



HISTORY OF CONSTRUCTION

Ash Pond 91 CCR Surface Impoundment Coal Creek Station Great River Energy

Submitted To: Great River Energy

Coal Creek Station 2875 Third Street SW

Underwood, North Dakota 58576

Submitted By: Golder Associates Inc.

44 Union Boulevard, Suite 300 Lakewood, Colorado 80228

October 13, 2016

1649586





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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

Golder Associates Inc. (Golder) has prepared the following History of Construction for the Ash Pond 91 CCR Surface Impoundment (Ash Pond 91) at Great River Energy's (GRE's) Coal Creek Station (CCS). The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Coal Combustion Residual (CCR) Rule, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 257, promulgated April 17, 2015 and effective October 19, 2015, requires compilation of the information specified in §257.73(c) to detail the construction history of CCR facilities no later than October 17, 2016 for facilities with either height of 5 feet or more and a storage volume of 20 acre-feet, or a height of more than 20 feet.

1.2 Site Background

Coal Creek Station is located in McLean County, approximately 10 miles northwest of Washburn, North Dakota. The lined Ash Pond 91 footprint compromises approximately 75 acres, and is used as a combined dewatering and storage facility for CCRs including fly ash, bottom ash, and flue-gas desulfurization (FGD) material.

2.0 OWNER, OPERATOR, AND UNIT IDENTIFICATION (§257.73(C)(1)(I))

Coal Creek Station (and Ash Pond 91) is currently owned and operated by Great River Energy (GRE).

Corporate Address:

Great River Energy 12300 Elm Creek Boulevard Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369

Coal Creek Station Address:

Great River Energy Coal Creek Station 2875 Third Street SW Underwood, North Dakota 58576

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDH) Division of Waste Management is the environmental regulatory body for the CCR facilities at CCS. Ash Pond 91 is currently permitted with the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDH) under Permit Number 0033.

3.0 HISTORY OF CONSTRUCTION

3.1 Location of Unit (§257.73(c)(1)(ii))

Ash Pond 91 is located in the southwest ¼ of Section 16 and the southeast ¼ of Section 17 of Township 145 North, Range 82 West, in McLean County, North Dakota. Figure 1 shows the location of Ash Pond 91





on the most recent USGS topographic map, and Figure 2 shows the location of Ash Pond 91 on a recent aerial photograph.

3.2 Purpose (§257.73(c)(1)(iii))

Ash Pond 91 is used as a combined dewatering and storage facility for CCRs including fly ash, bottom ash, and flue-gas desulfurization (FGD) material and will be closed with CCR materials in place.

3.3 Watershed Information (§257.73(c)(1)(iv))

The Ash Pond 91 CCR surface impoundment is located within the following Hydrologic Unit (Watershed-Based Performance Management Using Hydrologic Unit, ND 2016) per the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Hydrologic Unit 12 Subwatershed 101301010701 Weller Slough-Coal Lake Coulee (40,582 acres).

3.4 Foundation Information (§257.73(c)(1)(v))

The location of Ash Pond 91 was originally characterized by Burns & McDonnell in 1973. A geotechnical investigation was completed by Black & Veatch in 1977 and a hydrogeologic study was performed for CCS by Barr Engineering in 1982. Site geology, soils, and hydrology, including drainage and surface water flow, were examined during these prior studies to determine site suitability for disposal of CCRs. Foundation soils consist of existing natural soils and are generally classified as lean clays, clayey sands, and fat clays. Sandy lean clays dominant the existing natural soils with an effective cohesion of 500 pounds per square foot (psf) and an effective friction angle of 19 degrees (based on shear strength testing).

The foundation soils of Ash Pond 91 consist of native soils (lean clays, clayey sands, and fat clays) and embankment fill materials sourced from nearby native soils (lean clays, clayey sands, and fat clays). Ash Pond 91 was cleaned out, deepened, and relined in 1993 (CPA 1993). According to the 1993 construction report, the foundation materials were compacted in 12-inch lifts to 93% standard Proctor density.

3.5 Materials and Site Preparation (§257.73(c)(1)(vi))

Ash Pond 91 was originally part of the South Ash Pond, which was built in the late 1970s on a foundation of re-compacted site soils (glacial tills) and put into service in 1979. In 1981, the South Ash Pond was taken out of service to reconstruct the clay liner and was put back into service from 1982 until 1987, at which point CCR materials were removed. The South Ash Pond was then divided into Ash Pond 91 and Ash Pond 92 in 1988. Ash Pond 91 was deepened and a new composite liner consisting of a 2-foot thick compacted clay liner underlying a 40-mil high-density polyethylene (HDPE) geomembrane was completed in 1993. The 2-foot thick compacted clay liner was compacted in six-inch loose lifts at 95% of the standard Proctor compaction effort. The liner is overlain with 1 foot of sand, 1 foot of Pit Run gravel, and a drainage system consisting of collection pipes that generally slope to the north side of the facility.





Construction began in 2015 to allow for the vertical containment of CCR materials over the Ash Pond 91 footprint. This included the installation of a composite liner consisting of a geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) overlain with a 60-mil HDPE liner in the areas between Ash Pond 91 and the Upstream Raise CCR Surface Impoundment (Upstream Raise).

It is anticipated that Ash Pond 91 will continue to operate as a surface impoundment receiving sluiced FGD material and dry CCR materials (fly ash and bottom ash) until approximately 2028. After the sluiced FGD material reaches its design height, free liquid in the sluiced FGD material will begin to drain and Ash Pond 91 will only receive dry CCR materials in the construction of a cap/crown until approximately 2031.

During active placement of CCR materials in Ash Pond 91, FGD material will be sluiced directly to Ash Pond 91. Dewatered bottom ash and dry fly ash are hauled by truck to Ash Pond 91. Bottom ash is used as a perimeter drainage layer and fly ash around the perimeter provides an erosion and trafficking surface on the exterior of the facility. Both bottom ash and fly ash are trafficked and spread using dozers. Material properties information of CCR materials used in construction of Ash Pond 91 are presented under separate cover in the Hazard Potential Classification Assessment, Structural Stability Assessment, and Safety Factor Assessment Report (Golder 2016a).

3.6 Detailed Dimensional Drawings (§257.73(c)(1)(vii))

Permit drawings for Ash Pond 91 (CPA/UPA 1992 and Golder 2015a) are included in Appendix A and show facility dimensions, drainage pathways, and facility surroundings.

Ash Pond 91 operates with a minimum freeboard of approximately 3 feet and a design freeboard of approximately 6-feet. A run-on analysis was performed as part of the inflow design flood control system plan (Golder 2016b) indicating that Ash Pond 91 is operated with adequate freeboard to contain the 24-hour, 100-year storm event.

3.7 Instrumentation (§257.73(c)(1)(viii))

There is currently no instrumentation within Ash Pond 91.

3.8 Area-Capacity Curves (§257.73(c)(1)(ix))

Elevation-area-capacity information is shown in Figure 3. Areas were calculated using as-built topography and design grades. Above the elevation of the original soil berms of Ash Pond 91, the area of the facility becomes smaller with increasing elevation. CCR capacities are approximate and were calculated using an average end area method.





3.9 Spillways and Diversion Features (§257.73(c)(1)(x))

There are no spillways associated with Ash Pond 91. Existing controls are in place to monitor water levels in Ash Pond 91 and limit potential overtopping of the impoundment. The only inflow to the facility (besides precipitation) may include hydraulically conveyed coal rejects and FGD material. The design crest of the soil perimeter berms surrounding Ash Pond 91 are at an approximate elevation of 1922 feet, which is approximately 24 feet above surrounding topography, preventing stormwater run-on into Ash Pond 91.

Existing controls in place to monitor the water levels in Ash Pond 91 include weekly observations of water levels by CCS personnel, and daily observations by CCS operations personnel. Additional observations are noted by GRE employees familiar with site CCR units. After large storm events, CCS personnel evaluate site conditions, including impoundment water levels, and are able to adjust operations to maintain water levels below design maximum elevations. Should water levels within Ash Pond 91 reach above desired operating levels during FGD material deposition, GRE has operating procedures to lower gravity drain (decant) pipelines into the water to transfer water to the adjacent Drains Pond CCR Surface Impoundment (Drains Pond System). Contact water in perimeter ditches flows passively from Ash Pond 91 to the Drains Pond System.

3.10 Construction Specifications and Provisions (§257.73(c)(1)(xi))

The following documents contain the specifications, construction quality assurance reports, and provisions for operation of Ash Pond 91.

- The final report for the foundation, liner, and embankment construction completed in 1993 on Ash Pond 91 (CPA 1993).
- The geomembrane quality assurance services documentation performed in 1993 on Ash Pond 91 (Golder 1993).
- The operations plan for Ash Pond 91, Ash Pond 92, and Section 16 (Golder 2015b).
- The geosynthetics material specifications for the liner construction performed on the 2016 Ash Pond 91 Upstream Raise Construction (Golder 2016c).
- The geosynthetics installation specifications for the liner construction performed on the 2016 Ash Pond 91 Upstream Raise Construction (Golder 2016d).
- The construction specifications for the foundation, liner, and embankment construction performed on the 2016 Ash Pond 91 Upstream Raise Construction (Golder 2016e).

3.11 Record of Structural Instability (§257.73(c)(1)(xii))

No record of structural instability has been noted for Ash Pond 91. Weekly Inspections are performed by site personnel and annual inspections are performed by a registered professional engineer.





4.0 CLOSING

Golder Associates Inc. has prepared the above History of Construction for the Ash Pond 91 CCR surface impoundment at Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station. Based on our review of the available information, to the extent feasible, this report provides the information required by 40 CFR §257.73(c)(i) through (xii), as related to the construction of the Ash Pond 91 CCR surface impoundment.

GOLDER ASSOCIATES INC.

Todd Stong, PE Senior Engineer/Associate

TS/CS/rjg

Craig Schuettpelz, PE Senior Project Engineer



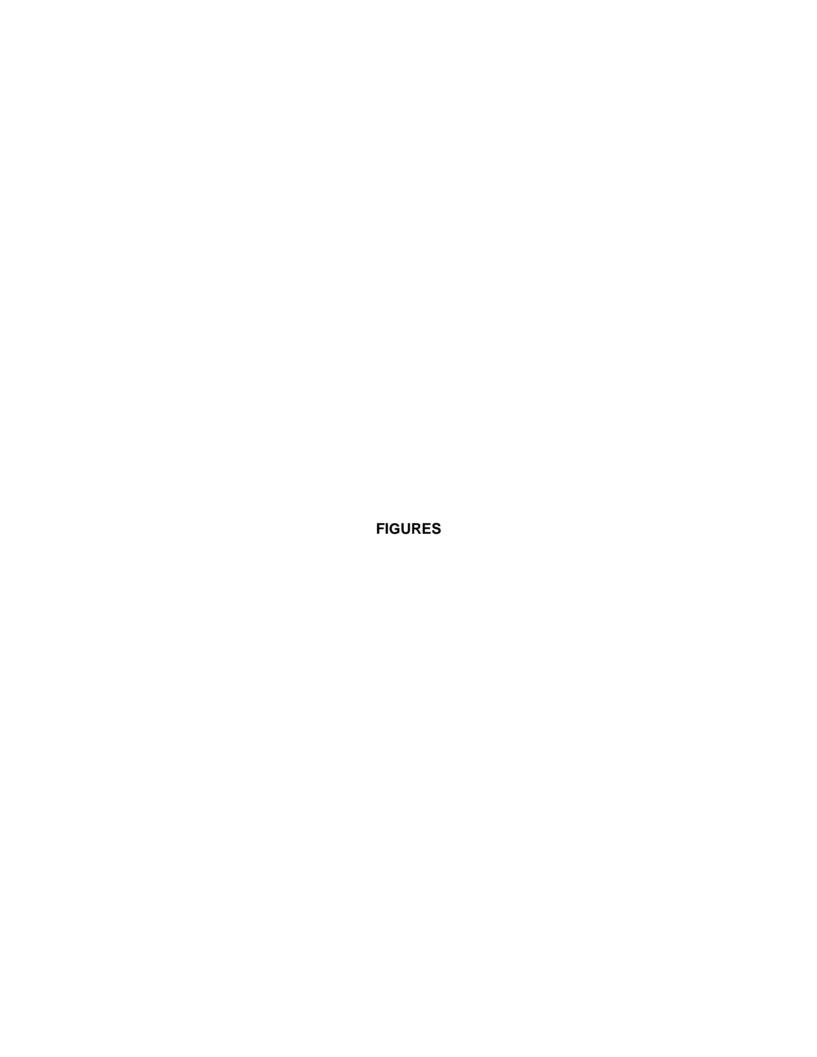
5.0 REFERENCES

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- Burns & McDonnell. 1973. Report on the Environmental Analysis for a North Dakota Power Supply Project. July.

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- Golder. 2016e. Construction Specifications for Great River Energy Coal Creek Station 2016 Ash Pond 91 Upstream Raise Construction Earthworks. July.
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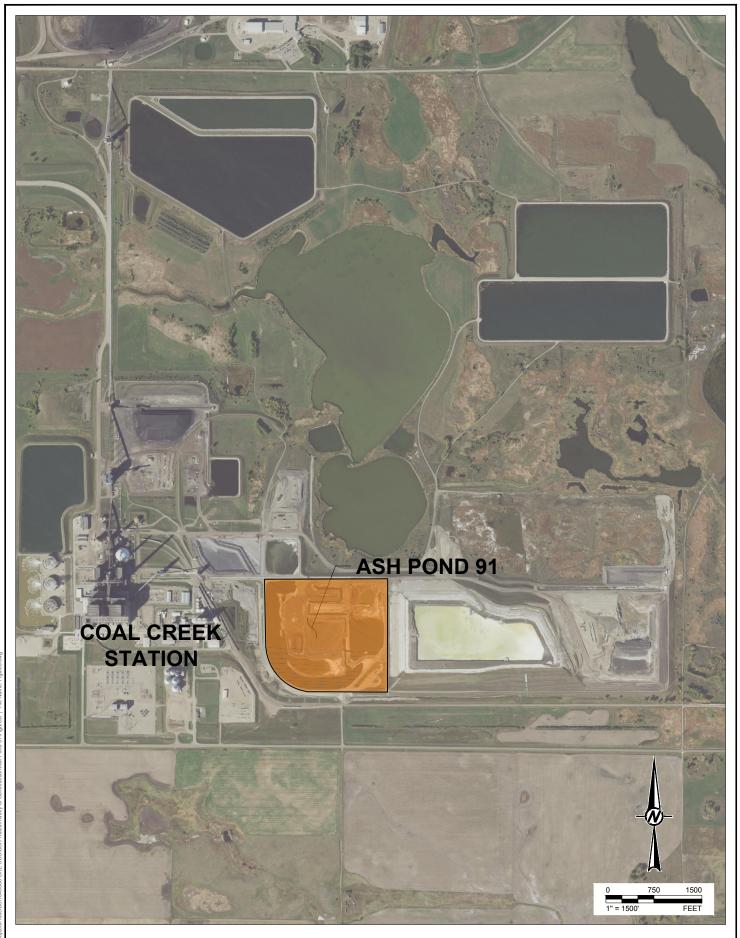




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WASHBURN NE, NORTH DAKOTA (2014)
WASHBURN, NORTH DAKOTA (2014)
WASHBURN SW, NORTH DAKOTA (2014)

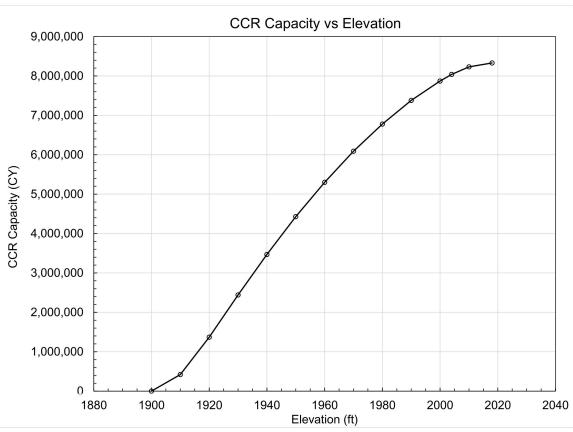


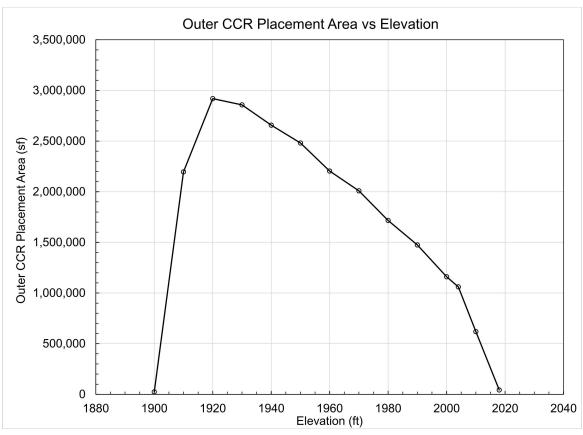
GREAT RIVER ENERGY ASH POND 91 SITE LOCATION (USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS)





GREAT RIVER ENERGY ASH POND 91 SITE LOCATION (AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH)







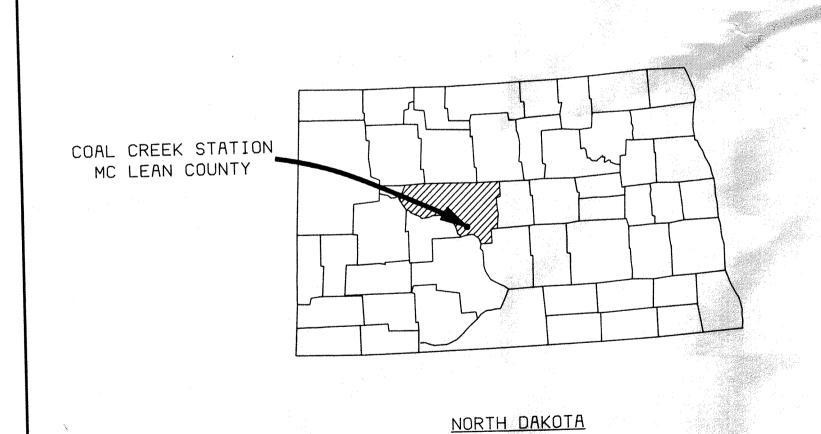
APPENDIX A DESIGN DRAWINGS

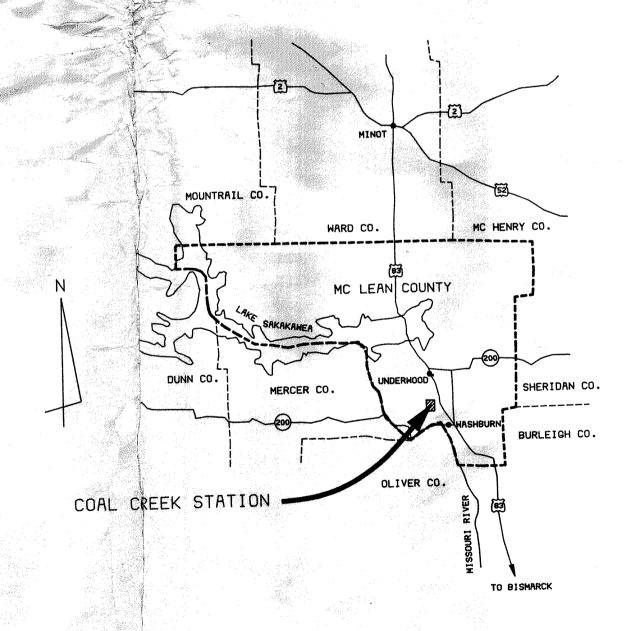
APPENDIX A-1 ASH POND 91 DESIGN DRAWINGS (CPA/UPA 1992)

COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION UNITED POWER ASSOCIATION

COAL CREEK STATION UNDERWOOD, NORTH DAKOTA

COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION 14615 LONE OAK ROAD EDEN PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 55344 UNITED POWER ASSOCIATION
HIGHWAY 10
ELK RIVER, MINNESOTA 55330





SITE LOCATION MAP

92G213-1	EXISTING GROUND EVAPORATION POND 93
92G213-2	LAYOUT — TOP OF SUBGRADE EVAPORATION POND 93
920213-3	LAYOUT - TOP OF BROWN CLAY EVAPORATION POND 93
92G213-4	LAYOUT - TOP OF GRAY CLAY EVAPORATION POND 93
92G213-5	LAYOUT - TOP OF SAND EVAPORATION POND 93
92G213-6	LAYOUT - TOP OF BOTTOM ASH EVAPORATION POND 93
92G213-7	EXISTING GROUND ASH POND 91
920213-8	LAYOUT - TOP OF SUBGRADE ASH POND 91
92G213-9	LAYOUT - TOP OF BROWN CLAY ASH POND 91
92G213-10	LAYOUT - TOP OF GRAY CLAY ASH POND 91
92G213-11	LAYOUT - TOP OF SAND ASH POND 91
92G213-12	LAYOUT - TOP OF ROCK ASH POND 91
92G213-13	LAYOUT - TOP OF BOTTOM ASH ASH POND 91
92G213-14	LAYOUT - DRAIN SYSTEM ASH POND 91
92G213-15	PIPE ROUTING ALONG POND 94 TO POND 93
92G213-16	TYPICAL SECTIONS AND DETAILS
92G213-17	TYPICAL SECTIONS AND DETAILS
920213-18	PLAN VIEW-EVAP. POND 92 OUTLET & SEWAGE LINE DETAI
92G213-19	DETAILS MISCELLANEOUS
92G213-20	DEWATERING, PERFORATED PIF

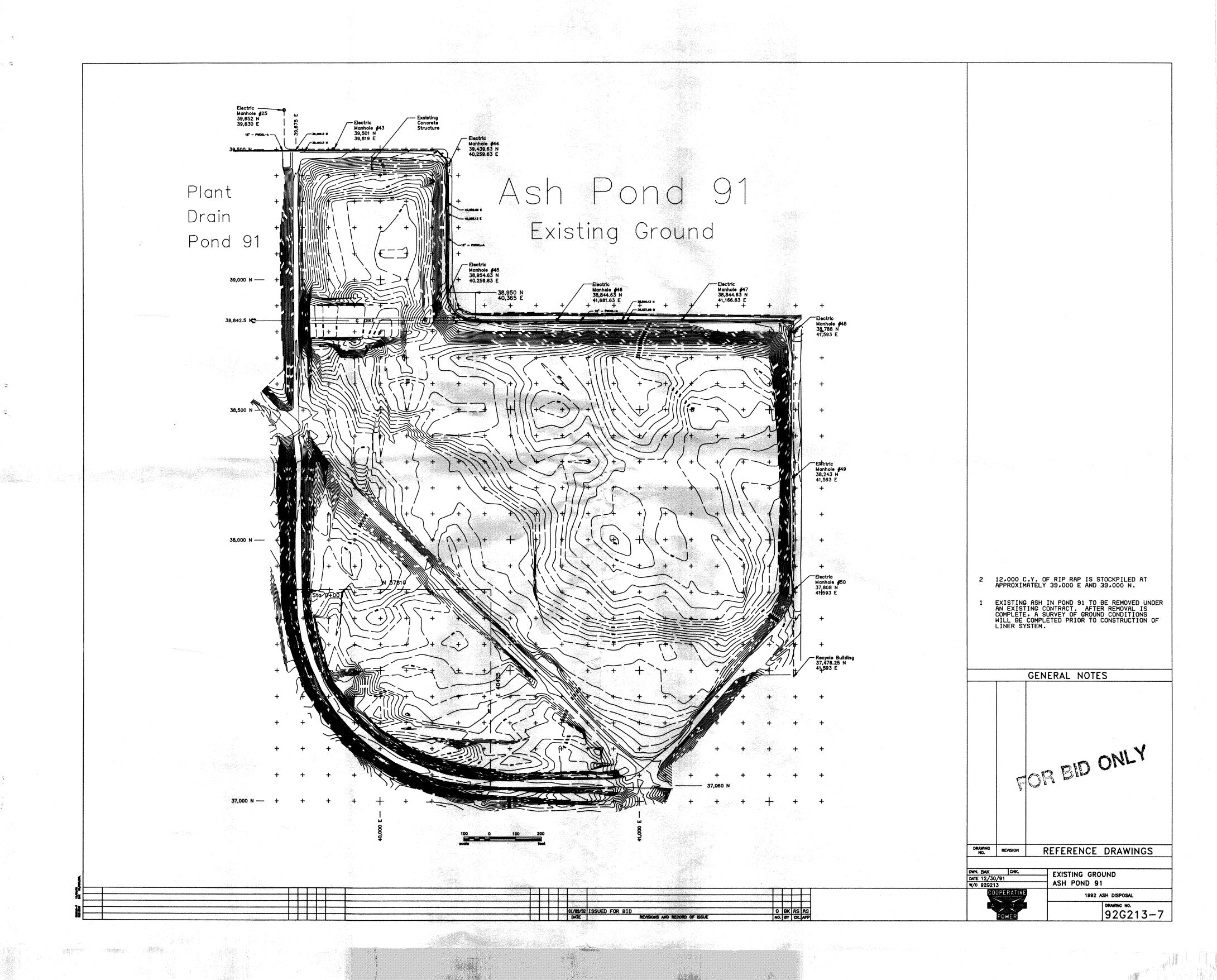
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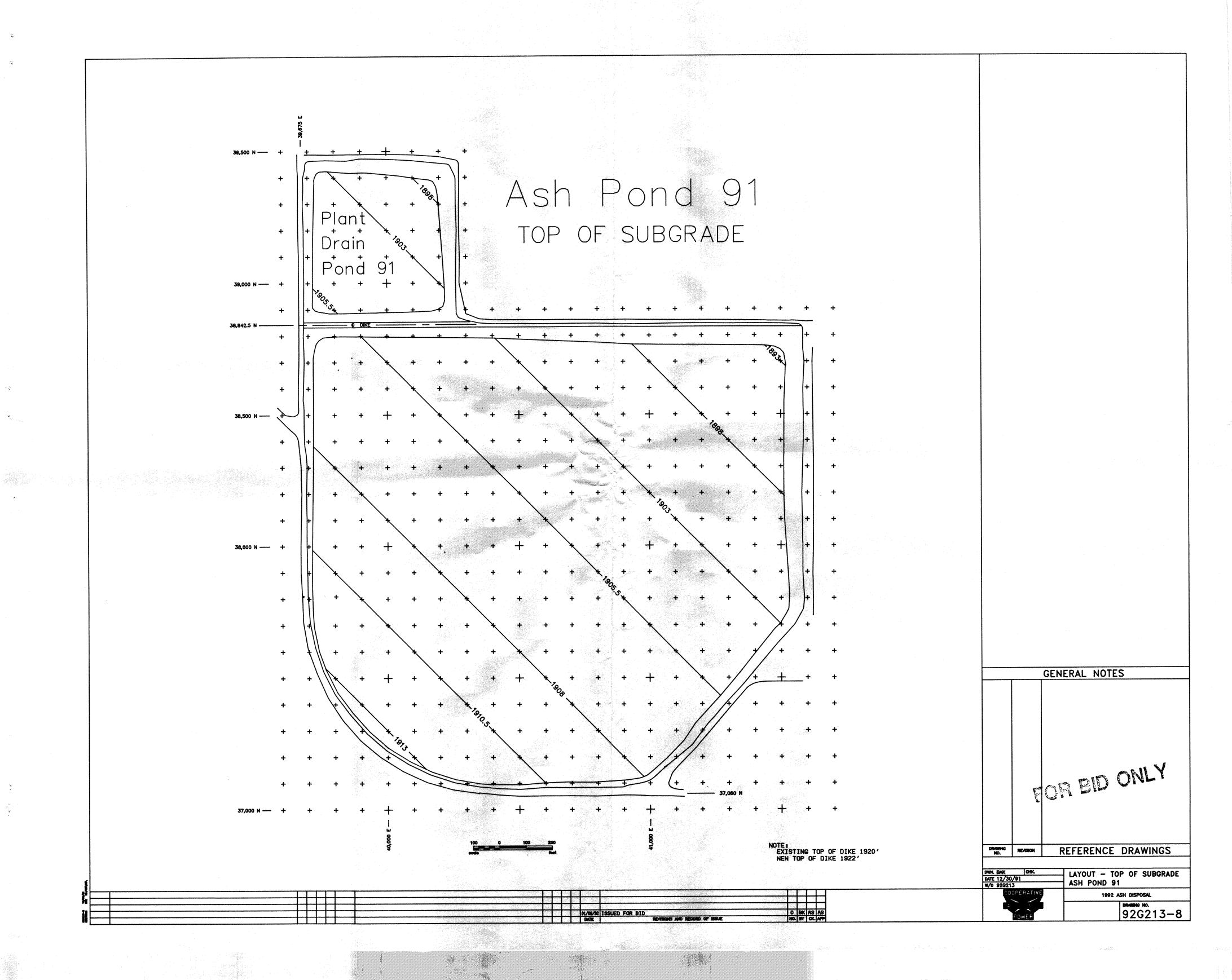
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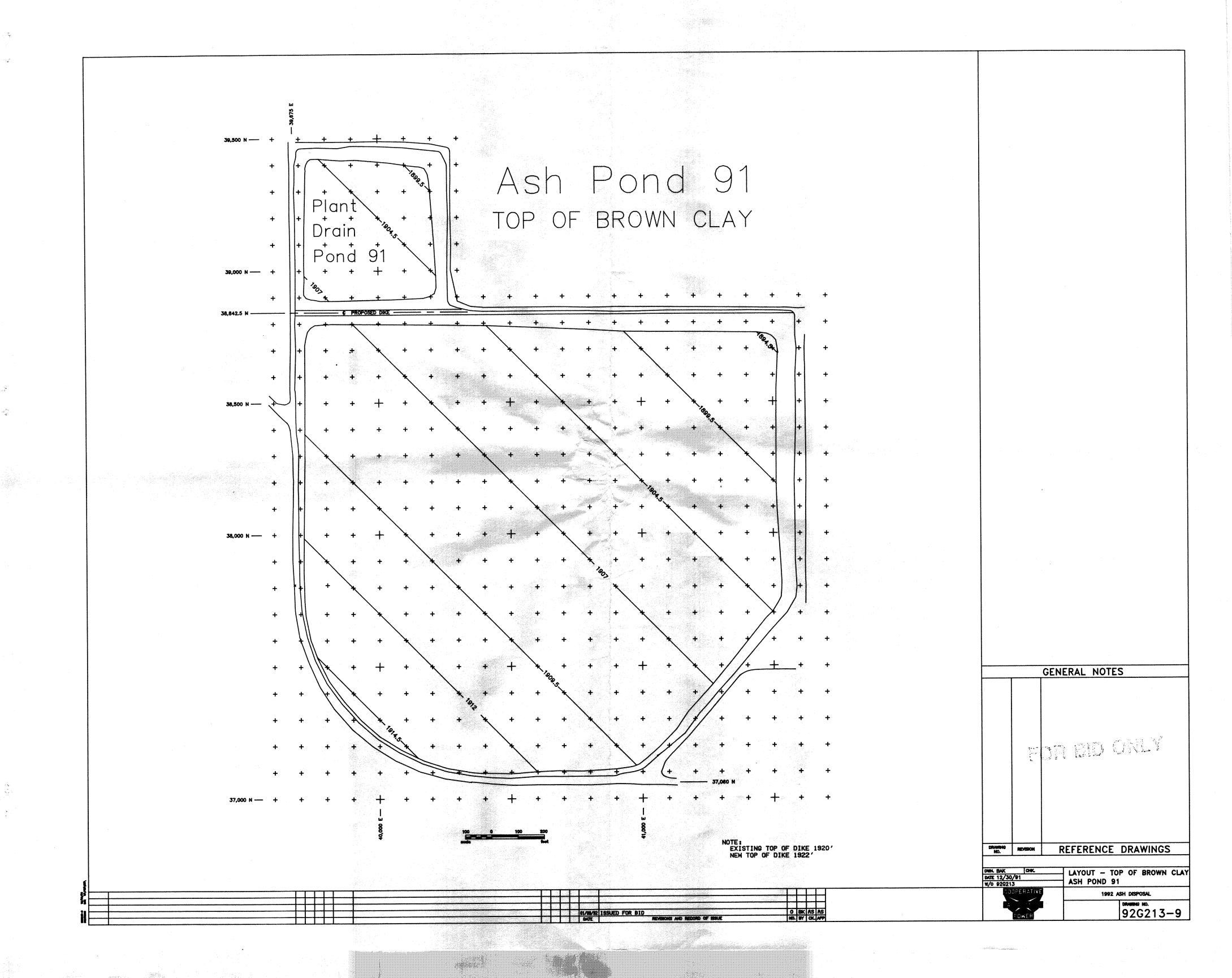
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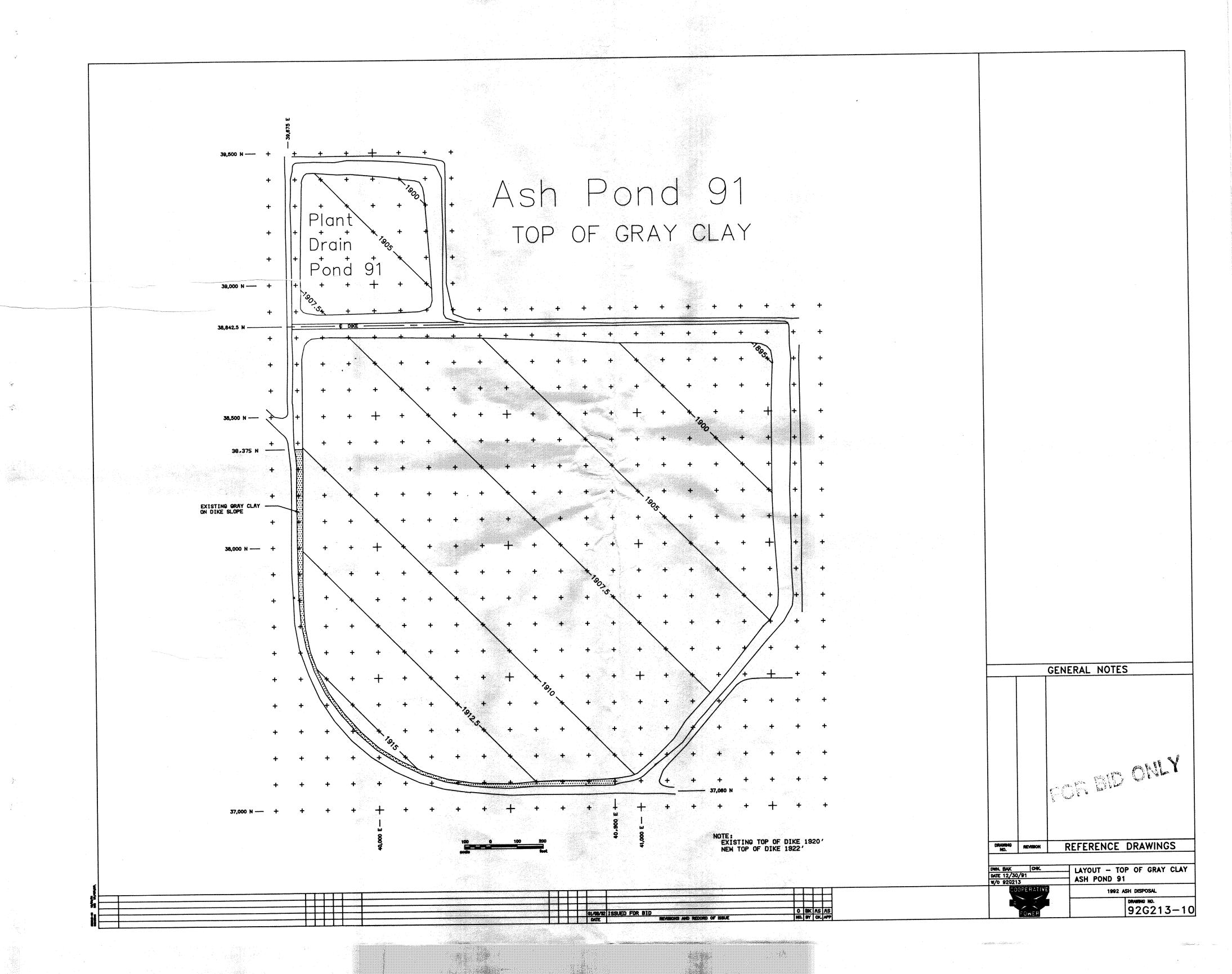
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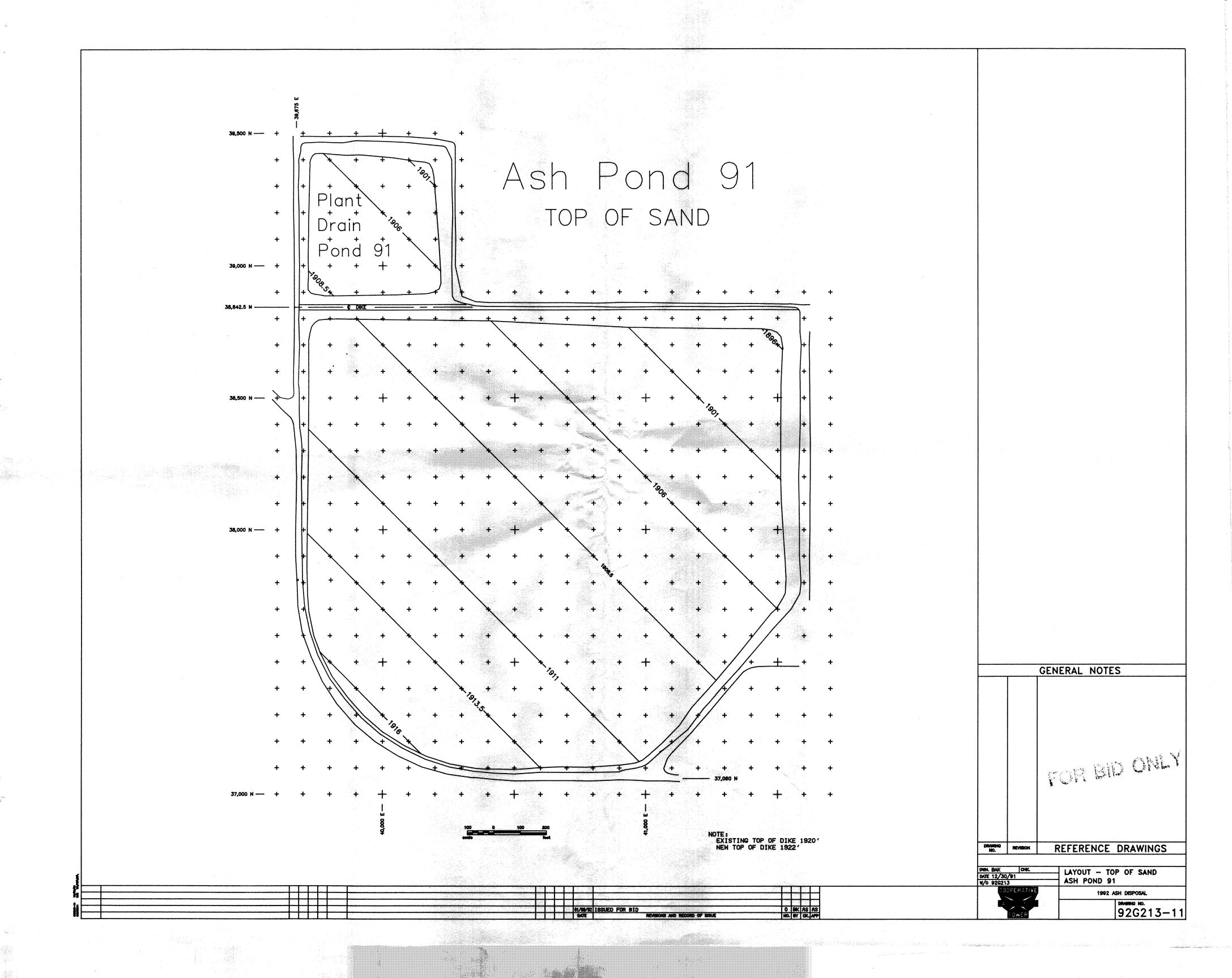
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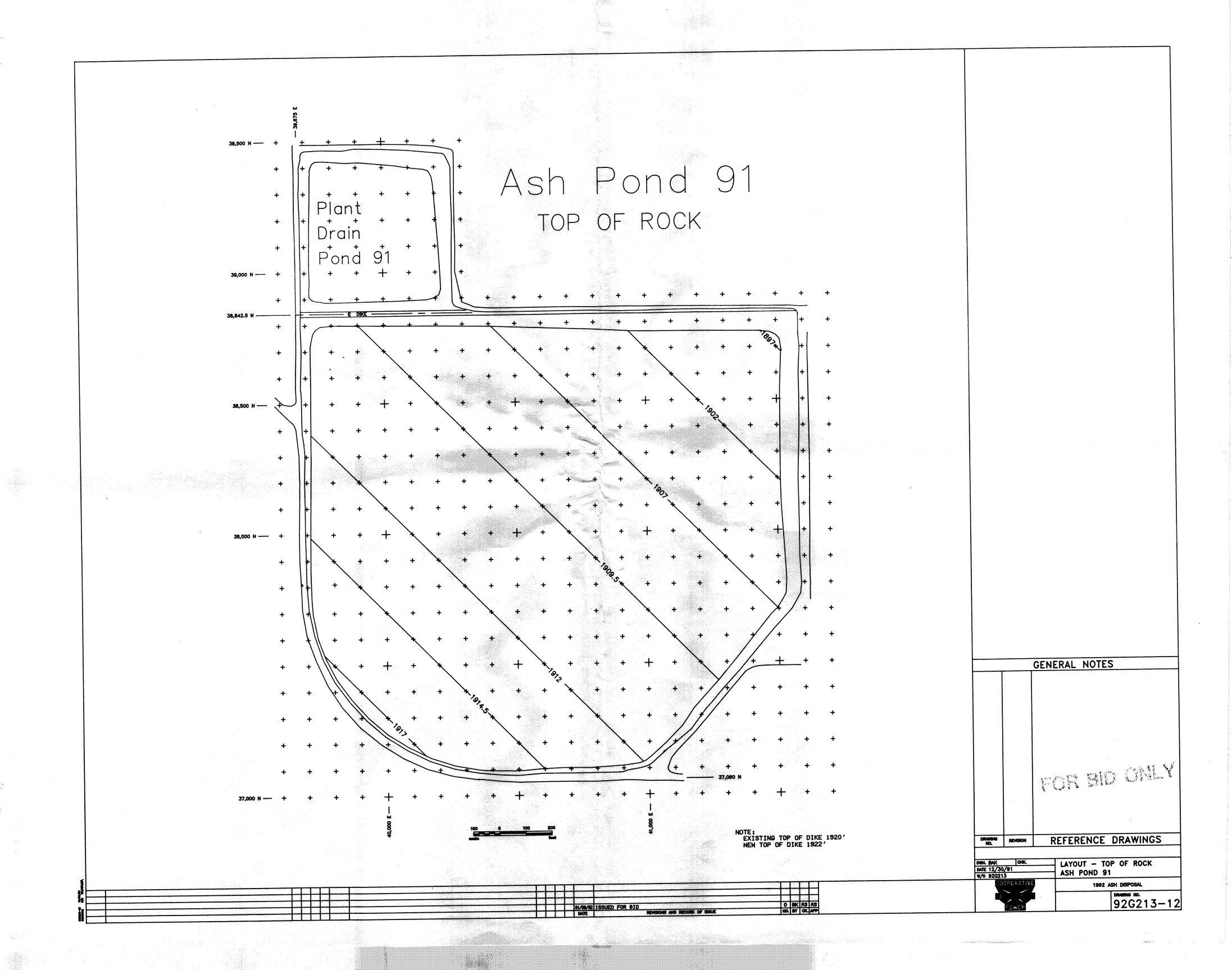


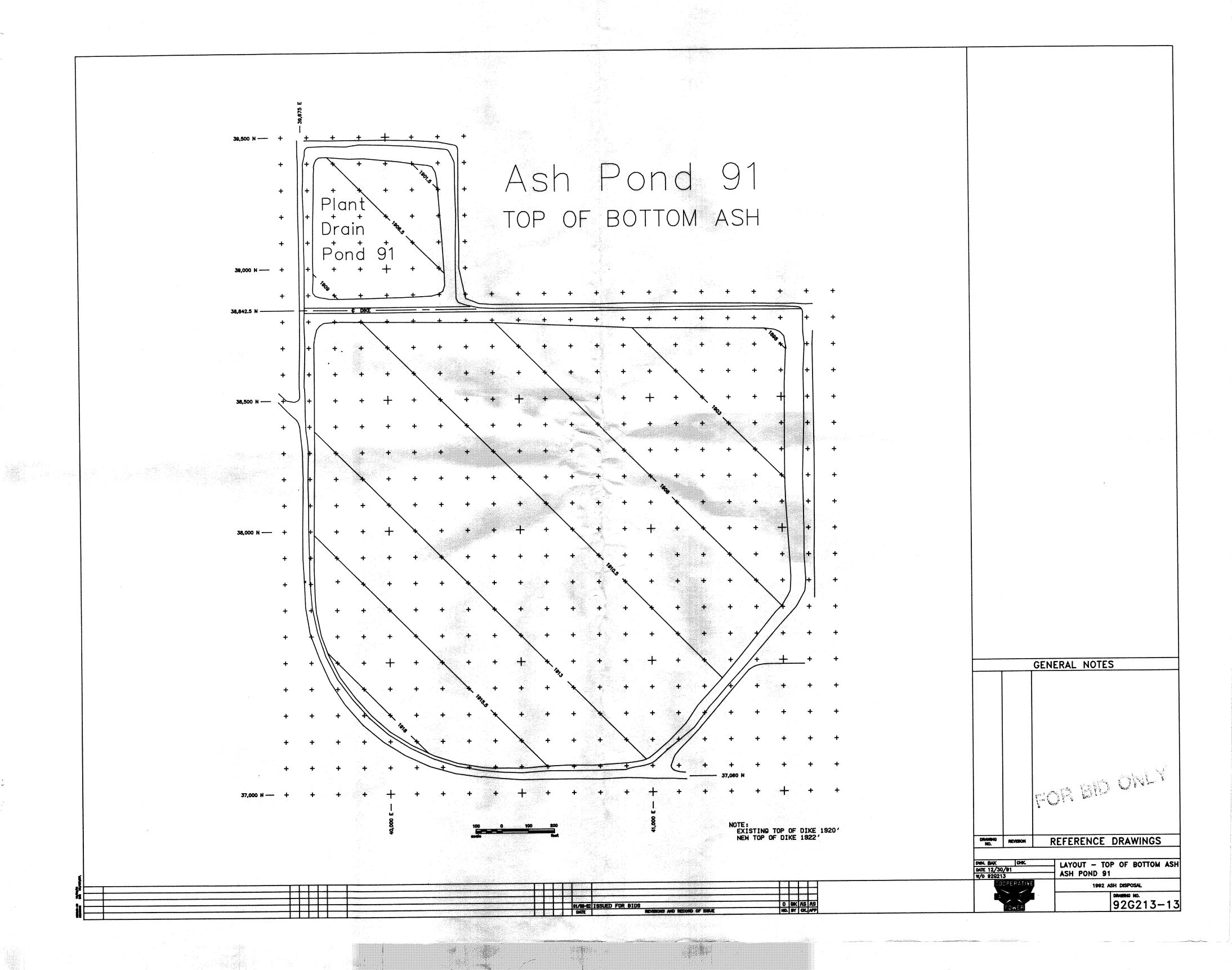


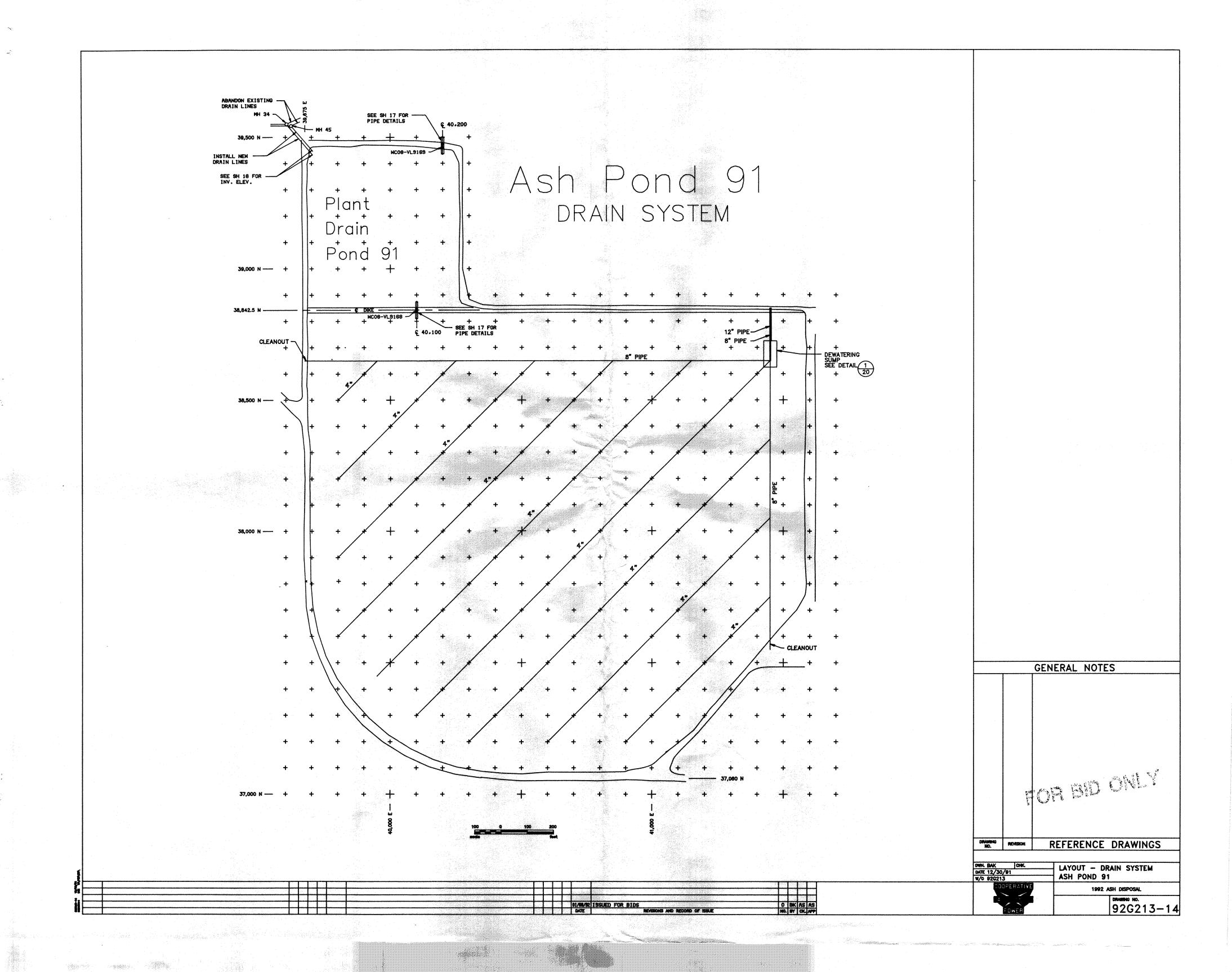


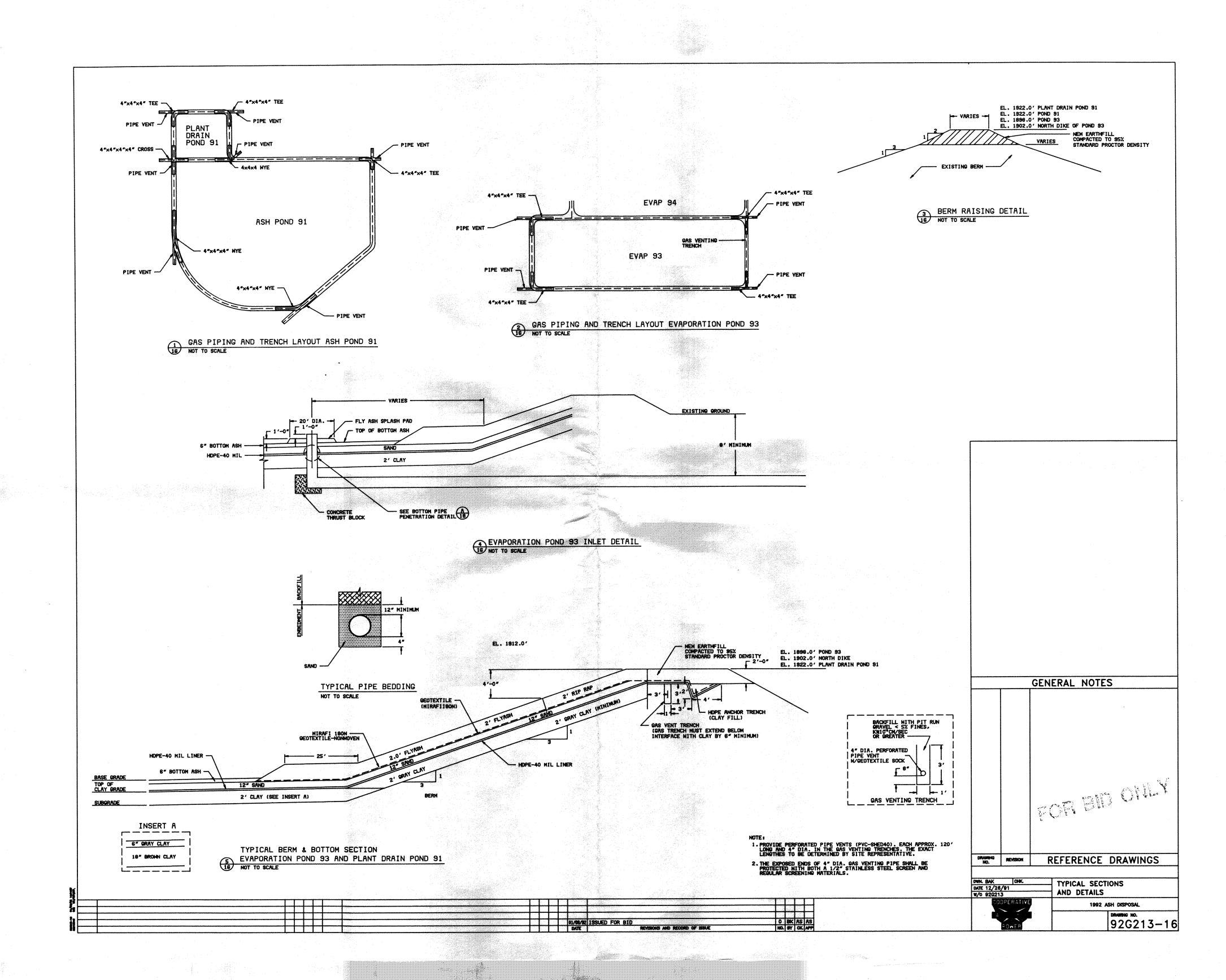


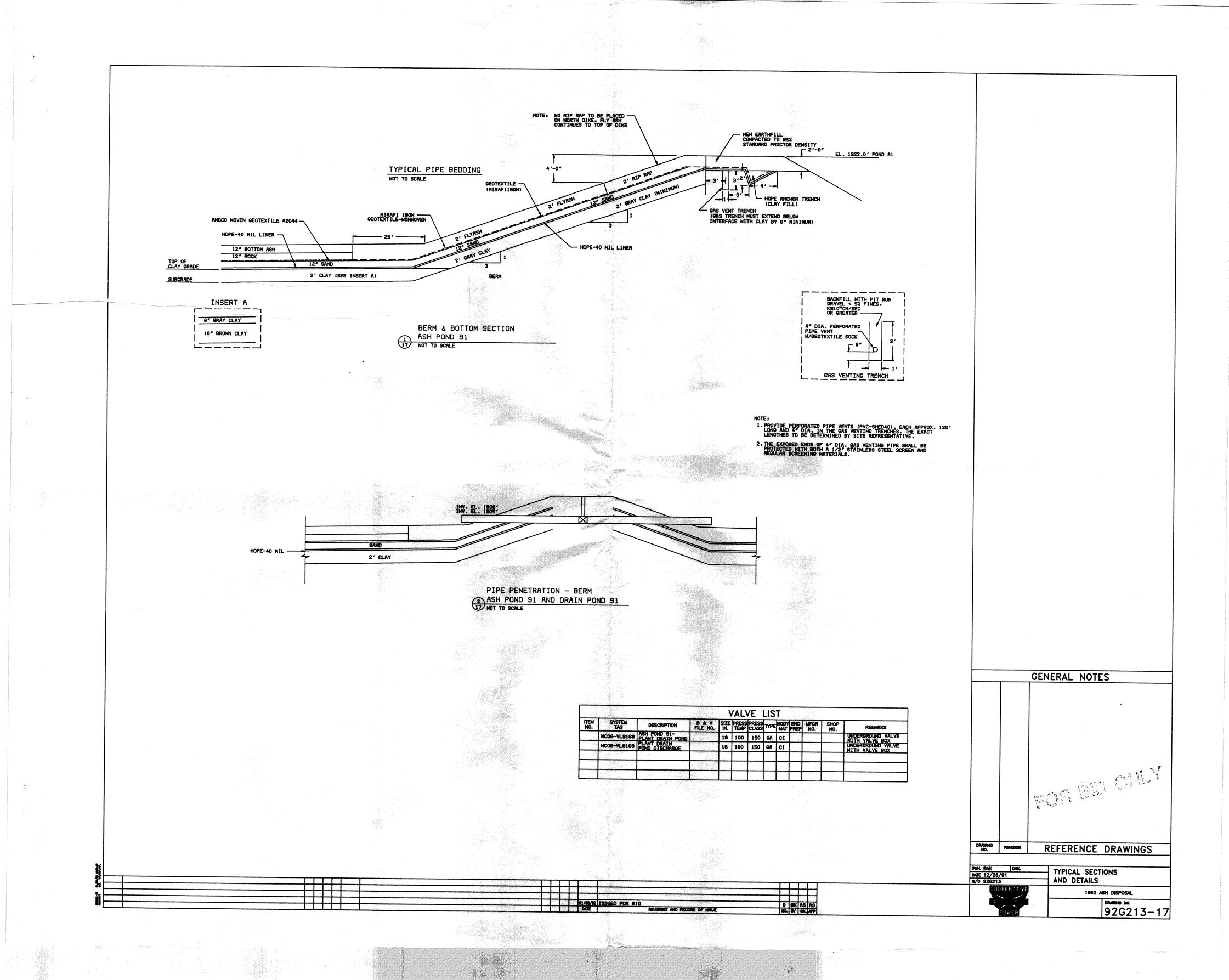


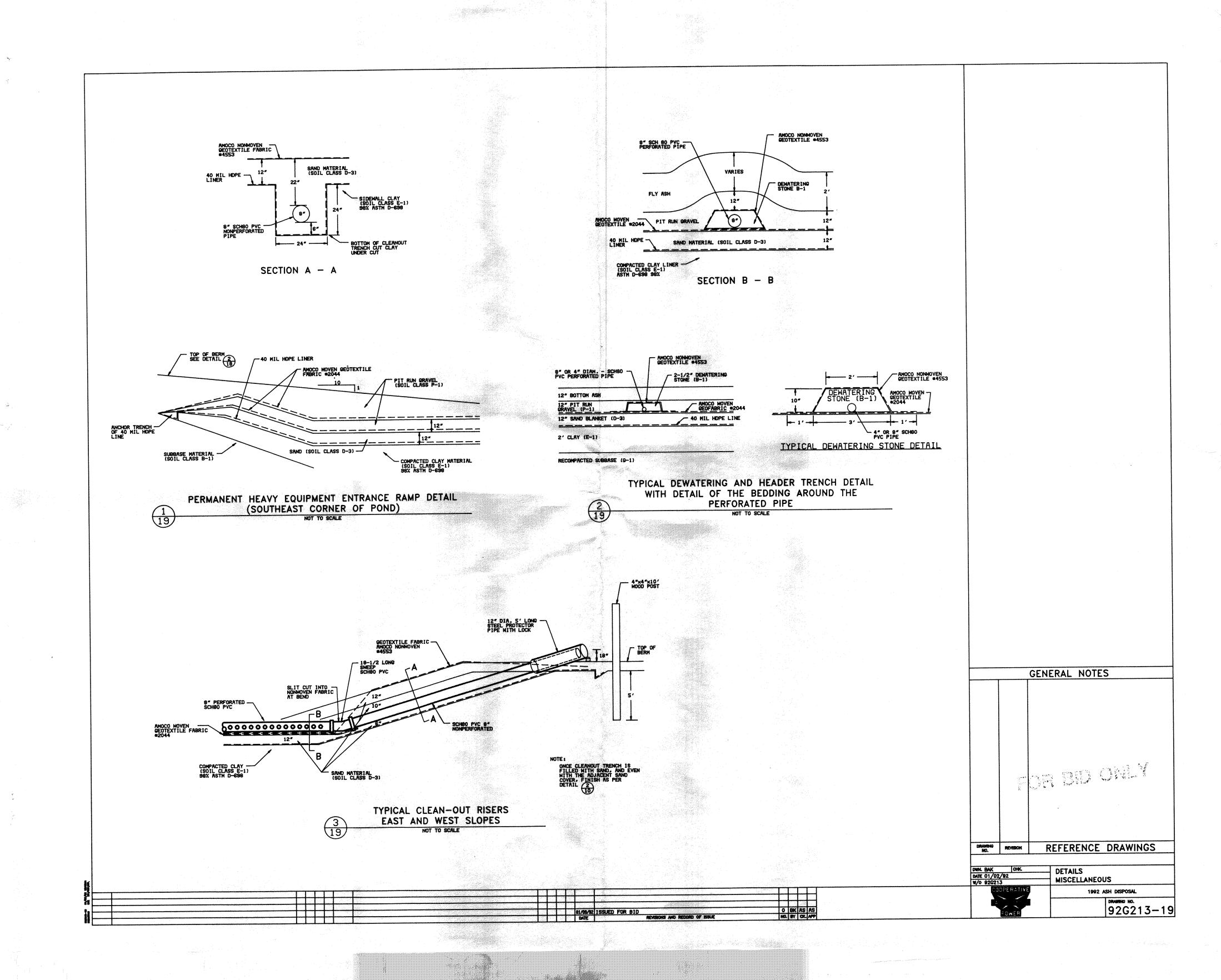


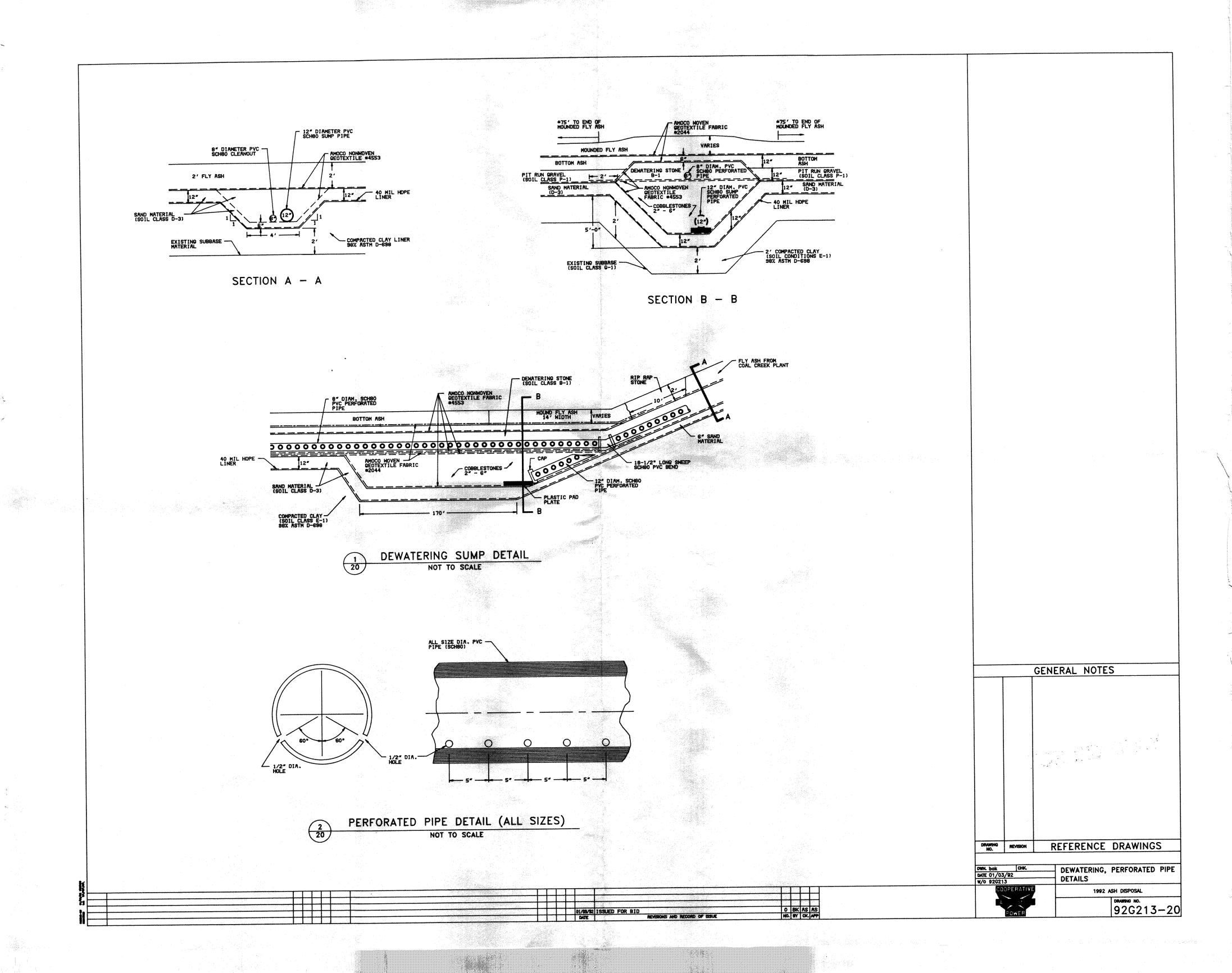






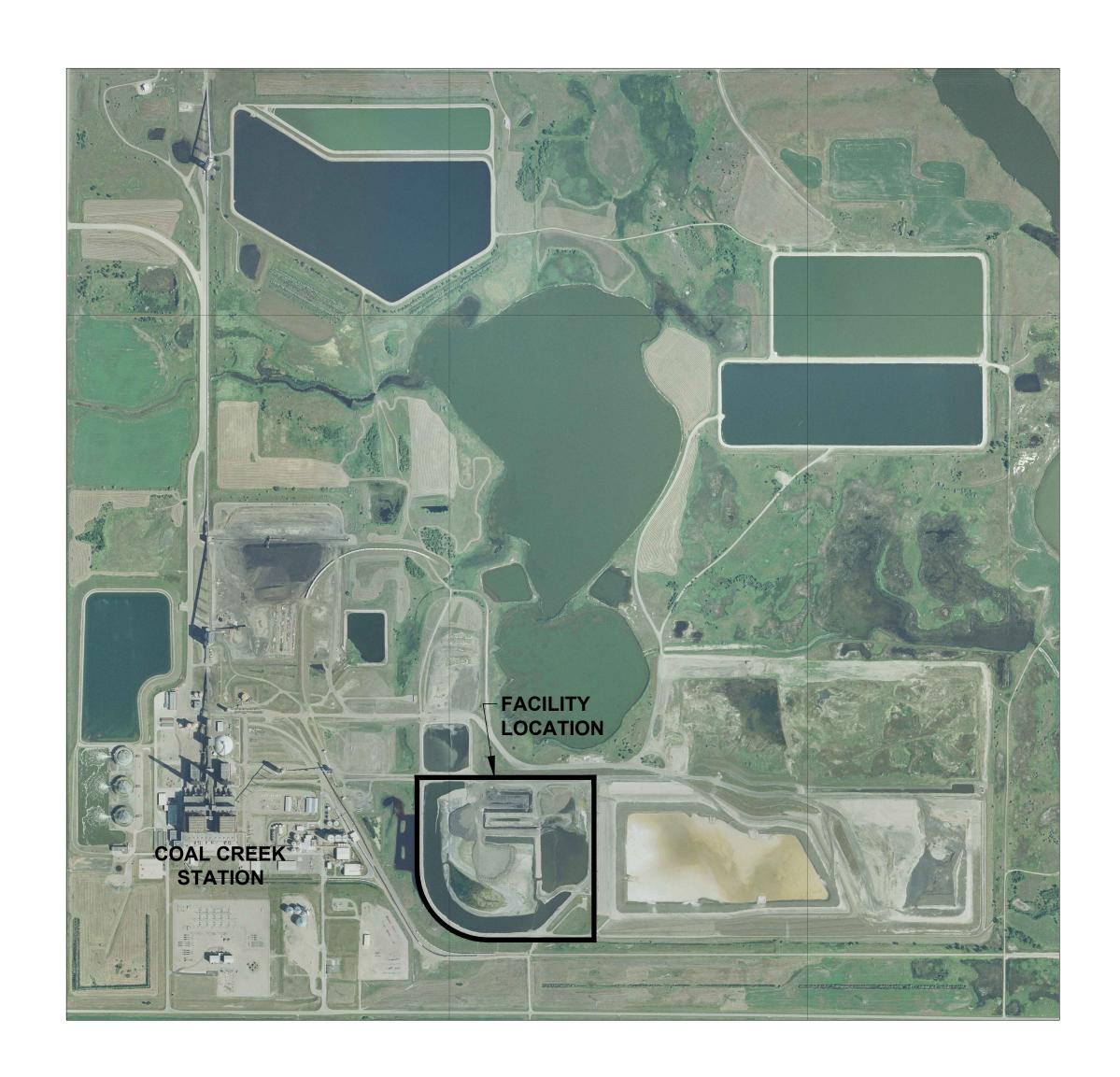






APPENDIX A-2 ASH POND 91 PERMIT DRAWINGS (GOLDER 2015A)

GREAT RIVER ENERGY PERMIT NO. 033 MODIFICATION **ASH POND 91**



Prepared for:



Coal Creek Station Underwood, North Dakota

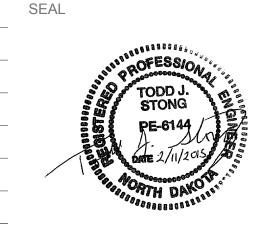
Prepared by:



Golder Associates Inc. 44 Union Boulevard, Suite 300 Lakewood, Colorado USA 80228

DRAWING LIST				
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2	EXISTING CONDITIONS	В		
3	PROPOSED TOP OF LINER	В		
4	PROPOSED FINAL CCP GRADES	В		
5	FINAL COVER GRADES AND SURFACE WATER PLAN	В		
6	CROSS SECTIONS	В		
7	SECTION DETAILS	В		
8	LINER DETAILS	В		
9	HYDRAULIC DETAILS	В		
10	COVER DETAILS	В		

ISSUED FOR PERMIT MODIFICATION CCS TJS ISSUED FOR CLIENT REVIEW APPROVED Rev. YYYY-MM-DD DESCRIPTION PREPARED DESIGN REVIEW



CLIENT

CONSULTANT

GOLDER ASSOCIATES IN 44 UNION BLVD. SUITE LAKEWOOD, COLORADO (303) 980-0540

www.golder.com

GREAT RIVER ENERGY COAL CREEK STATION UNDERWOOD, NORTH DAKOTA

PROJECT

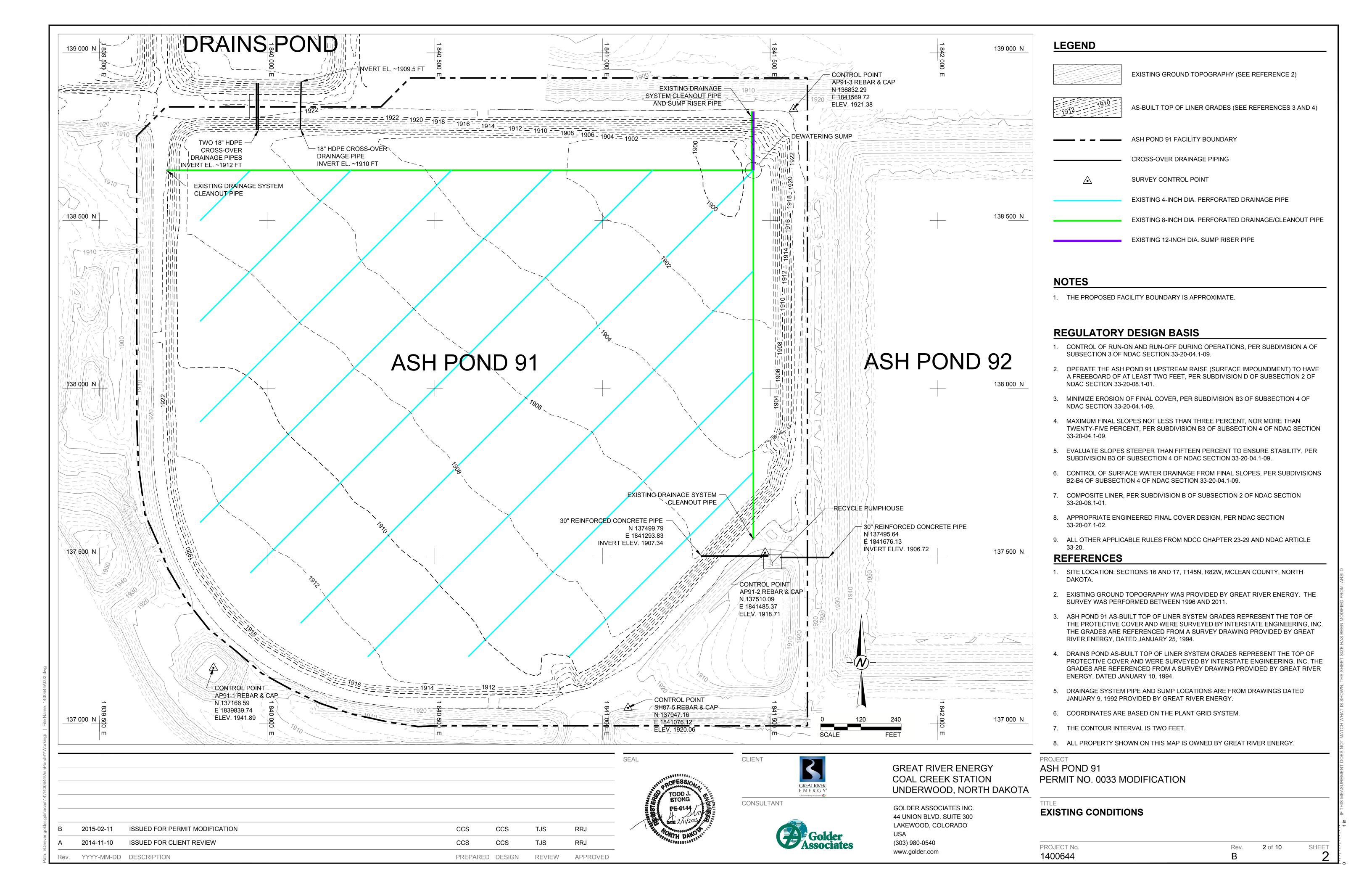
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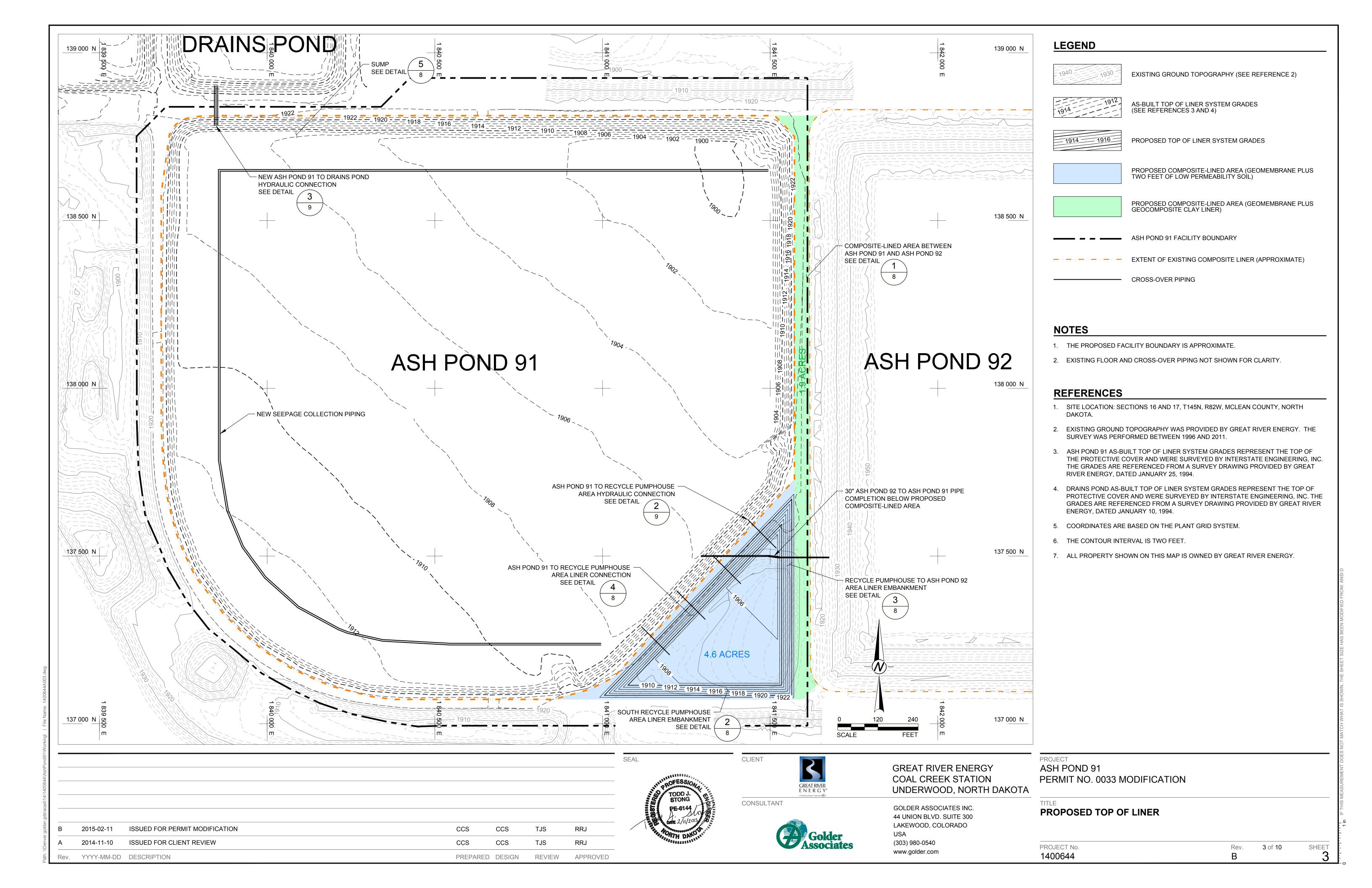
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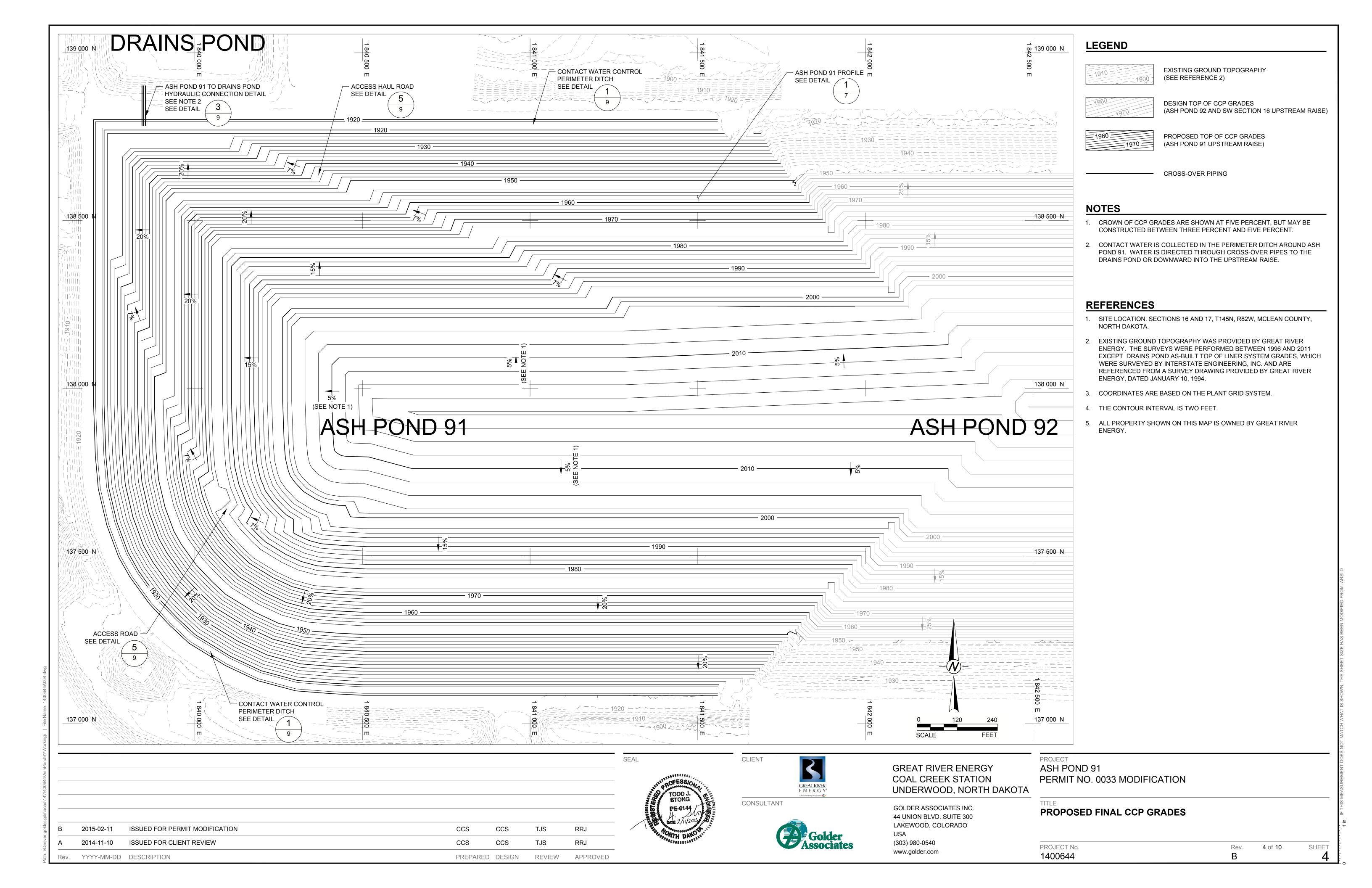
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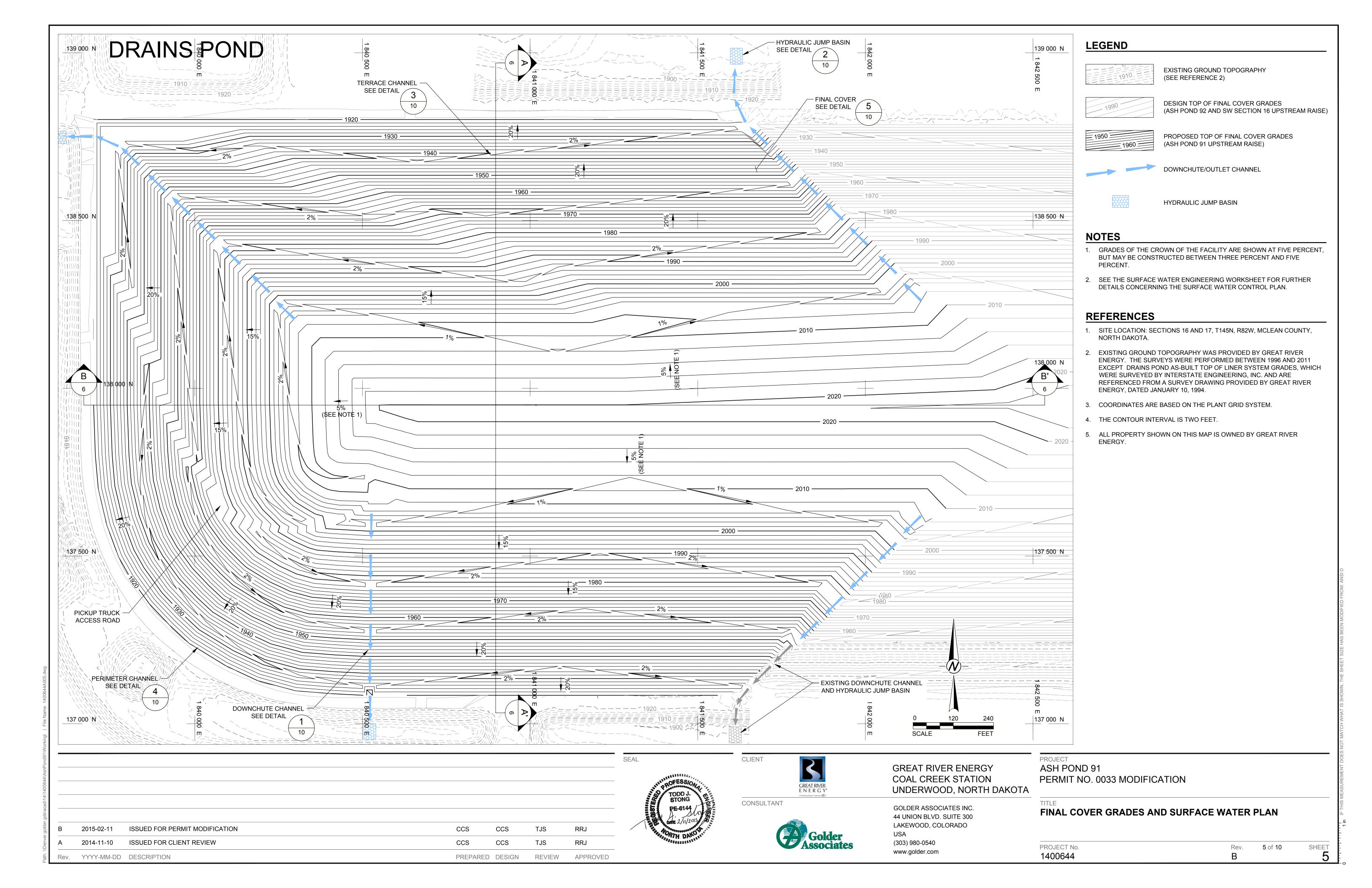
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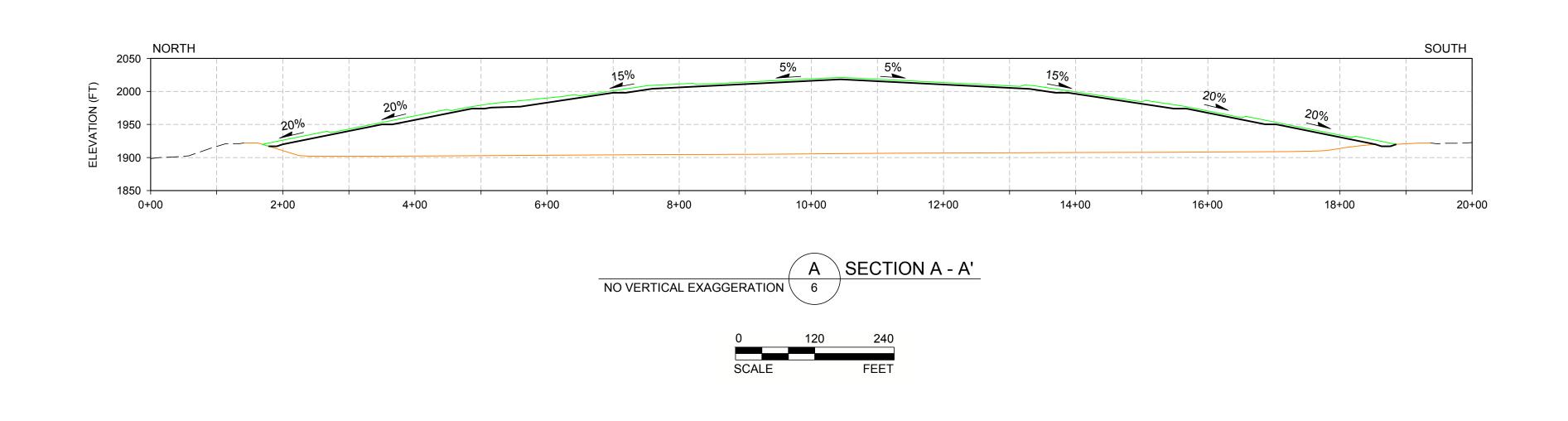
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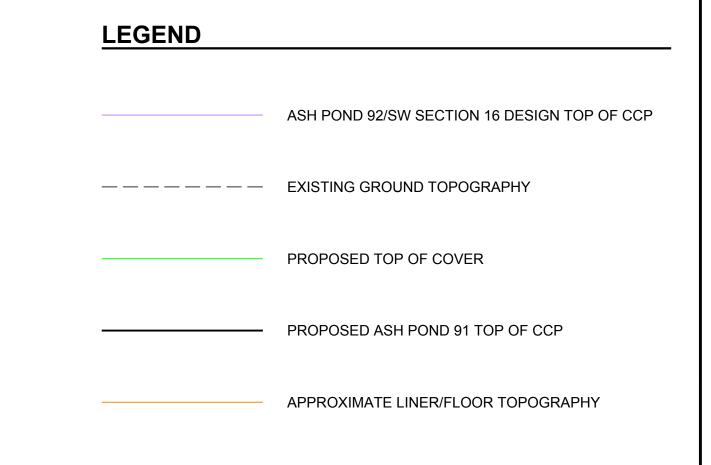


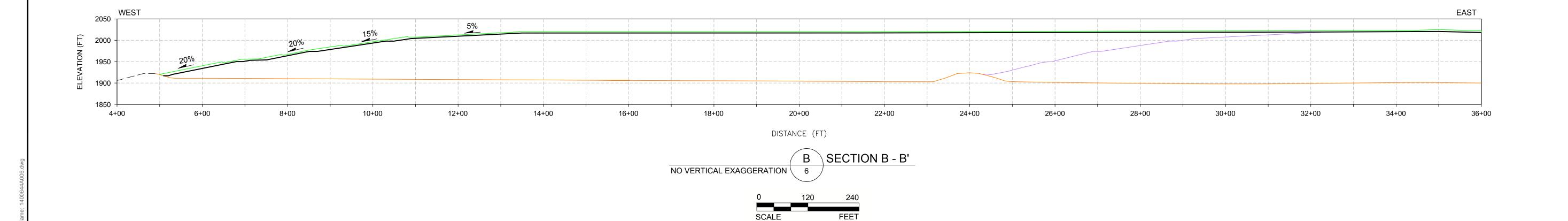












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REVIEW

ISSUED FOR PERMIT MODIFICATION

ISSUED FOR CLIENT REVIEW

2015-02-11

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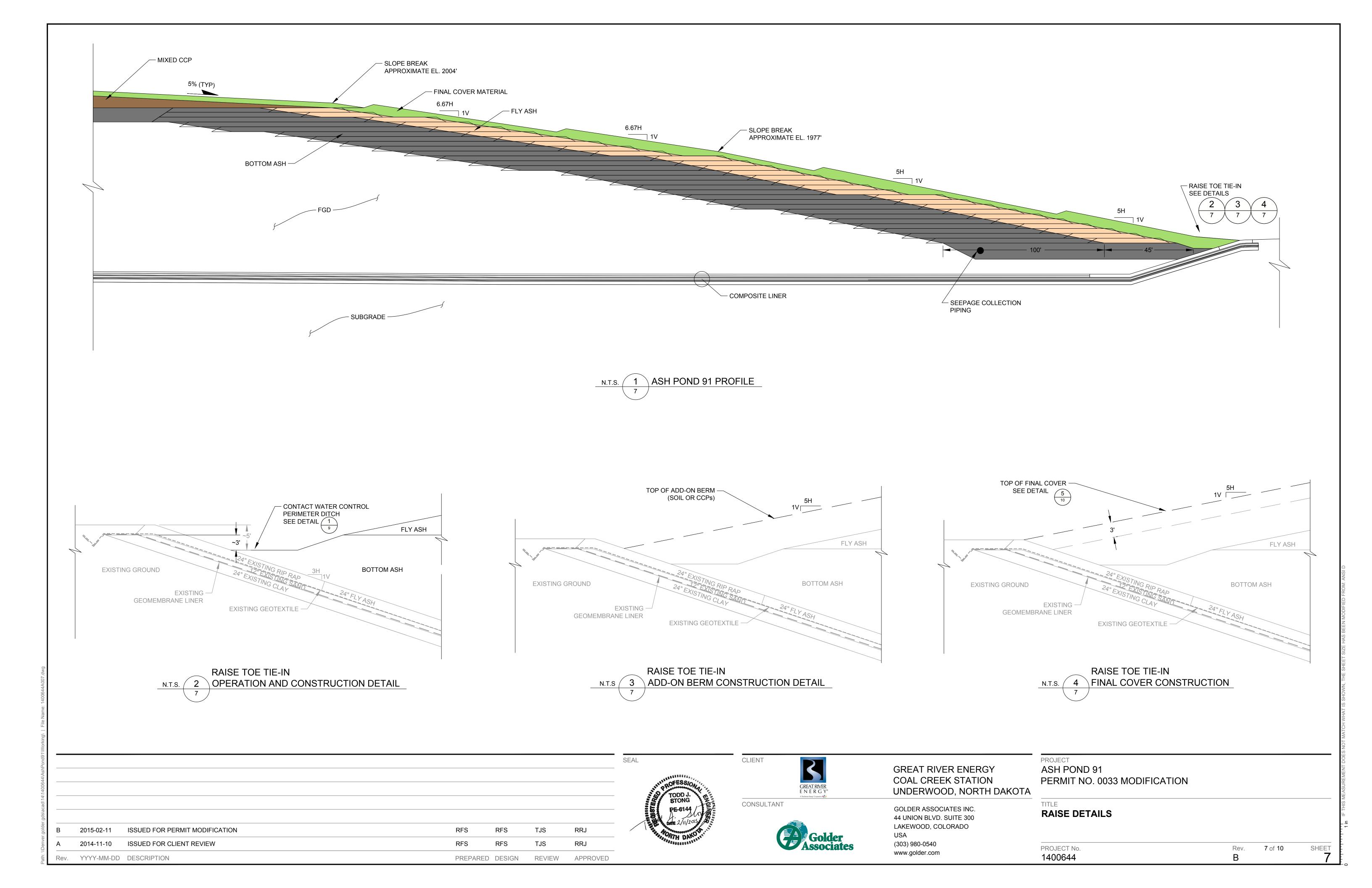
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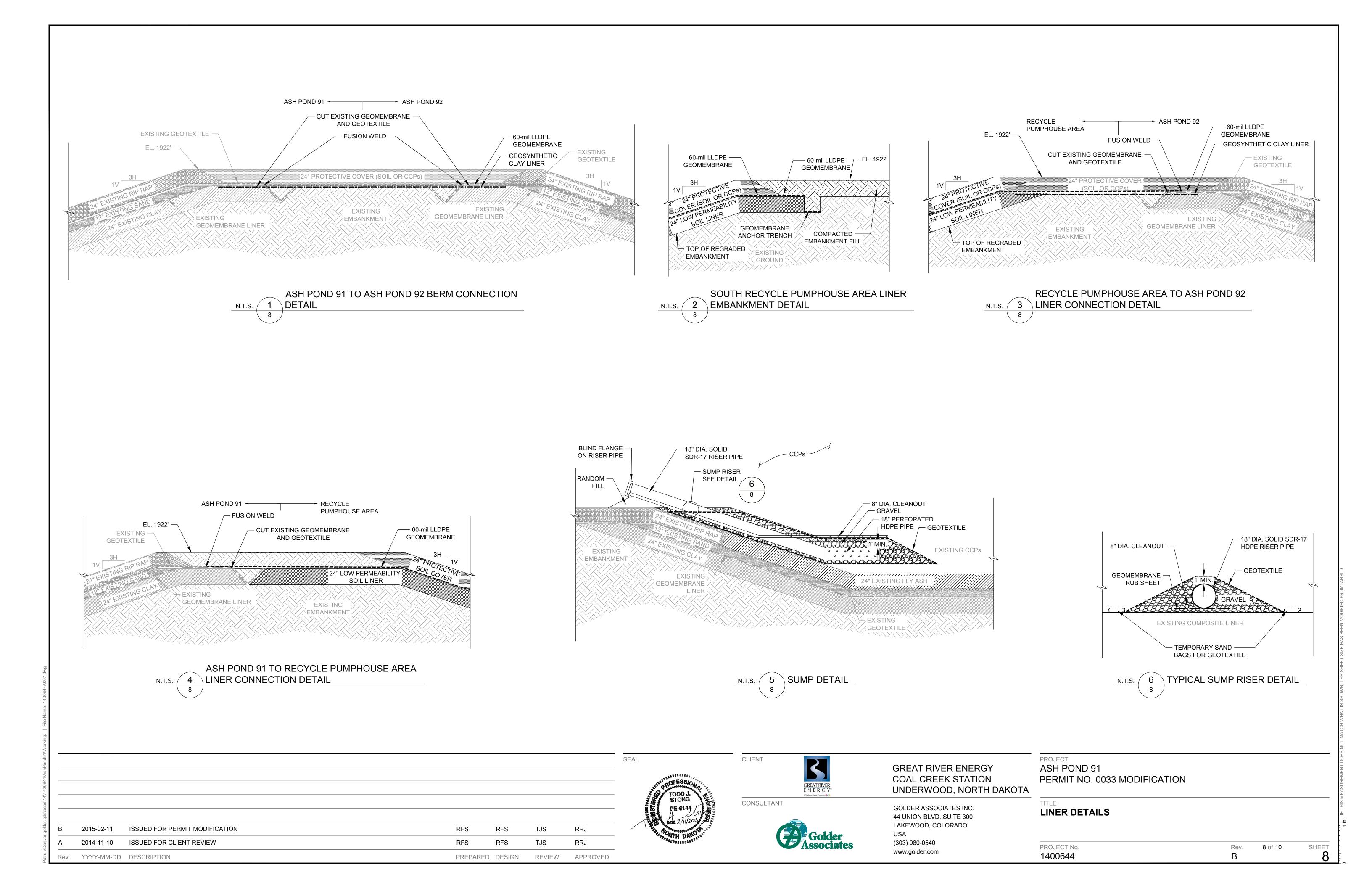
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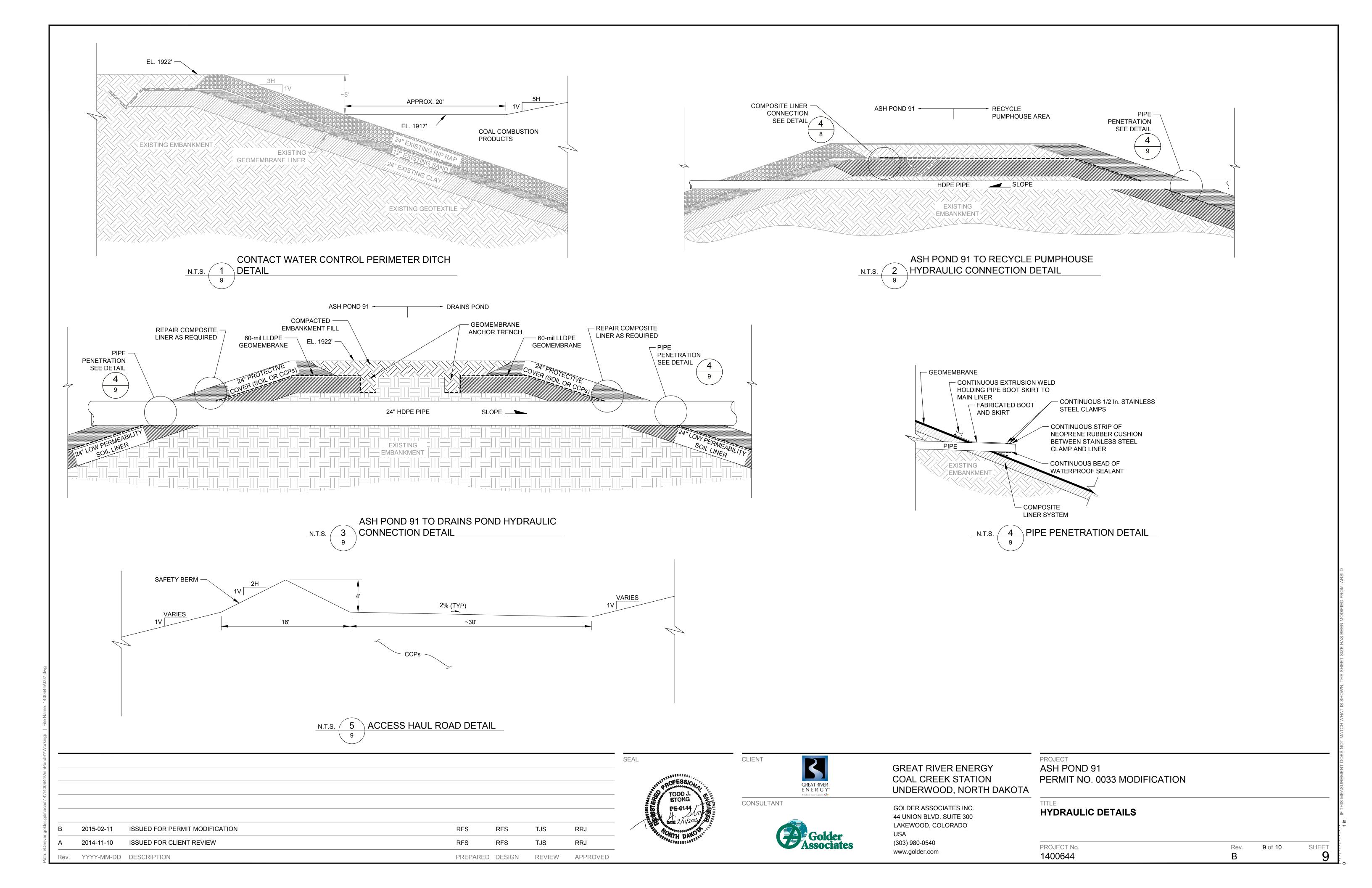
GOLDER ASSOCIATES INC. 44 UNION BLVD. SUITE 300 LAKEWOOD, COLORADO USA (303) 980-0540 www.golder.com PROJECT
ASH POND 91
PERMIT NO. 0033 MODIFICATION

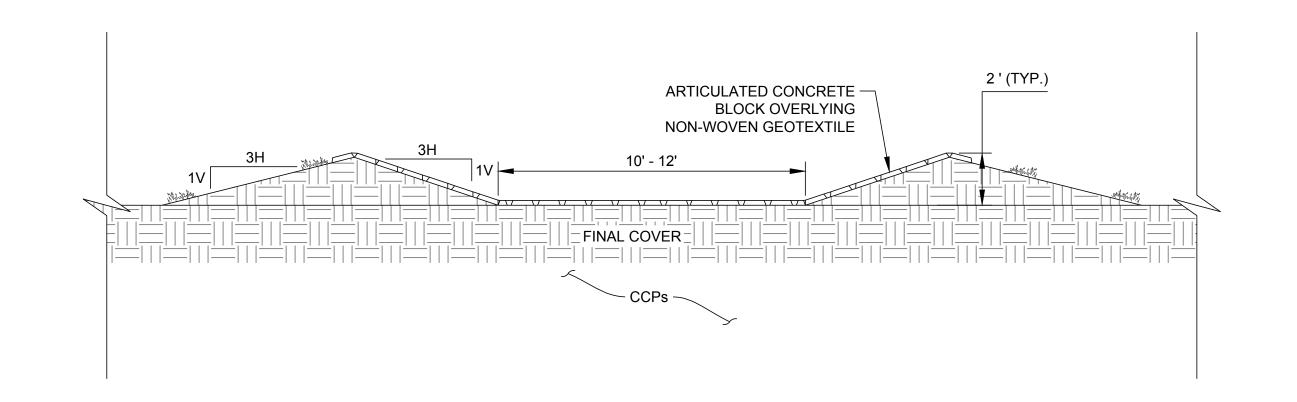
CROSS SECTIONS

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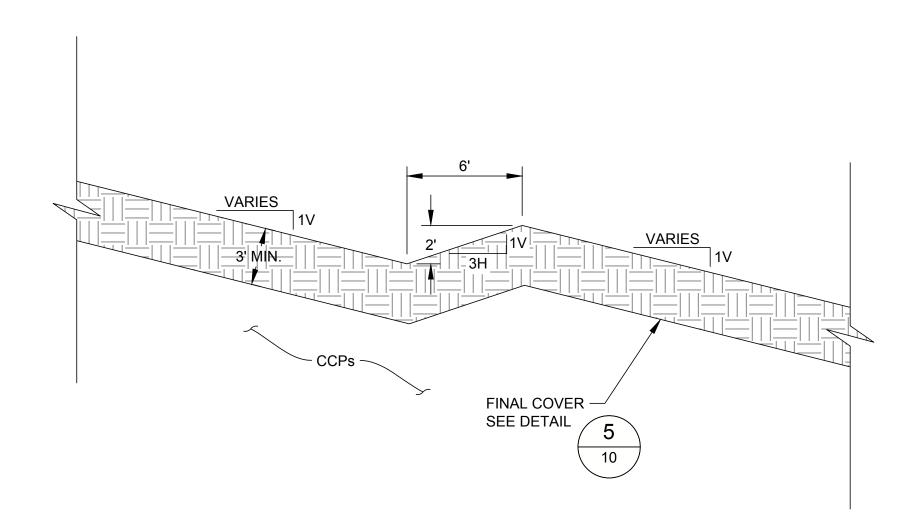






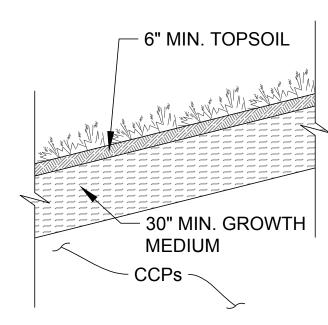


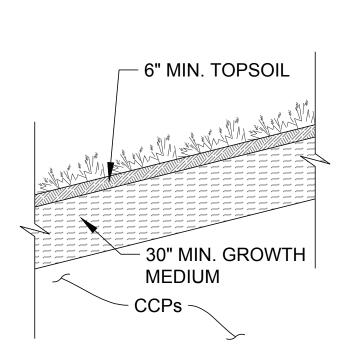
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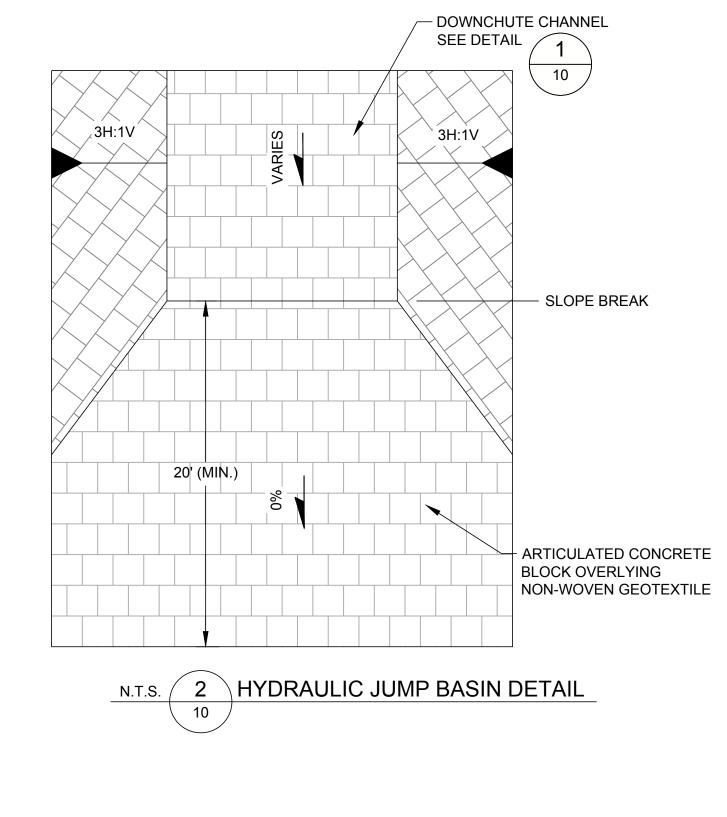


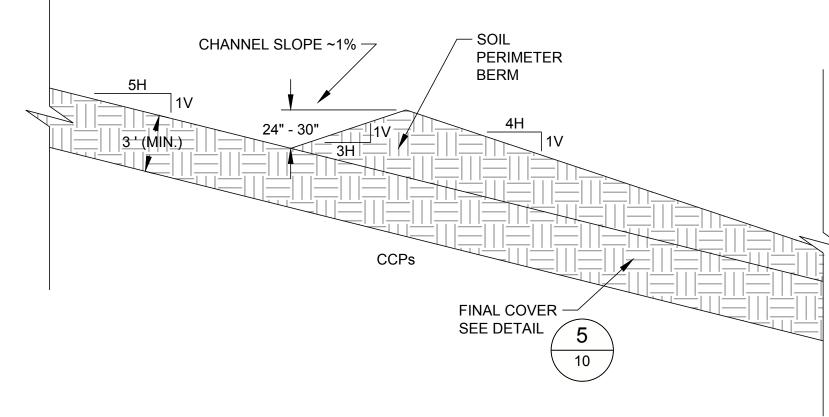
N.T.S. 3 TERRACE CHANNEL DETAIL

PREPARED DESIGN







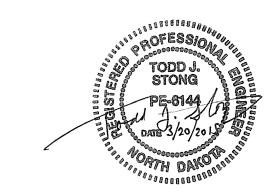


N.T.S. 4 PERIMETER CHANNEL DETAIL

N.T.S. 5 FINAL COVER DETAIL

2015-03-20 REVISED ISSUED FOR PERMIT MODIFICATION RFS TJS 2015-02-11 ISSUED FOR PERMIT MODIFICATION TJS ISSUED FOR CLIENT REVIEW TJS RRJ

Rev. YYYY-MM-DD DESCRIPTION



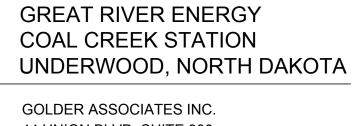
SEAL

REVIEW APPROVED



CONSULTANT





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PERMIT NO. 0033 MODIFICATION

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COVER	DETAILS	3

PROJECT No.	Rev.	10 of 10	SHEET
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At Golder Associates we strive to be the most respected global group of companies specializing in ground engineering and environmental services. Employee owned since our formation in 1960, we have created a unique culture with pride in ownership, resulting in long-term organizational stability. Golder professionals take the time to build an understanding of client needs and of the specific environments in which they operate. We continue to expand our technical capabilities and have experienced steady growth with employees now operating from offices located throughout Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America and South America.

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