



# **HISTORY OF CONSTRUCTION**

Possum Point Power Station CCR Surface Impoundment: Pond E



Submitted To: Possum Point Power Station

19000 Possum Point Road Dumfries, VA 22026

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**Project No. 16-62150** 







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#### 1.0 CERTIFICATION

This History of Construction for the Possum Point Power Station's Pond E was prepared by Golder Associates Inc. (Golder). The document and Certification/Statement of Professional Opinion are based on and limited to information that Golder has relied on from Dominion and others, but not independently verified, as well as work products produced by Golder.

On the basis of and subject to the foregoing, it is my professional opinion as a Professional Engineer licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia that this document has been prepared in accordance with good and accepted engineering practices as exercised by other engineers practicing in the same discipline(s), under similar circumstances, at the same time, and in the same locale. It is my professional opinion that the document was prepared consistent with the requirements in §257.73(c) of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's "Standards for the Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals in Landfills and Surface Impoundments," published in the Federal Register on April 17, 2015, with an effective date of October 19, 2015 [40 CFR §257.73(c)], as well as with the requirements in §257.100 resulting from the EPA's "Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals From Electric Utilities; Extension of Compliance Deadlines for Certain Inactive Surface Impoundments; Response to Partial Vacatur" published in the Federal Register on August 5, 2016 with an effective date of October 4, 2016 (40 CFR §257.100).

The use of the word "certification" and/or "certify" in this document shall be interpreted and construed as a Statement of Professional Opinion, and is not and shall not be interpreted or construed as a guarantee, warranty, or legal opinion.

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#### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

This History of Construction was prepared for the Possum Point Power Station's (Station) existing Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) inactive surface impoundment, Pond E. The Station, owned and operated by Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia (Dominion), is located in Dumfries, Virginia at 19000 Possum Point Road, adjacent to Quantico Creek. This History of Construction was prepared in accordance with 40 CFR Part §257, Subpart D and is consistent with the requirements of 40 CFR §257.73(c).

All elevations noted in this report are referenced to the local site elevation datum of North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88).

#### 3.0 HISTORY OF CONSTRUCTION

## 3.1 CCR Unit

Pond E is located on the north side of Possum Point Road near the Station, as shown in the attached 2013 United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7½-minute topographic quadrangle map (Appendix A). Pond E was used as a water treatment pond to settle and manage low-volume wastewaters including CCR. In 2003, the Station converted from a coal-fired power plant to a natural gas-fired power plant, and the pond was not used for newly produced sluiced ash after this conversion.

Pond E is owned and operated by Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia (Dominion). Dominion's address, as well as contact information for the Station, is provided below.

Virginia Electric and Power Company 5000 Dominion Boulevard Glen Allen, VA 23060

Mr. David A. Craymer Vice President, Power Generation System Operations Virginia Electric and Power Company 5000 Dominion Boulevard Glen Allen, VA 23060

The Pond E surface impoundment is regulated under the following permits:

- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit No. VA0002071
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Operations and Maintenance Certificate, Inventory No. 153021 (Legacy No. 15321)

Long-term management of Pond E, which includes closure and groundwater monitoring, will be governed by the Virginia DEQ Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) Permit No. 617, once issued. The embankments are regulated by DCR under the Impounding Structure Regulations (4VAC50-20 *et seq.*).



#### 3.2 Watershed

Pond E is located within the Quantico Creek Watershed (USGS Hydrologic Unit Code 020700110104), which is approximately 24,839.5 acres. Pond E has a contributing drainage area of approximately 94.6 acres.

## 3.3 Foundation and Abutments

Pond E was constructed as an embankment across a drainage feature in the rising natural hillside. The natural soils in the hillside area are typical alluvial Coastal Plain soils consisting of sandy loams developed from feldspathic sediments in the Coastal Plain terraces and stratified marine sediments. The predominant soil groups are the Dumfries series and Quantico series, which are well-draining. Material properties for the various strata were interpreted based on subsurface data and site reconnaissance taken from previous Dominion investigations, analyses, and reports included in Dominion's 1985 "Ash Pond 'E' Boring Logs and Laboratory Test Data" performed by the Law Engineering Testing Company, and are presented in Table 1 below. Additional information on the geotechnical exploration and sources of material properties is presented in the report titled *Safety Factor Assessment – Pond E* (Golder 2018).

Table 1: Selected Material Properties for Pond E Embankment Analysis

	Drained Strength		Undrained Strength		Unit Weight	
Material	φ' (degrees)	c' (psf)	φ (degrees)	c (psf)	(pcf)	
Dike Fill	29	100	14	290	120	
Fine Grained / Organic Alluvium	24	0	12.4	400	100	
Coarse Grained Alluvium	30	0	N/A	N/A	120	
Fine Grained Terrace Deposits	28	75	12.4	400	120	
Coarse Grained Terrace Deposits	34	0	N/A	N/A	125	
Cretaceous Sediments	40	0	0	3000	130	

#### 3.4 Construction Details

#### 3.4.1 Sluiced Ash Pond

Pond E construction started in 1967 and finished in 1968. Borrow source information is limited, but the original design drawings show a borrow area within the planned footprint of the pond, suggesting that at least some of the embankment material was excavated from onsite soils. The natural soils in the hillside around the impoundment are described above. The top of the embankment serves as the perimeter road and is surfaced with gravel.

The pond embankment extends westward approximately 1,400 feet along Possum Point Road, then the embankment turns and continues northeast approximately 1,300 feet along a ridge, terminating in the existing hillside. The embankment was initially built to elevation 40 ft with a 12-ft top width, 1.5:1 (H:V)



interior side slopes, and 2:1 exterior side slopes. In locations where the planned embankment crossed marsh areas, principally the center section and some stretches of the western embankment, the marsh soils were excavated to firm soil and replaced with coarse fill for drainage. From the design drawings, the embankment appears to be zoned with different materials on the interior and exterior of the embankment, with one of the zones likely having a lower permeability. The 1985 analysis, however, shows layered clay and sand layers in the embankment. A toe drain was installed along the exterior toe of the embankment.

The principal spillway is a 72-inch wide, rectangular riser structure fitted with stoplogs to approximately elevation 38.3 ft. The riser structure discharges through a 72-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) into the adjacent unnamed tributary of Quantico Creek.

#### 3.4.2 Construction of Additional Ponds

In the late 1970s, the footprint of Pond E was modified on the eastern edge for construction of a new Metals Pond. The first Metals Pond was constructed in 1979 and a second Metals Pond was constructed north of the first, and adjacent to Pond E, in the early 1990s.

Pond D was constructed in 1988 for additional sluiced ash storage. The discharge from Pond D was routed into the southeastern corner of Pond E to provide additional settling capacity. At the same time, the Pond E embankment crest height of at least elevation 40 feet was verified and reestablished as necessary.

#### 3.4.3 Pond Closure

In 2015, Dominion began permitting and designing the closure of Pond E in accordance with 40 CFR §257.102(c) by removal of CCR. Closure by removal activities for Pond E are ongoing at this time. Closure details are included in the unit's Closure Plan.

## 3.5 Engineering Drawings

Selected original design drawings are presented in Appendix B. Recent survey data showing Pond E after removal of CCR, dated April 28, 2017, is provided in Appendix C.

#### 3.6 Instrumentation

An existing groundwater monitoring well network for the pond is in place, and groundwater levels and constituents are recorded at least twice per year. The wells are shown in Appendix C.

## 3.7 Stage-Storage Capacity Curve

Using the April 2017 survey, the available stage-storage capacity is provided in Table 2 and Figure 1.



**Table 2: Existing Stage-Storage Capacity** 

Elevation	Area	Volume	Cumulative Volume
(ft)	(acres)	(ac-ft)	(ac-ft)
40.00	38.03	75.48	892.86
38.00	37.45	74.30	817.38
36.00	36.85	73.00	743.08
34.00	36.16	71.48	670.08
32.00	35.33	69.82	598.60
30.00	34.50	67.96	528.78
28.00	33.47	65.57	460.82
26.00	32.11	62.98	395.25
24.00	30.87	60.11	332.27
22.00	29.25	56.62	272.16
20.00	27.38	48.52	215.54
18.00	21.26	39.62	167.02
16.00	18.39	34.26	127.40
14.00	15.90	12.01	93.14
12.00	12.88	20.32	64.39
10.00	7.66	12.89	44.07
8.00	5.30	9.43	31.18
6.00	4.15	7.29	21.75
4.00	3.16	5.70	14.46
2.00	2.55	4.56	8.76
0.00	2.02	3.22	4.20
-2.00	1.23	0.99	0.99
-3.00	0.76	-	-



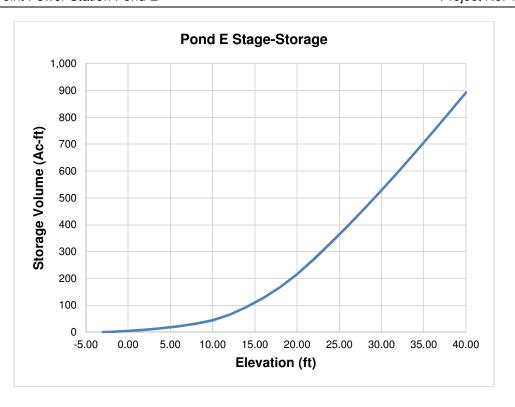


Figure 1: Pond E Stage-Storage Curve

## 3.8 Diversion and Spillway Details

There are no diversions in place to route stormwater flows around Pond E. Pond E receives stormwater runoff from the adjacent hillside and from within the embankments. The principal spillway is a 72-inch wide, rectangular riser structure fitted with stoplogs to approximately elevation 38.3 ft. The riser structure discharges through a 72-inch CMP into the adjacent unnamed tributary of Quantico Creek. As shown in the Inflow Design Flood Control System Plan, the culvert has adequate capacity to pass the flow from the 1,000-year storm event as required for a Significant hazard classification rating. The elevation-discharge rating for the discharge structure is shown below in Figure 2. The spillway capacity analysis is included in Appendix B of the Inflow Design Flood Control System Plan.



Water Elevation	Total Discharge
(ft)	(cfs)
38.00	0.00
38.10	0.00
38.20	0.00
38.30	0.00
38.40	0.63
38.50	1.79
38.60	3.28
38.70	5.05
38.80	7.06
38.90	9.29
39.00	11.70
39.10	14.30
39.20	17.06
39.30	19.98
39.40	23.05
39.50	26.26
39.60	29.61
39.70	33.10
39.80	36.71
39.90	40.44
40.00	44.29

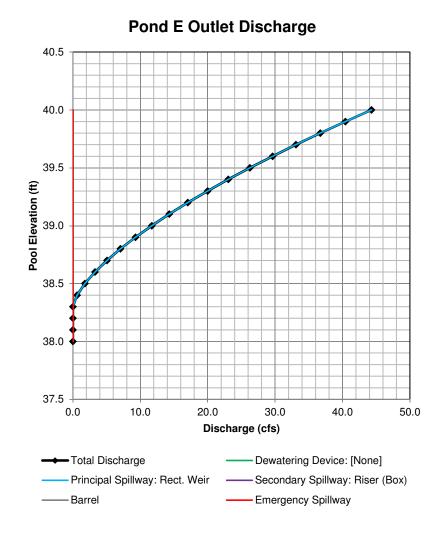


Figure 2: Spillway Capacity

### 3.9 Surveillance, Maintenance, and Repair

Inspections and maintenance are currently conducted in accordance with 40 CFR §257.83. General construction specifications and provisions for future surveillance, maintenance, and repair of Pond E are included in the Closure Plan. A Professional Engineer conducts annual inspections to satisfy the requirements of the DCR Dam Safety Regulations and the CCR Rule.

## 3.10 Records of Structural Instability

In 1977, a seep eroded along the discharge pipe, requiring repairs along the pipe and surrounding embankment. Dominion conducted major repairs of the embankment in the affected area, and replaced the original Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) with a 72-inch CMP and a series of five anti-seep collars. No seeps have been recorded since the repairs.



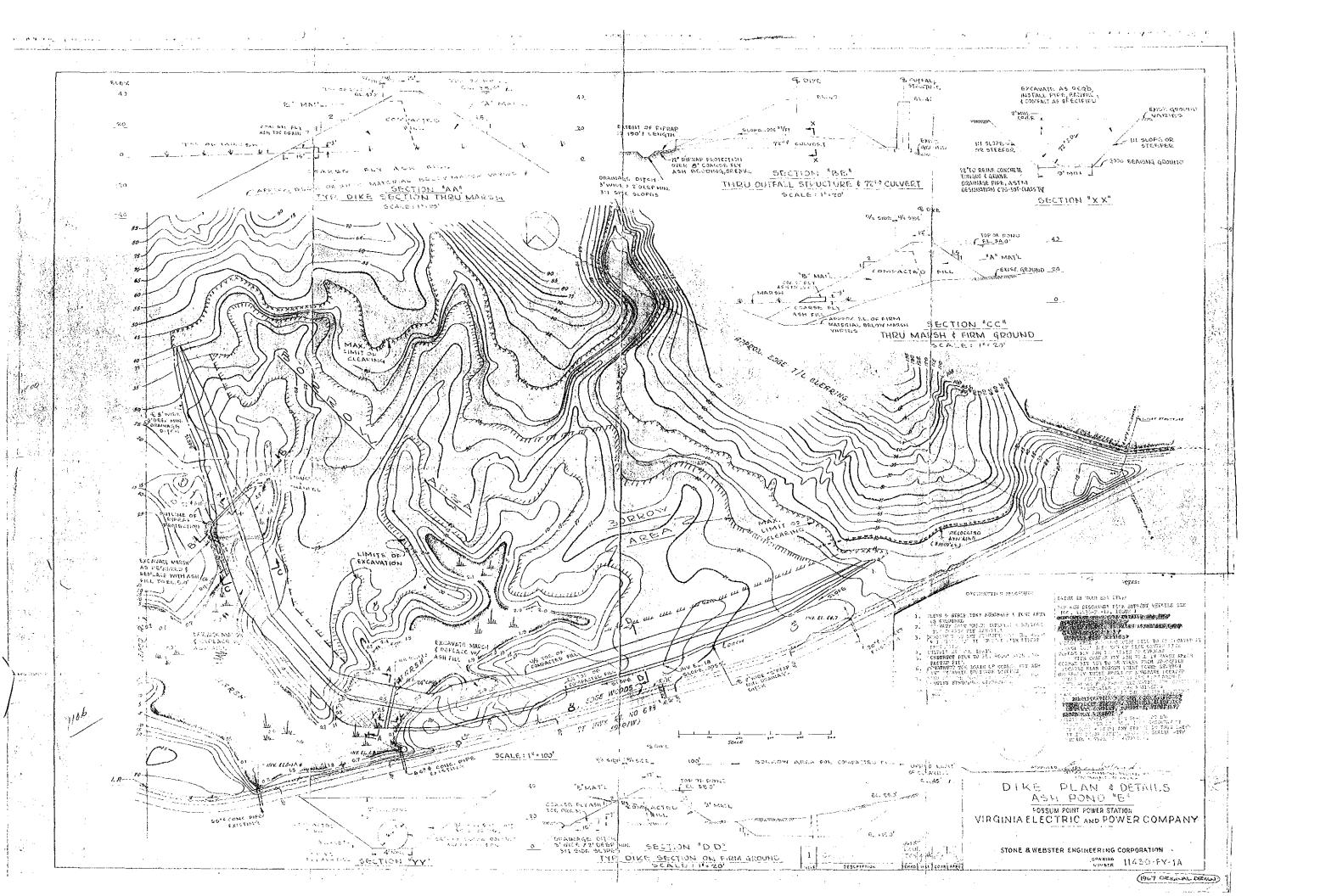
**APPENDIX A** 

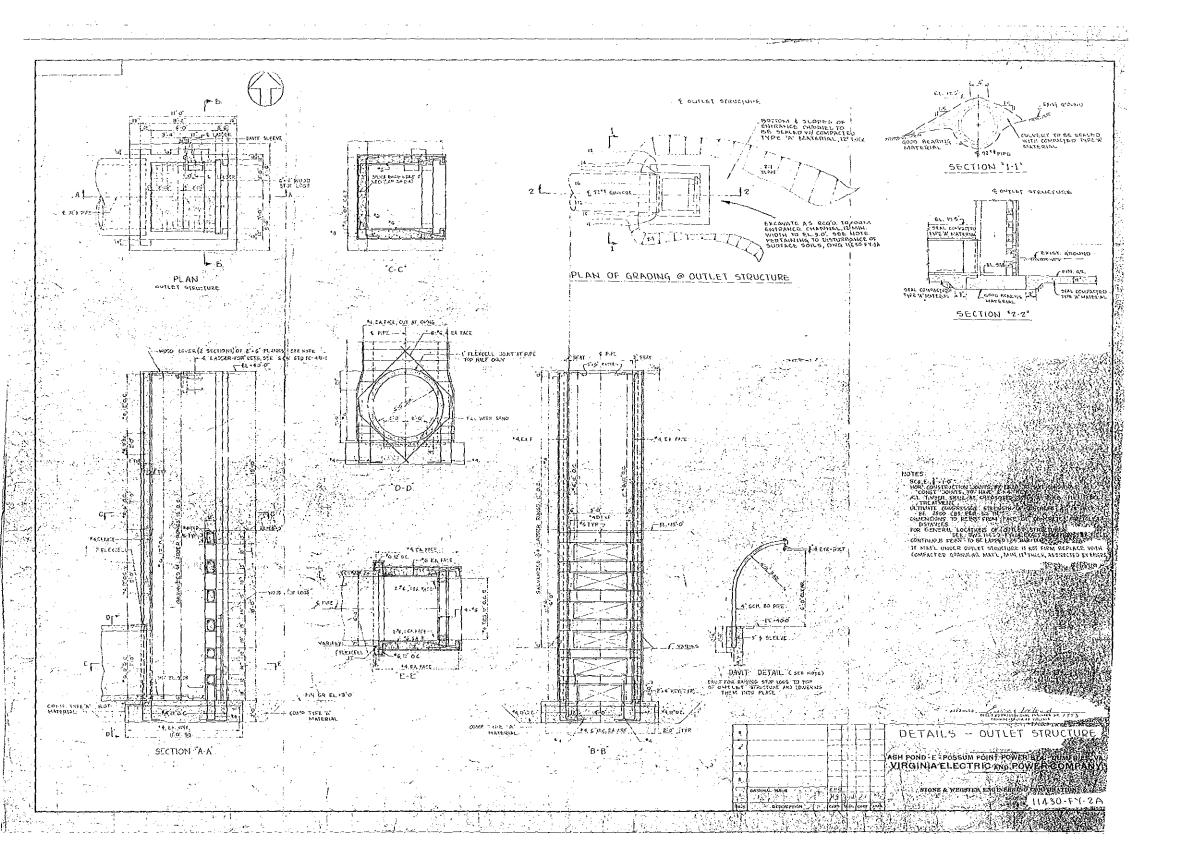
**Site Location Map** 



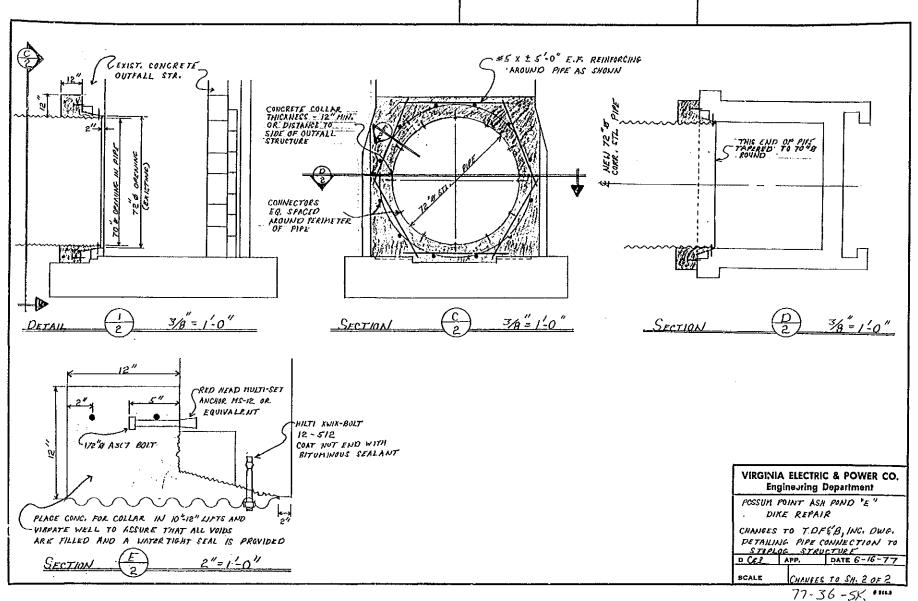
**APPENDIX B** 

**Design Plans** 

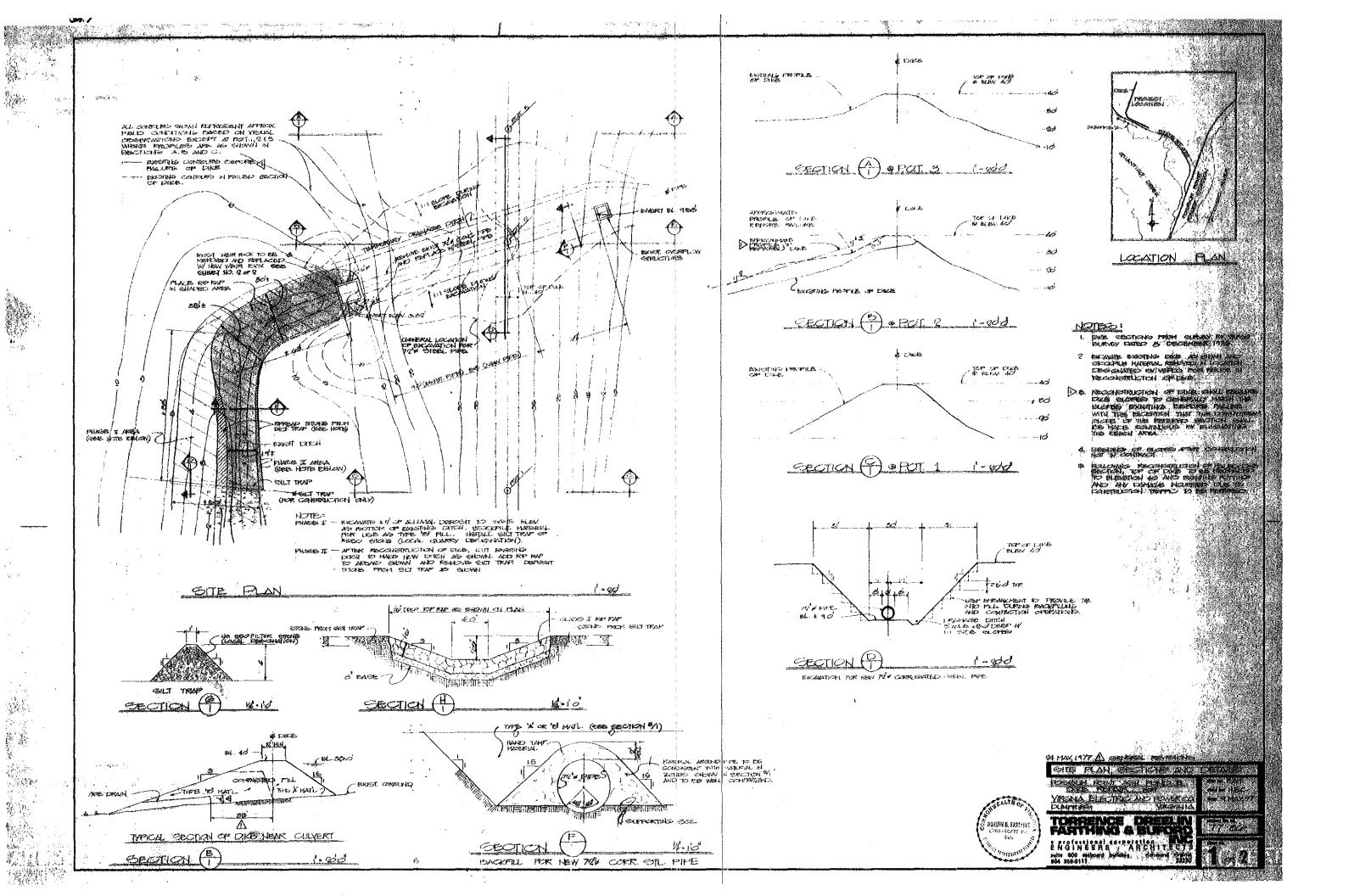


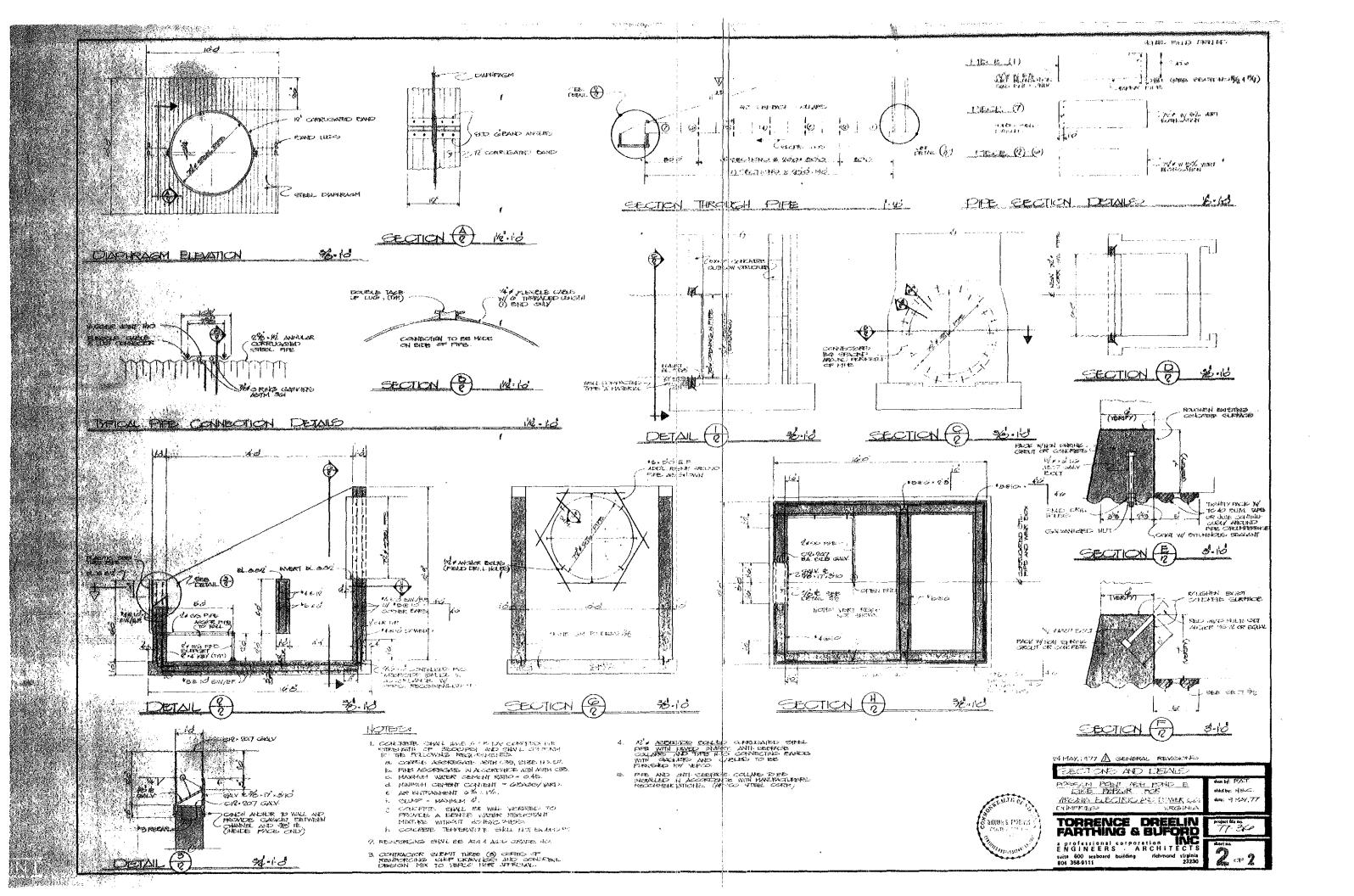


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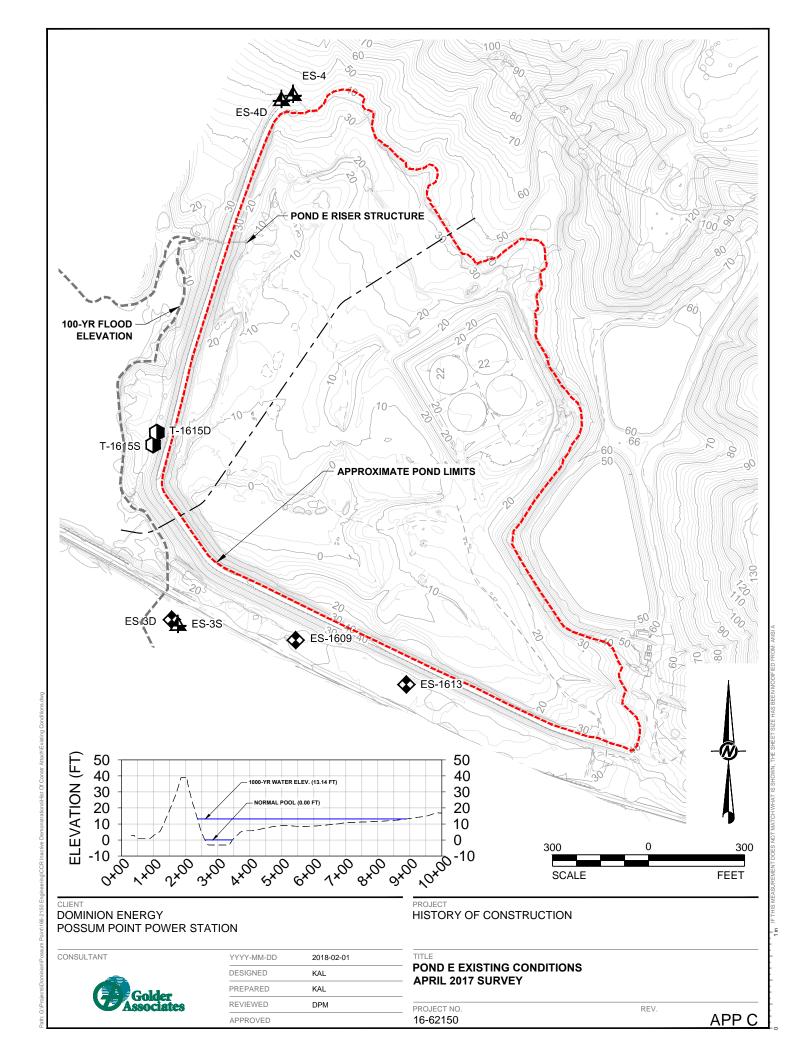
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## **APPENDIX C**

**Existing Condition Drawing** 



Established in 1960, Golder Associates is a global, employee-owned organization that helps clients find sustainable solutions to the challenges of finite resources, energy and water supply and management, waste management, urbanization, and climate change. We provide a wide range of independent consulting, design, and construction services in our specialist areas of earth, environment, and energy. By building strong relationships and meeting the needs of clients, our people have created one of the most trusted professional services organizations in the world.

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