



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, AL 36628-0001

CESAM-RD-C
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2007-2188-TMZ

FEB 19 2008

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND
STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED FILLING, COTTON CREEK DRIVE, GULF SHORES,
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Alabama Electric Cooperative
P. O. Box 550
Andalusia, Alabama 36420
(334) 427-3390

WATERWAY: Cotton Creek Drive, Gulf Shores, Baldwin County, Alabama; Section 9, Township 9 South, Range 4 East; N 30.29724, W 87.64017.

WORK: The applicant proposes to discharge fill material into approximately 1 acre of jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of constructing an electrical substation. All of the wetlands at this 1.55-acre site will be impacted by the proposed project, which will include access roads, culverts, foundation pads, and structures. Wetlands at the site are comprised of medium quality pine flatwoods. The surrounding area (i.e., to the east, west, and south) is mostly undeveloped pineland under silvicultural management, with some low density residential development to the northwest on nearby Roscoe Road. Cotton Creek Drive borders the property to the north. Best management practices involving the use of silt fences and hay bales will be implemented at the site for erosion control. The applicant proposes to compensate for the loss of wetlands by purchasing the appropriate number of mitigation credits from a Corps-approved mitigation bank. The project is not in the Alabama Coastal Zone, as defined by the area below the continuous 10-foot elevation contour.

The applicant has applied for state water quality (WQ) certification in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and for coastal zone (CZ) consistency in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to WQ certification and CZ consistency will be made by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for

support or opposition. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and use of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to 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 values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, 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 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.

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, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to effect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Although the extent of federal control and responsibility for these considerations are confined to the limits of the permit area for this particular project, the potential indirect effects that may occur to historic properties as a result of this undertaking are also being considered. We are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally-recognized American Indian tribes, local historical societies, museums, universities, the National Park Service, and concerned citizens regarding the existence or the potential for existence of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Historic architectural or archaeological investigations may be necessary to ascertain the existence of such resources. Efforts will be made through the consultation process to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects to significant cultural and historic properties that may occur as a result of this undertaking. The district engineer remains the final decision authority.

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicates that the proposed activity will not affect listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. The National Marine Fisheries Service requires the evaluation of impacts to Essential Fish Habitat of estuarine species.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2007-2188-TMZ and should be directed to:

303-344-3000
303-344-3001
303-344-3002

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile
Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-000
Attention: Regulatory Division

with a copy to the:

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
4171 Commanders Drive
Mobile, Alabama 36615

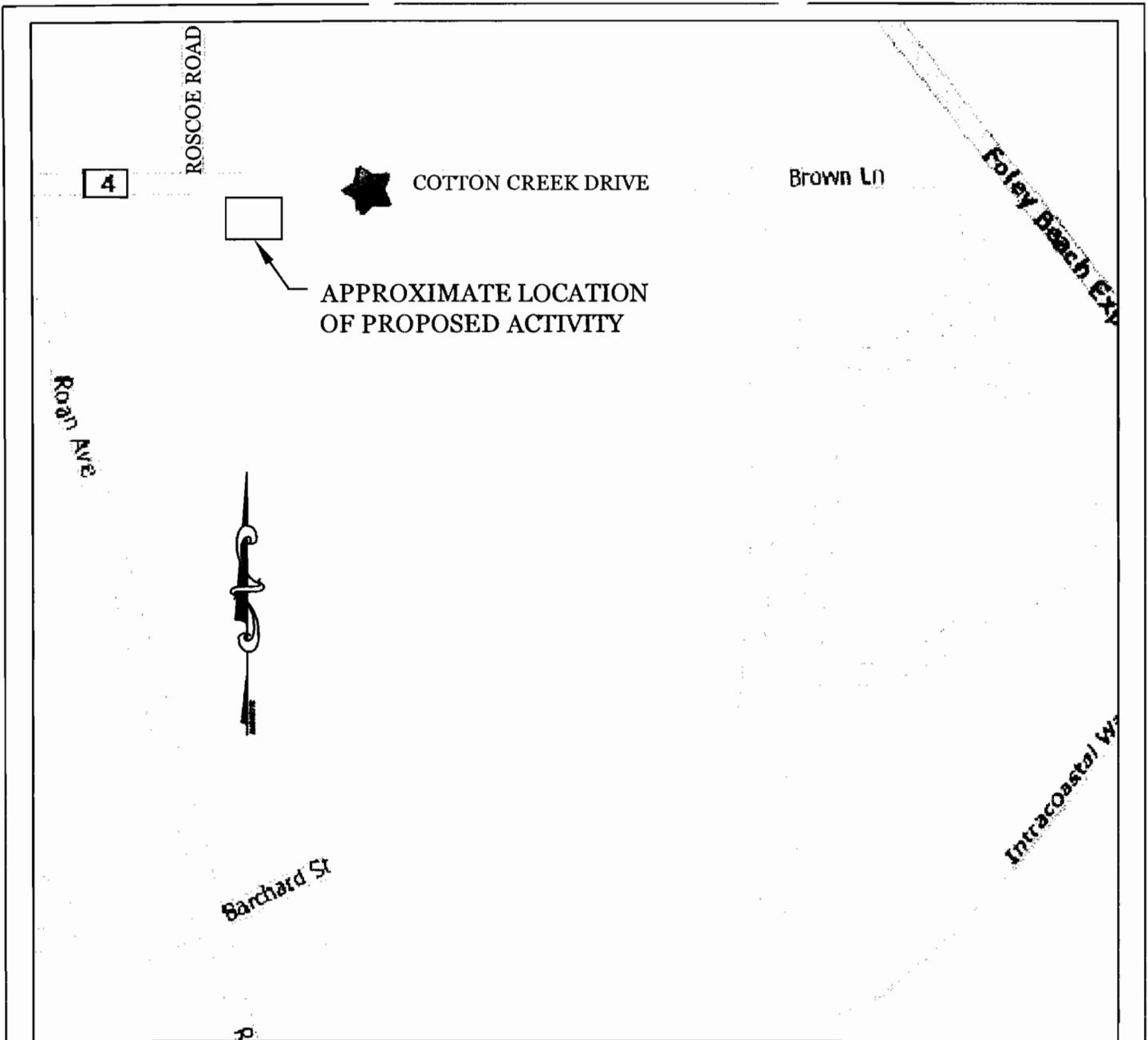
Comments should be received no later than **30 days** from the date of this Public notice.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager via e-mail at tad.m.zebryk@usace.army.mil or telephone number **(251) 690-2658**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/RD/reg, and please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey while you're there. Your responses are appreciated and will allow us to improve our services.

Encls

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineer



DIRECTIONS FROM DOWNTOWN MOBILE, AL: BEGIN BY HEADING EAST ON INTERSTATE 10. TAKE EXIT 44 TO MERGE ONTO AL-59 SOUTH TOWARDS LOXLEY. CONTINUE TO FOLLOW AL-59 FOR APPROXIMATELY 16 MILES. TURN LEFT AT THE FOLEY BEACH EXPRESSWAY. TURN RIGHT AT ROSCOE ROAD. TURN LEFT TO STAY ON ROSCOE ROAD. ROSCOE WILL DEAD END INTO COTTON CREEK DRIVE. SUBJECT PARCEL IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 150 YARDS SOUTHEAST OF THE ROSCOE/COTTON CREEK INTERCHANGE.

APPLICANT: ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
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SITE LOCATION MAP

PROJECT #2007-251

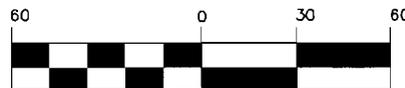
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DRAWN BY: JAT

SCALE: NTS

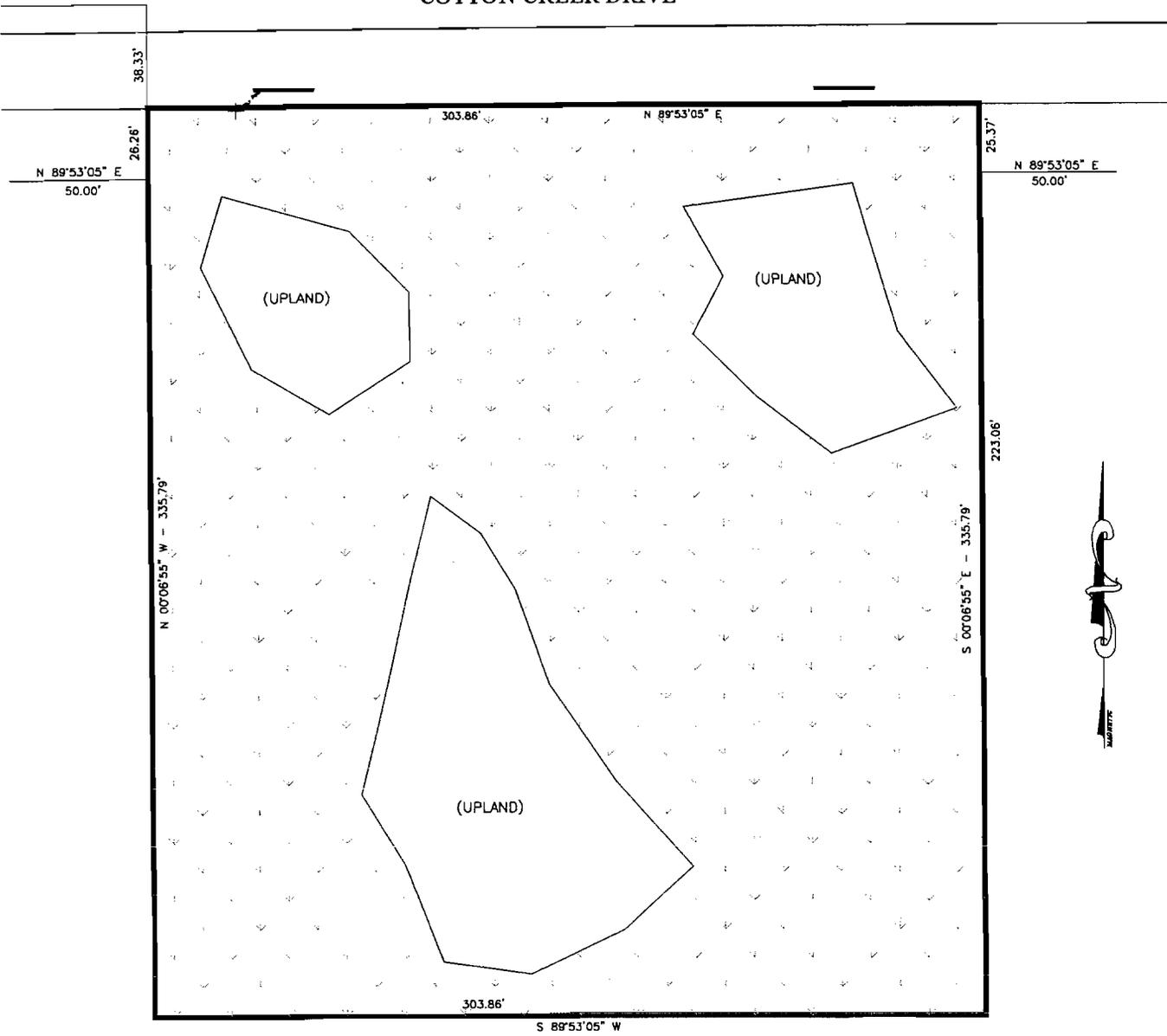


CORPS ONLY
 JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS
 +/- 1.86 ACRES



1 inch = 60 ft.

COTTON CREEK DRIVE



APPLICANT: ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
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WETLAND

SCIENCES
 INCORPORATED

**OVERALL PLAN VIEW OF EXISTING
 SITE CONDITIONS**

PROJECT #2007-251

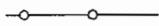
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DRAWN BY: JAT

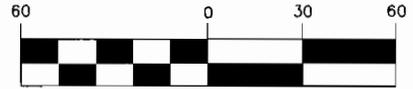
SCALE: 1" = 60'



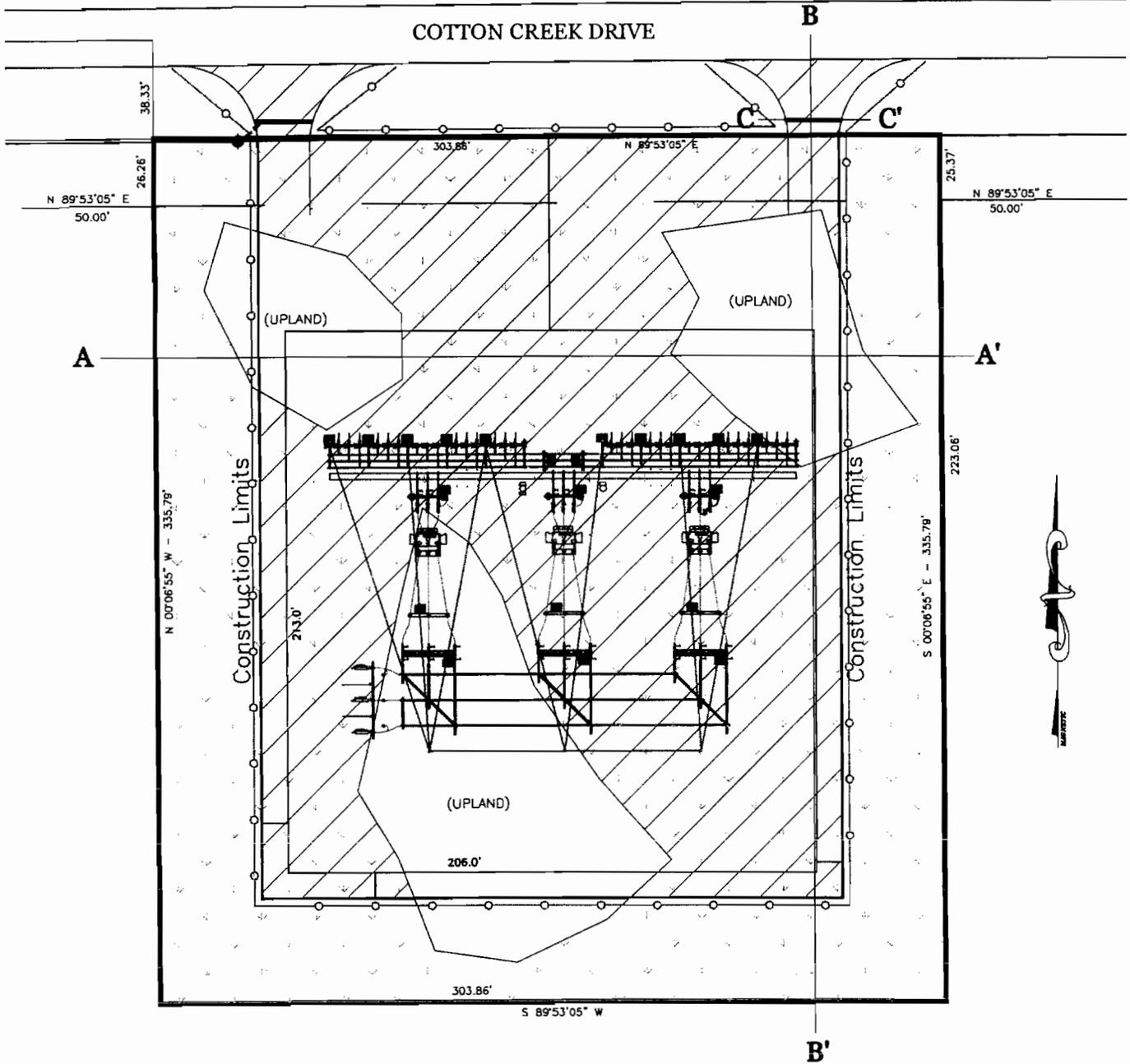
CORPS ONLY
WETLAND FILL
+/- 50,468.02 SQ. FT.
+/- 1.16 ACRES



SILT FENCE



1 inch = 60 ft.



APPLICANT: ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
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WETLAND
SCIENCES
INCORPORATED

OVERALL PLAN VIEW OF PROPOSED
ACTIVITY

PROJECT #2007-251

DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2007

DRAWN BY: JAT

SCALE: 1" = 60'