

DNRC - Trust Land Management Division

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name: Vigilante Electric Cooperative Power line Right of Way Application for Upgrading City of Wisdom waste water treatment facility.

Implementation Date: Spring 2006

Proponent: Vigilante Electric Cooperative (VEC)

Type and Purpose of Action: The city of Wisdom is upgrading the city waste water treatment system. The new water treatment system has been approved by the land board and an easement for this facility has been issued to the city of Wisdom. The new treatment facility will require a power supply to operate a pivot to disperse treated waste water from the approved lagoons. The transmission line for this facility was not in the original application. VEC has applied for an easement to construct the new above ground power line parallel to the route for the new facilities access road. The purpose of the proposed project is to place a new 3 phase electric transmission line from an existing electric transmission line on private land in Section 34 to the Wisdom Sewer District lagoon and pivot. The transmission line would end slightly across the boundary of Sec. 34 in Sec. 35 (see attached map included in the application). A 20 foot easement has been requested, 10 feet to either side of the power lines (see attached map).

Location: T2S R15W Sec. 34 & 35

County: Beaverhead

I. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

<p>1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED: Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.</p>	<p>Tim Myllymaki of Vigilante Electric Cooperative</p> <p>Vigilante contacted the lessee, Crane Ranches for lessee consent. A letter was written by the Dillon Unit Land Use Specialist to the lessee seeking comment as well. No response was received.</p> <p>Montana DFWP Biologist Craig Fager, no problems with this project.</p>
<p>2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:</p>	
<p>3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:</p> <p align="center">RECEIVED</p> <p align="center">JUN 30 2006</p> <p align="center">LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE</p>	<p>1) Allow electric transmission line to be installed and grant an easement to Vigilante Electric Cooperative for the new overhead power line.</p> <p>2) Do not allow electric transmission line to be installed. Do not grant easements for the line.</p>

II. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS
<p>4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geologic features? Are there special</p>	<p>N = Not Present or No Impact will</p> <p>Y = Impacts may occur (explain below)</p> <p>[N] Any significant disturbance will be reclaimed and / or reseeded by the applicant.</p>

II. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
reclamation considerations? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	
5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
6. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N] The site is dominated by Idaho fescue grass, and big sagebrush. The proposed transmission line project would not permanently alter the current vegetation.
8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N] Some use by whitetail and mule deer, antelope, upland game birds, raptors, and song birds. Sage grouse habitat is present. The small scale of the project would not have significant impacts on habitat for these species.
9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Sensitive Species or Species of special concern? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?	[N] During a site visit no sign of historic use was apparent on the surface. Patrick Rennie was contacted in regard to the project by email. He found nothing on the database and cleared the project.
11. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographic feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited	[N]

II. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	
13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of other private, state or Federal actions that are under MEPA review (scoping) or permitting review by any state agency within the analysis area?	[N]

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION	
RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?	[N]
15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	[N]
16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number. Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc) be needed? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc. zoning or management plans in effect?	[N]
20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this	[N]

proposed action?	
21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]
22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[N]
23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[N]
24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES: Is there a potential for other future uses for easement area other than for timber management? Is future use hypothetical? What is the estimated return to the trust? Are cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of this proposed action?	[N]

EA Checklist Prepared By: Chuck Maddox Land Use Specialist 5/30/06
Name Title Date

IV. FINDING	
25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:	Alternative 1, to allow the applicant, Vigilante Electric Cooperative, to place an overhead electric transmission line at the proposed location and grant them an easement for the new line to the newly constructed Wisdom wastewater treatment facility.
26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:	Any disturbance to the site as a result of the proposed project will be recontoured/reseeded as necessary by the applicant, Vigilante Electric Cooperative.
27. Need for Further Environmental Analysis: [] EIS [] More Detailed EA [X] No Further Analysis	

EA Checklist Approved By: Richard A. Moore Dillon Unit Manager

Richard A. Moore
Signature

6/14/2006
Date

APPLICATION FOR RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR UTILITIES OVER,
UNDER, ALONG OR ACROSS STATE LANDS

(Non-Refundable Application Fee -- \$50.00)

NOTE: Easement requests are processed on a first come, first served basis. Department review of complete application packages may take a minimum of 120 days. Incomplete applications and those requiring further information may take longer.

_____ Montana, _____, 20

To the State Board of Land Commissioners

- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Application is hereby made under the provisions of Title 77, Chapter 2, Section 101 of the Montana Code Annotated,
by Vigilante Electric Cooperative, Inc. of
Dillon, MT for a right of way easement
for the purpose(s) of Providing three phase electric service to the Wisdom Sewer District Lagoon & Pict
through _____, Section 34 & 35, Township 2 S, Range 15 W
, County of Beaverhead

Duly verified quad maps in duplicate accompany this application and are made a part hereof. The tract or strip of land required for the said right of way is more particularly described as follows:

A tract or strip of land 20 feet wide, 10 feet on each side of a centerline described as follows:

DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the west one quarter corner of Section 34, T2S, R15W, P.M.M., thence, N 34° 21' 31" E - 1690.23 feet, thence, N 7° 31' 55" W - 723.97 feet, thence, S 82° 26' 16" W - 1156.01 feet, thence S 07° 32' 56" E - 39.97 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, thence first course S 82° 28' 50" W - 268 feet, thence second course S 46° 41' 38" W - 1165 feet, thence third and final course S 81° 46' 21" W - 300 feet to end of state lands.

Said easement area contains .8 acres.

An application packet must contain all of the following - Please check box when completed.

- \$50.00 Application Fee Enclosed
- Original and one copy of application signed by authorized representative of applicant
- Affidavit completed, found monument corner appropriately described (i.e. brass cap, aluminum pipe, etc. with notation of inscription, if any)
- Copy of corner recordation form or other support documentation as found in county courthouse
- • • Quad map - • • 's shown, found corner identified, acreage taken and remaining from each • • , North arrow and scale; OR GPS Survey - affidavit signed by licensed surveyor or licensed professional engineer, which includes model of unit and level of accuracy
- Centerline Description (Must begin and end with a tie in to the found section corner)
- Lessee settlement signed by all parties to the lease.
- Statement of necessity, what other routes were considered, why rejected.
- If overhead facility, type of line (distribution/transmission), number of poles to be used (single or double construction), number of guys and anchors and voltage of line, if electric. If pipeline, diameter of pipe stated?
- Stream/river crossing - list attached of other navigable river permits applied for and current status. If waived by other state or federal agencies, attach letter of waiver from authorized agent.

Name of Applicant Vigilante Electric Cooperative, Inc

Tim Myllymaki

Signature of Authorized Signatory

Title

Engineer

Address

P.O. Box 1049 Dillon, MT 59725

AFFIDAVIT

I Tim Myllymaki, the person who prepared the attached exhibit for easement for which application is hereby made, do hereby certify that the description of the right of way as given in this application is accurate and correct in every particular and that the monument referenced herein described as follows:

Aluminium Cap at the west one quarter Corner of Section 34, T25, R15W,

P.M.M.

Dated at Dillon, this 5th day of April, 2006.

Tim Myllymaki

Signed

Title

Engineer

STATE OF _____)

County of _____)

On this 7th day of April, in the year 2006, before me Ralph Dreyer, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Tim Myllymaki known to me to be the person whose name subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

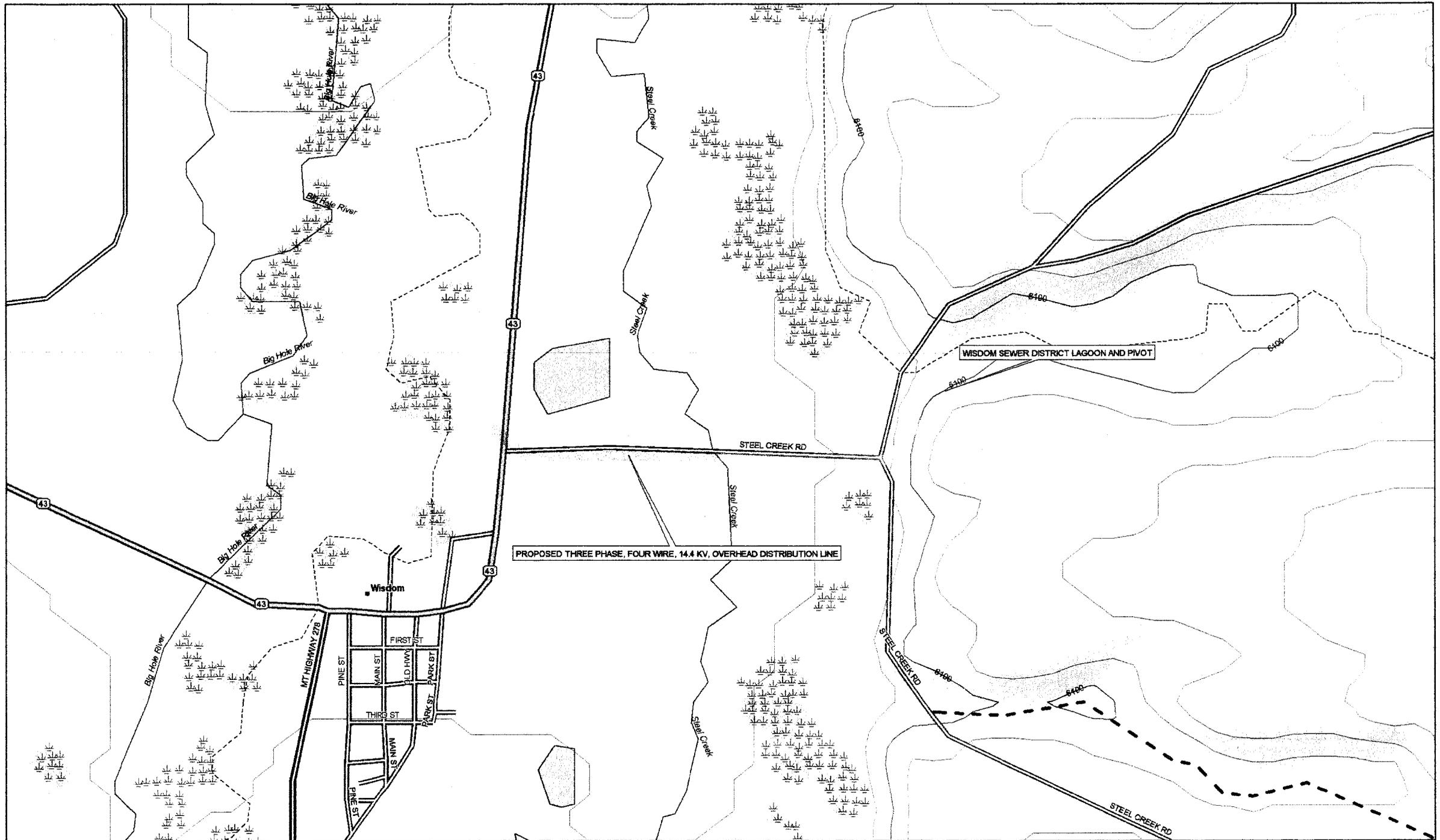
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal the day and year in this certification above written.

Ralph Dreyer

Notary Public for the State of Montana

Residing at Dillon, MT

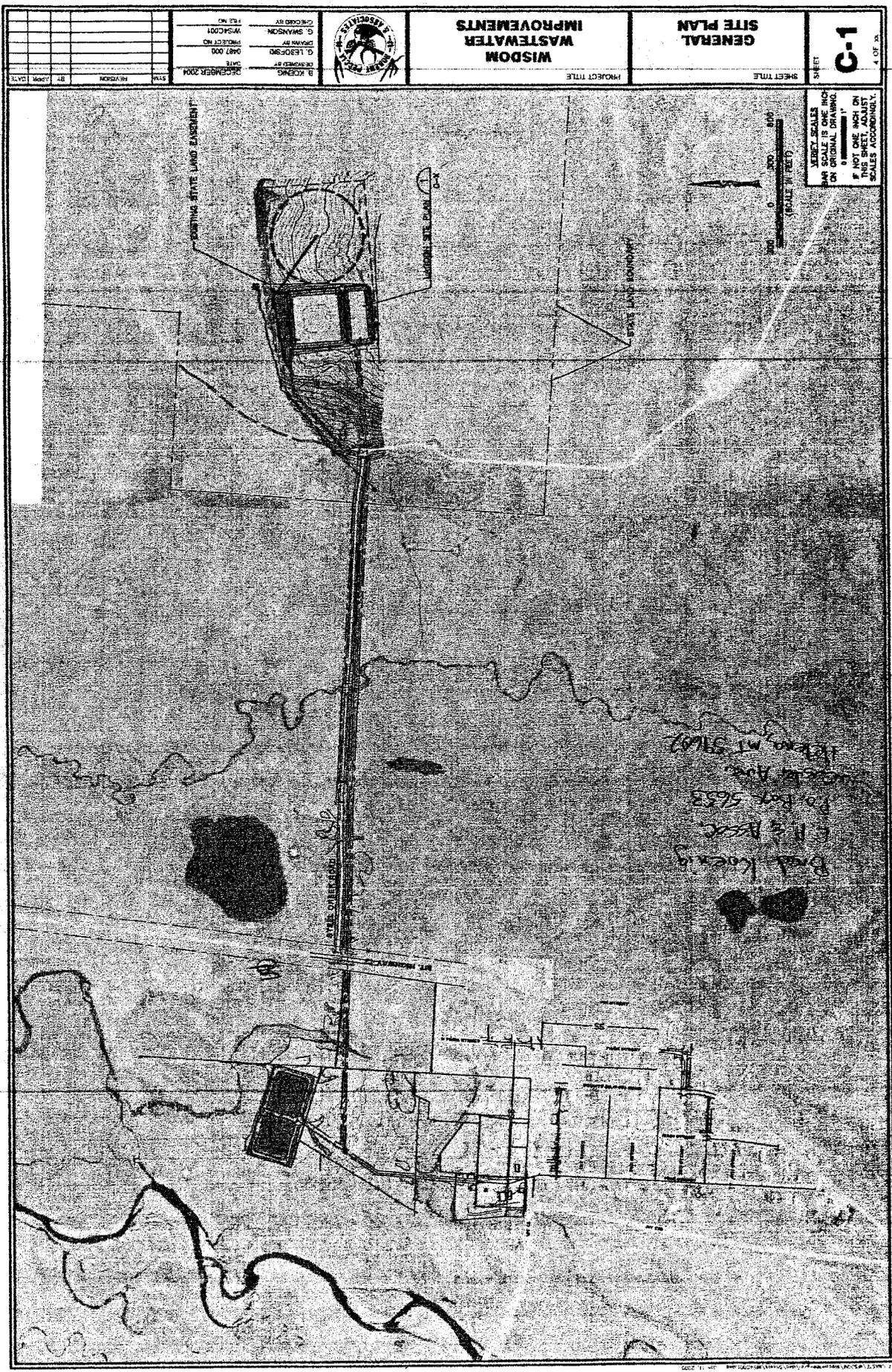
My Commission Expires 2-28-07



ΔGIS account 50kVA 5.5¢/kWh + 45¢
 ΔIRR account 50kVA 5.5¢/3.85¢ + 105¢

2/30 H.P. Pumps.

≈ 4000' VΦ @ 1¢ = 16,000¢
 240/480 open Delta



Brad Koenig
 P.O. Box 5653
 Middleboro, MA 01907

Vigilante Electric Cooperative proposes to build approximately 1,733 feet of overhead distribution line to serve the Wisdom Sewer District Lagoon and Pivot. Construction will be single pole three phase, 3-wire operative at 14.4 KV. Seven poles and four guys with anchors will be necessary.

No other routes are available.

