# Geotechnical Engineering Report–Revision 1

East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment (BA-194) Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

for Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

May 8, 2020



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File No. 18274-004-02

May 8, 2020

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT UNDERSTANDING**

GeoEngineers, Inc. (GeoEngineers) is pleased to present this revised geotechnical engineering report to the Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority (CPRA) and Baird, Inc. (Baird) for geotechnical services in support of the East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment (BA-194) project located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana (Figure 1).

GeoEngineers has previously submitted a geotechnical engineering report (October 11, 2018) for the East Leeville Marsh Creation Project. Our design analyzed earthen containment dike construction using borrow material from within the marsh creation cells. Subsequent to our report submittal, CPRA requested GeoEngineers analyze a design utilizing borrow material from channels outside the limits of the marsh creation area and earthen containment dikes and complete additional stability and settlement analyses. This report revision incorporates these additional geotechnical analyses for the East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment Project.

Discussions of our geotechnical engineering recommendations are included in this report. Examples of our engineering calculations will be provided separately. A discussion of our geotechnical field investigation and laboratory testing results were presented in our Geotechnical Data Report submitted on October 8, 2018 and our Geotechnical Data Report – Addendum 1 submitted on March 17, 2020.

Our additional services were performed under a Subconsultant Professional Services Agreement between Baird and GeoEngineers dated January 9, 2020 (Reference No. 12992.101.L.1.RevO) and in general accordance with our proposal dated January 9, 2020.

All elevations described in this report, including figures and appendices, are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88), Geoid 12A. Report figures are located at the end of the report text. Appendices are organized as shown in the table of contents.

## **2.0 SITE CONDITIONS**

## **2.1. Surface Conditions**

#### 2.1.1. Marsh Creation Area

The East Leeville marsh creation area surface is a mix of open water, fragmented marsh, and intact marsh. The marsh creation area is split into six primary containment cells and are labeled Cells 1 through 6, as shown in Figure 2. Based on the survey data provided to us by CPRA, the marsh creation area surface and mudline elevations generally range from about elevation +1 (El. +1) foot to about El. -4 feet. Water depths will vary based on the time of year, the direction of wind, and tidal fluctuations. In addition, multiple pipelines traverse the project area.

#### 2.1.2. Borrow Area

As shown in Figure 1, the potential borrow area is located approximately five miles east of the marsh creation area in Caminada Bay. Borrow area water depths ranged from about four to six feet at the time of field exploration. The borrow area and our field explorations in the area are shown in Figure 3.



## 2.2. Subsurface Conditions

Subsurface conditions discussed below are based on the soil borings completed for this project. No artifacts or material other than that noted on the soil boring logs included in our data report was observed by GeoEngineers during our field investigation or during laboratory testing; however, GeoEngineers personnel are not trained in recognition of such items.

Subsurface profiles based on the soil borings and cone penetration tests (CPTs) for the various marsh creation areas are shown in Figures 4 and 5, and the subsurface profile based on the soil borings for the borrow area is shown in Figure 6. Although undetected anomalies (sand layers, wood debris, etc.) beyond the explorations may exist, the generalized subsurface conditions can be described as given in the following sections.

#### 2.2.1. Marsh Creation Area

The subsurface soils within the marsh creation areas generally consist of very soft to soft clay and silty clay interbedded with layers of silt and sand throughout. A predominantly silty sand layer was encountered ranging from approximate El. -20 feet to El. -30 feet across the cells. The soils within Cell 3, however, are less sandy, and the near surface soils consist of more organic clay and peat to approximately El. -6 feet.

The subsurface soils encountered in the channels around the perimeter of the marsh creation areas (soil borings B-50 through B-55) were, in general, similar to what was encountered in borings and CPTs in adjacent cells. A few channel borings around Cell 3, however, did not encounter as much organic clay and peat. This was taken into consideration in our gap closure analyses of Cell 3.

The design soil properties vs. elevation based on the data obtained from the field explorations and laboratory testing are provided in Appendix A.

#### 2.2.2. Borrow Area

Near surface soils within the borrow area generally consist of very soft clay and silty clay to approximately El. -23 feet. A silty sand layer was encountered in 6 of the 8 borrow area borings at approximately this elevation which was near the boring termination of about El. -25 feet.

## **3.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

GeoEngineers evaluated survey information and various geotechnical data to develop engineering recommendations for the East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment project. Our analyses focused on containment of dredged fill, dredged fill properties, and settlement of the project features. Our results, conclusions, and recommendations are described in the following sections.

## **3.1. Earthen Containment Dikes**

Our analyses for the earthen containment dikes included evaluating slope stability, bearing capacity, settlement, and cut-to-fill. Our containment dike analysis results are presented below and discussed further in Appendices B and C.



#### 3.1.1. Recommended Dike Sections

#### 3.1.1.1. Cells 1 & 2

In areas where the mudline elevation is -1.0 feet or higher, unreinforced containment dike construction may proceed in Cells 1 and 2 by building the earthen containment dikes in one lift with a crown elevation of +4.5 feet, crown widths of five and ten feet, and 4H:1V side slopes. The recommended earthen containment dike design section is illustrated in Figure 7a.

In areas where the mudline elevation is -1.0 to -2.0 feet, unreinforced containment dike construction may proceed in Cells 1 and 2 by building the earthen containment dikes in one lift with a crown elevation of +4.5 feet, crown widths of five and ten feet, and 5H:1V side slopes. The recommended earthen containment dike design section is illustrated in Figure 7a.

In sections where the mudline elevation is -2.0 to -3.0 feet, staged construction will be necessary for Cells 1 and 2 to build earthen containment dikes with a crown elevation of +4.5 feet, crown widths of five and ten feet, and 5H:1V side slopes. The recommended earthen containment dike design section is illustrated in Figure 7a.

For lift construction, we recommend building the dike to El. +1.0 feet across the width of the final design section; allow the dike fill and foundation soils to consolidate for two weeks; and then continue filling to El. +4.5 feet. The recommended earthen containment dike design sections are illustrated in Figure 7a.

Slope stability analyses with articulated concrete mattresses (ACMs) were performed for Cells 1 and 2 for all sections. An open-cell, 4-inch thick ACM was modeled on the crest and on the exterior side of the dike with a unit weight of 100 pounds per cubic foot (pcf) and a friction angle of 40°.

For areas supporting ACMs, containment dike construction can proceed as outlined above for the various mudlines. In areas where the mudline elevation is -2.0 feet -3.0, a geotextile reinforcement (1,200 pounds per foot tensile strength – ASTM D4595) will also be required between the two lifts to reinforce the containment dike. The recommended earthen containment dike design sections with ACMs are illustrated in Figure 7b.

#### 3.1.1.2. Cell 3

In areas where the mudline elevation is -2.0 feet or higher, staged construction with geotextile reinforcement (1,200 pounds per foot tensile strength – ASTM D4595) will be necessary for Cell 3 to build earthen containment dikes with a crown elevation of +4.5 feet, crown widths of five and ten feet, and 5H:1V side slopes. The recommended earthen containment dike design section is illustrated in Figure 7c.

For lift construction, we recommend building the dike to El. +1.0 feet across the width of the final design section and allow the dike fill and foundation soils to consolidate for two weeks; place the geotextile reinforcement at this elevation; and then continue filling to El. +4.5 feet.

#### 3.1.1.3. Cells 4, 5 & 6

In areas where the mudline elevation is -3.0 feet or higher, staged construction will be necessary for Cells 4, 5, and 6 to build earthen containment dikes with a crown elevation of +4.0 feet, crown widths of five and ten feet, and 5H:1V side slopes. The recommended earthen containment dike design section is illustrated in Figure 7c.



For lift construction, we recommend building the dike to El. +1.0 feet across the width of the final design section; allow the dike fill and foundation soils to consolidate for four weeks; and then continue filling to El. +4.0 feet. Please note the extra consolidation time recommendation compared to Cells 1, 2 and 3. There is less silt present in the subgrade in this area, and we believe settlement (i.e. strength gain) will take longer.

#### 3.1.2. Slope Stability and Bearing Capacity

Stability of the containment dikes was evaluated assuming mean low water conditions (El. +0.15 feet). It was assumed the material for the dikes would be dredged from an adjacent borrow channel outside of the marsh creation cells.

Mudwaves are likely to occur during construction of the containment dikes if the material at the mudline is very soft and/or submerged. For our stability analyses, we assumed material with a shear strength less than 50 pounds per square foot (psf) would mudwave. Based on site data, we expect mudwaving to be primarily limited to Cell 3.

The results of our slope stability and bearing capacity analyses for the recommended containment dike sections are summarized below in Tables 3.1 and 3.2, respectively. A discussion of our slope stability and bearing capacity evaluations is provided in Appendix B.

	Design	Crest Width (ft)	Critical Slope Safety Factor <sup>1</sup>				
Cell	Mudline El. (ft)		Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4	
	-1.0	5	1.28	1.55	2.13	1.28	
	-1.0	10	1.27	1.50	2.13	1.26	
	-2.0	5	1.33	1.80	2.53	1.33	
1 0 0	-2.0	10	1.32	1.73	2.53	1.32	
1 & 2	-3.0, Lift 1	40	3.35	2.99	3.04	N/A	
	-3.0, Lift 2	5	1.24	1.85	3.04	1.24	
	-3.0, Lift1	45	3.35	2.99	3.04	N/A	
	-3.0, Lift 2	10	1.24	1.77	3.04	1.24	
	-1.0	5	1.22	1.46	2.13	1.22	
1&2	-2.0	5	1.26	1.72	2.51	1.26	
(with ACMs)	-3.0, Lift 1	40	3.35	2.99	3.04	N/A	
	-3.0, Lift 2	5	1.62	1.83	3.04	1.62	
	-2.0, Lift 1	40	1.79	2.46	1.93	N/A	
2	-2.0, Lift 2	5	1.23	1.56	1.93	1.22	
3	-2.0, Lift 1	45	1.79	2.48	1.93	N/A	
	-2.0, Lift 2	10	1.21	1.52	1.93	1.21	

## TABLE 3.1. CONTAINMENT DIKE SLOPE STABILITY

	Design	Crest Width (ft)	Critical Slope Safety Factor <sup>1</sup>			
Cell	Mudline El. (ft)		Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4
	-1.0, Lift 1	35	3.16	2.66	1.40	N/A
	-1.0, Lift 2	5	1.22	1.88	1.40	1.22
	-1.0, Lift 1	40	3.16	2.66	1.40	N/A
4 5 9 0	-1.0, Lift 2	10	1.21	1.81	1.40	1.21
4,5&6	-3.0, Lift 1	35	2.58	2.91	2.81	N/A
	-3.0, Lift 2	5	1.19	1.96	2.81	1.19
	-3.0, Lift 1	40	2.57	2.91	2.81	N/A
	-3.0, Lift 2	10	1.18	1.89	2.81	1.18

<sup>1</sup> Case 1 = Internal failure of the containment dike, no marsh fill placed.

Case 2 = Global failure of the containment dike into the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed.

Case 3 = Failure of the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed, construction equipment modeled.

Case 4 = Failure of the containment dike, marsh fill placed.

The critical factors of safety presented in Table 3.1 meet or exceed the acceptable safety factor of 1.2, except for Cells 4, 5 & 6, -3.0, Lift 2 with a 5-foot and 10-foot crown width with a 1.19 and 1.18 safety factor, respectively, which we feel is acceptable in this instance.

The stability of the containment dikes was modeled with an external borrow channel. However, we understand that, in some areas, material for the dikes may also be dredged from a borrow channel within the marsh creation cells. The factors of safety associated with a Case 4 failure with an internal borrow channel are similar to the Case 4 factors of safety presented in Table 3.1.

Cell	Mudline El. (ft)	Crest Width (ft)	Factor of Safety
	-1.0	5	1.76
	-1.0	10	1.79
1 0 0	-2.0	5	1.91
1 & 2	-2.0	10	1.87
	-3.0	5	1.95
	-3.0	10	1.89
2	-2.0	5	1.96
3	-2.0	10	1.96
	-1.0	5	1.82
4 5 9 6	-1.0	10	1.96
4, 5 & 6	-3.0	5	2.33
	-3.0	10	2.30

#### **TABLE 3.2. CONTAINMENT DIKE BEARING CAPACITY**



The computed factors of safety presented in Table 3.2 for bearing exceed the acceptable factor of safety of 1.3.

#### 3.1.3. Geotextile Reinforcement

Geotextile reinforcement was incorporated into our stability analyses for Cells 1 and 2 with ACMs and Cell 3 assuming at least 1,200 pounds per foot tensile strength (ASTM D4595). This is within the capabilities of woven geotextile fabrics, including, but not limited to, the five percent strain condition of Mirafi®'s HP 270 woven high-performance polypropylene geotextile fabric. Geotextile fabric should be installed to the manufacturer's recommendations. Geotextile seams parallel to the dike alignment must be sewn or otherwise secured to preserve the strength. Seams perpendicular to the dike alignment may be overlapped so that geotextile is uniformly present under the dike but do not need to be sewn. Measures to weigh or pin the fabric down may be necessary to keep the geotextile in place during construction.

#### 3.1.4. Containment Dike Settlement

Containment dike settlement includes two components. One component is foundation soil settlement below the containment dike, which includes consolidation and elastic compression (construction settlement). The other component is settlement within the fill itself, which is a combination of compaction due to the weight of the fill and desiccation-induced shrinkage settlement. These two components will combine with wind, rain and wave erosion to degrade the containment dike. As such, regular maintenance of the containment dikes will likely be required through construction of the marsh fill platform.

#### 3.1.4.1. Consolidation Settlement of Foundation Soils

Based on the amount of sand/silt layers and seams encountered in our subsurface explorations, consolidation settlement of the foundation soils will occur quickly, particularly in Cells 1 through 3. There is less silt/sand layering in Cells 4 through 6, so we expect settlement to be a bit slower in these cells. Our approach to evaluating consolidation settlement for the containment dikes is discussed in Appendix C. Containment dike crown elevation vs. time plots are also included, along with tabular results, in Appendix C. These plots include consolidation, shrinkage, and self-weight settlement but do not include construction settlement is addressed in the following section.

#### 3.1.4.2. Construction Settlement

Based on our experience, GeoEngineers estimates construction settlement in clay and organic soils to be approximately 20 percent of the total foundation consolidation settlement. Construction settlement will occur rapidly as fill is placed and will not manifest appreciably during routine construction surveys of the built containment dikes. Based on consolidation settlement of the foundation soils ranging from 0.5 to 1.0 feet, respectively, we expect construction settlement to be about 1 to 2.5 inches.

#### 3.1.4.3. Shrinkage and Self-Weight Settlement of Fill Soils

Containment dike settlement will be influenced by desiccation of exposed soil above the average water level and compression of fill after it is placed, especially when fill is excavated from a submerged (buoyant) condition and placed above water (total stress). Research conducted by GeoEngineers indicates peat and inorganic low-plasticity clay experience relatively little shrinkage when the embankment base is submerged (about 5 to 10 percent volume loss for exposed soil); however, peat fill compression may be significant. Inorganic high-plasticity clays experience moderate shrinkage (about 15 to 20 percent exposed soil volume loss) even with the embankment base submerged, and silty sands experience relatively little shrinkage (about 5 percent or less exposed soil volume loss). Because the available containment dike borrow material



is generally composed of clays and silty clays, we estimate post-construction shrinkage settlement and selfweight settlement combined will be about 15 percent of the fill height from the containment dike crown to the mudline, in addition to the total foundation settlement. We expect this settlement to occur within six months after construction. Settlement plots in Appendix C have incorporated fill shrinkage and selfweight settlement.

#### 3.1.5. Mechanical Dredging Cut-to-Fill

Earthen containment dike construction commonly involves removing material from a submerged condition within excavator reach of the dike alignment, placing it in the dike footprint, then shaping it to meet containment dike geometry specifications. At the project site, material in the top 10 feet of the in-place borrow soil profile generally consists of clay and silty clay, with Cell 3 having more peat and organic material. Material losses during construction, compaction, and water drainage as the fill is placed and shaped, soil shrinkage, and foundation settlement during construction results in more than one cubic yard of material excavated from the in-place borrow soil for every cubic yard in the fill template. Due to the number of variables involved, calculating the cut-to-fill ratio for the containment dikes is very difficult. To allow for adequate material quantities in project design and cost estimating, GeoEngineers recommends a cut-to-fill ratio of about 2 to 1 to account for material losses, construction settlement, mudwave displacement, and compression settlement and shrinkage.

#### **3.2. Gap Closures**

Based on a review of the survey information provided by CPRA, GeoEngineers identified five locations around the marsh creation cell perimeters where the existing mudline is lower than the design mudline elevations evaluated, as shown in Figure 2. Based on the mudline elevations at these locations, it will be more difficult to build earthen containment dikes as discussed previously and, as such, modified dike design sections will be required. Due to thicker fill at these locations, there will also be more settlement within the fill and therefore more maintenance should be expected to maintain the design elevation.

#### 3.2.1. Recommended Gap Closure Sections

#### 3.2.1.1. Cell 2 Design

We identified one gap closure location in Cell 2 ("North Cell 2") with a mudline elevation as deep as - 4.5 feet. For areas with where the mudline elevation is -3.0 to -4.5 feet, staged construction will be necessary to build an earthen containment dike with a crown elevation of +4.5 feet, crown width of five feet, and 5H:1V side slopes.

For lift construction, we recommend building the dike to El. +1.0 feet across the width of the final design section; allow the dike fill and foundation soils to consolidate for two weeks; place the geotextile reinforcement at this elevation; and then continue filling to El. +4.5 feet. The recommended Cell 2 gap closure design section is illustrated in Figure 8a, and our analyses are provided in Appendix D.

#### 3.2.1.2. Cell 3 Design

We identified three gap closure locations in Cell 3 ("North Cell 3", "Northeast Cell 3", and "South Cell 3") with mudline elevations as deep as -4.0 feet. For areas with where the mudline elevation is -2.0 to -4.0 feet, staged construction will be necessary to build an earthen containment dike with a crown elevation of +4.5 feet, crown width of five feet, and 5H:1V side slopes.

For lift construction, we recommend building the dike to El. +1.0 feet across the width of the final design section; allow the dike fill and foundation soils to consolidate for two weeks; place the geotextile reinforcement at this elevation; and then continue filling to El. +4.5 feet. The recommended Cell 3 gap closure design section is illustrated in Figure 8b, and our analyses are provided in Appendix D.

While sheet pile gap closures do not appear necessary for this project, we also analyzed a general sheet pile gap closure section for Cell 3 with a mudline elevation of -5.0 feet. We have provided various design options with the earthen containment dike section built at El. +1 feet to El. +2 feet, as shown in Figure 8b. Most steel sheet pile sections can meet the required section modulus. Alternate materials may also be effective given the low modulus requirement but must be evaluated by material. Our analyses are provided in Appendix D.

#### 3.2.1.3. Cell 6 Design

We identified one gap closure location in Cell 6 ("East Cell 6") with a mudline elevation as deep as -4.0 feet. For areas with where the mudline elevation is -3.0 to -4.0 feet, staged construction will be necessary to build an earthen containment dike with a crown elevation of +4.0 feet, crown width of ten feet, and 5H:1V side slopes.

For lift construction, we recommend building the dike to El. +1.0 feet across the width of the final design section; allow the dike fill and foundation soils to consolidate for four weeks; place the geotextile reinforcement at this elevation; and then continue filling to El. +4.0 feet. The recommended Cell 6 gap closure design section is illustrated in Figure 8c, and our analyses are provided in Appendix D.

#### 3.2.2. Slope Stability and Bearing Capacity

Stability of the modified containment dike sections at gap closure locations was evaluated assuming mean low water conditions (EI. +0.15 feet). It was assumed the material for the dikes would be dredged from an adjacent borrow channel outside of the marsh creation cells. Mudwaves are also likely to occur in Cell 3 during construction of the containment dikes if the material at the mudline is very soft and/or submerged.

The results of our slope stability and bearing capacity analyses for the modified containment dike sections at gap closure locations are summarized below in Tables 3.3 and 3.4, respectively. A discussion of our gap closure slope stability and bearing capacity evaluations is provided in Appendix D.

<b>A IB</b>	Design Mudline El. (ft)	Crest Width (ft)	Critical Slope Safety Factor <sup>1</sup>			
Gap ID			Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4
	-4.5, Lift 1	40	2.81	3.01	3.69	N/A
North Cell 2	-4.5, Lift 2	5	1.48	1.91	3.71	1.49
North Call 2	-4.0, Lift 1	40	2.40	2.62	2.54	N/A
North Cell 3	-4.0, Lift 2	5	1.31	1.66	1.92	1.31
	-4.0, Lift 1	40	2.42	2.62	2.54	N/A
NE/S Cell 3	-4.0, Lift 2	5	1.30	1.64	2.54	1.30

#### **TABLE 3.3. GAP CLOSURE SLOPE STABILITY**



<b>A</b> 15	Design Mudline El. (ft)	Crest Width (ft)	Critical Slope Safety Factor <sup>1</sup>			
Gap ID			Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4
Cell 3	-5.0, Pre- Sheet Pile	40	2.50	2.69	2.74	N/A
(El. +1ft Crown)	-5.0, Post- Sheet Pile	40	2.50	N/A	N/A	1.99
Cell 3	-5.0, Pre- Sheet Pile	30	1.72	2.17	2.74	N/A
(El. +2ft Crown)	-5.0, Post- Sheet Pile	30	1.73	N/A	N/A	1.47
	-4.0, Lift 1	40	2.50	3.00	3.46	N/A
East Cell 6	-4.0, Lift 2	10	1.64	2.04	3.46	1.64

 $^{1}$  Case 1 = Internal failure of the containment dike, no marsh fill placed.

Case 2 = Global failure of the containment dike into the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed.

Case 3 = Failure of the berm into the borrow channel.

Case 4 = Failure of the containment dike, marsh fill placed.

The critical factors of safety presented in Table 3.3 meet or exceed the acceptable factor of safety of 1.2.

Cell	Mudline El. (ft)	Crown El. (ft)	Crest Width (ft)	Factor of Safety
2	-4.5	+4.5	5	2.21
3	-6.01	+4.5	5	2.05
3	-6.0 <sup>2</sup>	+1.0	40	3.96
3	-6.0 <sup>2</sup>	+2.0	30	3.05
6	-4.0	+4.0	10	2.30

#### TABLE 3.4. GAP CLOSURE BEARING CAPACITY

<sup>1</sup>Mudline at elevation -4.0 feet with mudwave to elevation 6.0 feet

The computed factors of safety presented in Table 3.4 for bearing exceed the acceptable factor of safety of 1.3.

## **3.3. Marsh Creation Areas**

Our analyses for the marsh creation areas included evaluating marsh fill settlement, marsh foundation soil settlement, and cut-to-fill. The results of our marsh fill analyses are presented below and discussed further in Appendix E.

#### 3.3.1. Marsh Fill Settlement

Freshly created marsh platforms settle over time. Elevation changes in the marsh fill are driven by selfweight consolidation, water draining, evaporating, or being drawn down due to plant growth, along with marsh foundation soil settlement due to the new load introduced by the marsh fill. GeoEngineers evaluated marsh fill and foundation settlement for target end-of-construction elevations ranging from El. +3.5 feet to El. +1.5 feet for the various marsh creation cells. Our evaluation does not include regional subsidence. Additional elevation loss due to regional subsidence must be subtracted from the curves included in this report.

As GeoEngineers understands, a successful marsh creation project establishes a marsh platform that remains within the intertidal range (between mean high water and mean low water or between the 20 percent and 80 percent inundation levels for saline marsh) for as long as practical during the project life. Based on this and the results of our analyses, GeoEngineers recommends building the marsh platform to El. +3.0 to +3.5 feet. A 30-day fill construction period was modeled for all cells, and for mudline El. -2 feet of Cells 1 through 3, a 60-day fill construction period was also modeled. A summary of our calculation approach and our analyses are provided in Appendix E.

#### 3.3.2. Hydraulic Dredging Cut-to-Fill

Hydraulically dredged material cut-to-fill ratios have been reported between 1.0 (1-yard cut from the borrow for every 1 yard placed in the fill area) and 1.5 for marsh creation projects in Louisiana, depending on material type, containment scheme, and dredge/pipe/containment efficiencies. The material exiting the dredge pipe will initially be less dense than the in-place borrow material but, with time, should return to borrow area densities due to consolidation, desiccation and plant-induced evapotranspiration. GeoEngineers recommends a cut-to-fill ratio of 1.2 based on in-place borrow to long-term in-place fill for this site. The cut-to-fill ratio can change with dredge size. In general, more retention time (i.e. a smaller dredge) results in lower cut-to-fill ratios.

## 4.0 CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

## **4.1. General Considerations**

Based on the expected site construction activities and evaluations completed for this project, the following construction considerations are offered:

- Our evaluations are based on a limited number of investigations over a wide area. Our evaluations indicate generally similar conditions across the site. However, CPRA should expect localized areas during construction to require location-specific remedies. GeoEngineers offers our services during construction to address issues that may arise.
- Several pipelines are near the marsh creation cells and borrow area. We recommend taking precautions to mitigate impact to pipelines prior to construction. The project design and construction teams should work closely with the companies that have pipelines in the area and conduct a pre-construction geophysical survey to confirm pipeline and other obstruction locations.
- Water depth in the marsh creation areas is variable.
- Soil excavated to build containment dikes, particularly in the areas of Cells 1 through 3, is likely to contain significant amounts of silt and sand. While these soils are good for stability and bearing, they erode easily, and portions of the marsh creation cells are exposed to open water wave action. ACMs are planned to help reduce erosion; however, silt and sand can still wash from beneath the ACM. To help reduce erosion, a class B, C, or D nonwoven geotextile meeting the requirements of the 2016 Version of Louisiana Standard Specifications for Roads and Bridges, Section 1019 may be placed beneath the ACM, particularly in zones exposed to wave energy. Vegetation is probably the best long-



term erosion protection, and the benefits of the geotextile should be weighed against potential negative effects geotextile may have on vegetation growth.

- Peat considerations (primarily in Cell 3):
  - Peat used in constructing containment dikes may compress significantly under loading requiring more fill; however, it can be utilized and should not be wasted.
  - Energy diffusers or other such precautions are recommended to reduce scouring of organic deposits during hydraulic fill placement. We understand scoured floating blocks of peat have blocked discharge weir boxes at sites with similar conditions. At these sites wire mesh fences placed in a wide arc in front of the discharge point were used to screen out floating organic material blocks.
  - Peat is a weak, light-weight material. Mudwaves and lateral displacement should be expected while placing fill in areas with peat.
  - Peat settlement during hydraulic fill placement will result in an initial fill thickness greater than the difference between the target fill elevation and the pre-construction mudline elevation.
- Dewatering structures (weirs, drainage culverts) should be designed to allow retention of as much soil fill as practical. In general, placement of such structures away from the dredge discharge point is preferred.

## **4.2. Construction Sequencing**

- The contractor should plan to place fill in low areas first, then move to higher ground, both for the containment dikes and hydraulic marsh fill. Lower areas will require more fill and are expected to settle more. Filling these low areas first will allow some of the additional settlement to be realized and then potentially mitigated by placing additional fill in these areas during construction. After initial construction is complete, containment dikes can be topped off and low areas of the marsh fill surface can be supplemented with additional hydraulically dredged fill.
- There is some silty sand towards the bottom of the borrow area soil borings. If dredge depths incorporate these deeper sands, larger soil particles will fall out of suspension more quickly than smaller soil particles, resulting in mounds of high sand concentration in the immediate vicinity of the dredge pipe discharge location. For sand fill projects, a low-ground-pressure bulldozer would typically be used to spread the sand after discharge; however, this will not likely work at this location due to the amount of fines in the dredged material and the weak underlying soil. Construction planning that includes moving the dredge pipe discharge location frequently may better distribute sand and result in less mounding. Locating discharge points within thicker fill areas, may also offset additional settlement typically associated with greater fill depth. Sand and silt will tend to settle rapidly and have less consolidation after placement than clay.

#### **4.3. Containment Dike Construction**

It is prudent to allow time for material stabilization and dewatering for containment dike construction, even if not required for stability. To improve constructability, GeoEngineers recommends consideration be given to building the containment dikes to about one to two feet above mean water level, then letting the dike section rest for at least one week to allow the fill to start draining and foundation soils to start adjusting under the load for all containment dikes. This "best construction practice" will also allow some strength gain of the underlying foundation soils thus reducing the potential for localized failures during construction. Historically, similar approaches have resulted in stable platforms, which can



support further dike construction with less complications. Please note that this is separate from areas where lift construction and minimum required wait periods have been specified (2 to 4 weeks depending on location). This practice of building the base of the containment dike, even when it is not necessarily required, may help address locally weak areas that are not identified by the limited and widely spaced soil borings and CPTs completed for the project.

- Where permissible, the contractor should build containment dikes on emergent marsh. This provides a higher base elevation and the marsh vegetation is natural reinforcement, resulting in less fill and generally lower failure potential. From an engineering perspective, the contractor may use the top layer of marsh for dike fill (i.e. it is okay to use marsh grass and roots for containment dike fill).
- When building earthen containment dikes, sound construction practice includes excavating and placing soil as gently as practical in as intact a mass as practical.
- Earthen containment dike fill should be maintained about one foot above the level of the hydraulic marsh fill, plus any free water ponded on top of the marsh fill.
- Containment structure design recommendations are based on hydraulic fill retention during normal weather conditions. Exceptional weather, such as hurricane winds or storm surge, were not considered.
- Containment dike construction must include the construction/stability berm widths shown in Figures 7 and 8 between the dike and the borrow channel. Unless otherwise specified, we recommend the marsh buggy excavators stay at least two feet away from the containment dike toe and as far away from the borrow slope as practical.
- Contractors are likely to excavate deeper for "better" soil to build earthen containment dikes, often plunging through the top few feet of weak soil. This may result in borrow channels that are deeper than necessary. As such, we recommend having contractors adhere to the depth guidelines presented in this report.

## **5.0 LIMITATIONS**

This report has been prepared exclusively for the Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority and Baird, Inc. in support of the East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment Project (BA-194) project located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana.

Within the limitations of scope, schedule and budget, our services have been executed in accordance with generally accepted practices in the field of geotechnical engineering in this area at the time this report was prepared. No warranty or other conditions, expressed or implied, should be understood.

Please refer to Appendix F titled "Report Limitations and Guidelines for Use" for additional information pertaining to use of this report.





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- Notes:
  The locations of all features shown are approximate.
  This drawing is for information purposes. It is intended to assist in showing features discussed in an attached document. GeoEngineers, Inc. cannot guarantee the accuracy and content of electronic files. The master file is stored by GeoEngineers, Inc. and will serve as the official record of this communication.

Data Source: Aerial was taken from Google Earth, Imagery Dated: 3/20/2019 Pipelines were taken from Sonris (Dated 9/13/2018), and emails from Kinetica (Dated 4/10/2018), Hilcorp (Dated 4/10/2018), LOOP (Dated 4/9/2018), Shell (Dated 4/10/2018)

Projection: LA State Plane, South Zone, NAD83, US Foot







## **CPT** Legend



- 2 Organic Soils, Peats
- 3 Clay
- 4 Clays & Silty Clays
- 5 Silty Clays & Clayey Silts
- 6 Clayey Silts & Sandy Silts
- 7 Sandy Silts & Silty Sands
- 8 Silty Sands & Sands
- 9 Sands

10 - Sands & Gravelly Sands

- 11 Very Stiff Fine Grained Soils\*
- 12 Sands & Clayey Sands\*

\*Overconsolidated or Cemented

## **Boring Legend**



Sand Clayey Sand Silty Sand Sand with Silt



#### Notes:

- 1. The locations of all features shown are approximate.
- This drawing is for information purposes. It is intended to assist in showing features discussed in an attached document. GeoEngineers, Inc. cannot guarantee the accuracy and content of electronic files. The master file is stored by GeoEngineers, Inc. and will serve as the official record of this communication.

#### Data Source:

- Boring and CPT mudline elevations were provided by Lonnie G Harper, Drawing: Boring Location Map\_Final, Project # 2018-31, Sheet 3, Dated: 4/10/2018
- 2. Water elevation was provided by CPRA Dated: Sept. 31, 2018
- 3. Ground surface/mudline obtained from survey provided by CPRA on 7/31/18.





#### Boring Legend





#### Notes:

- 1. The locations of all features shown are approximate.
- 2. This drawing is for information purposes. It is intended to assist in showing features discussed in an attached document. GeoEngineers, Inc. cannot guarantee the accuracy and content of electronic files. The master file is stored by GeoEngineers, Inc. and will serve as the official record of this communication.

#### Data Source:

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  Boring and CPT mudline elevations were provided by Lonnie G Harper, Drawing: Boring Location Map\_Final, Project # 2018-31, Sheet 3, Dated: 4/10/2018
  Water elevation was provided by CPRA Dated: Sept. 31, 2018
  Ground surface/mudline obtained from survey provided by CPRA on 7/31/18.

















# **APPENDIX A** Design Soil Profiles






### TABLE A-1. SETTLEMENT PARAMETERS – CELLS 1 & 2

Elevat	ion (ft)	Cohesion (ksf)	Moisture Content (%)	Specific Gravity <sup>1</sup>	Wet Unit Weight (pcf)	Initial Void Ratio², e₀	Compression Index <sup>3</sup> , C <sub>c</sub>	Recompression Index <sup>4</sup> , C <sub>r</sub>	Coefficient of Consolidation, C <sub>v</sub> (ft²/day)	Effective Overburden Pressure, P'o (tsf)	Overconsolidation Ratio, OCR	Preconsolidation Pressure, Pc (tsf)
-1.5	-7.0	0.100	90	2.63	95	2.415	1.20	0.120	0.020	0.045	7.6	0.341
-7.0	-12.0	0.150	60	2.66	100	1.617	0.87	0.060	0.040	0.137	3.1	0.428
-12.0	-18.0	0.150	60	2.66	108	1.617	0.71	0.109	0.040	0.252	1.5	0.368
-18.0	-24.0	0.200	60	2.66	108	1.617	0.68	0.106	0.040	0.389	1.2	0.473
-24.0	-35.0	0.258	40	2.68	110	1.085	0.43	0.043	0.200	0.588	1.0	0.588
-35.0	-45.0	0.368	40	2.68	110	1.085	0.43	0.043	0.200	0.838	1.0	0.838
-45.0	-50.0	0.445	45	2.68	110	1.218	0.51	0.051	0.110	1.017	1.0	1.017
-50.0	-60.0	0.525	45	2.68	113	1.218	0.51	0.051	0.110	1.203	1.0	1.203
-60.0	-70.0	0.635	45	2.68	113	1.218	0.51	0.051	0.110	1.456	1.0	1.440

<sup>1</sup> SG= -0.001\*M.C. + 2.7234

<sup>2</sup> e<sub>0</sub> = 0.0266\*M.C. + 0.0206

 $^3C_c$  = 7.2701e  $^{0.036^{\star}dry\,UW}$  and  $C_c$  = 0.0233  $^{\star}M.C.$  – 0.5396 (where consolidation data unavailable)

 ${}^{4}C_{r}$  = 0.1 x C<sub>c</sub> (where consolidation data unavailable)

### TABLE A-2. SETTLEMENT PARAMETERS – CELL 3

Elevat	ion (ft)	Cohesion (ksf)	Moisture Content (%)	Specific Gravity <sup>1</sup>	Wet Unit Weight (pcf)	Initial Void Ratio², e₀	Compression Index <sup>3</sup> , C <sub>c</sub>	Recompression Index <sup>4</sup> , Cr	Coefficient of Consolidation, C <sub>v</sub> (ft <sup>2</sup> /day)	Effective Overburden Pressure, P'o (tsf)	Overconsolidation Ratio, OCR	Preconsolidation Pressure, Pc (tsf)
-2.0	-6.0	0.030	200	2.52	80	5.341	2.78	0.278	0.050	0.018	5.4	0.096
-6.0	-8.0	0.075	50	2.67	108	1.351	0.54	0.054	0.070	0.058	3.8	0.223
-8.0	-15.0	0.100	50	2.67	108	1.351	0.54	0.054	0.070	0.161	1.5	0.248
-15.0	-22.0	0.150	50	2.67	108	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	0.320	1.1	0.346
-22.0	-35.0	0.240	50	2.67	108	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	0.548	1.0	0.548
-35.0	-45.0	0.355	50	2.67	108	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	0.810	1.0	0.810
-45.0	-50.0	0.433	50	2.67	111	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	0.985	1.0	0.985
-50.0	-60.0	0.513	50	2.67	111	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	1.167	1.0	1.167
-60.0	-70.0	0.620	50	2.67	111	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	1.410	1.0	1.409

<sup>1</sup> SG= -0.001\*M.C. + 2.7234

<sup>2</sup> e<sub>0</sub> = 0.0266\*M.C. + 0.0206

 ${}^{3}C_{c}$  = 7.2701e<sup>-0.036\*dry UW</sup> and C<sub>c</sub> = 0.0233\*M.C. – 0.5396 (where consolidation data unavailable)

 $^{4}$  Cr = 0.1 x Cc (where consolidation data unavailable)



### TABLE A-3. SETTLEMENT PARAMETERS – CELLS 4, 5 & 6

Elevat	ion (ft)	Cohesion (ksf)	Moisture Content (%)	Specific Gravity <sup>1</sup>	Wet Unit Weight (pcf)	Initial Void Ratio², e₀	Compression Index <sup>3</sup> , C <sub>c</sub>	Recompression Index <sup>4</sup> , C <sub>r</sub>	Coefficient of Consolidation, C <sub>v</sub> (ft²/day)	Effective Overburden Pressure, P'o (tsf)	Overconsolidation Ratio, OCR	Preconsolidation Pressure, Pc (tsf)
-1.0	-7.0	0.070	90	2.63	95	2.415	1.20	0.120	0.020	0.049	4.4	0.214
-7.0	-14.0	0.150	50	2.67	110	1.351	0.52	0.052	0.070	0.181	2.2	0.399
-14.0	-17.0	0.180	50	2.67	110	1.351	0.63	0.063	0.070	0.300	1.5	0.442
-17.0	-22.0	0.195	30	2.69	110	0.819	0.29	0.012	1.000	0.395	1.2	0.456
-22.0	-35.0	0.263	30	2.69	110	0.819	0.29	0.012	1.000	0.610	1.0	0.610
-35.0	-45.0	0.383	30	2.69	110	0.819	0.29	0.012	1.000	0.883	1.0	0.883
-45.0	-50.0	0.460	30	2.69	110	0.819	0.29	0.012	1.000	1.062	1.0	1.062
-50.0	-60.0	0.545	37	2.69	116	1.005	0.34	0.034	0.300	1.255	1.0	1.255
-60.0	-70.0	0.665	37	2.69	116	1.005	0.34	0.034	0.300	1.523	1.0	1.508

<sup>1</sup> SG= -0.001\*M.C. + 2.7234

<sup>2</sup> e<sub>0</sub> = 0.0266\*M.C. + 0.0206

 $^3C_c$  = 7.2701e  $^{0.036^{+}dry\;UW}$  and  $C_c$  = 0.0233  $^{+}M.C.$  – 0.5396 (where consolidation data unavailable)

 $^4$  Cr = 0.1 x Cc (where consolidation data unavailable)



# APPENDIX B Containment Dike Slope Stability and Bearing Capacity

### APPENDIX B CONTAINMENT DIKE SLOPE STABILITY AND BEARING CAPACITY

### **Calculation Approach**

Containment dike slope stability was evaluated using optimized circular search parameters with Spencer's method in the GEO-SLOPE International Limited computer program SLOPE/W (GeoStudio 2016 and 2020). Bearing capacity of the containment dikes was also evaluated using traditional bearing capacity theory. Design considerations for the slope stability and bearing capacity evaluations are described below.

- 1. Three representative design profiles (Cells 1 & 2; Cell 3; and Cells 4, 5 & 6; Figures A-1 through A-3 of Appendix A) were used in our stability and bearing analyses.
- 2. A mean low water elevation of +0.15 feet, as provided by CPRA.
- 3. Governing mudline elevations for each cell, as provided by CPRA:
  - a. Cells 1 & 2: El. -1.0 feet, El. -2.0 feet, El. -3.0 feet;
  - b. Cell 3: El. -2.0 feet; and
  - c. Cells 4, 5 & 6: El. -1.0 feet, El. -3.0 feet
- 4. A required factor of safety for slope stability for this project of 1.2.
- 5. A required factor of safety for bearing capacity for this project of 1.3.
- 6. Slope stability evaluations for the following cases:
  - a. Case 1: Internal failure of the containment dike, no marsh fill placed;
  - b. Case 2: Global failure of the containment dike into the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed;
  - c. Case 3: Failure of the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed, construction equipment modeled; and
  - d. Case 4: Failure of the containment dike, marsh fill placed.
- 7. For Case 3, the load of marsh excavation equipment on the bench between the containment dike toe and the top of the borrow channel was applied to the mudline. A load of 260 psf minus the depth of water (to account for buoyancy) and minus the weight of the mudwave material, as applicable, was applied at the mudline for each track width (4 feet).
- 8. The stability of the containment dikes was modeled with an external borrow channel. However, we understand that, in some areas, material for the dikes may also be dredged from a borrow channel within the marsh creation cells. The factors of safety associated with a Case 4 failure with an internal borrow channel are similar to a Case 4 failure with an external borrow channel.
- 9. The bearing capacity of the containment dikes was evaluated using the method for bearing on a twolayer cohesive soil as outlined in Figure 11-5 of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Design Manual 7.02 *Foundations and Earth Structures*.
- 10. The values for unit weight within the containment dike material were based on the unit weight of the material within the depth of the proposed borrow channel for each cell. An assumed initial cohesion of 60 psf was used for the containment dike material based on our experience with similar projects. In cases where a second lift was necessary for stability, we included up to 15 percent gain in shear strength of the first lift of the dike and of shallow soil layers directly under the dike first lift.



- 11. Based on the marsh fill settlement analyses, a unit weight of 85 pounds per cubic foot (pcf) was selected for the marsh fill material. Conservatively, a cohesion of 0 psf was assumed for the strength of the material.
- 12. An open-cell, 4-inch thick ACM was modeled above the crest and on the exterior side of the dike with a unit weight of 100 pcf and a friction angle of 40°.

The results of our analyses are shown in the following figures and calculations.









Marsh Fill













110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190 200

Cohesion Fn

200 psf + 10.4 psf/ft

470 psf + 11 psf/ft





-55

-60

-65 L\_\_\_\_

CH (-50 to -65)

10

Name

Marsh Fill

20

30

Model

40

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb

50

60

85

95

95

100

108

108

110

113

70

80

90

Unit Weight (pcf) Cohesion' (psf) Phi' (°)

0

60

100

150

150

200

100

Distance (ft)

0

0 0

0

0

0

0

0

CH (-2 to -7) CH (-7 to -12) CH (-12 to -18) CH (-18 to -24) CH (-24 to -50) CH (-50 to -65)

Containment Dike





Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Marsh Fill	Mohr-Coulomb	85	0	0	
Articulated Concrete Mat	Mohr-Coulomb	100	0	40	
Containment Dike	Mohr-Coulomb	95	60	0	
CH (-2 to -7)	Mohr-Coulomb	95	100	0	
CH (-7 to -12)	Mohr-Coulomb	100	150	0	
CH (-12 to -18)	Mohr-Coulomb	108	150	0	
CH (-18 to -24)	Mohr-Coulomb	108	200	0	
CH (-24 to -50)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	110		0	200 psf + 10.4 ps
CH (-50 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	113		0	470 psf + 11 psf/f







200 psf + 10.4 psf/ft

470 psf + 11 psf/ft













	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
	95	60	0	
	95	100	0	
	100	150	0	
	108	150	0	
	108	200	0	
ulomb	110		0	200 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
ulomb	113		0	470 psf + 11 psf/ft











Distance (ft)

	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
	90	60	0	
	80	5	0	
	80	30	5	
	108	75	0	
oulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
oulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
oulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft







5		-
5		-
ì		-
5		-
2		
0		
255		
222		
5		
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5		
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:39 by

		DI	stance (π)			
Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Spatial Fn	Cohesion Fn
Marsh Fill	Mohr-Coulomb	85	0	0		
Containment Dike - Lift 2	Mohr-Coulomb	90	60	0		
Containment Dike - Lift 1	Mohr-Coulomb	90	66	0		
PT (-2 to -5) (mudwave)	Mohr-Coulomb	80	5	0		
PT (-2 to -6)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	80		5	30 psf + 15%	
CH (-6 to -8)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 15%	
CH (-8 to -22)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft + 15%	
CH (-22 to -45)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0		175 psf + 10 psf/ft
CH (-45 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	111		0		405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft



100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190 200



-65 L

Distance (ft)

	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
	90	60	0	
	80	30	5	
	108	75	0	
ulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
ulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
ulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft
	80	5	0	





0

0

0



CH (-22 to -45)

CH (-45 to -65)

PT (-2 to -5) (mudwave)

Containment Dike - Lift 2

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb 108

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb 111

80

90

5

60

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

175 psf + 10 psf/ft

405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft



80







0

0

195 psf + 10.4 psf/ft

485 psf + 12 psf/ft

195



CH (-17 to -22)

CH (-22 to -50)

CH (-50 to -65)

Mohr-Coulomb

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb

110

110



140 150 160 170 180 190 200

Distance (ft)

CH (-50 to -65)

-60

-65 L

Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Mohr-Coulomb	95	60	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	95	70	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	110	150	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	110	180	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	110	195	0	
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	110		0	195 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	116		0	485 psf + 12 psf/ft











Model

70

80

Lafourche Parish, Louisiana



Figure B-6a



110

110

Mohr-Coulomb

Mohr-Coulomb

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb

Spatial Mohr-Coulomb 116

180

195

0

0

0

0

195 psf + 10.4 psf/ft

485 psf + 12 psf/ft







CH (-14 to -17)

CH (-17 to -22)

CH (-22 to -50)

CH (-50 to -65)



	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
0	95	60	0	
þ	95	70	0	
D	110	150	0	
0	110	180	0	
0	110	195	0	
Coulomb	110		0	195 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
Coulomb	116		0	485 psf + 12 psf/ft







#### FACTOR OF SAFETY FOR BEARING CAPACITY FOR UNREINFORCED DIKES USING NAVFAC DM 7; FIGURE 11-5, PAGE 7-11-6 Cells 1 & 2, Mudline El. -1.0 ft, 5ft Crest Elevation at Elevation at Full Width at Height of Dike Width at Top Elevation of Bottom of Dike Top of Dike Slope Inclination (H:V) Bottom of h1 (ft.) h2 (ft.) x1 (ft.) x2 (ft.) of Dike (ft.) (ft.) Water (ft.)

Dike (ft.)



Assumptions: 1. Unit weight of dike = 95 pcf 2. Water at EL. +0.15 feet 3. Mudline at EL -1 feet 4. The effective width of the dike is equal to the width of the crown plus the width of one sloped side. 5. The factor of safety for bearing capacity must be greater or equal to 1.3.

4.60

	APPLIED STRESS									
Total Unit Weight of Dike (pcf)	Buoyant Unit Weight of Dike (pcf)	Effective Width of Dike (B) (ft.)	Applied Stress (psf)							
95.00	32.60	27.00	404							
Zone	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total	
Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	38	22	38	3	20	6	20	3	149	
Applied Load (lb./ft.)	3595	2066	3595	86	652	187	652	86	10921	

	SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS									
Coll Description	Florenting (ft.)					Cohesion				
Soll Description			Elevation (ft.)			(ksf)	(psf)	Thickness (IL.)		
CH (-1 to -7)		-1.00	-	-7.00		0.100	100.00	6.00		
CH (-7 to -12)		-7.00	-	-12.00		0.150	150.00	5.00		
CH (-12 to -18)		-12.00	-	-18.00		0.150	150.00	6.00		
CH (-18 to -24)		-18.00	-	-24.00		0.200	200.00	6.00		
CH (-24 to -50)		-24.00	-	-50.00		0.300	300.00	26.00		
CH (-50 to -65)		-50.00	-	-65.00		0.500	500.00	15.00		

т	В	T/B	C1	C2	C2/C1
11.00	27.00	0.41	122.73	150.00	1.2

(ft.)

(ft.)

	BEARING CAPACITY RESULTS									
Effective W of Dike (B)	'idth (ft.)	Nc Factor From NAVFAC DM-7 Figure 11-5	C1	Ultimate Bearing Capacity (psf)	Applied Stress (psf)	Factor of Safety				
27.00		5.80	123	712	404	1.76				

Figure B-7a



















Assumptions: 1. Unit weight of dike = 90 pcf 2. Water at EL. +0.15 feet 3. Mudline at EL -5 feet 4. The effective width of the dike is equal to the width of the crown plus the width of one sloped side. 5. The factor of safety for bearing capacity must be greater or equal to 1.3.

	APPLIED STRESS										
Total Unit Weight of Dike (pcf)	Buoyant Unit Weight of Dike (pcf)	Effective Width of Dike (B) (ft.)	Applied Stress (psf)								
90.00	27.60	57.50	412								
Zone	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total		
Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	47	44	47	66	112	52	112	66	546		
Applied Load (lb./ft.)	4258	3915	4258	1830	3092	1421	3092	1830	23695		

	SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS									
Coll Decodering	Flourtier (fr.)					Cohesion				
Soli Description		Elevation (ft.)				(ksf)	(psf)	i nickness (rt.)		
PT (-2 to -6)		-5.00	-	-6.00		0.030	30.00	1.00		
CH (-6 to -8)		-6.00	-	-8.00		0.075	75.00	2.00		
CH (-8 to -22)		-8.00	-	-22.00		0.125	125.00	14.00		
CH (-22 to -45)		-22.00	-	-45.00		0.200	200.00	23.00		
CH (-45 to -65)		-45.00	-	-65.00		0.450	450.00	20.00		

т	В	T/B	C1	C2	C2/C1
17.00	57.50	0.30	113.53	200.00	1.8

BEARING CAPACITY RESULTS									
Effective Width of Dike (B) (ft.)	Nc Factor From NAVFAC DM-7 Figure 11-5	C1	Ultimate Bearing Capacity (psf)	Applied Stress (psf)	Factor of Safety				
57.50	7.10	114	806	412	1.96				

Figure B-10b




Assumptions: 1. Unit weight of dike = 95 pcf 2. Water at EL. +0.15 feet 3. Mudline at EL -1 feet 4. The effective width of the dike is equal to the width of the crown plus the width of one sloped side. 5. The factor of safety for bearing capacity must be greater or equal to 1.3.

APPLIED STRESS									
Total Unit Weight of Dike (pcf)	Buoyant Unit Weight of Dike (pcf)	Effective Width of Dike (B) (ft.)	Applied Stress (psf)						
95.00	32.60	30.00	357						
Zone	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	37	19	37	3	22	6	22	3	150
Applied Load (lb./ft.)	3520	1829	3520	108	722	187	722	108	10716

	SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS								
						Cohesion			
Soil Description	escription Elevation (ft.)				(ksf)	(psf)	Thickness (ft.)		
CH (-1 to -7)		-1.00	-	-7.00		0.070	70.00	6.00	
CH (-7 to -14)		-7.00	-	-14.00		0.150	150.00	7.00	
CH (-14 to -17)		-14.00	-	-17.00		0.180	180.00	3.00	
CH (-17 to -22)		-17.00	-	-22.00		0.195	195.00	5.00	
CH (-22 to -50)		-22.00	-	-50.00		0.200	200.00	28.00	
CH (-50 to -65)		-50.00	-	-65.00		0.500	500.00	15.00	

т	В	T/B	C1	C2	C2/C1
13.00	30.00	0.43	113.08	180.00	1.6

BEARING CAPACITY RESULTS						
Effective Width of Dike (B) (ft.)	Nc Factor From NAVFAC DM-7 Figure 11-5	C1	Ultimate Bearing Capacity (psf)	Applied Stress (psf)	Factor of Safety	
30.00	5.75	113	650	357	1.82	

Figure B-11a







# **APPENDIX C** Containment Dike Settlement

#### APPENDIX C CONTAINMENT DIKE SETTLEMENT

#### **Calculation Approach**

- 1. The following descriptions explain how the settlement parameters were developed for the East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment project area.
  - a. Three representative settlement profiles (Cells 1 & 2; Cell 3; and Cells 4, 5 & 6; Tables A-1 through A-3 of Appendix A) were used in our settlement analyses.
  - b. A total of twelve consolidation tests were completed on soil samples from soil borings within the marsh creation areas to represent various soil layers across the site.
  - c. Graphs for each consolidation test were reconstructed to determine compression coefficients (C<sub>c</sub>), recompression coefficients (C<sub>r</sub>), vertical consolidation coefficients (C<sub>v</sub>), initial void ratios (e<sub>0</sub>), and maximum past pressures (P<sub>c</sub>).
  - d. For soil layers without a representative consolidation test or where test results seemed inconsistent with past experience,  $C_c$  values were determined based on correlations developed from the site-specific consolidation test results,  $C_r$  values were assumed to be 10 percent of the  $C_c$  values, and  $C_v$  values were determined based on moisture content and dry density correlations developed by the University of Massachusetts from a study of numerous coastal Louisiana consolidation test results.
  - e. The maximum past pressure (P<sub>c</sub>) was obtained from the consolidation test curves for the soil layers with a representative consolidation test. P<sub>c</sub> values were also back-calculated based on shear strength. The values for P<sub>c</sub> were then utilized to determine the over-consolidation ratio (OCR) for soil layers at the site. Based on this evaluation, soils above approximate EI. -22 feet are over-consolidated, and soils below approximate EI. -22 feet are normally consolidated.
- 2. In the East Leeville project area, clay shear strength for a normally consolidated soil profile is approximately 22 percent of the effective overburden pressure. This relationship is shown as the C/P line on the shear strength profiles in Figures A-1 through A-3 of Appendix A.
- 3. Based on our stability analysis for the earthen containment dikes, the recommended design geometries provided in Figures 7a through 7c were used for the settlement analysis. Water was assumed to be at the average water level of El. +0.62 feet, as provided by CPRA.
- 4. Primary consolidation settlement was calculated using one-dimensional consolidation theory and Boussinesq stress distribution in the SETANL computer program. For foundation settlement purposes, dike fill was assumed to have been placed instantaneously as a single lift or two separate lifts with two to four weeks' time between lifts.

The results of our analyses are shown in the following figures.

























# APPENDIX D Gap Closures

#### APPENDIX D GAP CLOSURE ALTERNATIVES

#### **Calculation Approach**

Based on review of survey information provided by CPRA, GeoEngineers identified five locations around the marsh creation cell perimeters where the existing mudline is lower than the design mudline elevations evaluated for containment dikes. These locations are identified in Figure 2. Based on the mudline elevations at these locations, the earthen containment dike design sections discussed previously will not be stable and, as such, modified dike design sections will be required. Recommended gap closure design sections are shown in Figures 8a through 8c. Gap closure structure slope stability was evaluated using optimized circular search parameters with Spencer's method in the GEO-SLOPE International Limited computer program SLOPE/W (GeoStudio 2016 and 2020). Bearing capacity of the sections was evaluated using traditional bearing capacity theory. Parameters were evaluated as described below, and the stability results are included in this appendix.

- 1. The mudline was assumed to be El. -4.0 feet for the gaps within Cell 3 and Cell 6 and El. -4.5 feet for the Cell 2 gap.
- 2. The mean low water level of El. +0.15 feet was used.
- 3. Slope stability was evaluated for the following cases:
  - a. Case 1: Internal failure of the containment dike, no marsh fill placed;
  - b. Case 2: Global failure of the containment dike into the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed;
  - c. Case 3: Failure of the borrow channel, no marsh fill placed; and
  - d. Case 4: Failure of the containment dike, marsh fill placed.
- 5. For water depths greater than four feet, it is assumed the marsh excavation equipment will float; therefore, marsh equipment load was not modeled on the bench for Case 3 of each.
- 6. The stability of the containment dikes was modeled with an external borrow channel. However, we understand that, in some areas, material for the dikes may also be dredged from a borrow channel within the marsh creation cells. The factors of safety associated with a Case 4 failure with an internal borrow channel are similar to a Case 4 failure with an external borrow channel.
- 7. The bearing capacity of the containment dikes was evaluated using the method for bearing on a twolayer cohesive soil as outlined in Figure 11-5 of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Design Manual 7.02 *Foundations and Earth Structures*.
- 8. The values for unit weight within the containment dike material were based on the unit weight of the material within the depth of the proposed borrow channel for each cell. An assumed initial cohesion of 60 psf was used for the containment dike material based on our experience with similar projects. In cases where a second lift was necessary for stability, we included up to 15 percent gain in shear strength of the first lift of the dike and of shallow soil layers directly under the dike first lift.

While sheet pile gap closures do not appear necessary for this project, we also analyzed a general sheet pile gap closure section for Cell 3 with a mudline elevation of -5.0 feet. Parameters were evaluated as described below, and the stability results are included in this appendix.



- 1. The containment dike geometry was modeled in SLOPE/W for three design conditions to develop a relationship between crown elevation and sheet pile requirements:
  - (1) a crown elevation of +1.0 feet, a crown width of 40 feet, and 5H:1V side slopes;
  - (2) a crown elevation of +1.5 feet, a crown width of 35 feet, and 5H:1V side slopes; and
  - (3) a crown elevation of +2.0 feet, a crown width of 30 feet, and 5H:1V side slopes.
    - a. The sheet pile top was modeled at El. +4.5 feet, and the sheet pile bottom was modeled from El. -26 feet to El. -11 feet for the various design options.
    - b. Stability was evaluated for the four typical cases discussed previously with modifications Cases 1 through 3 were evaluated without the sheet pile installed, and Cases 1 and 4 were modeled with the sheet pile installed.
- 2. Design strengths and unit weights were input into the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) computer program CWALSHT.
  - a. The sheet pile wall top was modeled at El. +4.5 feet with the marsh fill material modeled as a distributed pressure applied to the sheet pile and containment dike.
  - b. The water level on the external side was modeled at mean low water (El. +0.15 feet) and on the internal (marsh) side was modeled at the top of the wall (El. +4.5 feet).
  - c. Adhesion was assumed to be equal to the cohesion for strengths less than or equal to 100 psf and 0.5 times the cohesion for strengths greater than 100 psf.
  - d. The sweep search method was used to complete the analysis.
  - e. Design sheet pile length was determined by running the program for a cantilevered pile with a factor of safety of 1.5 for passive pressures and 1.0 for active pressures.
  - f. Maximum bending moment and scaled deflection were determined by running the program with equal passive and active safety factors (1.0) for a cantilevered pile with a modulus of elasticity of 2.9 x 10<sup>7</sup> pounds per square inch (psi) (typical for A36 steel).
  - g. The required sheet pile section modulus was calculated using the following equation:

$$S = \frac{M_{max}(lb \cdot ft) \times 12\frac{in}{ft}}{\sigma_a\left(\frac{lb}{in^2}\right)}$$

Where S = section modulus (in<sup>3</sup> per foot of wall)

M<sub>max</sub> = maximum bending moment in wall (program output)

 $\sigma_a$  = allowable steel stress (Assumed 25,000 psi – typical for A36 steel)

- h. The section modulus was used to select a viable sheet pile section from standard U.S. sheet pile sizes (Skyline Steel was used, but the values are fairly consistent among manufacturers).
- i. Maximum deflection was computed using the maximum scaled deflection and the moment of inertia from the selected sheet pile section. Deflection was checked to make sure it was not excessive. Generally, we prefer to see less than two inches of deflection at the mudline.

The results of our analyses are shown in the following figures and calculations.







	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
	95	60	0	
oulomb	100	100	0	
	100	150	0	
	108	150	0	
	108	200	0	
oulomb	110		0	200 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
oulomb	113		0	470 psf + 11 psf/ft





Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Spatial Fn	Cohesion Fn
Marsh Fill	Mohr-Coulomb	85	0	0		
Containment Dike - Lift 1	Mohr-Coulomb	95	66	0		
Containment Dike - Lift 2	Mohr-Coulomb	95	60	0		
CH (-4.5 to -7)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	100		0	100 psf + 15%	
CH (-7 to -12)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	100		0	150 psf + 15%	
CH (-12 to -18)	Mohr-Coulomb	108	150	0		
CH (-18 to -24)	Mohr-Coulomb	108	200	0		
CH (-24 to -50)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	110		0		200 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
CH (-50 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	113		0		470 psf + 11 psf/ft





Distance (ft)

	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
	90	60	0	
	108	30	0	
	80	5	0	
ulomb	108	75	0	
ulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
ulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
ulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft











	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
þ	90	60	0	
þ	80	30	5	
Coulomb	108	75	0	
Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
Coulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
Coulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft
b	80	5	5	









Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Spatial Fn	Cohesion Fn
Marsh Fill	Mohr-Coulomb	85	0	0		
Containment Dike - Lift 1	Mohr-Coulomb	90	66	0		
Containment Dike - Lift 2	Mohr-Coulomb	90	60	0		
PT (-4 to -6) (mudwave)	Mohr-Coulomb	80	5	0		
PT (-4 to -6)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	80	30	5		
CH (-6 to -8)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 15%	
CH (-8 to -22)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft + 15%	
CH (-22 to -45)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0		175 psf + 10 psf/ft
CH (-45 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	111		0		405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft



CH (-45 to -65)

-65 L

Distance (ft)

90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190

Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Mohr-Coulomb	90	60	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	80	30	5	
Mohr-Coulomb	80	5	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	108	75	0	
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft





Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Containment Dike	Mohr-Coulomb	90	60	0	
PT (-5 to -6)	Mohr-Coulomb	80	30	5	
PT (-5 to -6) (mudwave)	Mohr-Coulomb	80	5	0	
CH (-6 to -8)	Mohr-Coulomb	108	75	0	
CH (-8 to -22)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
CH (-22 to -45)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
CH (-45 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft





200

CH (-8 to -22)

CH (-22 to -45)

CH (-45 to -65)



-50

-55-

-60

-65 0

- CH (-45 to -65)

20

30

40

50

60

70

80

Distance (ft)

90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170

10

Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Mohr-Coulomb	90	60	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	80	30	5	
Mohr-Coulomb	80	5	0	
Mohr-Coulomb	108	75	0	
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft





Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Containment Dike	Mohr-Coulomb	90	60	0	
PT (-5 to -6)	Mohr-Coulomb	80	30	5	
PT (-5 to -6) (mudwave)	Mohr-Coulomb	80	5	0	
CH (-6 to -8)	Mohr-Coulomb	108	75	0	
CH (-8 to -22)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	75 psf + 7.1 psf/ft
CH (-22 to -45)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	108		0	175 psf + 10 psf/ft
CH (-45 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	111		0	405 psf + 10.75 psf/ft





Distance (ft)

	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
	95	60	0	
	95	70	0	
	110	150	0	
	110	180	0	
	110	195	0	
llomb	110		0	195 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
llomb	116		0	485 psf + 12 psf/ft





Name	Model	Unit Weight (pcf)	Cohesion' (psf)	Phi' (°)	Cohesion Fn
Containment Dike - Lift 1	Mohr-Coulomb	95	60	0	
CH (-4 to -7)	Mohr-Coulomb	95	70	0	
CH (-7 to -14)	Mohr-Coulomb	110	150	0	
CH (-14 to -17)	Mohr-Coulomb	110	180	0	
CH (-17 to -22)	Mohr-Coulomb	110	195	0	
CH (-22 to -50)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	110		0	195 psf + 10.4 psf/ft
CH (-50 to -65)	Spatial Mohr-Coulomb	116		0	485 psf + 12 psf/ft













# **APPENDIX E** Marsh Creation Fill and Foundation Settlement

#### APPENDIX E MARSH CREATION FILL AND FOUNDATION SETTLEMENT

#### **Calculation Approach**

Settlement parameters and drainage considerations were developed as described in the calculation approach description for containment dike settlement in Appendix C.

For the marsh fill material, consolidation parameters were obtained from low-stress consolidation test results. Three composite samples from within the proposed borrow area were created and tested. The results of the tests were used to model the marsh fill material for these analyses.

Marsh creation area settlement consists primarily of two separate processes: consolidation of dredged fill and consolidation of the foundation soils. Consolidation of the dredged fill was modeled using PSDDF (<u>Primary Consolidation, Secondary Compression, and Desiccation of Dredged Fill</u>), a program created for the USACE to simulate finite strain consolidation in dredged fill materials. Consolidation of the foundation soils was modeled iteratively using one-dimensional consolidation theory and Boussinesq stress distribution in the SETANL computer program.

To account for the effects of progressive dredged fill densification and submergence below the waterline caused by fill and foundation soil settlement, we re-computed the effective vertical stress and corresponding settlement at various time intervals after fill placement. The typical steps at each time interval included the following:

- 1. We calculate settlement for the foundation soil beneath the fill based on the elapsed time and the effective stress calculated for the application of a single lift of dredged fill. The foundation settlement results determine the new mudline elevation.
- 2. From PSDDF, we determine the change in thickness of the dredged fill to calculate the new fill density and the new fill surface elevation. The new fill surface elevation is influenced by both the foundation settlement and the change in fill thickness computed by PSDDF.
- 3. We then re-compute the effective vertical stress based on the new fill surface and mudline elevations. The water level was assumed to mound within the marsh fill until the fill surface lowered beneath the mean high-water level of El. +1.08 feet, as provided by CPRA. The water level was assumed to be at the mean high-water level for the remainder of the time increments.
- 4. We then use the new, lower effective stress to re-compute foundation settlement.

This process is repeated at days 30, 60, 90, 180, 365 (1 year), 730 (2 years), 1095 (3 years), 1825 (5 years), 3650 (10 years), and 7300 (20 years). To model settlement occurring within the hydraulic fill during the construction period (30 to 60 days), we applied multiple lifts to the dredged fill during the construction period. A unit weight was calculated using a specific gravity of 2.71 and using an average void ratio from the combination of each fill lift at the end of construction. This unit weight was used to compute the load from the marsh fill at the end of construction and estimate the time-rate settlement.

The sum of the dredged fill settlement and the underlying foundation soil settlement was used to determine the total settlement at the surface of the dredged fill area after completion of fill placement. Settlement of



dredged fill evaluations were performed for scenarios with fill placed to a surface elevation of +1.5 feet to +3.5 feet at the end of construction. The results of our analyses are shown in the following figures.

Our evaluation does not include regional subsidence. Additional elevation loss due to regional subsidence must be subtracted from the curves included in this report.





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## **APPENDIX F** Report Limitations and Guidelines for Use

### APPENDIX F REPORT LIMITATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR USE

This appendix provides information to help you manage your risks with respect to the use of this report.

#### **Geotechnical Services Are Performed for Specific Purposes, Persons and Projects**

This report has been prepared exclusively for the Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority and Baird, Inc. The information contained herein is not applicable to other sites.

GeoEngineers, Inc. (GeoEngineers) structures our services to meet the specific needs of our clients. No party other than the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and Baird, Inc. may rely on the product of our services unless we agree to such reliance in advance and in writing. This is to provide our firm with reasonable protection against open-ended liability claims by third parties with whom there would otherwise be no contractual limits to their actions. Within the limitations of scope, schedule and budget, our services have been executed in accordance with our Agreement with the Client and generally accepted geotechnical practices in this area at the time this report was prepared. Use of this report is not recommended for any purpose or project except the one originally contemplated.

# A Geotechnical Engineering or Geologic Report Is Based on a Unique Set of Project-Specific Factors

This report has been prepared for the East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment (BA-194) project located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. GeoEngineers considered a number of unique, project-specific factors when establishing the scope of services for this project and report. Unless GeoEngineers specifically indicates otherwise, it is important not to rely on this report if it was:

- not prepared for you,
- not prepared for your project,
- not prepared for the specific site explored, or
- completed before important project changes were made.

For example, changes that can affect the applicability of this report include those that affect:

- the function of the proposed structure;
- elevation, configuration, location, orientation or weight of the proposed structure;
- composition of the design team; or
- project ownership.

If important changes are made after the date of this report, we recommend that GeoEngineers be given the opportunity to review our interpretations and recommendations. Based on that review, we can provide written modifications or confirmation, as appropriate.

#### **Subsurface Conditions Can Change**

This geotechnical or geologic report is based on conditions that existed at the time the study was performed. The findings and conclusions of this report may be affected by the passage of time, by man-made events



such as construction on or adjacent to the site, or by natural events such as floods, earthquakes, slope instability or groundwater fluctuations. If more than a few months have passed since issuance of our report or work product, or if any of the described events may have occurred, please contact GeoEngineers before applying this report for its intended purpose so that we may evaluate whether changed conditions affect the continued reliability or applicability of our conclusions and recommendations.

#### Most Geotechnical and Geologic Findings Are Professional Opinions

Our interpretations of subsurface conditions are based on field observations from widely spaced sampling locations at the site. Site exploration identifies the specific subsurface conditions only at those points where subsurface tests are conducted or samples are taken. GeoEngineers reviewed field and laboratory data and then applied our professional judgment to render an informed opinion about subsurface conditions throughout the site. Actual subsurface conditions may differ, sometimes significantly, from those indicated in this report. Our report, conclusions and interpretations should not be construed as a warranty of the subsurface conditions.

#### **Geotechnical Engineering Report Recommendations Are Not Final**

The construction recommendations included in this report are preliminary and should not be considered final. GeoEngineers' recommendations can be finalized only by observing actual subsurface conditions revealed during construction. GeoEngineers is unable to assume responsibility for the recommendations in this report without performing construction observation.

We recommend that you allow sufficient monitoring, testing and consultation during construction by GeoEngineers to confirm that the conditions encountered are consistent with those indicated by the explorations, to provide recommendations for design changes if the conditions revealed during the work differ from those anticipated, and to evaluate whether earthwork activities are completed in accordance with our recommendations. Retaining GeoEngineers for construction observation for this project is the most effective method of managing the risks associated with unanticipated conditions.

#### A Geotechnical Engineering or Geologic Report Could Be Subject to Misinterpretation

Misinterpretation of this report by members of the design team or by contractors can result in costly problems. GeoEngineers can help reduce the risks of misinterpretation by conferring with appropriate members of the design team after submitting the report, reviewing pertinent elements of the design team's plans and specifications, participating in pre-bid and preconstruction conferences, and providing construction observation.

#### **Do Not Redraw the Exploration Logs**

Geotechnical engineers and geologists prepare final boring and testing logs based upon their interpretation of field logs and laboratory data. The logs included in a geotechnical engineering or geologic report should never be redrawn for inclusion in architectural or other design drawings. Photographic or electronic reproduction is acceptable, but separating logs from the report can create a risk of misinterpretation.

#### **Give Contractors a Complete Report and Guidance**

To help prevent costly problems associated with unanticipated subsurface conditions, we recommend giving contractors the complete geotechnical engineering or geologic report but preface it with a clearly written letter of transmittal. In that letter, advise contractors that the report's accuracy is limited. In addition,



encourage them to confer with GeoEngineers and/or to conduct additional study to obtain the specific types of information they need or prefer.

#### **Contractors Are Responsible for Site Safety on Their Own Construction Projects**

Our geotechnical recommendations are not intended to direct the contractor's procedures, methods, schedule or management of the work site. The contractor is solely responsible for job site safety and for managing construction operations to minimize risks to on-site personnel and adjacent properties.

#### **Read These Provisions Closely**

It is important to recognize that the geoscience practices (geotechnical engineering, geology and environmental science) are less exact than other engineering and natural science disciplines. Without this understanding, there may be expectations that could lead to disappointments, claims and disputes. GeoEngineers includes these explanatory "limitations" provisions in our reports to help reduce such risks. Please confer with GeoEngineers if you need to know more how these "Report Limitations and Guidelines for Use" apply to your project or site.

#### **Biological Pollutants**

GeoEngineers' Scope of Work specifically excludes the investigation, detection, prevention or assessment of the presence of Biological Pollutants. Accordingly, this report does not include any interpretations, recommendations, findings or conclusions regarding the detecting, assessing, preventing or abating of Biological Pollutants, and no conclusions or inferences should be drawn regarding Biological Pollutants as they may relate to this project. The term "Biological Pollutants" includes, but is not limited to, molds, fungi, spores, bacteria and viruses, and/or any of their byproducts.

A Client that desires these specialized services is advised to obtain them from a consultant who offers services in this specialized field.



