

**VARIANCE REQUEST**  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

<p>1. Date: 8/4/09</p> <p>2. Reviewer/Engr.: Larry Bryant</p> <p>3. Date Received: 7/28/09</p> <p>4. Facility Name: Elkader, City of STP</p> <p>5. Facility Number: 6-22-23-0-01</p> <p>6. County Number: 22 (Clayton)</p> <p>7. Program Area: CP (Wastewater Construction)</p> <p>8. Facility Type: C02 (Pumping)</p> <p>9. Subject Area: 344 (Pump Clogging Protection)</p> <p>10. Rule Reference: 567 IAC 64.2(9)a</p> <p>11. Design Std. Ref.: 13.4.2 (Protection Against Clogging)</p> <p>12. Consulting Engr.: MSA Professional Services</p> <p>13. Variance Rule: 567 IAC 64.2(9)c</p>	<p>14. Decision: <i>approved</i> Date: <del>8/4/09</del> 8/4/09</p> <p>15. Appealed: Date:</p>
<p><b>16. Description of Variance Request:</b>  The City of Elkader is updating three remote existing pumping stations to provide for increased pumping capacity, remote alarm notification, onsite emergency standby power, emergency pumping capability and flood protection. At one of the existing stations (West Lift Station), the proposed configuration will raise the existing wet well structure by approximately 6-feet and add a new valve vault. The proposed pump and piping orientation using the existing wet well structure and influent line precludes placement of a removable trash basket assembly over the existing influent line. The existing lift station firm capacity is estimated to be 80 gpm and the current arrangement does not have a dedicated emergency power source and the tops of the existing lift station structures are located below the estimated 100-year flood elevation. The station is being designed with firm capacity for an ultimate peak hour wet weather flow of 220 gpm (800 population equivalent) and will have an onsite emergency generator, portable pump connection and remote alarm notification. The site is constrained between the Turkey River to the east and a state highway to the west. A sheet piling retaining wall around the station in addition to raising the site and structure elevations are proposed for flood protection. See the attached plans.</p>	
<p><b>17. Applicant's/Consulting Engineer's Justification:</b>  "The reason the variance is being requested is the proposed configuration of the lift station prevents the installation of the trash basket. Furthermore the lift station has operated without a trash basket for the last 20 years"... "and the operator reports that there has not been a problem with clogging of pumps. The proposed pumps to be installed can pass a 3-inch sphere, which should alleviate any plugging concerns."</p>	
<p><b>18. Department's Justification:</b></p> <p><b>Recommend variance approval (conditional):</b></p> <p>Pump passage of a 3-inch sphere is required for all pumping stations except grinder pumps and does not justify a variance for omission of a trash basket. Successful operation of the existing lift station without clogging for a long time period (20-years) without a trash basket is significant (removal of an existing functional trash basket that had been in use would pose a concern) but does not in and of itself guarantee that future clogging without a trash basket will not occur.</p>	

Retrofit of the existing structure and the constraints associated with the existing site do appear to pose a unique situation that makes installation of a screening method difficult although not impossible if the site layout were altered significantly or a new separate upstream screening manhole were installed. 10-States Standards and currently proposed revisions to the Iowa design standards (not yet final) recommend consideration of screening for all pump stations but only require screening for pump stations handling wastewater from 30-inch or larger diameter sewers. The influent sewer to this pumping station is 8-inches in diameter. Elkader's four other remote lift stations as well as the main plant lift station will have means of upstream screening protection. The remote monitoring system for the West Lift Station includes conditions for pump failure, high pump temperature and high wet well level conditions. The operator interface is also specified to maintain a history of the 100 most recent alarm events. Each of the 2 pumps installed will be capable of handling the projected PHWW design flow.

Approval is recommended with the following condition:

If in the future any bypassing should occur at the West Lift Station that is attributable to clogging of the pumps, the City shall take any necessary steps required to install screening protection for this lift station.

**19. Precedents Used:**

The following variance precedents requesting omission of a trash basket were found. These exclude prior variances granted for specialized chopper or grinder pumps:

- City of Asbury (approved 1/18/08)
- City of Boyden (denied 3/6/90)
- Diamondhead Sanitary District (approved 2/26/08)
- City of Fort Dodge (approved 12/9/02)
- City of Halbur (denied 3/8/99)
- City of Nashua (approved 10/1/07)
- City of New London (denied 8/31/99)
- City of Promise City (denied 10/30/08)

20. Staff Reviewer:

*[Signature]*

Date: 8/4/09

21. Supervisor:

*[Signature]* (For Sridya Chennupati)

Date: 8-4-09

22. Authorized by:

*[Signature]*

Date: 8/4/2009





CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR  
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

## STATE OF IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

August 5, 2009

Jennifer Cowsert, City Administrator  
City of Elkader  
207 North Main Street  
P.O. Box 427  
Elkader, IA 52043

RE: Variance Request - Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards Section 13.4.2

Dear Ms. Cowsert:

This letter is in response to MSA Professional Services' request on behalf of the City for a variance from Section 13.4.2 of the Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards. Section 13.4.2 of the Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards states that "All pumping stations handling raw wastewater shall have provisions for screening to protect the pumps from clogging or damage".

This variance is approved for the West Lift Station only. We agree that retrofit of the existing lift station at this site presents unique circumstances that make installation of a conventional trash basket arrangement difficult. Other factors included in our determination supporting approval of this variance were proposed improvements including the addition of remote alarm notification and affirmation that the existing lift station has operated for a significant time period (20 years) without any screening protection or incidences of pump clogging. However, since the prior successful operation of the existing lift station without screening protection does not necessarily guarantee that future pump clogging without a trash basket will not occur, the following condition will be included in the construction permit issued for this project:

- If in the future any bypassing should occur at the West Lift Station that is attributable to clogging of the pumps, the City shall take any necessary steps required to install screening protection for this lift station.

Please contact me at (515) 281-6759 or [larry.bryant@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:larry.bryant@dnr.iowa.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Bryant", written in a cursive style.

Larry Bryant, P.E.  
IDNR Wastewater Engineering Section

cc: Jason Miller, P.E./MSA/Ankeny, IA  
Clint Wienen, P.E./MSA/Galena, IL





July 28, 2009

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Wastewater Section  
Attn: Mr. Larry Bryant  
502 East 9th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034

Re: Petition for Trash Basket Variance Request  
MSA Project No: 4940713

Dear Mr. Bryant:

We are requesting a variance request on behalf of the City of Elkader from Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards, Chapter 13, Wastewater Pumping Stations and Force Mains, Paragraph 13.4.2. Paragraph 13.4.2 states "All pumping stations handling raw wastewater shall have provisions for screening to protect the pumps from clogging or damage. Trash baskets constructed of corrosion resistant material and easily removable for cleaning may be used for small pumping stations". We are requesting this variance for the West Lift Station which is a part of the Distal Lift Station Project in the City of Elkader.

The reason the variance is being requested is the proposed configuration of the lift station prevents the installation of a trash basket. Furthermore the lift station has operated without a trash basket for the last 20 years without a trash basket installed and the operator reports that there has not been a problem with clogging of pumps. The proposed pumps to be installed can pass a 3-inch sphere, which should alleviate any plugging concerns.

Contact information for the Owner is as follows:

City of Elkader  
207 N. Main Street  
Elkader, IA 52043  
Telephone No.: 563-245-2098

Contact information for the Operator is as follows:

People Service  
Kim Werger  
Cell No. 319-830-1201

561 IAC 10.9

(1) ✓

(2) ✓

(3) ✓

(4) ✓

(5) NA

(6) Not necessary, if petitioner does not wish to cite precedent as justification

(7) NA

(8) NA

(9) Engr., City, operator ✓

(10) NA

561 IAC 10.9(2) ✓

10.9(4) ✓

variance request is to omit trash basket 10.9(3) ✓

Offices in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin

9567 US RTE 20 WEST, SUITE 104 • GALENA, IL 61036-9119

815.777.9333 • 888.672.0003 • FAX: 815.777.3155

www.msa-ps.com

Page 2

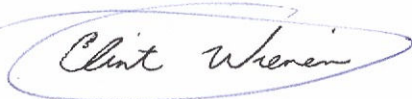
Name

July 28, 2009

If you have any questions or need further documentation, feel free to contact me at 815-777-9333.

Sincerely,

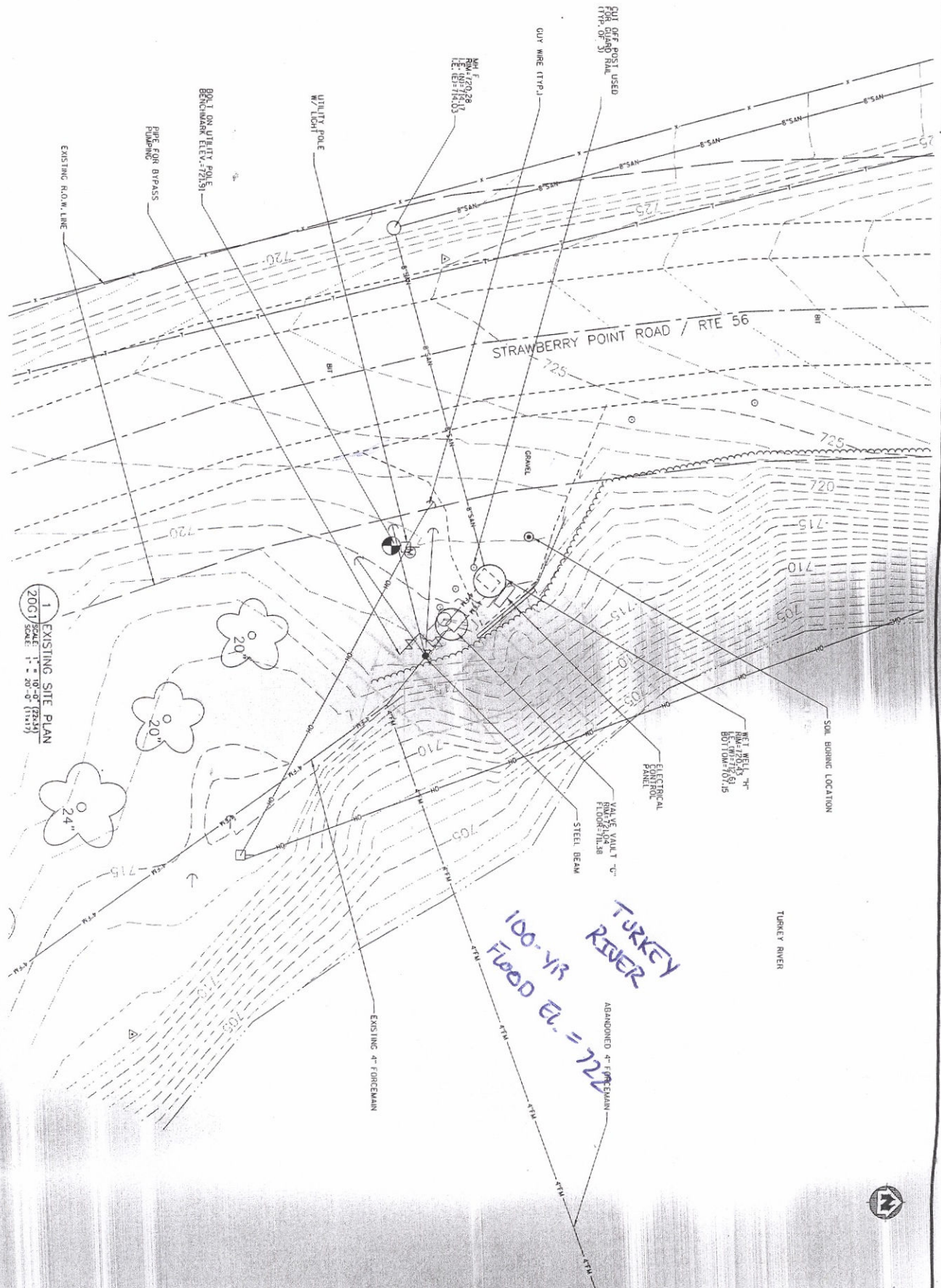
MSA Professional Services, Inc.



Clint Wienen  
Project Engineer

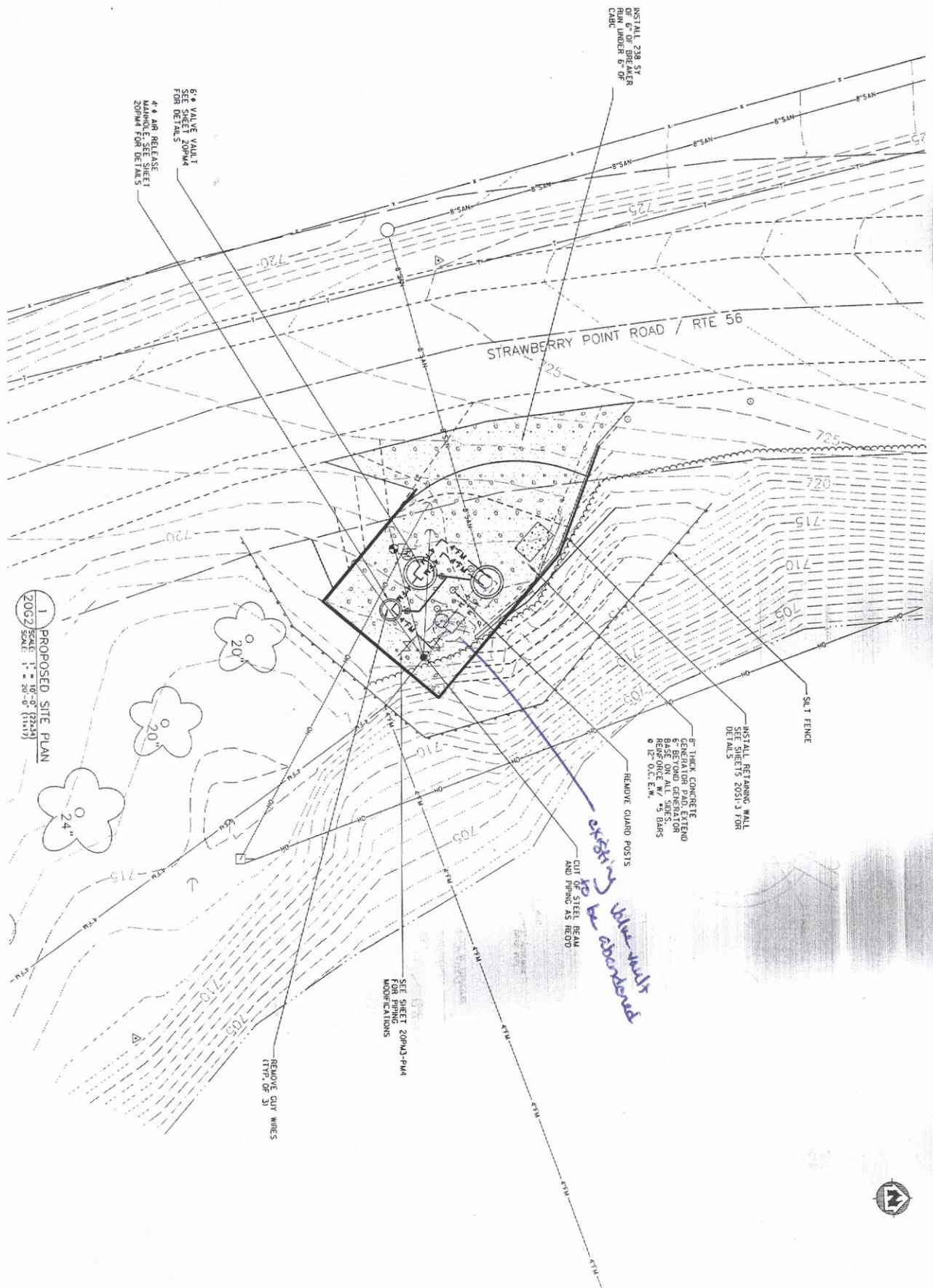
Cc: File  
City of Elkader  
Jason Miller



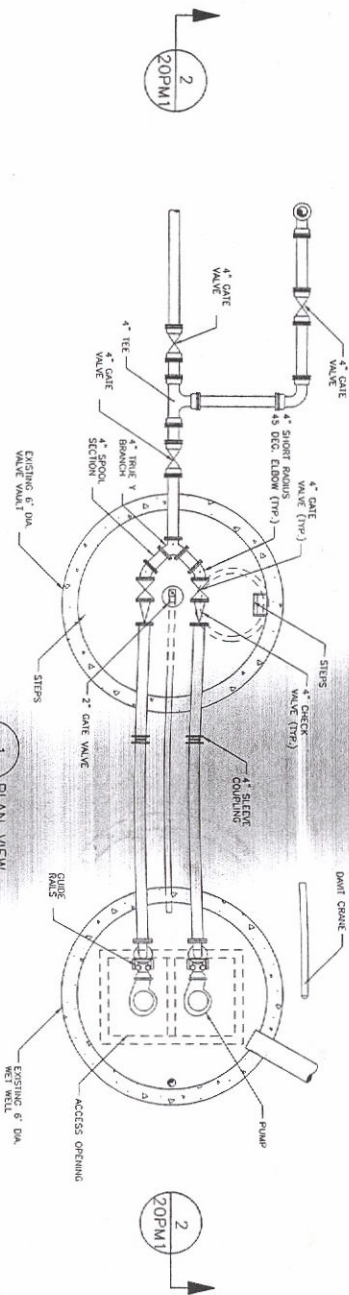


2007 480/73 2007	WEST L.S. EXISTING SITE PLAN	PROJECT NO. 4940713	T.B. 2007-08	NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY	<div><div><div>MSA</div><div>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</div></div><div>TRANSPORTATION • MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT • ENVIRONMENTAL 9501 US Hwy 20 West, Suite 100, Clarks Summit, PA 17015 815-777-9033 • 815-418-4200 • Fax: 815-777-3185 WWW.MSA-PA.COM © MSA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</div></div>
		DISTAL PUMP STATIONS CITY OF ELKADER CLAYTON COUNTY, IOWA	PLAN DATE: OCTOBER 2008	DRAWN BY: BS, GG	CHECKED BY: CW	SCALE: AS SHOWN		

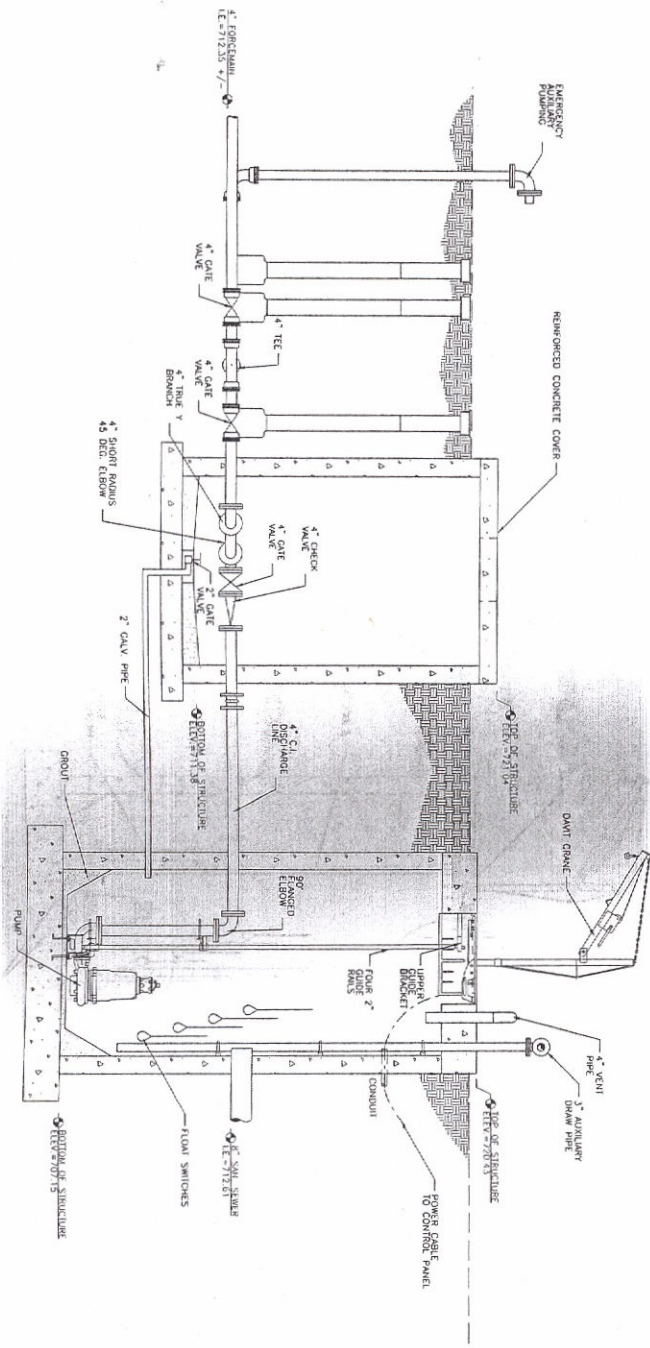






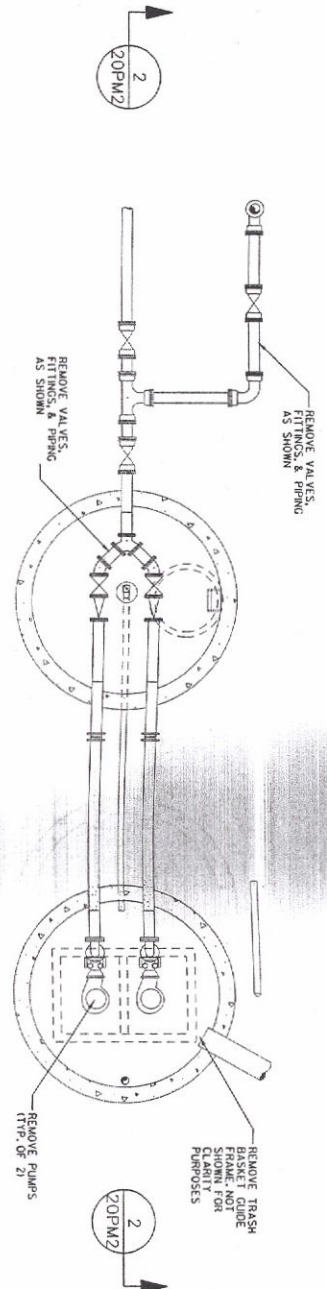


1 PLAN VIEW  
20PM1 N.T.S.

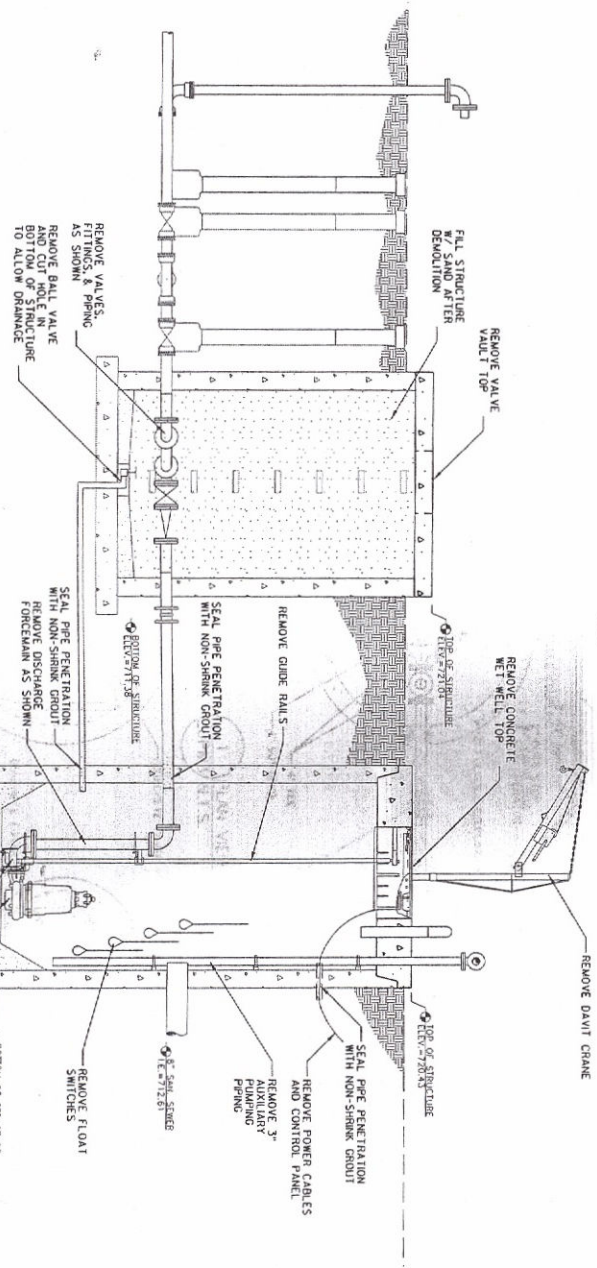


2 SECTIONAL VIEW  
20PM1 N.T.S.





1 PLAN VIEW  
20PM2 N.T.S.



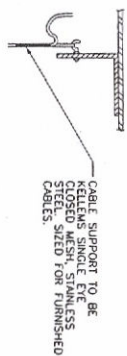
2 SECTIONAL VIEW  
20PM2 N.T.S.

NOTES:  
1. ALL ITEMS THAT ARE BOLD SHALL BE REMOVED. CONTRACTOR SHALL CONFIRM WITH OWNER ITEMS NOT TO BE REMOVED. ITEMS THAT OWNER DOES NOT WANT TO BE REMOVED SHALL BE PROTECTED BY THE CONTRACTOR.  
2. CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL BYPASS PUMPING NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN FLOW OF WASTEWATER DURING DEMOLITION. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PIPES OCCURRED AS A RESULT OF NEARBY BYPASS PUMPING OPERATIONS.

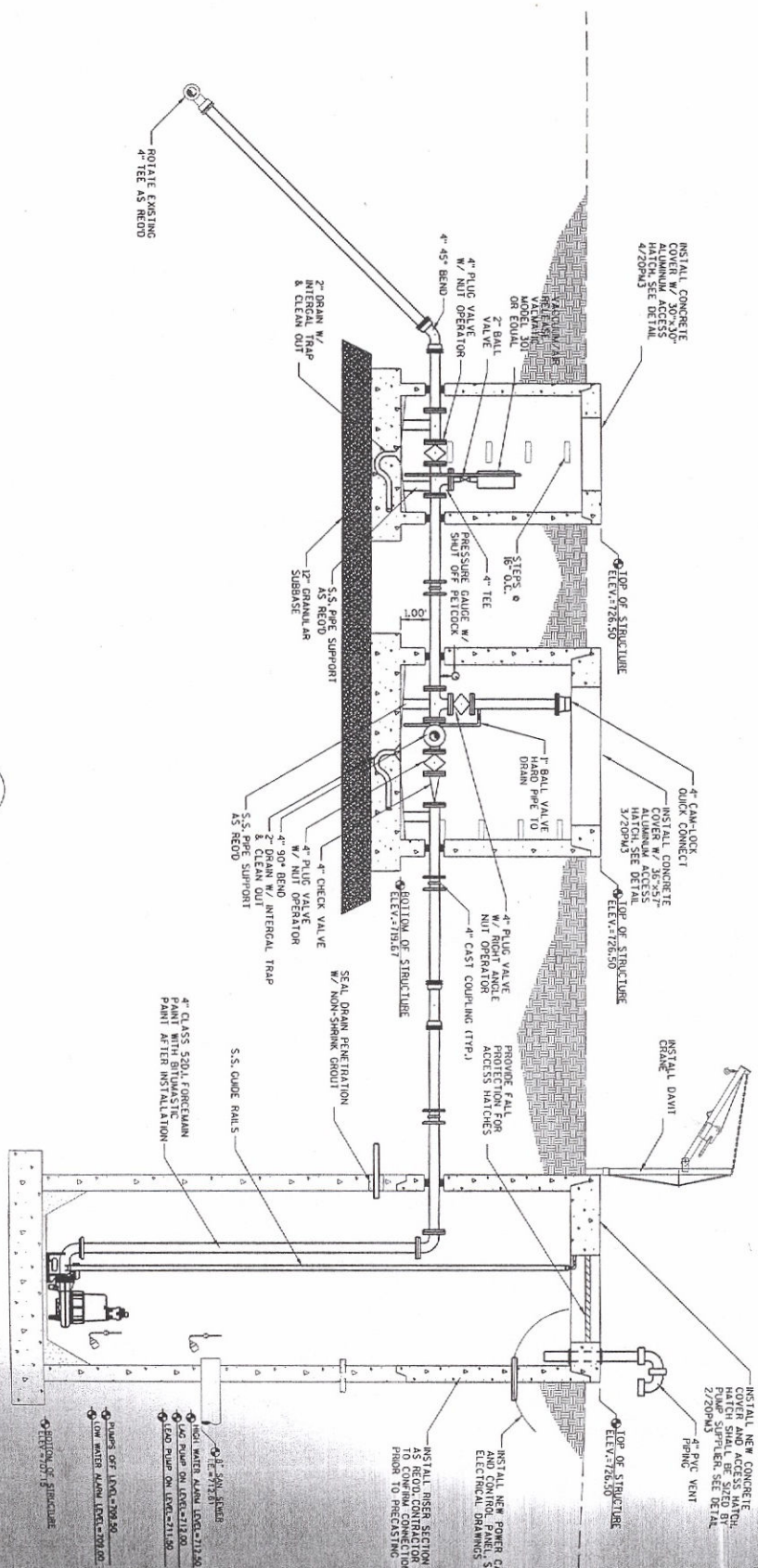








1  
SECTIONAL VIEW  
20PM4 N.T.S.



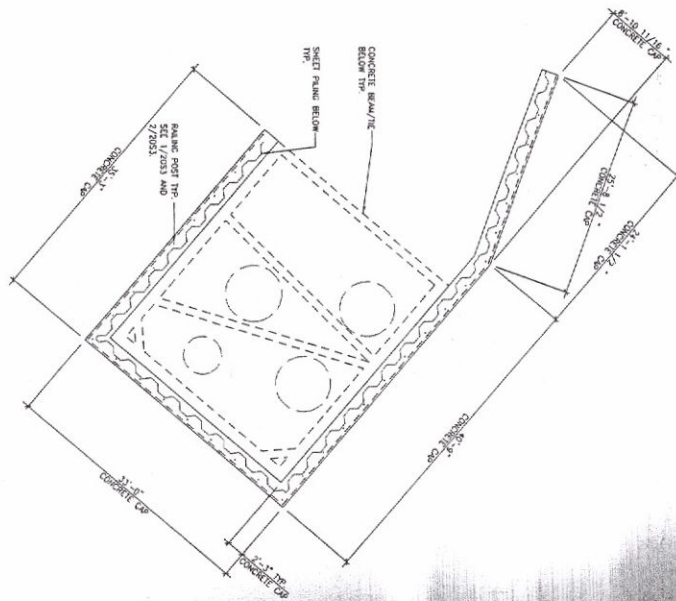
1. CONSTRUCTION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL BYPASS PUMPING NECESSARY TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION, NO UNLIMITED MATERIALS SHALL BE DISCHARGED, CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL EXISTING OR NEARBY BYPASS PUMPING OPERATIONS.
2. DETAILS OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP NOT SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING SHALL CONFORM TO PRESENTED SECTIONS OF THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND THE APPLICABLE SPECIAL PROCEDURES.
3. PROVIDE CLOUTER RAIL EQUIPMENT FOR REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF PUMPS.
4. PUMPING WITHIN WEI WELL SHALL BE PAINTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATION 31 32.13.00.
5. PUMPING VALVES, FITTINGS, ETC. WHEN VALVE, VALT, AND AIR RELEASE MANHOLES SHALL BE PAINTED WITH EPOXY PAINT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATION 09 36.00.





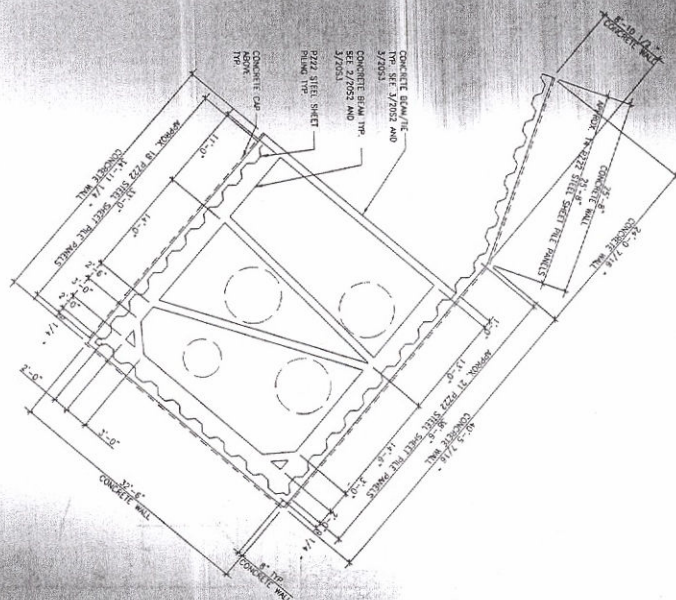
### A SHEET PILING RETAINING WALL - CAP PLAN

SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0" (1:24)  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0" (1:24)  
NOTES:  
1. SEE SHEET 2052 FOR WALL ELEVATION, TYPICAL WALL SECTION, AND PHOTOGRAPHS.  
2. SEE SHEET 2053 FOR TYPICAL DETAILS.

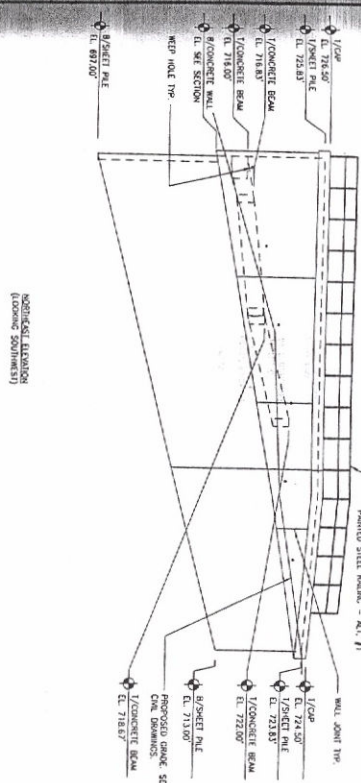
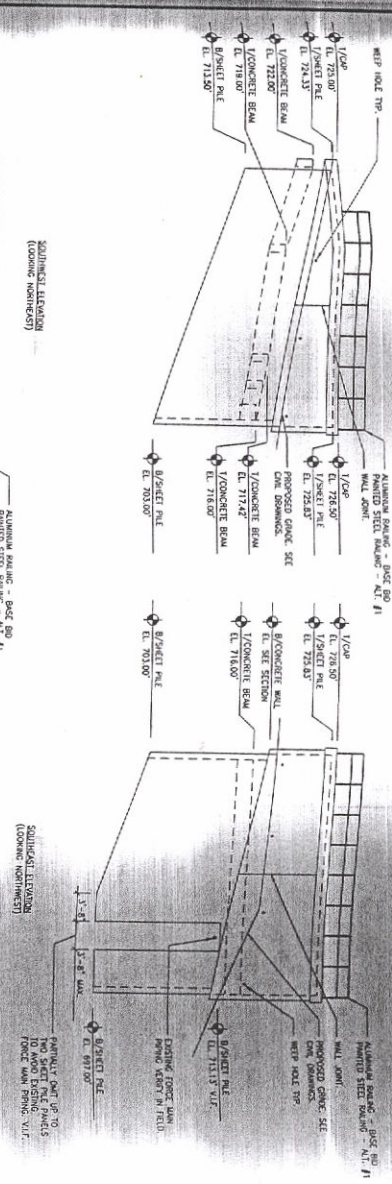


### B SHEET PILING RETAINING WALL - BEAM PLAN

SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0" (1:24)  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0" (1:24)  
NOTES:  
1. SEE SHEET 2052 FOR WALL ELEVATION, TYPICAL WALL SECTION, AND PHOTOGRAPHS.  
2. SEE SHEET 2053 FOR TYPICAL DETAILS.  
3. CONNECTION SHALL DETAIL MOST EFFICIENT AND QUANTITY OF SHEET PILING SHALL BE AS SHOWN ON THE DRAWING.

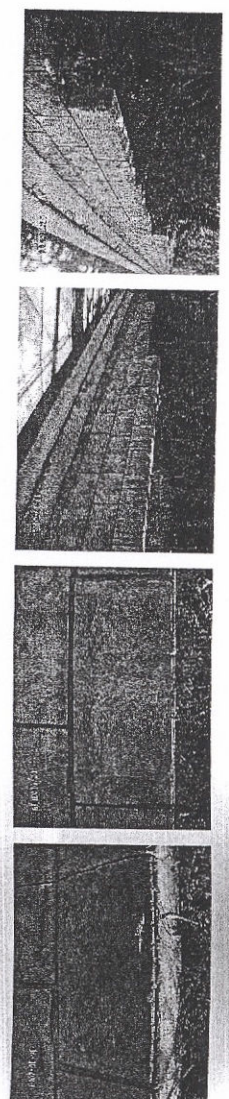






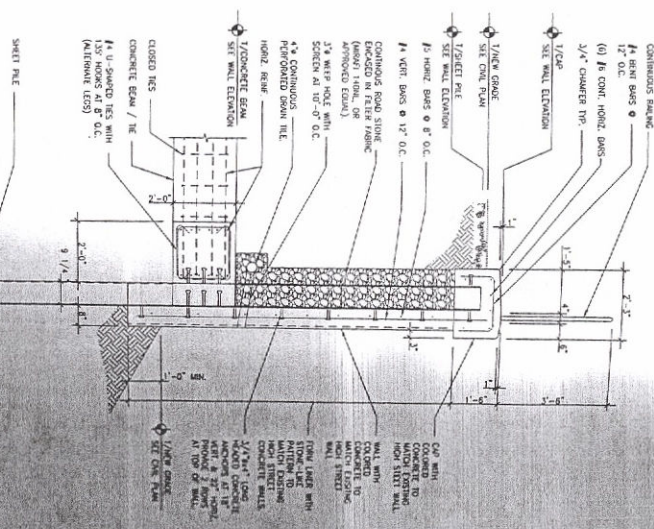
# 1 WALL ELEVATIONS

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" (25:1)  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" (11:1)



## 2 PHOTOGRAPHS

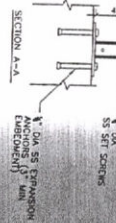
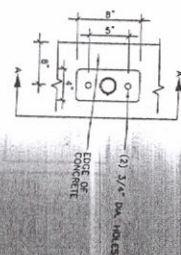
EXISTING CONCRETE RETAINING WALL ALONG HIGHWAY 20 IN ELKADER



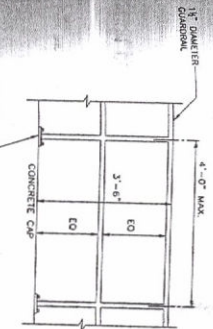
## 3 TYPICAL SECTION

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0" (25:1)  
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0" (11:1)



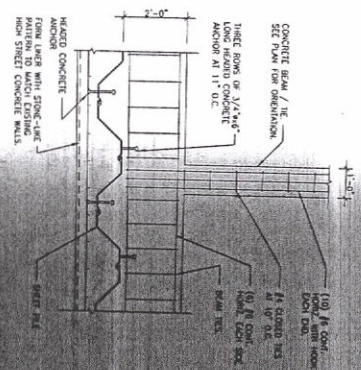


**1 POST MOUNTING DETAIL**  
NOT TO SCALE

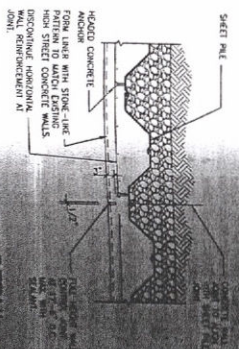


SECTION A-A  
1/2" DIA. SS SPANION ANCHORS 1/2" DIA.  
3/4" DIA. SS SPANION ANCHORS 1/2" DIA.  
1/2" DIA. SS SPANION ANCHORS 1/2" DIA.

**2 TYPICAL ALUMINUM RAIL DETAIL**  
NOT TO SCALE

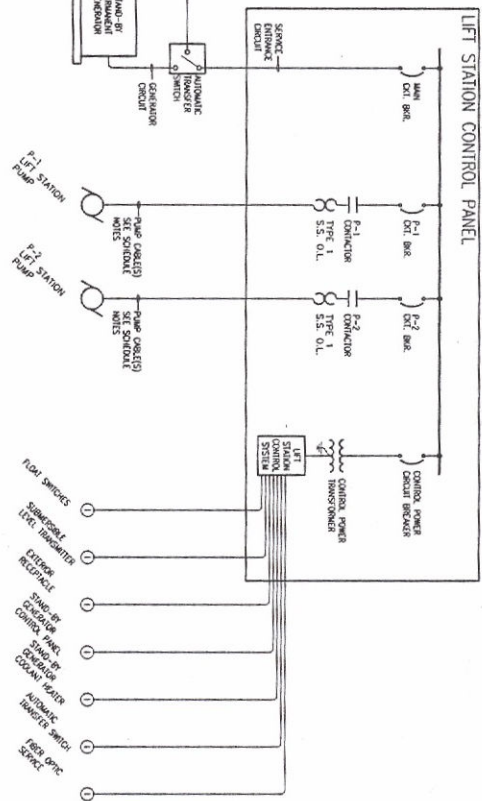


**3 TYPICAL CONCRETE BEAM DETAIL**  
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0" (22x30)  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0" (11x17)



**4 TYPICAL WALL JOINT DETAIL**  
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0" (22x30)  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0" (11x17)





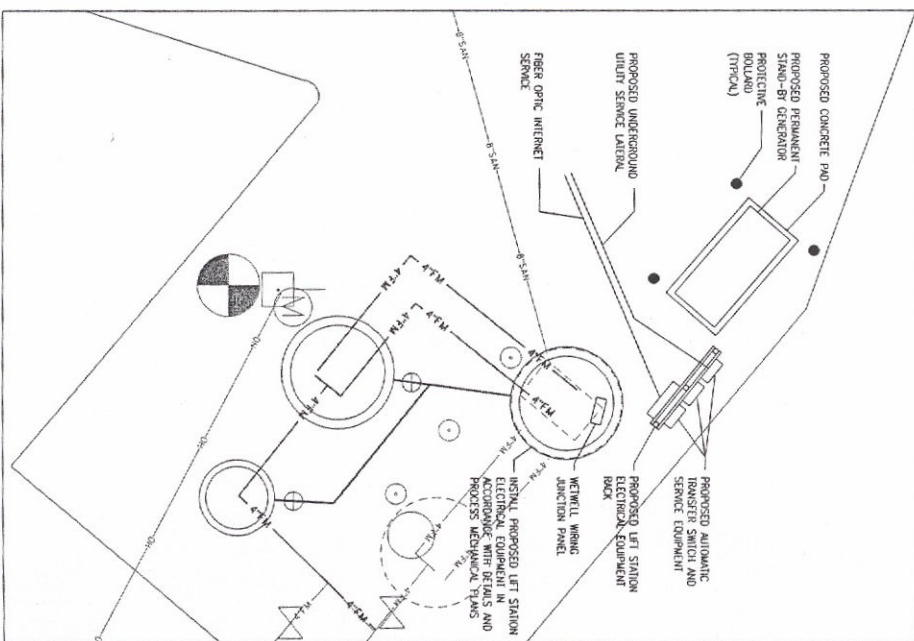
LIFT STATION CONTROL PANEL

### LIFT STATION ELECTRICAL ONE-LINE DIAGRAM

[illegible]


### LIFT STATION ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS CONT'D.

- [illegible]



## WEST LIFT STATION ELECTRICAL PLAN

4840713 10/1/13	WEST L.S. SITE PLAN & ONE-LINE  DISTAL PUMP STATIONS CITY OF ELKADER CLAYTON COUNTY, IOWA	PROJECT NO: 4840713	1/8, 2007-08	NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
		PLSI DATE: DECEMBER 2001  SCALE AS SHOWN	DRAWN BY: BS, CG  CHECKED BY: CW				



TRANSPORTATION • MUNICIPAL  
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 5807 US Route 30 West, Suite 104 Okma, IL 61048  
 815-777-1831 • 1-848-625-0000 Fax: 815-777-1831  
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[illegible]



32007-0068

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Wastewater Section  
Construction Permit Application  
SCHEDULE E, Wastewater Pump Station

DATE PREPARED 12/11/08	PROJECT IDENTITY Elkader Distal Lift Stations - West Lift Station	DNR USE
DATE REVISED		PROJECT NO.
		PERMIT NO.

1.	Design Basis	Initial	Design Year ( )
	Residential Area, Acres	80	80
	Population, Persons		
	PHDW Flow, MGD	0.160	.163
	Industrial Area, Acres	N/A	N/A
	PHDW Flow, MGD	N/A	N/A
	Other _____, Acres	N/A	N/A
	PHDW Flow, MGD	N/A	N/A
	Peak Hourly Infiltration, MGD	0.070	0.077
	Peak Hourly Inflow, MGD	0.070	0.077
	Total PHDW Flow, MGD	0.160	.163
	Total PHWW Flow, MGD	0.300	0.317

2. Provide pump information

Pump No.	Type	Opening (in)	HP	Capacity GPM	TDH (ft.)		Operating Level	
					Computed	Rated	On	Off
1	Submersible	4	20	220	133	135	711.50	709.50
2	Submersible	4	20	220	133	135	711.50	709.50
3								
4								
5								
Sump								

Are pumps specified as being capable of passing three-inch diameter spheres? Yes ☒ No ☐

Can remaining pumps handle PHWW flow with largest pump out of service? Yes ☒ No ☐

3. Wet-well effective volume 423 gallons. Maximum retention time: Initial flow 16 minutes.  
Design flow 15 minutes.

4. Is forced air ventilation provided? No

Continuous: wet-well Yes dry-well No Intermittent: wet-well \_\_\_\_\_ dry-well \_\_\_\_\_  
dry-well \_\_\_\_\_ air changes/hour dry-well \_\_\_\_\_ air changes/hour

Are spark-proof materials specified? Yes ☒ No ☐

5. Force main: Is profile of force main provided? Yes ☐ No ☒

Size 4 in. Length 3,050 ft. Detention time at ADW design flow 1.08 hours.

Pipe material ductile iron Joint elastometric

Minimum cover 5.5 ft. Minimum velocity 2.0 fps

Number of high points 1 Are air relief valves provided? Yes ☒ No ☐

Number of thrust blocks provided? \_\_\_\_\_ At location(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Is pressure test specified? Yes ☐ No ☒ Does installation conform to AWWA C600? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, explain \_\_\_\_\_

6. Are valves provided on the suction & discharge lines? Yes ☒ No ☐

Type: Discharge g & c Suction N/A

7. Is an alarm system provided? Yes ☒ No ☐ Type SCADA with alarm dialer

Indicate where audio/visual warning signals will be located control panel

8. Method of pump control transducer with backup floats

9. Are the pumps protected from clogging? Yes ☐ No ☒

Method of cleaning vacuum truck

Method of pump removal guide rails Are lifting hook/arms provided? yes

10. Are permanent emergency piping bypass connections provided? yes

Is an emergency power supply available? yes

Describe station operation in an emergency (equipment, piping, bypass, etc.) trash pump or generator

11. Is the wastewater pump station located in a floodplain? Yes ☒ No ☐

Elevation of 100 year flood (MSL) 722.00 Elevation of 25 year flood (MSL) \_\_\_\_\_