

Residential Gas Service Installation Project 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford, Massachusetts

REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid

May 2020

Tighe&Bond



Tighe&Bond

WO #1309567 N1191-231 May 21, 2020

Ross Povenmire, Director Boxford Conservation Commission 7A Spofford Lane Boxford, Massachusetts 01921

Re: Request for Determination of Applicability Residential Gas Service Installation Project Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Povenmire and the Members of the Boxford Conservation Commission:

On behalf of the Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid, Tighe & Bond respectfully submits this Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for a proposed gas main installation at 18 Sheffield Road in Boxford, Massachusetts. The proposed project consists of the installation of approximately 215 linear feet of four-inch diameter plastic gas main from the existing line within Sheffield Road to service the residence located at 18 Sheffield Road. This proposed gas main will extend to the north from the existing line within the road, along the eastern edge of the driveway, where it will traverse around the front of the house and connect into the eastern side.

This RDA is being filed because the proposed work will occur within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW). These areas are regulated under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (WPA, M.G.L. c. 131 § 40) and the Town of Boxford Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Town Code Chapter 192) and implementing regulations. All of the proposed work will occur within previously disturbed areas with no anticipated impacts to the surrounding wetland resources. Please note, a majority of the proposed work is considered an exempt buffer zone minor activity under 310 CMR 10.02(2)(b)(2)(i), as it consists of "Installation of underground utilities (e.g., electric, gas, water) within existing paved or unpaved roadways and private roadways/driveways, provided that all work is conducted within the roadway or driveway and that all trenches are closed at the completion of each workday." The remaining activities are not afforded exemptions under 310 CMR or the Town of Boxford Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Town Code Chapter 192).

Tighe & Bond respectfully requests that the Boxford Conservation Commission make a Negative Determination confirming that the proposed work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent under the WPA or the Town of Boxford Wetlands Protection Bylaw and Regulations.

This RDA application includes the following items:

- Attachment A WPA Form 1
- Attachment B Figures
- Attachment C Project Drawings
- Attachment D Site Photographs
- Attachment E Abutter Information

• Attachment F – National Grid Best Management Practice Details

The following text discusses the wetland resource areas, proposed activities, and proposed protective measures.

Wetland Resource Areas

Site reconnaissance and wetland resource area investigations of the project area were conducted on May 14, 2020. The reconnaissance was conducted in accordance with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) guidelines, 310 CMR 10.00, and the Town of Boxford Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Town Code Chapter 192). The resource area boundaries were surveyed using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit with sub-meter accuracy. Please refer to Figure 4 in Attachment B.

Bordering Vegetated Wetlands

Flag series 1A-1 to 1A-13: Wetland 1 is a BVW located to the west of the residence and south of Sheffield Road. The wetland is best classified as palustrine, forested, broad-leaved deciduous, with a seasonally flooded/saturated hydroperiod (PFO1E). Hydrologic indicators observed during the site visit included standing water, a high water table, soil saturation, water marks, a sparsely vegetated concave surface (in some areas), water stained leaves, and a hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) odor. The soils displayed a sapric histic epipedon (5YR 2/1, 5YR 2/2) overlaying depleted loamy sand (5Y 6/2 matrix) with redoximorphic features. Common vegetation observed included red maple (*Acer rubrum*), yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum spp.*), jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), and honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*).

Flag series 2A-1 to 2A-8: Wetland 2 is a BVW located to the east of the residence and south of Sheffield Road. The wetland is best classified as palustrine, emergent (with portions of forested wetland), persistent, with a seasonally flooded/saturated hydroperiod (PEM1E/PF01E). Hydrologic indicators observed during the site visit included standing water, a high water table, soil saturation, water stained leaves, a hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) odor, and drainage patterns. The soils displayed the same sapric histic epipedon (5YR 2/1, 5YR 2/2) overlaying depleted loamy sand (5Y 6/2 matrix) with redoximorphic features as found in Wetland 1. Common vegetation observed included red maple, white pine (*Pinus strobus*), yellow birch, tussock sedge (*Carex stricta*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), horsetail (*Equisetum spp.*), cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*), poison ivy, skunk cabbage, sensitive fern, jewelweed, and honeysuckle.

Bordering Land Subject to Flooding

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood map (Panel No. 25009C0242F, effective July 3, 2012) was consulted to evaluate the presence of jurisdictional Land Subject to Flooding on the property. No portion of the proposed project area falls within any area subject to flooding and/or inundation by a 100-year flood.

Rare Species

The Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) Atlas (14th edition, effective August 2017) was reviewed during the preparation of this RDA. According to these sources, no Priority Habitats of Rare Species (PH) or Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife (EH) occur in any portion of the proposed project area.

Proposed Activities

The proposed project consists of the installation of approximately 215 linear feet of four-inch diameter plastic gas line from the existing line within Sheffield Road in order to service the residence located at 18 Sheffield Road. This proposed gas service line will extend to the north from the existing line within the road, along the eastern edge of the driveway, where it will traverse around the front of the house and connect into the eastern side.

Construction of the new gas main will require the excavation of an approximately two-foot wide trench for safe installation. The trench bottom will be excavated and graded so that the pipe will be supported for its entire length on undisturbed bottom at a depth of approximately three feet below surface grade. Upon the completion of work, the trench will be backfilled and the site will be restored to pre-existing conditions. Work will be conducted by conventional construction equipment mobilized on the existing roadway and residential lawn.

The proposed work will result in temporary impacts to the 100-foot Buffer Zone to BVW. Approximately 430 sf of impacts will occur within the 100-foot Buffer Zone. The areas where the work is proposed consists of existing paved roadway and residential lawn. The proposed work will not change the general characteristics of the area, as the entire project is contained within previously disturbed areas.

Protective Measures

The proposed installation will be completed within the existing roadway and residential lawn. Prior to the commencement of work, appropriate erosion control measures will be installed at the downgradient limit-of-work as deemed necessary. The erosion controls will be maintained throughout the duration of work and will be removed after disturbed areas have been stabilized. Following the completion of construction activities, any disturbed soils will be restored in-kind. Attachment F of this submittal includes details of standard erosion control measures that have been used in past projects of similar scope.

Application Requirements

As required under the Chapter 192, a check made payable to the Town for the application filing fee (\$100) has been submitted under separate cover. Abutters to the project area will be notified via Certificate of Mailing, in accordance with the abutter notification requirements. Copies of the abutter notification form and the list of abutters have been enclosed in Attachment E.

Summary

We look forward to having the opportunity to discuss this project with the Boxford Conservation Commission at the next available public hearing. We anticipate these materials are sufficient for the Commission to issue a Negative Determination confirming the proposed project may proceed without the filing of an NOI. Should you have any questions regarding this application or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (508) 304-6354 or via email at <u>AJHoule@tighebond.com</u>.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Amanda J. Houle, PWS, CERP Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures

Copy: MassDEP NERO Andrew Shelby, National Grid Todd Darling, property owner

\\tighebond.com\data\Data\Projects\N\N1191 NGrid Licensing and Permitting\231 - 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford\RDA\Archive\18 Sheffield RDA Cover Letter - Final.docx

ATTACHMENT A

WPA FORM 1



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

A. General Information

Imp	ortant:

When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.

1. Applicant:			
Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Gri	d drew.shelby	drew.shelby@nationalgrid.com	
Name	E-Mail Address	;	
40 Sylvan Road			
Mailing Address			
Waltham	MA	02451	
City/Town	State	Zip Code	
781.907.1867	N/A		
Phone Number	Fax Number (if	applicable)	
2. Representative (if any): <u>Tighe & Bond</u>			
Firm Amanda Houle	aiboule@tig	hebond.com	
Contact Name	E-Mail Address		
4 Barlows Landing Road			
Mailing Address			
Pocasset	MA	02559	
City/Town	State	Zip Code	
508.304.6354	N/A		
Phone Number	Fax Number (if	applicable)	

B. Determinations

- 1. I request the Boxford Conservation make the following determination(s). Check any that apply: Commission
 - a. whether the **area** depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.
 - b. whether the **boundaries** of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated.
 - c. whether the **work** depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.
 - ☑ d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the jurisdiction of any municipal wetlands ordinance or bylaw of:

Name of Municipality

e. whether the following scope of alternatives is adequate for work in the Riverfront Area as depicted on referenced plan(s).



Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

C. Project Description

1. a. Project Location (use maps and plans to identify the location of the area subject to this request):

18 Sheffield Road	Boxford
Street Address	City/Town
Tax Map 24	Block 1 / Lot 12
Assessors Map/Plat Number	Parcel/Lot Number

b. Area Description (use additional paper, if necessary):

A full description of the proposed project area is attached in the cover letter to this application.

c. Plan and/or Map Reference(s):

Site Location Maps (Figures 1 & 2, Attachment B)	5/18/2020
Title	Date
Priority Resources Map (Figure 3, Attachment B)	5/18/2020
Title	Date
Site Plan (Figure 4, Attachment C)	5/20/2020
Title	Date

2. a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provide plan(s) of work, if necessary):

A full description of work to be completed is attached in the cover letter to this application.



Boxford City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

C. Project Description (cont.)

b. Identify provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act or regulations which may exempt the applicant from having to file a Notice of Intent for all or part of the described work (use additional paper, if necessary).

310 CMR 10.02(2)(b)(2)(i).

- a. If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the 3. Riverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.
 - Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
 - Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
 - Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
 - Project, other than a single family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
 - New agriculture or aquaculture project
 - Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
 - Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded deed restriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
 - Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
 - Municipal project
 - District, county, state, or federal government project
 - Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.

b. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification above (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)



Boxford City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

Name and address of the property owner:

Todd Darling	
Name	
18 Sheffield Road	
Mailing Address	
Boxford	
City/Town	
MA	01921
State	Zip Code

Signatures:

I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a local newspaper at my expense in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations.

Signature of Applicant Signature of Representative (if any)

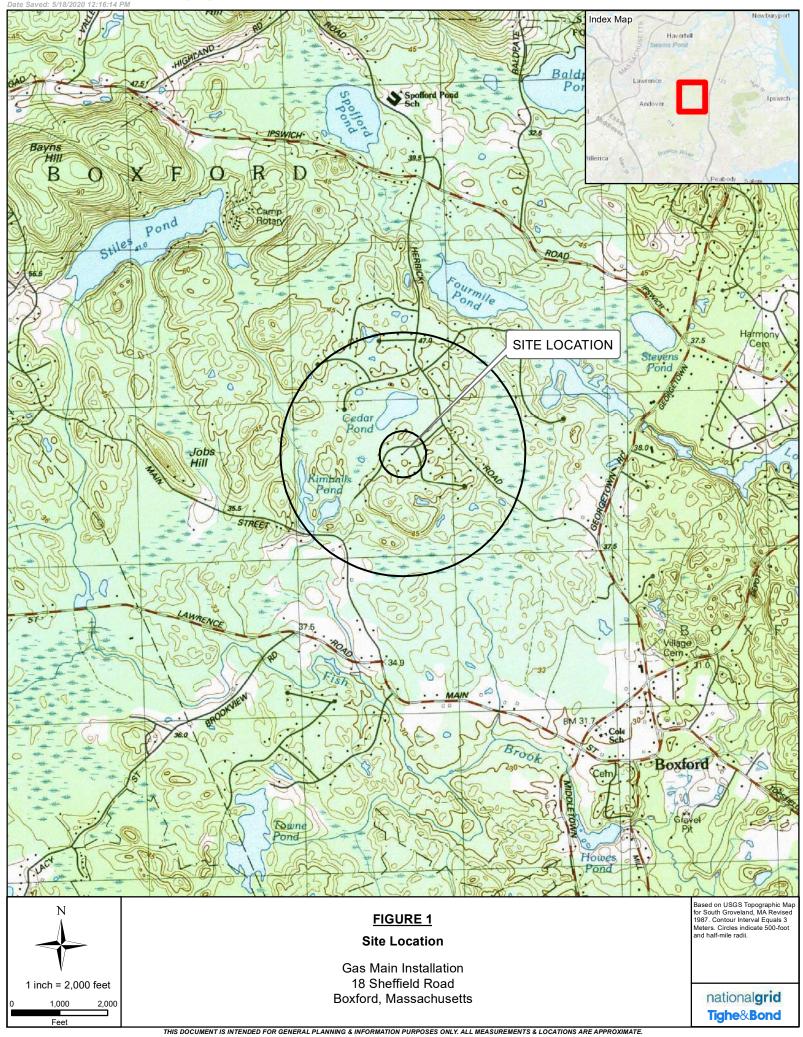
5/20/2020 Date

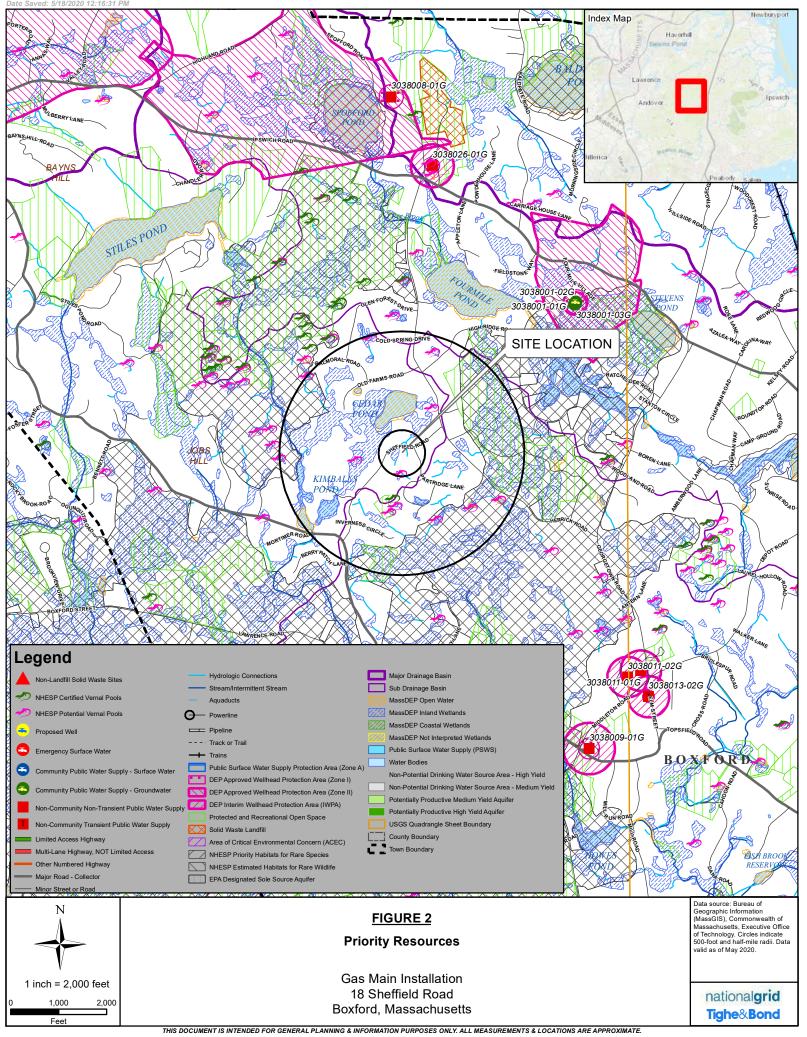
> 5/20/2020 Date

ATTACHMENT B

FIGURES

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1 inch = 80 feet

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FIGURE 3

Orthophotograph

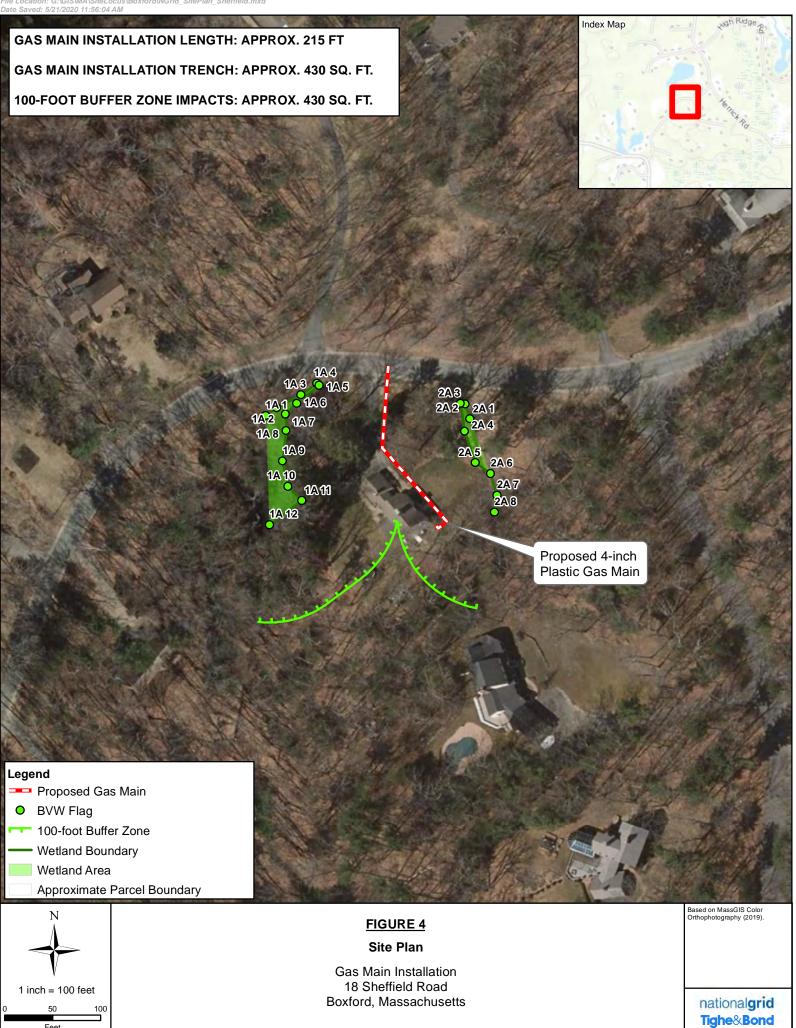
Gas Main Installation 18 Sheffield Road Boxford, Massachusetts Based on MassGIS Color Orthophotography (2019).

nationalgrid Tighe&Bond

THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED FOR GENERAL PLANNING & INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. ALL MEASUREMENTS & LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE.

ATTACHMENT C

SITE PLAN



THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED FOR GENERAL PLANNING & INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. ALL MEASUREMENTS & LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE.

ATTACHMENT D

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Tighe&Bond

Client: Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid

Job Number: N1191-231

Site: Gas Main Installation Project - 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford, Massachusetts

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 05/14/2020	Direction Taken: South	
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Description: Overview of the gas main installation project to service 18 Sheffield Road in Boxford, Massachusetts. The location of the gas main will be along the driveway (red line) to the residence.



Photograph No.: 2	Date: 05/14/2020	Direction Taken: Southwest
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Description: View of the location of Wetland 1 (blue arrow), to the west of the residence.



Tighe&Bond

Client: Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid

Job Number: N1191-231

Site: Gas Main Installation Project - 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford, Massachusetts

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 05/14/2020	Direction Taken: West	
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Description: Overview of Wetland 1 (PFO1E).



Description: Overview of Wetland 1 (PFO1E). Wetland 1 drains to the north beneath Sheffield Road via a culvert (red arrow) where it continues into a large wetland system and Cedar Pond.



Job Number: N1191-231

Tighe&Bond

Client: Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid

Site: Gas Main Installation Project - 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford, Massachusetts

Photograph No.: 5 Date: 05/14/2020	Direction Taken: South
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Description: View of the location of Wetland 2 (blue arrow), to the east of the residence.



Photograph No.: 6	Date: 05/14/2020	Direction Taken: South
Description: Overview	of Wetland 2 (PEM1E/P	F01E).

Tighe&Bond

Client: Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid

Job Number: N1191-231

Site: Gas Main Installation Project - 18 Sheffield Road, Boxford, Massachusetts

Photograph No.: 7	Date: 05/14/2020	Direction Taken: North-Northeast
Description: Overview of Wetland 2 (PEM1E/PFO1E). Wetland 2 drains to the north beneath Sheffield Road via a culvert (red arrow) where it continues into a large wetland system and Cedar Pond.		
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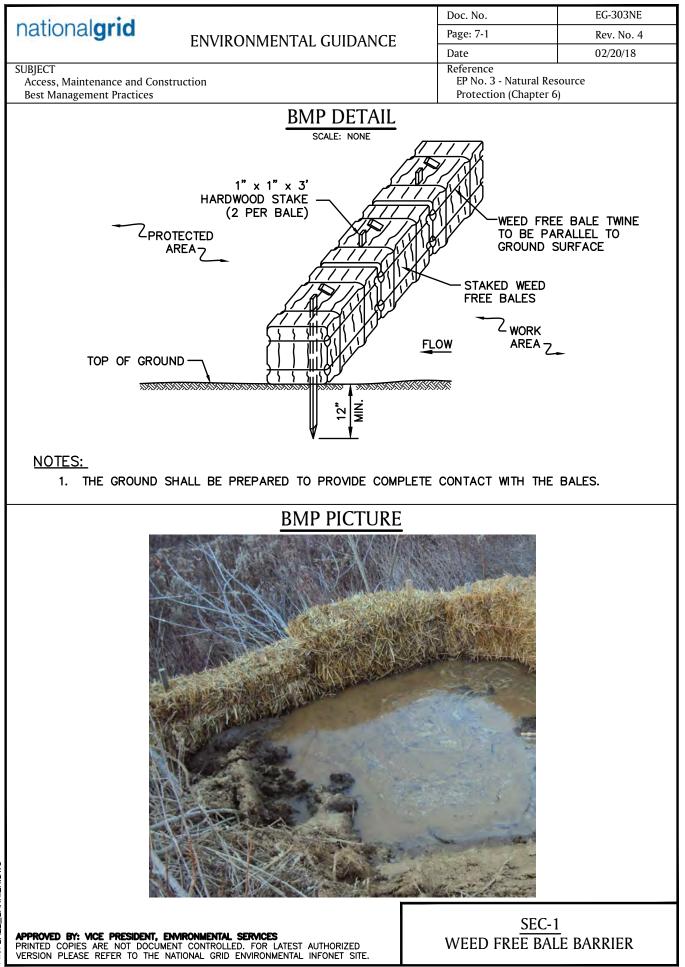
ATTACHMENT E

ABUTTER INFORMATION

(TO BE PROVIDED UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

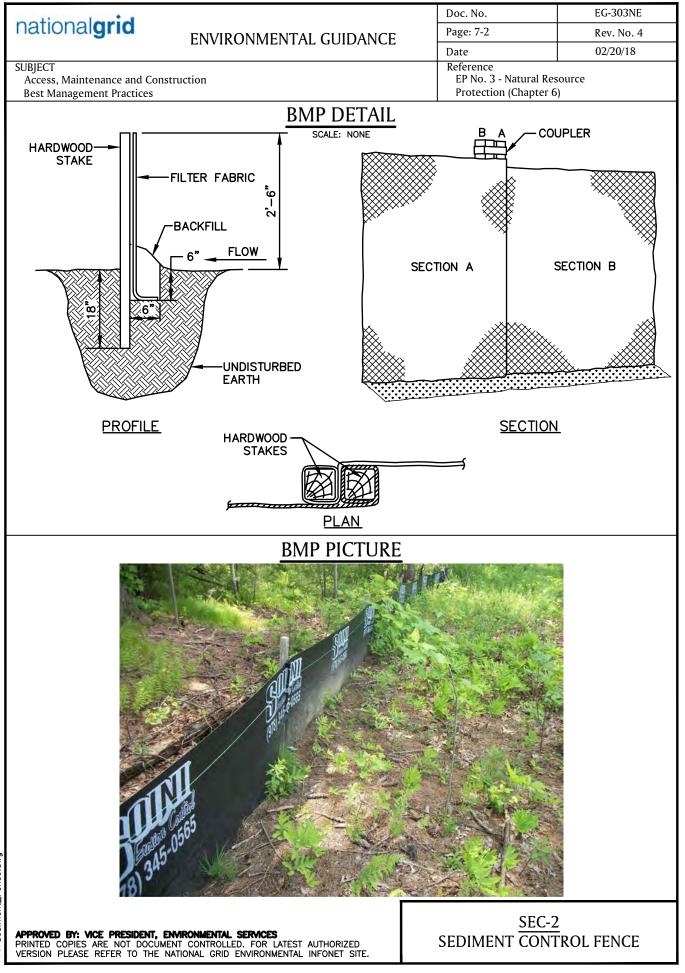
ATTACHMENT F

NATIONAL GRID BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



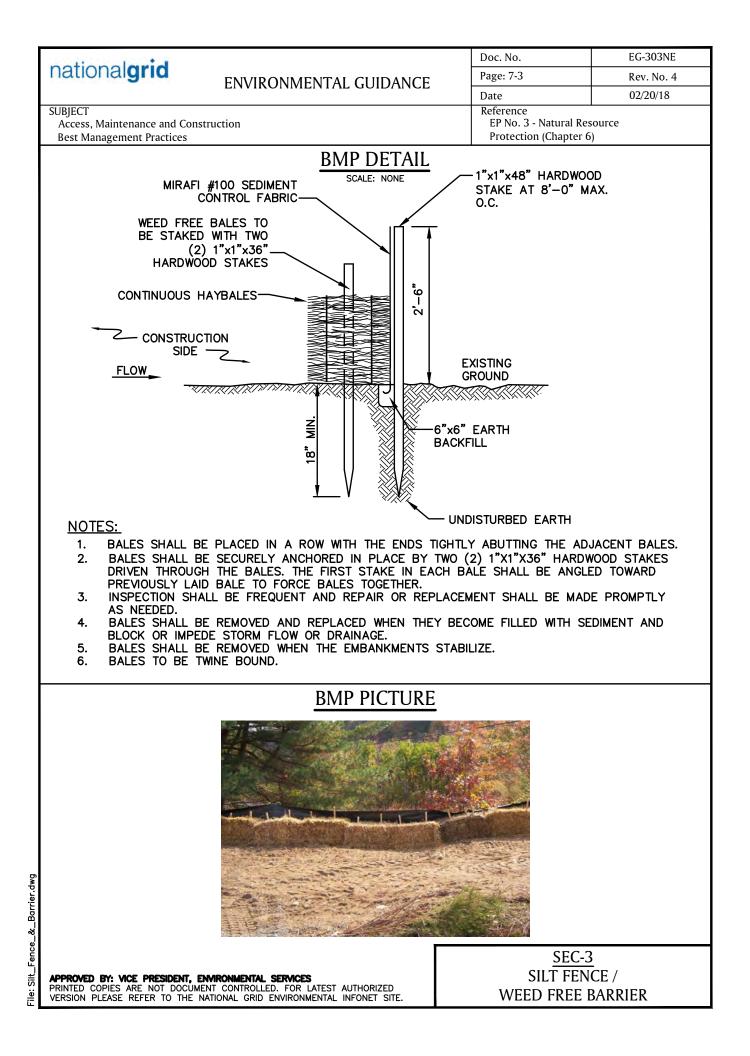
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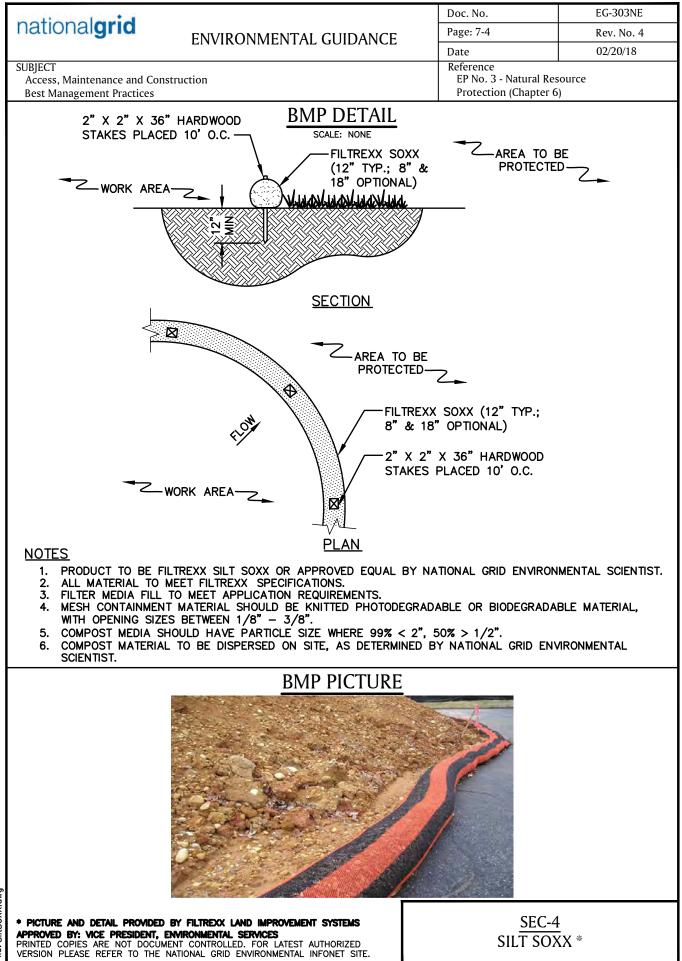
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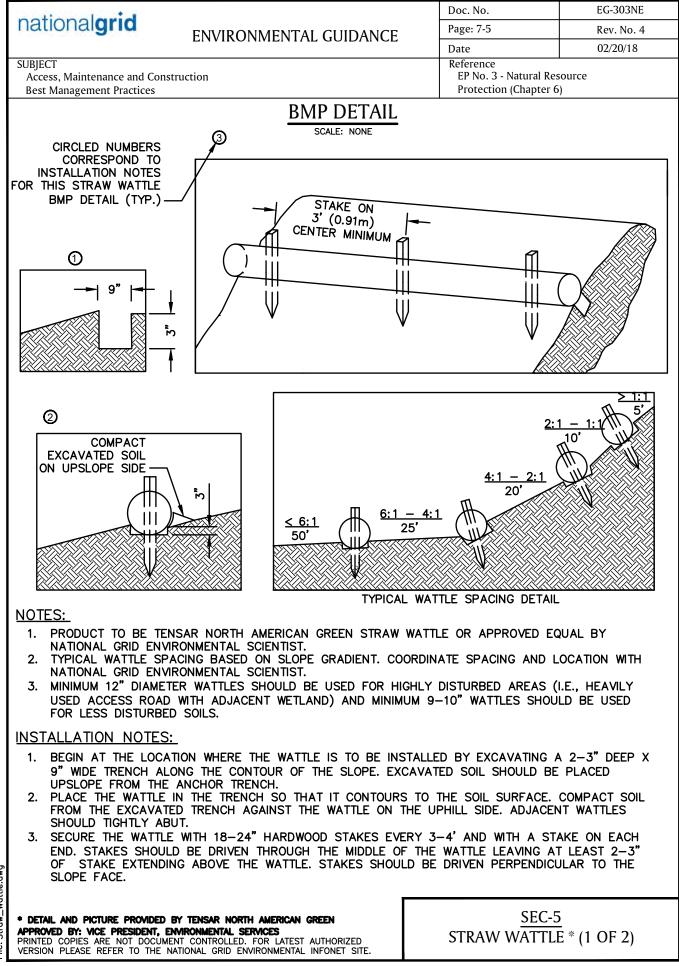
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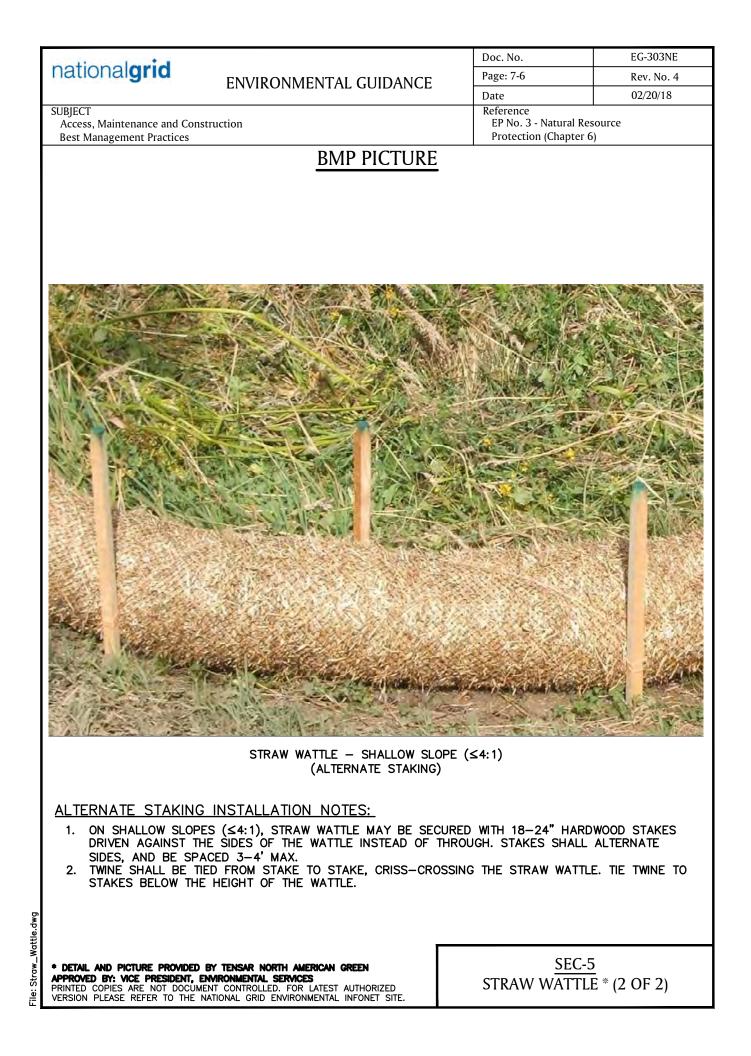


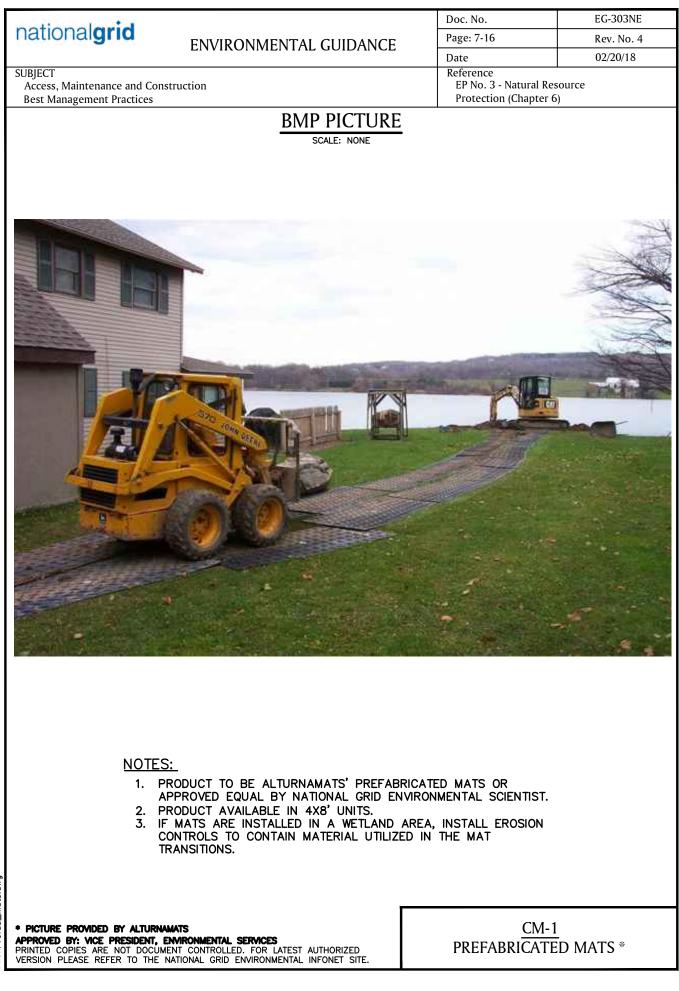
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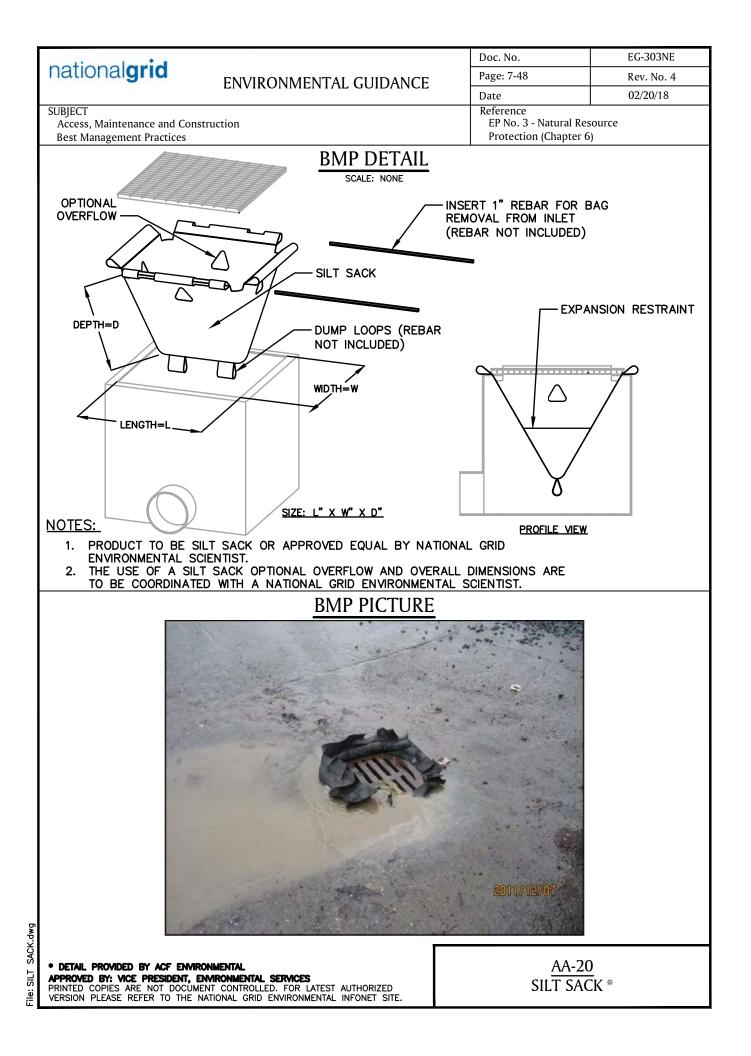


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