



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

CESAM- RD-I-N
PUBLIC NOTICE No. SAM-2007-01492-NSB

December 17, 2010

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

**REQUEST FOR THE FILLING OF WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A NATURAL GAS STORAGE FACILITY NEAR THE CITY OF
AMORY, MONROE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application to modify 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: High Sierra Monroe, LLC
Attention: Fred Witsell
3773 Cherry Creek North Drive
Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80209

AGENT: TRC
Attention: Bradley Floyd, Ph.D.
4155 Shackleford Road
Norcross, GA 30093

PROJECT LOCATION: The project is located near the Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway, at latitude 34.01656° North and longitude 88.4627° West, in Monroe County, Mississippi, approximately 2.5 miles northeast of the City of Amory.

WORK DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to modify a previously permitted natural gas storage facility in Monroe County, Mississippi.

The applicant has requested a modification to the existing permit to allow for the additional permanent fill impact of 0.85 acres, permanent conversion impact of 0.44 acres and temporary impact of 0.58 acres of wetlands for the construction of one relocated gas well at a new well pad,

the associated gathering line, and one access road necessary for the Relocated Well MGS-6 Project (RW6P) (collectively, with the MGSP and RWPP, the Project).

The project will consist of:

1. Drill relocated well MGS-6-W-D at a new site with a new well pad;
2. Construct an access road to the well site; and
3. Connect the well to existing gathering pipelines in the storage field with a new gathering pipeline.

The storage field will be located entirely within land developed by Grace Petroleum, known as the Four Mile Creek Gas Storage Field.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS: Construction of the RW6P will affect a total of approximately 2.18 acres of land, including both uplands and wetlands, as follows: the well site (0.41 acres), well gathering line right-of-way (1.17 acres), and access road right-of-way (0.6 acres). Both temporary and permanent land disturbances will occur. Following construction, 0.85 acre of wetland will be permanently impacted and 0.44 acre will be permanently converted by the RW6P.

AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: Given the location of the existing MGSC facilities and infrastructure, it would be impossible to meet the RWPP's objectives and avoid Jurisdictional Waters of the United States entirely.

The permanent footprint of the new well pad was minimized to the greatest extent practical. The RW6P reduces the size of the well pad to 0.41 acres, down from the typical 1.1 acres for each well approved under the 2009 modification. The RW6P also reduces the permanent footprint of the access roads to 15 ft, down from the 20 ft for each access road approved under the 2009 modification. Where new right-of-way (ROW) was required to construct a road and a gathering line to connect the new well pad to existing infrastructure, a 50-foot-wide temporary construction ROW was determined to be the minimum width necessary for the project. This is a one third reduction per linear foot of ROW in temporary construction ROW compared to what was requested and approved by the USACE under the original permit for the construction of the MGSP and RWPP, which utilized a 75ft ROW.

During construction of the RW6P, disturbed soils would be exposed to potential erosion. To minimize the impacts of erosion and sedimentation on surface waters, land disturbing and construction activities generally will be conducted in compliance with the FERC Upland Erosional Control, Revegetation and Maintenance Plan (FERC Plan) and FERC Procedures. Stormwater runoff from the disturbed portions of the site will be managed in accordance with the FERC Plan and Procedures (except as noted in the following paragraph) and an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan (E&SC Plan). FGT will install and maintain all necessary erosion and sedimentation control structures as required by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and in compliance with the FERC Plan and Procedures. All construction storm water from project ROW will be directed towards sediment retention devices and existing drainage ditches and/or natural drainage features.

Standard FERC construction procedures are proposed for the RW6P, except for site-specific deviation detailed in *Relocated Well MGS-6 Project: CP07-406-___ Attachment 2-Water Use and Quality*. The FERC Plan and Procedures were developed to protect surface water resources from construction related impacts, regardless of whether caused directly by construction across waterbodies or indirectly by stormwater runoff across upland construction areas.

MITIGATION: The applicant will purchase 1 Bottomland Hardwood Forested Wetland Credit from Black Swamp Mitigation Bank to offset the RW6P impacts to wetlands.

WATER QUALITY: The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(I) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: The August 2010 cultural resource report, which was written as an addendum (Addendum No. 6) to the MGSP and RWPP reports, was submitted to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) on August 18, 2010. Project concurrence was received from MDAH via letter dated November 5, 2010, stating they have no objection with the proposed project.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Threatened and endangered species informal consultation was initiated via letters to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science – Natural Heritage Program on October 19, 2010. Project concurrence was received from the USFWS via letter dated October 25, 2010, stating the project will have “no effect” on federally listed species or their habitat. The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science responded via letter on November 16, 2010, stating that if best management practices are properly implemented the project likely poses no threat to listed species.

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 endangered species surveys have been conducted to determine the presence of federally listed species or critical habitat. These surveys are being provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act, to insure that the proposed activities will not adversely affect any listed or proposed species.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2007-01492-NSB and should be directed to:

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile
Attention: Candice Wheelahan
218 Summit Parkway, Suite 222
Homewood, AL 35209

with a copy to the:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Pollution Control
Post Office Box 10385
Jackson, Mississippi 39289

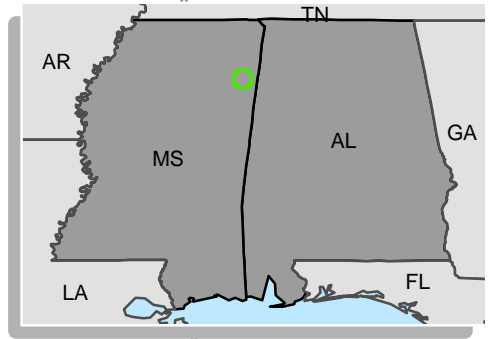
Comments should be received no later than **30 days** from the date of this public notice.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager, Ms. Candice Mccullough, via e-mail at Candice.M.Wheelahan@usace.army.mil or telephone number (205) 290-9096. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

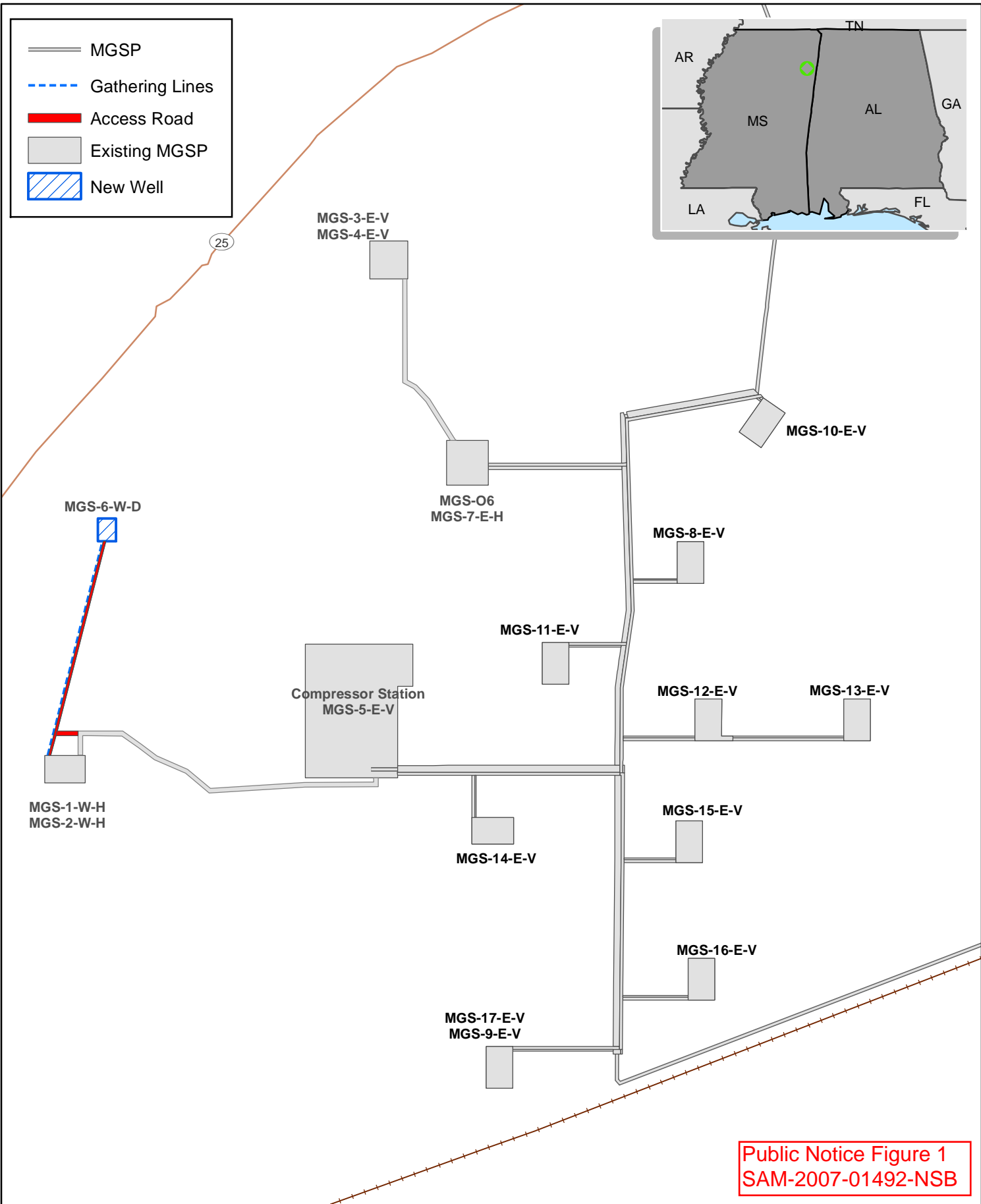
For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/RD/reg and please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey while you're there. Your responses are appreciated and will allow us to improve our services.

Enclosures

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineer



— MGSP
 - - - Gathering Lines
 ■ Access Road
 ■ Existing MGSP
 ■ New Well

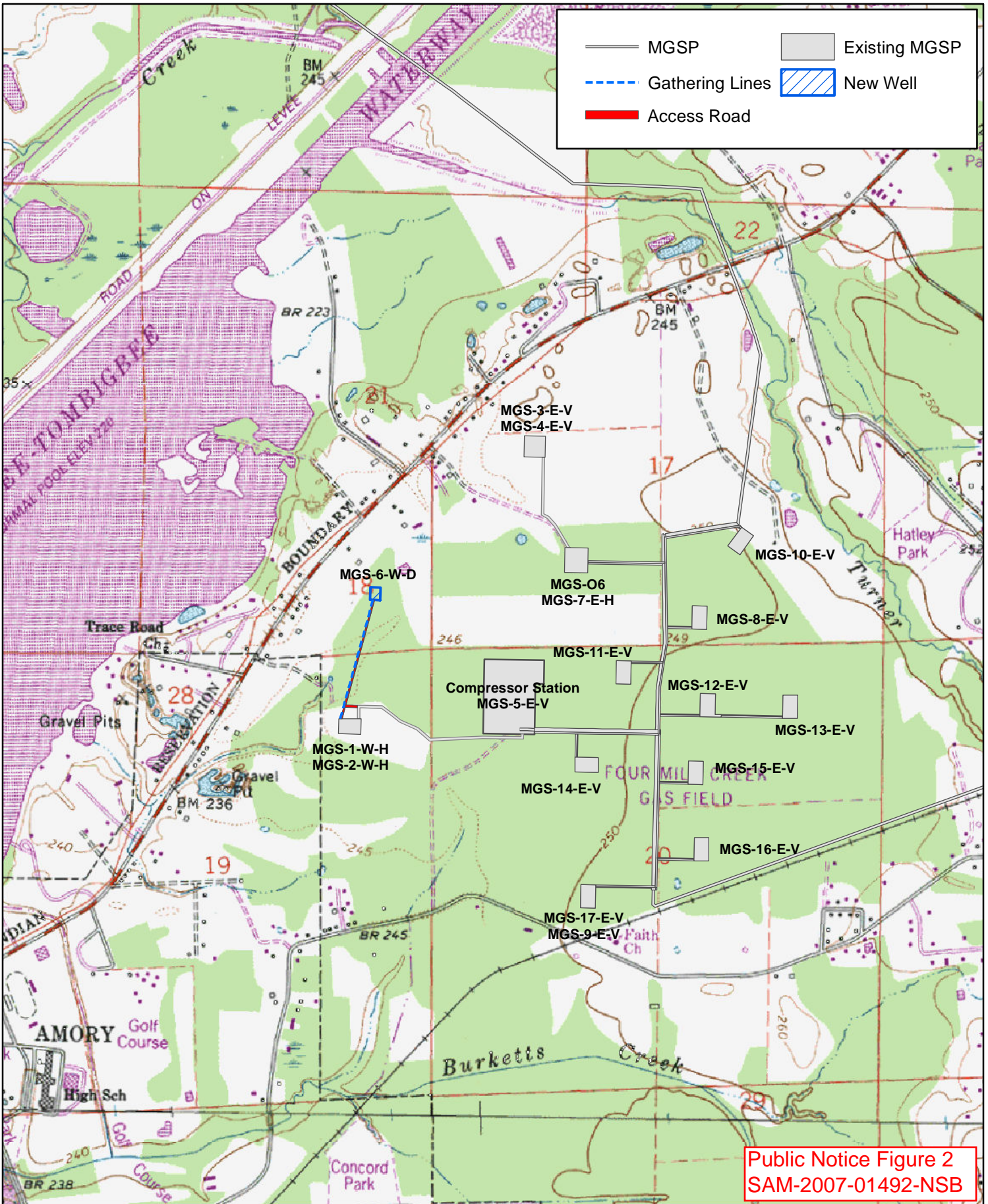


Public Notice Figure 1
 SAM-2007-01492-NSB



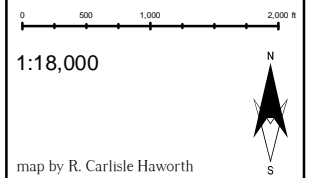
Figure 1.1-1 Relocated Well
 MGS-6 Project Map

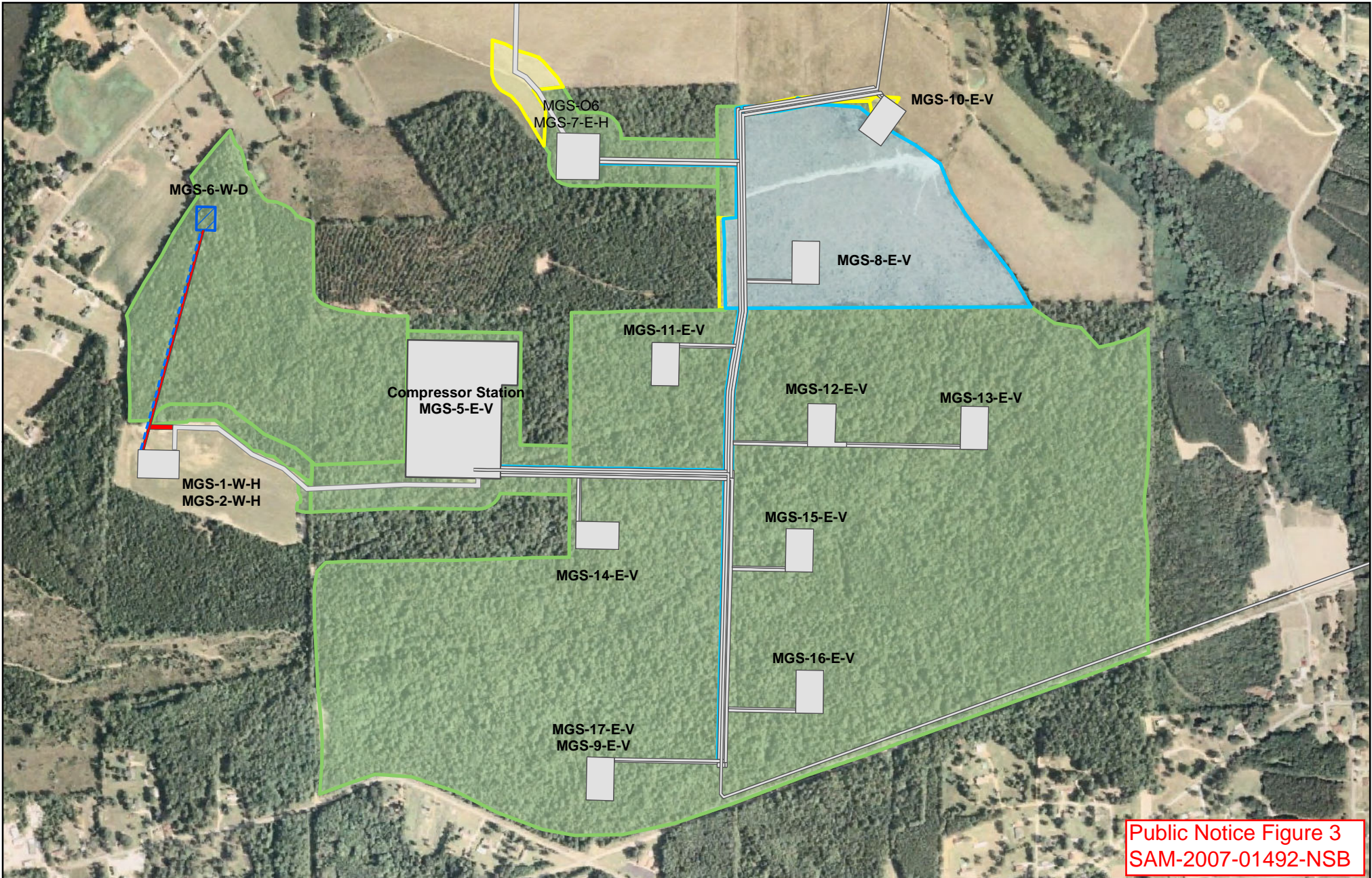
0 0.05 0.1 0.2 mi
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 map by R. Carlisle Haworth



MONROE
GAS STORAGE COMPANY, LLC

Figure 1.1-4 USGS Topographic Map Excerpt of the Relocated Well MGS-6 Project





Public Notice Figure 3
SAM-2007-01492-NSB



Figure 2.1-2 Relocated Well MGS-6 Project Wetlands

Wetlands PEM PFO PSS	Gathering Lines	Existing MGSP
	Access Road	New Well
	MGSP	0 250 500 1,000 ft 1:10,000 N S map by R. Carlisle Haworth