



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New England District

# PUBLIC NOTICE

696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Date: DECEMBER 26, 2007  
Comment Period Ends: JANUARY 28, 2008  
File Number: NAE-2007-1060  
In Reply Refer To: William J. Mullen  
Or by e-mail: [william.j.mullen@usace.army.mil](mailto:william.j.mullen@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: Noranda Metals Industries, Inc.**

**ACTIVITY: to place fill in, or otherwise disturb, 1.63 acres of wetlands in conjunction with the installation of wells, appurtenant structures, and temporary roads to remediate contaminated groundwater from the former Noranda Forge Fin site.** A detailed description and plans of the activity are attached.

## **WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK**

This work is proposed in wetlands along an unnamed tributary to the Pootatuck River at 11 Prospect Drive in Newtown, Connecticut. The proposed location on the USGS Newtown quadrangle sheet is at UTM coordinates 4583407N and 18 643521E.

## **AUTHORITY**

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899  
 Section 404 of the Clean Water Act  
 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

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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.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, 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.

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)

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

- (X) Permit, License or Assent from State.
- (X) 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 Bill Mullen at (978) 318-8559, (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>.

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THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.



**Diane M. Ray**  
**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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE:**

The work includes the discharge of dredged or fill material in association with the remediation of contaminated groundwater from the former Noranda Forge Fin site. The work is described on the enclosed plans entitled, "Noranda Forge Fin Site" on 4 sheets, dated "September 2007".

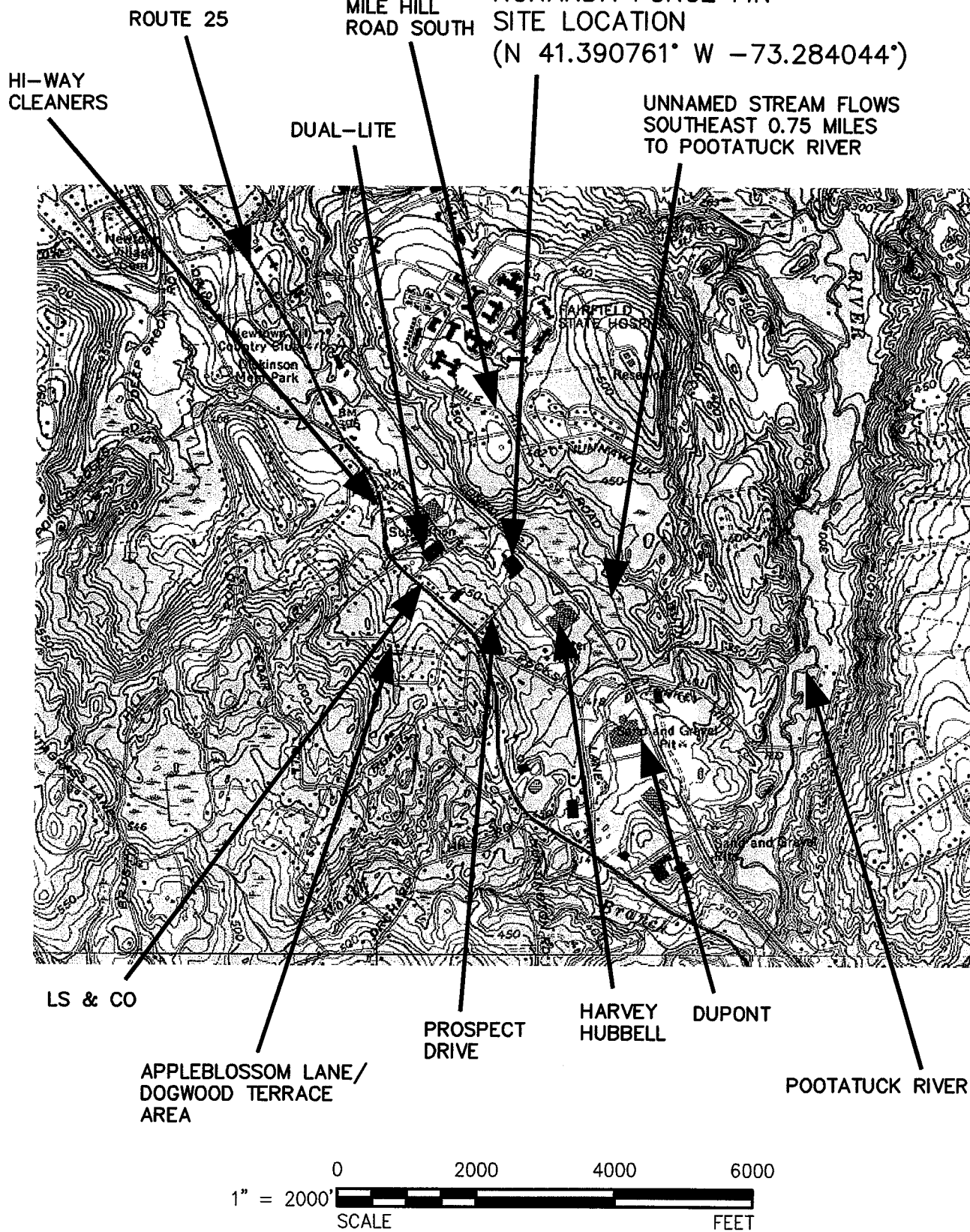
The work is being done under a Consent Order with the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. The work included in this Public Notice is not located on the 12-acre Noranda Forge Fin site itself (which involves only work in upland areas), instead it is located on land adjacent to the Noranda Forge Fin site. The subject land is owned by the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad and by a Mr. Jack Samowitz. Some of the work is proposed within a Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) easement on the two properties. Work on these properties is necessary due to the offsite migration of a groundwater plume of trichloroethene (TCE) and other contaminants from the Noranda Forge Fin site. The groundwater plume covers an area greater than 5.5 acres, however, the entire area will not undergo remediation due to physical restrictions, especially in the wettest portion of the wetland where access is limited and utility conflicts exist. The Noranda Forge Fin property lies in the vicinity of the Pootatuck Aquifer, an EPA-designated sole-source aquifer.

Access to each of the zones will be made via the CL&P easement gravel road situated along the powerline right of way and extends into the wetland from the west. Cleared vegetation in the five remediation barrier zones will be removed, then chipped and placed in uplands. Drill rigs will drive on pressure distribution mats. Injection wells will be spaced about every 15-20 feet. Some wells will be installed for sampling only, while others will be installed for both sampling and injection. An injection system, consisting of chemical tanks, mixers, pumps, piping and fittings will be constructed with trailers housing most of these components to be staged in two areas: two adjacent 8' x 40' trailers would be located in an upland site, and two adjacent 8' x 40' trailers would be located near well cluster CL-9 within the wetland.

The wetland to be impacted is a large palustrine forested/scrub-shrub wetland. Direct impacts to this wetland total approximately 0.76 acres as follows: injection/monitoring wells (0.05 acres, permanent because of fill associated with eventual well abandonment); gravel access roads (0.02 acres, temporary 4" of fill); gravel pad for equipment and materials staging (0.04 acres, temporary); pressure distribution mats (0.48 acres, temporary); and pressure mats for an oxidation barrier, if an oxidation barrier is used (0.17 acres, temporary). The fill is considered temporary (all but the 0.05 acres associated with well abandonment) since the gravel associated with the roads, pads, and mats will be removed from the site upon project completion. The work will also include 0.88 acres of secondary impacts which will include clearing of trees (as needed) to facilitate the construction of temporary roads within wetlands (to allow the mobilization of drill rigs and vehicular traffic), and clearing to enable the installation of injection wells and the above-ground laying of piping/hoses to the wells for injection purposes.

Silt fences and staked straw bales will be employed to mitigate temporary wetland impacts. Clearing of vegetation will be minimized to the maximum possible extent. Trees will be cut at root level rather than being uprooted whenever possible. During tree cutting, the number of, density, and species of saplings greater than three inches at breast height will be recorded, with the same number and species replanted at a similar density. Any wetland areas temporarily disturbed by equipment moving through the wetland will be restored to original grade using an approved organic soil and, to the extent practicable, hand-raking and/or low ground pressure grading equipment. In addition to the tree planting, a wetland seed mix will be used in re-seeding. Restoration is to take place during the growing season following the completion of remediation activities.

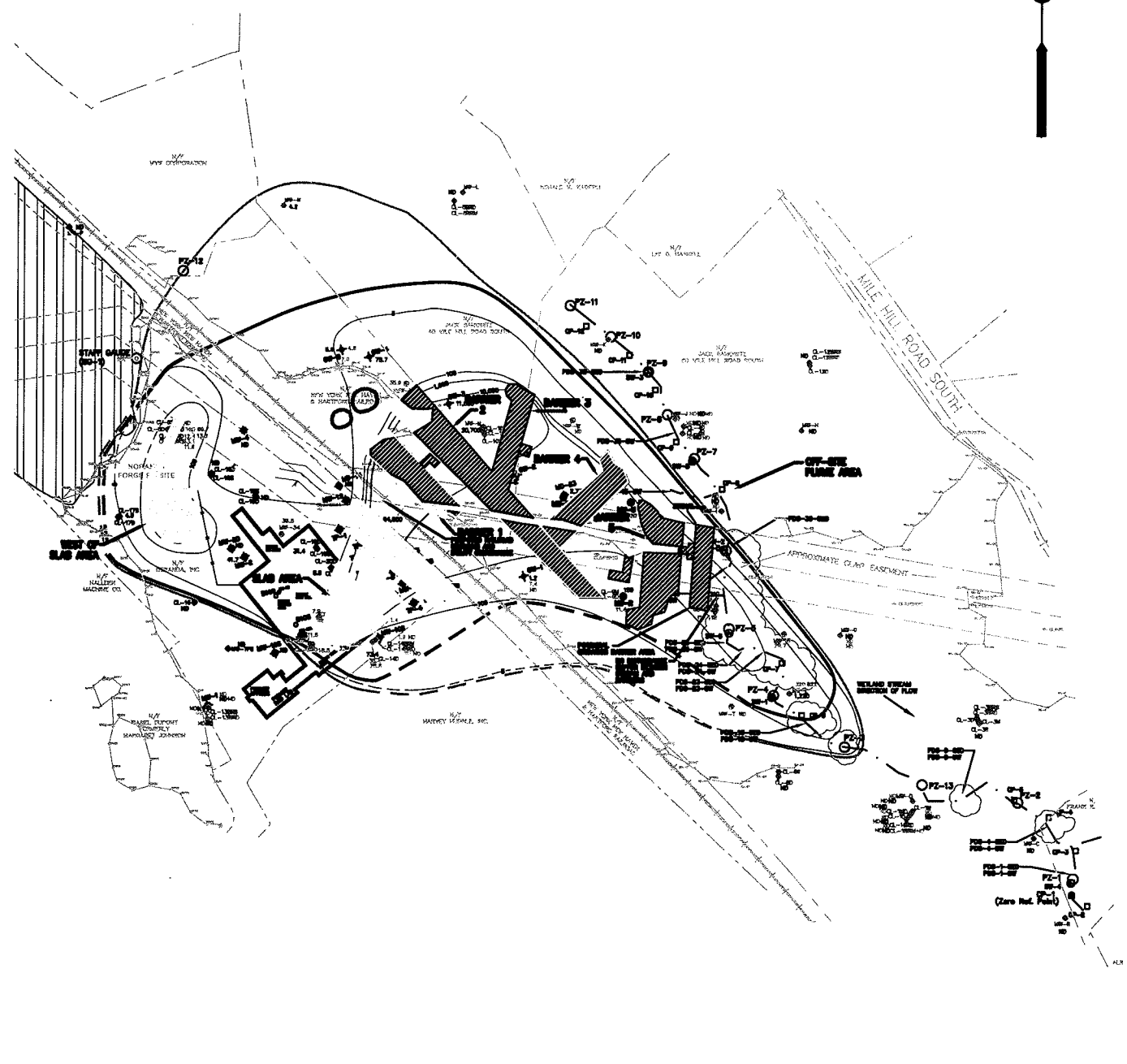
NORANDA FORGE FIN  
SITE LOCATION  
(N 41.390761° W -73.284044°)








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NORANDA FORGE FIN SITE  
NEWTOWN, CT  
FIGURE 1  
SITE LOCATION MAP

DATE: AUG. 2007



-  REMEDIATION TARGET AREAS
-  TEMPORARY IMPACTED WETLAND AREAS
-  APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF SOLVENT PLUME IN OVERBURDEN GROUNDWATER (DASHED WHERE INFERRED)
-  APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF SOLVENT PLUME IN BEDROCK GROUNDWATER (DASHED WHERE INFERRED)
-  ESTIMATED TRICHLOROETHENE CONCENTRATION ISOPLETH ( $\mu\text{g/L}$  TCE) (DASHED WHERE INFERRED)

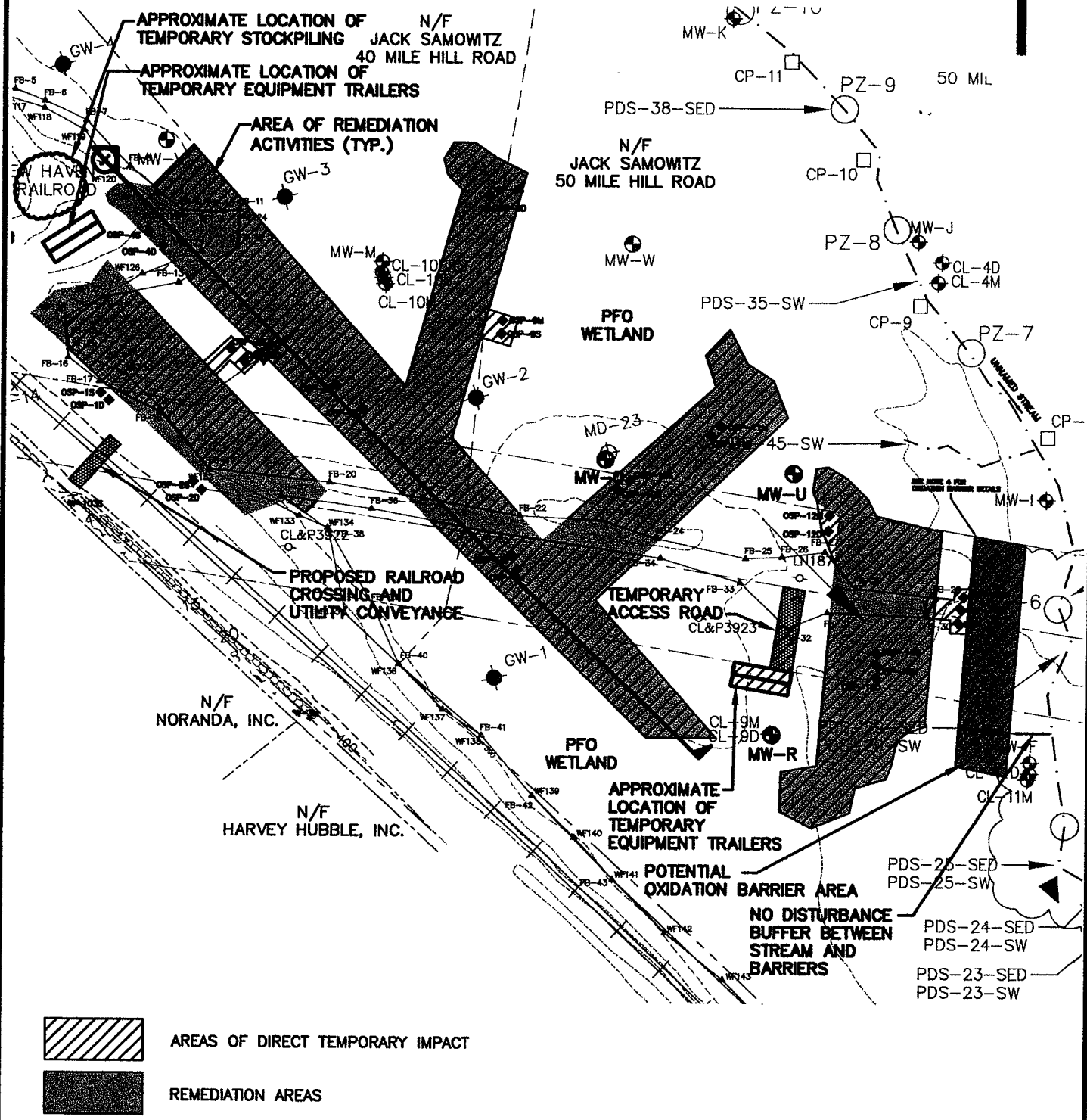
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NORANDA FORGE FIN SITE  
 NEWTOWN, CT  
 SITE OVERVIEW AND CONTAMINANT DISTRIBUTION MAP  
 ESTIMATED LIMITS OF SOLVENT PLUME  
 AND REMEDIATION TARGET AREAS

SCALE 1"=300'	SEPT. 2007	SHEET 1
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LAST UPDATE: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 2:08:28 PM  
PLOT DATE: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 3:31:56 PM

PA/H/FILENAME: P:\36800786-NOR\C\WETLANDS PERMIT\CZNRORS2A.DWG  
ANSI A - 3-8-05



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NORANDA FORGE FIN SITE  
NEWTOWN, CT  
INJECTION PLAN  
OFF-SITE PLUME AREA  
(PLAN VIEW)

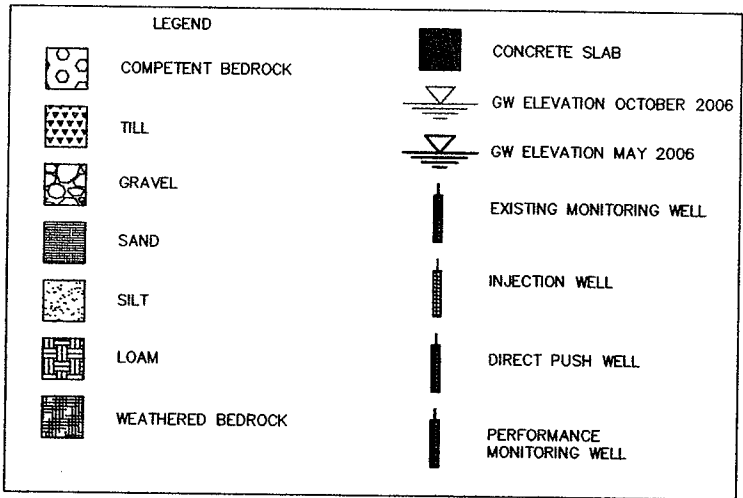
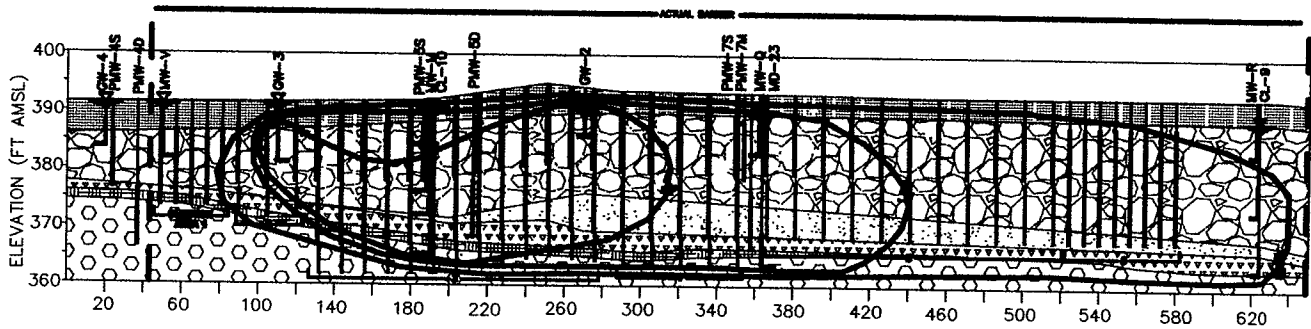
SCALE: 1"=100'

SEPT. 2007

SHEET 2



## CROSS-SECTION 2 OFF-SITE PLUME AREA (SHEET 2)



**NOTES:**

- 1) GW-4 IS 125 FEET NORTHWEST FROM BARRIER 2. MW-V IS 50 FEET NORTHWEST FROM BARRIER 2. GW-3 IS 20 FEET DOWNGRADIENT FROM BARRIER 2. CL-10 CLUSTER IS 25 FEET DOWNGRADIENT FROM BARRIER 2. GW-2 IS 30 FEET DOWNGRADIENT FROM BARRIER 2. MD-23 IS 70 FEET DOWNGRADIENT FROM BARRIER 2. CL-9 CLUSTER IS 30 FEET DOWNGRADIENT FROM BARRIER 2.
- 2) TCE CONCENTRATION CONTOURS WERE GENERATED USING DATA COLLECTED DURING SEVERAL DIFFERENT SAMPLING EVENTS. THE MOST RECENT DATA WAS USED FOR EACH SAMPLING EVENT.
- 3) DEPTHS TO AND THICKNESSES TO WEATHERED BEDROCK ARE ESTIMATED BASED ON AVAILABLE SITE INFORMATION. DURING INSTALLATION OF DEEP INJECTION WELLS TO BE SORCHED IN WEATHERED BEDROCK, DRILL RIG TO CORE 2 TO 3 FEET DEEPER THAN REFUSAL AT TOP OF WEATHERED BEDROCK. AFTER INTERACTION, FEET PAST REFUSAL WILL BE CONSTRUCTED.

DISTANCE ALONG CROSS-SECTION (FT)

Injection Area	Injection Interval (bgs)
1 (Direct Push Injection Points)	5-18
2 (Injection Wells)	4-14; 15-20
3 (Injection Wells)	4-14; 15-25; 25-30
4 (Injection Wells)	4-14; 15-25; 25-30
5 (Injection Wells)	4-14; 15-25
6 (Direct Push Injection Points)	5-25

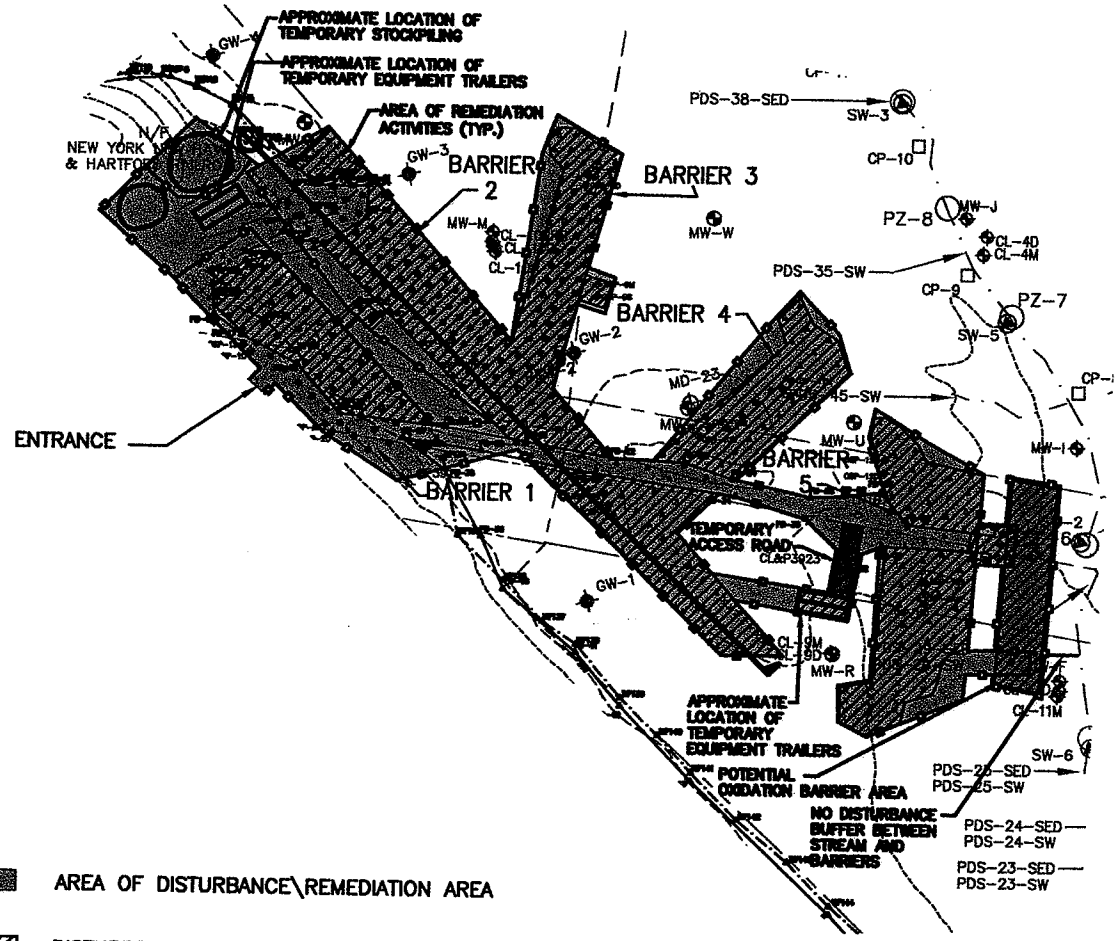
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NORANDA FORGE FIN SITE  
 NEWTOWN, CT  
 INJECTION AND MONITORING PLAN  
 OFF-SITE PLUME AREA  
 (SECTION VIEW 2)

AS NOTED

SEPT. 2007

SHEET 3



- AREA OF DISTURBANCE/REMEDIAION AREA
- DISTURBED WETLAND AREA TO BE RESTORED
- OXIDATION BARRIER AREA (IF NECESSARY)
- SILT FENCE/STRAW BALES

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NORANDA FORGE FIN SITE  
 NEWTOWN, CT  
 OFF-SITE SEDIMENTATION  
 AND EROSION CONTROL PLAN

SCALE: 1"=150'      SEPT. 2007      SHEET 4