#### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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#### W12a

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#### STAFF REPORT: REGULAR CALENDAR

**Application No.:** 1-13-0280

**Applicant:** Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

**Agent:** GHD Inc.

**Location:** An approximately two-mile long segment between the

District's existing Terminal Reservoir and the Fairhaven area on the Samoa Peninsula (North Spit of Humboldt

Bay), Humboldt County.

**Project Description:** Construct approximately 15,406 linear feet of 20-inch PVC

domestic water transmission pipeline and 12-inch PVC distribution pipelines within roadways and upland ruderal habitats to replace an existing 10,800-foot-long segment of 18-inch Techite domestic water pipeline and smaller pipe

connections.

**Staff Recommendation:** Approval with conditions.

#### SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommends **approval** of coastal development application 1-13-0280 subject to the attached recommended special conditions.

#### 1-13-0280 (Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District)

The applicant proposes to construct a new segment of domestic water transmission and distribution pipeline to replace a deteriorating segment of existing pipeline in a new alignment along paved roadways and upland ruderal habitats (**Exhibits 1-2**). The purpose of constructing the proposed new pipeline in a different alignment than the existing Techite pipeline is to avoid disturbance to environmentally sensitive coastal dune habitats, which occur throughout the length of the existing pipeline alignment. The existing pipeline was installed in its current alignment through dune habitats in 1971, prior to CDP requirements. The proposed new alignment is entirely within existing public roadways, road easements, and existing District pipeline easements.

Staff recommends Special Conditions to ensure that (1) the proposed development adjacent to ESHA will adequately provide for the protection against the spillage of petroleum products or other hazardous substances and (2) the segment of pipeline to be replaced does not remain in service indefinitely and have growth-inducing effects.

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#### I. MOTION AND RESOLUTION

The staff recommends that the Commission adopt the following resolution:

#### **Motion:**

I move that the Commission approve coastal development permit 1-13-0280 pursuant to the staff recommendation.

Staff recommends a **YES** vote on the foregoing motion. Passage of this motion will result in approval of the permit as conditioned and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

#### **Resolution:**

The Commission hereby approves a coastal development permit for the proposed development and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the development as conditioned will be in conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Approval of the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts of the development on the environment.

#### II. STANDARD CONDITIONS

This permit is granted subject to the following standard conditions:

- 1. **Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment**: The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
- 2. **Expiration**: If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date on which the Commission voted on the application. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
- 3. **Interpretation**: Any questions of intent of interpretation of any condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
- 4. **Assignment**: The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.

5. **Terms and Conditions Run with the Land**: These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

#### III. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

This permit is granted subject to the following special conditions:

- 1. <u>Construction Responsibilities</u>. The authorized development shall be implemented consistent with the following construction-related responsibilities. PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZED BY THIS PERMIT, the applicant shall submit, for the review and written approval of the Executive Director, evidence that all of the following construction-related water quality and ESHA protection measures have been incorporated into the final construction plans, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and erosion and sediment control plans for the project:
- A. The permittee shall ensure that all on-site workers and contractors understand and agree to observe the standards for work outlined in this permit and in the detailed project description included as part of the application submittal and as revised by these conditions. A qualified environmental monitor familiar with environmentally sensitive habitat areas in the project vicinity shall be on site periodically to ensure contractor compliance with the environmental protection requirements of this permit;
- B. Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities, appropriate erosion, sediment, and runoff control measures shall be deployed in accordance with the final SWPPP and erosion control plans, and all measures shall be properly maintained throughout the duration of construction activities;
- C. Humboldt Bay wallflower, other rare plant, and wetland habitat areas adjacent to construction areas shall be flagged for avoidance by a qualified botanist prior to commencement of construction consistent with **Special Condition 2**;
- D. No construction materials, spoils, soil, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may be subject to entering coastal waters or environmentally sensitive areas;
- E. During the course of the project work, all trash shall be properly contained, removed from the work site on a regular basis, and properly disposed of to avoid inadvertent contamination of habitat during construction activities;
- F. All on-site stockpiles of construction debris and soil or other earthen materials shall be covered and contained whenever there is a potential for rainfall in order to prevent polluted water runoff from the site;
- G. Any construction vehicle or equipment cleaning, fueling, and/or maintenance conducted on site shall take place offsite, or if onsite then only within designated areas located at least 100 feet from coastal wetlands and waters, drainage courses, and storm drain inlets;
- H. Concrete washout areas shall be located at least 100 feet from coastal wetlands and waters, drainage courses, and storm drain inlets and shall be implemented in a manner that controls runoff and prevents leaching to underlying soils;
- I. Construction vehicle and equipment fueling areas shall be designed to fully contain any spills of fuel, oil, or other contaminants. Equipment that cannot be feasibly relocated to a

- designated fueling area may be fueled and maintained in other areas of the site provided that procedures are implemented to fully contain any potential spills;
- J. Stockpiled materials shall be stored a minimum of 100 feet from coastal wetlands, waters, concentrated stormwater flows or drainage courses, and storm drain inlets;
- K. BMPs involving revegetating/reseeding disturbed areas shall employ native plants only and species that currently occur in the Humboldt Bay coastal dune ecoregion. No plant species listed as problematic and/or invasive by the California Native Plant Society, the California Invasive Plant Council, or as may be identified from time to time by the State of California, shall be employed or allowed to naturalize or persist on the site. No plant species listed as a "noxious weed" by the governments of the State of California or the United States shall be utilized for erosion control, revegetation, landscaping, or other purposes;
- L. The use of rodenticides containing any anticoagulant compounds including, but not limited to, Warfarin, Bromadiolone, Brodifacoum, or Diphacinone is prohibited;
- M. To minimize wildlife entanglement and plastic debris pollution, the use of plastic netting (such as polypropylene, nylon, polyethylene, polyester, or other synthetic fibers used in fiber rolls, erosion control blankets, and mulch control netting) in temporary rolled erosion and sediment control products is prohibited. Any erosion-control associated netting shall be made of natural fibers and constructed in a loose-weave design with movable joints between the horizontal and vertical twines;
- N. The use of herbicides is prohibited; and
- O. Construction staging, stockpiling, parking, and other work sites shall be restricted to areas identified in the approved final staging and stockpiling plan required by **Special Condition 3** to avoid impacts to adjacent environmentally sensitive habitat areas that occur around the project site. Prior to commencement of construction, the limits of the work areas and staging areas shall be delineated with temporary fencing in cooperation with a qualified biologist, limiting the potential areas affected by construction and ensuring that all wetland and other environmentally sensitive habitats adjacent to construction areas are avoided during construction. All vehicles and equipment shall be restricted to pre-established work areas and haul routes and to established or designated staging areas.

#### 2. ESHA Protection Plan

- A. PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF THIS COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT, the applicant shall submit, for the review and written approval of the Executive Director, an ESHA Protection Plan designed to protect Humboldt Bay wallflower habitat, other rare plant habitat, wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive habitat areas adjacent to project work sites.
  - i. The plan shall demonstrate, at a minimum, the following:
    - a. Prior to commencement of construction, a qualified botanist shall install protective exclusion fencing between construction areas and rare plant and wetland habitat areas adjacent to construction areas, including staging, storage, and other work areas, and exclusion fencing shall be maintained throughout the duration of construction activities:
    - b. A qualified environmental monitor familiar with environmentally sensitive habitat areas in the project vicinity shall be on site daily during ground-disturbing activities adjacent to ESHA to ensure contractor compliance with the environmental

- protection requirements of this permit. The environmental monitor shall document any ESHA or water quality impacts resulting from the project and any noncompliance with the water quality and ESHA protection conditions of this permit;
- c. Construction shall avoid or minimize the use of imported backfill material in dune habitats outside paved roadway areas. If import material is used off pavement in dune habitats, the material shall be free of nonnative plants and insects; and
- d. A qualified botanist shall monitor all areas where imported backfill material is placed in dune habitats outside paved roadway areas on a quarterly basis for a minimum of one year following completion of construction to ensure that no invasive or other nonnative species germinate from the imported fill material such that, if not detected and eradicated, the nonnative species could spread to and degrade surrounding ESHA. Any nonnative species inadvertently imported to the area shall be manually eradicated, and monitoring shall continue for as long as needed beyond one year until successful eradication of the nonnative species is confirmed.
- ii. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following
  - a. Provisions for conducting an updated preconstruction rare plant survey by a qualified botanist of areas adjacent to construction sites documenting the locations of rare plants that will be flagged for avoidance;
  - b. Provisions for preparing plans and maps depicting where protective/exclusionary fencing will be erected in relation to rare plant and wetland habitats adjacent to construction areas;
  - c. Provisions for submittal to the Executive Director, within 30 days of completion of construction, maps depicting the locations and quantities of imported backfill material used within dune habitats outside paved roadway areas, if applicable;
  - d. Provisions for monitoring, if applicable, imported backfill areas by a qualified botanist consistent with subsection (i)(d) above, including a description of removal methods to be employed in the event that nonnative plants introduced to the area from import material are detected during monitoring. Monitoring shall document all plant species present on imported fill, percent cover of each plant species, and any detections of nonnative species that are not known to occur in dune habitats in the region;
  - e. Provisions for submittal of reports and plans to the Executive Director, including (1) a pre-construction rare plant survey report and exclusionary fencing plans at least two weeks prior to commencement of construction; (2) a report from the qualified environmental monitor within 30 days of completion of construction documenting any observed ESHA or water quality impacts resulting from the project and any noncompliance with the water quality and ESHA protection conditions of the permit; and (3) monitoring reports, if applicable, for imported backfill areas semi-annually (twice per year) for at least one year following completion of construction; and
  - f. A schedule for the pre-construction rare plant survey, for flagging rare plant habitat areas for avoidance prior to commencement of construction, for reporting to the

Executive Director pursuant to subsection (e) above, and for environmental compliance monitoring during construction activities.

B. The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

#### 3. Final Staging and Stockpiling Plans

- A. PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZED BY THIS PERMIT, the applicant shall submit, for the review and written approval of the Executive Director, a final plan detailing the locations and sizes of all construction staging areas, storage areas, stockpiling areas, concrete washout areas, contractor employee parking areas, and other construction areas appurtenant to the authorized development. The plan shall demonstrate and include, at a minimum, the following
  - i. No construction staging, storage, stockpiling, concrete washout, parking, or other areas associated with construction of the authorized development shall be located within wetlands or other environmentally sensitive habitat areas;
  - ii. Designated areas for construction vehicle or equipment cleaning, fueling, and/or maintenance shall be located at least 100 feet from coastal wetlands and waters, drainage courses, and storm drain inlets and shall be designed to fully contain any spills of fuel, oil, or other contaminants;
  - iii. Concrete washout areas shall be located at least 100 feet from coastal wetlands and waters, drainage courses, and storm drain inlets and shall be implemented in a manner that controls runoff and prevents leaching to underlying soils;
  - iv. The limits of such areas shall be depicted on plans and maps provided to the Executive Director at least two weeks prior to commencement of construction; and
  - v. If necessary, areas shall be flagged or otherwise delineated to ensure that construction activities are contained within designated areas.
- B. The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.
- **4.** Abandonment of Existing Techite Pipeline. Within one year of completion of construction, or such additional time as the Executive Director may grant for good cause, the permittee shall submit evidence to the Executive Director demonstrating that the existing Techite pipeline has been formally abandoned in place.
- **5.** Area of Archaeological Significance. (A) If an area of archaeological deposits is discovered during the course of the project, all construction shall cease and shall not recommence except as provided in subsection (B) hereof, and a qualified archaeological resource specialist shall analyze the significance of the find; (B) A permittee seeking to recommence construction following discovery of the archaeological deposits shall submit a supplementary

archaeological plan for the review and approval of the Executive Director. If the Executive Director approves the Supplementary Archaeological Plan and determines that the Supplementary Archaeological Plan's recommended changes to the proposed development or mitigation measures are *de minimis* in nature and scope, construction may recommence after this determination is made by the Executive Director. If the Executive Director approves the Supplementary Archaeological Plan but determines that the changes therein are not *de minimis*, construction may not recommence until after an amendment to this permit is approved by the Commission.

#### 6. Traffic Management Plan

- A. PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZED BY THIS PERMIT, the applicant shall submit, for the review and written approval of the Executive Director, a final Traffic Management Plan that demonstrates all of the following:
  - i. Public access to the shoreline shall be maintained throughout the duration of construction activities;
  - ii. Construction equipment, trucks, and other vehicles associated with the authorized development shall be staged and routed such that congestion on public streets and public parking impacts are minimized; and
  - iii. Construction staging and parking areas shall not encroach into environmentally sensitive dune habitat areas.
- B. The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

#### IV. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

The Commission hereby finds and declares as follows:

#### A. BACKGROUND AND PROJECT PURPOSE

The impetus for the proposed project is the potential risk of failure of a section of the applicant's domestic water distribution system located on the Samoa Peninsula (North Spit of Humboldt Bay) near the community of Fairhaven approximately two miles west of the City of Eureka. The existing 10,800-foot-long segment of pipeline of concern is composed of Techite, a resin and sand-impregnated, fiberglass-wound pipe that has been found to be susceptible to catastrophic failure resulting from internal deterioration. The existing pipeline was installed in 1971 and has exceeded its expected lifespan compared with other Techite pipelines elsewhere (outside of Humboldt County) that have suffered catastrophic failures within a shorter timeframe. Because Techite in general has been demonstrated over the years to be highly susceptible to failure and difficult to repair (the manufacturer eventually went bankrupt after more than 50 lawsuits were filed against the company following catastrophic failures of pipelines in different areas)<sup>1</sup>, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> E.g., see http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2005/11/14/story6.html?page=all.

because the applicant's Techite pipeline segment has experienced leaks in recent years necessitating emergency repairs, the applicant identified the replacement of the faulty pipeline segment as a high priority. A catastrophic failure of the Techite pipeline segment could cause serious environmental damage to the immediate area and would disrupt the domestic water supply to thousands of users in the region. This portion of the District's water distribution system serves approximately 7,400 users, including various general industrial and coastal-dependent industrial properties, residential properties in the community of Fairhaven, and the Coast Guard Station on Humboldt Bay. The subject pipeline segment also ties into the pipeline that runs under the bay and serves as an emergency backup system for the City of Eureka. The applicant has secured a 2.2 million dollar hazard mitigation grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to replace the Techite pipeline segment.

#### **B. Project Description**

The applicant proposes to construct a new approximately 15,406-foot-long segment of 20-inch polyvinylchloride (PVC) domestic water transmission pipeline and 12-inch PVC distribution pipelines in a new alignment along paved roadways and upland ruderal habitats between the applicant's existing Samoa Terminal Reservoir and the pipeline's Humboldt Bay crossing at Fairhaven (Exhibits 1-2). The purpose of constructing the proposed new pipeline in a different alignment than the existing Techite pipeline is to avoid disturbance to environmentally sensitive coastal dune habitats, which occur throughout the length of the existing pipeline alignment. As previously mentioned, the existing pipeline was installed in its current alignment through dune habitats in 1971, prior to CDP requirements. The proposed new alignment is entirely within existing public roadways, road easements, and existing District pipeline easements.

The proposed new pipeline segment would serve as a redundant line to the existing 10,800-ft-long segment of 18-inch Techite pipeline for an unspecified time period until the Techite line is abandoned in place in the future. Abandonment of the existing Techite line will involve closing valves, cutting, and plugging with concrete the ends of the existing line and cutting and plugging each lateral pipe originating from the line to service customers. The applicant has proposed using the existing Techite line in tandem with the new PVC pipeline segment to serve as a redundant line for an unspecified time period. The stated advantages of the proposed redundant waterline include (1) energy (and associated cost) savings on the Humboldt Community Services District pumps located in Eureka where the water line enters the city from its bay crossing, since the redundant pipeline would allow water entering the pumps to arrive at a higher pressure, thereby requiring less energy to boost the water to distribution lines to HCSD customers; and (2) redundancy in the water transmission line system in the event that either the existing pipeline or proposed new pipeline breaks or fails for any reason, a backup line would be in place.

Construction of the new pipeline would involve traditional open trenching and jack and bore methods. Tracked excavators and wheeled backhoes would excavate 3-ft-wide by 3-ft-deep trenches. The new pipe would be bedded and backfilled with material primarily from onsite (reuse of excavated material), but import of clean material may also be needed (source not yet identified; to be determined by contractor). All public and private paved or gravel roadways impacted by trenching would be repaired to original condition, including backfill, grading, compaction, and repaving. Jack and bore technology would be utilized for pipeline installation in

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limited areas where traditional trenching is not feasible, such as crossing under a large box culvert on New Navy Base Road.

The north and south ends of the proposed new pipeline would intertie with existing water mains, with the northern end tying into an existing 15-inch concrete-lined steel pipe near the District's Samoa Terminal Reservoir and the southern end tying into a 27-inch steel pipe in Fairhaven near the line's Humboldt Bay crossing. Additionally, 4-inch and 6-inch PVC pipes providing domestic water to Fairhaven, the Fay Street area, and other connections to the south would be connected to the new pipe as needed. Appurtenant pipeline-related components such as hydrants, air releases, and valves also would be constructed along the proposed new pipeline as appropriate. **Exhibit 3** includes a complete set of proposed plans.

#### C. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project area is an approximately 2-mile-long right-of-way between the District's existing Terminal Reservoir on the Samoa Peninsula (North Spit of Humboldt Bay) and the unincorporated community of Fairhaven. The majority of construction activities would occur within existing paved County roadways, including New Navy Base Road, which is the main thoroughfare on the North Spit, as well as Lincoln Avenue and Duprey Street in Fairhaven. Some development, such as the installation of air release valves and hydrants, would occur adjacent to paved roadways within previously disturbed upland habitats (**Exhibits 4-5**).

Most areas of the North Spit outside of paved and developed areas contain environmentally sensitive dune habitats, including rare plant habitat, dune mat, dune wetlands, forested dunes, and other types of ESHA. A population of Humboldt Bay wallflower (*Erysimum menziesii* ssp. *eurekense*), a federally and state-endangered species known only from coastal dunes around Humboldt Bay, cocurs adjacent to the proposed project area (approximately 15 feet from the proposed new pipeline alignment and 36 feet from one of the proposed new air release valves). In addition, dune mat and palustrine wetlands occur immediately adjacent to the proposed new pipeline and ARVs at various points along the length of the pipeline alignment. The project does not propose any new development within any ESHA.

#### D. STANDARD OF REVIEW

The project area is bisected by the boundary between the retained CDP jurisdiction of the Commission and the CDP jurisdiction delegated to Humboldt County by the Commission through the County's LCP. Most of the proposed project area is within the County's CDP jurisdiction. The portions of the project area within the Commission's retained jurisdiction are limited to the southern end of the pipeline segment at the end of Dupree Street in Fairhaven near the pipeline's bay crossing.

Section 30601.3 of the Coastal Act authorizes the Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit application when requested by the local government and the applicant and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This wallflower subspecies is no longer recognized as a valid taxon in the most recent taxonomic treatment of *E. menziesii* in the second edition of The Jepson Manual (Baldwin et al., eds., 2012). Nevertheless, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) continues to recognize the subspecies as distinct, and both the FWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife have listed *E. menziesii*, including any subspecies and distinct populations within the species, as endangered under the Federal and California Endangered Species Acts, respectfully.

approved by the Executive Director for projects that would otherwise require coastal development permits from both the Commission and from a local government with a certified LCP. In this case, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution, and both the applicant and the County submitted letters requesting consolidated processing of the coastal development permit application by the Commission for the subject project, which was approved by the Executive Director.

The policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act provide the legal standard of review for a consolidated coastal development permit application submitted pursuant to Section 30601.3. The local government's certified LCP may be used as guidance.

#### E. PROTECTION OF ESHA AND WATER QUALITY

Section 30240 of the Coastal Act states as follows:

- (a) Environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on those resources shall be allowed within those areas.
- (b) Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade those areas, and shall be compatible with the continuance of those habitat and recreation areas.

Section 30230 of the Coastal Act states as follows:

Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological or economic significance. Uses of the marine environment shall be carried out in a manner that will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and that will maintain healthy populations of all species of marine organisms adequate for long-term commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes.

Section 30231 of the Coastal Act states as follows:

The biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of waste water discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of ground water supplies and substantial interference with surface water flow, encouraging waste water reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, and minimizing alteration of natural streams.

Section 30232 of the Coastal Act states as follows:

Protection against the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products or hazardous substances shall be provided in relation to any development or transportation of such materials. Effective containment and cleanup facilities and procedures shall be provided for accidental spills that do occur.

The project as proposed does not propose any new development within any ESHA. The majority of the new pipeline will be installed within existing paved roadway areas. The applicant's consultant completed an ESHA analysis for areas adjacent to the construction alignment and for those areas off-pavement adjacent to the roadway proposed for pipeline appurtenances, including new air release valves (ARVs), blow-off assemblies, and fire hydrants. The applicant determined through analyzing the soils in these areas and reviewing original plans for the construction of New Navy Base Road and Lincoln Avenue in 1969, that all proposed appurtenances not within paved sections of roadway will be located in areas underlain by roadway fill material (**Exhibit 5**).

Although the development will not encroach directly into ESHA, the project involves construction activities, including trenching and boring using heavy equipment, excavation/backfilling and stockpiling of soils and construction materials, and the use of concrete, asphalt, paving materials, paint, and other hazardous substances in close proximity to coastal waters, wetlands, Humboldt Bay wallflower habitat, dune mat, and other environmentally sensitive habitat areas. Due to the proximity of the project area directly adjacent to ESHA and coastal waters, there is potential for the proposed development to adversely impact adjacent ESHA, water quality, and/or marine resources. Unless appropriate protocols are followed, the proposed development could result in sediments or other pollutants entering coastal waters, improper storage of equipment and materials in or adjacent to ESHA and the bay, accidental leaks or spills of coolants, petroleum products, and other hazardous substances in close proximity to marine waters and/or ESHA, and other activities that could disrupt ESHA functions and values or adversely impact water quality and marine resources.

The applicant has proposed various mitigation measures as part of the proposed project to avoid or minimize potential ESHA and water quality impacts. These measures include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) the use of various erosion control measures (e.g., dust control, use of fiber rolls or similar products for runoff control, storm drain inlet protection, designating a concrete washout area), (2) preparation and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan in compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2009-0009-DWO (general waste discharge requirements for discharges of stormwater runoff associated with construction and land disturbance activities), and (3) appropriate reuse, retention, or discharge of groundwater that may be encountered during construction. In addition, the CEQA document adopted for the project identified various mitigation measures as appropriate to minimize potential project impacts to a less than significant level, including, but not limited to, the following (see for all proposed measures): (a) placement of construction exclusion fencing between construction areas and wallflower habitat areas; (b) protection and avoidance of wetlands, using exclusion fencing where needed to prevent disturbance; and (c) implementation of various specified water quality protection BMPs. Furthermore, the plans proposed for the project include various environmental notes for the contractor to follow, such as requiring that construction equipment avoid designated sensitive habitats, that staging and storing areas not be

located within wetlands or ESHA, and that the contractor prepare and implement a spill prevention and response plan requiring in part that all staging, storage, and refueling areas and equipment repair areas be located at least 100 feet from wetlands, waters, and ESHA (see **Exhibit 3**).

The Commission finds that while the above measures are appropriate, in some cases they do not go far enough or include enough detail to ensure that the water quality and habitat protection standards of Sections 30240, 30230, 30231, and 30232 are met. For example, the applicant proposes that the contractor identify and establish construction staging and storage areas (other than the one staging area that the applicant has proposed adjacent to the District's Terminal Reservoir) that avoid locating such areas within 100 feet of wetlands, waters, and ESHA. However, the contractor may not have the expertise to identify the locations and boundaries of all types of wetlands and ESHA that may be present in the project vicinity, in which case the development of these areas for temporary construction-related uses potentially could result in encroachment into ESHA inconsistent with the requirements of Section 30240(a) of the Coastal Act that only resource-dependent uses be allowed within ESHA. In addition, as proposed, imported backfill material may be used around structures (e.g., ARVs and hydrants) in dune habitats outside of paved roadway areas. However, the proposed project does not include measures to ensure that the use of imported material is minimized and does not result in the introduction of nonnative species inappropriate to the dune environment, which could invade surrounding ESHA and degrade the habitat areas. Thus, to ensure that (1) the proposed development adjacent to ESHA will be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade those areas and be compatible with the continuance of those habitat areas, (2) water quality will be protected, and (3) the project will adequately provide for the protection against the spillage of petroleum products or other hazardous substances consistent with Sections 30240(b), 30230, 30231, and 30232 of the Coastal Act, the Commission attaches Special Conditions 1 through 3, as detailed below.

**Special Condition 1** specifies various construction responsibilities required for the project to protect water quality and environmentally sensitive habitat areas located around construction work areas. The condition requires that the applicant submit evidence to the Executive Director, prior to commencement of development, demonstrating that the various required measures have been incorporated into the final construction plans, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and erosion and sediment control plans for the project.

Special Condition 2 requires submittal of an ESHA protection plan prior to permit issuance for the Executive Director's review and approval. The plan must demonstrate that (a) a qualified botanist will flag for protection/exclusion all rare plant and wetland habitat areas adjacent to construction work areas prior to commencement of construction, (b) a qualified environmental monitor familiar with ESHA in the project vicinity will be onsite daily to ensure contractor compliance with the environmental protection requirements of this permit, (c) the project will avoid or minimize the use of imported backfill material in dune habitats outside paved roadway areas, and if import material is used, the material will be free of nonnative plants and insects; and (d) a qualified botanist will monitor areas where imported backfill is placed in dune habitats to ensure that no invasive or other species inappropriate to the area germinate from the imported fill material and degrade surrounding ESHA.

**Special Condition 3** requires submittal of a final plan detailing the locations and sizes of all construction staging areas, storage areas, stockpiling areas, concrete washout areas, contractor employee parking areas, and other construction areas appurtenant to the authorized development. The plan must demonstrate in part that (1) no construction staging, storage, stockpiling, concrete washout, parking, or other areas associated with construction of the authorized development will be located within wetlands or other environmentally sensitive habitat areas; and (2) designated areas for construction vehicle or equipment cleaning, fueling, and/or maintenance and concrete washout areas will be located at least 100 feet from coastal wetlands and waters.

As discussed in the Project Description finding above, the applicant has proposed that the new PVC pipeline segment serve as a redundant line in tandem with the existing Techite line for an unspecified time period. The stated advantages of the proposed redundant waterline include (1) energy (and associated cost) savings on the Humboldt Community Services District pumps located in Eureka where the water line enters the city from its bay crossing, since the redundant pipeline would allow water entering the pumps to arrive at a higher pressure, thereby requiring less energy to boost the water to distribution lines to HCSD customers; and (2) redundancy in the water transmission line system in the event that either the existing pipeline or proposed new pipeline breaks or fails for any reason, a backup line would be in place.

The Commission finds that leaving the existing faulty Techite pipeline in place as a redundant line indefinitely could result in significant disruption of habitat values to environmentally sensitive dune habitats located along the length of the existing pipeline alignment. A 2012 ESHA survey of the existing pipeline alignment identified rare plant habitat, dune mat, wetland and riparian habitat, and other types of environmentally sensitive dune habitats along the length of the pipeline, which was installed in 1971. Because Techite in general has been demonstrated over the years to be highly susceptible to failure, and because the applicant's Techite pipeline segment has experienced leaks in recent years necessitating emergency repairs, the applicant has stated that the existing pipeline has already exceeded its lifespan and is "on borrowed time." It's difficult to predict how much disruption to dune ESHA a catastrophic failure of the existing pipeline would cause, as the significance of ESHA disruption would depend on various factors such as the location of the failure point, the duration of water flow into the failed pipe before valves could be shut, and the weather. However, the applicant indicates that it's entirely feasible that a catastrophic failure of the Techite pipeline segment would cause serious environmental damage to the immediate area, including the potential release of 100,000 gallons or more of water potentially causing a 20-foot-diameter, 8-ft-deep (or larger) sink hole and additional perimeter runoff and erosion impacts. To protect environmentally sensitive habitat areas that are located above the existing Techite pipeline against significant disruption of habitat values that could result from the anticipated future failure of the pipeline, the Commission attaches Special Condition 4. This condition requires that within one year of completion of construction, or such additional time as the Executive Director may grant for good cause, the permittee shall submit evidence to the Executive Director demonstrating that the existing Techite pipeline has been formally abandoned in place. As discussed in the Project Description finding above, abandonment of the Techite line involves closing valves, cutting, and plugging with concrete the ends of the existing line and cutting and plugging each lateral pipe originating from the line to service customers.

Therefore, the Commission finds that as conditioned to include the mitigation measures discussed above, the project will be carried out in a manner that (1) will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and marine resources consistent with Coastal Act Sections 30230, 30231, and 30232, and (2) will not significantly degrade adjacent ESHA and will be compatible with the continuance of adjacent environmentally sensitive areas.

#### F. EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS FACILITIES

Coastal Act Section 30254 states, in applicable part:

New or expanded public works facilities shall be designed and limited to accommodate needs generated by development or uses permitted consistent with the provisions of this division... Special districts shall not be formed or expanded except where assessment for, and provision of, the service would not induce new development inconsistent with this division. Where existing or planned public works facilities can accommodate only a limited amount of new development, services to coastal dependent land use, essential public services and basic industries vital to the economic health of the region, state, or nation, public recreation, commercial recreation, and visitor-serving land uses shall not be precluded by other development.

The project area is located in an area designated as rural under the County's certified land use plan (Humboldt Bay Area Plan).

Coastal Act Section 30254 states in part that public works facilities may be expanded only if they have been designed and limited to accommodate needs generated by development or uses permitted consistent with the provisions the Coastal Act. As proposed, the project does not represent an expansion of a public works facility because it will replace a segment of an existing pipeline with a new segment of pipeline of the same size and capacity. Although there will be up to a one-year period when both the old and new segments of pipeline will be operational, this is only temporary to prevent interruption in service while the new pipeline is made operational and tested. Although the new segment of pipeline follows a different alignment to avoid disturbance of ESHA, the new alignment still is within the District's service area and will not facilitate the provision of new water hookups for new users. Thus the project does not constitute an expansion of a public works facility. As discussed above, **Special Condition 4** ensures that the existing Techite pipeline will be formally abandoned in place within one year of completion of construction. In addition to guarding against impacts to ESHA from a catastrophic failure of the existing pipeline segment, the condition will ensure that the old segment of pipeline does not remain in service indefinitely and have growth-inducing effects.

Section 30254 also directs that in cases of limited public works facilities availability, priority should be given to certain classes of development and uses over other forms of development, specifically "coastal dependent land use, essential public services and basic industries vital to the economic health of the region, state, or nation, public recreation, commercial recreation, and visitor-serving land uses." The Commission finds that the new water pipeline will replace an existing water pipeline in kind, and thus will not preclude services to other essential and priority

types of development. Furthermore, as conditioned to include the various water quality and ESHA protection measures described above, the proposed new water pipeline will be designed limited to accommodate needs generated only by development or uses permitted consistent with the provisions of this division.

Finally, Coastal Act Section 30254 prohibits new and expanded public works facilities from inducing development inconsistent with the Coastal Act. Such inconsistent development could include the inducement of premature or discontinuous growth patterns in an area, facilitated by an extension of sewer and water lines to the area, and the development of adjacent environmentally sensitive lands that would otherwise be infeasible to develop for a lack of such services. As discussed above, the pipeline segment replacement will not increase the capacity to serve additional users and will not be extended outside the existing service area of the District. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed development will not result in growth-inducing impacts inconsistent with Coastal Act policies.

Therefore, the Commission finds the proposed project, as conditioned, is consistent with Section 30254 of the Coastal Act.

#### G. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Coastal Act Section 30244 states:

Where development would adversely impact archaeological or paleontological resources as identified by the State Historic Preservation Officer, reasonable mitigation measures shall be required.

Coastal Act Section 30244 provides protection of archaeological and paleontological resources and requires reasonable mitigation where development would adversely impact such resources.

The project area is located within the traditional territory of the Wiki division of the Wiyot Tribe. The tribe is understood to have been composed of three tribal divisions (Patawat, Wiki, and Wiyot), each associated with a water-related resource (the Mad River, Humboldt Bay, and the lower Eel River, respectively) and each speaking a common language (Selateluk). Settlements existed all around Humboldt Bay and along the banks of many of the streams and sloughs in this area.

According to the CEQA document completed for the project, an extended Phase I archaeological investigation was conducted by Roscoe and Associates (RA) in August of 2011. While the CDP application now proposes to install the new pipeline in a different alignment along existing roadways, the archaeological investigation remains generally relevant to the proposed project area. In addition to the RA study, an additional archaeological study of the area also was completed by URS in 2011.

Although a records search completed for the area identified no known surveys or recorded resources for the area, it is believed that there is a "high to moderate probability of finding sites or other evidence of human cultural activity in the project area," according to the North Coastal

Information Center. The RA study yielded evidence of shell deposits and other artifacts in the vicinity of the project site in an area not proposed for disturbance. Since the project area is predominantly within developed and disturbed areas, it is unlikely that the proposed project will disturb any cultural or archaeological artifact. Nevertheless, given the extent of excavation proposed, it's possible that undiscovered archaeological resources may be inadvertently unearthed during construction activities. The Commission includes **Special Condition 5** to require that if an area of cultural deposits is discovered during the course of the project, all construction shall cease and a qualified cultural resource specialist must analyze the significance of the find. To recommence construction following discovery of cultural deposits, the applicant is required to submit a supplementary archaeological plan for the review and approval of the Executive Director to determine whether the changes are de minimis in nature and scope or whether an amendment to this permit is required.

Thus, as conditioned to include reasonable mitigation, the Commission finds that the project is consistent with Coastal Act Section 30244.

#### H. PUBLIC ACCESS

Section 30210 of the Coastal Act requires that maximum public access shall be provided consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect natural resource areas from overuse. Section 30212 of the Coastal Act requires that access from the nearest public roadway to the shoreline be provided in new development projects, except where it is inconsistent with public safety, military security, or protection of fragile coastal resources, or where adequate access exists nearby. Section 30211 of the Coastal Act requires that development not interfere with the public's right to access gained by use or legislative authorization. Section 30214 of the Coastal Act provides that the public access policies of the Coastal Act shall be implemented in a manner that takes into account the capacity of the site and the fragility of natural resources in the area. In applying Sections 30210, 30211, 30212, and 30214, the Commission is limited by the need to show that any denial of a permit application based on these sections or any decision to grant a permit subject to special conditions requiring public access is necessary to avoid or offset a project's adverse impact on existing or potential access.

The project will temporarily (during construction activities) affect traffic volumes or patterns along public roadways that lead to public beaches and access points along the ocean and Humboldt Bay. The affected roadways include New Navy Base Road, the primary road providing vehicular access up and down the Samoa Peninsula. Construction activities within roadways, including trenching, pipe installation, backfilling, compaction, paving, and jack and boring will require temporary lane realignment and possibly intermittent controlled one-way traffic or lane closures. Despite these temporary traffic impacts, the proposed project will not adversely affect public access given the availability of alternate routes along neighboring streets. To ensure that alternate routes remain open and accessible to the public throughout construction, the applicant intends to implement a traffic control plan to ensure that detours are clearly indicated and traffic flow is maintained. As described in the CEQA document (mitigation measure TR-1), the plan will include in part the locations of designated construction staging areas for equipment/materials storage and construction worker parking, temporary replacement parking during the construction period, as needed/required, detour routes to be used to maintain access throughout the area during construction, and other details. To ensure that public access to

the coast is indeed maintained as proposed throughout the duration of project construction, and to ensure that staging/storage areas and replacement parking areas developed in the plan as proposed do not encroach onto adjacent dune ESHA, the Commission includes **Special Condition 6.** This condition requires that the applicant prepare and submit a Traffic Control Plan as proposed, which must demonstrate, at a minimum that (1) public access to the shoreline shall be maintained throughout the duration of construction activities, (2) construction equipment, trucks, and other vehicles associated with the authorized development shall be staged and routed such that congestion on local streets and public parking impacts are minimized, and (3) construction staging and parking areas shall not encroach into environmentally sensitive dune habitat areas.

Therefore, the Commission finds that the project, as conditioned, is consistent with the requirements of Coastal Act Sections 30210, 30211, and 30212.

#### I. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The applicant served as the lead agency for the project for CEQA purposes. The District's Board approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project on June 13, 2013 (SCH No. 2013052022) and filed a Notice of Determination on June 14 in compliance with PRC Sec. 21108 or 21152.

Section 13906 of the Commission's administrative regulation requires Coastal Commission approval of coastal development permit applications to be supported by a finding showing the application, as modified by any conditions of approval, is consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21080.5(d)(2)(A) of CEQA prohibits a proposed development from being approved if there are any feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available, which would substantially lessen any significant adverse effect the proposed development may have on the environment.

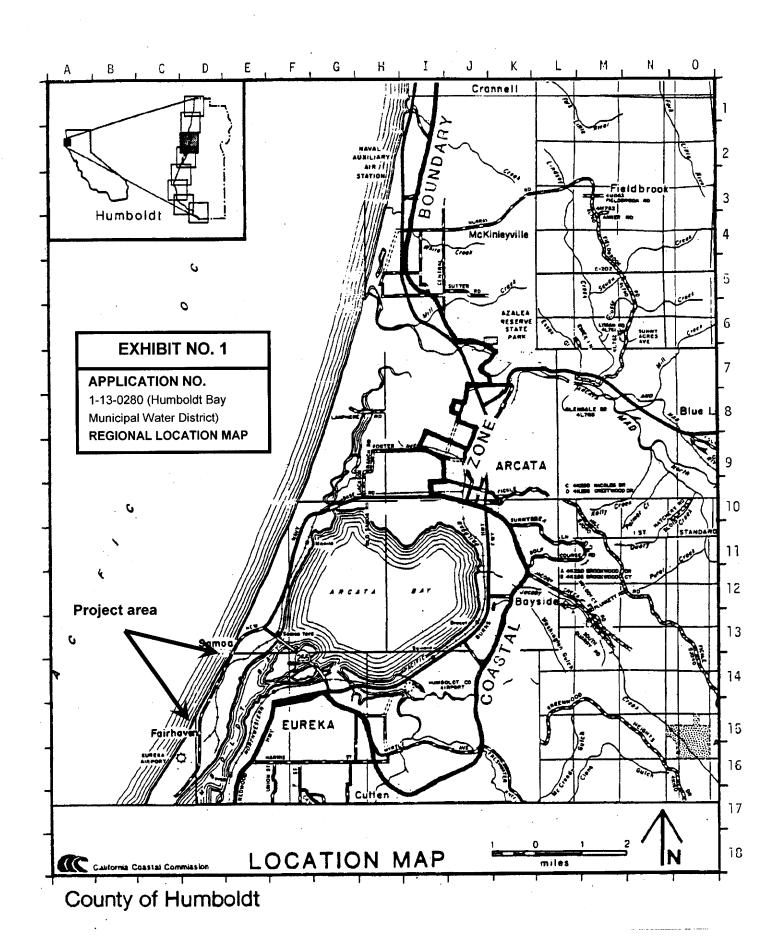
The Commission incorporates its findings on Coastal Act consistency at this point as if set forth in full. As discussed above, the proposed project has been conditioned to be consistent with the policies of the Coastal Act. The findings address and respond to all public comments regarding potential significant adverse environmental effects of the project that were received prior to preparation of the staff report. As specifically discussed in these above findings, which are hereby incorporated by reference, mitigation measures that will minimize or avoid all significant adverse environmental impacts have been required. As conditioned, there are no other feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts which the activity may have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned to mitigate the identified impacts, can be found consistent with the requirements of the Coastal Act to conform to CEQA.

#### APPENDIX A SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS

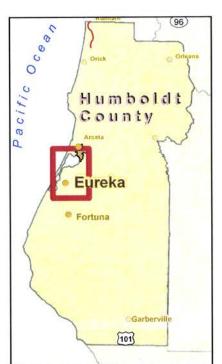
Application File for Coastal Development Permit No. 1-13-0280

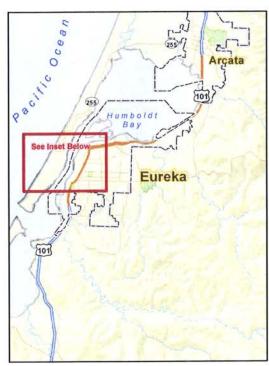
Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration dated April 2013, adopted June 2013 (SCH No. 2013052022)

County of Humboldt Local Coastal Program













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APPLICATION NO. 1-13-0280 (Humboldt Bay

1-13-0280 (Humboldt Ba Municipal Water District) VICINITY MAP

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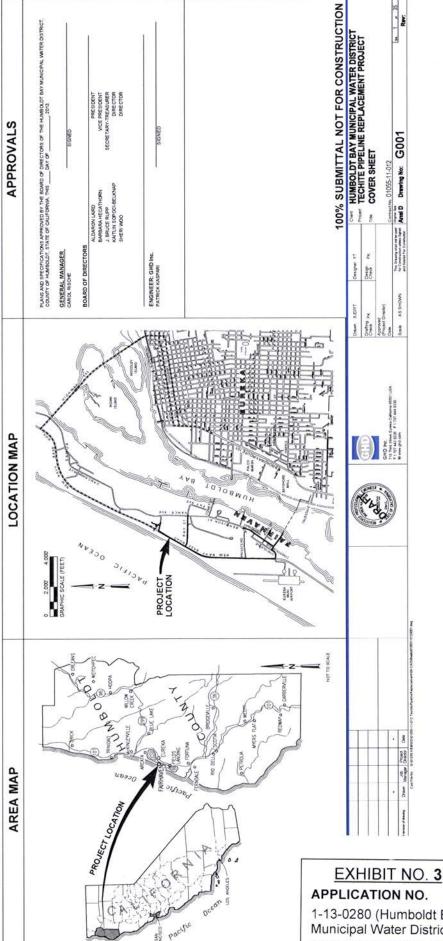
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HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

# **TECHITE PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT SEPTEMBER 2013**





1-13-0280 (Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District) PROJECT PLANS (1 of 35)

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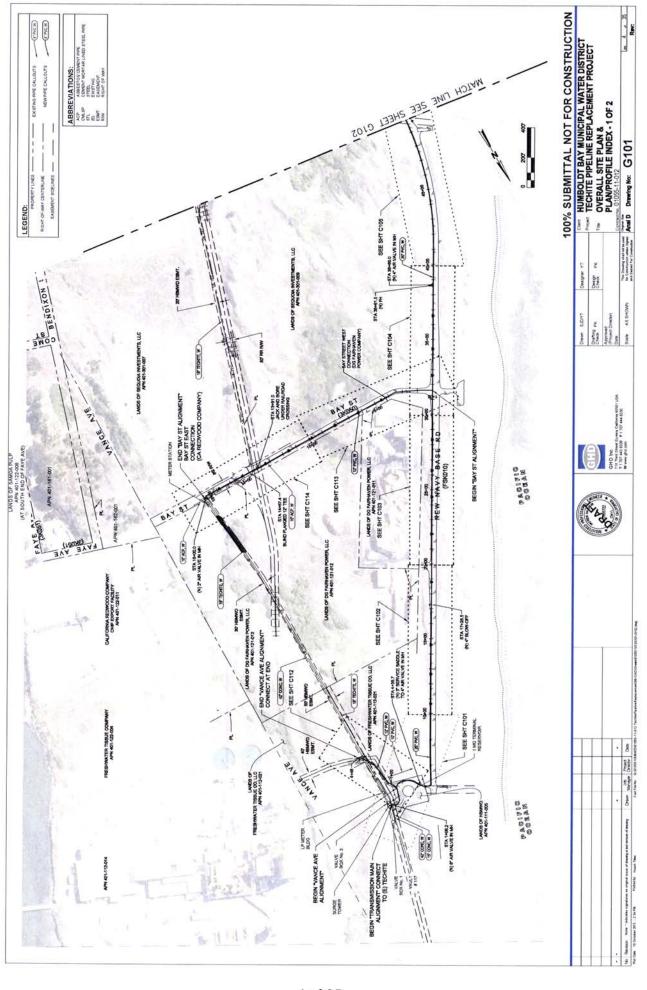
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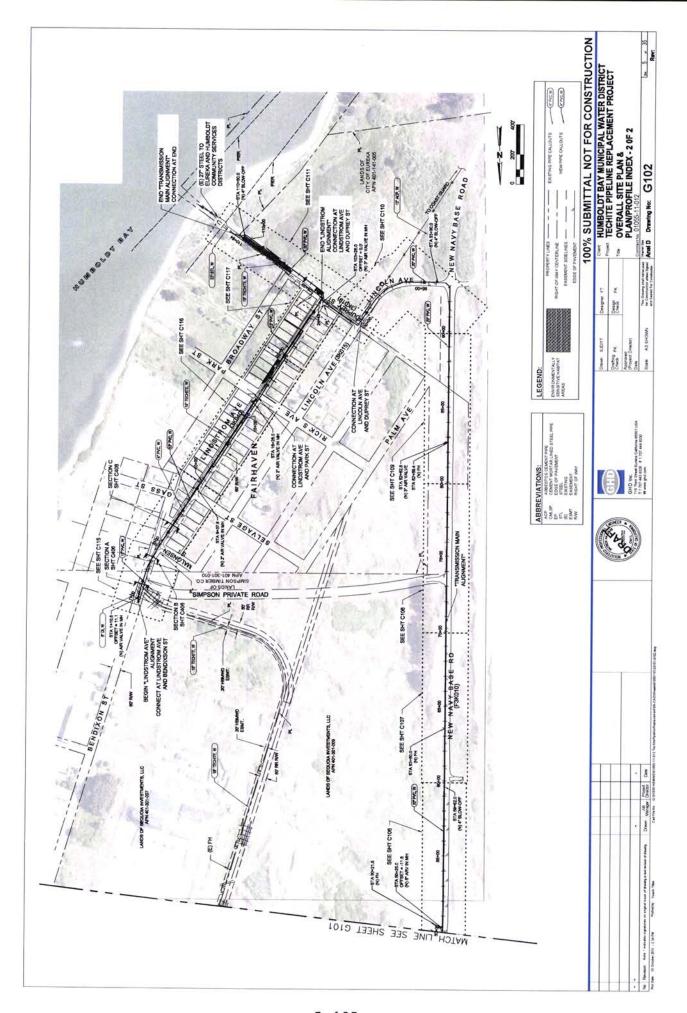
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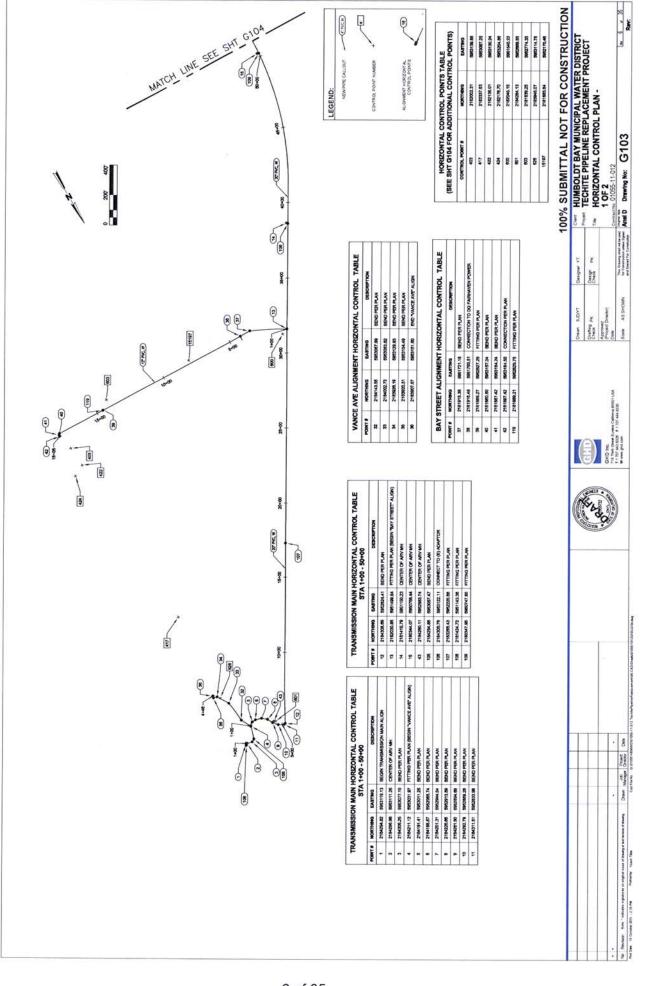
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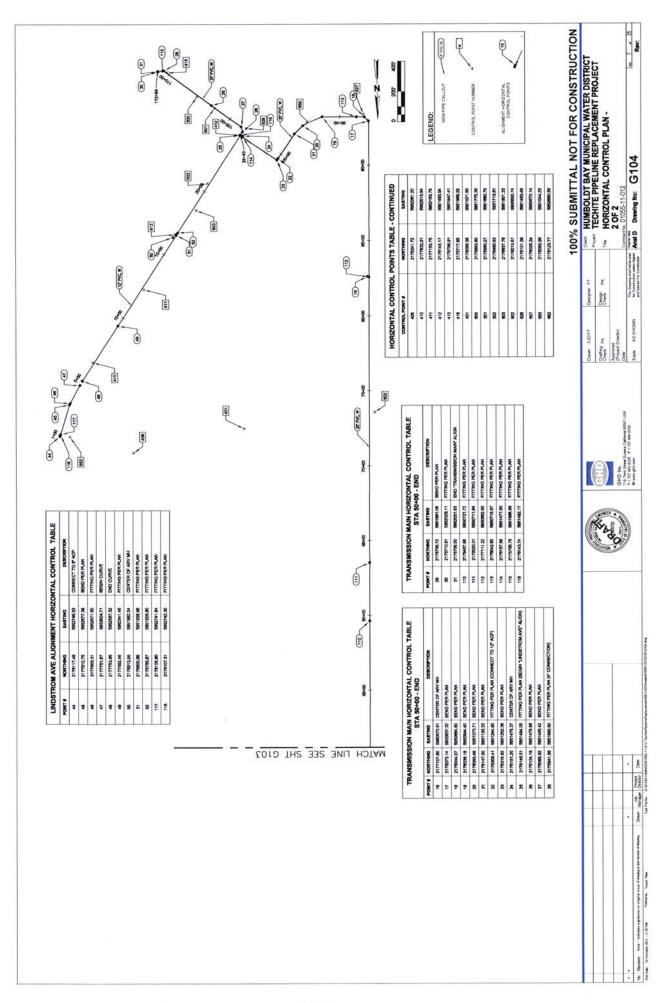
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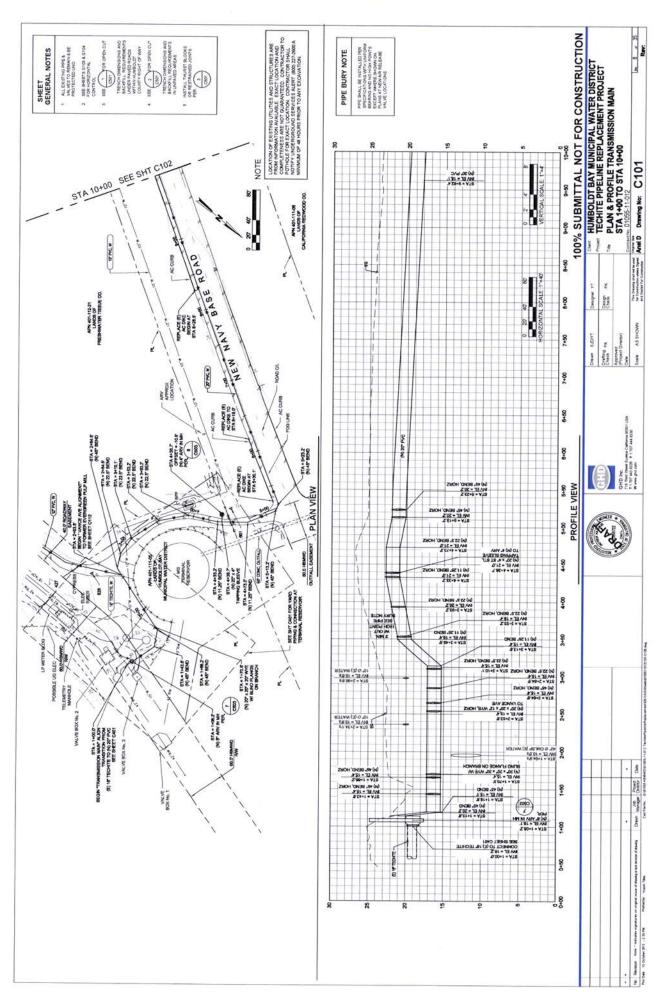
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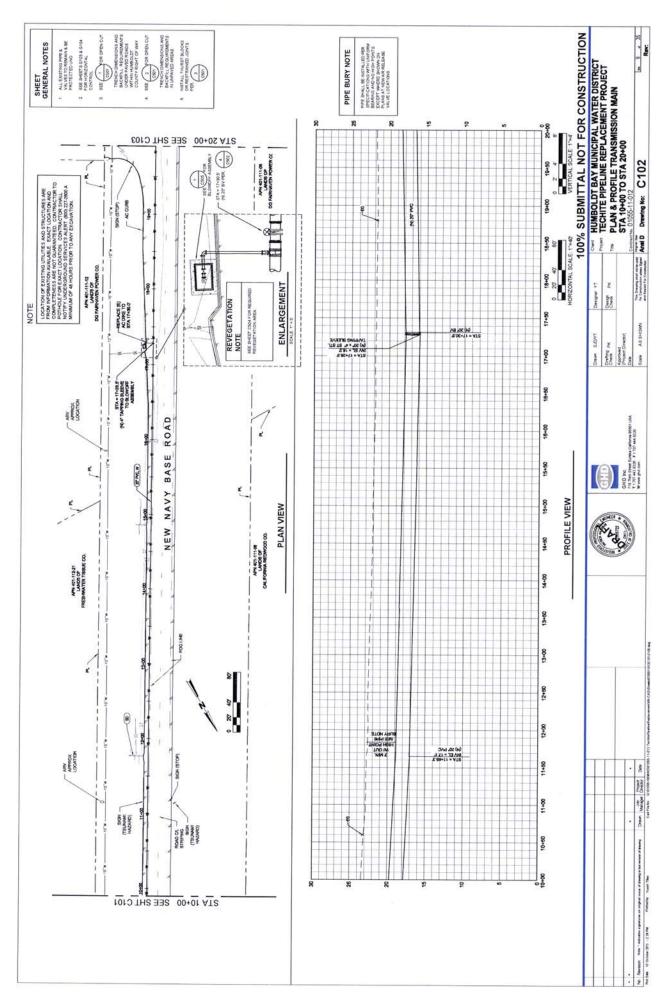


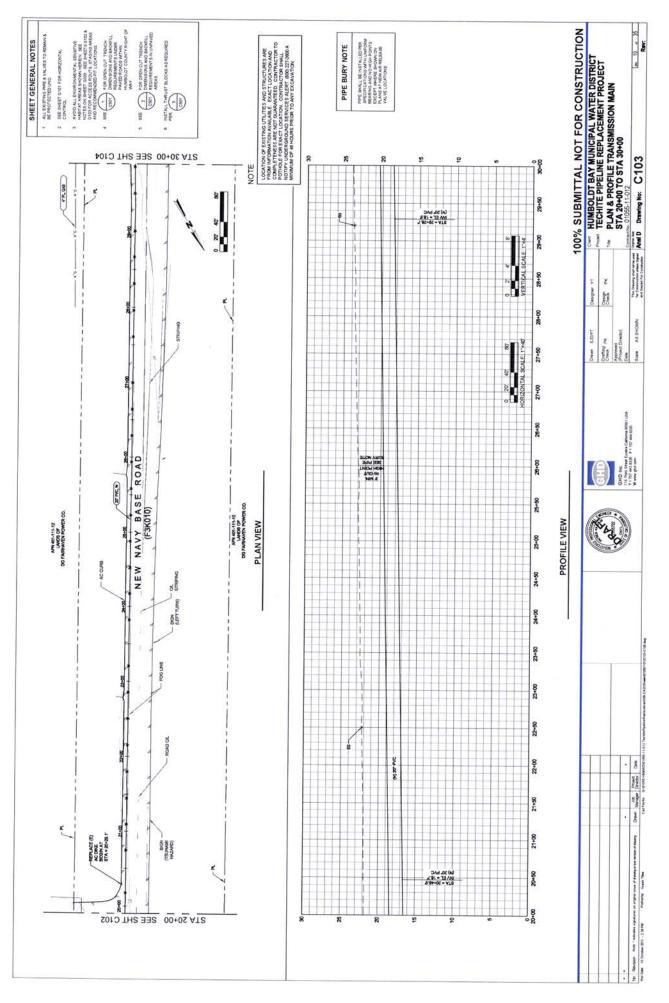


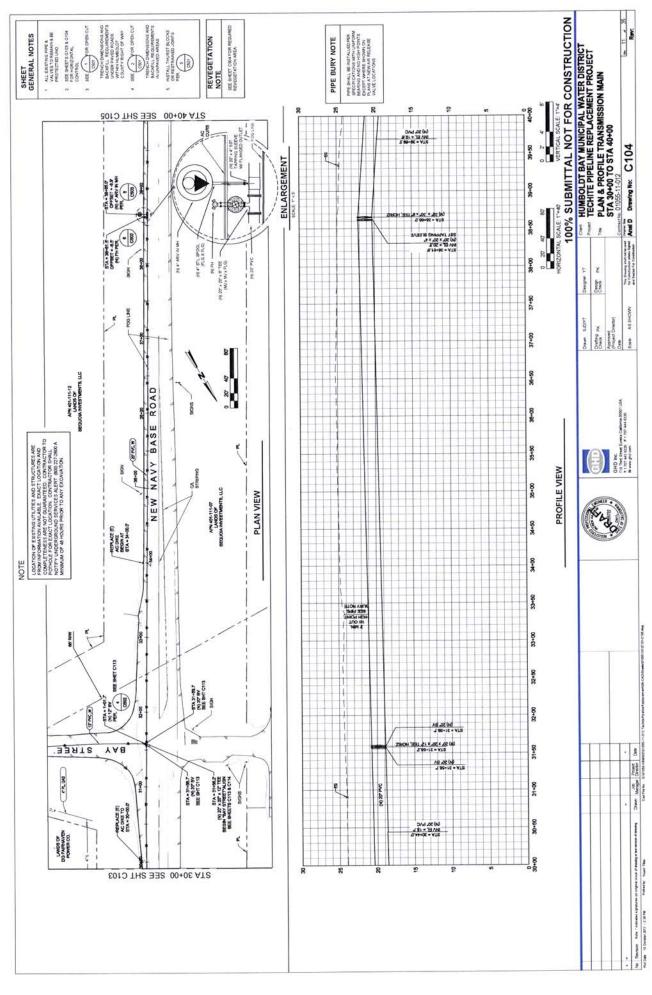


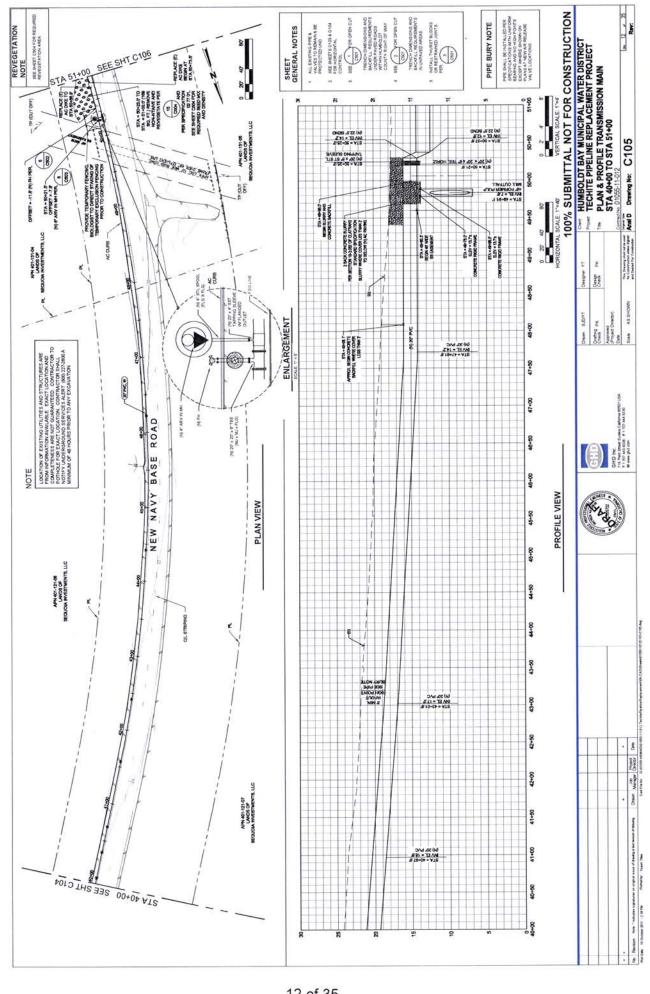


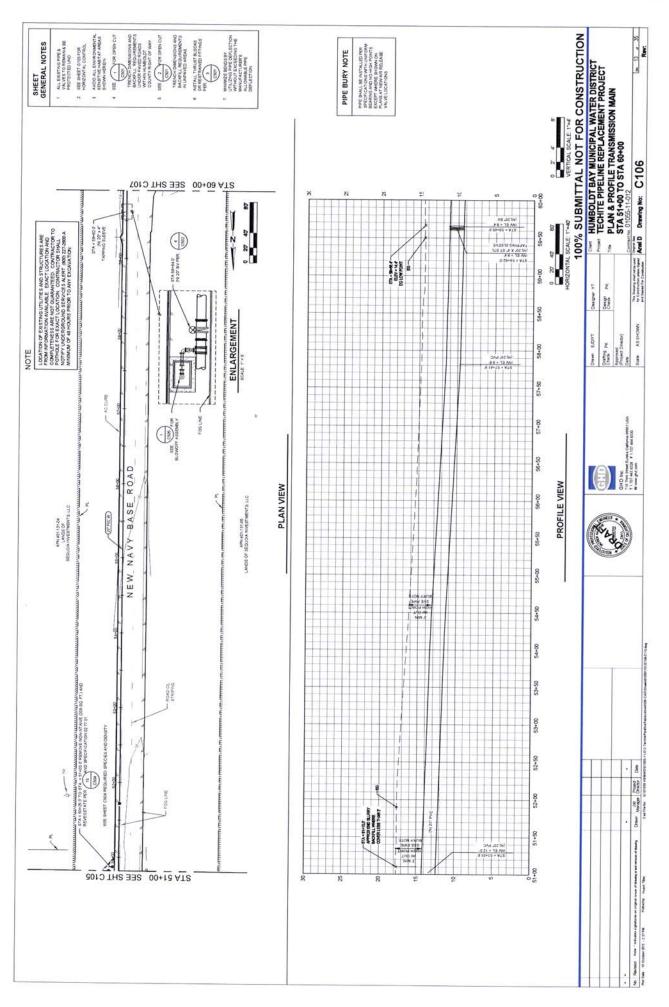


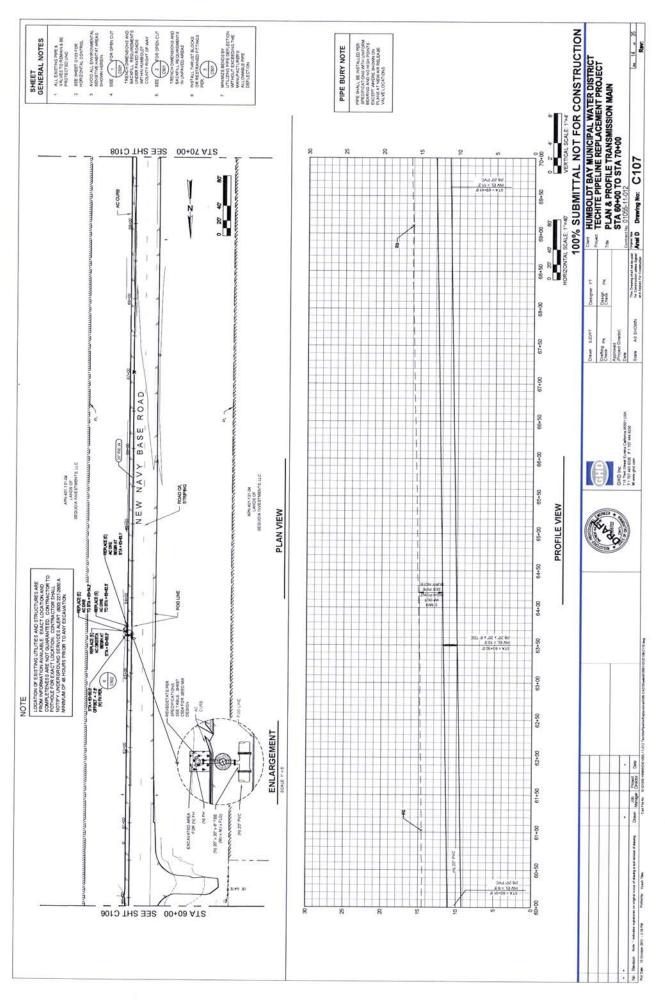


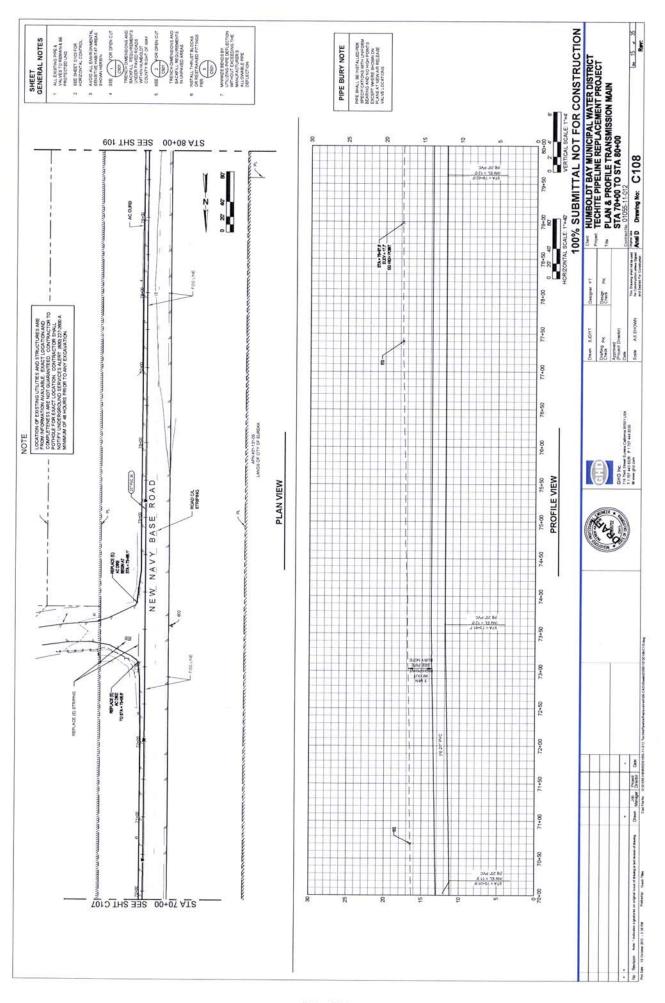


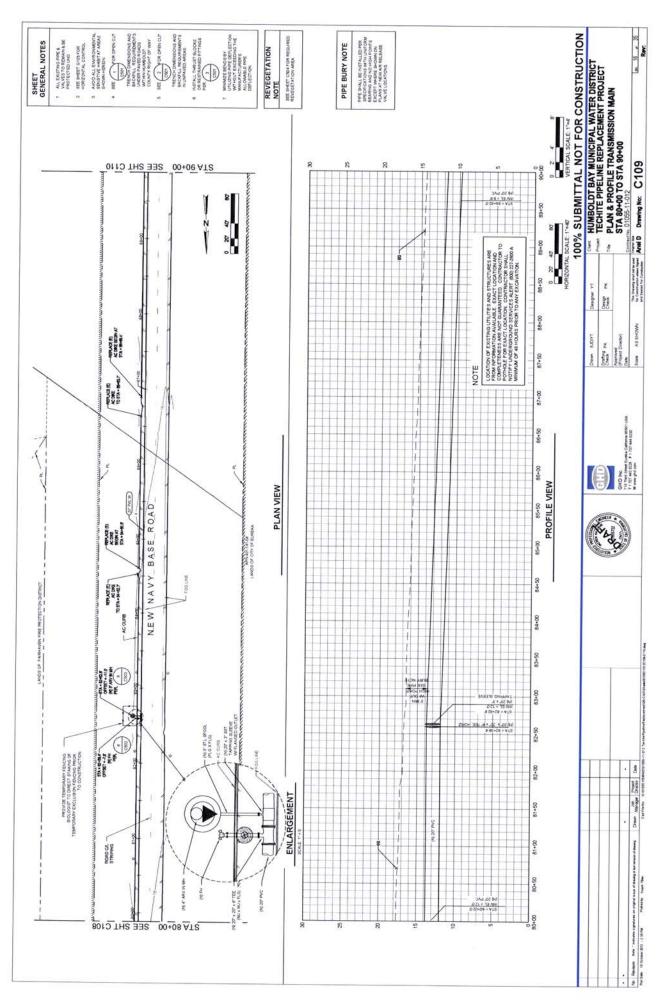


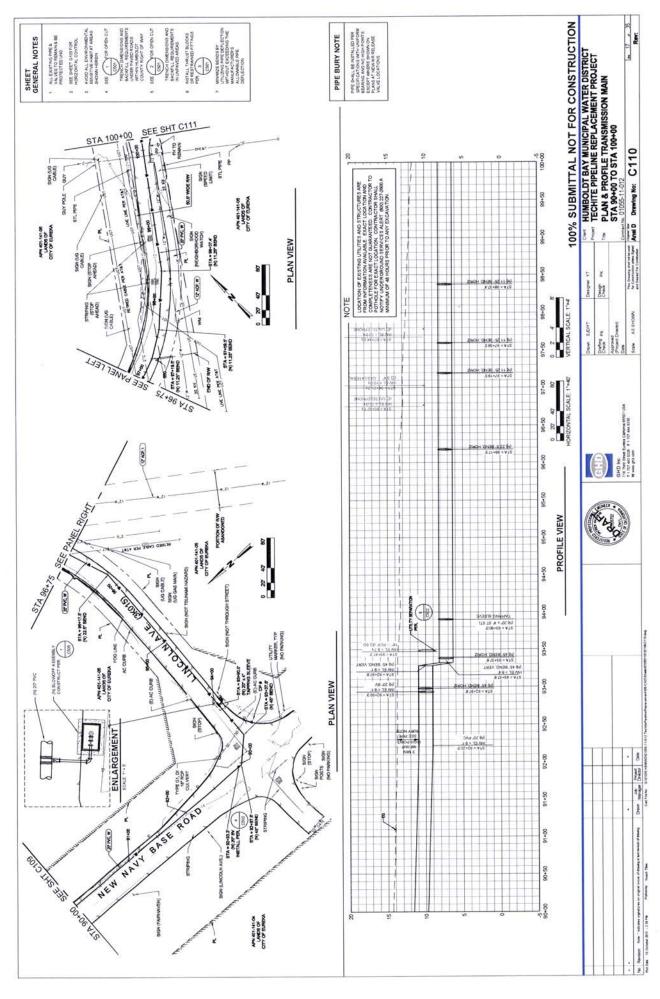


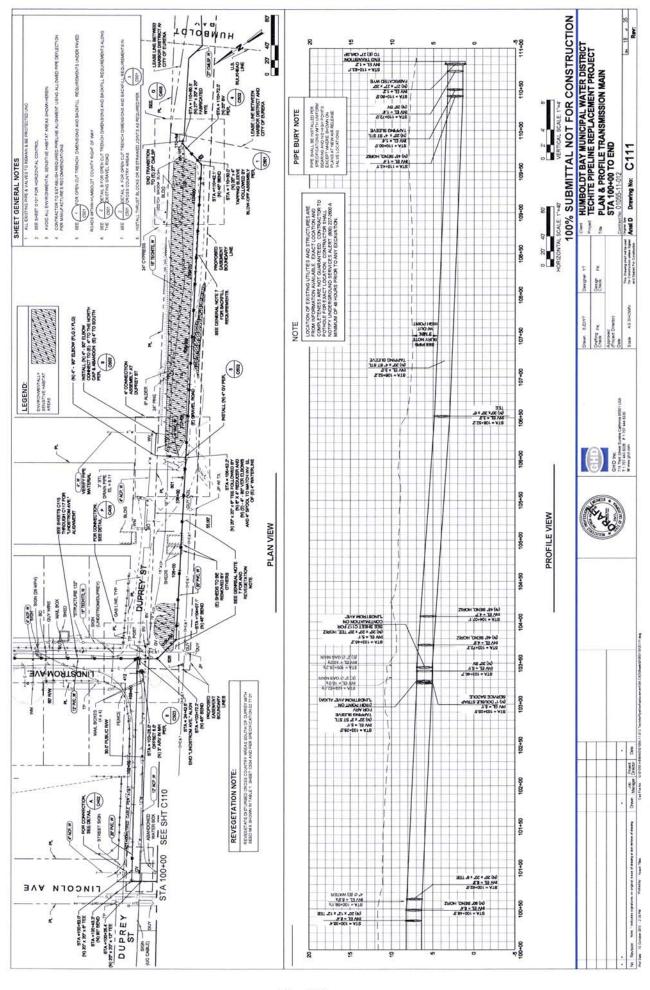


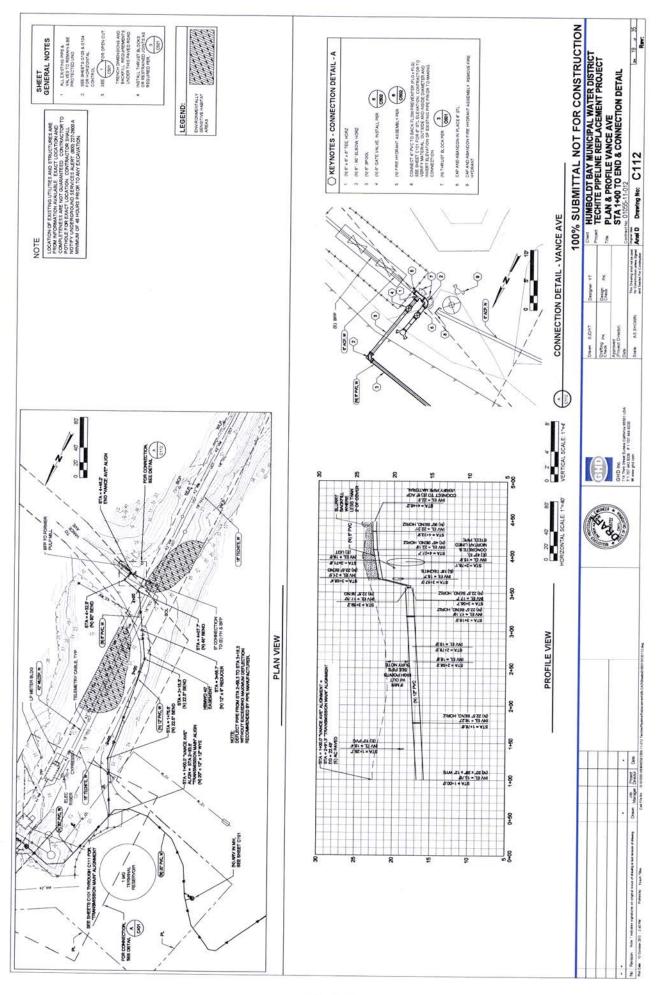


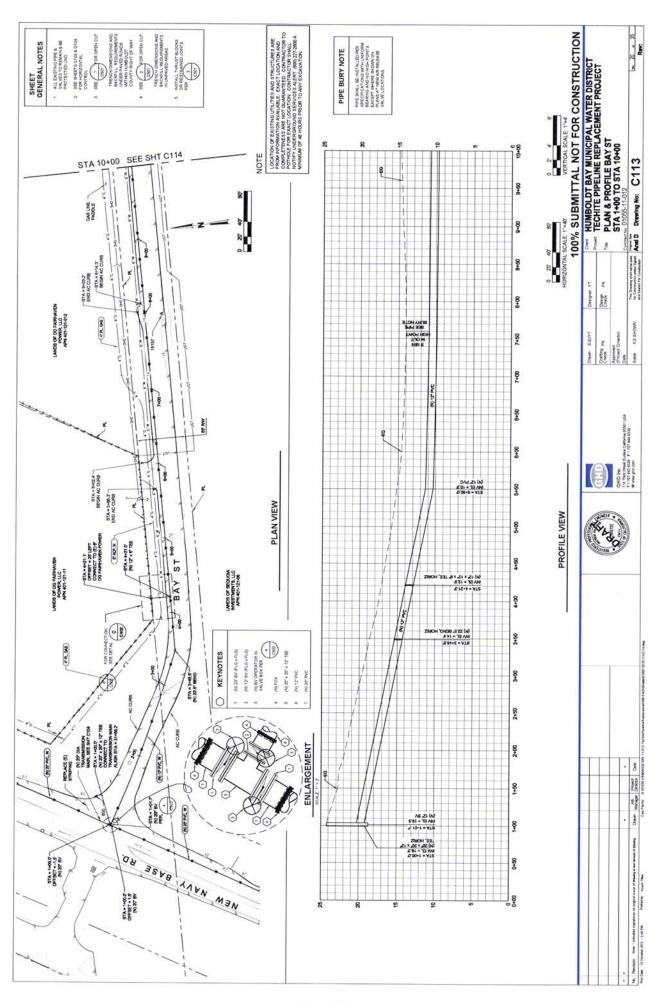


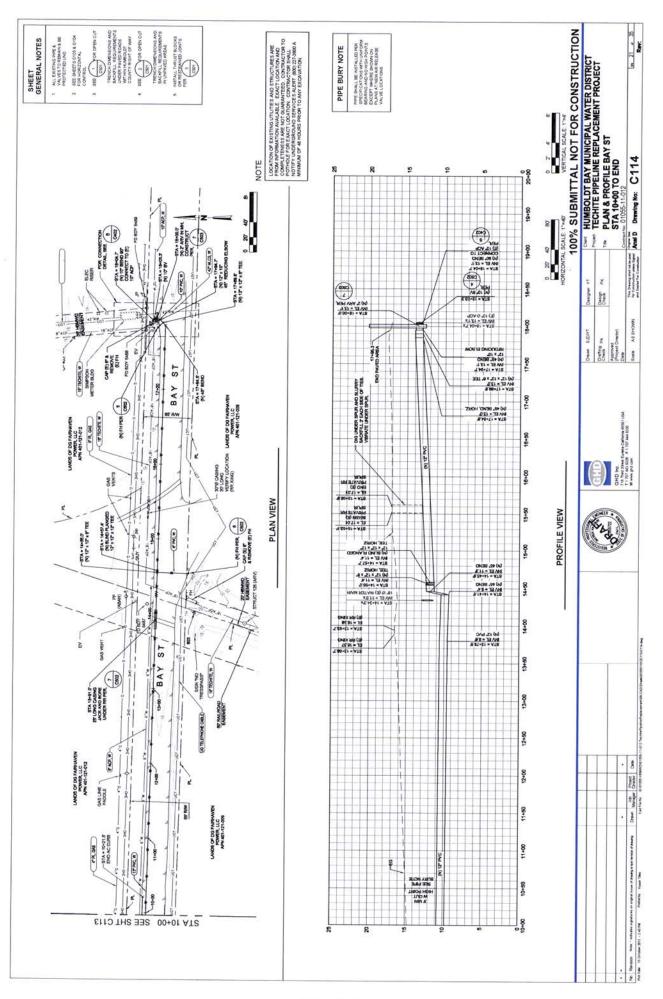


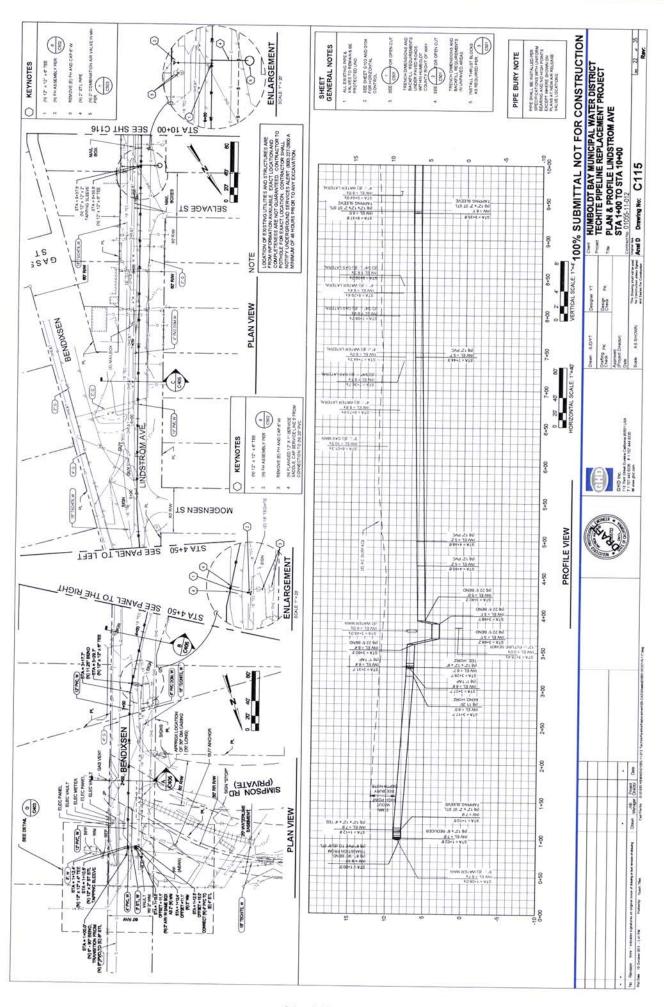


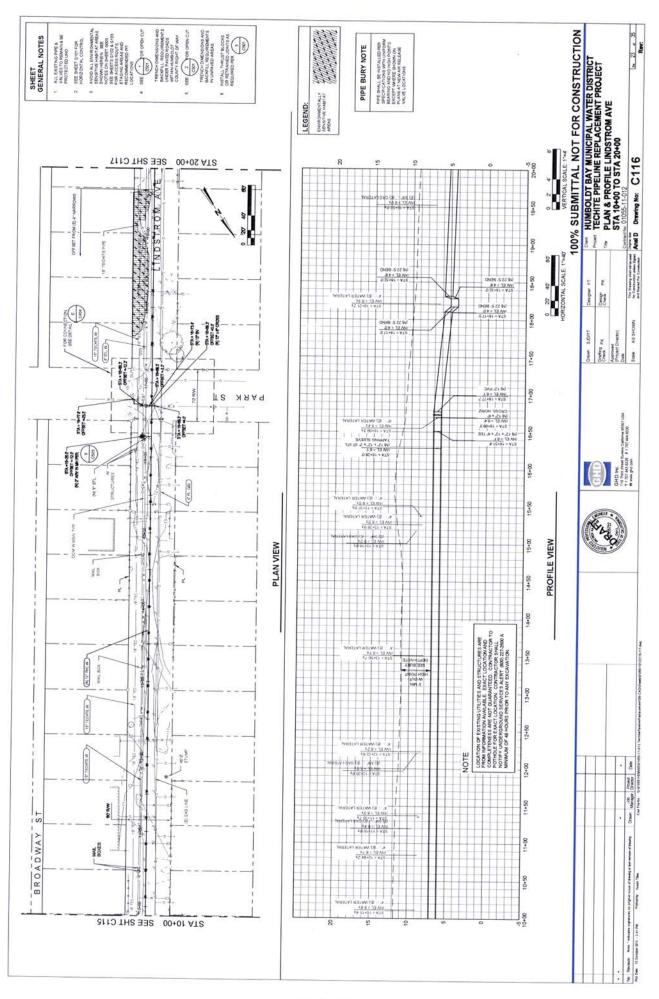


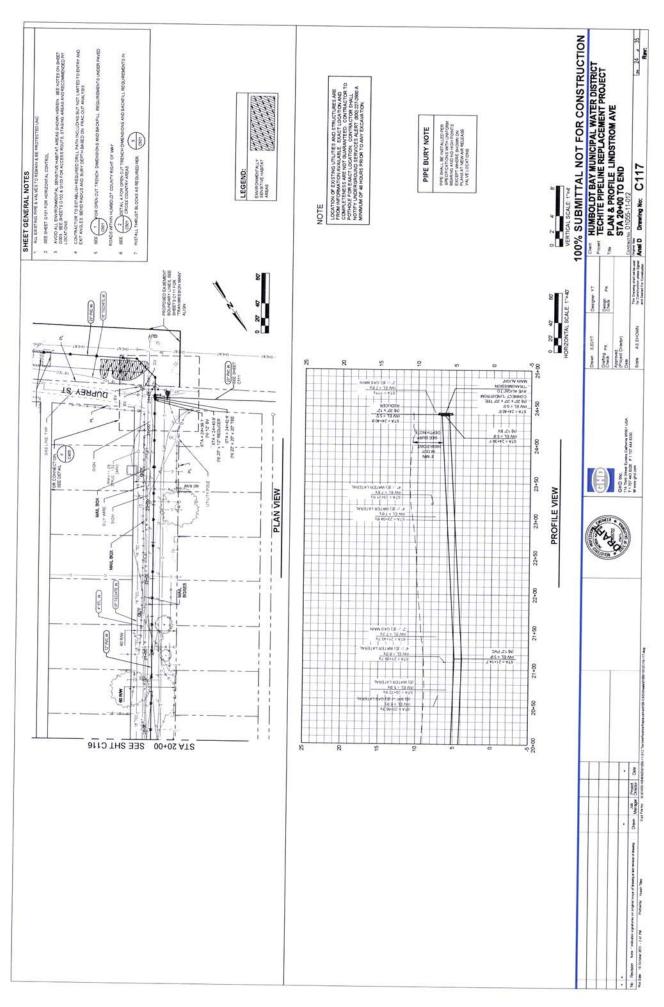


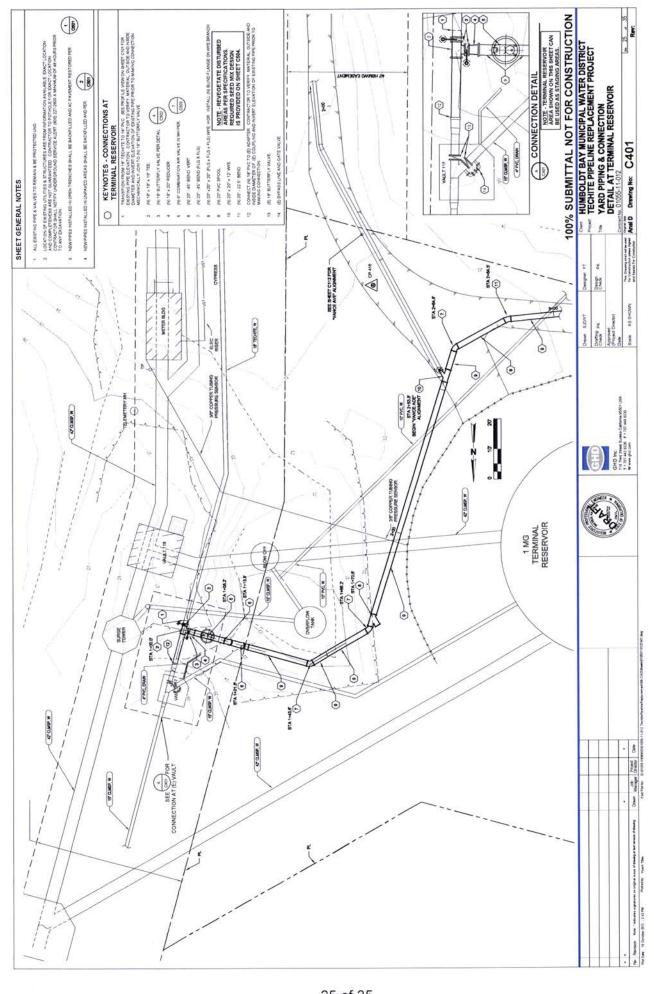


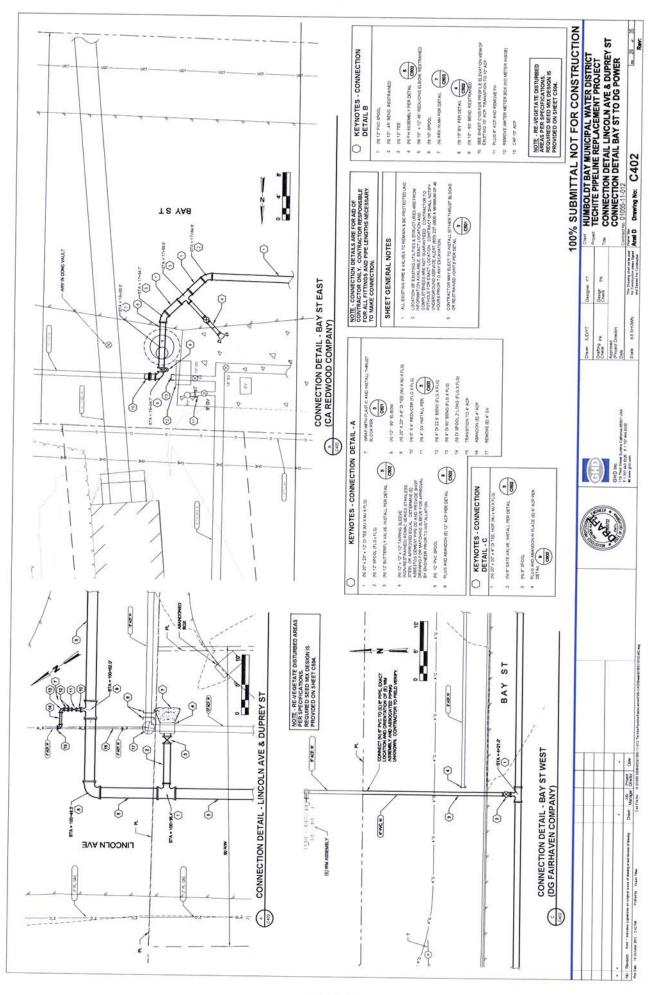


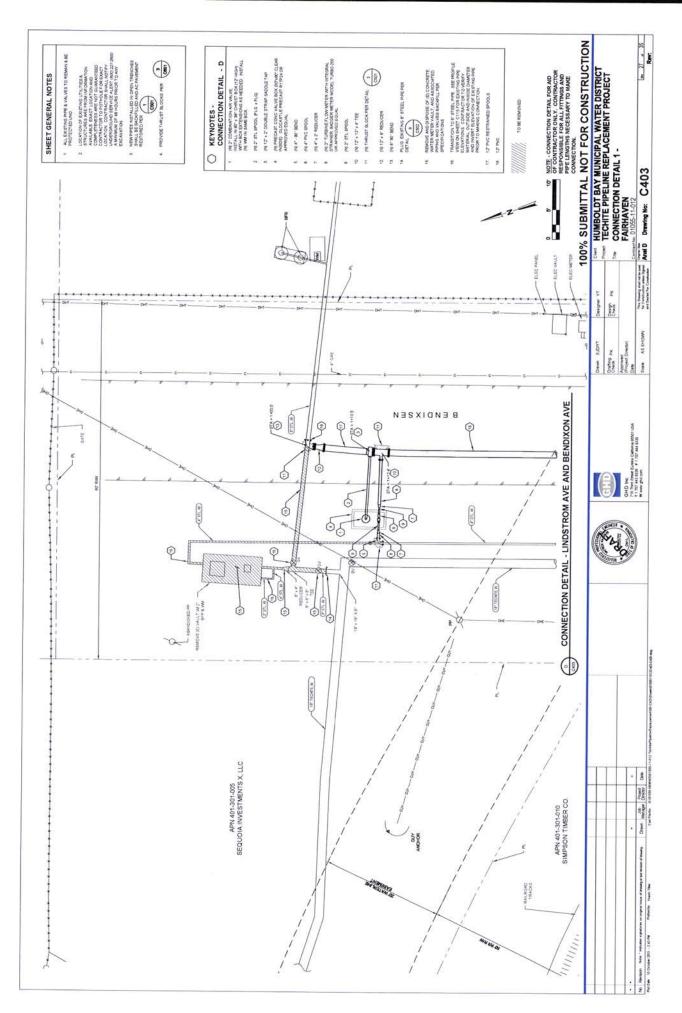


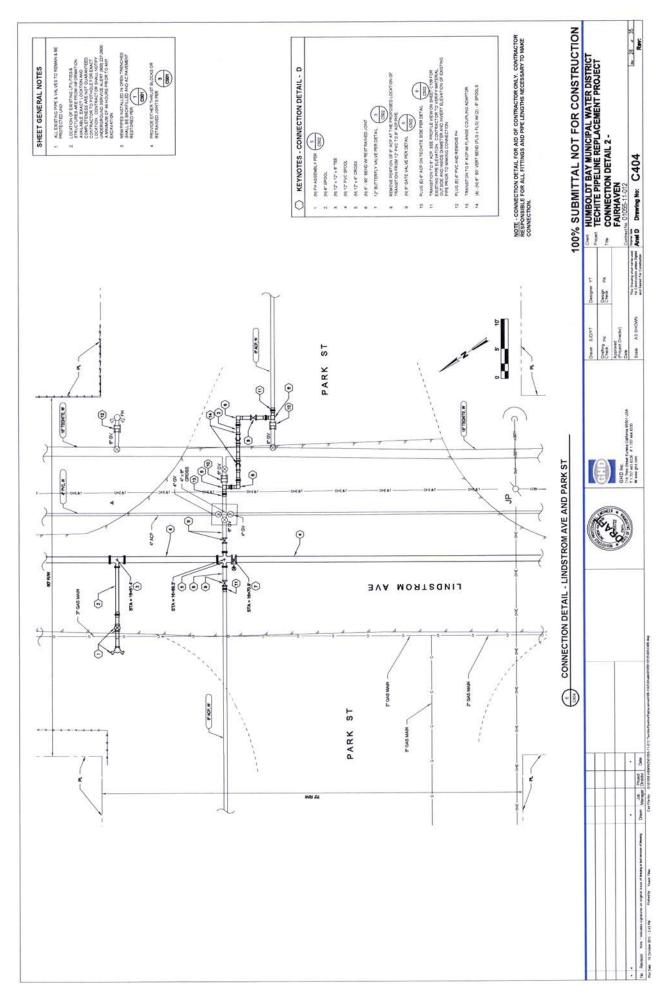


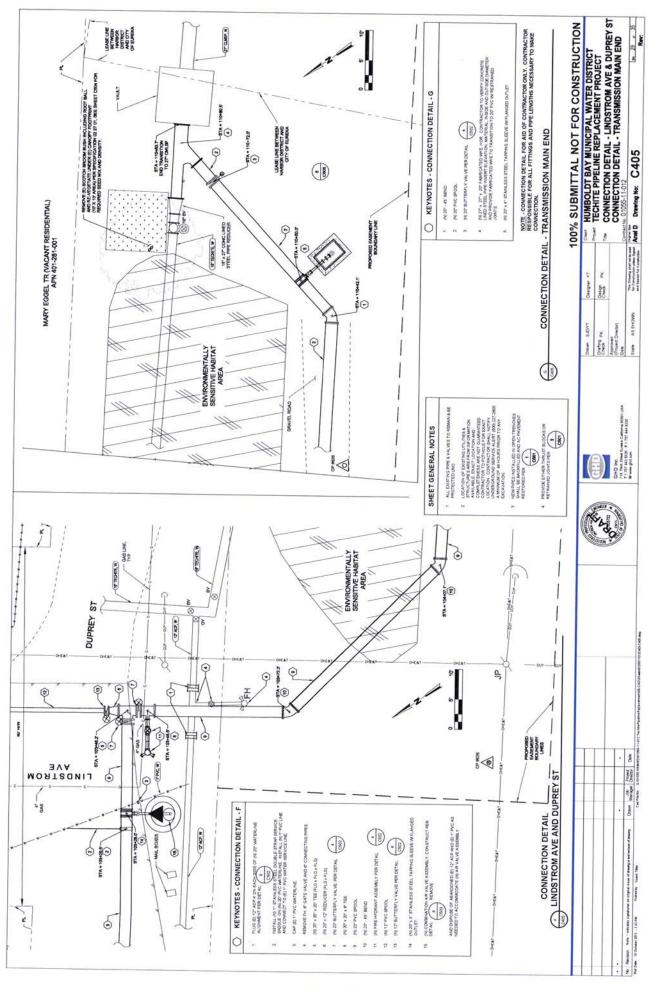


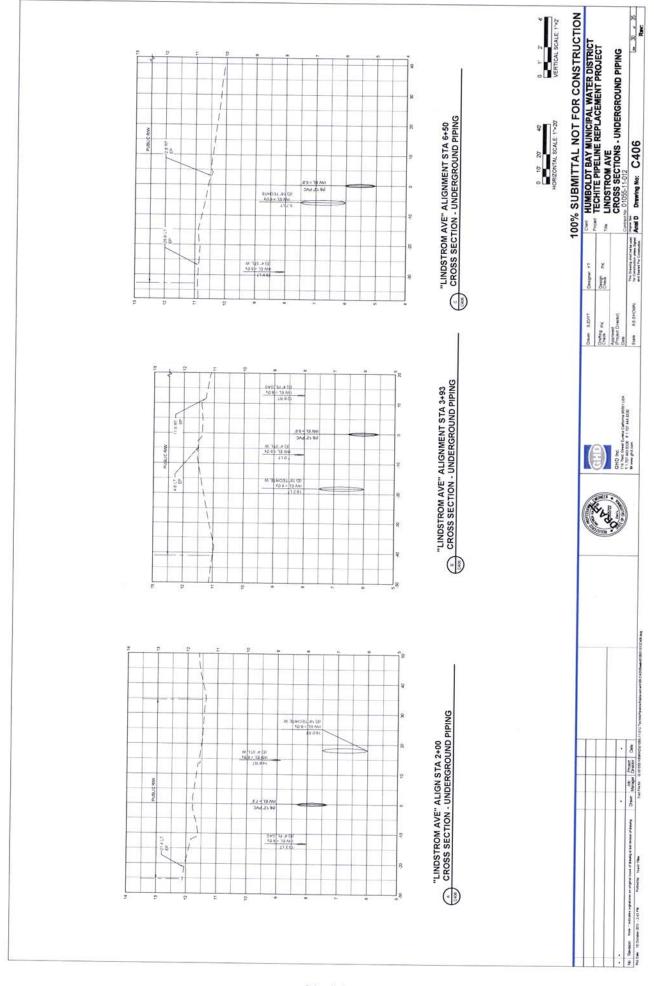


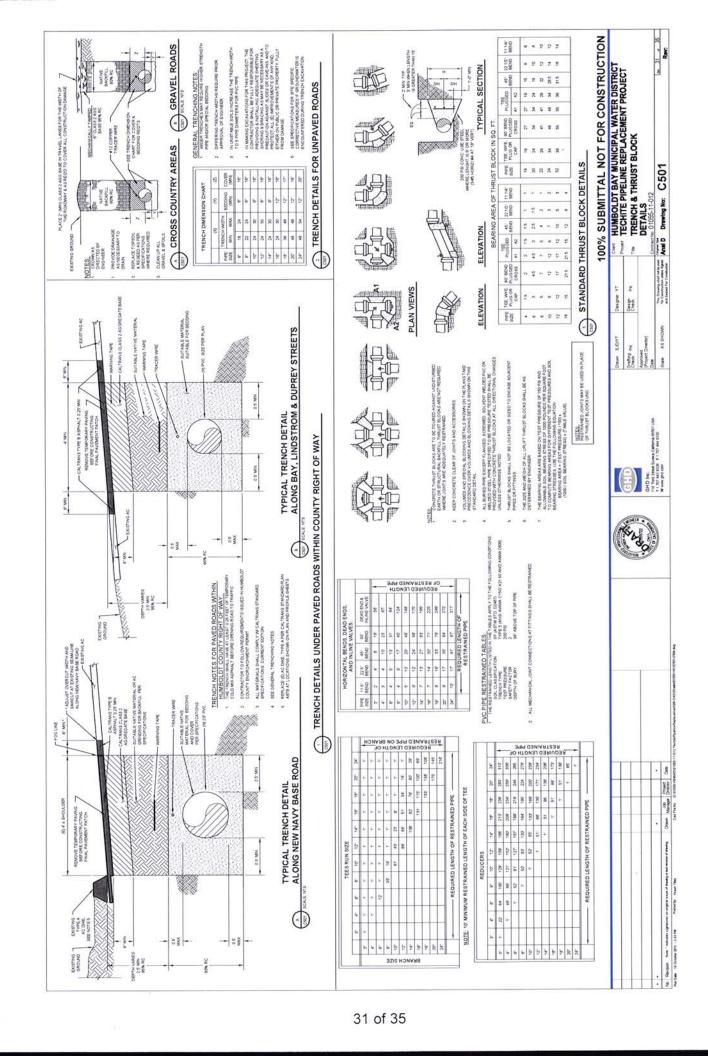


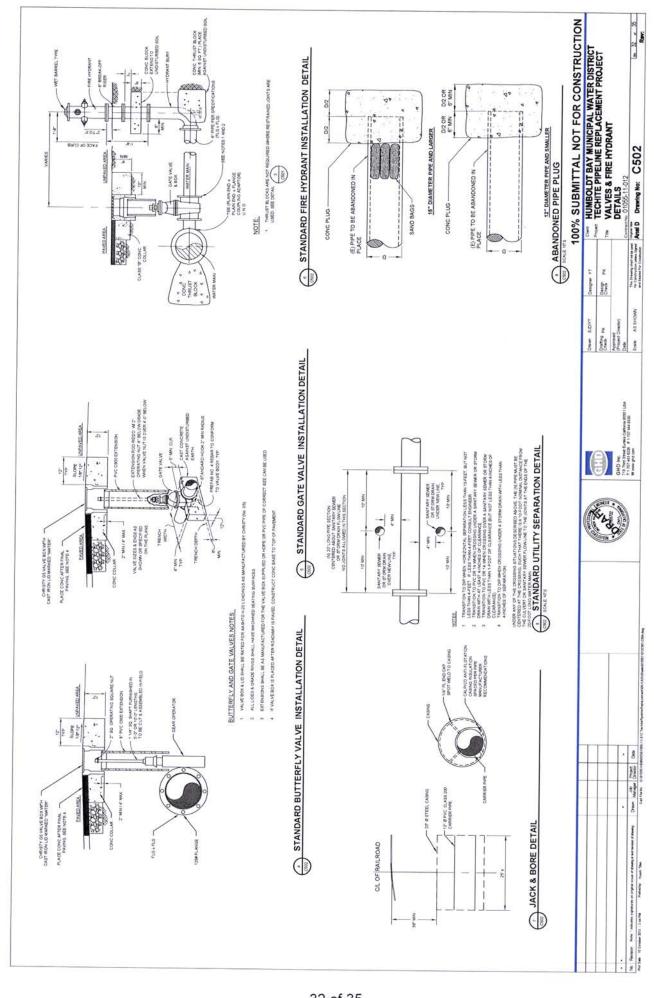


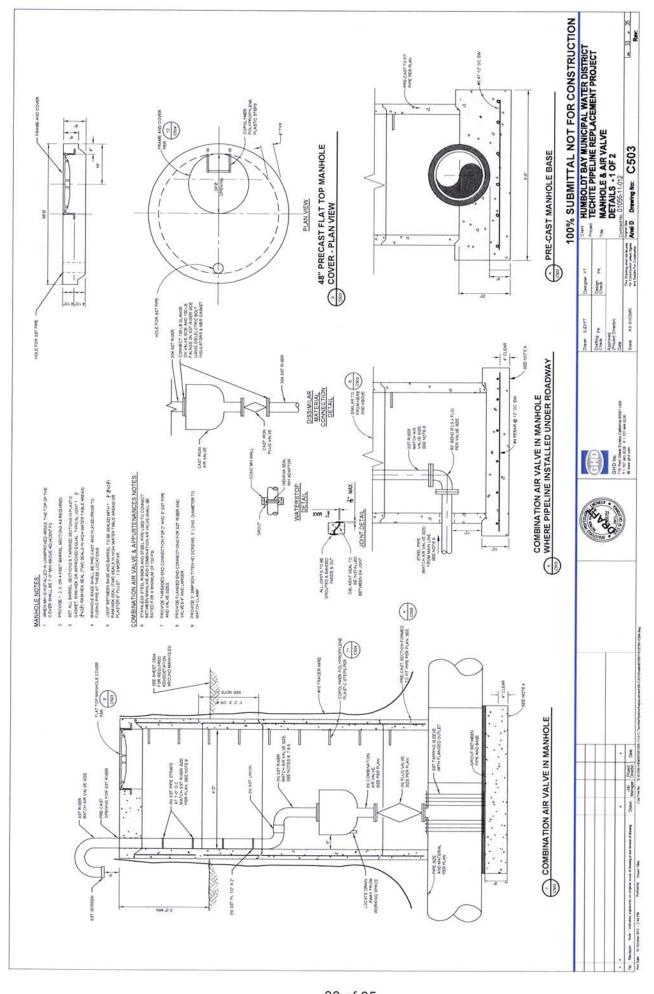


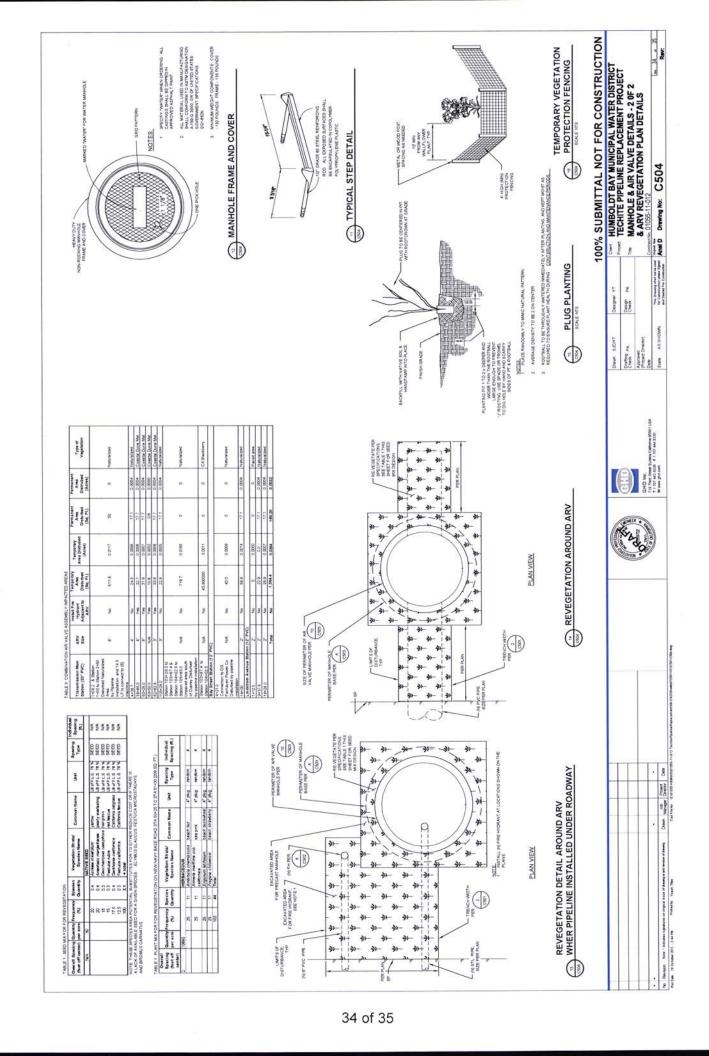


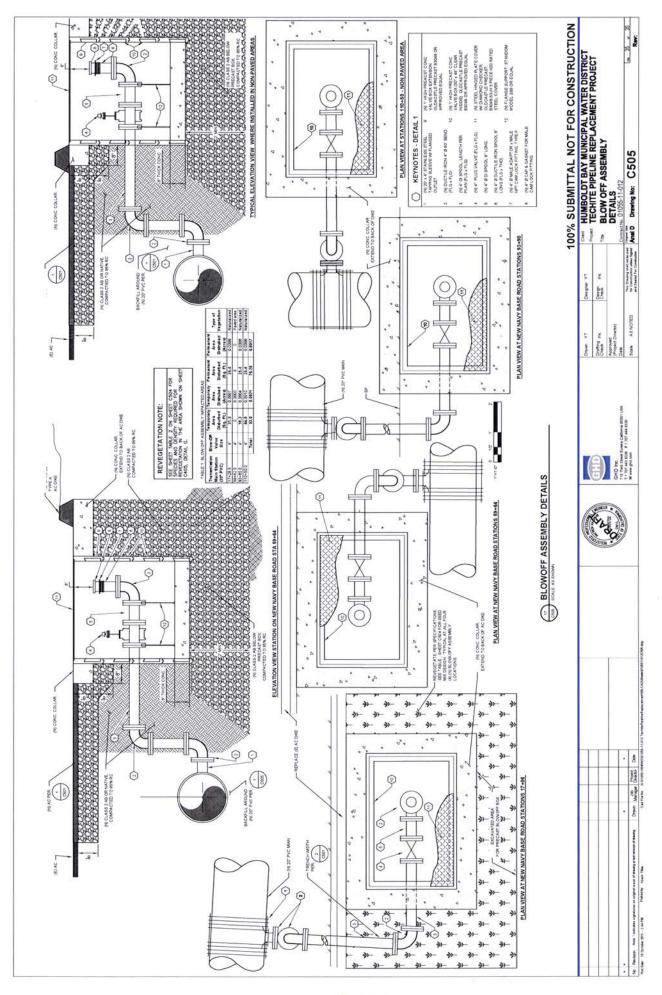


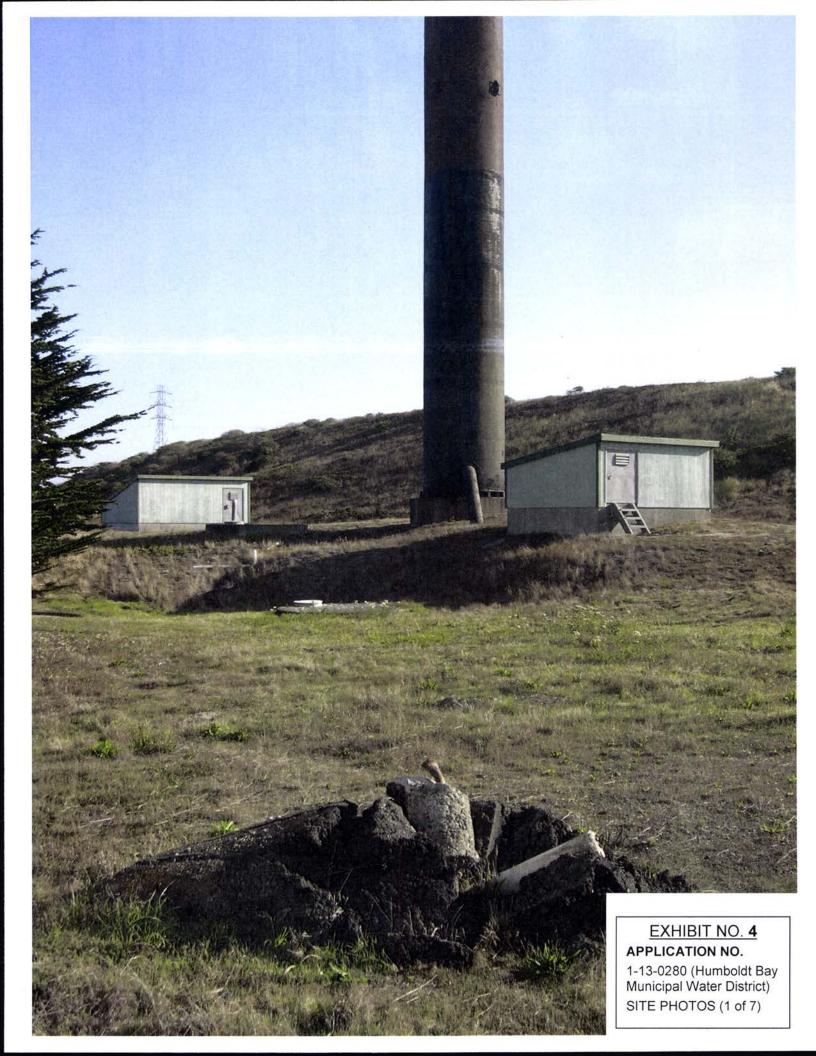


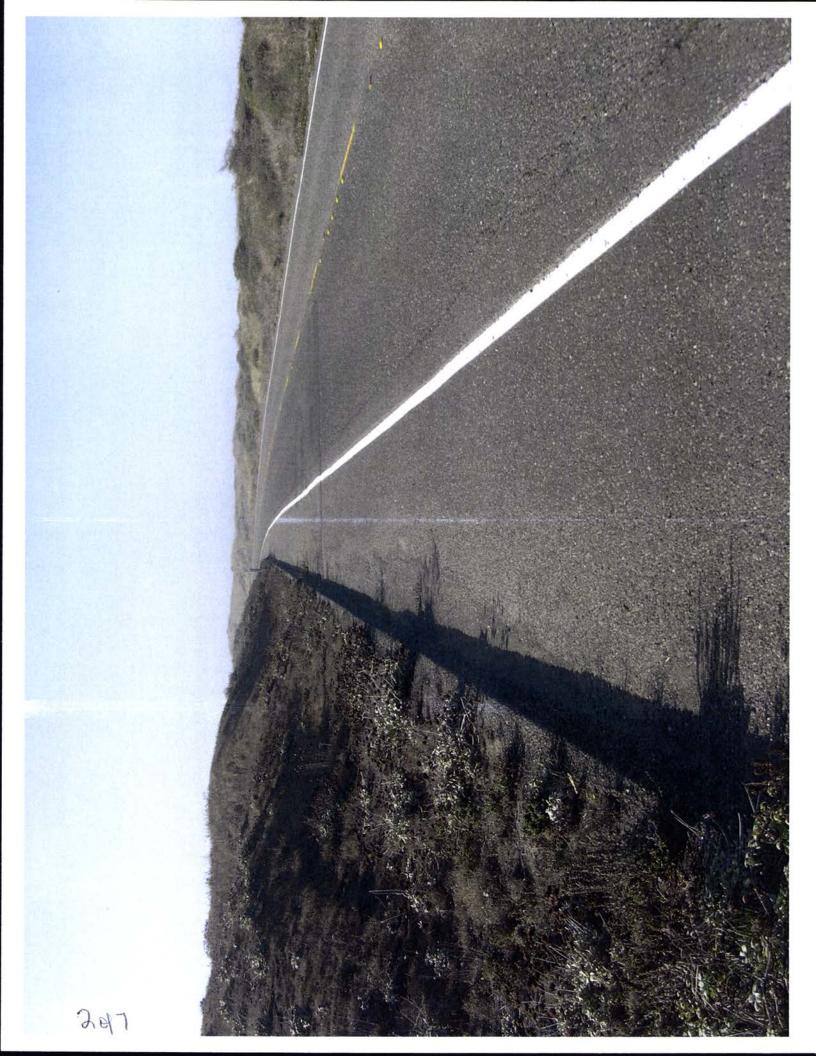


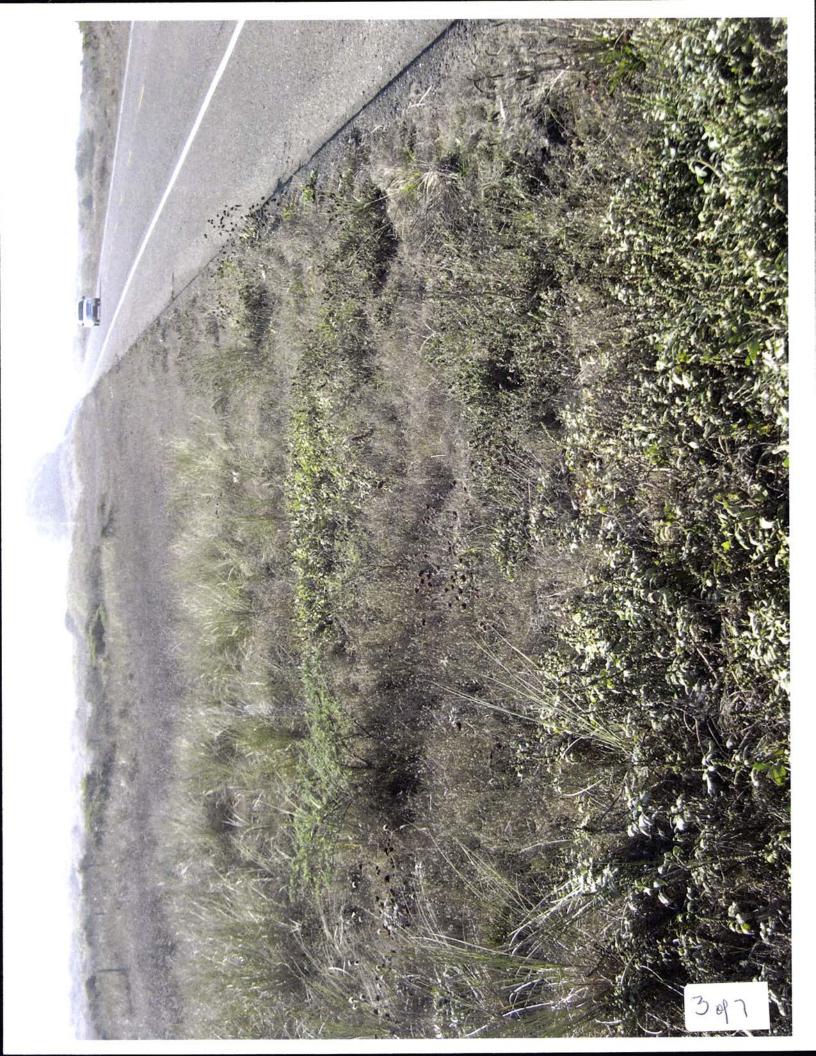






















November 1, 2013

EXHIBIT NO. 5
APPLICATION NO.

1-13-0280 (Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District) ESHA MEMOS (1 of 17)

> GHD ref: 01055/11012/004 CCC ref: CDP App. 1-13-0280

Melissa Kraemer Coastal Planner California Coastal Commission 1385 Eighth Street, Suite 130 Arcata, CA 95521

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD), Techite Pipeline Replacement Project, Subsequent Information Regarding the Proposed Installation of Pipeline Appurtenances on New Navy Base Road off of the Edge of the Existing Pavement

Dear Ms. Kraemer,

The following information is supplemental to the July 15th, 2013 and August 26th, 2013 letters to you from GHD on behalf of the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD), for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project Coastal Development Permit Application (CDP Application 1-13-0280). This information is being provided as discussed during the meeting on October 22, 2013 with yourself, Bob Merrill, Carol Rische, Stephanie Klein and myself. At this meeting it was discussed that GHD would provide the CCC staff with the Humboldt County Department of Public Works 1969 Construction Plans for New Navy Base Road and Lincoln Avenue, and provide our interpretation of how HBMWD's proposed pipeline appurtenances including Air Relief Valves (ARV), blow-off assemblies, and fire hydrants needed for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project are located in respect to areas previously disturbed during the construction of New Navy Base Road and Lincoln Avenue in 1969. Subsequent to our detailed review of the County New Navy Base Road Construction Plans, coupled with the installation of additional soil borings locations as detailed in a supporting "HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Soil Boring" Memo dated Nov. 1, 2013, Stephanie Klein, GHD, and minor adjustments to the locations of a proposed air relief valve location and a blow-off location, we believe that all proposed appurtenances are now located within "urbanized" areas along the alignment. As detailed in this letter, each proposed appurtenance that is not within the paved section of the road is now located is an area that is underlain by fill that was used in the construction of New Navy Base Road or Lincoln Avenue and do not impact any Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs).

This letter also serves to update you on some revisions to the locations for proposed fire hydrant installations along New Navy Base Road. At a meeting that was held on October 27, 2013 between Mr. Dale Unea, Samoa Peninsula Fire District Chief, Carol Rische, HBMWD General Manager, and Dale Davidson, HBMWD Superintendent, and myself, Mr. Unea requested that the proposed fire hydrants on New Navy Base Road be moved to different locations than those described in the letter to you dated August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Tables 1 and 2 included in the August 26<sup>th</sup> letter are reproduced below and changes made per the Fire Department request are listed. We believe, and think that you will agree, that the new fire hydrant locations have even fewer potential impacts than the previous locations. The fire hydrant initially proposed at Station 38+61.5 on new Navy Base Road has been eliminated and another fire hydrant is proposed instead on Bay Street adjacent to the DG Fairhaven Power Company entrance gate. The proposed gate entrance location is urbanize and underlain by extensive fill (please see supporting "HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Soil



Boring" Memo dated Nov. 1, 2013, Stephanie Klein, GHD) Both fire hydrants previously proposed at Stations 63+50 and 82+59.4 have been eliminated and a single fire hydrant is proposed instead at the intersection of New Navy Base Road and the Simpson Private Road. This proposed fire hydrant location is also underlain by extensive fill used in the construction of the intersection. Again, please refer to the supporting Nov. 1, 2013, "HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Soil Boring" Memo.

Table 1: New Fire Hydrant Locations

Plan Sheet	Fire Hydrant Station Location (Listed in August 26 ,2013 Letter to the CCC)	Updated Fire Hydrant Location	Temporary Impacted Area (SQ. FT.)	Permanent Impacted Area (SQ. FT.)
C104	38+61.5	Bay Street Alignment Station 6+50	9.0	0.6
C105	50+21.5	No change	9.0	0.6
C107	63+50.0	One hydrant at the		
C109	82+59.4	Intersection of Simpson Private Road and New Navy Base Road. Alignment Station 73+00	9.0	0.6
	Totals		27.0	1.8



Table 2: Updated Table of Proposed Pipeline Appurtenances including Air Relief Valves and Fire Hydrants for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project

Transmission Main Station (20" PVC)	ARV Size	Install Fire Hydrant Adjacent to ARV	Temporary Area Disturbed (square feet)	Temporary Area Disturbed (Acres)	Permanent Area Disturbed (square feet)	Permanent Area Disturbed (Acres)	Type of Vegetation
1+08.2 & Station 1+00 to Station 2+50 Disturbed Naturalized Area by Pipeline Installation, and 14.3 LF to connect to (E) mainline	8"	No	511.8	0.0117	50	0	Urbanized
4+38.7	4"	No	24.3	0.0006	17.1	0.0004	Urbanized
38+65.0	4"	No	24.3	0.0008	17.1	0.0004	Urbanized
50+25.0	8"	Yes	31.9	0.0007	17.7	0.0004	Urbanized
72+96.0	N/A <sup>A</sup>	Yes	9.0		0.6		Urbanized
82+62.8	3"	No	33.9	0.0008	17.7	0.0004	Urbanized
103+28.0	3"	No	22.9	0.0005	17.1	0.0004	Urbanized
Station 103+28.0 to Station 103+87.4 & Station 104+02.5 to Station 105+83.0 Unpaved area south of Duprey Disturbed by pipeline installation	N/A	No	719.7	0.0165	0	0	Urbanized
Station 103+87.4 to Station 104+02.5	N/A	No	45.9	0.0011	0	0	CA Blackberry
Bay Street Station (12	" PVC)	<b>,</b>	r		T		
4+21.0 Connection to DG Fairhaven Power Co. Disturbed by pipeline installation	N/A	No	40.0	0.0009	0	О	Urbanized
6+22.6	N/A	Yes	45.0		0.6		Urbanized
18+00.0	2"	No	58.9	0.0014	17.1	0.0004	Urbanized
Lindstrom Avenue Sta	ation (12"	PVC)	1	1			
1+10.5	2"	No	0	0.0000	0	0	Paved area
9+37.8	2"	No	22.9	0.0	17.1	0.0004	Urbanized
16+28.0	2"	No	28.9	0.0007	17.1	0.0004	Urbanized
	Total	No	1,619.3	0.0369	189.20	0.0036	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> Air Relief Valves are not proposed at locations where indicated in this Table with Not Applicable (N/A). At these locations only fire hydrants are proposed.

No changes have been made to the proposed locations of the Blow-Off Assemblies since the July 15<sup>th</sup> letter was sent to you, except for a single minor adjustment that was made to one of the Blow-off Assembly locations to ensure it was located in an urbanized area. For consistency, Table 2 provided to you in the letter dated July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 is provided below as Table 3. Following the survey by Stephanie Klein, GHD's Ecologist, it was determined that the location of the Blow-off off the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and



New Navy Base Road should be adjusted slightly to ensure it is installed completely within an urbanized habitat as defined in this instance as an area that is completely underlain by fill used in the construction of Lincoln Avenue.

Table 3: Proposed Blow-Off Assembly Locations for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project

Transmission Main Station (20" PVC)	Blow- Off Valve Size	Temporary Area Disturbed (Sq. Ft.)	Temporary Area Disturbed (Acres)	Permanent Area Disturbed (Sq. Ft.)	Permanent Area Disturbed (Acres)	Type of Vegetation
17+28.5	4"	31.3	0.0007	25.4	0.0006	Urbanized
59+62.0	4"	0	0	0	0	Paved area
93+92.0	4"	16.2	0.0004	25.4	0.0006	Urbanized
110+50.0	4"	44.6	0.0010	25.4	0.0006	Urbanized
	Total	92.0	0.0021	76.20	0.0017	

An updated set of Plans for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project is attached to this memorandum. As described below and detailed in the findings from the field investigation as detailed in the Soil Boring Memo, GHD has established that all pipeline appurtenances will be installed in previously disturbed areas.

Attached to this letter are the 1969 Construction Plans of New Navy Base Road, Lincoln Avenue and Bay Street that GHD obtained from the Humboldt County Department of Public Works. Only Plan and Profile Sheets, Typical Road Sections and Structural Details from this set of Plans that correspond to the location of the proposed pipeline and the locations of the pipeline appurtenances for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project are attached to this letter and include:

- Sheet 1 of 39 Plan Set Cover Sheet -"Humboldt County Highway Federal Aid Secondary Project
   No. S 967(5) on F.A.S. Route 967 between 1.5 miles north of Samoa and 3.7 miles south of Samoa"
- Sheet 2 of 39 Lincoln Avenue "E1" Line Plan and Profile Sheet
- Sheets 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 New Navy Base Road Plan and Profile Sheets (Station 445+00 to Station 555+00)
- Sheet 18 of 39 New Navy Base Road and Lincoln Avenue Intersection Plan and Profile Sheet.
- Sheet 22 and 23 of 39 Bay Street "PU" Line Plan and Profile Sheets
- Sheet 25 of 39 Lincoln Avenue "E1" Line Plan and Profile Sheet
- Sheet 27 of 39 Rigid Frame Effluent Line Structural Sheet

Table 4 below provides a list of proposed HBMWD's pipeline appurtenances located outside of the paved section of the road and were marked by GHD on the 1969 Plans.



Table 4: HBMWD's Appurtenances Marked on Humboldt County 1969 New Navy Base Road Plans.

Type of Appurtenance	Corresponding Sheet Number on 1969 Plans	Corresponding Sheet Number on HBMWD's Techite Pipeline Replacement Project	Station Reference to Techite Pipeline Replacement Project Plans
Blow-Off Assembly	13	C102	17+28.5
4" ARV Assembly	14	C104	38+65.0
8" ARV and Fire Hydrant	15	C105	50+25.0
Fire Hydrant	16	C107	72+96.0
3" ARV	17	C109	82+62.8
Blow-Off-Assembly	18	C110	93+92.0

As illustrated on these Plan and Profile Sheets, the limits of disturbance for constructing New Navy Base Road are delineated with a dashed line on the Plans. The proposed appurtenances for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project, listed in Table 4 above, are all located off of the paved area of New Navy Base Road; however, are all within the pervious limits of disturbance that resulted from the construction of New Navy Base Road as detailed on the 1969 Plans.

Sheet 2 of the 1969 Plans shows the Typical Construction Cross Sections for New Navy Base Road, Lincoln Avenue and Bay Street. The detail on the upper left of Sheet 2 shows the typical road cross sections within the limits of the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project. This detail is reproduced as Figure 1 below. The Typical Cross Sections shows the installation of an eight foot wide paved shoulder to the face of the asphalt concrete curb, and an additional four feet wide section, beyond the face of the asphalt concrete curb, that was reconstructed using engineered fill. The limits of grading or disturbance, represented by the dashed line on the 1969 Plans, for the construction of New Navy Base Road extend further east than the four foot wide shoulder section, and vary throughout the road alignment depending on the amount of cut and fill that was needed to achieve finished road grades. A typical slope ratio of 4 horizontal to 1 vertical was used to fill sections, and a 2 horizontal to 1 vertical was used on cut section. Also shown on the Typical Section, the constructed section beyond the fog line, including the eight foot wide paved shoulder and the four foot wide unpaved section, was treated with penetration treatment, which means that the subgrade was excavated and replaced with imported subgrade. The presence of this imported fill material extending a minimum of four feet beyond the paved section was confirmed during the soil borings installed adjacent to New Navy Base Road.

All of the proposed fire hydrant and air relief valve locations along New Navy Base are located well within the previously disturbed areas detailed on the 1969 Plans except in two locations. The previous limits of disturbance shown on Sheet 14 of the 1969 Plans at the location of the proposed ARV (Techite station 38+65) appear to extend approximately four feet beyond the paved section of the road shoulder, and on Sheet 17 at the location of the proposed ARV (Techite station 82+62.8) the limits of disturbance also appear to extend approximately four feet beyond the paved section of the road shoulder. However, soil borings



collected by GHD at these two proposed locations indicate that engineered fill material was placed at these two locations, out to the proposed ARV locations. The samples collected at Stations 38+65 are labeled F1, F2, and samples collected at Station 82+62.8 are labeled B1, B2 in Table 1 of the "HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Soil Borings" Memorandum accompanying this letter.

The typical section on Sheet 2 (Figure 1 below) that applies to where the Blow-off assembly on Lincoln Avenue is proposed is labeled "Approach Road "PU, "E1", "B2" and "GP" Lines". "E1" represents the Lincoln Avenue alignment. The typical section of Lincoln Avenue shows a four foot wide shoulder and a foot wide section of unpaved shoulder that was also penetration treated. As mentioned above, the blow-off location off of the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and New Navy Base Road was adjusted slightly to ensure that it will be installed within this "penetration treated" or fill area, and the presence of the fill was confirmed during GHD's soil boring installations.



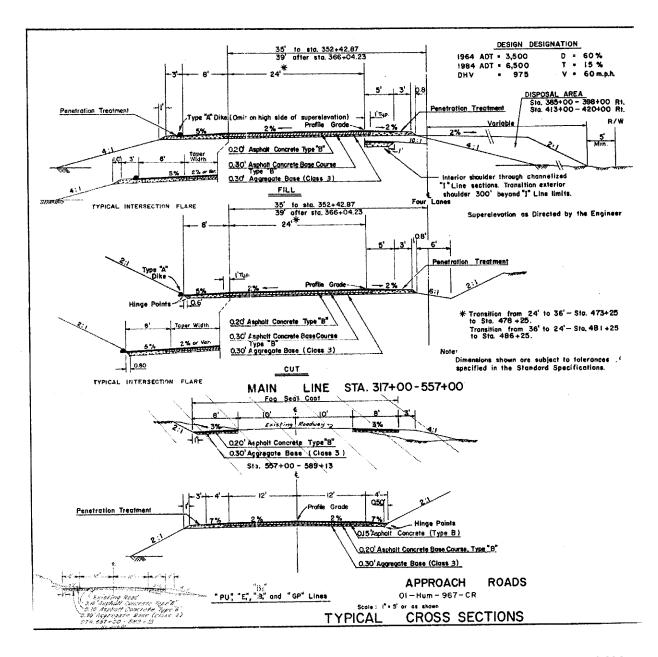


Figure 1: Typical Cross Section Sheet (Humboldt County Department of Public Works, Federal Aid Secondary Project No. S -967(4), approved January 24, 1966.

In summary, as confirmed on the 1969 construction plans and supplemented by GHD's finding from the most recent field investigation, all proposed appurtenances for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project are located within areas previously disturbed by the construction of New Navy Base Road in 1969. All of these areas were disturbed during the cut and fill operations during the road construction, and had engineered fill placed under the proposed area of extent of disturbance for the construction of the appurtenances. A



separate summary of the field investigation conducted by GHD is provided to you with this memorandum to further support these findings.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed below.

Regards,

Pat Kapsari, P.E.

Project Manager 707-443-8326

CC:

Carol Rische, General Manager, HBMWD

Dale Davidson, HBMWD

Techite Project File (CDP Subfile)

Attachments:

Memorandum - HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Project Soil Borings, dated November 1, 2013

HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Project, Project Plans dated November 2013.

Humboldt County Department of public Works, Humboldt County Highway, Federal Aid Secondary Project No. S 967(5),

dated June 23, 1969.



## Memorandum

### 1 November 2013

То	Carol Rische			
Copy to	California Coastal Commission			
From	Stephanie Klein	Tel	707.443.8326	
Subject	HBMWD Techite Pipeline Replacement Soil Borings	Job no.	8490017	

### Summary

On October 16 and 21, 2013 soil boring samples were taken along the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) proposed Techite pipeline replacement alignment in areas where pipeline infrastructure will encroach beyond the edge of pavement. This memo presents the soil boring results per the request of the California Coastal Commission (CCC) in order to determine the substrate composition where air release valves, blow off valves and fire hydrants are proposed to be installed. Previous reports provided by GHD describing the sites biological resources reveals a majority of the habitat adjacent to New Navy Base road is coastal dune mat habitat; however, the area directly next to the road shoulder contains road prism fill material, an artificial substrate. In an effort to avoid Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA), the pipeline infrastructure that extends outside the paved area is proposed to be installed in this "urbanized" (unnatural substrate), non-ESHA habitat.

#### Location

The soil borings were taken along the proposed project alignment occurring within and to the north of the unincorporated town of Fairhaven, located on the Samoa Peninsula in Humboldt County, California (Figure 1). The areas proposed for the new alignment begins at the HBMWD Terminal Reservoir and ends at the start of the HBMWD Humboldt Bay crossing near Fairhaven, CA. The proposed pipeline alignment occurs within disturbed roadways, including New Navy Base Road, Bay Street, Lincoln Ave, and Duprey Streets in Fairhaven. This memo focuses on the proposed project and study areas along New Navy Base Road (and one location on Lincoln Avenue) where air release valves, blow off valves, and/or fire hydrants are proposed in close proximity to native dune habitat, outside the paved road section. All of the soil samples were taken within five feet of the edge of pavement.

#### Results

A total of 12 soil samples were taken at seven locations along the proposed alignment (Figure 1, Attachment A) and their location recorded, using a Trimble Juno 5 with Trimble Pro6H Receiver. Data was post-processed in Trimble Pathfinder Office v5.3 software using differential correction from two base stations, resulting in an accuracy of between five and 15 centimeters. In general, the depth of soil samples ranged from six inches to 12" below ground surface (BGS). Borings were dug using a sharp shooter and spade. Data on soil color, texture, structure, vegetation and comments was collected (see Attachment B).

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GHD Inc.

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Soil texture was recorded as either loamy sand or sand. Soil colors where documented as 10 YR 4/2, 10 YR 4/3, 2.5 Y 4/2, 2.5 Y 4/1 and 2.5 Y 3/2. Four of the sample locations (A2, B1, E3 & E4 in Table 1) had a non-natural restrictive layer at eight inches, and one at six inches, as a result of very coarse cobble associated with the New Navy Base Road fill prism (Photograph 1). The majority of soil samples contained ~10%- 40% medium to very coarse sub-angular/sub-rounded size rock fragments also determined to be associated with engineered fill material from the road prism (Photographs 2 and 3). Some locations had medium size sub-angular and sub-rounded asphalt fragments on the soil surface (Photograph 4).





Photograph 3 coarse fragments in soil pit sample



Photograph 2 Lincoln Ave. north of Willow patch



Photograph 4 medium fragments on surface from asphalt

All but one sample location was dominated by annual grasses or bare sand. Three soil sample locations, two on New Navy Base Road (E1 and E2), and the most western location on Lincoln Avenue (A1), revealed a sandy substrate with no visible inclusions of engineered fill. While a sandy substrate was observed in two of four pits at soil sample location E, our interpretation of the county plans from 1969, suggests that this area was previously disturbed based on the presence of an adjacent outfall. As a result of county plans and soils samples, the proposed infrastructure will be placed in the location where soil samples reveal an urbanized substrate. Similarly, for the proposed infrastructure at soil sample location A, sample A1 revealed a native

sandy substrate; while sample A2 revealed engineered fill material. As a result, the infrastructure is proposed at the location where urbanized substrate was observed.

Additionally, the original design sighted four fire hydrant locations, soil sample location B, C, E, and F; the current design proposes three fire hydrants. The design has been updated to include one fire hydrant at the gate of DG Fairhaven Power on Bay Street (Photograph 5), and one at the intersection of New Navy Base Road and Simpson Private Drive (Photograph 6), and one remains at soil sample location E. Additional information pertaining to the sighting of fire hydrants can be found in an subsequent letter to the CCC dated 11.1.13. No additional soil sample data was collected at the newly proposed fire hydrant locations based on the evidence of urbanized habitat. A sharp shooter was used however, to verify evidence of engineered fill material in the substrate (Photograph 7). A summary of soil sample results is found below in Table 1.



Photograph 5 Bay Street proposed fire hydrant location in urbanized habitat





Photograph 6 and 7 Simpson Private Road and New Navy Base Road in urbanized habitat

Table 1 Summary of Soil Sample Results at Proposed ARV and Blow Off Valve Locations

			Air Rela	se Valve Locations	
Alignment Station #	Soil Sample ID	Install Fire Hydrant Adjacent to ARV	Soil Structure	Description/ Remarks	Substrate
38+65.0	F1	Fire Hydrant removed from design	sand	matrix contained medium gravelly size rock fragments of engineered fill material	Urbanized
	F2		sand	matrix contained cobbley size engineered fil observed at 3" BGS	Urbanized
50+25.0	E1	Yes	sand	coarse and very course on surrface, no engineered fill in matrix; adjacent to urbanized outfall	Urbanized (reference CCC 10.24.13 letter)
	E2	No	sand	native dune species on surface, no engineered fill in matrix; adjacent to urbanized outfall	Urbanized (reference CCC 10.24.13 letter)
	E3	No	sand	surface medium to course gravelly size fragments on surface, restrictive engineered fill layer with ~20% course rock fragmentsat 8" BGS	Urbanized
	E4	No	sand	no data taken, restrictive engineered fill layer ~ 8" BGS	Urbanized
63+50.0	С	N/A		Removed from design	NA
82+62.8	B1	Fire Hydrant removed from	Sand	restrictive engineered fill layer with ~10% course gravelly size rock fragmentsat 8" BGS	Urbanized
82+62.9	B2	design	Sand	matrix contained ~25% cobbaly size rock fragments	Urbanized
			Blow 0	ff Valve Locations	
17+28.5	G	No	Sand	course gravelly fill material mixed with innocuous wood chips artifacts	Urbanized
59+62.0	D	No		no data taken	Paved area
93+60.0	A1	No	sand	non-native annual grass	Native Sand
93+92.0	A2	No	sand	restrictive engineered fill layer with ~15% course gravelly size rock fragments at 8" BGS	Urbanized
Notes:					
1. All soil pits					
2. rock fragme	ents were ge	enerally sub-angu	ılar or sub-ro	unded	

#### Conclusion

On October 16 and 21, 2013 soil samples were taken along New Navy Base Road and Lincoln Avenue in areas associated with the proposed Techite pipeline replacement project. The soil samples yielded evidence of engineered fill material associated with the fill prism of New Navy Base Road. Fill material (2 mm to more than 10 mm diameter size sub rounded/sub angular rock fragments) was discernible on soil surface, within three inches BGS, and/or at six to eight inches BGS where a restrictive layer of engineered fill was present.

New locations were evaluated in the approximate vicinity for the two locations (soil sample A and E) where the soil borings revealed a sandy substrate without inclusions of artificial engineered fill material. The soil borings in the new locations revealed approximately 10% artificial engineered fill material and thus, will not adversely impact ESHA.

It is our belief, based on the physical composition of the substrate, the air relief valves, blow off valves, and fire hydrants have been proposed in urbanized areas containing artificial engineered fill material associated with past disturbance. As a result, all infrastructure associated with the pipeline will be installed in the most appropriate areas and will not adversely impact environmentally sensitive habitat.

Regards

Stephanie Klein

**Environmental Scientist** 

Attachment A- Figure 1
Attachment B- Data Sheets

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Soil Boring Locations

Figure 1



# FIELD SOIL LOG

SOIL DESCRIPTION  DESCRIPTION & REMARKS COLOR MOIST.  O HORZAN	Total Depth:	8'- (2." Depth	Comment
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# FIELD SOIL LOG

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DESCRIPTION & REMARKS  COLOR  MOIST. STRUCTURE  Depth  Comment  L.D.B.C. AMMOBILA COLOR  L.D.B.C. AMMOBILA  L.D.B.C. AMMOBILA COLOR  L.D.B.C. AMMOBILA  L.D.B.C. AMMOBILA	Logged By:			Lotal Depth:		
DESCRIPTION & REMARKS  COLOR  MOIST.  STRUCTURE  V.N.B.C., ANAMOCH IA CORE  V.N.B.C., ANAMOCH IA CORE  W.A. AN	SOIL DES	SCRIPTION	e i	Depth Comment		
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2 Andonesia Conservation into de la conservation de				No.	25" p./b/2.	
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Description of the second of t					O. Se re	1007(47
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	3.	- CALLA	Dry	cause-	Dos-12" Leonichaps	Fill Pro
	awtoch frank			3 rever		
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## **FIELD SOIL LOG**

Project Name: Toda le		Project No.:				
Date Started: 10/13/13				- Charles		
Date Completed: 1011713						
Logged By: 🔍	Total Depth: /2/					
SOIL DES		Depth	Comment			
DESCRIPTION & REMARKS Texture		MOIST.	STRUCTURE			
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Serv	2.544/1	Det	Profine Sala	6"-12"	Grammat Size	
	254314		Vergene	Eq. 4. All South Annual Control of the control of t	Fragas	
Oftor 700 Roof depte 3"	/	Dry	Sal	0.0.51	egon S	
Sand w/ Bolated Lil Colphe of 3"	2.5911		Sond Sond	2" - 12"	Costs Fractive	
	25y4/1	Î	Very fire			
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