Little Scioto River Clean-up

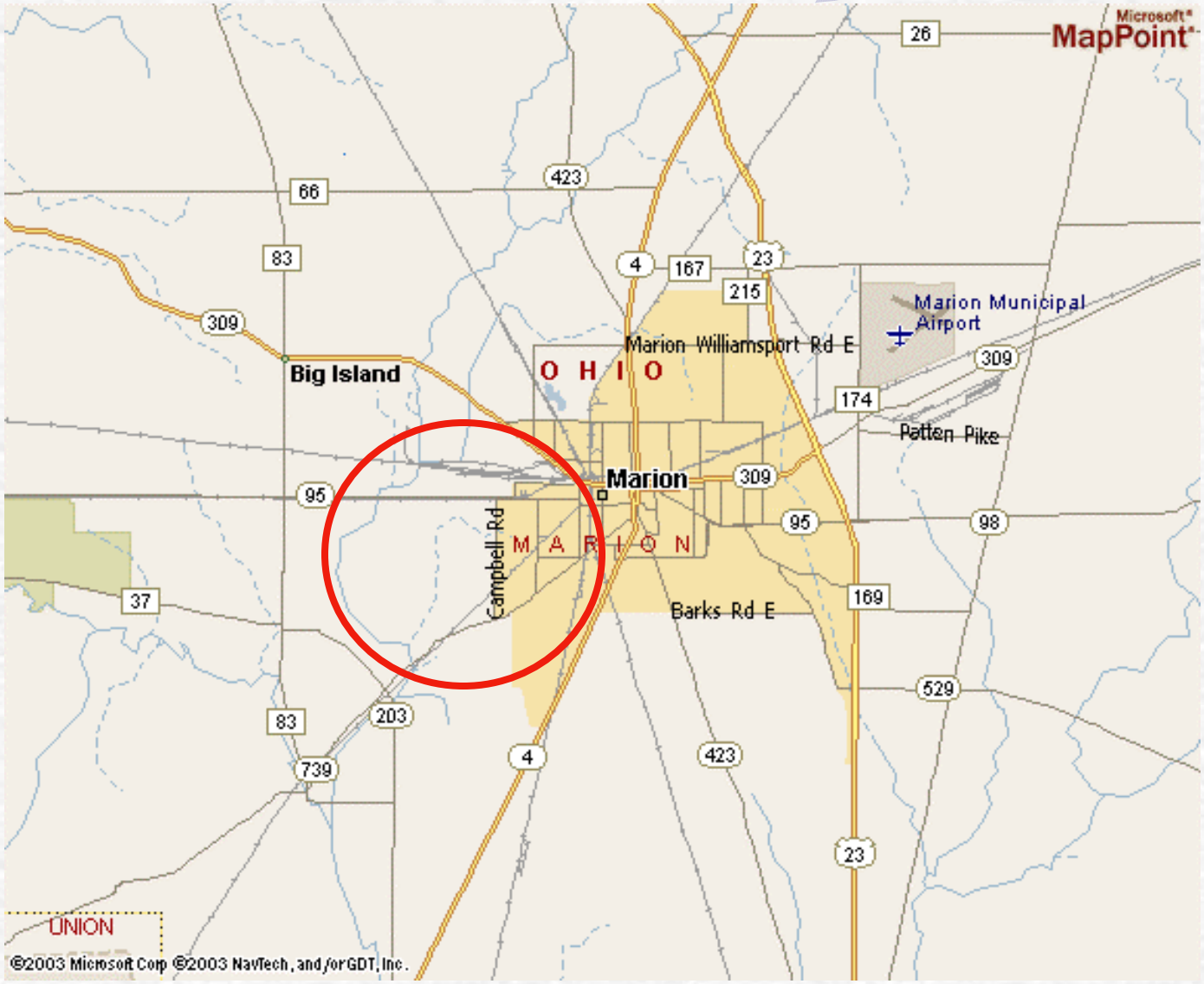
Presented To:

Freshwater Spills Symposium

April 6-8, 2004

Mark Durno, EPA, Region 5

Where are we ?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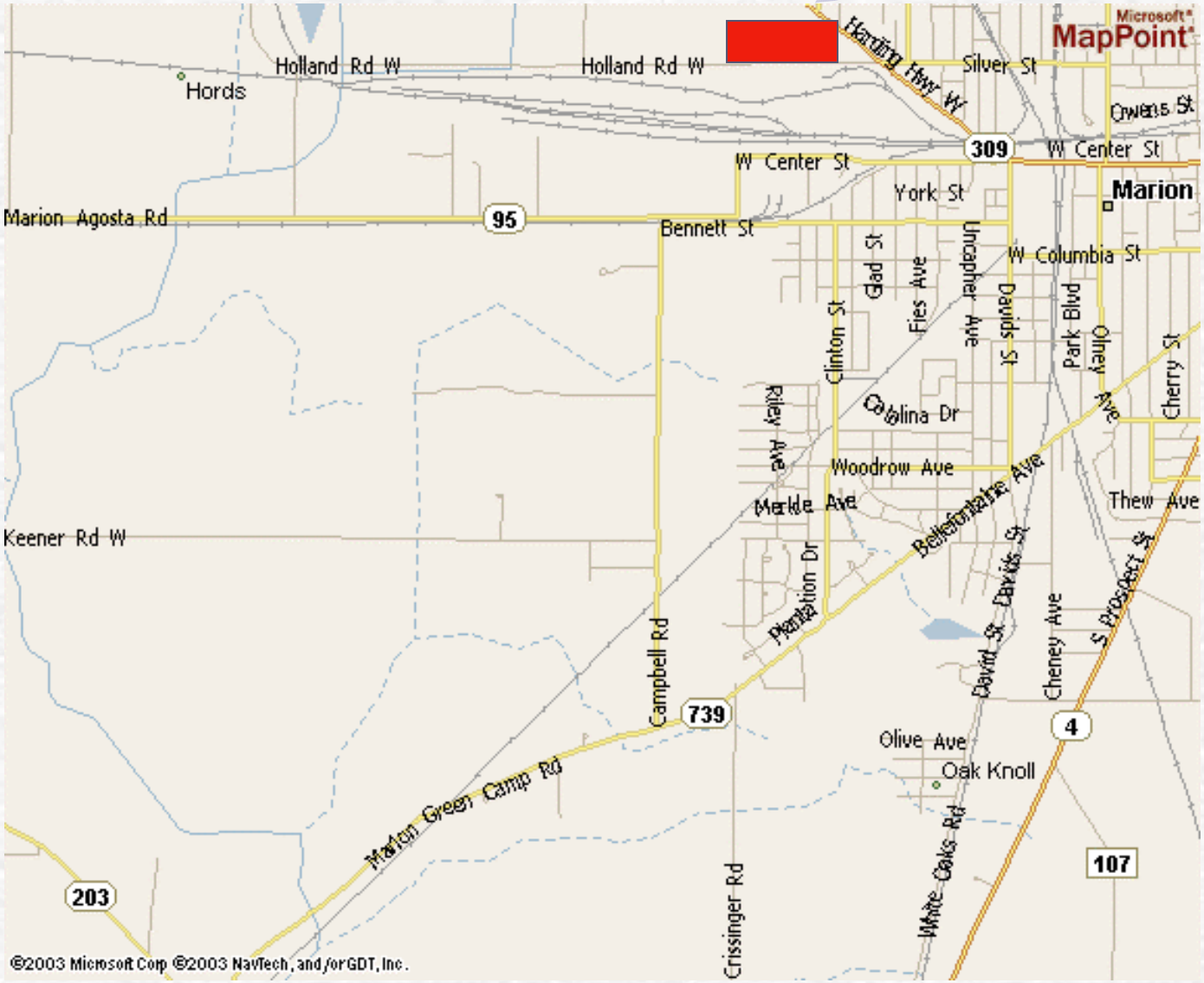
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Marion Green Camp Rd
White Oaks Rd
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Crissinger Rd
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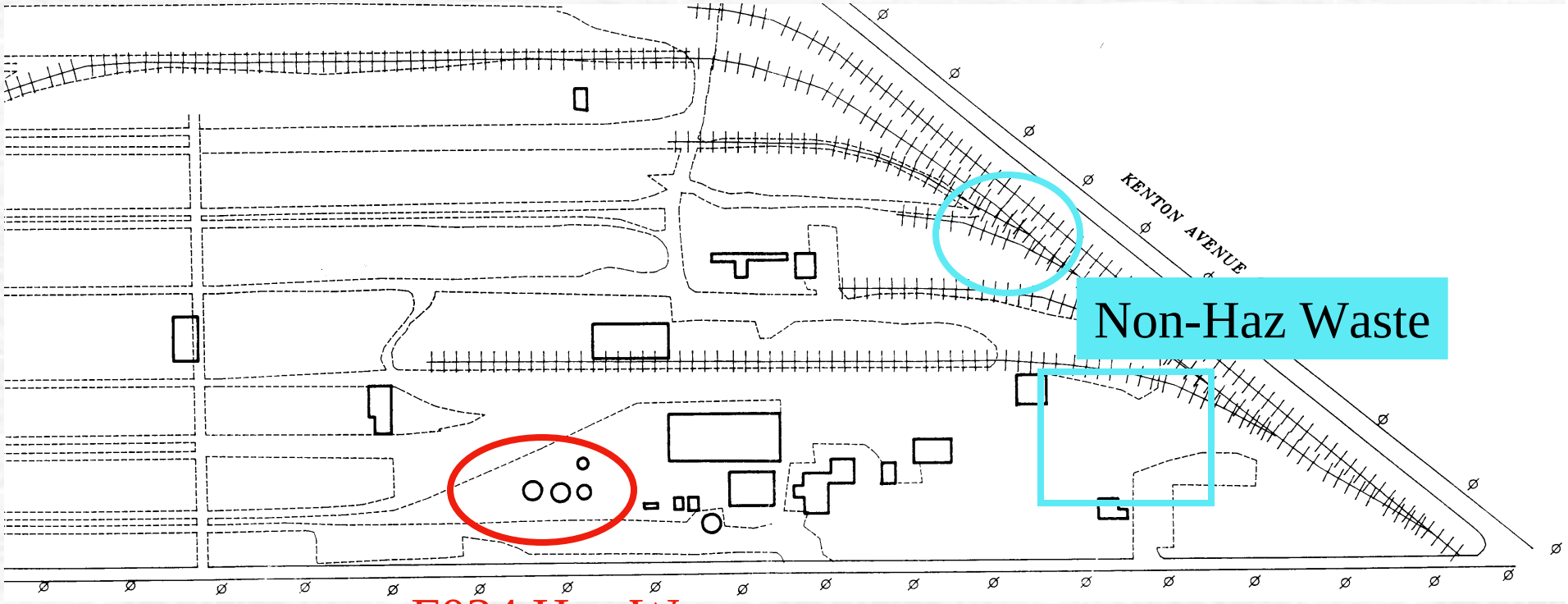
Background

- 1998 Ohio EPA Integrated Assessment at Baker Wood Creosoting.
- 1999 U.S. EPA Removal Action.
- 2000 Little Scioto River Assessment.
- 2001 Community coordination team develops.

Baker Wood Creosoting

- Assessment – 1998 / 1999
  - Sewer determined to be link to River.
  - Geophysics experiment.
- CERCLA Removal – 1999
  - Land Disposal Restriction.
  - Haz-Landfill of Approx. 2,500 tons.
  - Test Trench lead to further contamination.
  - Bioremediation feasibility and treatment.
    - Approx 3,000 additional tons.
    - Disposed as non-haz waste.

Baker Wood Creosoting



Little Scioto River Assessment

- Vibro-coring of N.R. Ditch and L.S. River
  - Every 1,000 feet in Little Scioto
  - Three Point Approach
- Results
  - ½ mile of North Rockswale Ditch
  - 3 ½ miles of the Little Scioto River
  - 1 – 3 feet of sediment
  - 40,000 cubic yards

LSR Funding Approach

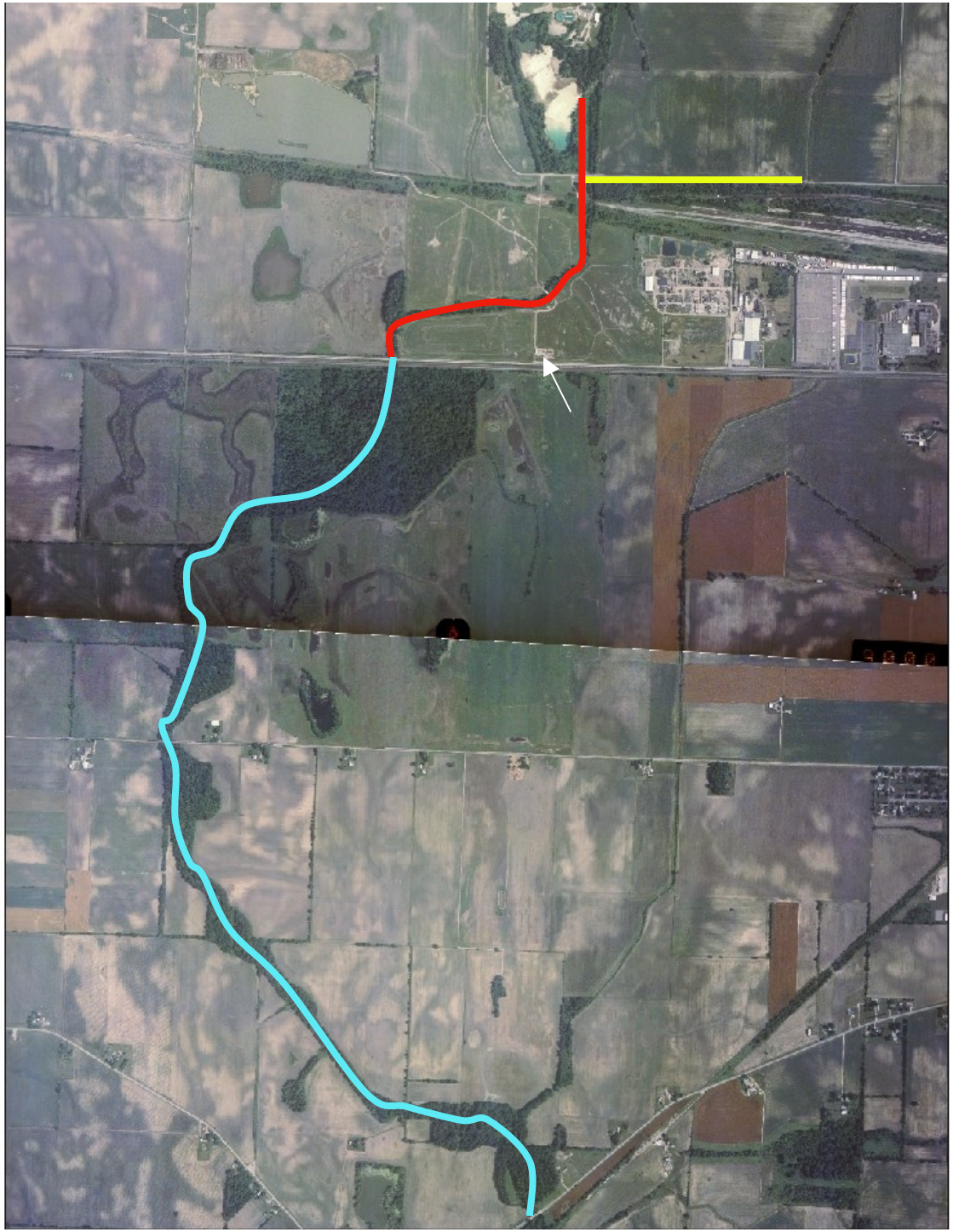
- Oil Pollution Act vs. CERCLA.
  - Listed hazardous substance – as a process waste.
  - Listed hazardous waste – process.
  - Behaving like an oil – continuous sheen release.
- 1996 USCG decision document.
  - Coal-Tar Creosote listed as an oil.
- RCRA review.
  - Not a hazardous waste based on historical unknowns.
- Removal Project Plan: Approved for $9M
  - May 2002

2002 Coordination Team

- Envisioning the 21st Century
- Ohio EPA
- Marion CanDo!
- City of Marion
  - Chamber of Commerce, Engineer, Mayor
- Marion County
  - Commissioners Office, Engineer
- U.S. EPA
- Metcalf and Eddy, Inc.
- Ohio DNR
- Senator Mumper

Support

- Union Tank Car, Inc.
- Ohio-American Water Company
- Marion WWTP
- Marion County Park District
  - Prairie Parks and Nature Preserves
- DKMM Solid Waste District
- Mr. Richard Schaeffer
- Mr. Tom Kennedy



U.S. EPA Removal – Phase 1

- Funding authorized in May 2002.
- Mobilization: 6/10/02.
- North Rockswale Ditch:
  - July 8 – August 22.
  - Approx. 7,500 cy removed.
  - Approximate removal cost: $760,000*.

*Not including disposal.

Install Sheet Piling

Initial Observation in N.R. Ditch

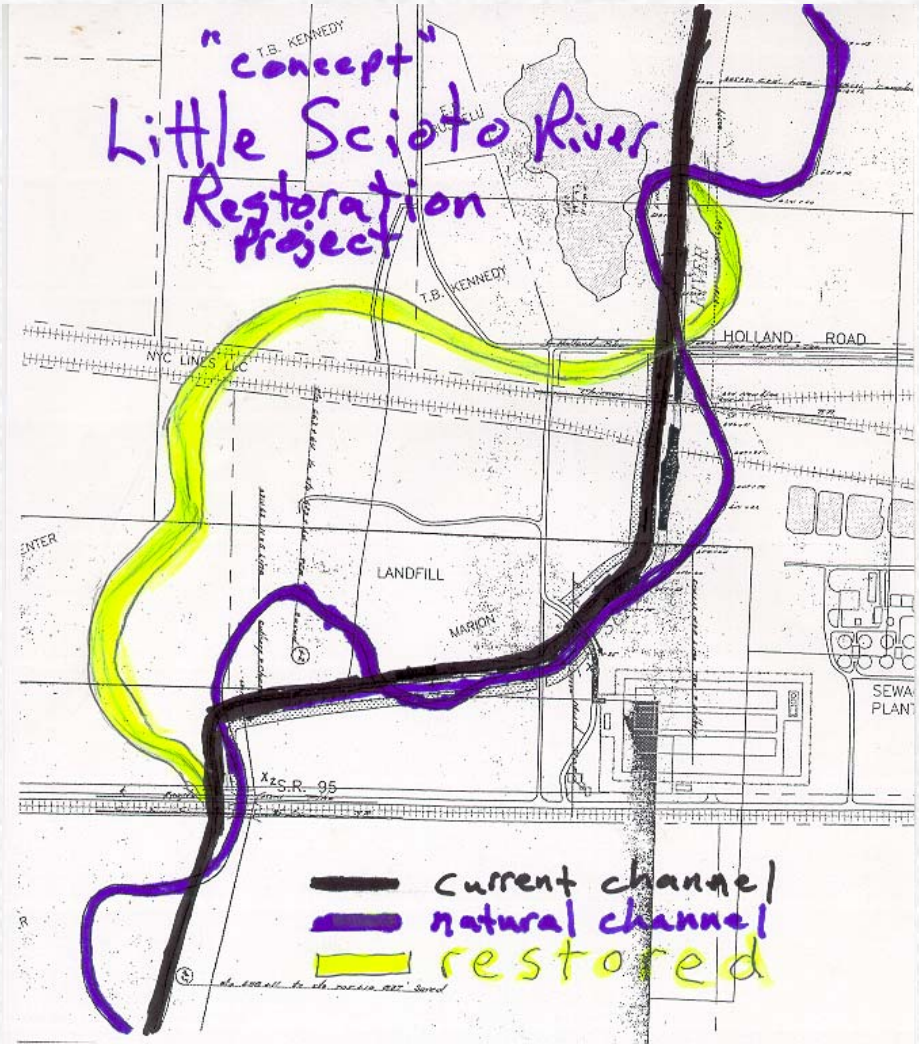
First Cell in N.R. Ditch

Ditch after Excavation

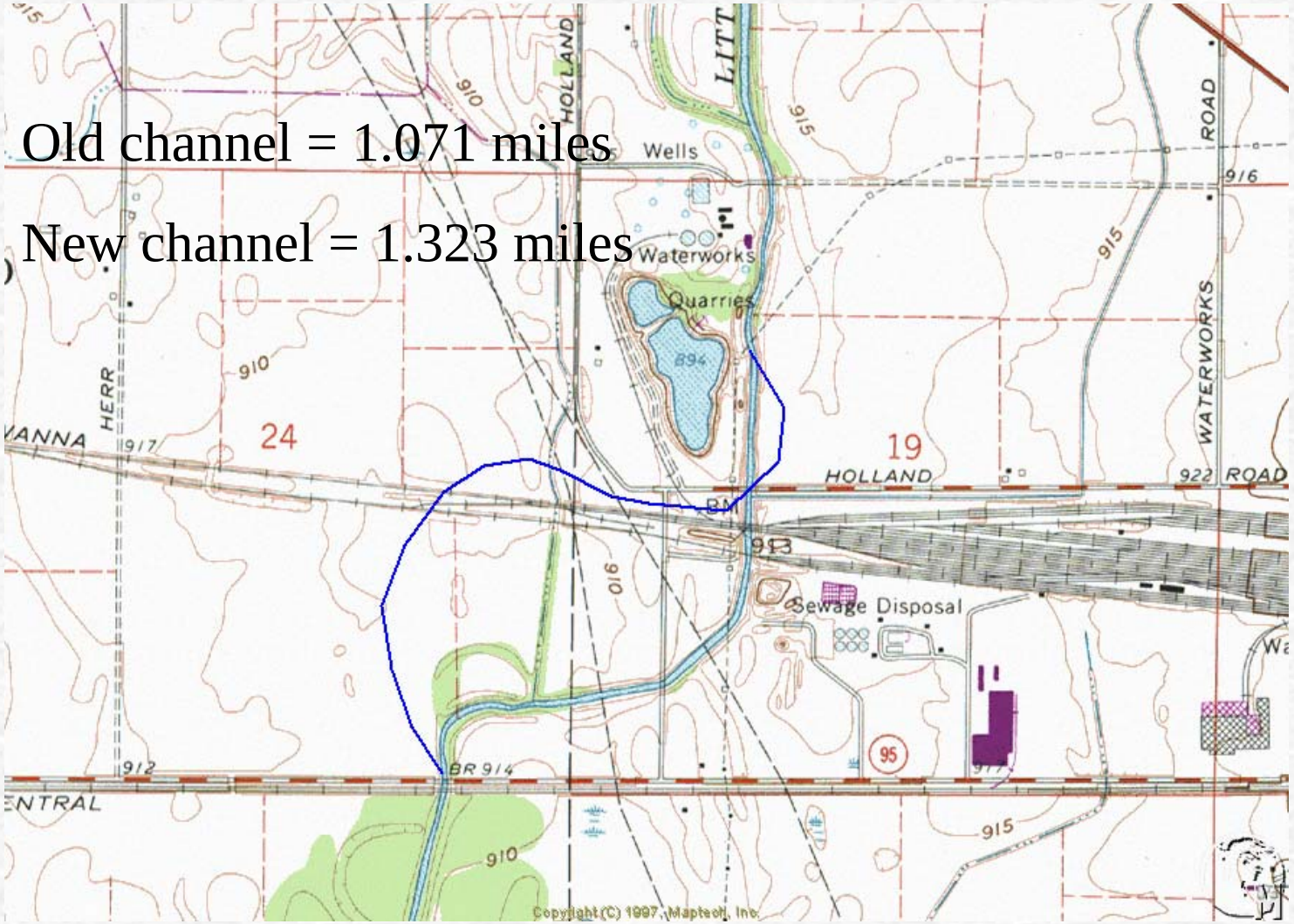
Backfill and Restoration

Completed Riverbed

River Re-Route Initiative: Ohio DNR, Ohio EPA



River Re-Route Initiative



Removal – Phase 2

- Continue Clean-up in Little Scioto River.
  - 400’ de-watered cells.
  - Excavation of contaminated sediment.
  - October – November, 2002.
    - Approx. 3,000 feet completed.
- Contingency planning.
- Engineered capping.
- Riverbed and riverbank restoration.
- Disposal.

Install Sheet Piling

Pump Around Cell

De-Water Cell

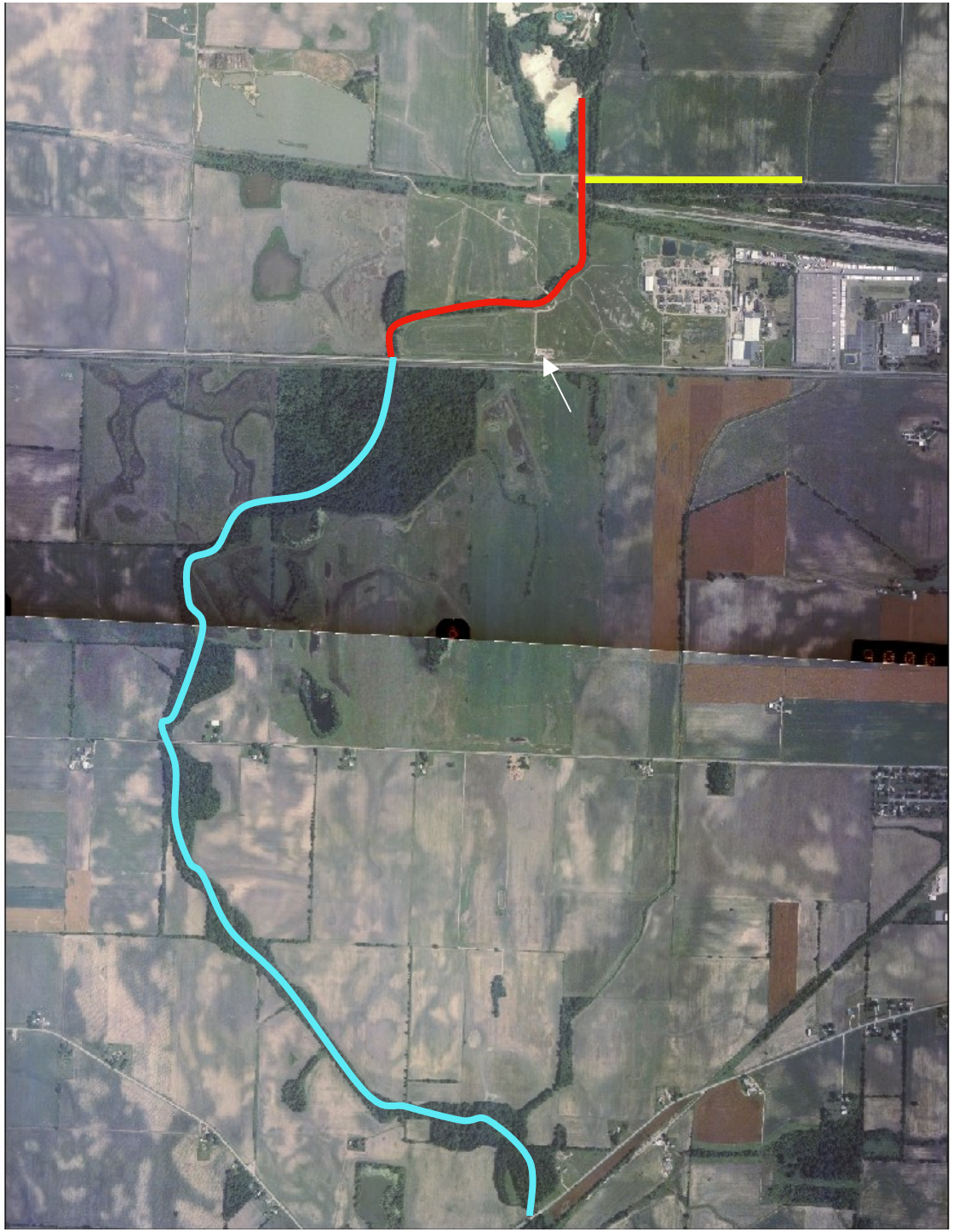
Stabilize and Remove Sediment

Excavation Bottom

Place Clay to Cap River Bottom

Compact Clay River Bottom

Completed River Bed



THEN…….

Things took a turn for the worse…

Letting the Red Tape In

- ISSUE 1: Solid Waste Disposal Fees
- ISSUE 2: Weather Complications
- ISSUE 3: Non-Guaranteed Funds
- ISSUE 4: Pulling the Plug
- ISSUE 5: Disposal
- ISSUE 6: Interagency Coordination

Issue 1:
Solid Waste Disposal Fees

- Initial contacts made in July, '02.
  - DKMM Solid Waste District.
- September: Ohio EPA – DKMM – Ohio EPA.
- Extent of total waiver: $1 Million
- October: U.S. EPA requests waiver from Ohio EPA.
- November: At the 11th hour, Ohio EPA denies waiver of local fees.
- U.S. EPA asks for local waiver of fees.
  - Denied - January 2003

Issue 2:
Weather Complications

- Rainy October / November.
- River level up.
  - Production slows down.
  - Unit costs increase.

Issue 3:
No Guaranteed Funding

- Oil Pollution Act Funding.
  - $50 million annual budget, nationally.
  - $25 million allocated to inland response.
    - EPA.
    - Divided among 10 EPA Regions.
    - $3.8 million given to EPA Region V.
    - Under $3.0 million available clean-up funds.
  - $3 million spent at LSR for FY03.
  - EPA headquarters support

Issue 4:
Pulling the Plug

- SWD issue raises awareness at USCG.
  - Region V ORC / USCG council.
  - Similar coal-tar case being evaluated in Vermont by NPFC.
- November 27, 2002, USCG orders U.S. EPA to cease contractual expenditures.
  - Cite Baker Wood tie to LSR contamination.
  - U.S. EPA HQ requested to intervene.

Issue 5: Disposal

- USCG refuses to pay local SWD fees.
  - Taxes vs. fees ?
- Local SWDs refuse to waive fees.
  - Offer compromise based on community pressure.
- 12/02: $50,000 available for site maintenance.
- Late March, ‘03: USCG reverses opinion.
  - Compromise negotiated.
- Disposal completed in July, ’03: 42,000 tons

Issue 6: Interagency Coordination

- USCG Position
- U.S. EPA Response.
  - Headquarters.
  - Office of General Council.
- Department of Justice and NPFC.
- One year later: no progress made to date.

The Future for the Little Scioto River Clean-up

- Resolve OPA issue between U.S. EPA and the U.S. Coast Guard.
  - Won’t happen short term.
- If resolved, funds are not guaranteed.
- If not resolved, seek removal funding under CERCLA.
  - Limited funding.
- Revised cost estimate to complete:
  - Based on disposal tonnage: $20M.

Little Scioto Web Page

www.epa.gov/region5/sites/bakerwood/lsrc