



Indiana Department of Environmental Management Office of Water Quality Wetlands Section

Publication Date:
April 9, 2024

Closing Date:
April 30, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

IDEM ID Number:
2024-155-45-MTM-A

Corps of Engineers ID Number:

To all interested parties:

This letter shall serve as a formal notice of the receipt of an application for **Section 401 Water Quality Certification** by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). The purpose of the notice is to inform the public of active applications submitted for water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341) and to solicit comments and information on any impacts to water quality related to the proposed project. IDEM will evaluate whether the project complies with Indiana's water quality standards as set forth at 327 IAC 2.

1. Applicant: Northern Indiana Public Service Company
801 E. 86th Avenue
Merrillville, IN 46410

2. Agent: Stantec
3901 Industrial Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46254

3. Project location: Lake County
Latitude: 41.384212, Longitude: -87.317547
North side of E 129th Ave. approximately 0.1 mile east of the intersection of Mississippi Parkway and E 129th Ave.

4. Affected waterbody: Wetlands associated with an Unnamed Tributary of Niles Ditch.

5. Project Description: The applicant proposes to expand an existing substation to serve existing customers and meet future projected demand, along with general upgrades and replacement of existing infrastructure to keep the utility up to date. The existing substation will be expanded by 0.40 acre. As a component of the substation expansion located within delineated emergent wetlands, approximately 0.26 acre of permanent wetland impact is anticipated for the placement of permanent fill within Wetland-001 and de minimis permanent fill within emergent wetlands, Wetland-001, Wetland-002, and Wetland-003 will be associated with the installation of guy wires on three poles. Additionally, approximately 0.08 acre of temporary construction matting within delineated emergent wetland boundaries will be utilized for temporary access to poles that require aerial work and/or guy wire installation. Additional components of the project within upland areas include the installation of two utility poles and additional guy wires. It is proposed to mitigate for impacts to aquatic resources by purchasing 0.62 acre of wetland credit from the Indiana Stream and Wetland Mitigation Program.

Comment period: Any person or entity who wishes to submit comments or information relevant to the aforementioned project may do so by the closing date noted above. Only comments or information related to water quality or potential impacts of the project on water quality can be considered by IDEM in the water quality certification review process.

Public Hearing: Any person may submit a written request that a public hearing be held to consider issues related to water quality in connection with the project detailed in this notice. The request for a hearing should be submitted within the comment period to be considered timely. The request should also state the reason for the public hearing as specifically as possible to assist IDEM in determining whether a public hearing is warranted.

Questions?

Additional information may be obtained from Marty Maupin, Project Manager, by phone at 317-233-2471 or by e-mail at mmaupin@idem.in.gov. Please address all correspondence to the project manager and reference the IDEM project identification number listed on this notice. Indicate if you wish to receive a copy of IDEM's final decision. Written comments and inquiries may be forwarded to -

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
100 North Senate Avenue
MC65-42 WQS IGCN 1255
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251 FAX: 317/232-8406



APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE DREDGED OR FILL MATERIAL TO ISOLATED WETLANDS AND/OR WATERS OF THE STATE

State Form 51821 (R2 / 11-15)

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. Read the instruction sheet before filling out this form.
 2. You must complete all applicable sections of this form

1. Applicant Information		2. Agent Information	
Name of Applicant Northern Indiana Public Service Company		Name of Agent Stantec	
Mailing address (<i>Street/ PO Box/ Rural Route, City, State, ZIP Code</i>) 801 E 86 th Avenue, Merrillville, IN, 46410		Mailing address (<i>Street/ PO Box/ Rural Route, City, State, ZIP Code</i>) 3901 Industrial Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46254	
Daytime Telephone Number 219-329-0753		Daytime Telephone Number 812-614-7115	
Fax Number		Fax Number	
E-mail address (<i>optional</i>) rshmagranoff@nisource.com		E-mail address (<i>optional</i>) emily.volz@stantec.com	
Contact person (<i>required</i>) Rachel Shmagranoff		Contact person Emily Volz	
3. Project / Tract Location			
County Lake		Nearest city or town Crown Point	
U.S.G.S. Quadrangle map name (<i>Topographic map</i>) Crown Point		Project street address (<i>if applicable</i>) 12701 US-231, Crown Point, IN 46307	
Quarter NE1/4	Section 22	Township 34 N	Range 8 W
Type of aquatic resource(s) to be impacted (<i>Attach Worksheet One.</i>) PEM - Emergent Wetland		Project name or title (<i>if applicable</i>) Veterans Highway Substation Expansion	
Other location descriptions or driving directions From Indianapolis, follow I-69 North for approximately 133 miles to exit 247 toward US-231 S. Keep right at the fork and merge onto US-231 and after the traffic circle, make the first right onto Mississippi Parkway. Follow Mississippi for approximately 0.4 mile and then turn left onto E 129th Ave. The substation will be on the north side of the road			
4. Project Purpose and Description (<i>Use additional sheet(s) if required.</i>)			
Has any construction been started? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Anticipated start date (<i>month, day, year</i>) July 01, 2024	
If yes, how much work is completed?			
Purpose of project and overview of activities The purpose of the Project is to expand the existing substation to serve existing customers and meet future projected demand, along with general upgrades and replacement of existing infrastructure to keep the utility up to date. As a result of the Project, the existing substation will expand by 0.40 acre. As a component of the substation expansion located within delineated emergent wetlands, approximately 0.26 acre of permanent wetland impact is anticipated for the placement of permanent fill within Wetland-001 and de minimis permanent fill within emergent wetlands, Wetland-001, Wetland-002, and Wetland-003 will be associated with the installation of guy wires on three poles. Additionally, approximately 0.08 acre of temporary construction matting within delineated emergent wetland boundaries will be utilized for temporary access to poles that require aerial work and/or guy wire installation. Additional components of the project within upland areas include the installation of two utility poles and additional guy wires.			

5. Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Information: Applicants must answer all of the following questions
(Use additional sheet(s) if necessary - provide a detailed response to all applicable questions.)

A. For projects with Class II isolated wetlands –

1. Is there a reasonable alternative to the proposed activity?

2. Is the proposed activity reasonably necessary or appropriate?

B. For projects with Class III wetlands, adjacent wetlands, and/or streams, rivers, lakes or other water bodies –

1. Is there a practicable alternative to the proposed activity?

2. Have practicable and appropriate steps to minimize impacts to water resources been taken?

Describe all compensatory mitigation required for unavoidable impacts.

Impacts to wetlands under federal jurisdiction have been evaluated based upon USACE mitigation standards and supplemental guidance provided by both the USACE and the IDEM on similar past projects. A ratio of 2 to 1 is proposed for permanent conversion impacts to emergent wetlands. Per the IDEM 401 RGP terms and conditions for NWP 57, NIPSCO proposes to utilize the IDNR's Stream and Wetland Mitigation Program (SWMP) / "in-lieu fee" program to compensate for permanent wetland impacts. Because of the temporal loss of wetland function associated with the use of the IDNR SWMP (as no banks have been built as of the date of this application), the USACE also requires a 20% surcharge on the amount of mitigation credit provided in addition to the base 2 to 1 ratio. NIPSCO proposes to purchase 0.62 acres of mitigation credits to compensate for the 0.26 acres of permanent emergent wetland impact.

6. Drawing / Plan Requirements (Applicants must provide the following.)

- a. Top/aerial/overhead views of the project site showing existing conditions and proposed construction.
- b. Cross sectional view of areas of fill or alterations to streams and other waters.
- c. North arrow, scale, property boundaries.
- d. Include wetland delineation boundary (*if applicable*). Label all wetlands (jurisdictional, isolated and exempt) as I-1, I-2, I-3, etc. and the mitigation areas as M-1, M-2, etc.
- e. Location of all surface waters, including wetlands, erosion control measures, existing and proposed structures, fill and excavation locations, disposal area for excavated material, including quantities, and wetland mitigation site (*if applicable*).
- f. Approximate water depths and bottom configurations (*if applicable*).

7. Supplemental Application Materials (Applicants must provide the following.)

- a. A wetland delineation of all wetlands on the project site (*for projects with wetland impacts*).
- b. At least three photographs of the project site. Indicate the photo locations on the project plans.
- c. If isolated wetlands are present, a letter from the Corps of Engineers verifying this statement.
- d. Wetland mitigation plan and monitoring report.
- e. Classification of all isolated wetlands on the tract (*if isolated wetlands are present onsite*).
- f. Copies of all applicable local permits and/or resolutions pertaining to the project or tract.
- g. Tract history (*see instructions*).

8. Additional information that MAY be required (IDEM will notify you if needed.)

- a. Erosion control and/or storm water management plans.
- b. Sediment analysis.
- c. Species surveys for fish, mussels, plants and threatened or endangered species.
- d. Stream habitat assessment.
- e. Any other information IDEM deems necessary to review the proposed project.

9. Permitting Requirements

a. Does this project require the issuance of a Department of the Army Section 404 Permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers? Yes No

If no, you do not need to answer Part b.

b. Have you applied for an Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit? Yes No

If yes, please supply the Corps of Engineers ID Number, the Corps of Engineers District, the project manager, and a copy of any correspondence with the Corps. **If no, contact** the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the possible need for a permit application.

Corps of Engineers ID Number: LRC-2024-00076

Chicago District, Project Manger: Erich Ceisel (Erich.M.Ceisel@usace.army.mil, 312-846-5533)

c. Have you applied for, received, or been denied a permit from the Department of Natural Resources for this project? Yes No

Please give the permit name, permit number, and date of application, issuance or denial.

d. Have you applied for, received, or been denied any other federal, state, or local permits, variances, licenses, or certifications for this project?

Yes No

Please give the permit name, agency from which it was obtained, permit number, and date of issuance or denial.

Local ground disturbance / stormwater permit from Incorporated Crown Point will be applied for in respect to the ground disturbance / new impervious area creation from the substation fill.

10. Adjoining Property Owners and Addresses

List the names and addresses of landowners adjacent to the property on which your project is located and the names and addresses of other persons (or entities) potentially affected by your project. Use additional sheet(s) if required.

Name Franciscan Alliance, Inc. Address (number and street) 1515 W Dragoon Trail City Mishawaka	State IN	ZIP Code 46544	Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code
Name Harry R VanDriwssche Address (number and street) 157 S 725 W City Hebron	State IN	ZIP Code 46341	Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code
Name Tonn & Bank Construction LLC Address (number and street) 1623 Greenwood Ave City Michigan City	State IN	ZIP Code 46360	Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code
Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code			Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code
Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code			Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code
Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code			Name Address (number and street) City State ZIP Code

11. Signature - Statement of Affirmation

I certify that I am familiar with the information contained in this application and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, such information is true and accurate. I certify that I have the authority to undertake and will undertake the activities as described in this application. I am aware that there are penalties for submitting false information. I understand that any changes in project design subsequent to IDEM's granting of authorization to discharge to a water of the state are not authorized and I may be subject to civil and criminal penalties for proceeding without proper authorization. I agree to allow representatives of the IDEM to enter and inspect the project site. I understand that the granting of other permits by local, state, or federal agencies does not release me from the requirement of obtaining the authorization requested herein before commencing the project.

Applicant's Signature: Rachel Shmagranoff Date: 2/29/2024
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Print Name: Rachel Shmagranoff Title: Environmental Coordinator

Worksheet – Summary of Onsite Water Resources and Project Impacts

A. Jurisdictional Wetlands (Existing Conditions)			Jurisdictional Wetlands (Proposed Impacts)		
Wetland Type	Size of wetland (acreage)	To be Impacted?	Acreage	Fill quantity (cys)	ATF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> FO	W-001: 0.72	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	0.26 (Permanent) / 0.05 (Temporary Matting)	419.5	
<input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FO	W-001: 0.11	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> FO	W-002: 0.23	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	0.00002 (Permanent) / 0.03 (Temporary Matting)	0.03	
<input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FO	W-002: 0.06	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> FO	W-003: 0.003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	0.00002 (Permanent) / 0.0005 (Temporary Matting)	0.03	
<input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> FO		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> FO		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Describe the type and composition of fill material to be placed in wetlands on the project site: Permanent fill within emergent Wetland-001 (W-001) will be composed of crushed rock/gravel fill. Permanent fill within emergent Wetland-002 (W-002) and emergent Wetland-003 (W-003) consist of a typical electric guy-wire anchors. Additionally, approximately 0.08 acre of temporary access matting is proposed within emergent wetland boundaries across the site to facilitate work on structures.					
Describe the type and composition and quantity (<i>cubic yards</i>) of material proposed to be dredged or excavated from wetlands on the project site:					

B. Isolated Wetlands (Existing Conditions)			Isolated Wetlands (Proposed Impacts)			
Wetland Class	Type	Size of wetland (acreage)	To be Impacted?	Acreage	Fill quantity (cys)	ATF
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NF <input type="checkbox"/> F		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NF <input type="checkbox"/> F		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NF <input type="checkbox"/> F		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NF <input type="checkbox"/> F		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NF <input type="checkbox"/> F		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NF <input type="checkbox"/> F		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Describe the type and composition of fill material to be placed in isolated wetlands on the project site:						
Describe the type and composition and quantity (<i>cubic yards</i>) of material proposed to be dredged or excavated from isolated wetlands on the project site:						

C. Bridges and Stream Crossings - provide the following information for EACH structure (Use additional sheet(s) if required.)

Stream name

Description of impacts

Length of upstream bank impacts:	
Left side:	Right side:
Length of downstream bank impacts:	
Left side:	Right side:
Bank protection fill placed below the Ordinary High Water Mark:	Volume per running foot:
Bank protection fill placed below the Ordinary High Water Mark:	Area of coverage:

D. Bank Stabilization – provide the following information for EACH segment (Use additional sheet(s) if required.)

Water body name
Description of impacts
Length of shoreline or bank protection
Volume (<i>cubic yards</i>) of bank protection fill placed below the Ordinary High Water Mark per running foot
Area (<i>square feet</i>) of bank protection fill placed below the Ordinary High Water Mark

E. Stream Relocation

Water body name	
Description of impacts	
Length of existing channel to be relocated (<i>linear feet</i>)	
Length of new channel to be constructed (<i>linear feet</i>)	
Existing channel to be backfilled? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Type of relocation <input type="checkbox"/> Piping <input type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Type of fill and volume (<i>cubic yards</i>)	

F. Open Water Fill

Water body name
Description of impacts
Area of water body to be filled (<i>acres</i>)
Type of fill and volume (<i>cubic yards</i>)



Steven Sylvester
Vice President
Health Safety & Environmental Execution


290 W Nationwide Blvd
Columbus, OH, 43215
(740) 683-2623
ssylvester@nisource.com

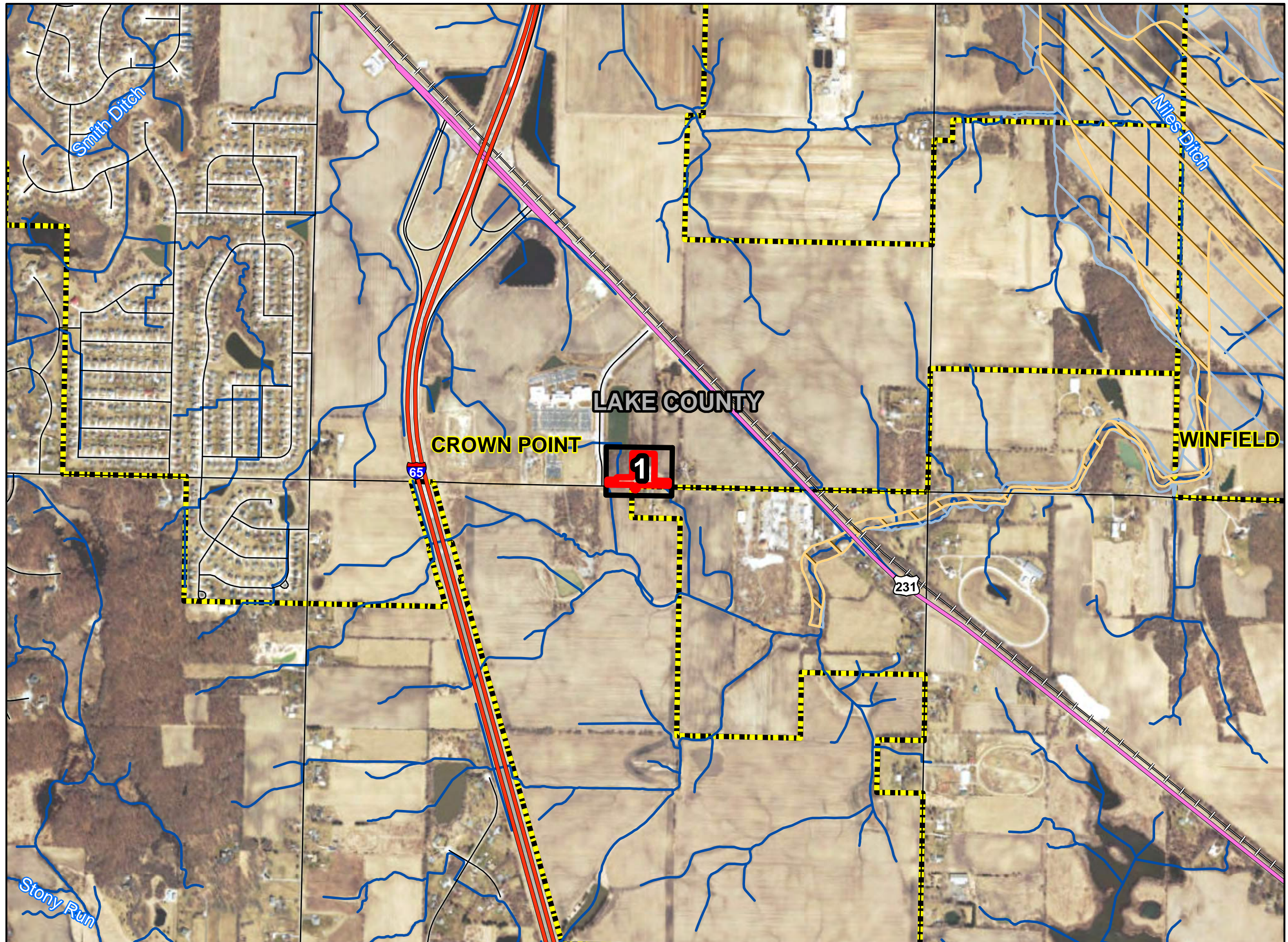
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

I, Steven Sylvester, Vice President of Health Safety & Environmental Execution, (NiSource, Inc.); do hereby appoint Rachel Shmagranoff, Natural Resources Permitting Coordinator (hereinafter referred to as "Delegate") as my agent and delegate, effective for the period beginning January 1, 2024 and ending on December 31, 2024, for the purposes of signing environmental permits requiring my approval during this period.

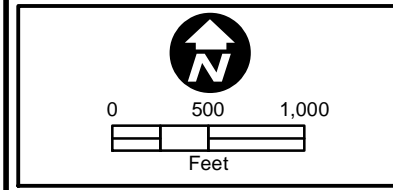
This delegation of authority shall continue until the earlier of the date a) expressly stated in this delegation of authority, b) the Company expressly revokes this delegation, c) a successor is appointed, d) the Delegate is no longer an employee of the Company in the position identified above.

This Delegation of Authority is hereby authorized on January 2, 2024.

By:  _____



- Study Area
- Sheet Index
- County Boundary
- City / Town
- Interstate Highway
- US Highway
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railway
- NHD Flowline
- Floodway
- 100-Year Floodplain



DESIGNED BY	STANTEC	1/10/2024	X
DRAWN BY	STANTEC	1/10/2024	X
CHECKED BY	STANTEC	1/10/2024	X
AS-BUILT BY			X
	NAME	DATE	PHONE

**REGULATED WATERS
DELINEATION REPORT**

NIPSCO VETERANS HIGHWAY
CROWN POINT, LAKE

DRAWING TITLE:
**FLOODWAY AND
100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

DRAWING NO:
FIGURE 3

Project Details Shown Digitized From Engineering Drawings.
 Unless Shown By Limit Of Disturbance, Access
 And Construction Assumed To Be Completed From Roadway.
 Project Details And Limit Of Disturbance May Vary.
 Actual Locations To Be Determined In Field By Contractor.

Dewatering Requires Filtering Prior To Discharge.
 Direct Discharge To Stormwater Inlets
 Not Permitted Without Additional NRP Approval.

Install Additional Silt Fence Or Compost Filter Sock Sediment Barrier
 Along Perimeter Of All Ground Disturbance And Soil Stockpiles As Needed
 To Prevent Discharge Of Sediment Or Slurry To Roadway Or Off-Site.

Ensure Roadways Are Kept Free Of Sediment Tracking Daily.

Impacts To Wetlands Should Be Avoided As Practicable.
 Temporary Impacts To Regulated Wetlands Must Be Restored
 Immediately Following Construction.

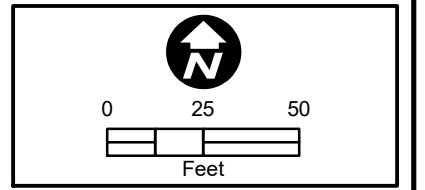
See Restoration Plan For Additional Information.

Matting Shall Be Used For Access And Workspace
 Within All Wetland Boundaries And Soft Soil Areas

Matting Must Be In Good Condition And
 Free Of Sediment And Potential Weed Seed



- Construction Work Area
- Limit Of Disturbance
- Bore Pit
- Culvert
- Construction Entrance
- Inlet Protection
- Check Dam
- Silt Fence
- Filter Sock
- Timber Matting
- Stream
- Swale
- Tile
- Delineated Wetland
- 5-Foot Contour
- NHD Stream
- 100-Year Floodplain
- Floodway
- Managed Land
- Parcel Boundary

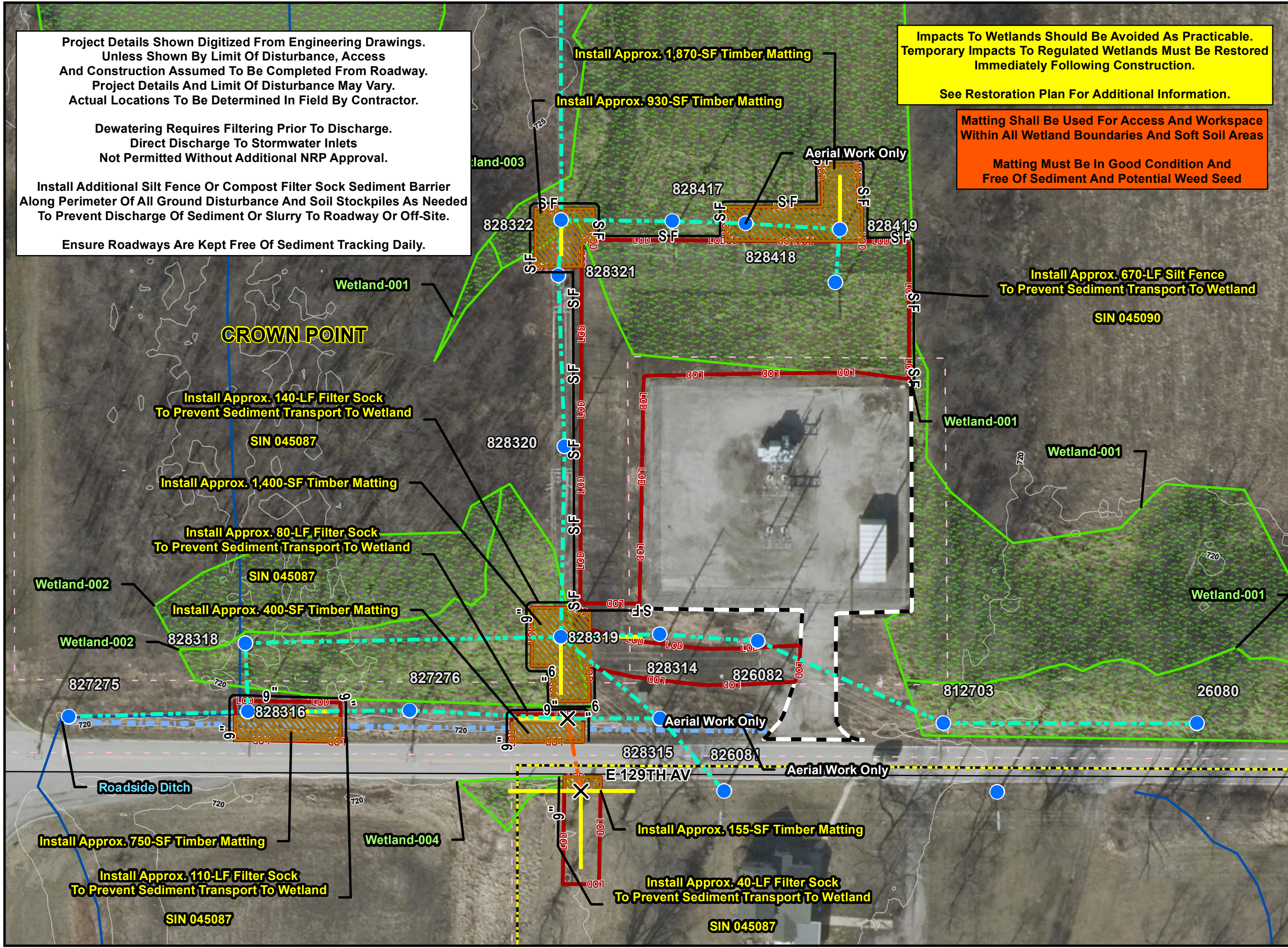


DESIGNED BY	STANTEC	1/9/2024	X
DRAWN BY	STANTEC	1/9/2024	X
CHECKED BY	NRP	1/9/2024	X
AS-BUILT BY			X
	NAME	DATE	PHONE

SITE NAME:
INST# WO50596-911
ABAN# WO80596-911
PROJECT ID# --
 COMM / VETERANS HIGHWAY
 CROWN POINT, LAKE

DRAWING TITLE:
EROSION CONTROL SHEET

DRAWING NO:
EC-1

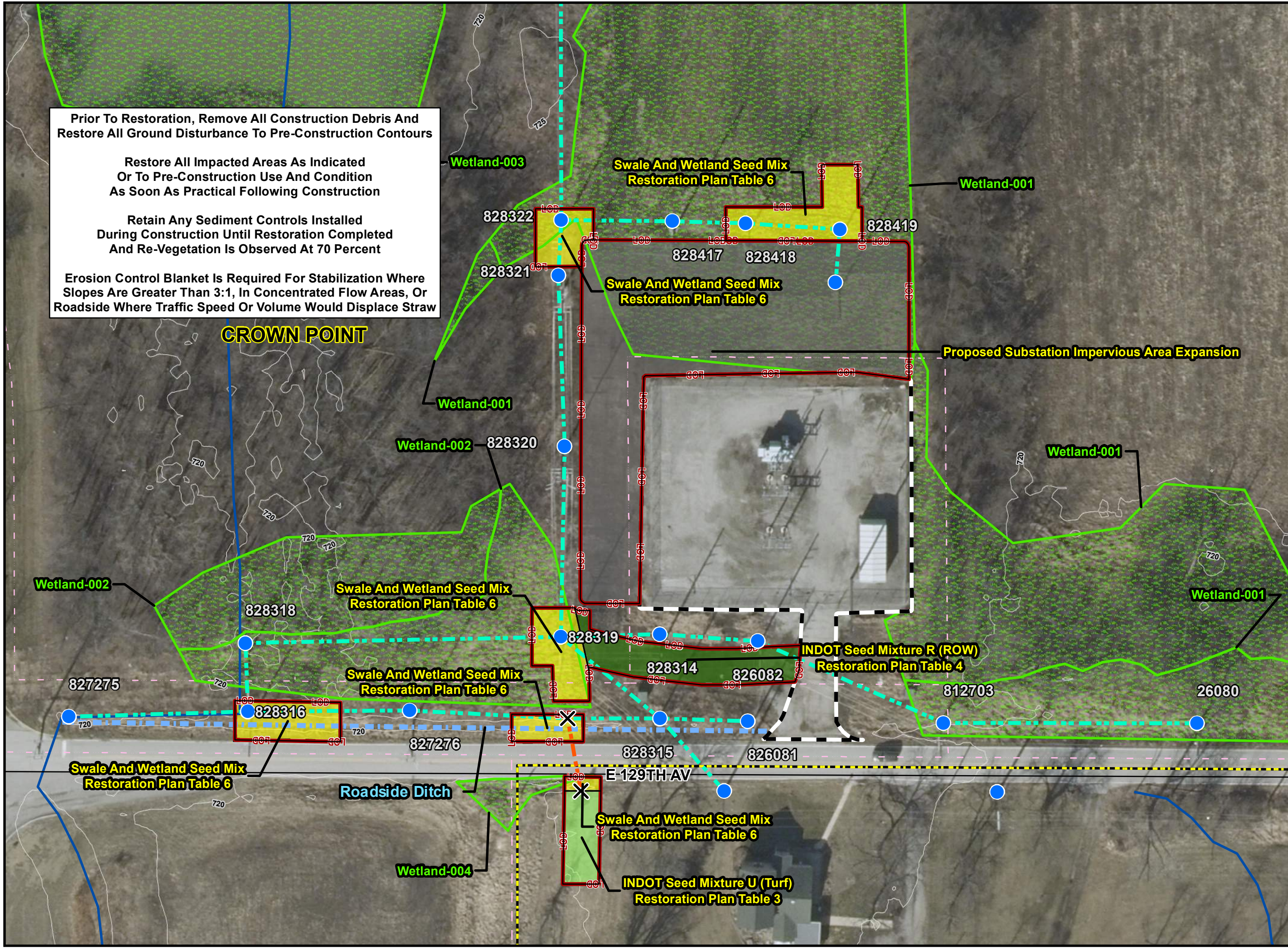


Prior To Restoration, Remove All Construction Debris And Restore All Ground Disturbance To Pre-Construction Contours

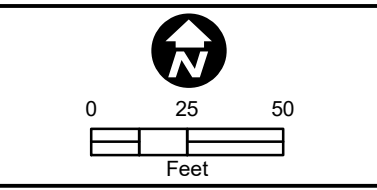
Restore All Impacted Areas As Indicated Or To Pre-Construction Use And Condition As Soon As Practical Following Construction

Retain Any Sediment Controls Installed During Construction Until Restoration Completed And Re-Vegetation Is Observed At 70 Percent

Erosion Control Blanket Is Required For Stabilization Where Slopes Are Greater Than 3:1, In Concentrated Flow Areas, Or Roadside Where Traffic Speed Or Volume Would Displace Straw



- Construction Work Area
 - Limit Of Disturbance
 - Stream
 - Swale
 - Tile
 - Delineated Wetland
 - 5-Foot Contour
 - NHD Flowline
 - 100-Year Floodplain
 - Floodway
 - Managed Land
 - Parcel Boundary
- Restoration Type**
- Temporary Only
 - Impervious Surface
 - Agricultural
 - Turf
 - ROW
 - Floodplain
 - Swale and Wetland
 - Upland Natural
 - Slope Stability
 - Dune and Swale Wetland
 - Great Lakes Dune
 - Landowner Custom
 - Homeowner / Service



DESIGNED BY	STANTEC	1/9/2024	X
DRAWN BY	STANTEC	1/9/2024	X
CHECKED BY	NRP	1/9/2024	X
AS-BUILT BY			X
	NAME	DATE	PHONE

SITE NAME:
INST# WO50596-911
ABAN# WO80596-911
PROJECT ID# --
 COMM / VETERANS HIGHWAY
 CROWN POINT, LAKE

DRAWING TITLE:
 RESTORATION PLAN
 SHEET

DRAWING NO:
EC-1