

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers ⊗ New England District

696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751 Date: June 5, 2007

Comment Period Ends: July 6, 2007

File Number: NAE-2005-424

In Reply Refer To: Ms. Diane M. Ray Or by e-mail: diane.m.ray@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to conduct work in waters of the United States as described below. The Corps is soliciting comments on both the project itself and the range of issues to be addressed in the environmental documentation.

APPLICANT: PSEG Power Connecticut, LLC, One Atlantic Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut

ACTIVITY: To perform dredging and construction of additional in-water structures to facilitate offloading coal from vessels to the electric generating station.

A detailed description and plans of the applicant's activity are attached.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK

This work is proposed in Bridgeport Harbor at One Atlantic Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. The proposed work location on the USGS Bridgeport quadrangle sheet is at UTM coordinates 4558659 N and 652679 E.

AUTHORITY - Permits are required pursuant to:

- X Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- X Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- X Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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.

CENAE-R FILE NO. NAE-2005-424

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), 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).

The dredging and proposed structures will impact approximately 128,128 square feet of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for attached list of species and life stages. Habitat at this site can be described as silt and clay. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect species listed on the attached sheets. Any permit issued for the proposed work will contain a time of year restriction prohibiting dredging and disposal operations from May 15 through September 30 to prevent potential adverse impacts to those species. Hence, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

SECTION 106 COORDINATION

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur at the proposed project site during the construction and subsequent operation/use period sought by the applicant. We have undertaken a Biological Assessment (BA) of the potential for interactions and adverse impacts to those listed species. It is our determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any Federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate Federal Agency concur with our BA determination.

CENAE-R FILE NO. NAE-2005-424

The States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved **Coastal Zone Management Programs**. Where applicable the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- (X) Permit, License or Assent from State.
- () Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Diane M. Ray at (978) 318-8831, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

For more information on the New England District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil.

Medd White
Robert J. DeSista
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME:		
ADDRESS:		

THIS NOTICE IS $\underline{\text{NOT}}$ AN AUTHORIZATION $\underline{\text{TO-DO}}$ ANY WORK.

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE

The project includes the following work in navigable waters at the applicant's electric generating plant at Bridgeport Harbor Station:

1. Dredge an approximately 128,128 square foot area to a depth of -35' mean low water in Bridgeport Harbor. A total of approximately 66,000 cubic yards of material will be dredged mechanically and disposed of at either the New London Disposal Site or the Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site.

The dredged material has undergone physical, chemical, and biological testing and has satisfied the criteria for ocean disposal of dredged material as specified in Section 227 of the Ocean Dumping Act regulations. It is our preliminary determination that the material is acceptable for disposal at either of the disposal sites.

Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site

The Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site is frequently used for disposal of bottom sediments from various harbors along the eastern New York, northern Long Island, and central and western Connecticut coasts. An average of approximately 400,000 cubic yards of suitable sediments (suitability determined through case-by-case analyses) have been deposited at this site annually. The site has been monitored through the Corps' Disposal Area Monitoring System (DAMOS) program. DAMOS studies show that the site is a low energy environment such that sediment deposited at this location will remain within the site's boundaries. Levels of metals and organics in the sediments within the disposal site are generally above background levels, indicative of the industrial nature of the areas dredged that utilize the site. Areas outside the disposal site have not been found to be affected by sediment deposited within the site.

New London Disposal Site

The New London Disposal Site is used periodically for disposal of bottom sediments dredged principally from the New London, Mystic, and Groton areas. The quantity of sediments deposited at the site varies considerably each year and peaks when the Federal Channel and Navy-maintained reaches of the Thames River are dredged. Overall, the site receives approximately 200,000 cubic yards of suitable sediments annually (suitability determined through case-by-case analyses). The site has been monitored through the Corps' Disposal Area Monitoring System (DAMOS) program. DAMOS studies show that the site is a low energy environment such that sediment deposited at this location will remain within the site's boundaries. Levels of metals and organics in the sediments within the disposal site are generally above background levels, indicative of the industrial nature of the areas dredged that utilize the site. Areas outside the disposal site have not been found to be affected by sediment deposited within the site.

CENAE-R FILE NO. NAE-2005-424

- 2. Install and maintain one mooring dolphin to be located midway between two existing mooring dolphins and consisting of six 42" pipe piles spaced 4.5' x 7' on center. The mooring dolphins will be fitted with a light pole, railings, control box, capstan base plate and bollard center. Power to the light pole and control box will be supplied by electrical conduit located on the existing walkway. The pipe piles will be filled with concrete and tied together by a concrete cap.
- 3. The proposed transfer of coal to the mainland will be done with the use of a coal receiving hopper that will be supported on a new fixed platform. The proposed platform will be 33' x 36' concrete reinforced slab supported by twelve 42" steel pipe piles installed 10' on center for four rows x 13.5' on center for rows of three. The proposed platform will be located adjacent to the northern edge of the existing platform. The pipe piles will be filled with concrete and tied together with the platform.
- 4. Install and maintain a 54" wide conveyor to transport coal from the hopper to the existing coal pile located to the north of the tank farm. The conveyor will be construct within a twelve foot diameter pipe, which will also contain electrical conduit for power the conveyor and hopper. Also, a water line from the station's city water supply to the water tank in the hopper structure will be installed. The conveyor tube will be supported by a proposed W36 pile cape located on an "H" pier structure spaced approximately 120' on center. The "H" pile structure will consist of two 36" diameter pipe piles spaced 10' on center with a batter of 3:1. Two of these "H" structures will be placed below mean high water and another will be located just above the high tide line on the shore as it enters the tank farm to the designated coal pile area. The pipe piles will be filled with concrete and tied together with the proposed W36 pile cap.

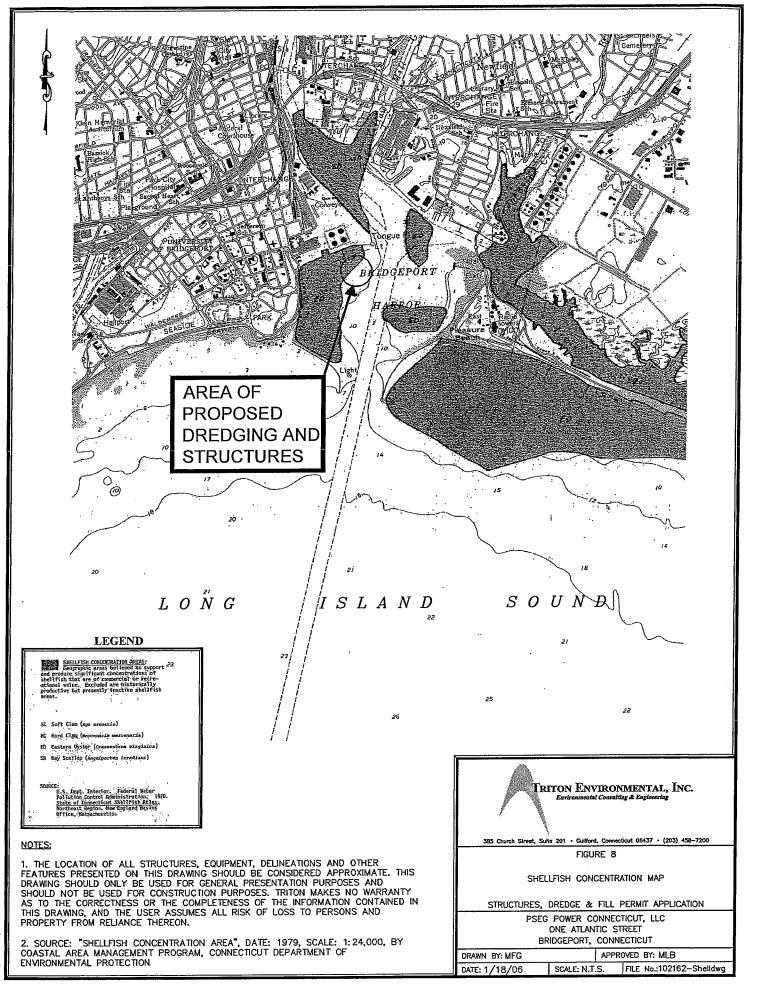
The work is described on the enclosed plans entitled, "Proposed Dock Modifications in Bridgeport Harbor, City of Bridgeport, County of Fairfield, State of Connecticut" in ten sheets, dated, "3/17/06" and "Structures, Dredge & Fill Permit Application, PSEG Power Connecticut, One Atlantic Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut" in three sheets numbered "5A", "5B" and "5C", dated, "3/13/06" and "New London Disposal Site" in one sheet not dated and "Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site" in one sheet, not dated.

Summary of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Designation 10' x 10' Square Coordinates:

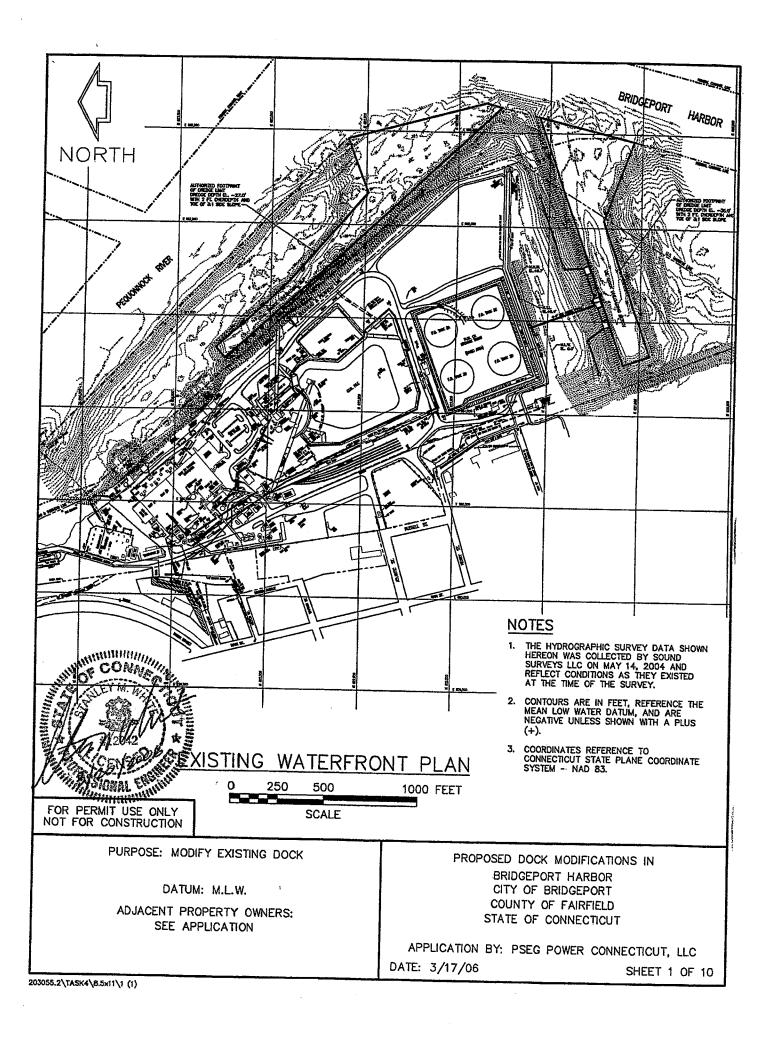
Boundary	North	East	South	West
Coordinate	41° 10.0' N	73° 00.0' W	41° 00.0' N	73° 10.0' W

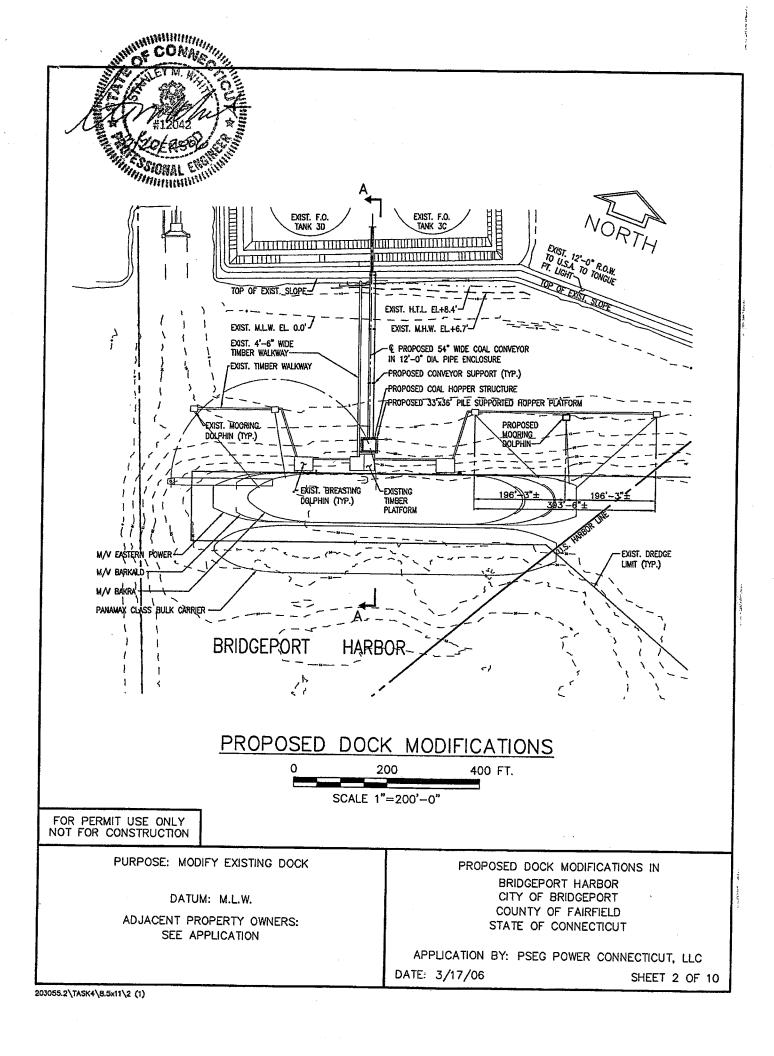
Square Description (i.e. habitat, landmarks, coastline markers): The waters within the square include the tidal and subtidal areas of Long Island Sound in and adjacent to Bridgeport Harbor, Bridgeport Connecticut.

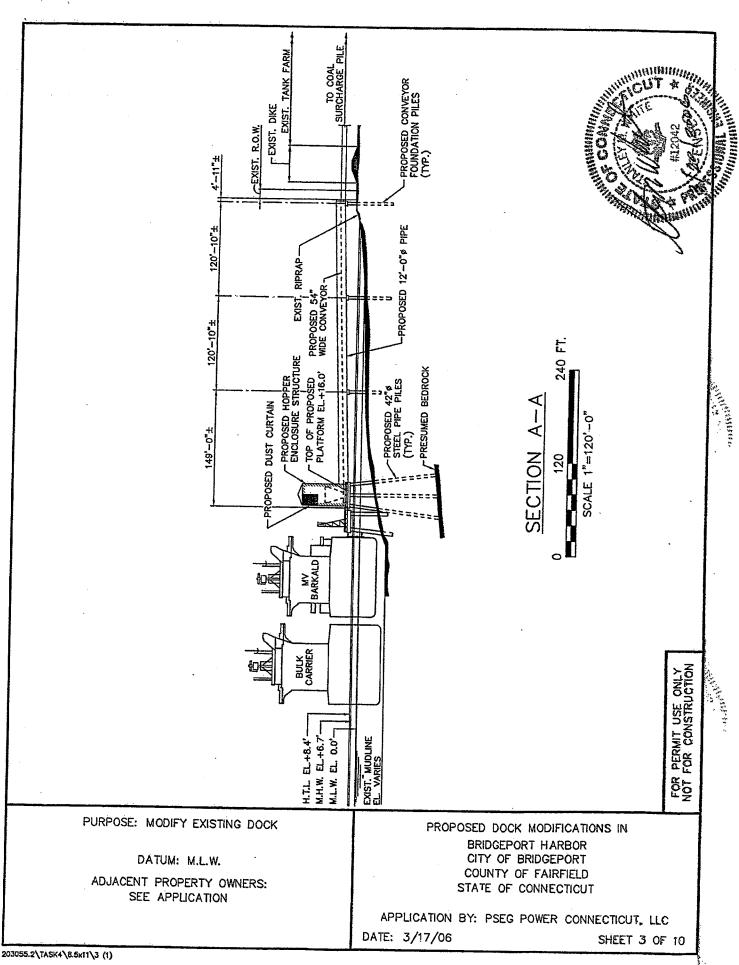
Species Species	Eggs	Larva e	Juvenile s	Adults
Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar)			X	X
Pollock (Pollachius virens)			X	X
Whiting (Merluccius bilinearis)				X
red hake (Urophycis chuss)	X	X	X	X
winter flounder (Pseudopleuronectes americanus)	X	X	X	X
windowpane flounder (Scopthalmus aquosus)	X	X	X	X
American plaice (Hippoglossoides platessoides)			X	X
Atlantic sea herring (Clupea harengus)			X	X
bluefish (Pomatomus saltatrix)			X	X
Atlantic butterfish (Peprilus triacanthus)		X	X	X
Atlantic mackerel (Scomber scombrus)	X	X	X	X
summer flounder (Paralicthys dentatus)		X	X	X
scup (Stenotomus chrysops)	X	X	X	X
black sea bass (Centropristus striata)			X	X
king mackerel (Scomberomorus cavalla)	X	X	X	X
Spanish mackerel (Scomberomorus maculatus)	X	X	X	X
cobia (Rachycentron canadum)	X	X	X	X
sand tiger shark (Odontaspis taurus)		X	X	
little skate (<i>Leucoraja erinacea</i>)			X	X
Winter skate (<i>Leucoraja ocellata</i>)			X	X

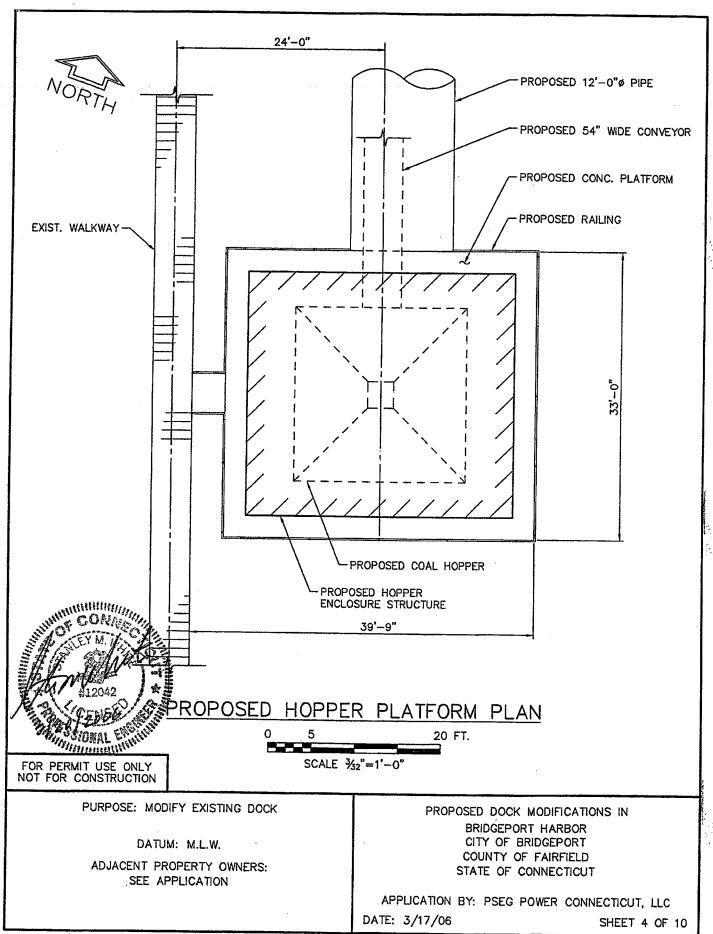


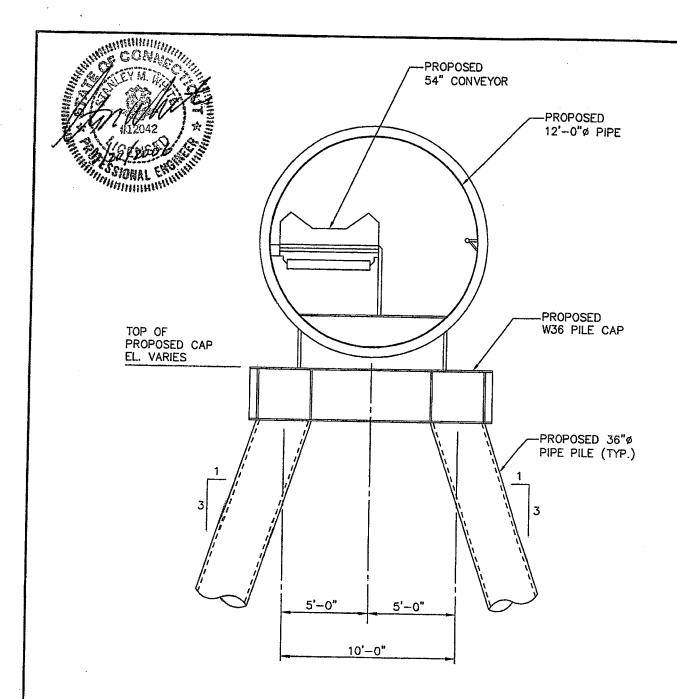
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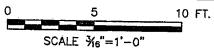








PROPOSED SECTION AT CONVEYOR SUPPORT LOOKING NORTH



FOR PERMIT USE ONLY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

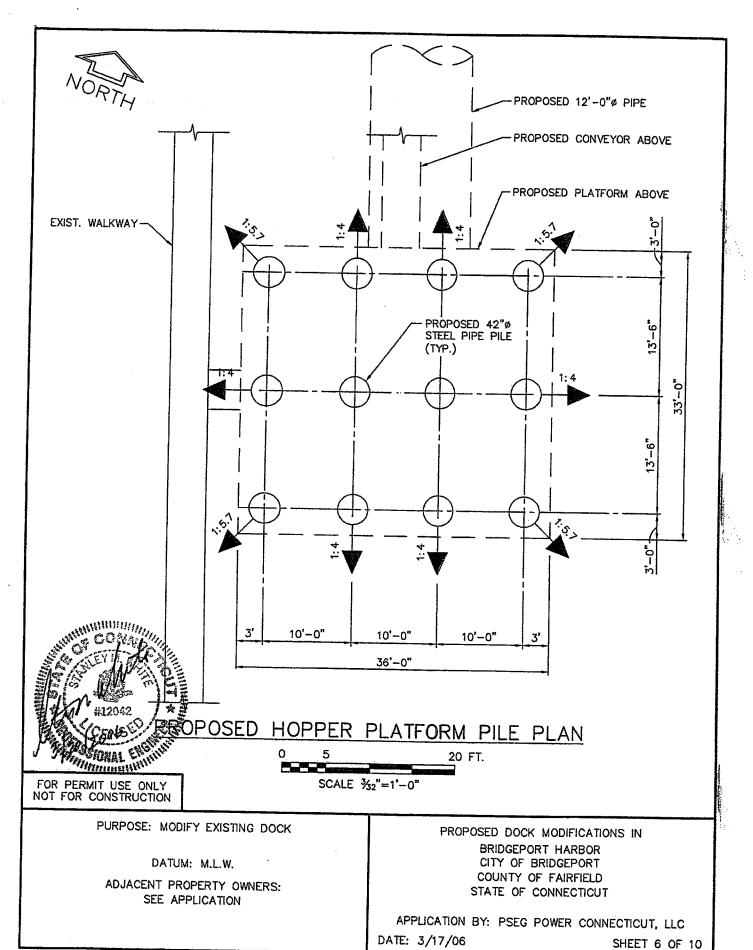
PURPOSE: MODIFY EXISTING DOCK

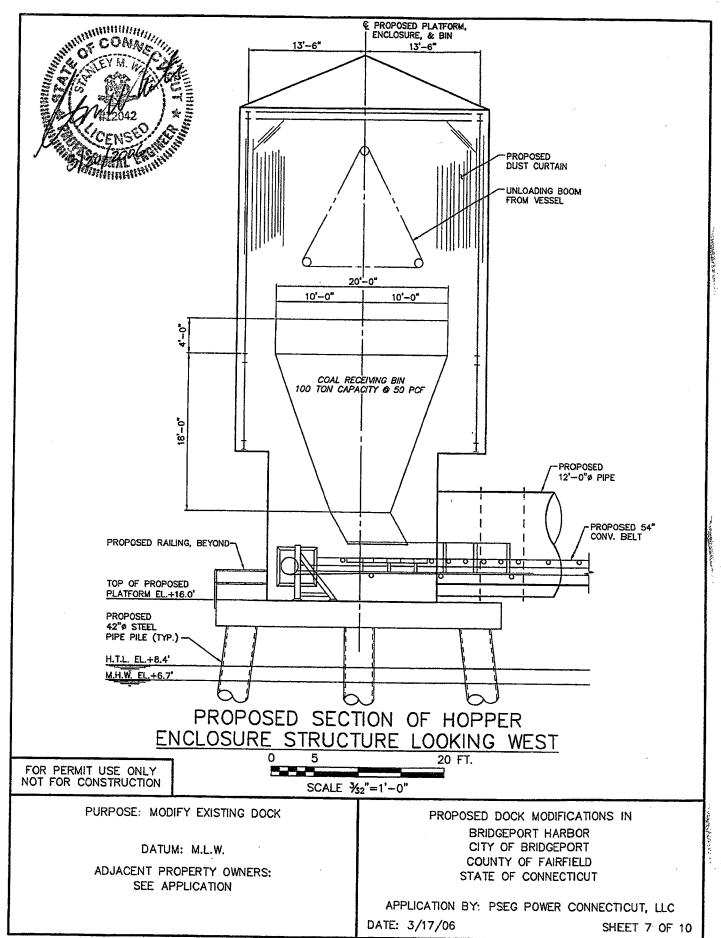
DATUM: M.L.W.

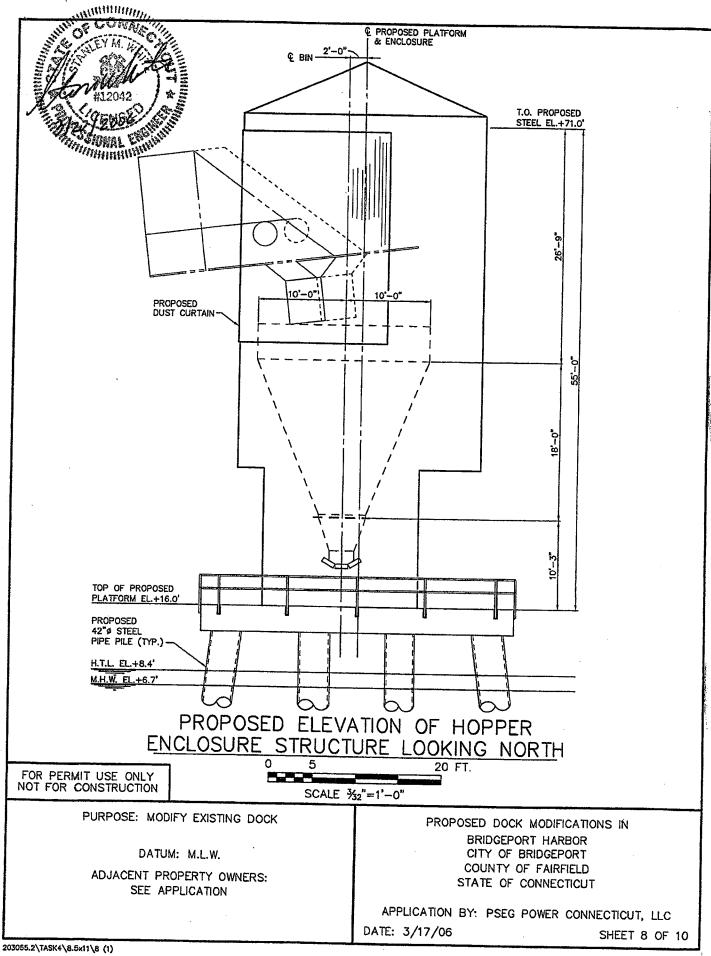
ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: SEE APPLICATION

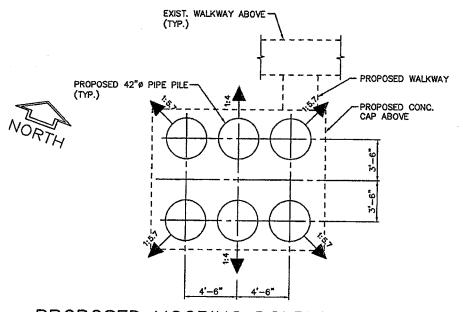
PROPOSED DOCK MODIFICATIONS IN
BRIDGEPORT HARBOR
CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

APPLICATION BY: PSEG POWER CONNECTICUT, LLC
DATE: 3/17/06 SHEET 5 OF 10

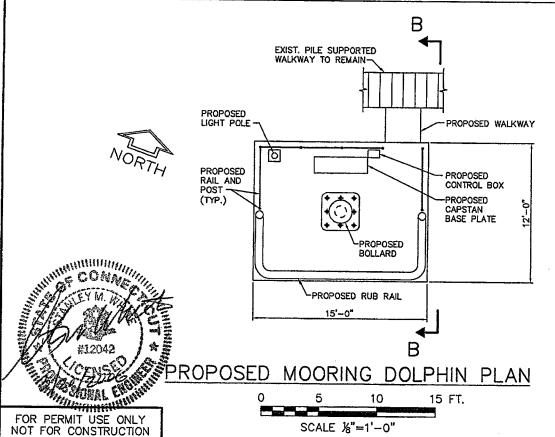








PROPOSED MOORING DOLPHIN PILE PLAN



PURPOSE: MODIFY EXISTING DOCK

DATUM: M.L.W.

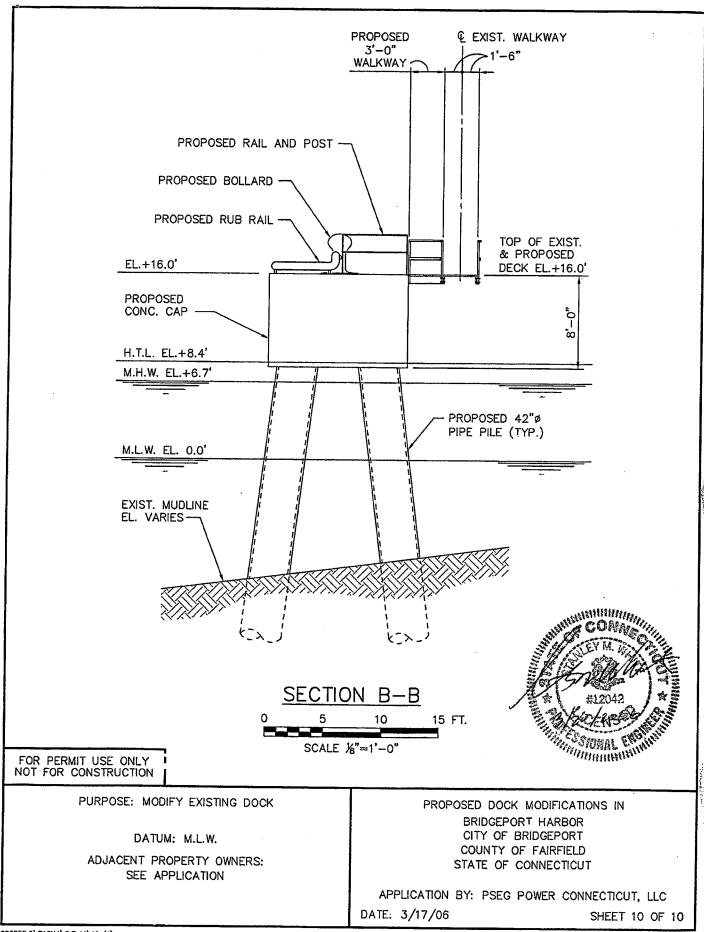
ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: SEE APPLICATION PROPOSED DOCK MODIFICATIONS IN BRIDGEPORT HARBOR CITY OF BRIDGEPORT COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD

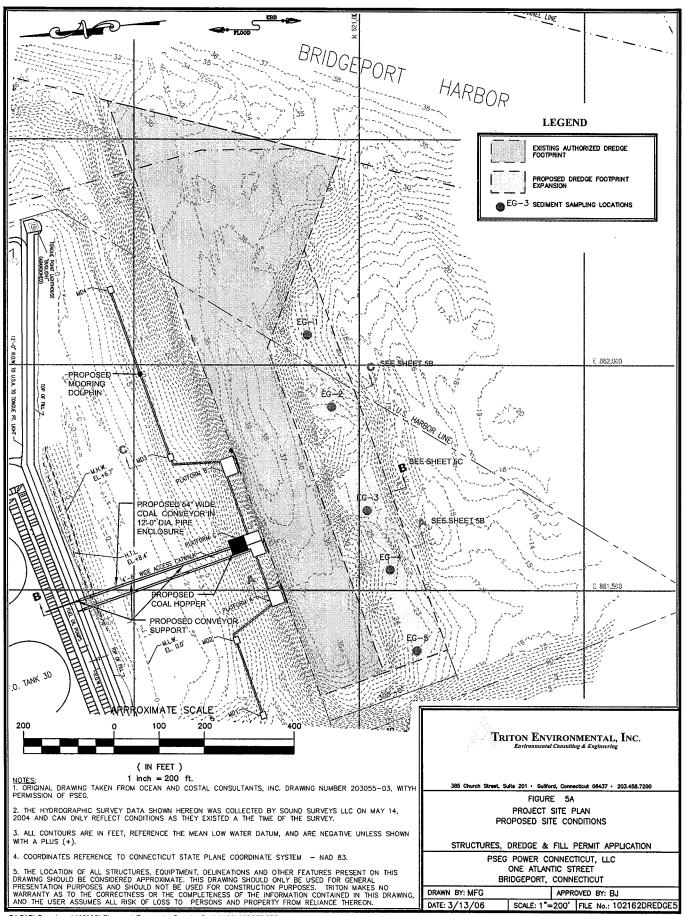
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

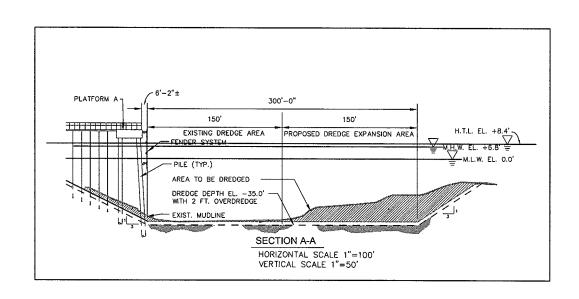
APPLICATION BY: PSEG POWER CONNECTICUT, LLC

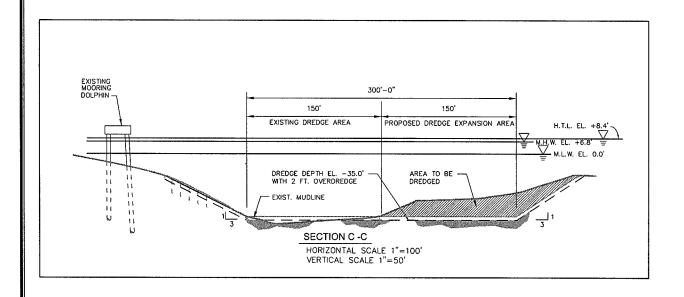
DATE: 3/17/06

SHEET 9 OF 10









NOTES:

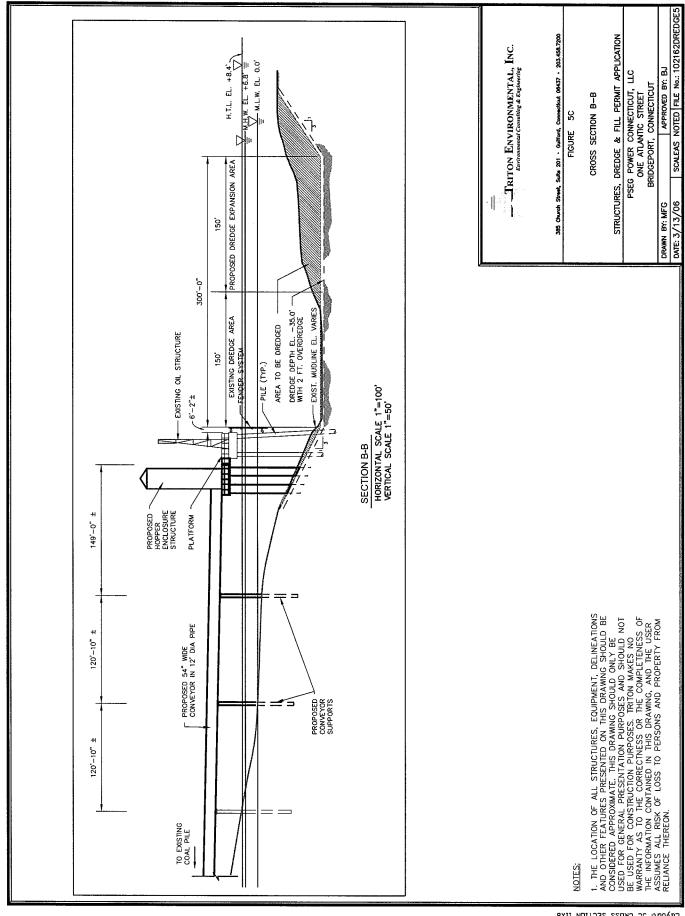
1. THE LOCATION OF ALL STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT, DELINEATIONS AND OTHER FEATURES PRESENTED ON THIS DRAWING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED APPROXIMATE. THIS DRAWING SHOULD ONLY BE USED FOR GENERAL PRESENTATION PURPOSES AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES. TRITON MAKES NO WARRANTY AS TO THE CORRECTNESS OR THE COMPLETENESS OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DRAWING, AND THE USER ASSUMES ALL RISK OF LOSS TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY FROM RELIANCE THEREON.

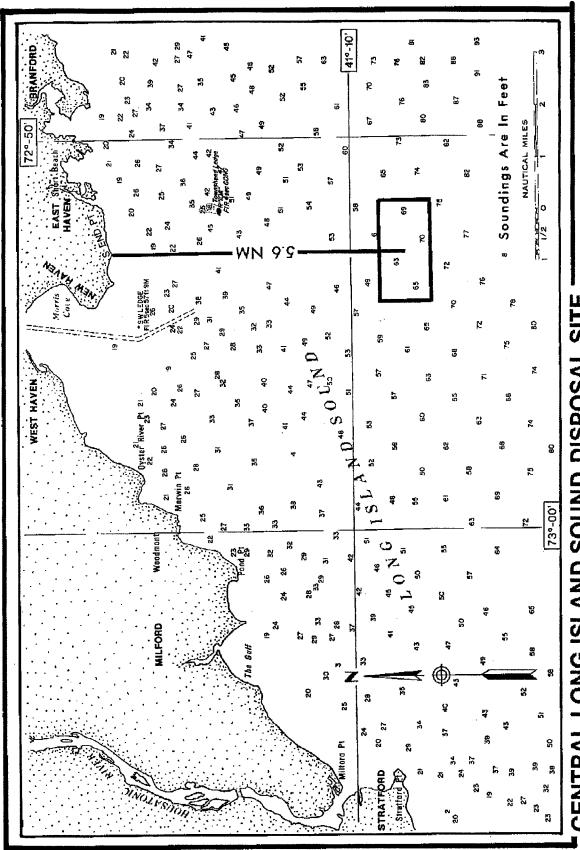
TRITON ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. Environmental Consulting & Engineering 385 Church Street, Suite 201 · Quilford, Connecticut 08437 · 203.458.7200 FIGURE 5B CROSS SECTIONS A—A AND C—C

STRUCTURES, DREDGE & FILL PERMIT APPLICATION
PSEG POWER CONNECTICUT, LLC
ONE ATLANTIC STREET
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

 DRAWN BY: MFG
 APPROVED BY: BJ

 DATE: 3/13/06
 SCALE: AS NOTED FILE No.: 102162DREDGES

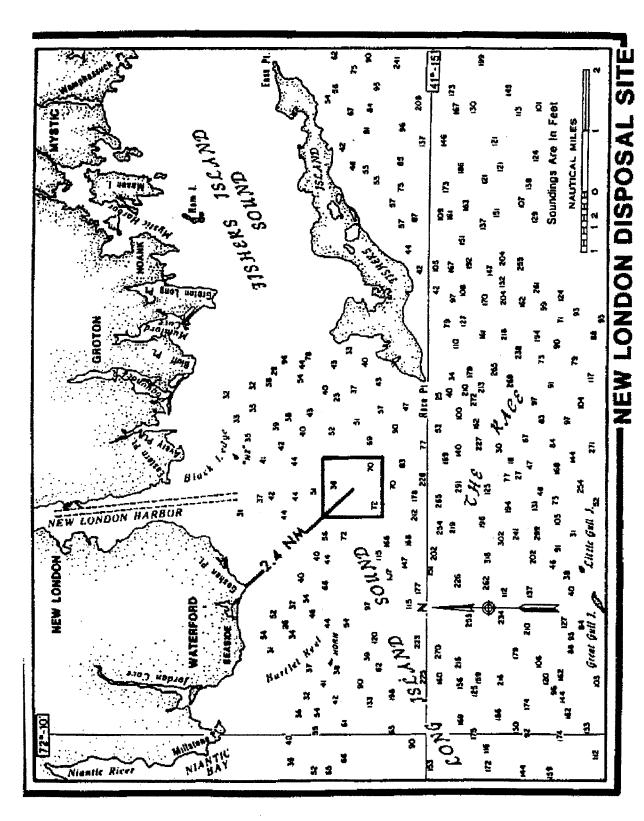




SITE CENTRAL LONG ISLAND SOUND DISPOSAL

Description: This site is a two nautical miles long by one nautical mile wide with the major axis running true east-west and center at 41 °-08.95 'N latitude and 72 °-52.85 'W longitude. From the center, Southwest Ledge Light bears true 345 ° at 10,750 yards and rownshend Ledge Lighted Gong Buoy No. "10-A" bears true 13" at 7,400 yards. This site is approximately 5.6 nautical miles off South End Point, East Haven. Depth Range: 49-75 feet MLW. The authorized disposal point (within the overall disposal area) is specified for each dredging project in other documents.

NOTE: The map depicts the disposal site's location in relation to landmarks. It is not intended for use in navigation.



Description: This site is 1 nautical mile square with center at 41°-16.1N, 72°-04.6'W and sides running true north-south, east-west. From the center, Bartlett Reef Lighted Horn bears true 276° at 5,600 yards, and Black Ledge Lighted Buoy N "2" bears true 13° at 4,000 yards. Depth Range: 36-72 feet MLW

The authorized disposal point (within the overall disposal area) is specified for each dredging project in other project documents. NOTE: The map depicts the disposal site's location in relation to landmarks, it is not intended for use in navigation.