



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Division (1145)  
CEPOA-RD  
44669 Sterling Highway, Suite B  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7915

<b>PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:</b>	<b>July 14, 2017</b>
<b>EXPIRATION DATE:</b>	<b>August 17, 2017</b>
<b>REFERENCE NUMBER:</b>	<b>POA-2017-350</b>
<b>WATERWAY:</b>	<b>Cook Inlet</b>

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Andy Mitzel at (907) 753-2689 or by email at [andy.mitzel@usace.army.mil](mailto:andy.mitzel@usace.army.mil) if further information is desired concerning this notice.

**APPLICANT:** Harvest Alaska, LLC, Attention: Ms. Dunham, 3800 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

**AGENT:** SLR International Corp., Attention: Ms. Turner, 2700 Gambell Street, Suite 200, Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

**LOCATION:** The project site is located within Sections 21 – 26 and 28, T. 11 N., R. 12 W., Seward Meridian; USGS Quad Map Tyonek A-4; Latitude 61.0210° N., Longitude 151.3784° W.; near Tyonek, Alaska.

**PURPOSE:** The applicant's stated purpose is to construct a new oil pipeline to move crude oil from the west side of Cook Inlet to the east side via pipeline.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant is proposing to discharge 11,400 cubic yards (cy) of native material into 2.94 acres of wetlands for the construction of 9,300 linear feet of pipeline in waters of the US, including wetlands. The proposed trench would be 13.75 feet wide and up to 6 feet deep. The material excavated from the trench would be temporarily side cast onto frozen ground (work is proposed to be conducted during the winter), and returned to the trench, once the 10 inch diameter pipeline and fiber optic cable are installed. The proposed

project would consist of trenching, side casting, and backfilling of the trench during the winter. All impacts to waters of the US, including wetlands would be temporary in nature. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-6), dated June 20, 2017.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The project, as proposed, would parallel the Beluga Pipeline (BPL) in the right of way (ROW).

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

a. Avoidance: Harvest has stated that due to the location of the existing pipelines, avoiding all fill discharges into wetlands is not practicable. The proposed project would utilize existing components and facilities when practicable (e.g., existing gravel pads and facilities at GPTF and Kaloa Junction), avoiding additional impacts. The existing pads would be used for laydown yards/staging areas for material storage. Additionally existing gravel roads, barge landings, and helicopter landing zones would be used to support access to project areas. Equipment and materials will be transported to existing barge landings from Anchorage to the project site. Each of the barge landing sites has road access allowing material to be mobilized to laydown yards. Helicopters would be used for crew and material transport to remote locations and to transport some equipment via sling load. Personnel will be housed in existing facilities, thereby eliminating the need for temporary camps.

b. Minimization: The applicant has proposed the following minimization measures to reduce impacts:

- Impacts to undisturbed areas would be minimized by paralleling the existing pipelines and using the existing ROWs to the extent practicable, thereby avoiding additional disturbance to wetlands.
- Pipeline installation would occur during winter when the soils are more likely to remain frozen, minimizing impacts. Winter construction activities also minimize impacts to nesting birds since construction activities would be conducted before bird nesting typically occurs.
- The vegetative mat would be removed and set aside prior to excavation of the trench. Spoils from trenching would be used to backfill the trench and the vegetative mat would be placed on top of the trench. Additional fill material would not be required for pipeline installation.
- The proposed project has been designed to reduce impacts from equipment by using machinery and techniques that are especially designed to minimize wetland impacts. Construction methods to minimize impacts include rollagons, rig mats, tracked vehicles and dewatering would be used for material and equipment movement.
- The proposed project has been designed to minimize the possibility of spills. Pipelines would meet all design codes and applicable regulations. Harvest would implement an employee spill prevention training program to further reduce the likelihood of spills occurring.

c. Compensatory Mitigation: Harvest has stated that compensatory mitigation is not appropriate or practicable for this project due to scope and degree of the environmental impacts of the project, the "moderate/low" (Category III) functional capacity of wetlands to be impacted, and because these types of wetlands are extensive in and around the project area.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no cultural resources in the permit area, but there is one mapped location, TYO-00272, in the vicinity of the permit area. The permit area has been determined to be the entire length of the construction zone for the proposed pipeline. Consultation of the AHRs constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) at this time, and we are otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. The Corps has made a No Historic Properties Affected (No Effect) determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area.

We have determined the described activity would have no effect on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species, and would have no effect on any designated or proposed critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. However, any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

No EFH species are known to use the project area.

We have determined the described activity would not adversely affect EFH in the project area.

**TRIBAL CONSULTATION:** The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between Federally recognized Tribes and the Federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander during the public comment period.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings and a Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander  
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF WATER  
401 Certification Program  
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WQM/401 CERTIFICATION  
555 CORDOVA STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617  
PHONE: (907) 269-7564/FAX: (907) 334-2415

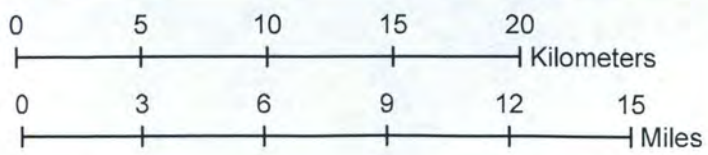
## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. **POA-2017-350, Cook Inlet**, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

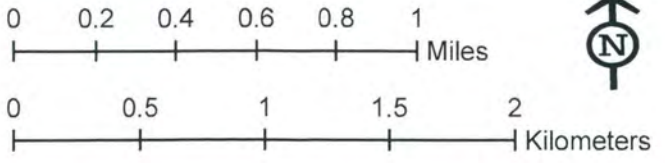
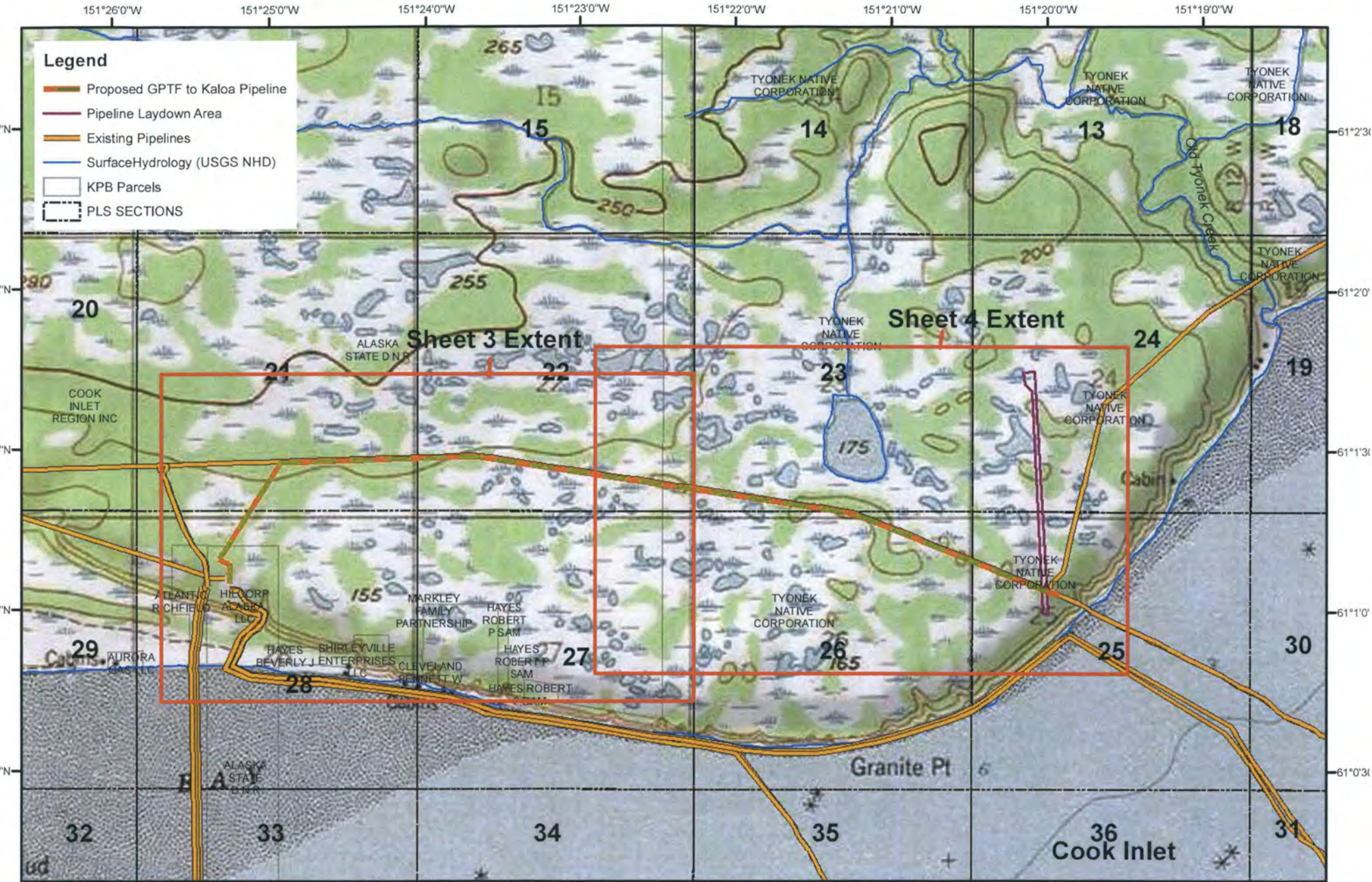
After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project, with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice.



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet

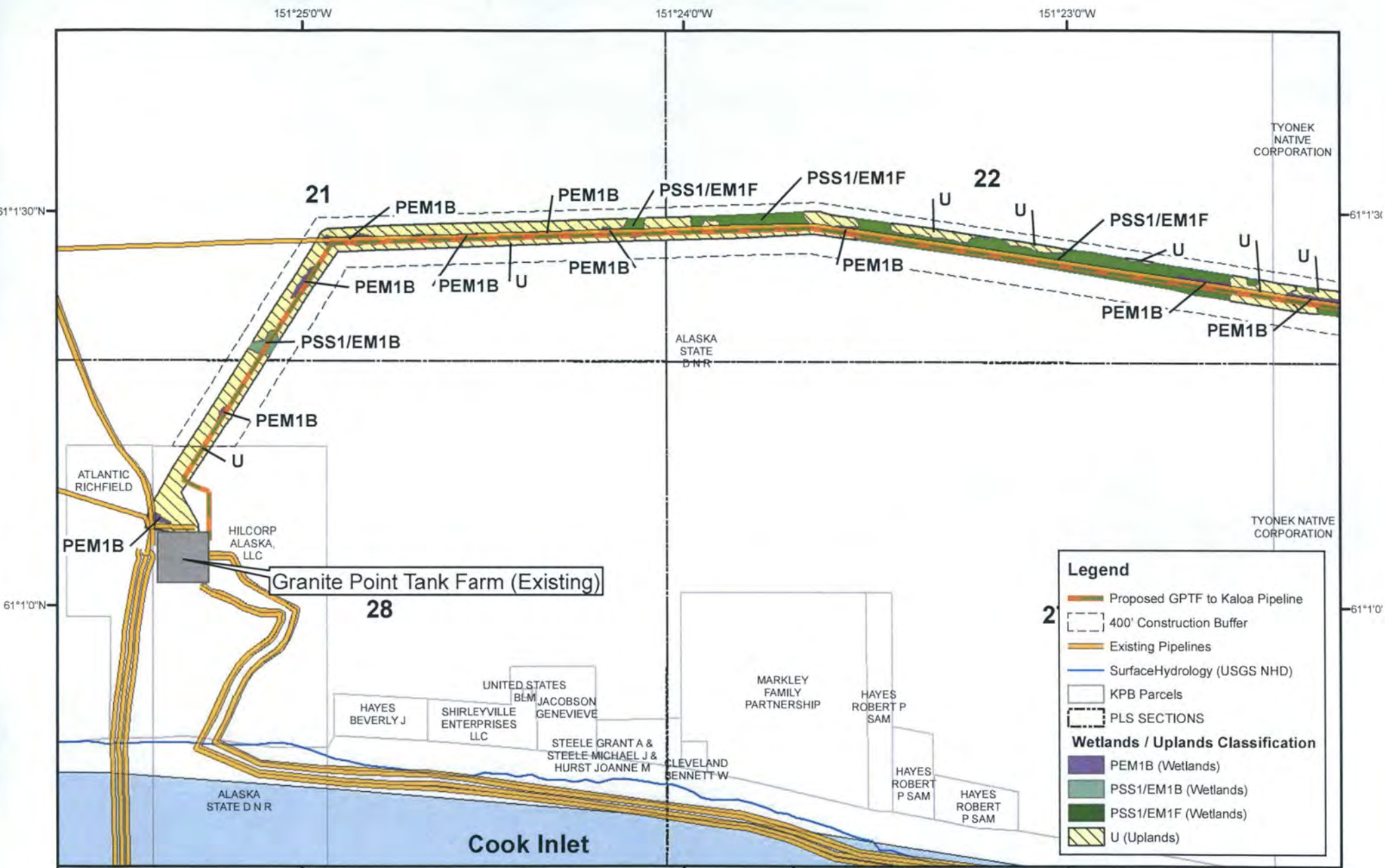
GPTF to Kaloa Junction, Vicinity Map  
 Applicant: Hilcorp Alaska, LLC  
 File No.: POA-2017-350, Waterway: Cook Inlet  
 Proposed Activity: Pipeline Construction  
 Seward Merian, Range S011N, Township 012W,  
 Sections 21,22,23,25,26,28  
 Sheet 1 of 6  
 Date 06/20/2017



GPTF to Kaloa Junction, Project Area Map  
 Applicant: Hilcorp Alaska, LLC  
 File No.: POA-2017-350, Waterway: Cook Inlet  
 Proposed Activity: Pipeline Construction  
 Seward Merian, Range S011N, Township 012W,  
 Sections 21,22,23,25,26,28  
 Sheet 2 of 6  
 Date 06/20/2017

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet



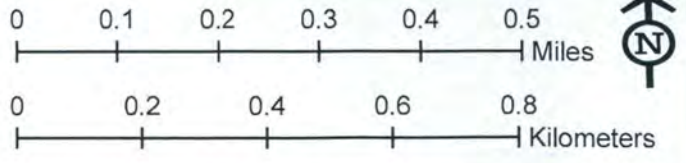


**Legend**

- Proposed GPTF to Kaloa Pipeline
- 400' Construction Buffer
- Existing Pipelines
- Surface Hydrology (USGS NHD)
- KPB Parcels
- PLS SECTIONS

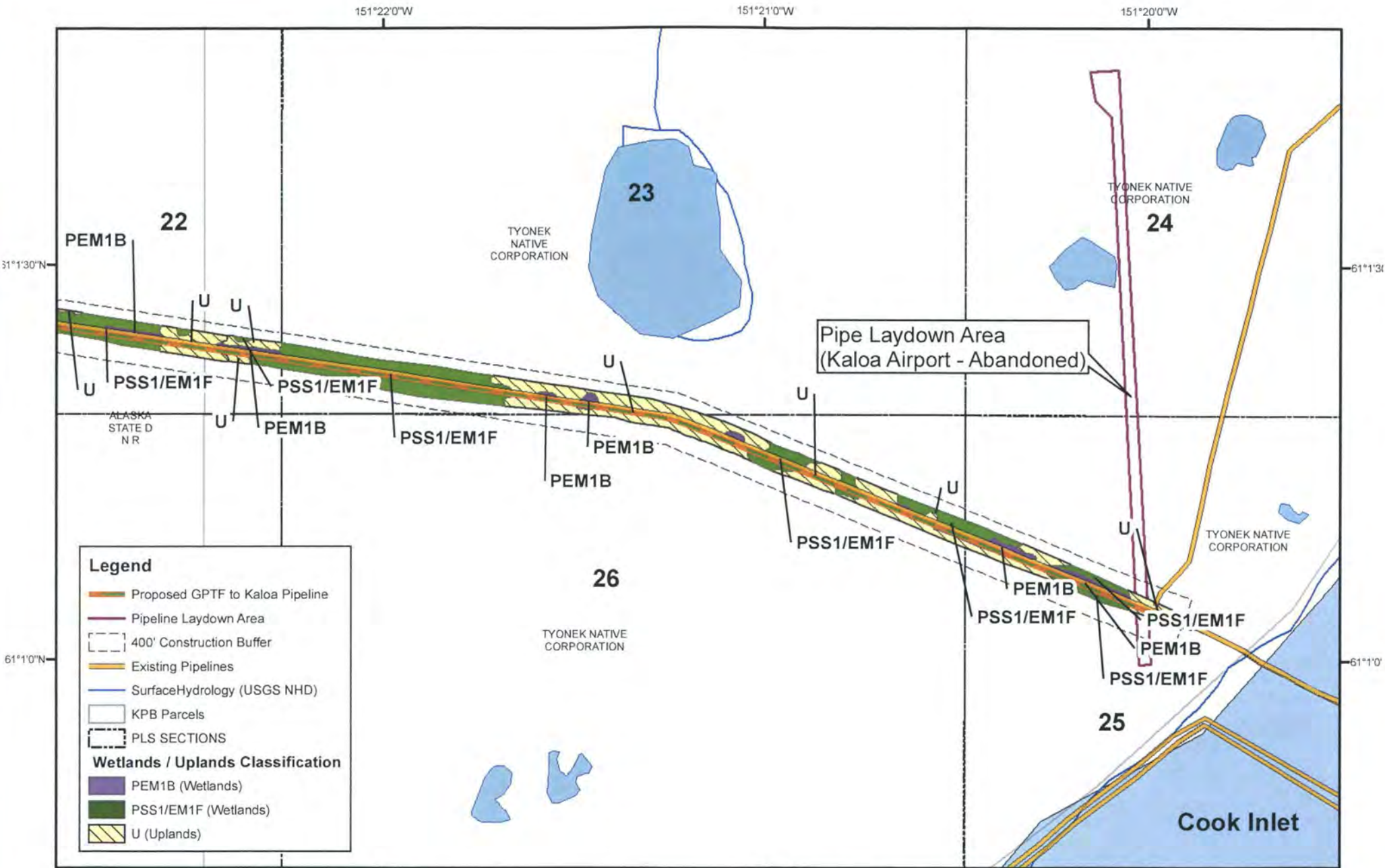
**Wetlands / Uplands Classification**

- PEM1B (Wetlands)
- PSS1/EM1B (Wetlands)
- PSS1/EM1F (Wetlands)
- U (Uplands)



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet

GPTF to Kaloa Junction, Wetlands  
 Applicant: Hilcorp Alaska, LLC  
 File No.: POA-2017-350, Waterway: Cook Inlet  
 Proposed Activity: Pipeline Construction Seward Merian, Range S011N, Township 012W, Sections 21,22,23,25,26,28  
 Sheet 3 of 6 Date 06/20/2017



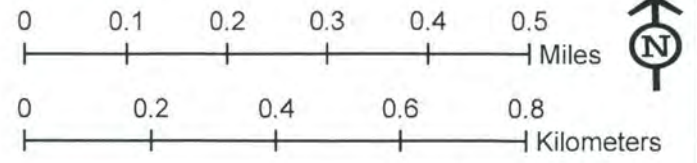
**Legend**

- Proposed GPTF to Kaloa Pipeline
- Pipeline Laydown Area
- 400' Construction Buffer
- Existing Pipelines
- Surface Hydrology (USGS NHD)
- KPB Parcels
- PLS SECTIONS

**Wetlands / Uplands Classification**

- PEM1B (Wetlands)
- PSS1/EM1F (Wetlands)
- U (Uplands)

Pipe Laydown Area  
(Kaloa Airport - Abandoned)



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet

GPTF to Kaloa Junction, Wetlands  
 Applicant: Hilcorp Alaska, LLC  
 File No.: POA-2017-350, Waterway: Cook Inlet  
 Proposed Activity: Pipeline Construction Seward Merian, Range S011N, Township 012W, Sections 21,22,23,25,26,28  
 Sheet 4 of 6 Date 06/20/2017

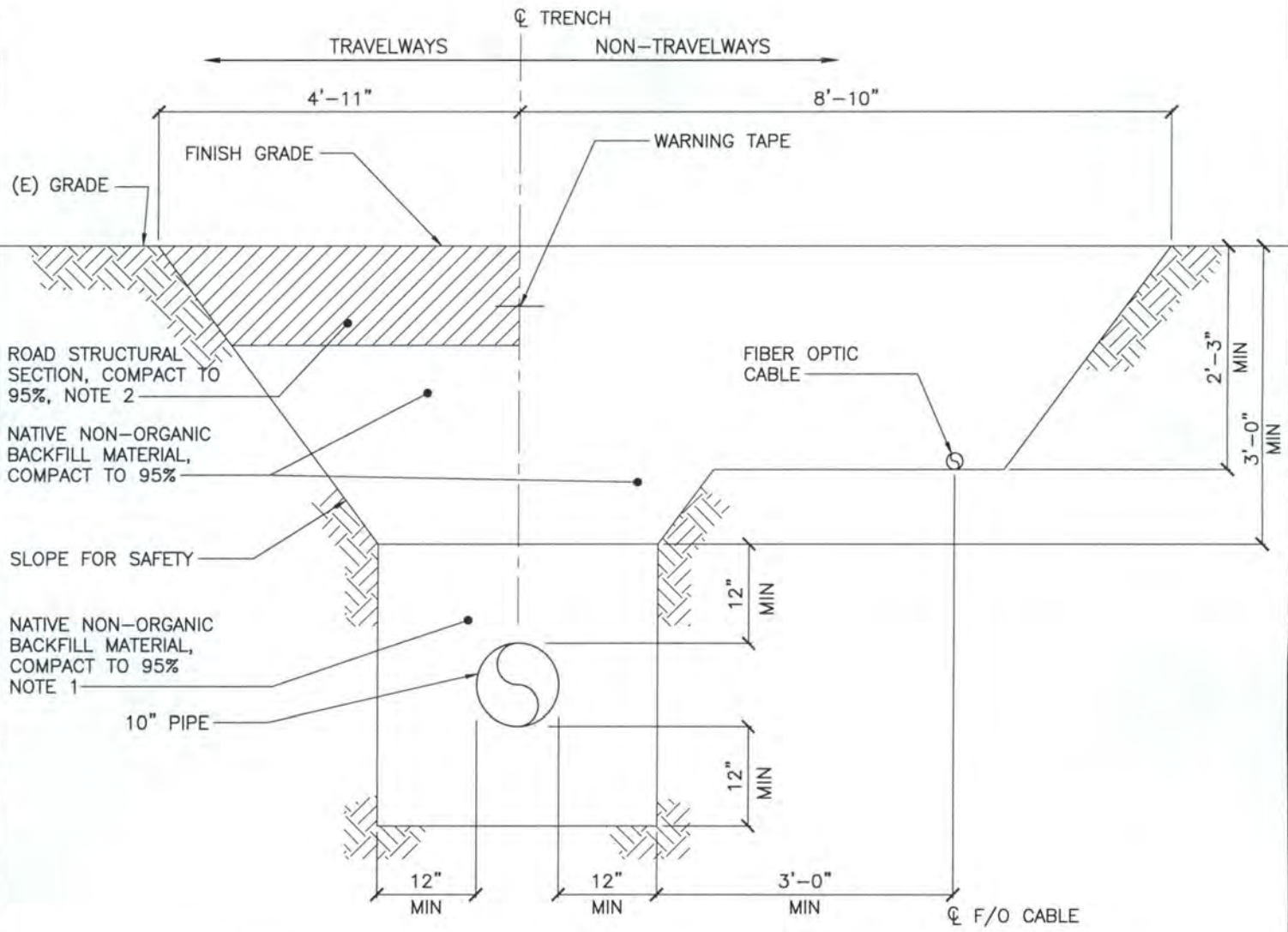
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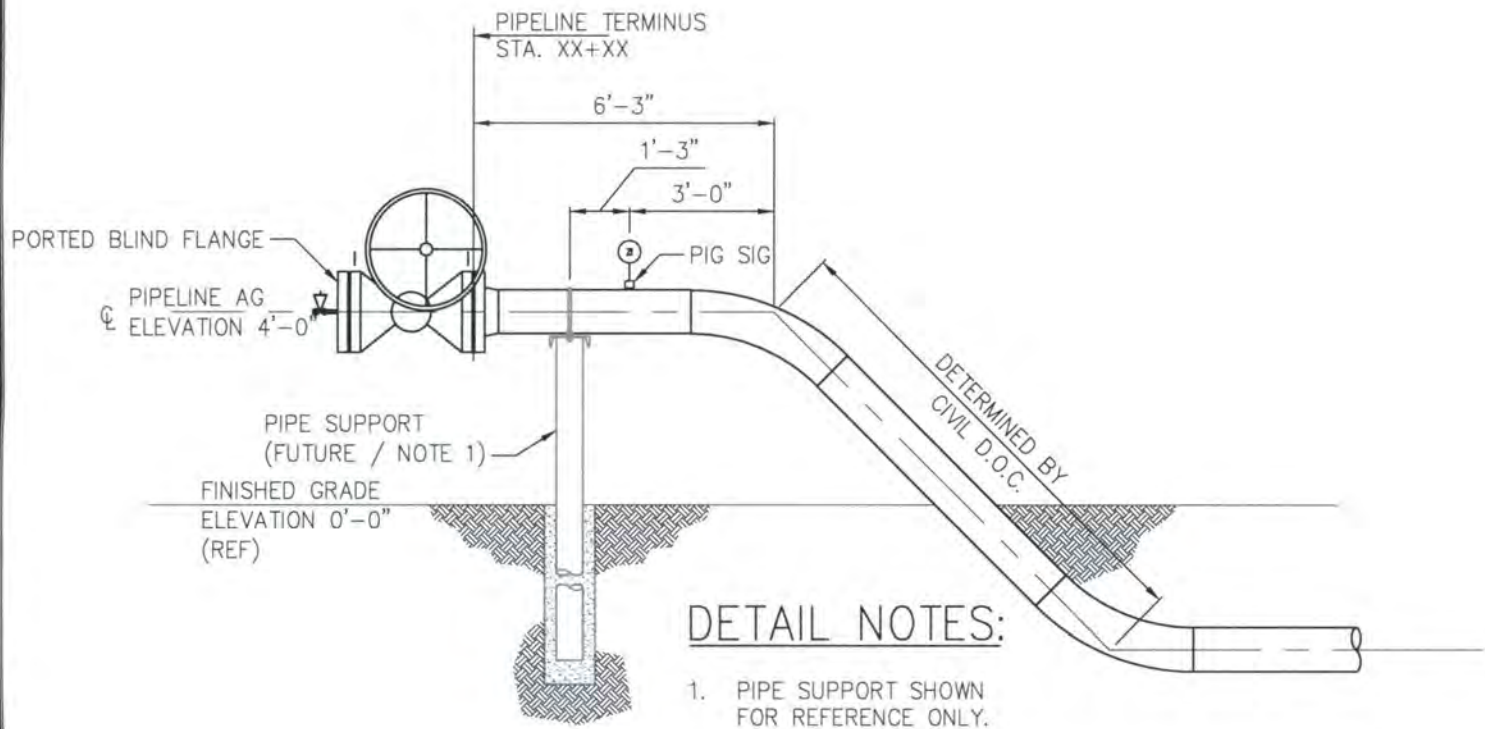
1. BACKFILL WITHIN 12 INCHES OF THE PIPELINE AND FIBER OPTIC CABLE SHALL BE 3/4" MINUS MATERIAL.
2. REPLACE ROADWAY STRUCTURAL SECTION WITHIN THE EXISTING STRATA.
3. PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 2 FT OF COVER OVER THE FIBER OPTIC CABLE.

SCALE = NTS

APPLICANT: HILCORP  
 FILE NO: POA-2017-350  
 WATERWAY: Cook Inlet  
 T. 11N R. 12W  
 SECTIONS: 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, & 28  
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT  
 SHEET 5 OF 6  
 DATE: 06/20/2017

CIPL-W10 PIPELINE:  
 TYPICAL TRENCH SECTION

AFFECTED BY: -----



**DETAIL NOTES:**

1. PIPE SUPPORT SHOWN FOR REFERENCE ONLY. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE TEMPORARY CRIBBAGE FOR COMPLETED FABRICATION.

SCALE = NTS

APPLICANT: HILCORP  
 FILE NO: POA-2017-350, Waterway: Cook Inlet  
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT  
 SHEET 6 OF 6  
 DATE: 06/14/2017

CIPL-W10 PIPELINE:  
 PIPELINE TERMINUS DETAIL