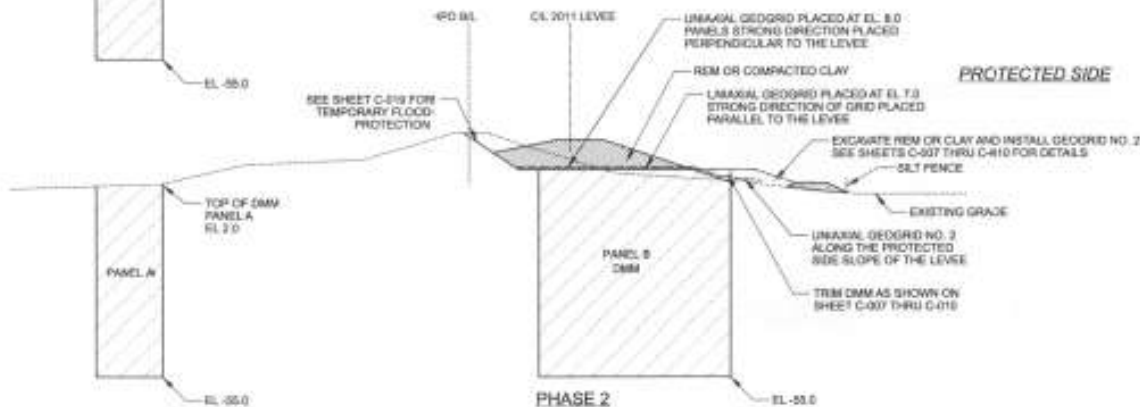
PHASE 1
NTS

PHASE 1

1. CLEAR NEW LEVISE FOOTPRINT
2. INSTALL ACCESS ROAD
3. FILL PROTECTED SIDE OF LEVISE TO EL. 7.0 IN LIFTS ACCORDING TO THE EMBANKMENT SPECIFICATION AND WITH THE RATE OF FILL PLACEMENT CONTROLLED ACCORDING SPECIFICATION 31 24 00.00 12, EMBANKMENT
4. INSTALL FLOOD SIDE DMN PANEL A - PRIOR TO PHASE 2

FLOOD SIDE

PROTECTED SIDE



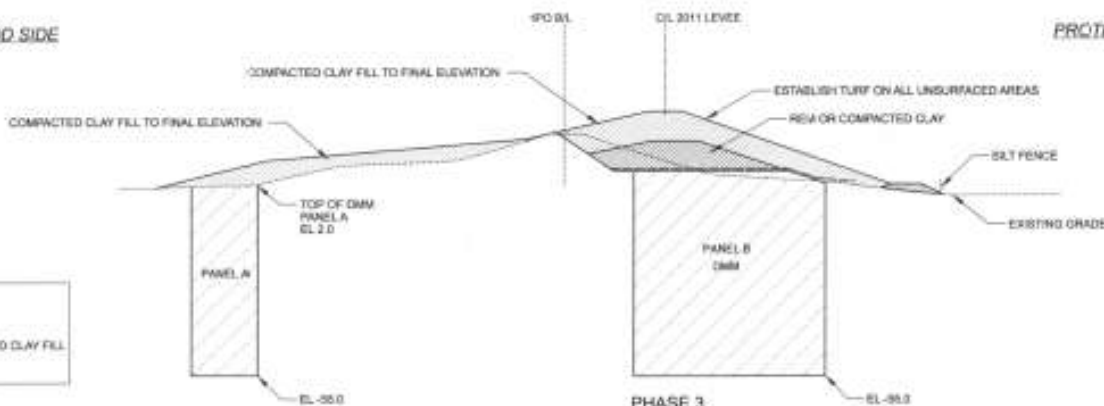
PHASE 2
NTS

PHASE 2

1. DMN TO EL. 64.0
2. INSTALL GEOTRID NO. 1 AT EL. 7.0 TRIM PROTECTED SIDE CORNER OF DMN PANEL AS SHOWN ON SHEET C-007 THRU C-010
3. PLACE REM OR COMPACTED CLAY TO LIMITS SHOWN ON C-007 THRU C-010
4. INSTALL UNIAXIAL GEOTRID NO. 2 AT EL. 8.0. PLACE GEOTRID NO. 3 ALONG THE PROTECTED SIDE SLOPE OF THE LEVISE.

FLOOD SIDE

PROTECTED SIDE



PHASE 3
NTS

PHASE 3

1. FILL TO FINAL ELEVATION AFTER STRENGTH OF DMN HAS REACHED REQUIRED STRENGTH IN SPECIFICATION 31 21 00.00 12
2. ESTABLISH TURF ON ALL UNSURFACED AREAS PER SPECIFICATIONS 32 42 16.04 12.

LEGEND

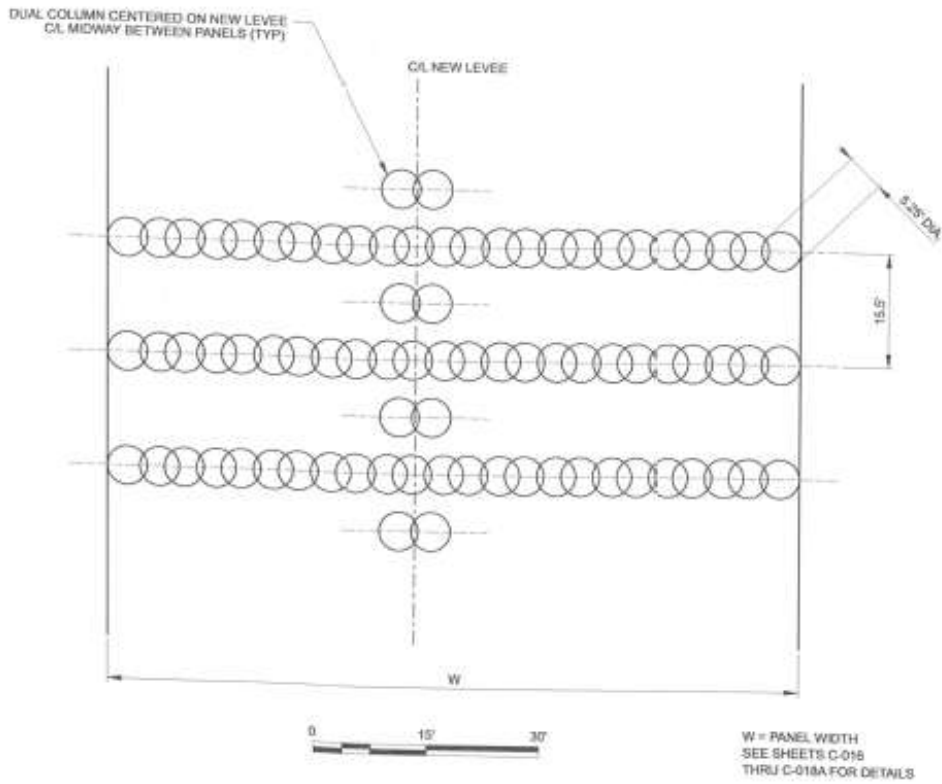
	ACCESS ROAD
	DMN
	REM OR COMPACTED CLAY FILL
	CLAY FILL

GENERAL NOTES:

1. SEE SHEET C-007 THRU C-010 FOR DETAILED TYPICAL SECTIONS.
2. SEE SHEET G-003 FOR ABBREVIATIONS AND LEGEND.
3. THE DMN PRODUCTION PLATFORM IS THE WIDTH OF THE DMN PANELS PLUS 6' EITHER SIDE.
4. THE DMN PRODUCTION PLATFORM IS DESIGNED FOR A MAXIMUM SURCHARGE LOADING OF 350 PSF IN A 20-FT WIDE X 40-FT LONG ZONE ADJACENT TO THE PROTECTED SIDE EDGE OF THE PLATFORM. CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL CALCULATIONS DEMONSTRATING THAT THE STABILITY OF THE PLATFORM MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SPECIFICATION SECTION 31 24 00.00 12, EMBANKMENT IF THE CONTRACTOR PROPOSES TO PLACE SURCHARGE LOADING EXCEEDING THAT ASSUMED IN THE DESIGN.

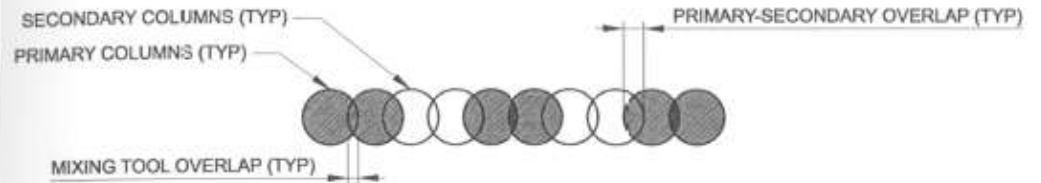
11B PHASING PLAN

B/L STA. 1063+35.33 TO B/L STA. 1105+73.57



TYPICAL DEEP-MIX PANEL ARRANGEMENT
 PLAN VIEW, 12A AND 12B

PRIMARY COLUMN IS INSTALLED BEFORE SECONDARY



TYPICAL DUAL COLUMN OVERLAP



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05/03/2010



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Large Hurricane Risk Reduction Structures



IHNC SURGE BARRIER

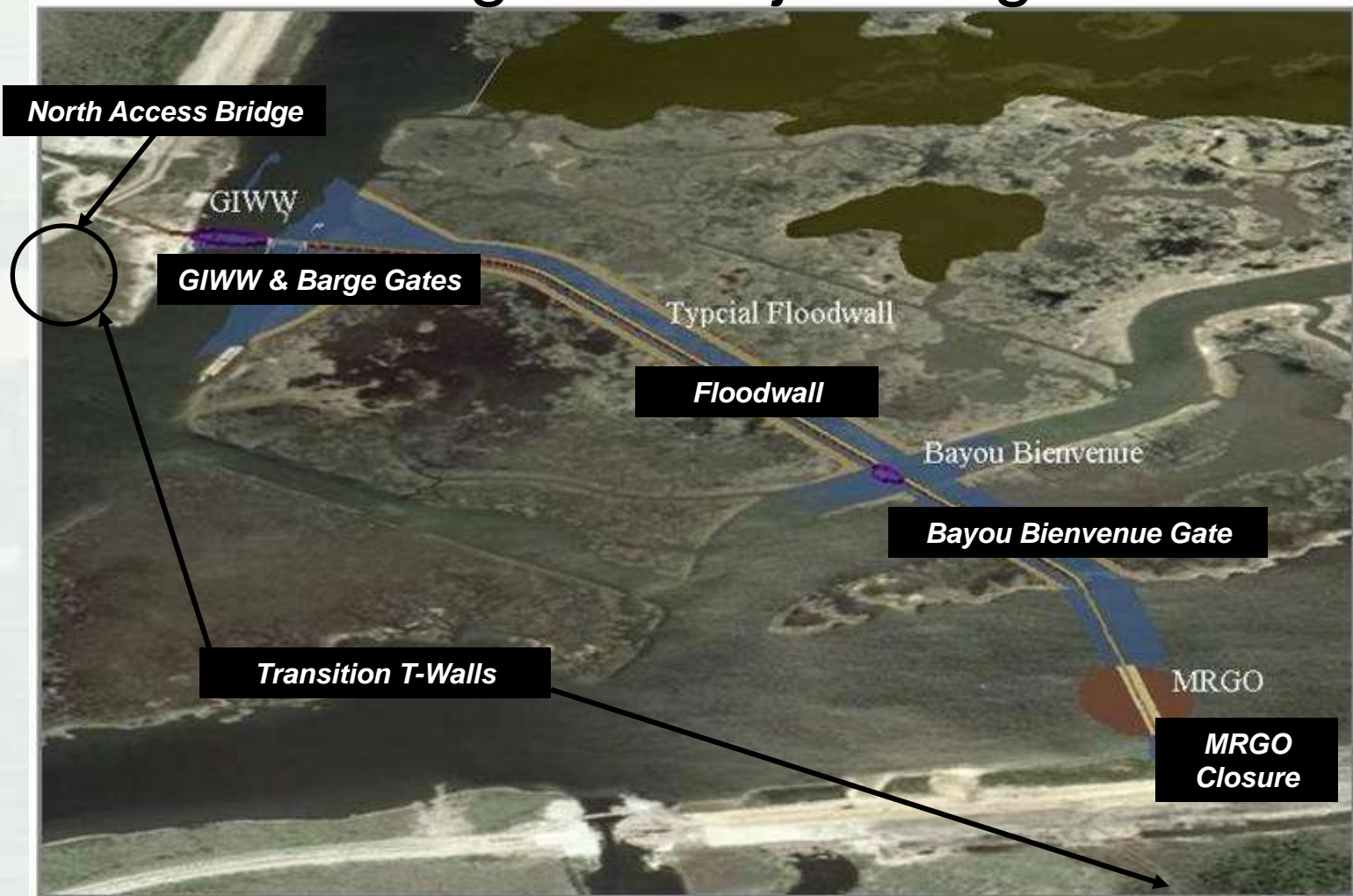


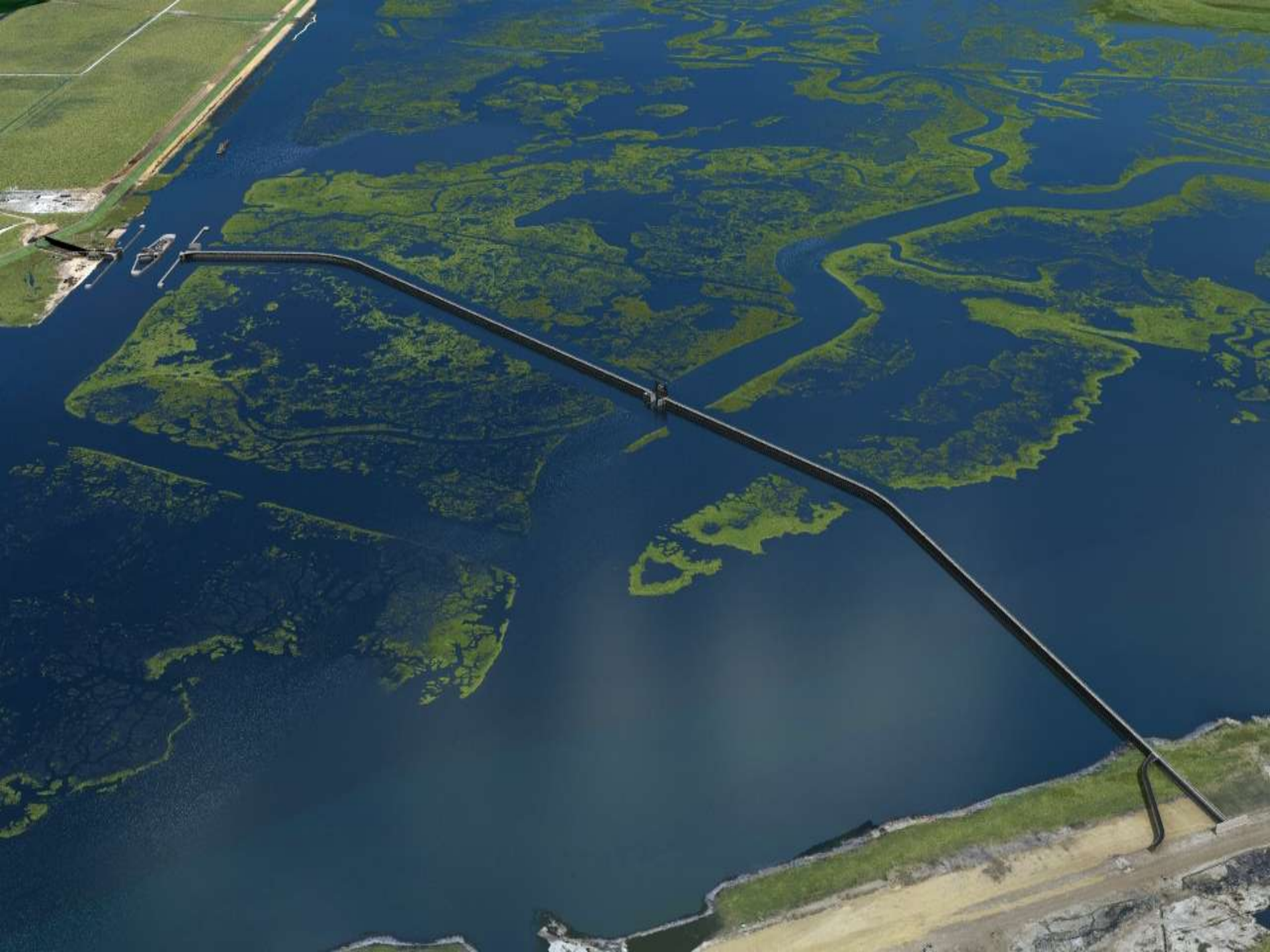
MRGO

GIWW

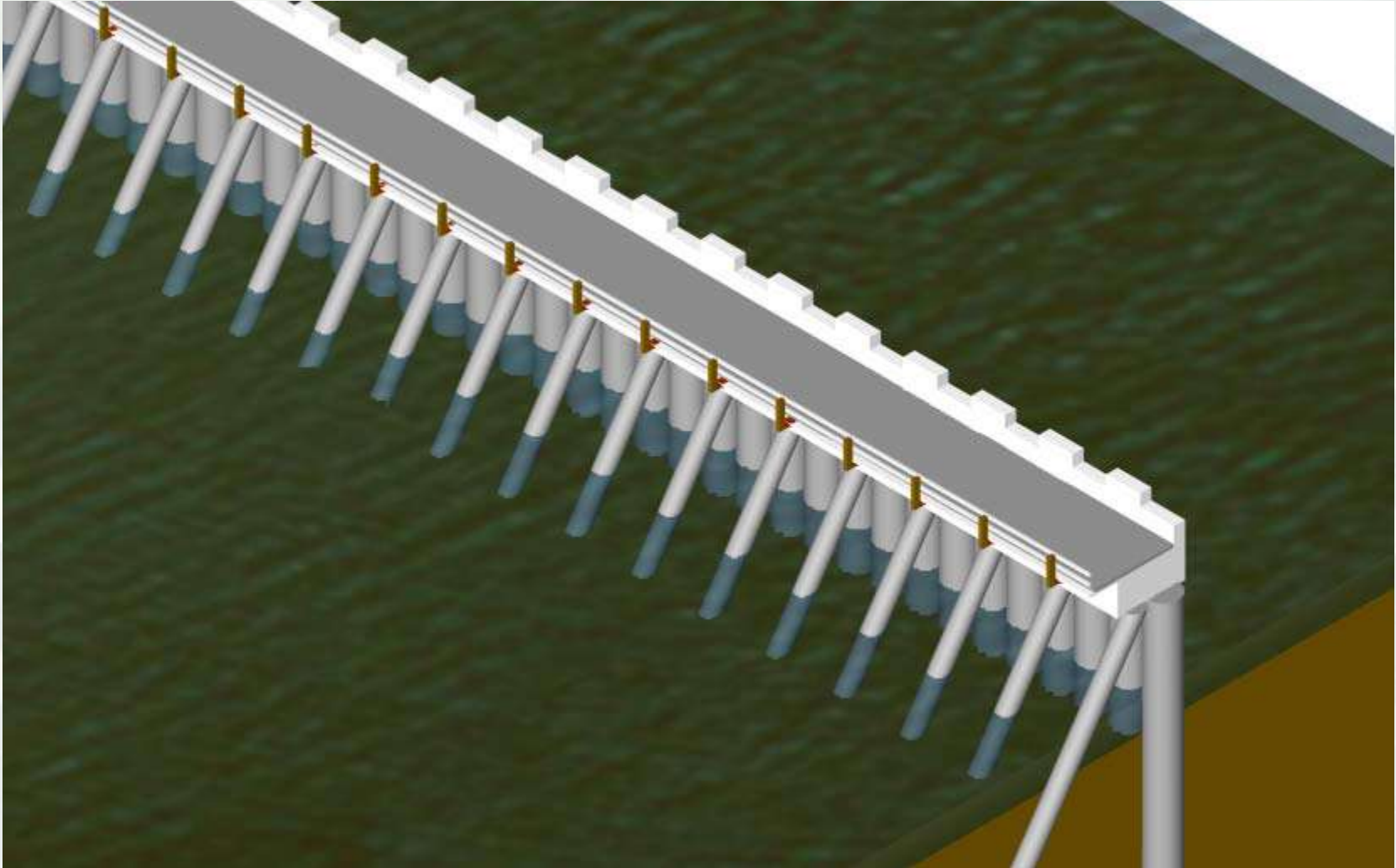
20 March 2010

Lake Borgne— Project Alignment





Barrier Flood Wall



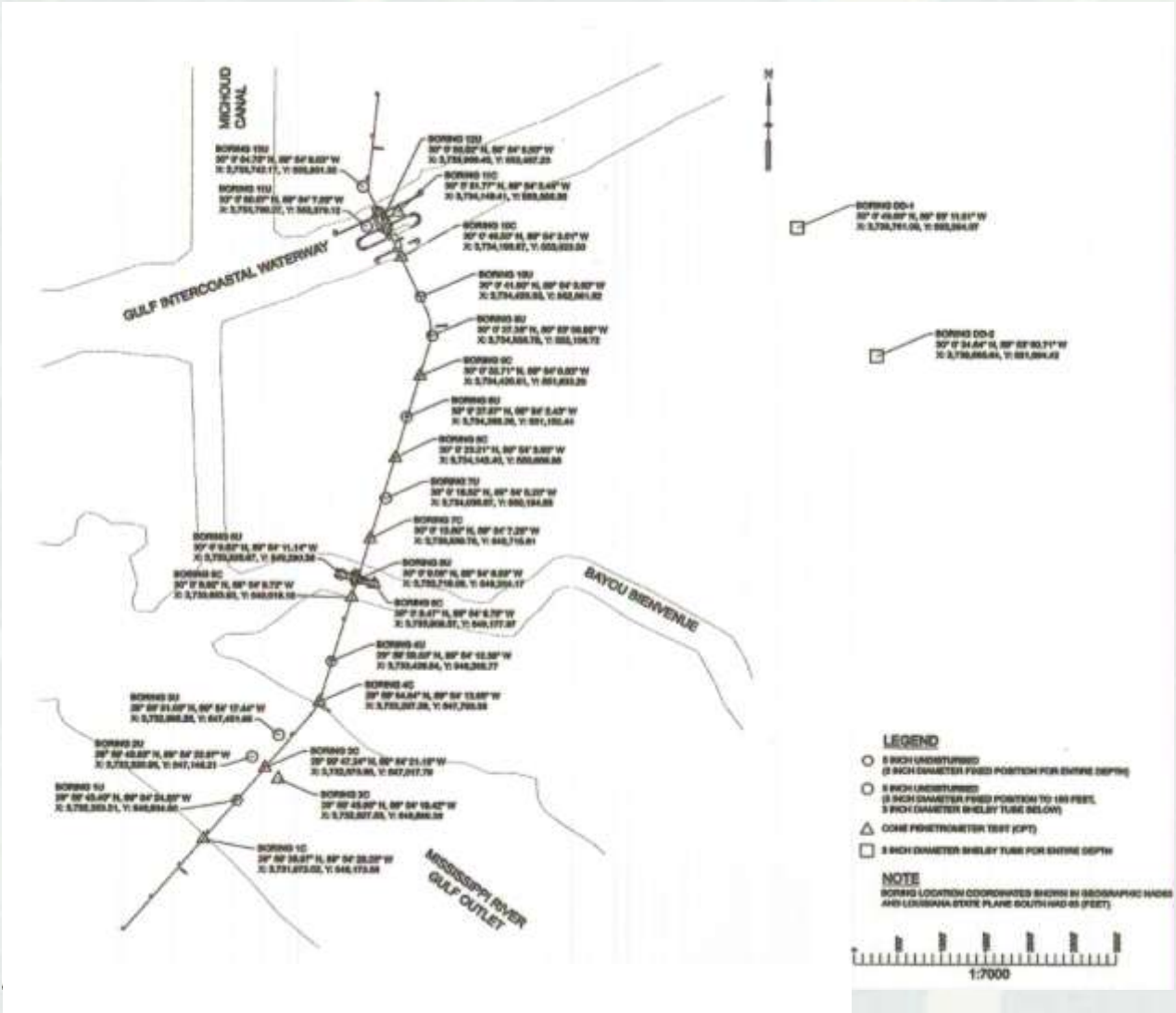
GIWW Barge / Sector Gate (Conceptual)



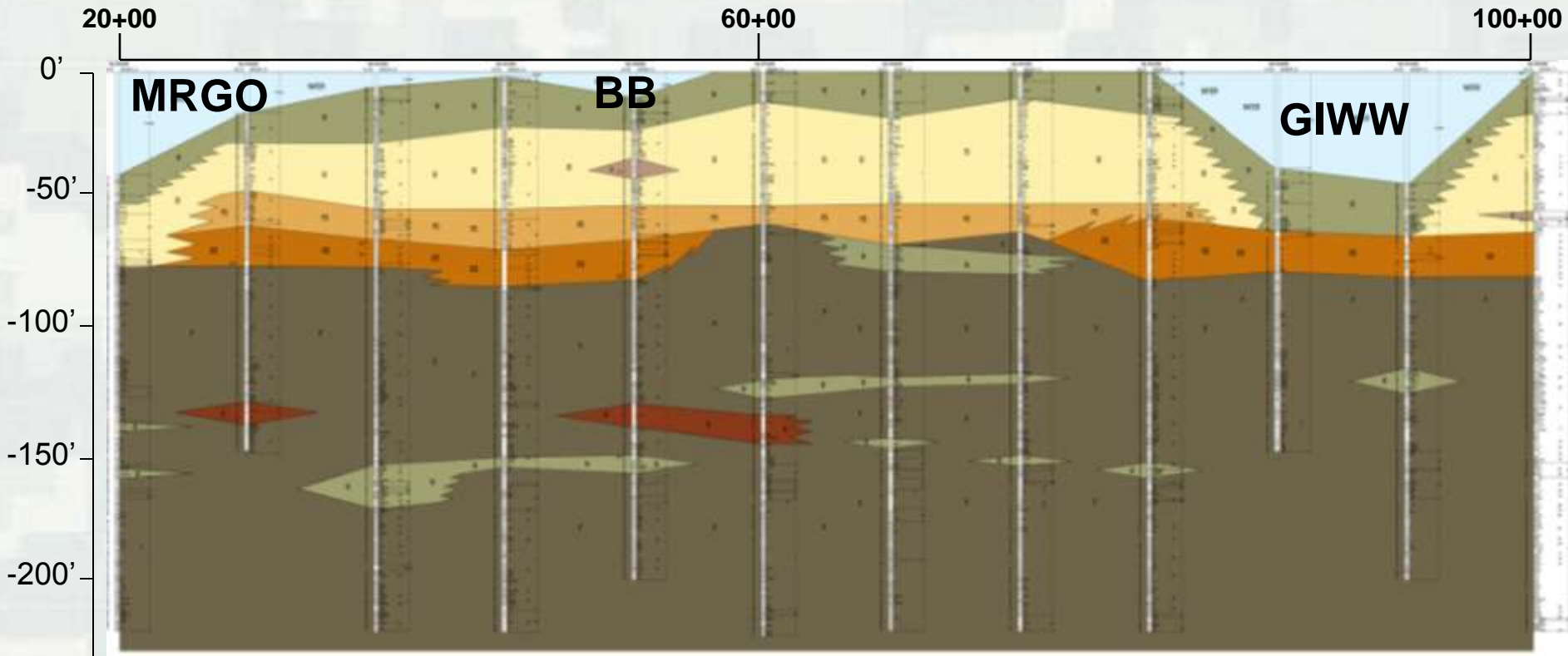
Bayou Bienvenue Vertical Lift Gate (Conceptual)



Boring Locations



Geologic Profile



M	MARSH
ID	INTERDISTRIBUTARY
IDE	INTRADELTA
PD	PRODELTA
B	BEACH
R	REEF
P	PLEISTOCENE



Design Investigations

- Pile Load Test
- Lateral Load Test
- Non-linear Incremental Structural Analysis (NISA)
- Physical Model – GIWW Sector Gate
- Physical Model – Barrier Wall
- Navigation Simulation – Gate Width Study
- Approach Wall Vessel Impact Analysis
- Navigation Physical Guidewall Model
- USCG Navigation Risk Assessment
- Long-term Instrumentation Plan



Soldier Pile Placement – Complete!

144 Feet Long

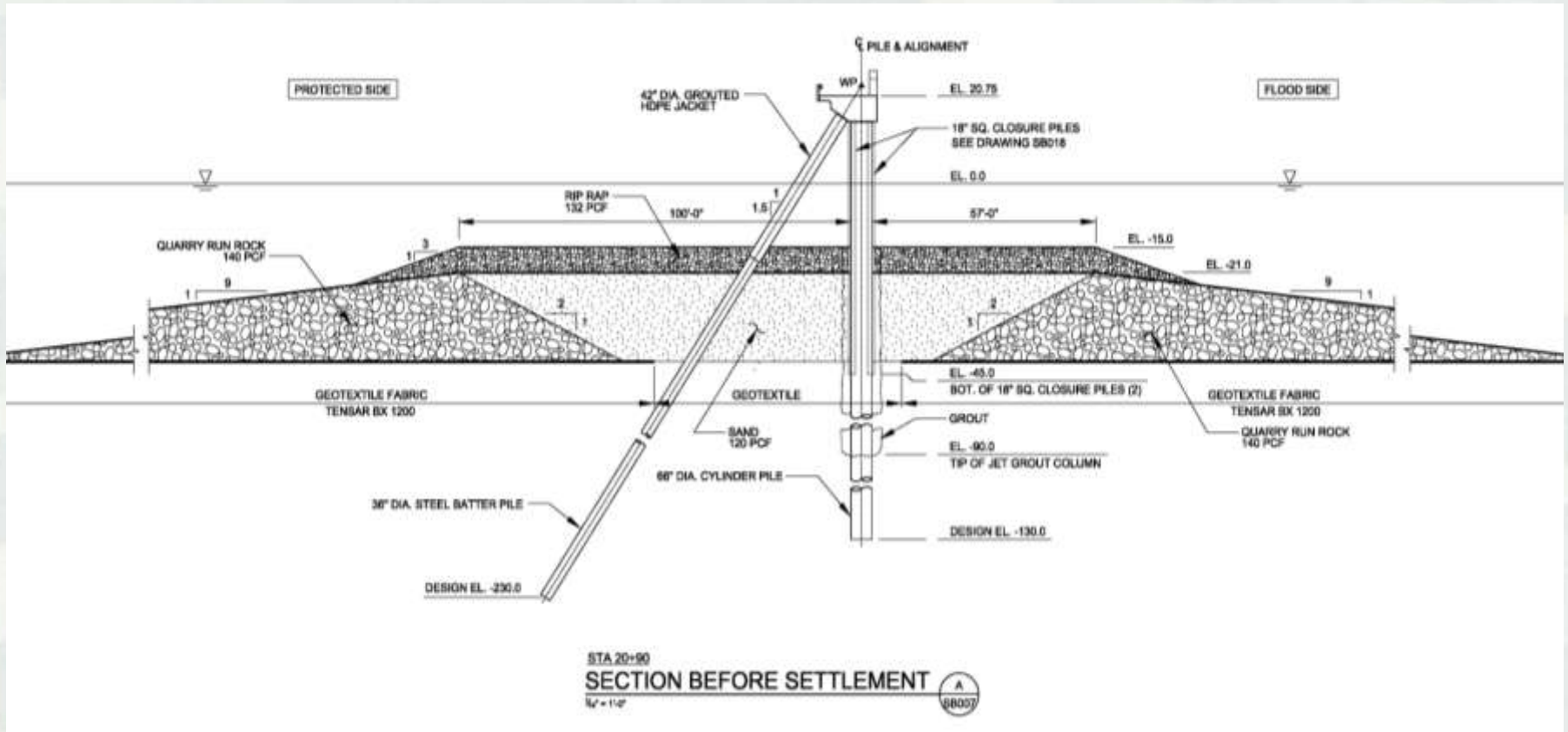
66" Diameter, 94 tons

Weeks 526 Rig



1271 piles – Completed October 21, 2009

MRGO Section

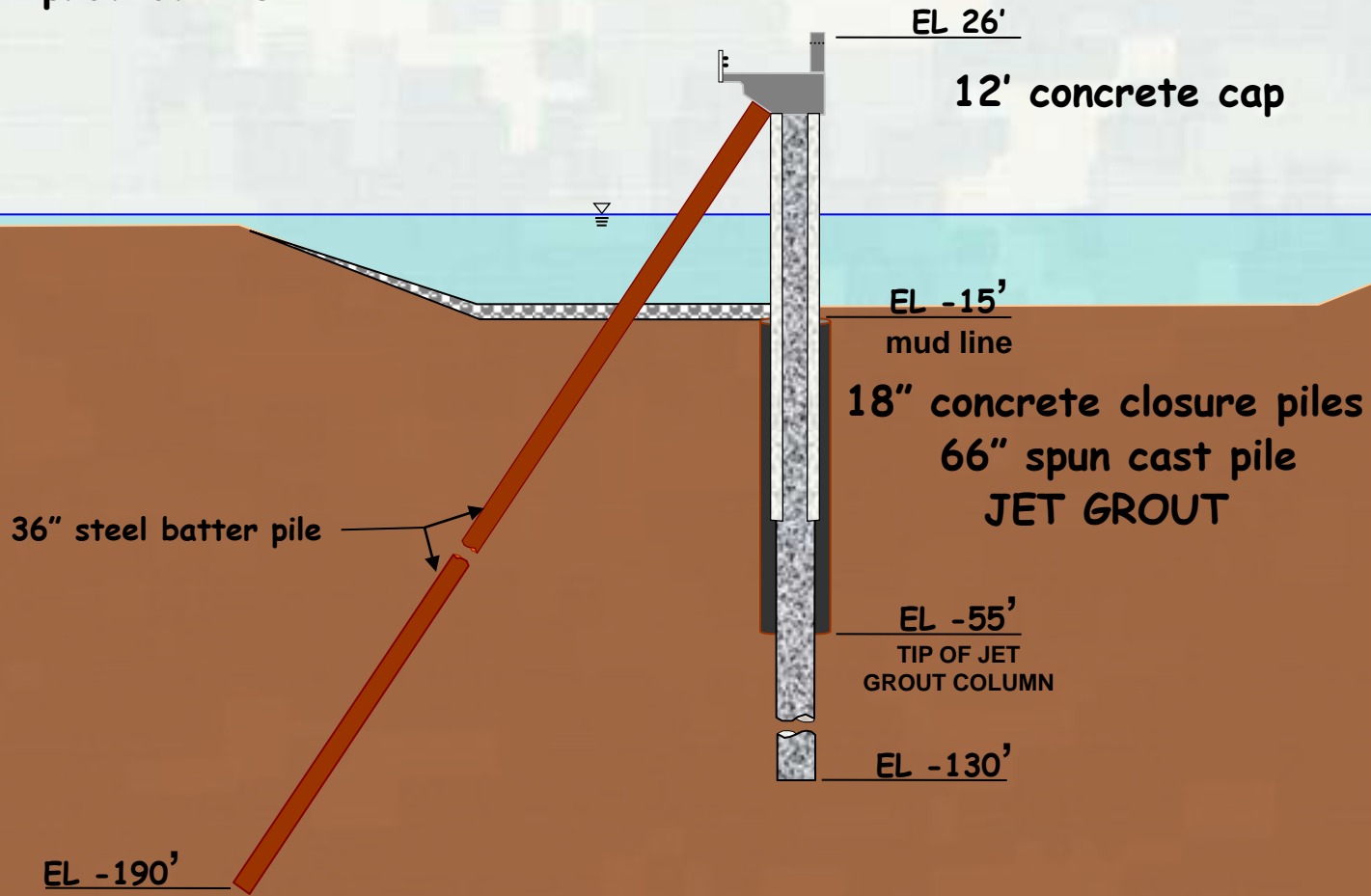


Sand Fill at MRGO



protected side

flood side



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Spin Casting



Spun Cast Piles



Soldier Piles



Post Tensioning





Pile Load Test



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18" Closure Piles & Jet Grouting



2504 piles – Completed February 11, 2010

Soldier, Closure, Batter Piles



Temporary Trestle

Interstitial Space

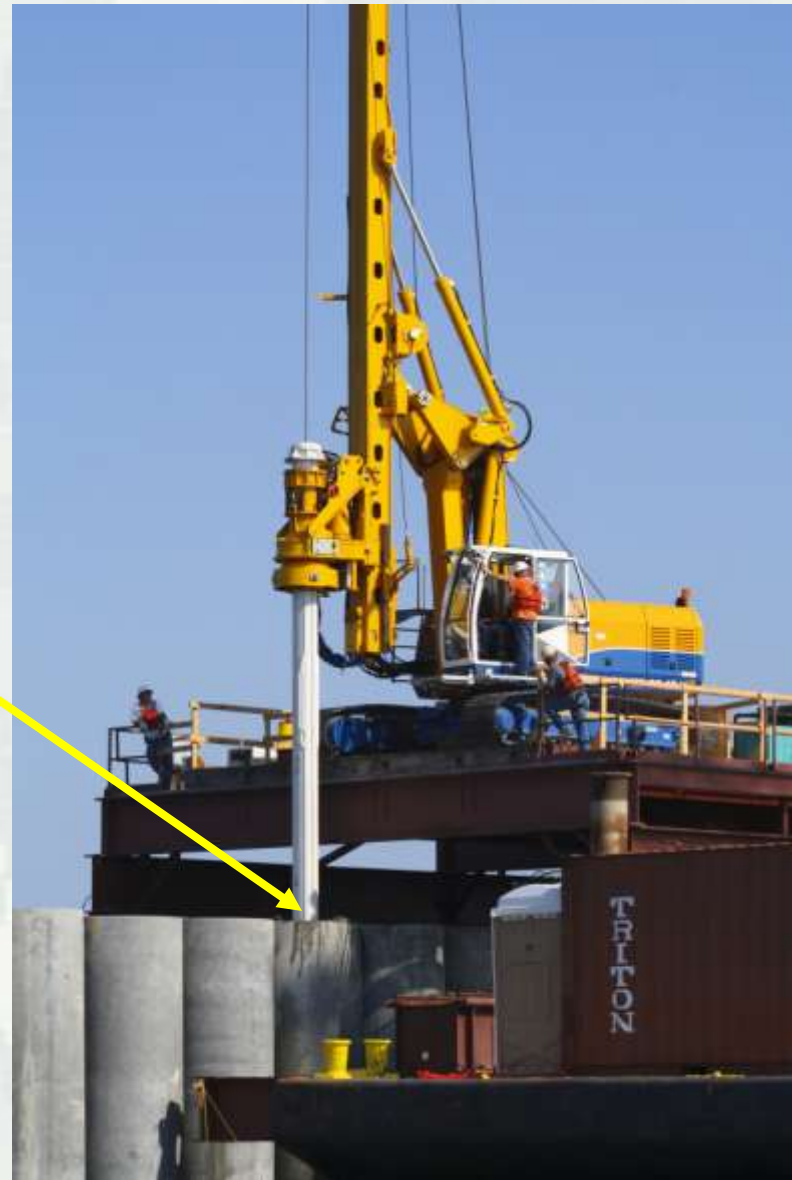
Closure Piles

36" Batter Piles

Soldier Piles

66" Concrete Pile Clean Out

Drill bit removes the mud
from inside the pile



Grout Bag Placement



Grout bag infill



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Batter Piles



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Precast Caps

17 Feet Long, 96 Tons



Parapet



Interesting Quantity Facts

The IHNC Project Involves:

- 160 miles of piles- approx. 20 miles more than from Cleveland to Columbus
- The weight of 8 Eiffel Towers of Steel
- Enough Concrete to fill a football field 94 feet deep





GIWW –Western Closure Complex (WCC)



West Closure Complex – March 2010





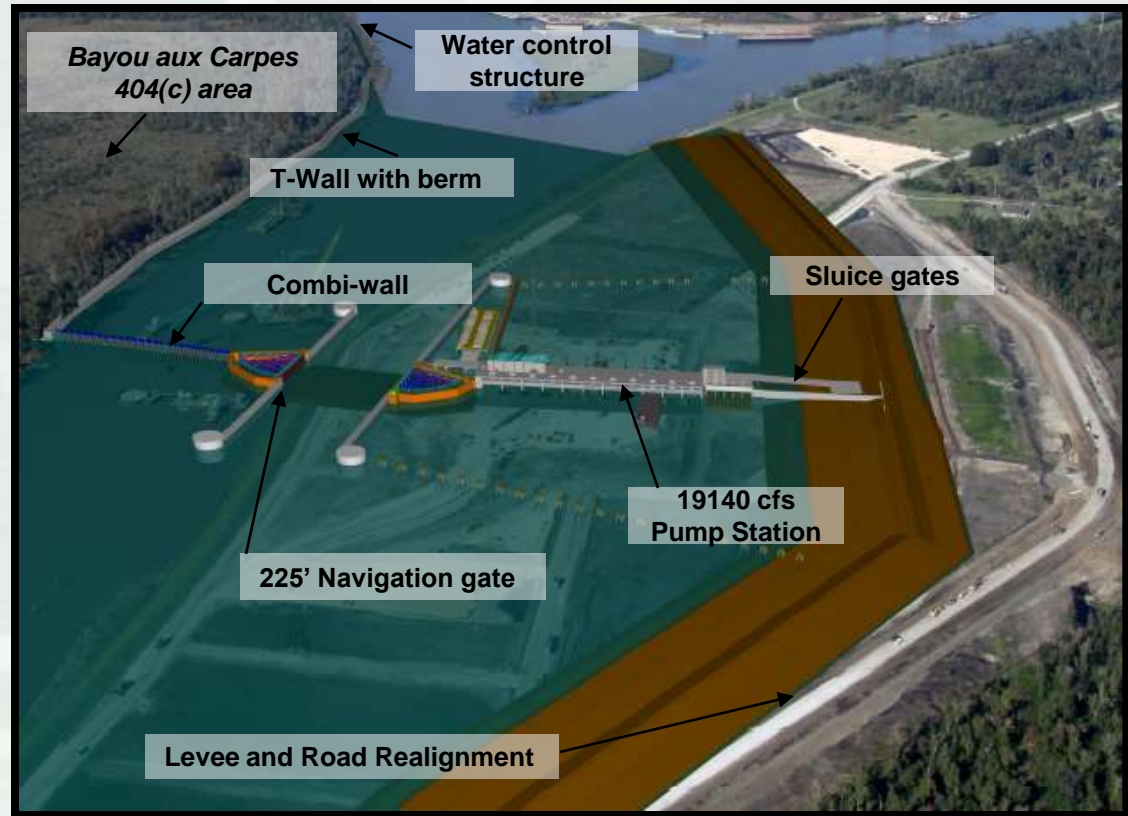
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GIWW - West Closure Complex

Project Features:

- 19,140 cfs Drainage Pumping Station (11 x 1740 cfs vertical “Flower Pot” pumps)
- 225-foot primary navigation gate
- Sluice gates (5 – 16’ x 16’)
- T-wall along edge of Bayou aux Carpes CWA 404(c) wetlands (4200’ X 100’ construction corridor)
- Water Control Structure
- Levee and East Bayou Road Realignment
- Environmental Mitigation and Augmentations
- Foreshore Protection
- Algiers Canal dredging



WCC Cofferdam Piles



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Dewatered Cofferdam



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Dewatered Cofferdam



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Pump Station Piles



Pile Load Test



Pile Load Test



Pile Load Test



Heave Test Section



WCC

Earthen Material Processing



New Levee Construction



New Levee Construction



East T-wall



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East T-wall Preload



Questions?

