



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
Post Office Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:	April 1, 2020
EXPIRATION DATE:	May 1, 2020
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2015-00025-M2
WATERWAY:	Simpson Lagoon

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

All comments regarding this Public Notice (PN) should be sent to the address noted above. If you desire to submit your comments by email, you should send it to the Project Manager's email as listed below and/or to regpagemaster@usace.army.mil. All comments should include the Public Notice reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this PN to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Janet Post at (907) 753-2831, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at: Janet.L.Post@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Oil Search (Alaska), LLC, Attention: Bruce Dingeman, P.O. Box 240927, Anchorage, AK 99524; 907-375-6900; Bruce.Dingeman@oilsearch.com.

AGENT: Oil Search (Alaska), LLC, Attention: Greg Horner, P.O. Box 240927, Anchorage, AK 99524; 907-570-6562; Greg.Horner@oilsearch.com.

LOCATION: The project site is located within Section 5, T. 13 N., R. 9 E., Umiat Meridian; Latitude 70.5113° N., Longitude 149.8639° W.; Oliktok Point, Alaska.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: The project is located within the critical habitat for Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*).

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to provide a long-term supply of make-up water with sufficient reliability and water quality assurance and allow Oil Search (Alaska), LLC, to optimize production efficiency from the Pikka Unit reservoirs.

PROPOSED WORK: Permanent discharge of a barge and gravel fill into 6.07 acres of marine waters to construct a seawater treatment plant (STP). Permanent discharge of gravel fill into 0.05 acres of wetlands to construct a 16.5 mile STP pipeline. Additional work includes screeding of 7.56 acres of seafloor to allow barge access. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-16), dated February 2020.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The proposed project if authorized would be the second modification to the original permit. The original permit authorized the construction of the Nanushuk project. Refer to www.nanushukeis.com. The first modification involved minor changes to the road and pad alignments.

OTHER PERMITS/AUTHORIZATIONS REQUIRED: Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 402 Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Permit issued by Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), ADEC Minor Air Permit, Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) Land Use Permit, ADNR Easement, and North Slope Borough (NSB) Industrial Development and Use Permit.

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

a. Avoidance: The STP has been sited adjacent to existing infrastructure at Oliktok Dock. The STP will have a seawater intake at the face of the barge on which the STP rests, thereby avoids the need for extensive dredging for the seawater intake structure. Stockpiling of gravel for STP construction will occur on uplands. Gravel will either be stockpiled on Oliktok Point or be transported directly from the material site and placed within the project footprint. All excavated materials from the seafloor will be reused within the project footprint to avoid the need to dispose of the material within WOTUS outside of the project area and to reduce the volume of gravel to be mined and hauled to the site. Single-season ice roads and pads will be used to support winter construction, avoiding the need for additional fill to support construction. Drilling for vertical support members (VSMs) will occur from an ice road, and drilling cuttings will be sidecast onto the ice around each VSM, avoiding a discharge of fill material into WOTUS. The sidecasting will not change the bottom elevation of WOTUS or replace any portion of WOTUS with dry ground. The drilling cuttings will be removed once VSM installation is complete.

b. Minimization: Impacts to special aquatic sites (wetlands) have been limited to 0.05 acre. All fill material acquired for the Project will be clean fill material. The fill material will be free of items such as trash, debris, automotive parts, asphalt, construction materials, concrete blocks with exposed reinforcement bars, and soils contaminated with any toxic substance, in toxic amounts in accordance with Section 307 of the Clean Water Act.

Siting the STP adjacent to Oliktok Dock, which currently supports the Kuparuk STP and is accessible by gravel road, will consolidate impacts to WOTUS and limits those impacts to waters that are already disturbed by ongoing activities at the dock. Approximately 90 percent of the STP pipeline is located adjacent to existing disturbances to minimize impacts to relatively undisturbed areas. Installing sheet pile will protect the STP from ice floes, stabilize the gravel pad, prevent sloughing, eliminate fill associated with side slopes, and minimize turbidity and sedimentation during fill placement. The STP is situated perpendicular to the prevailing current to minimize potential ocean-induced damage to the structure and reduce the effect on subsea sediment migration. All discharges from the STP into the Beaufort Sea will be regulated through an ADEC APDES Individual Permit in order to minimize impacts to water quality. The pipeline will be elevated above grade on VSMS to reduce impacts to permafrost and flow patterns of surface waters. (See attachment titled "Application" for more applicant proposed minimization)

c. Compensatory Mitigation: OSA has designed the Project to avoid and minimize adverse effects to aquatic resources and other environmental resources to the maximum extent practicable, as described above. Direct impacts from the Project will result in a nominal loss of 0.05 acre of wetlands from VSM installation and 6.07 acres of marine waters from STP construction, for a total of 6.12 acres of permanent impact to WOTUS. All other impacts to marine waters will be temporary. No additional formal compensatory mitigation is proposed for project activities undertaken through this permit modification.

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 ADEC.

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 two documented cultural resources (XBP-00039 and XBP-00057) in the vicinity of the permit area. The permit area has been determined to be a 13.68 acre area, which includes 6.12 acres for construction of the STP and STP pipeline and 7.56 acres for screening activities. Consultation of the AHRs constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) at this time. The Corps has made a No Adverse Effect determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with 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: The project area is within the known or historic range of the polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*), spectacled eider (*Somateria mollissima*), Steller's eider (*Polysticta stelleri*), Arctic subspecies of ringed seals (*Phoca hispida*), threatened Beringia Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of bearded seals (*Erignathus barbatus*), and endangered Western Arctic population of bowhead whales (*Balaena mysticetus*).

We are currently gathering information regarding these species and have yet to make a determination of effect. Should we find that the described activity may affect the species listed above, and/or its designated critical habitat, we will follow the appropriate consultation procedures under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). Any comments the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) 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).

The project area is within the known range of the Pacific Salmon, Arctic Cod, Saffron Cod, and Snow Crab.

We are currently gathering information regarding these species and have yet to make a determination of effect. Should we find that the described activity may affect the species listed above, we will follow the appropriate course of action under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Any comments NMFS may have concerning EFH will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

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 PN 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 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 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 authorities:

(X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the U.S. – Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. – 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

Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program (WDAP) / 401 Certification

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WDAP/401 CERTIFICATION
555 CORDOVA STREET
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617
PHONE: (907) 269-6285 | EMAIL: dec-401cert@alaska.gov

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 (PN) Reference Number **POA-2015-00025, Simpson Lagoon**, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

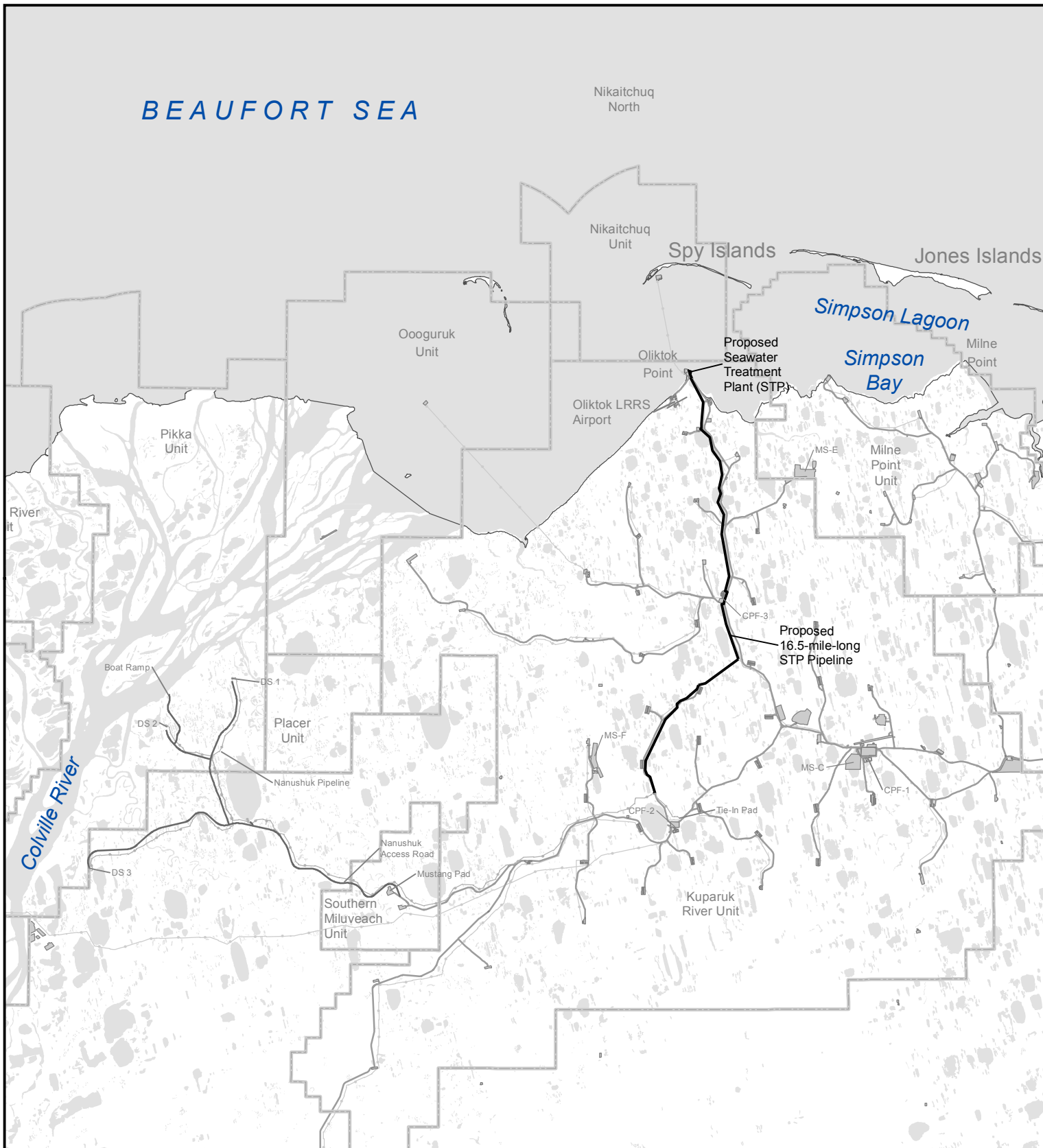
After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above or via email to dec-401cert@alaska.gov by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice. All comments should include the PN reference number listed above. Mailed comments must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

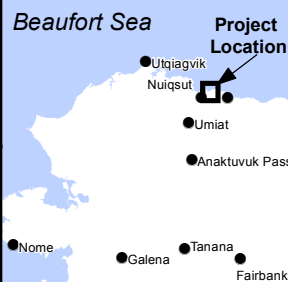
The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Kate Orozco at 907-465-6171 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 5 days of the expiration date of this public notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

BEAUFORT SEA



Vicinity Map

- Proposed STP
- Proposed STP Pipeline
- Oil and Gas Unit Boundaries
- Existing Facilities
- Existing Roads
- Existing Pipelines
- Waterbodies



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

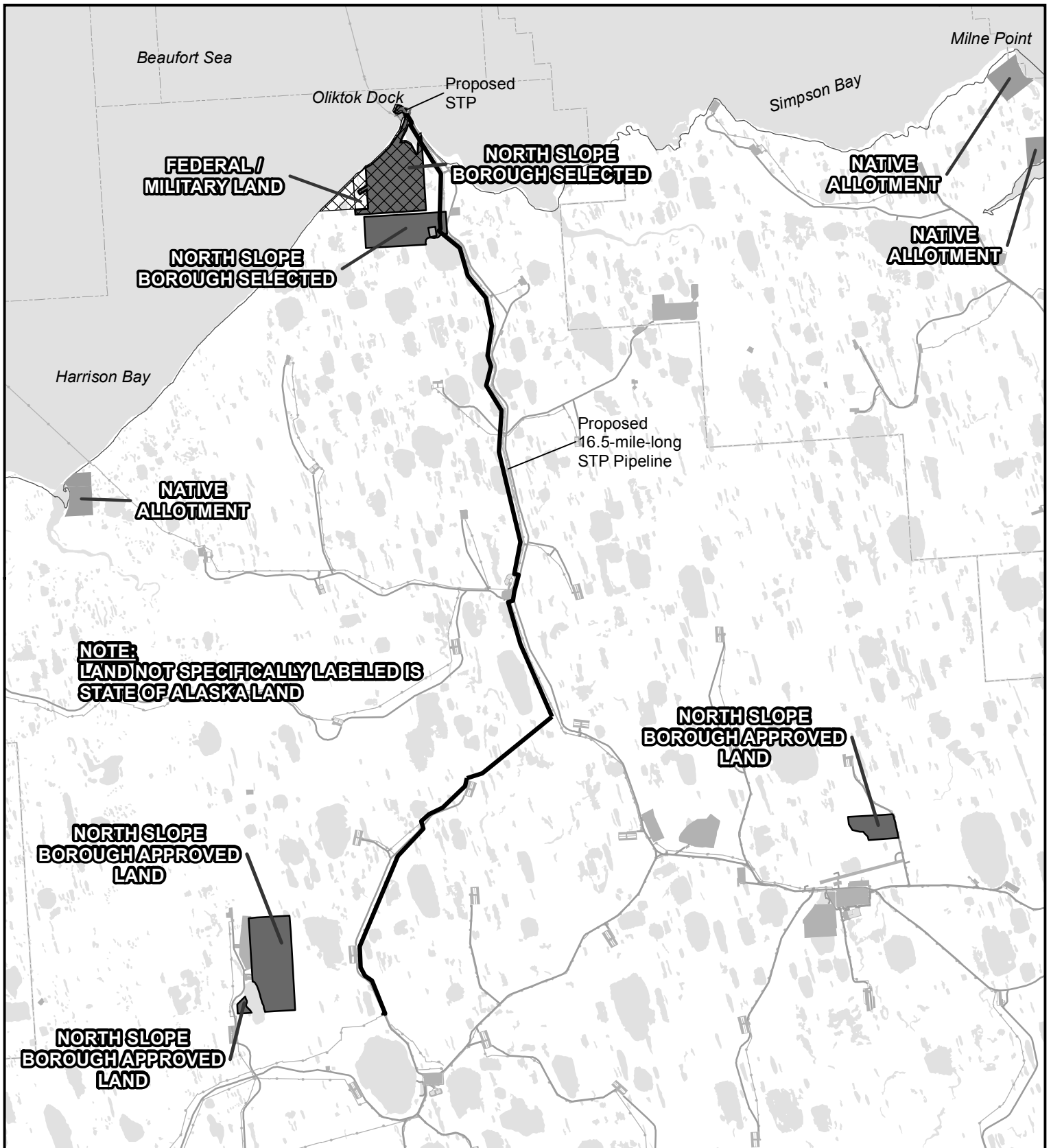
SHEET 1 OF 15

DATE: February 2020



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Miles

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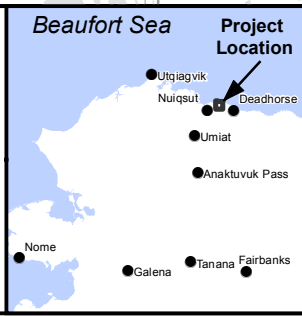


Adjacent Land Owners

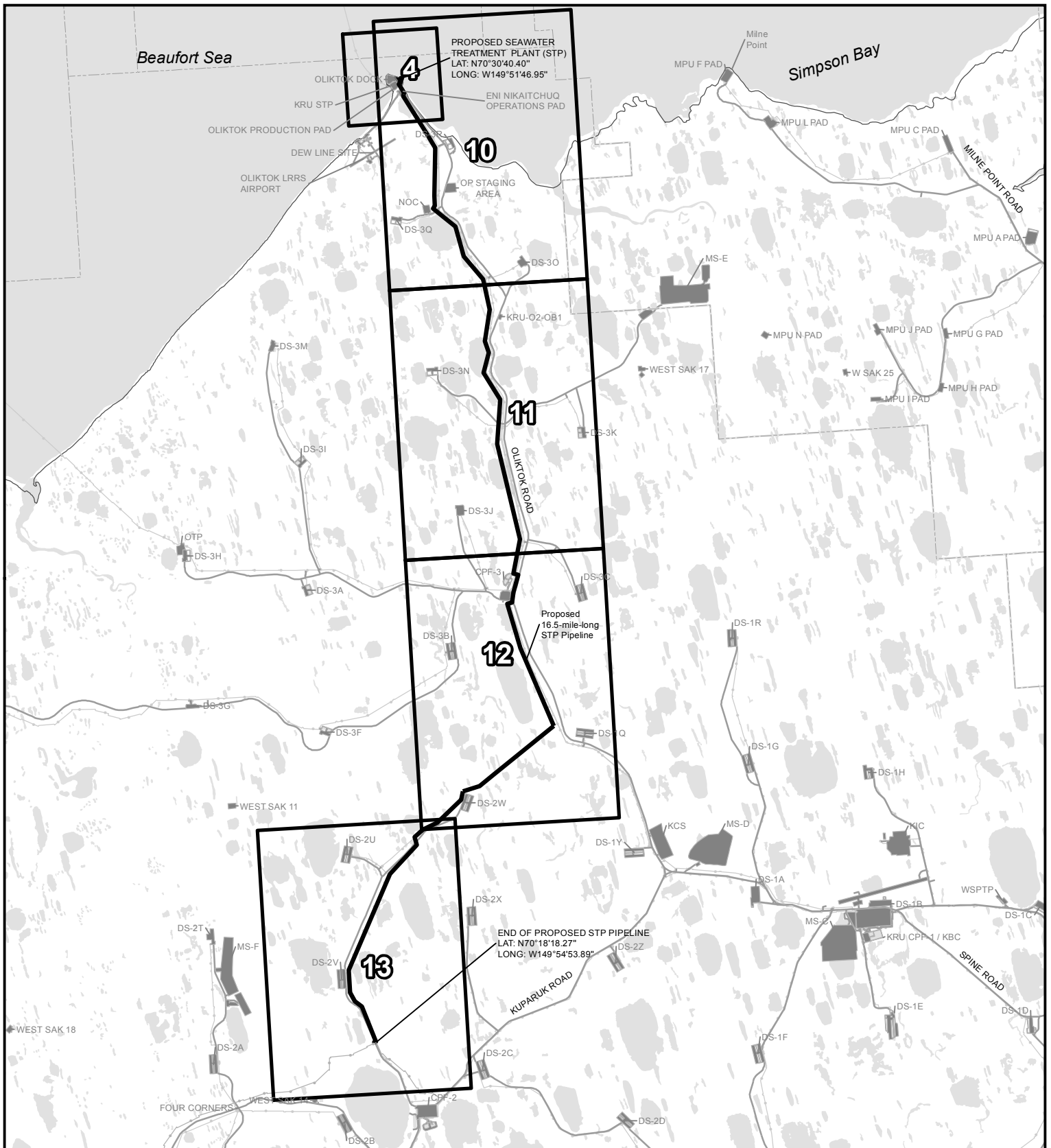
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HORIZONTAL DATUM:
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- Proposed STP
- Proposed STP Pipeline
- North Slope Borough Land
- Native Allotment
- Federal Ownership
- Existing Facilities
- Waterbodies



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC
 FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2
 WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon
 COUNTY: North Slope Borough
 STATE: Alaska
 SHEET 2 OF 15
 DATE: February 2020

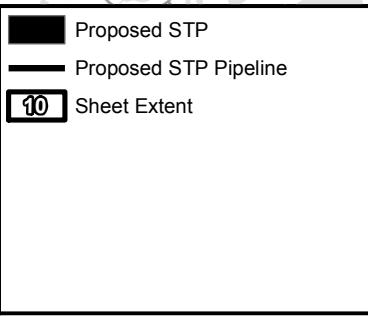


Project Components

- Proposed STP
- Proposed STP Pipeline
- Sheet Extent

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Miles

HORIZONTAL DATUM:
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Project Location

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

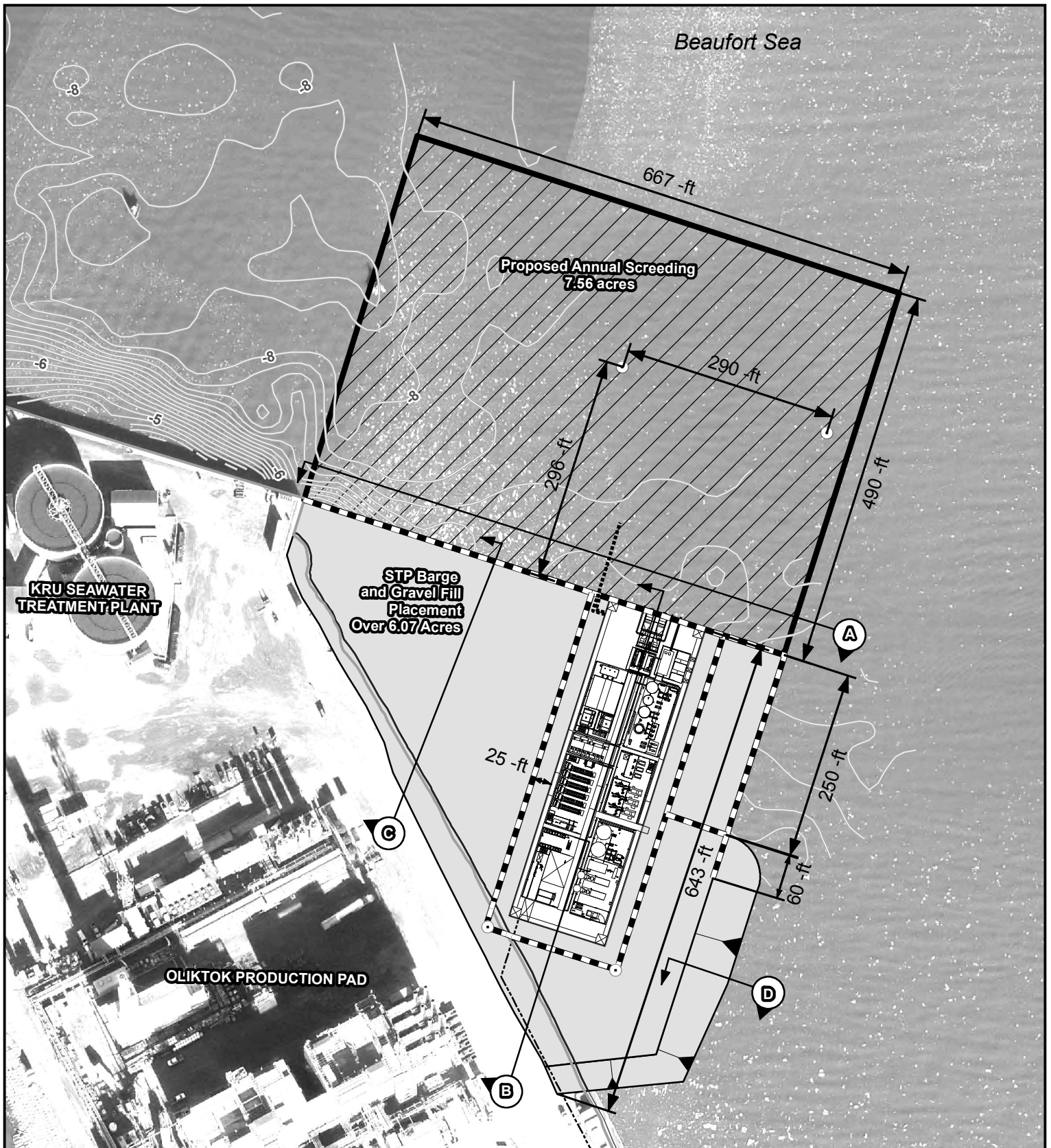
WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

COUNTY: North Slope Borough

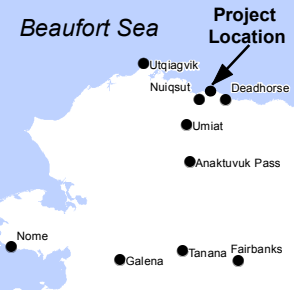
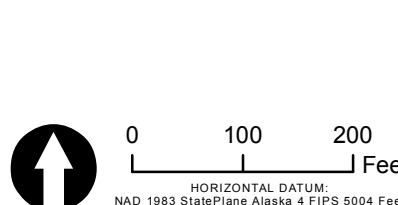
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 3 OF 15

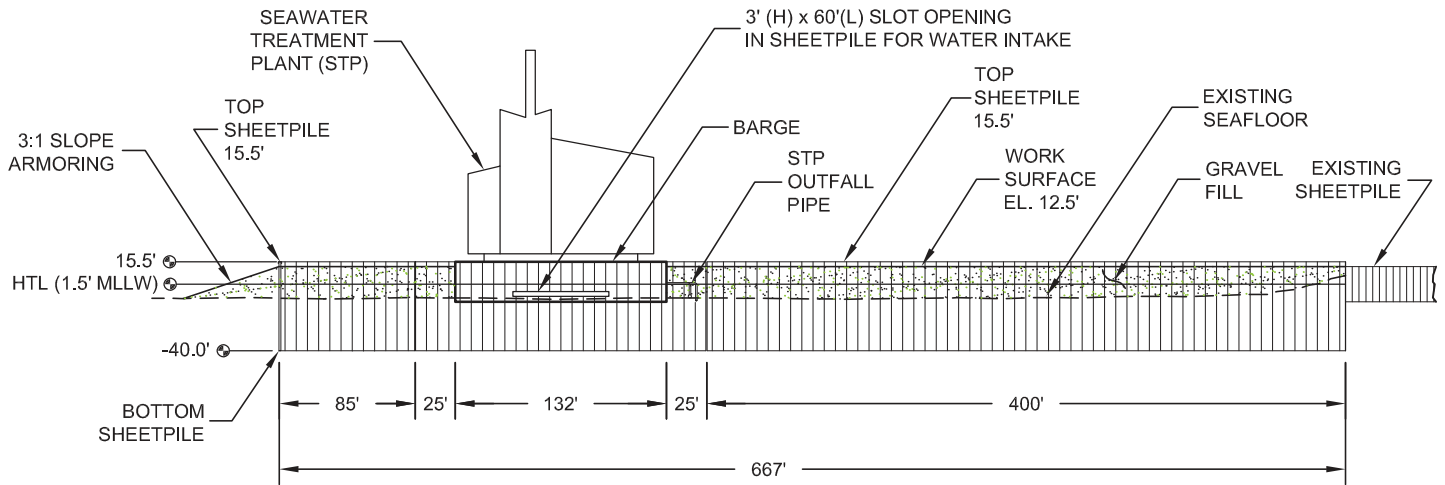
DATE: February 2020



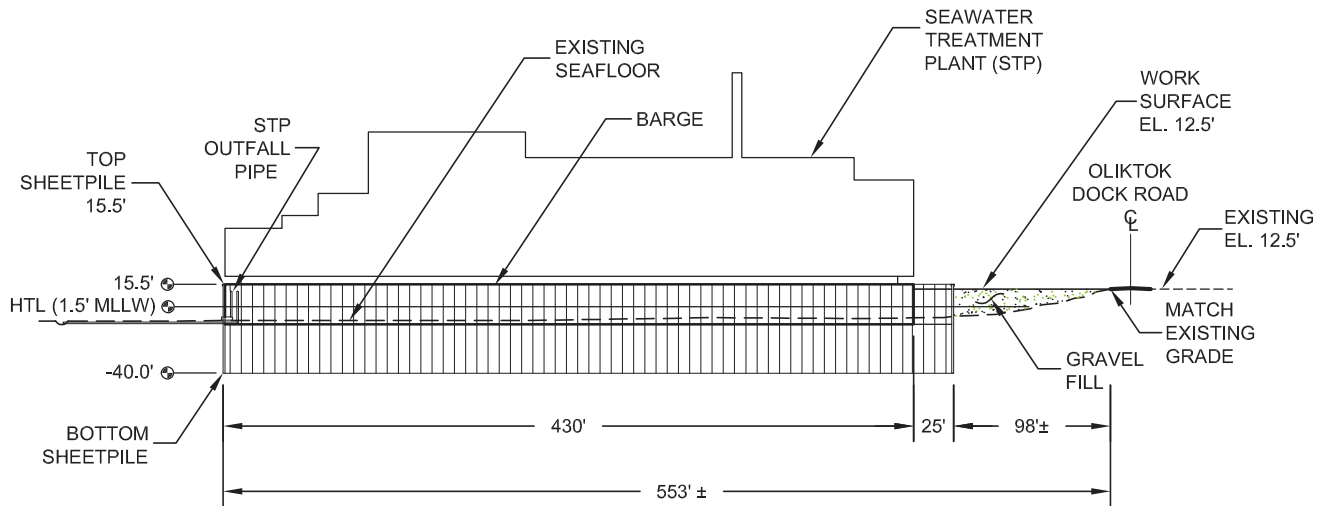
STP Pad Layout – Plan View



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC
 FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2
 WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon
 COUNTY: North Slope Borough
 STATE: Alaska
 SHEET 4 OF 15
 DATE: February 2020



SECTION A-A



SECTION B-B

NOT TO SCALE

Vertical Datum = MLLW

Sections A and B

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

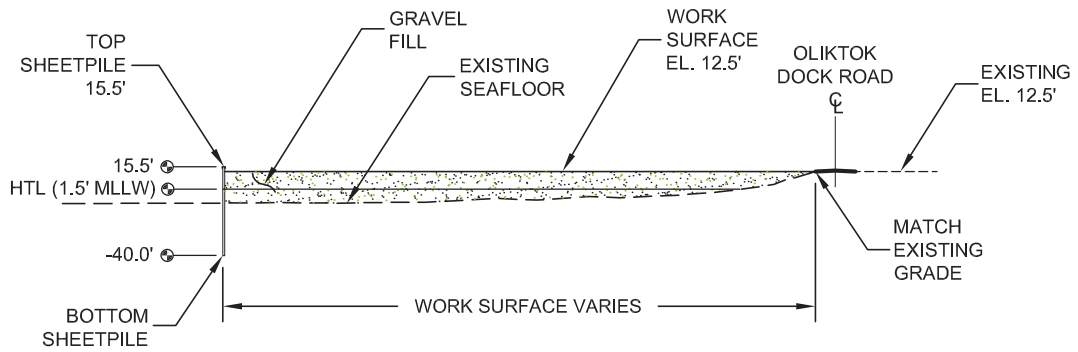
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WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

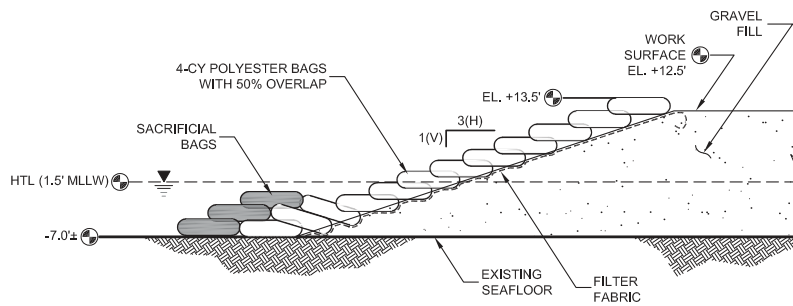
COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 5 OF 15

DATE: February 2020



SECTION C-C



SECTION D-D

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Sections C and D

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

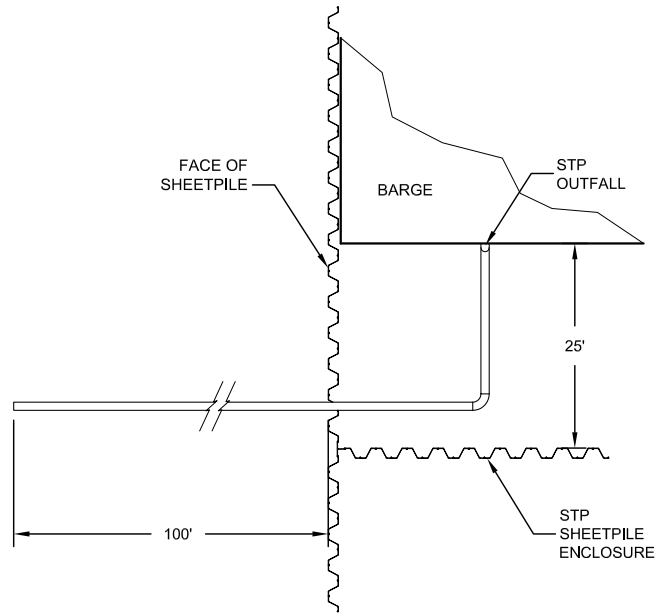
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WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

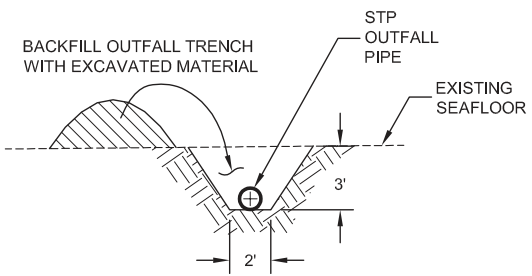
COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 6 OF 15

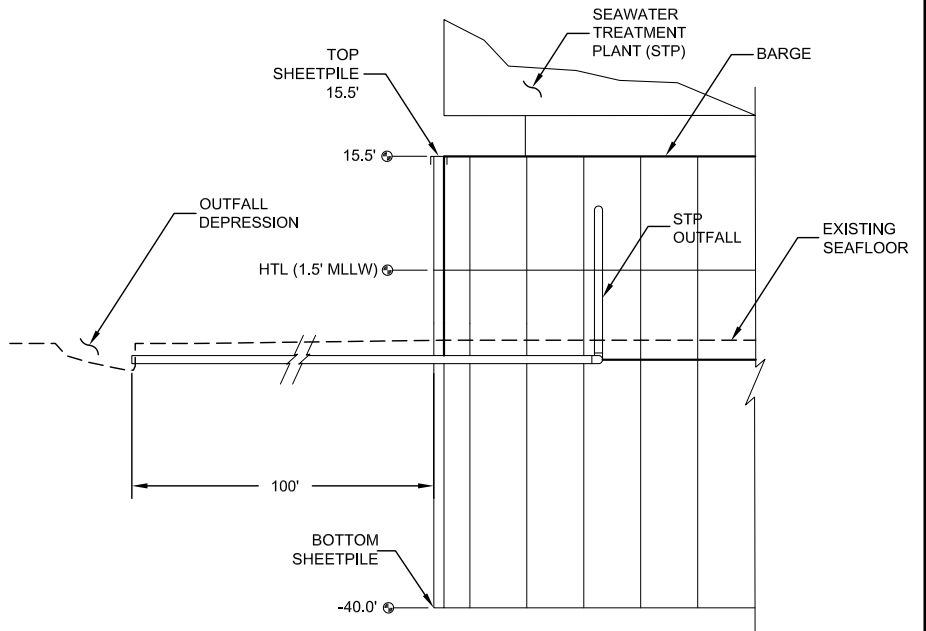
DATE: February 2020



OUTFALL PIPE - PLAN VIEW



TRENCH - SECTION



OUTFALL PIPE - PROFILE VIEW

NOT TO SCALE

Vertical Datum = MLLW

Outfall Pipe Details

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

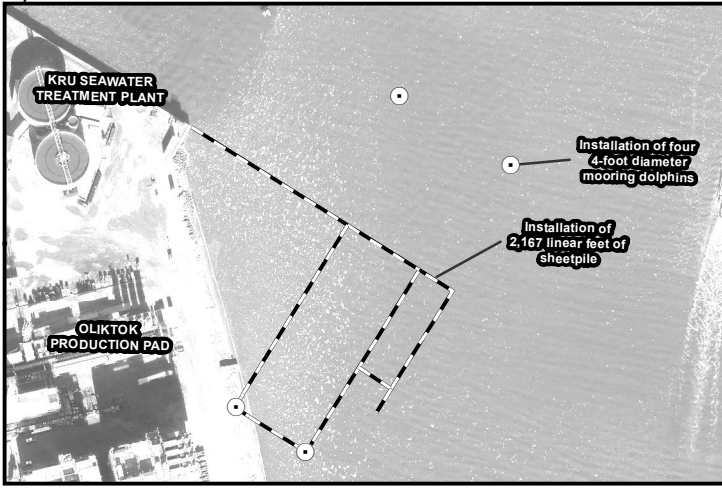
WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

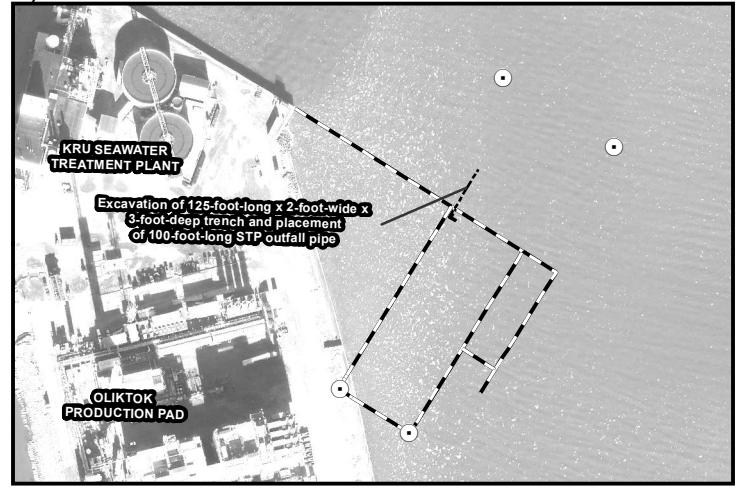
SHEET 7 OF 15

DATE: February 2020

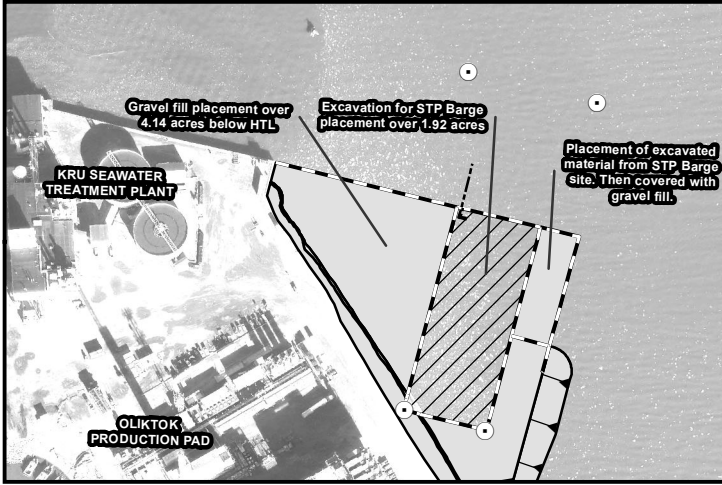
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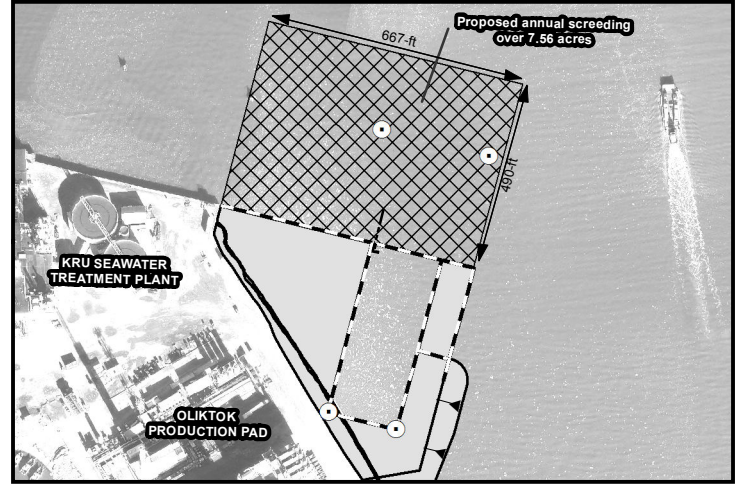
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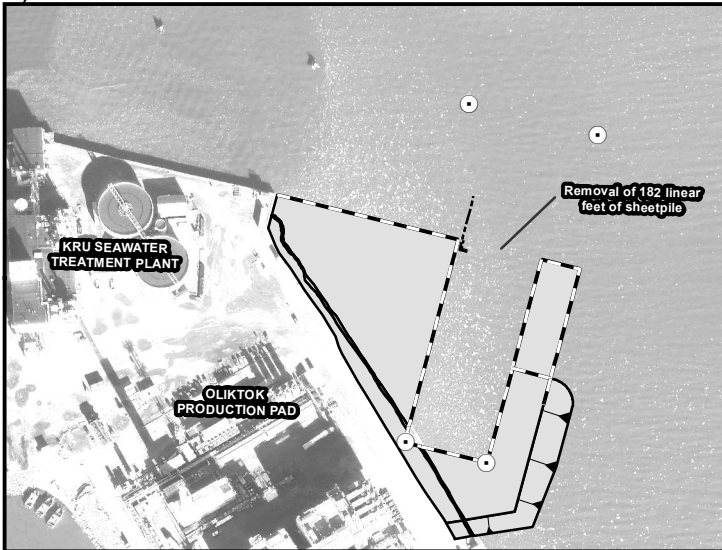
3) Summer 2022



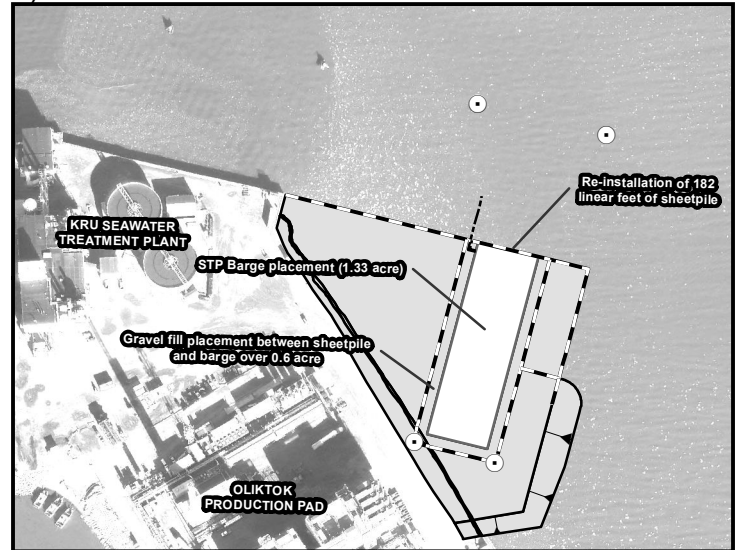
4) Summer 2023



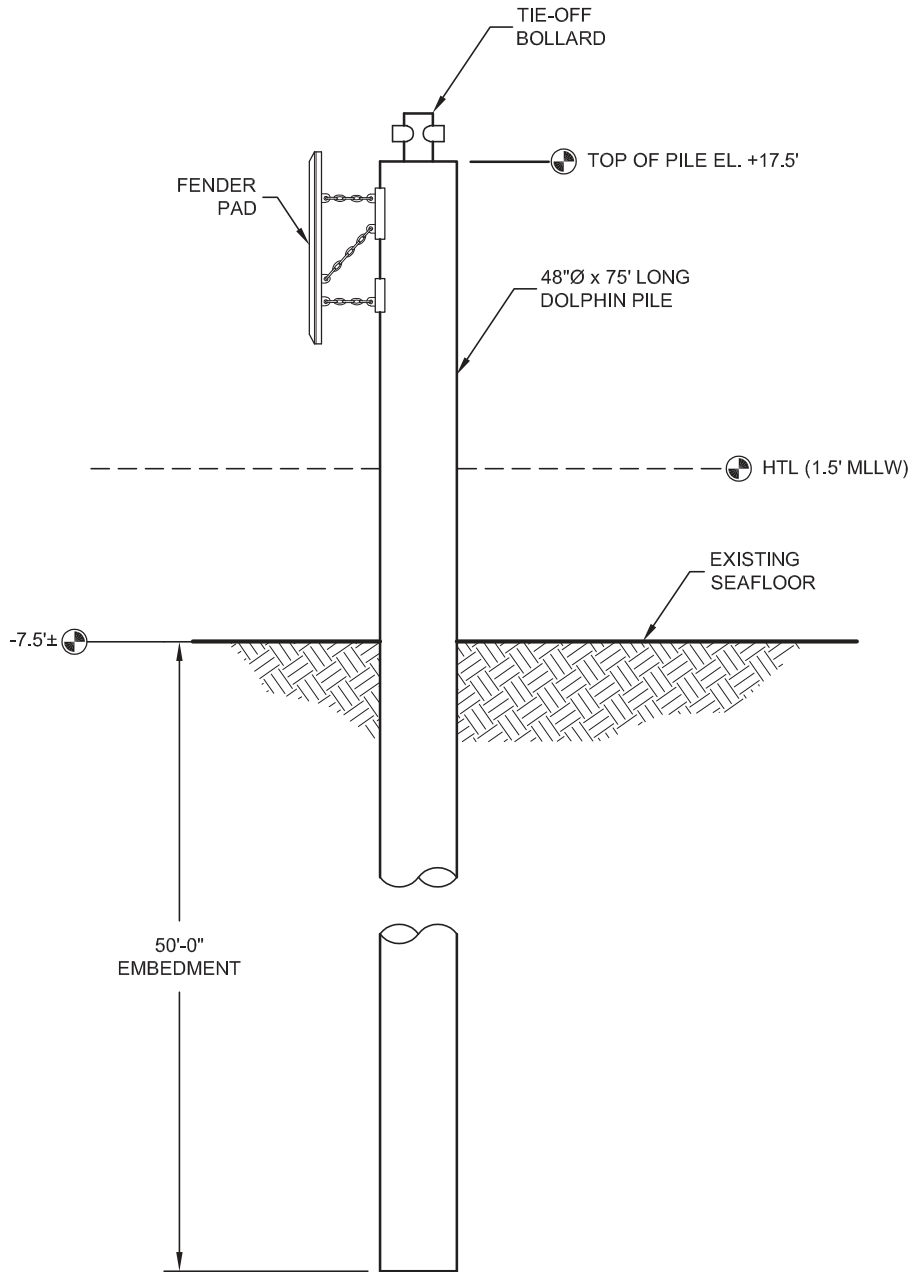
5) Summer 2023



6) Summer 2023



<h3>STP Site Preparation – Construction Sequence</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheetpile Dolphin Pile STP Outfall Pipe Excavation Gravel pad Screeding Seawater Treatment Plant 	<p>Project Location</p>	<p>APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC</p> <p>FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2</p> <p>WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon</p> <p>COUNTY: North Slope Borough</p> <p>STATE: Alaska</p> <p>SHEET 8 OF 15</p> <p>DATE: February 2020</p>
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TYPICAL DOLPHIN

NOT TO SCALE

Vertical Datum = MLLW

Typical Dolphin

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

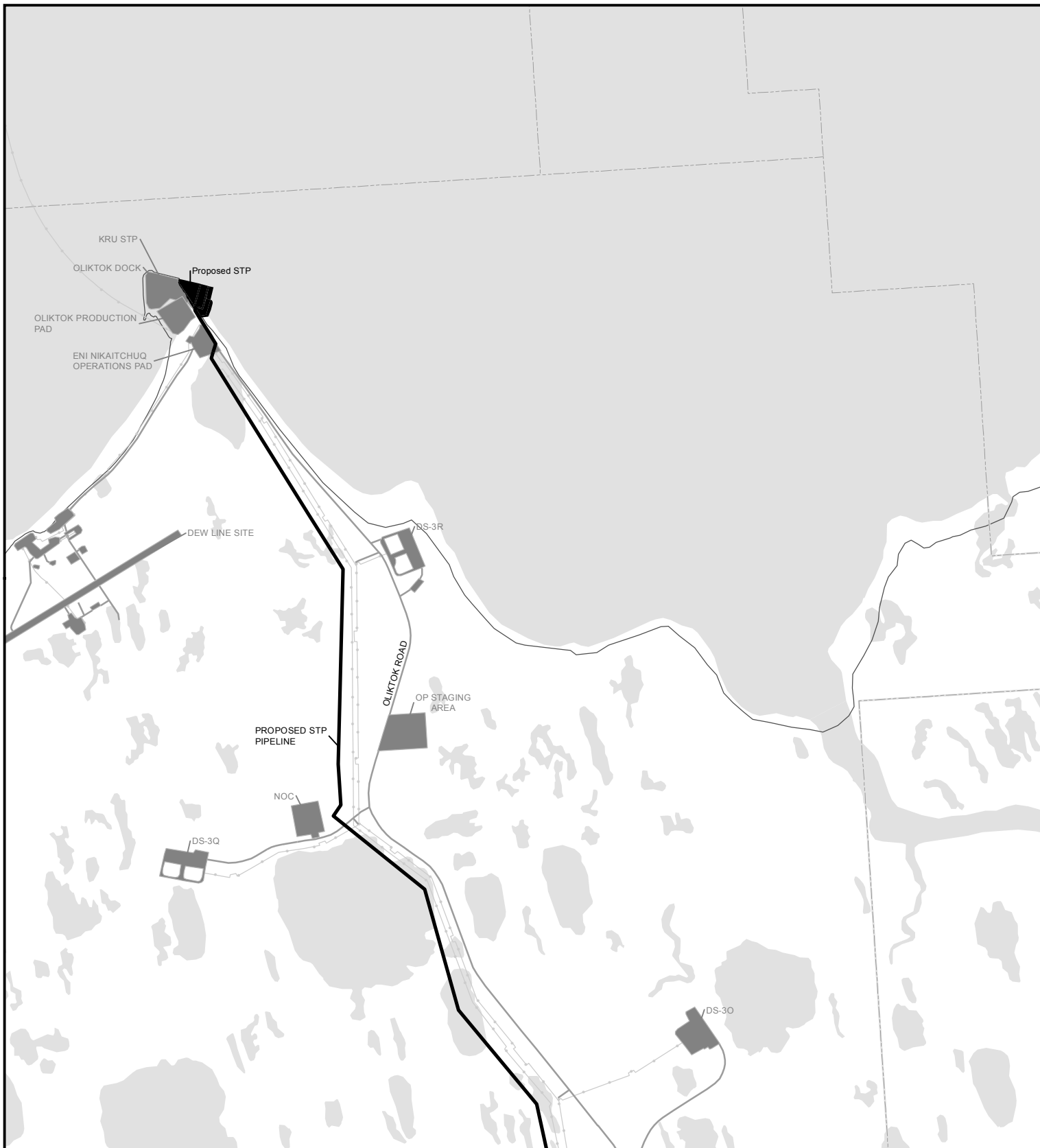
FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 9 OF 15

DATE: February 2020



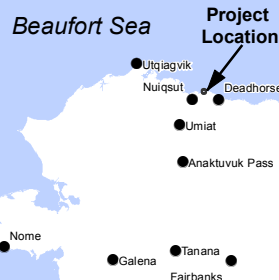
STP Pipeline Layout – Plan View



0 0.25 0.5
Miles

HORIZONTAL DATUM:
NAD 1983 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet

- Proposed STP Pipeline
- Proposed STP and Gravel Pad
- Existing Facilities
- Existing Roads
- Existing Pipelines
- Wetlands
- Waterbodies



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

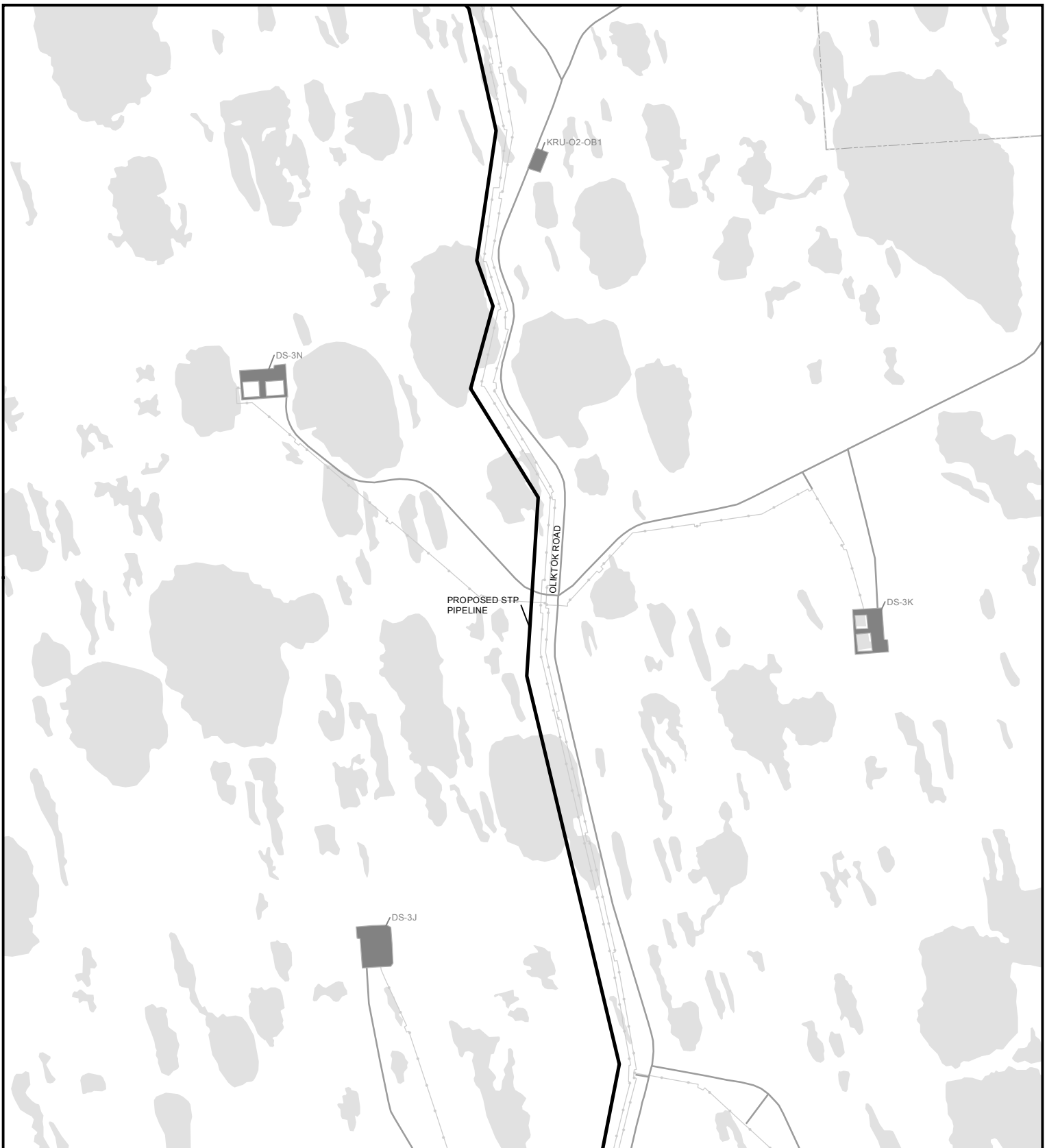
FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon







COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 10 OF 15

DATE: February 2020

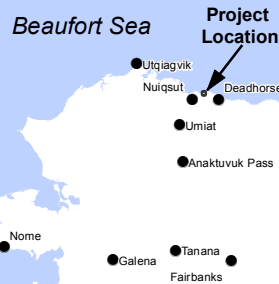


STP Pipeline Layout – Plan View

-  Proposed STP Pipeline
-  Existing Facilities
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Pipelines
-  Wetlands
-  Waterbodies

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

HORIZONTAL DATUM:
NAD 1983 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

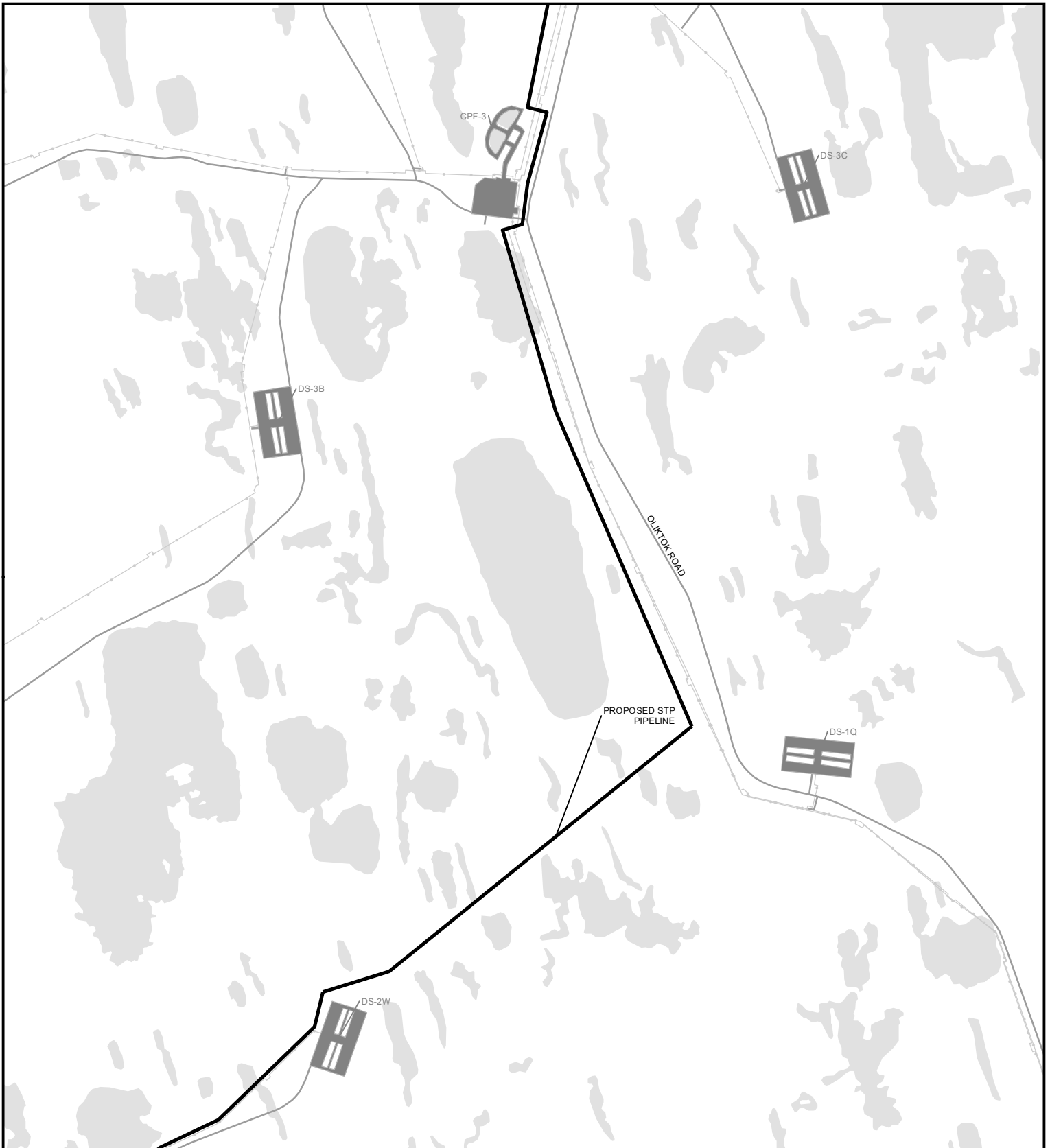
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WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon







COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 11 OF 15

DATE: February 2020



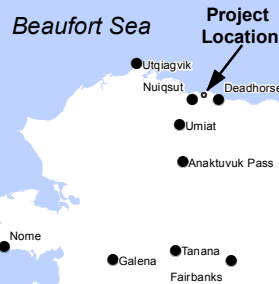
STP Pipeline Layout – Plan View

-  Proposed STP Pipeline
-  Existing Facilities
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Pipelines
-  Wetlands
-  Waterbodies

0 0.25 0.5
Miles



HORIZONTAL DATUM:
NAD 1983 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

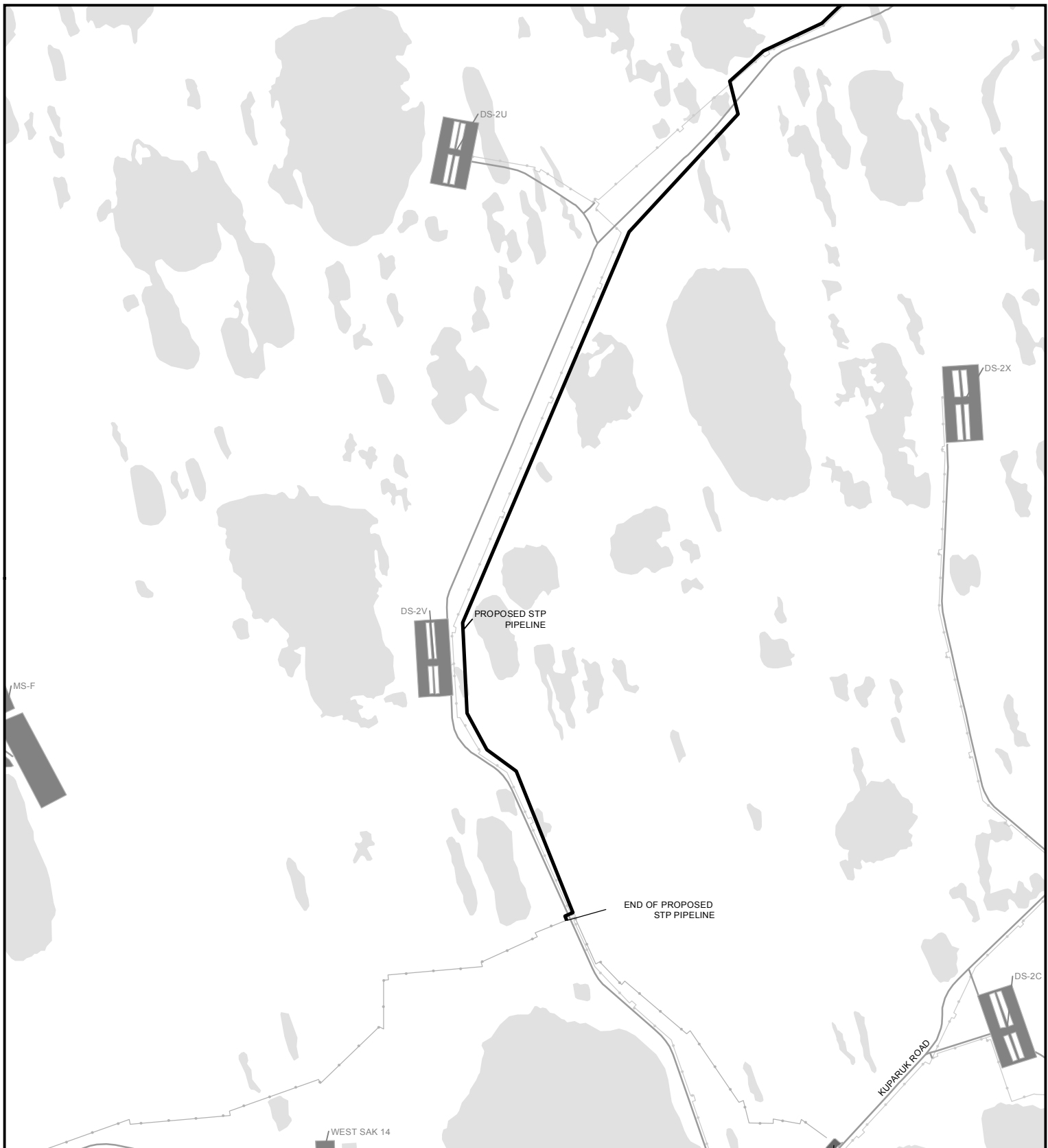
FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon







COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

SHEET 12 OF 15

DATE: February 2020

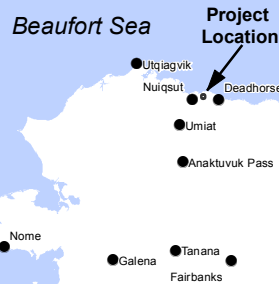


STP Pipeline Layout – Plan View

-  Proposed STP Pipeline
-  Existing Facilities
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Pipelines
-  Wetlands
-  Waterbodies

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

HORIZONTAL DATUM:
NAD 1983 StatePlane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet



APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

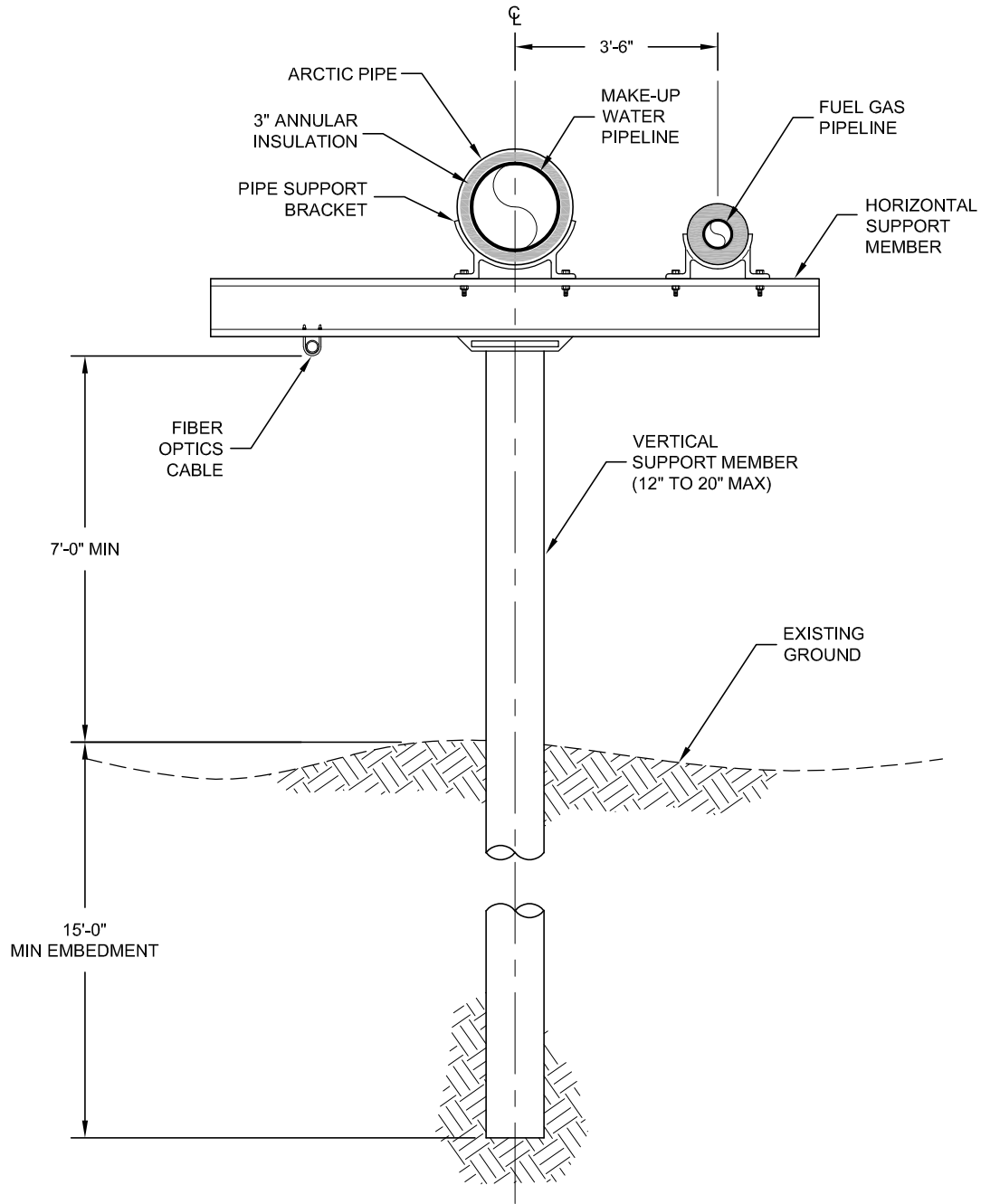
FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

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DATE: February 2020



TYPICAL VERTICAL SUPPORT MEMBER (VSM) PROFILE

NOT TO SCALE

Typical Vertical Support Member (VSM)

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

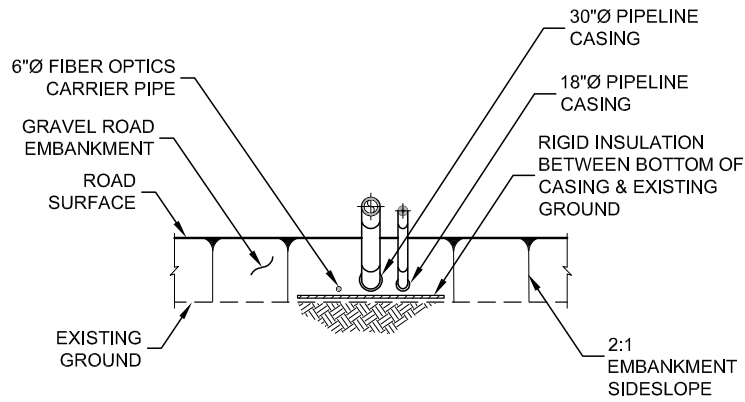
FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

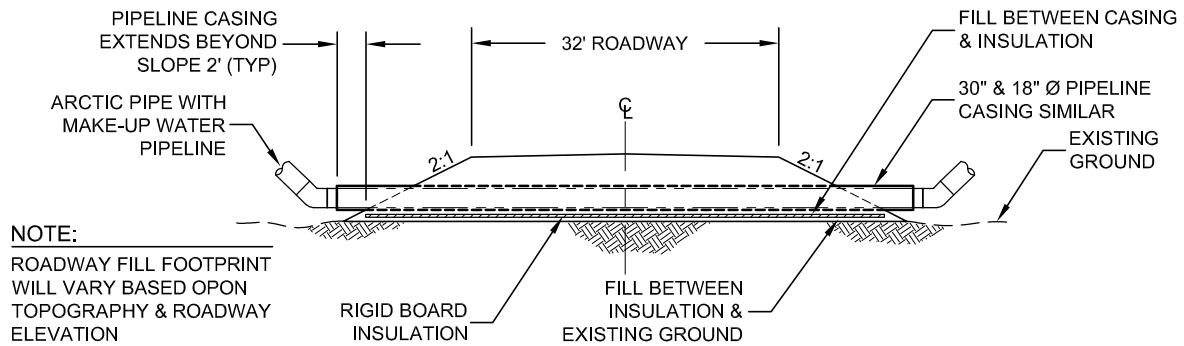
COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

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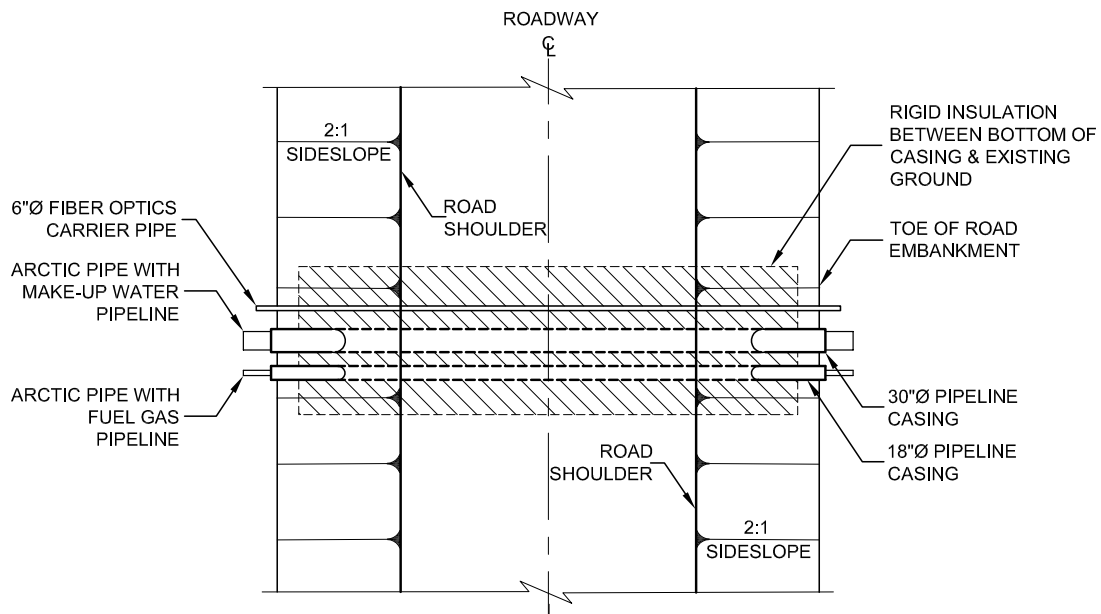
EXISTING ROAD CROSSING PROFILE



NOTE:

ROADWAY FILL FOOTPRINT WILL VARY BASED UPON TOPOGRAPHY & ROADWAY ELEVATION

EXISTING ROAD CROSSING SECTION



EXISTING ROAD CROSSING PLAN

NOT TO SCALE

Typical STP Pipeline
Road Crossing

APPLICANT: Oil Search Alaska, LLC

FILE NO: POA-2015-00025-M2

WATERWAY: Simpson Lagoon

COUNTY: North Slope Borough
STATE: Alaska

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DATE: February 2020