



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:	March 22, 2021
EXPIRATION DATE:	April 21, 2021
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2012-00919
WATERWAY:	Sagavanirktok River

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 or to regpagemaster@usace.army.mil. All comments should include the PN 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 Mary Romero at (907) 753-2773, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at Mary.R.Romero@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Ray Latchem, Norgasco, LLC, 4341 B Street, Suite 306, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, Ray@norgasco.com, 907.562.5520

AGENT: Lauren Latchem, Norgasco, LLC, 4341 B Street, Suite 306, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, Lauren@norgasco.com, 907.562.5520

LOCATION: The project site is located at Latitude 70.2358° N., Longitude 148.385758° W.; in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to expand their existing pad to provide adequate support of their service area.

PROPOSED WORK: The placement of up to 20,000 cubic yards of material into 3.2 acres of palustrine emergent wetlands for the expansion of an existing pad. The final dimensions would be almost a rectangle of 595' x 399' x 705' x 415' and would surround the existing 2.52 acre pad. The pad would allow for equipment parking, the development of a safe pull through driveway for trucks. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3), dated March 12, 2021.

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

a. Avoidance: The site is positioned to avoid streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and high value wetlands to the greatest extent practicable. No streams will be filled or crossed by the gravel pad. The project design avoids lake areas.

b. Minimization: There are no non-wetland alternatives to proposed site. However, the specific site location relative to the existing pad will minimize impact to undeveloped areas as Norgasco will not need additional space to build a separate facility or camp to utilize the new area. Norgasco believes that this location is optimal to minimize impact. This site provides minimized impact for expanding Norgasco usable space.

The new gravel will connect with the existing pad. Norgasco is seeking to expand this pad as no additional land lease will be required, making it the most economic site. Additionally, Norgasco can more easily monitor activity on a site that is already established as our primary site, providing more safety and security, rather than an auxiliary pad located elsewhere. Because Norgasco is already operational, no additional space is needed to build support buildings, i.e., kitchen, living quarters, shelter, shop.

Site location for the gravel pad and driveways were selected to reduce the quantity of gravel deposited, acreage of wetlands affected, and the risk of safety hazards. The pad and driveways will have minimum thickness of 4 feet of gravel in accordance with standard North Slope construction practices to maintain the integrity of the underlying permafrost. The proposed pad dimensions are sized as necessary to provide safe operations for trucks and operators and meet projected fabrication and construction needs.

No additional utilities will be required to use this additional space. The proposed location has been planned to minimize impacts on natural stream flows.

c. Compensatory Mitigation: No compensatory mitigation was listed.

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 or within the vicinity of the permit area. The permit area has been determined to be the complete project area. 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. The Corps is requesting the SHPO's concurrence with this determination.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*), Steller's eider (*Polysticta stelleri*), and spectacled eider (*Somateria fischeri*).

We have determined the described activity may affect the polar bear, Steller's, and spectacled eider, but would not appreciably modify the polar bear habitat. We have initiated the appropriate consultation procedures under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 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 National Marine Fisheries Service 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.

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 authority:

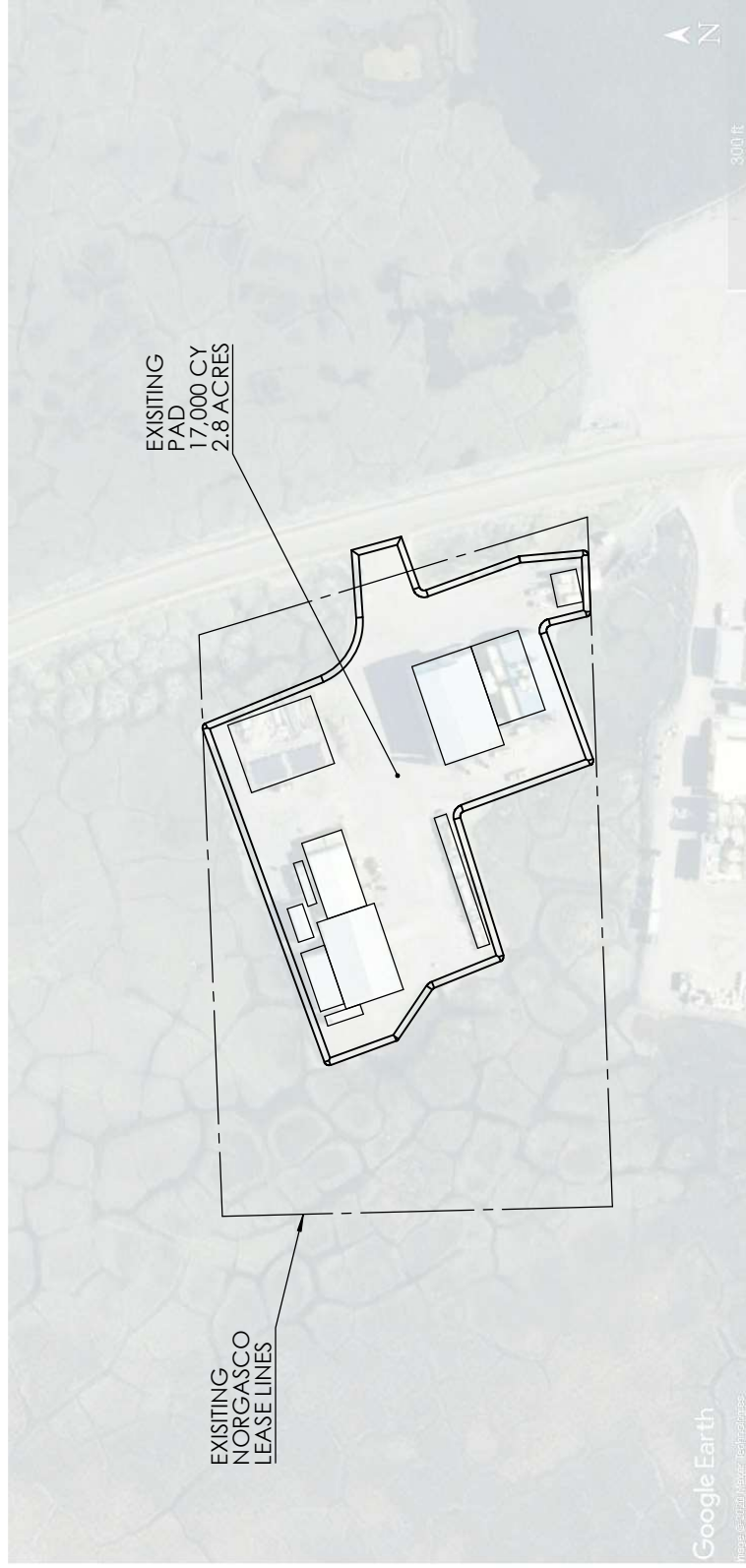
(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

ATTACHMENT A



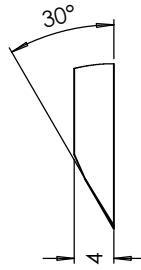
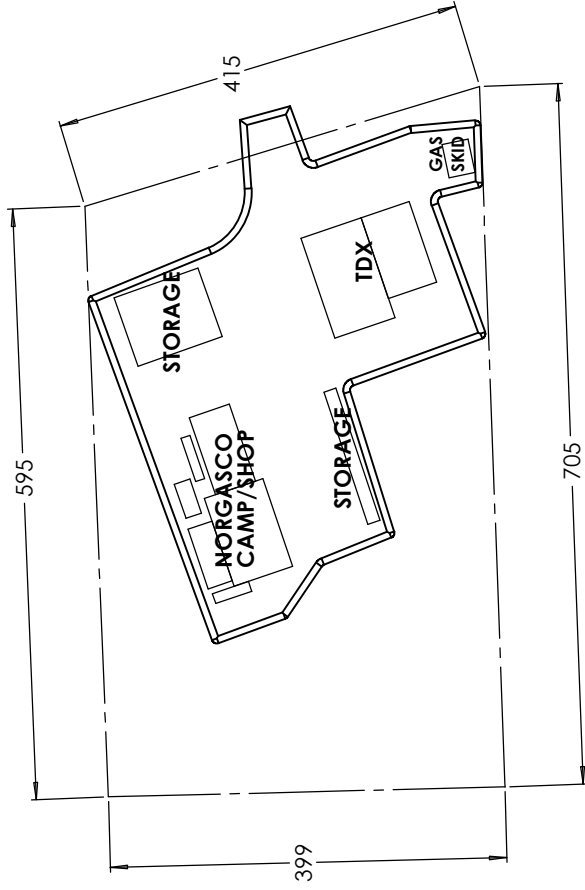
NORGASCO, INC.
 4341B Street Suite 306
 Anchorage, AK 99503
 907-562-5520

NORGASCO DEADHORSE SITE

REV	DATE	BY	NOTES

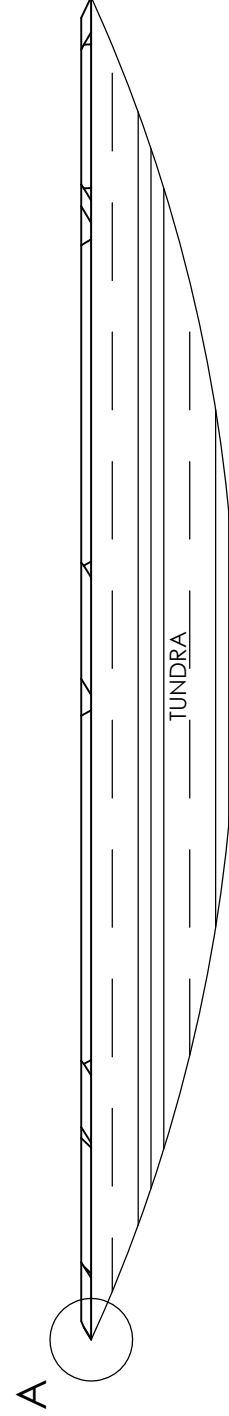
POA-2012-00919, Sagavanirktok River
 Norgasco, LLC
 Drawings dated March 12, 2021
 Sheet 1 of 3

ATTACHMENT A



DETAIL A

SCALE 1 : 150



NORGASCO, INC.
4341B Street Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-562-5520

NORGASCO DEADHORSE SITE

POA-2012-00919, Sagavanirktok River
Norgasco, LLC
Drawings dated March 12, 2021
Sheet 2 of 3

DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	REV	NOTES

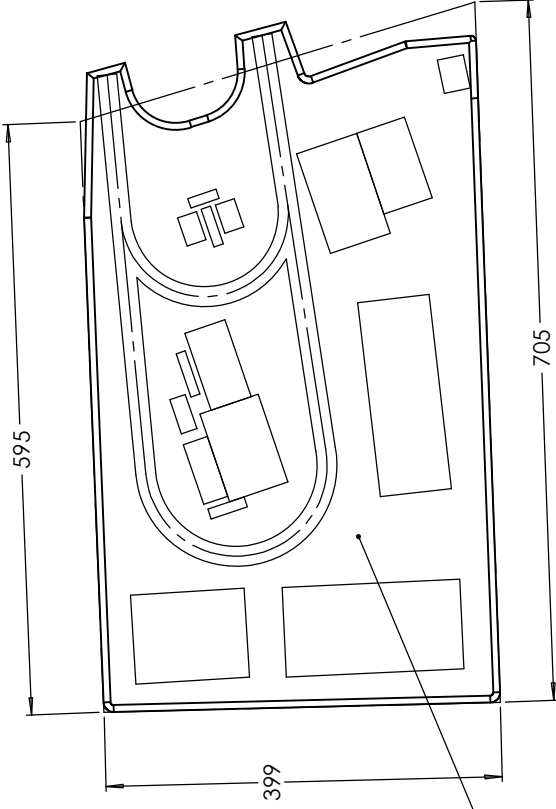
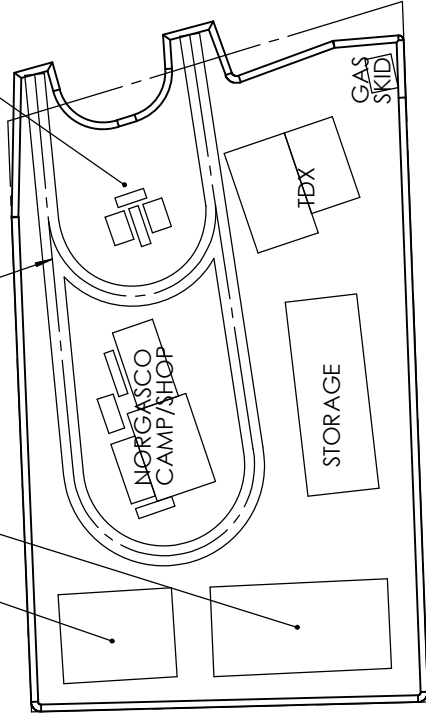
ATTACHMENT A

CNG STATION, INCLUDES COMPRESSION AND STORAGE UNITS (RELOCATED TO NORGASCO PAD)

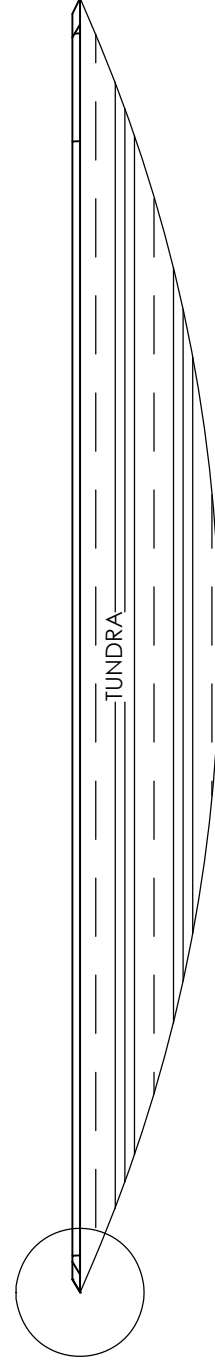
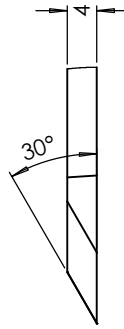
PIPE STORAGE AND STAGING (OPEN SPACE AND PIPE RACKS)

SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (PARKING)

PULL-THROUGH TRUCK ROUTE



B



DETAIL B

SCALE 1 : 200

DESCRIPTION CONCEPTUAL	DATE	BY	NOTES	NORGASCO INC. 4341B Street Suite 306 Anchorage, AK 99503 907-562-5520		NORGASCO DEADHORSE SITE
	REV	REV	DRAWING NUMBER			
	SCALE	SCALE	SHEET			

POA-2012-00919, Sagavanirktok River
Norgasco, LLC
Drawings dated March 12, 2021
Sheet 3 of 3