



**US ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence**

Public Notice

Reply To:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CEMVS-OD-F
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice No.
P-2529 and P-2530

Public Notice Date
March 17, 2006

Expiration Date
April 6, 2006

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Number: 2005-45414 (P-2529) and 2006-219 (P-2530)

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch is in receipt of two applications requesting authorization for Department of the Army permits, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, to impact jurisdictional wetlands and open water habitat near the AmerenUE Sioux Plant, as described below and shown on the attached figures.

COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice Numbers **P-2529 and P-2530** and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEMVS-OD-F (Charles Frerker)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

APPLICANT: Ameren, c/o Carl Rezsonya, 1901 Choteau Avenue, Post Office Box 66149, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-6149 (314-554-3525).

LOCATION: The project area is located on Ameren property adjoining the existing Sioux Plant, located near Portage de Sioux, in St. Charles County, Missouri. (See Attached Figures).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Ameren requests Department of the Army permit authorization to impact jurisdictional waters of the United States in conjunction with two separate and distinct projects at their Sioux Plant. Each project has been assigned a pending permit number for review and clarification purposes. The first activity, assigned **P-2529**, involves proposed wetland impacts associated with the required construction of a wet Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD) scrubber system to comply with the Clean Air Interstate Rule. The FGD scrubber system requires site grading and filling activities to create a supporting electrical substation, Gypsum dewatering area, limestone preparation area and a utility waste landfill. The location of the proposed jurisdictional wetland impacts is situated within the construction limits of the electrical substation, Gypsum dewatering area and the limestone preparation area. No jurisdictional wetland impacts are associated with the construction of the utility waste landfill site. The utility waste landfill site will be constructed on lands currently under intensive agricultural production. Approximately 250,000 cubic yards of flyash, bottom ash, soil, and rock would be used as fill material to raise the electrical substation, Gypsum dewatering area and the limestone preparation area above the designated 100-year floodplain elevation. Approximately 0.87 acre of wooded and scrub shrub wetlands (listed as Wetland 1 on the attached figures) would be impacted by the proposed grading and filling activities to create the electrical substation and Gypsum dewatering area. Approximately 1.16 acres of emergent wetlands (listed as Wetland 2,4,5,6 and 7 on the attached figures) and a 0.35 acre mixed

emergent and wooded wetland (listed as Wetland 3 on the attached figures) would be impacted by the proposed grading and filling activities to construct the limestone preparation area. A total of 2.38 acres of jurisdictional wetlands would be impacted by the proposed activities associated with **P-2529**. Ameren is limited on alternate construction sites to create the electrical substation, Gypsum dewatering area, limestone preparation area and the utility waste landfill. Each of these FGD supporting areas must be located in close proximity to support the operation and subsequently created by-products of the EPA required FGD scrubber system. The FGD scrubber system must be operational in 2008 to comply with the Clean Air Interstate Rule. While not required at this time, Ameren stated they will provide mitigation for all permanent wetland impacts in accordance with Corps of Engineers guidelines and pending permit requirements. The end result of the proposed project activities will ultimately improve air quality and reduce undesirable elements from the Sioux Plant's existing emissions.

The second proposed activity, assigned **P-2530**, involves a request to fill in an approximate 2.4 acre scour hole on Ameren property that was created during the Flood of 1993. The scour hole would be filled to reduce the current heightened security and safety concerns related to two vulnerable underground pipelines that were exposed after the flood. The first pipeline is a 12" diameter gasoline pipeline owned by BP Petroleum, while the second is a 20" diameter crude oil pipeline owned by Platte Petroleum. Approximately 50,000 cubic yards of soil and rock would be used as fill material to generally match surrounding grades (425-430 NGVD), which will also bury the two exposed pipelines. While not required at this time, Ameren stated they will provide mitigation for all permanent impacts associated with the scour hole filling activities in accordance with Corps of Engineers guidelines and pending permit requirements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional project information may be obtained by contacting the applicant's hired consultant, Mr. Paul Reitz at (314) 993-4132, or Mr. Charles Frerker, Regulatory Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (314) 331-8583 or at electronic mail address: charles.f.frerker@mvs02.usace.army.mil

AUTHORITY: This permit will be processed under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: By issuance of this public notice, the project plans are considered submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program for state certification of the proposed work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued, will express the Agency's opinion that the proposed activities will not violate applicable water quality standards. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to: Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION: The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Request for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding the public hearing.

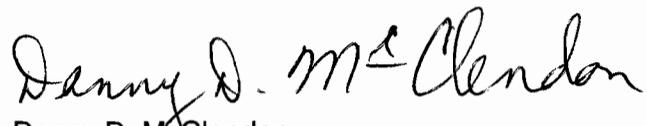
ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed project is within the range of the federally endangered Indiana bat (**Myotis sodalis**), Gray bat (**Myotis grisescens**) and the threatened Bald eagle (**Haliaeetus leucocephalus**). A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that this activity is not likely to adversely affect the mentioned threatened or endangered species or adversely affect their critical habitat. However, in order to complete our evaluation, comments are solicited by this public notice from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the described activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that may reasonably be expected to accrue from the described activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the described activity will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion, and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of these proposed activities. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

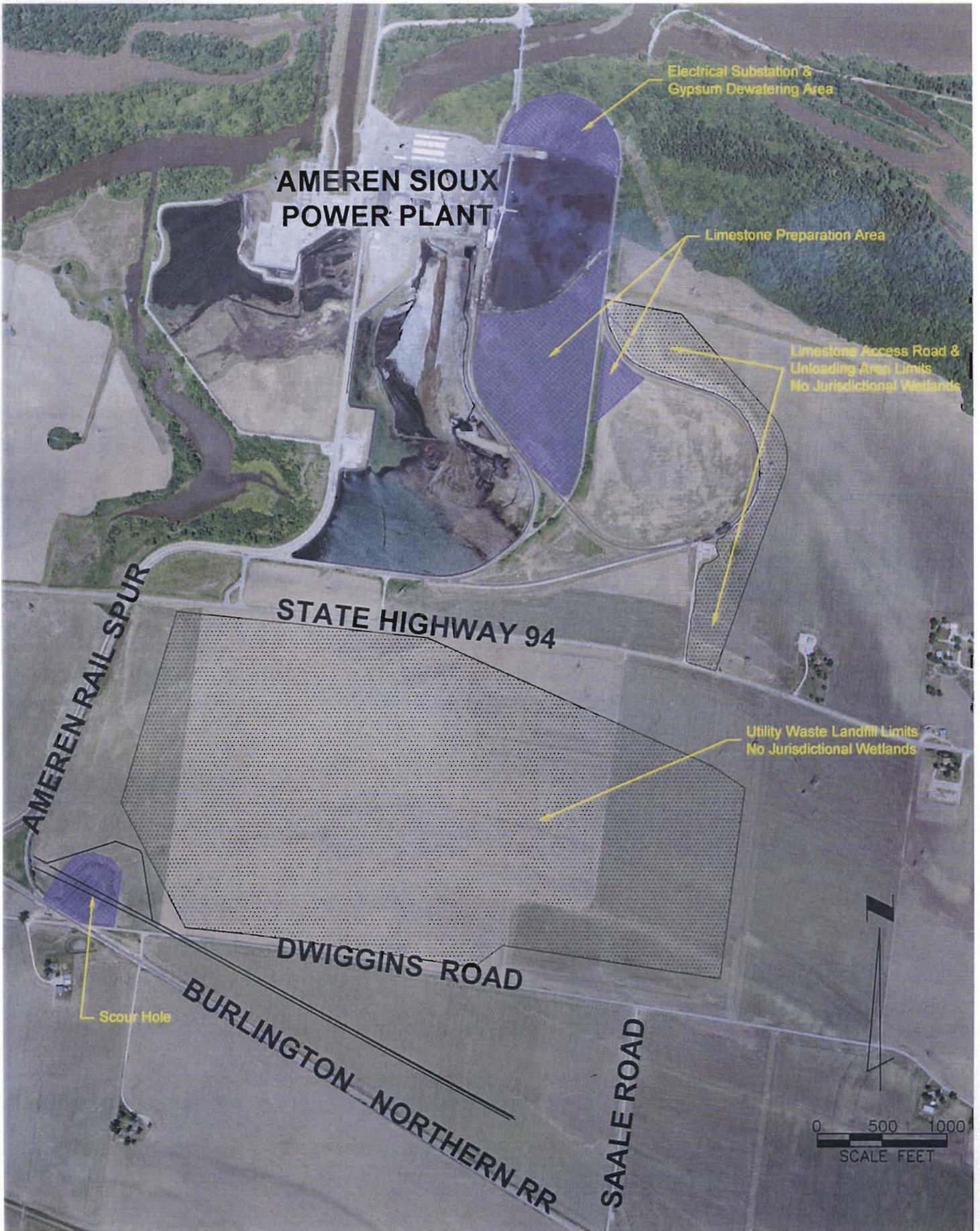
In accordance with 33 CFR 325.3, it is presumed that all interested parties and agencies will wish to respond to public notices; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the proposed project.


Danny D. McClendon
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 21 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.

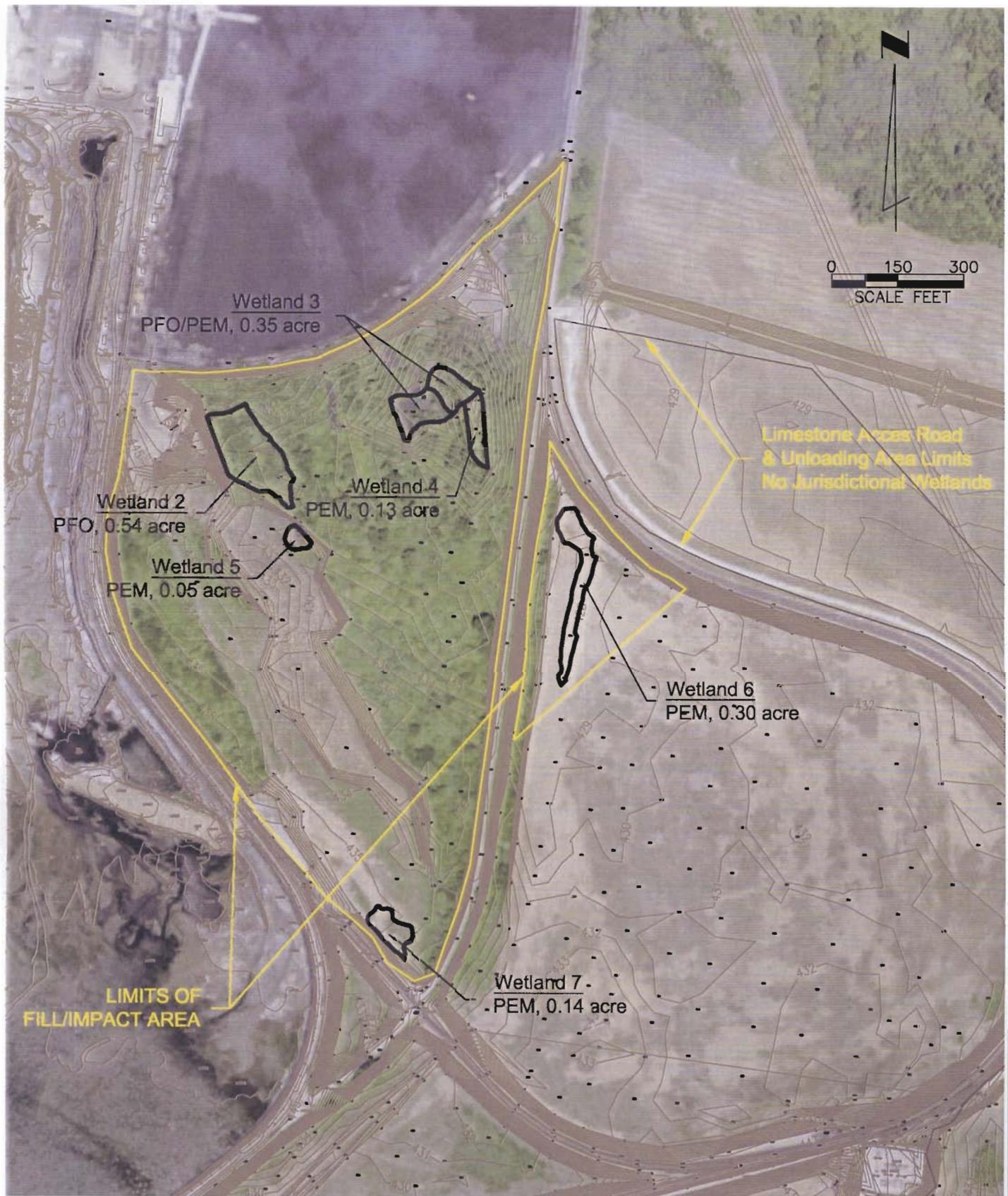


Ameren Sioux Power Plant Wet FGD Scrubber



P-2529

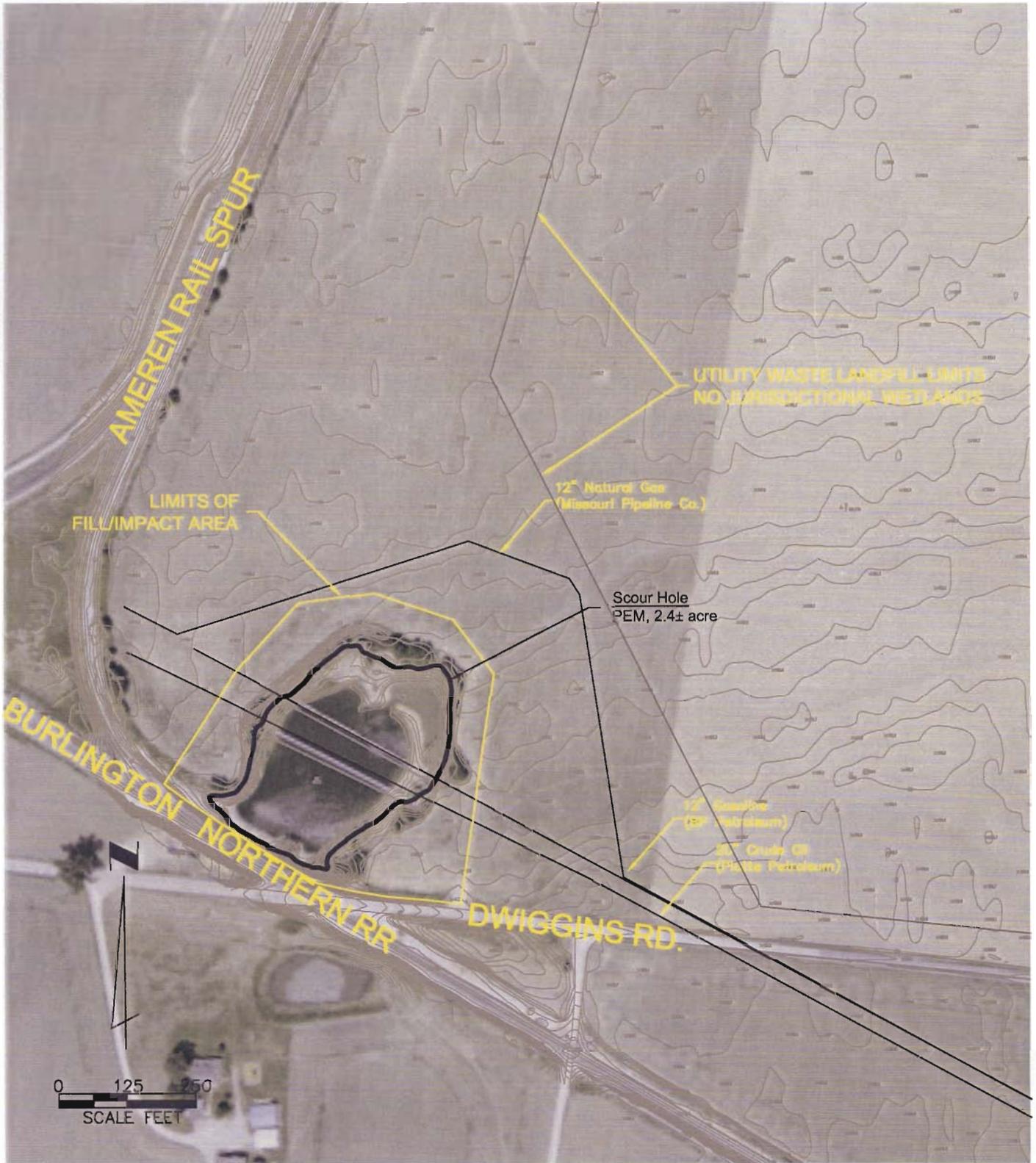
Ameren Sioux Power Plant
Wet FGD Scrubber
ELECTRIAL SUBSTATION & GYPSUM DEWATERING AREA
WETLAND IMPACTS



**Ameren Sioux Power Plant
Wet FGD Scrubber**

**LIMESTONE PREPARATION AREA
WETLAND IMPACTS**

P-2529



P-2530

Ameren Sioux Power Plant
 Scour Hole Fill
 WETLAND IMPACTS