

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commander  
Eighth Coast Guard District  
Hale Boggs Federal Building

500 Poydras Street, Room 1313  
New Orleans, LA 70130-3310  
Staff Symbol: (dpg)  
Phone: (504) 671-2128  
Fax: (504) 671-2133

11 February 2008

## PUBLIC NOTICE (02-08)

All interested parties are notified that an application was received on July 25, 2007 from the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LDOTD) by the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District, for approval of location and plans for construction of a fixed span bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Inner Harbor Navigational Canal, mile 7.5 East of the Harvey Lock (12.07 km) in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The proposed project involves building a fixed high rise bridge across the canal. The complete project starts where Alvar Street and Poland Avenue meet upon Florida Avenue, and ends at Paris Road. The portion of the project that the Coast Guard is permitting starts from where Alvar Street and Poland Avenue meet upon Florida Avenue, and ends at Caffin Avenue. This proposed bridge will provide additional reliable access, unimpeded by frequent bridge openings, for vehicular traffic, and will alleviate existing and future traffic capacity problems while meeting the intent of the state TIMED legislation.

### **MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:**

**Existing:**

Horizontal: 300 feet (91.44 meters)

Vertical: Unlimited

**Proposed:**

Horizontal: 300 feet (91.44 meters)

Vertical: 156 feet (47.54 meters) over maximum high water level elevation of +5.00 NVGD (1.52 meters)

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Coast Guard is the lead federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Based on the Environmental Assessment (EA) provided by the applicant, the Coast Guard has made a tentative determination that the proposed project will not have a significant impact for purposes of the NEPA.

Unless it is demonstrated, through this public notice process, that the potential exists for significant environmental impacts, the Coast Guard will issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) as the final environmental document for this proposed project. Documents relative to this determination are available for review at the address indicated in the last paragraph of this notice, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. except federal holidays.

The proposed bridge is a fixed span that will provide a minimum clearance of 156 feet over a maximum high water level elevation of +5.0 NVGD (1.52 meters). No fill material will be placed above the floodplain and no wetlands or submerged vegetation will be filled or affected.

Additional right-of-way will need to be acquired for the bridge project, but no relocations of residences or businesses will be required and no adverse impacts on low-income or minority populations are anticipated. No parklands, recreational areas, archaeological sites, waterfowl or wildlife refuges will be affected by the proposed bridge project. No prime and unique farmland will be impacted by the proposed project and no significant effects on public utilities, fire protection, or other emergency services are anticipated. No wild and scenic rivers or wildlife management areas exist at the proposed project site.

The Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer (LSHPO) has made a determination that Pumping Station No. 5 owned by the Sewage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Coast Guard has determined that the proposed project will have an adverse effect on the pumping station. Thus, the Coast Guard has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 – Protection of Historic Properties that outlines the steps that must be taken to ensure compliance with Part 800 and mitigate any adverse effects. The other signatories to the MOA are the LSHPO, LDOTD, and SWBNO. Other than the pumping station itself, no other cultural resources listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places are known to exist within the project limits.

Louisiana Water Quality Certification is required in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The Louisiana Department of Environment Quality is expected to review the plans for this project and issue an individual Water Quality Certification statement. The applicant has applied to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the entire project including the portion the Coast Guard is permitting.

The project is located within the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) area and a Coastal Use Permit application has been made.

The bridge project is in New Orleans Parish which is an attainment area with limited maintenance plans for air quality. Thus, the project must be in compliance with the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The project is in compliance with the SIP because it has been identified in the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission's *Year 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the New Orleans Region*, thus conformity is established.

This notice initiates Essential Fish Habitats (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This proposed project will not impact any wetlands. Our initial determination is that the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries. Our final determination, relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures, is subject to review by and coordination with the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

Mariners are requested to submit comments on the proposed bridge project, the extent of nighttime traffic at the bridge site and other navigational safety issues.

Interested parties are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge project including its possible impact on minority and/or low income population, if any, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of or opposition to the proposed work. Comments will be received for the record at the Office of the Commander (dpb), Eighth Coast Guard District, 500 Poydras Street, Room 1313, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-3310, through April 18, 2008. These comments will be made part of the case record.

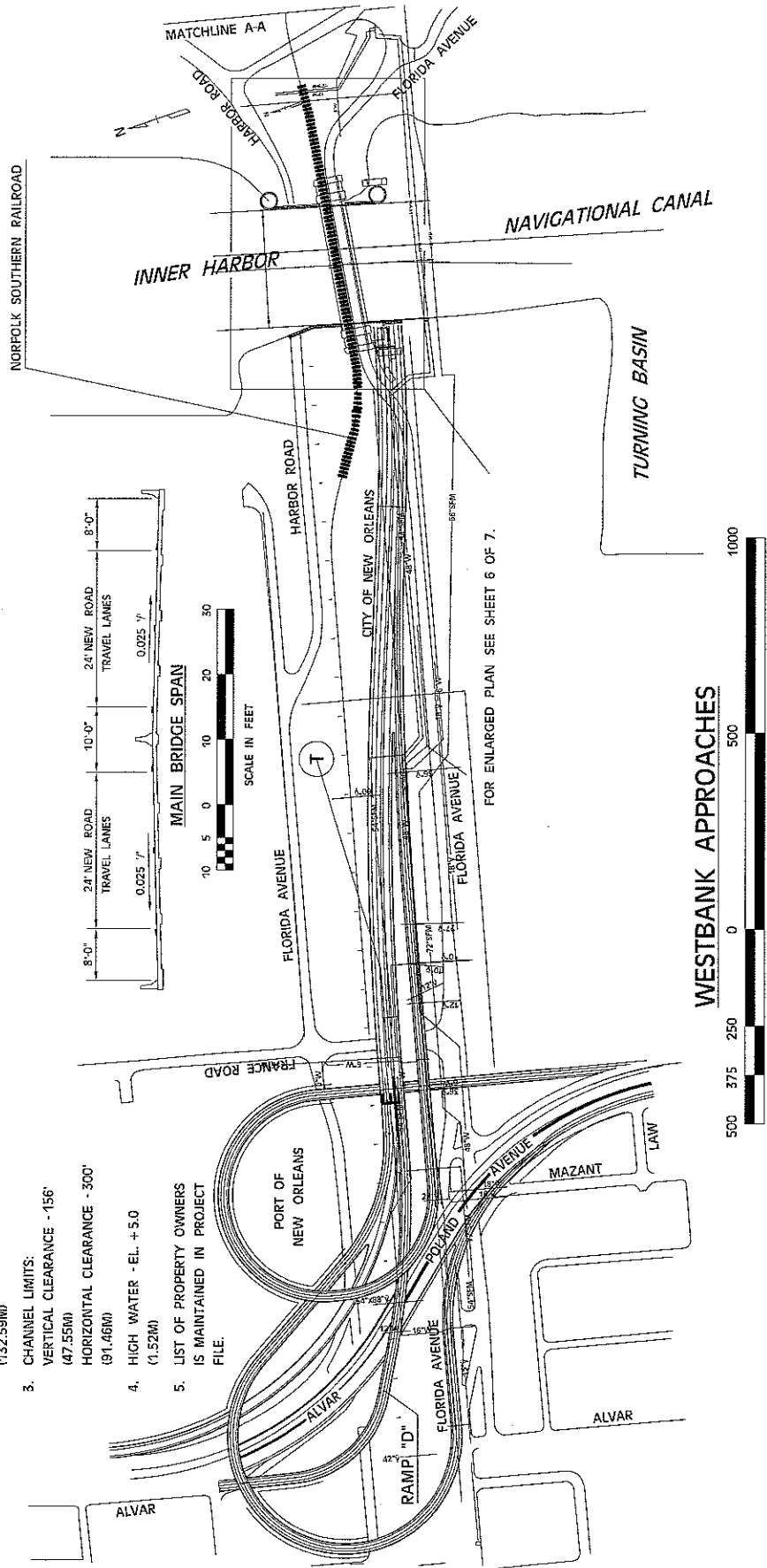
Map of location and plans attached.



DAVID M. FRANK  
Bridge Administrator  
By direction of the Commander  
Eighth Coast Guard District



BR. NAME & STR. NO		FLORIDA AVENUE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES AT (IHNC)		DATE	MAY, 2005	SHEET	2 OF 7
PARISH	ORLEANS	ROUTE	FLORIDA AVENUE		REVISED JAN., 2008		

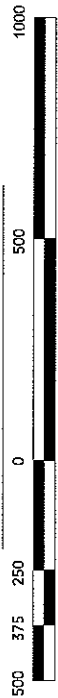


NOTES:

1. DATUM: NGVD 1988
2. LENGTH OF MAIN SPAN - 475'  
(132.59M)
3. CHANNEL LIMITS:  
VERTICAL CLEARANCE - 156'  
(47.55M)  
HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE - 300'  
(91.46M)
4. HIGH WATER - EL. +5.0  
(1.52M)
5. LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS IS MAINTAINED IN PROJECT FILE.

FOR ENLARGED PLAN SEE SHEET 6 OF 7.

WESTBANK APPROACHES



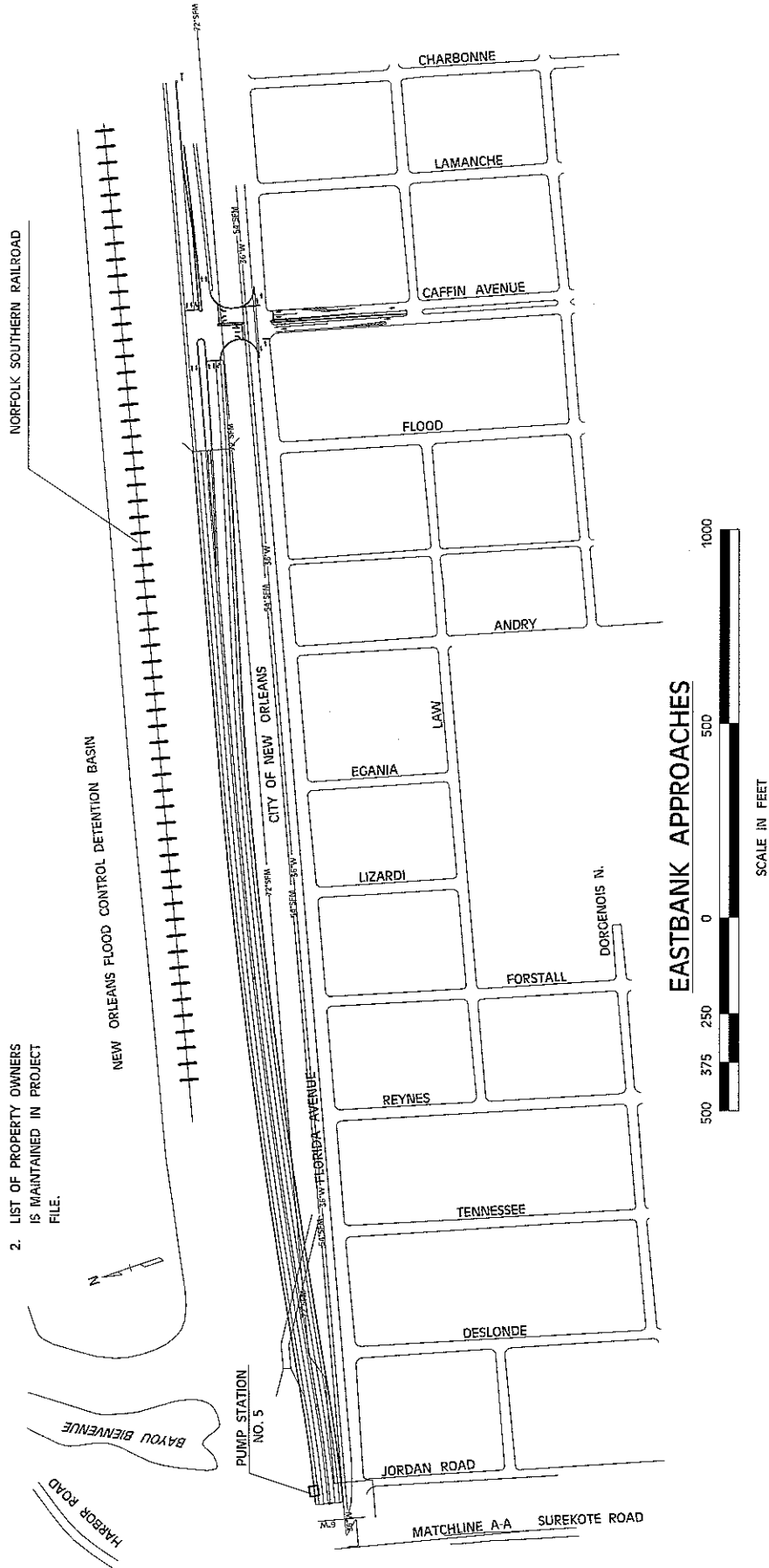
SCALE IN FEET

BR. NAME & STR. NO	FLORIDA AVENUE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES AT (I)HNC			DATE	MAY, 2005	SHEET	3 OF 7
PARISH	ORLEANS	ROUTE	FLORIDA AVENUE		REVISED JAN., 2008		

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NOTES:

1. DATUM: NGVD 1988
2. LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS IS MAINTAINED IN PROJECT FILE.



EASTBANK APPROACHES



SCALE IN FEET



09:43

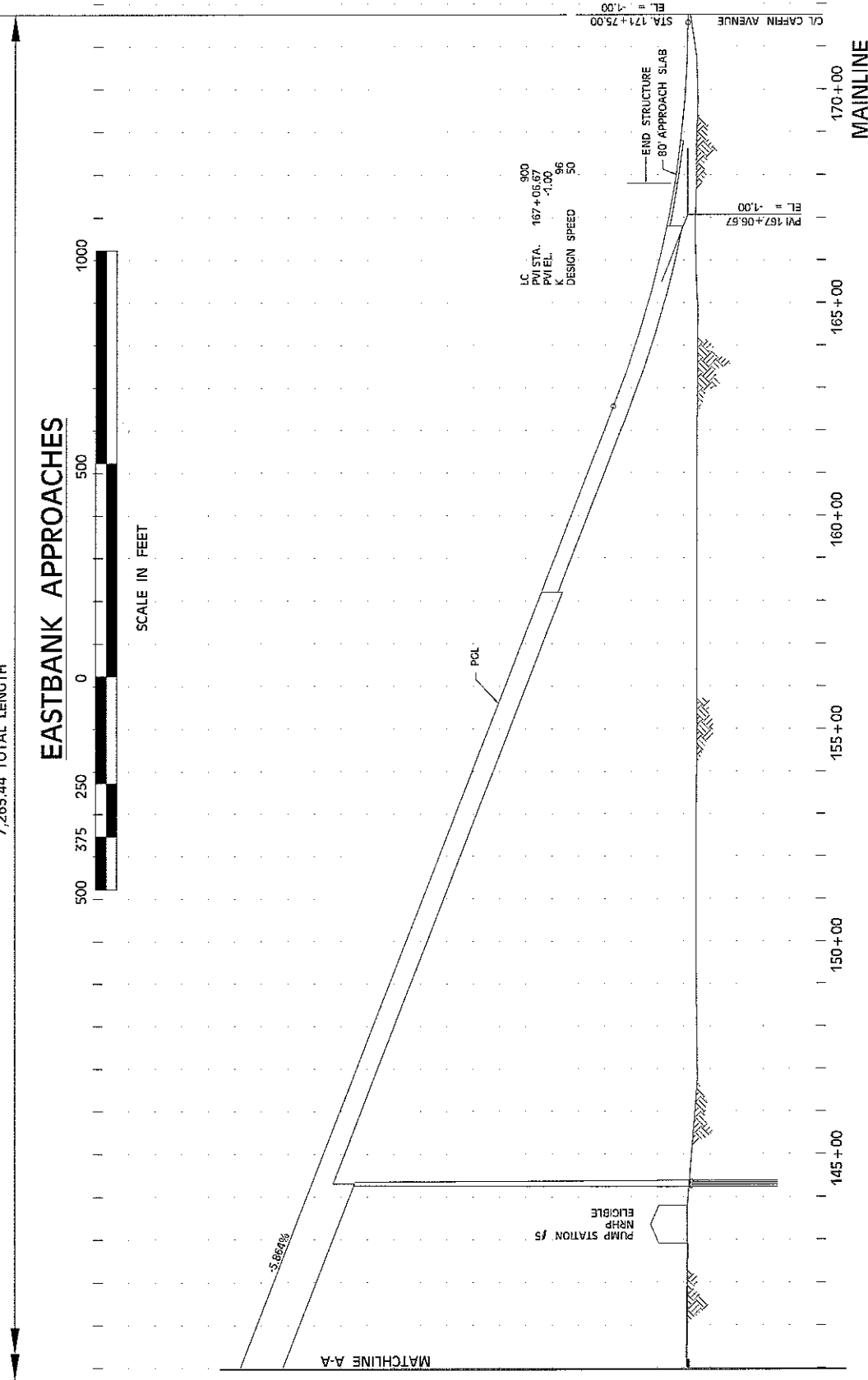
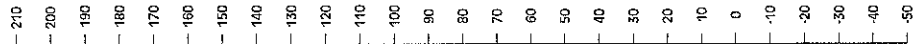
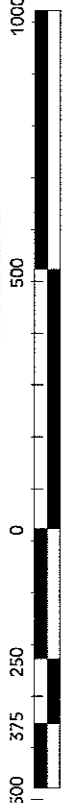
25-JAN-2008

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BR. NAME & STR. NO		FLORIDA AVENUE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES AT (IHNC)			DATE	MAY, 2005 REVISED JAN., 2008	SHEET	5 OF 7
PARISH	ORLEANS	ROUTE	FLORIDA AVENUE					

7,265.44' TOTAL LENGTH

### EASTBANK APPROACHES



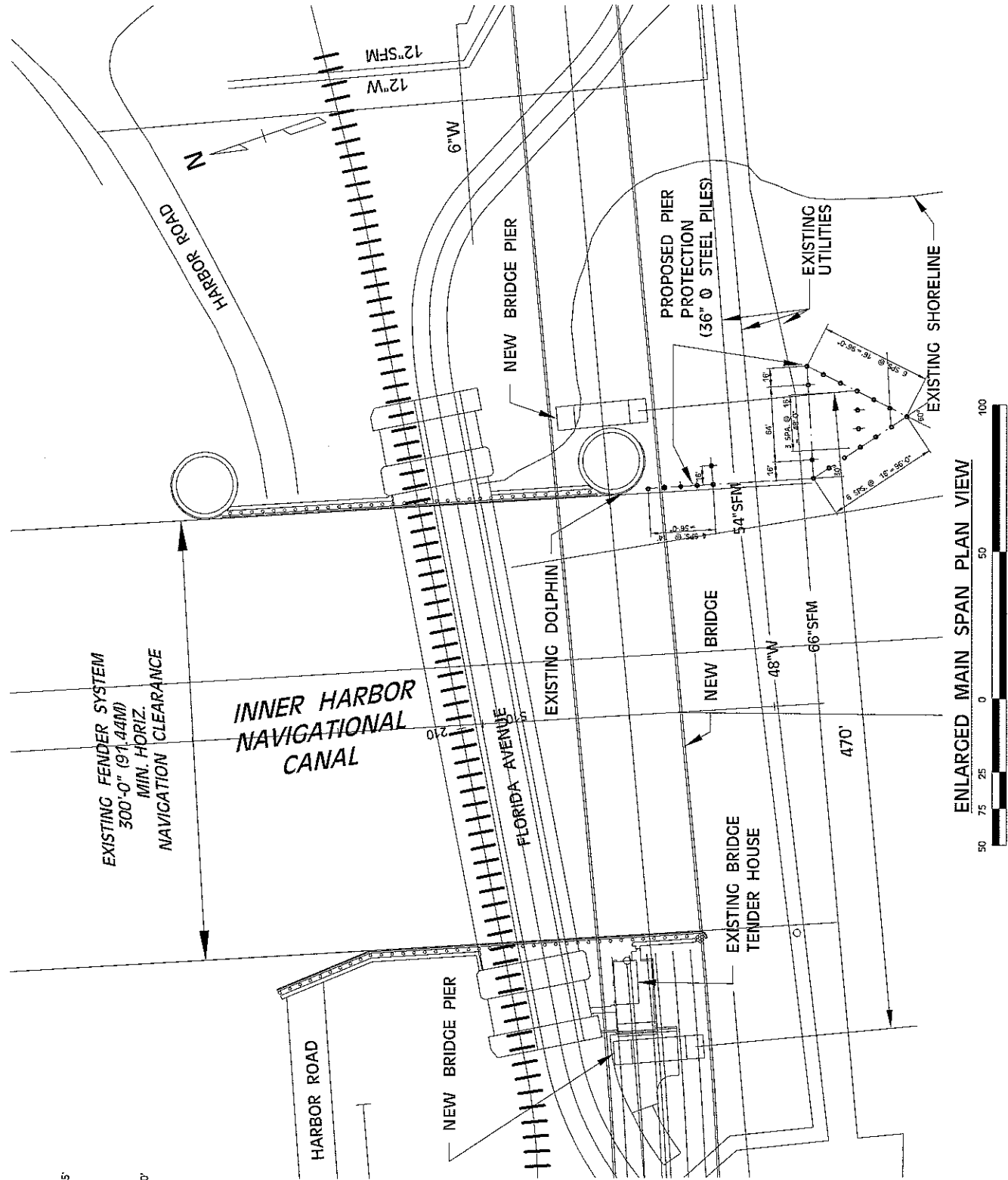
LC 800  
 PVI STA. 167+06.67  
 PVI EL. -1.00  
 K 96  
 DESIGN SPEED 50

PUMP STATION JS  
 NRRP  
 ELICIBLE

MATCHLINE A-A

MAINLINE

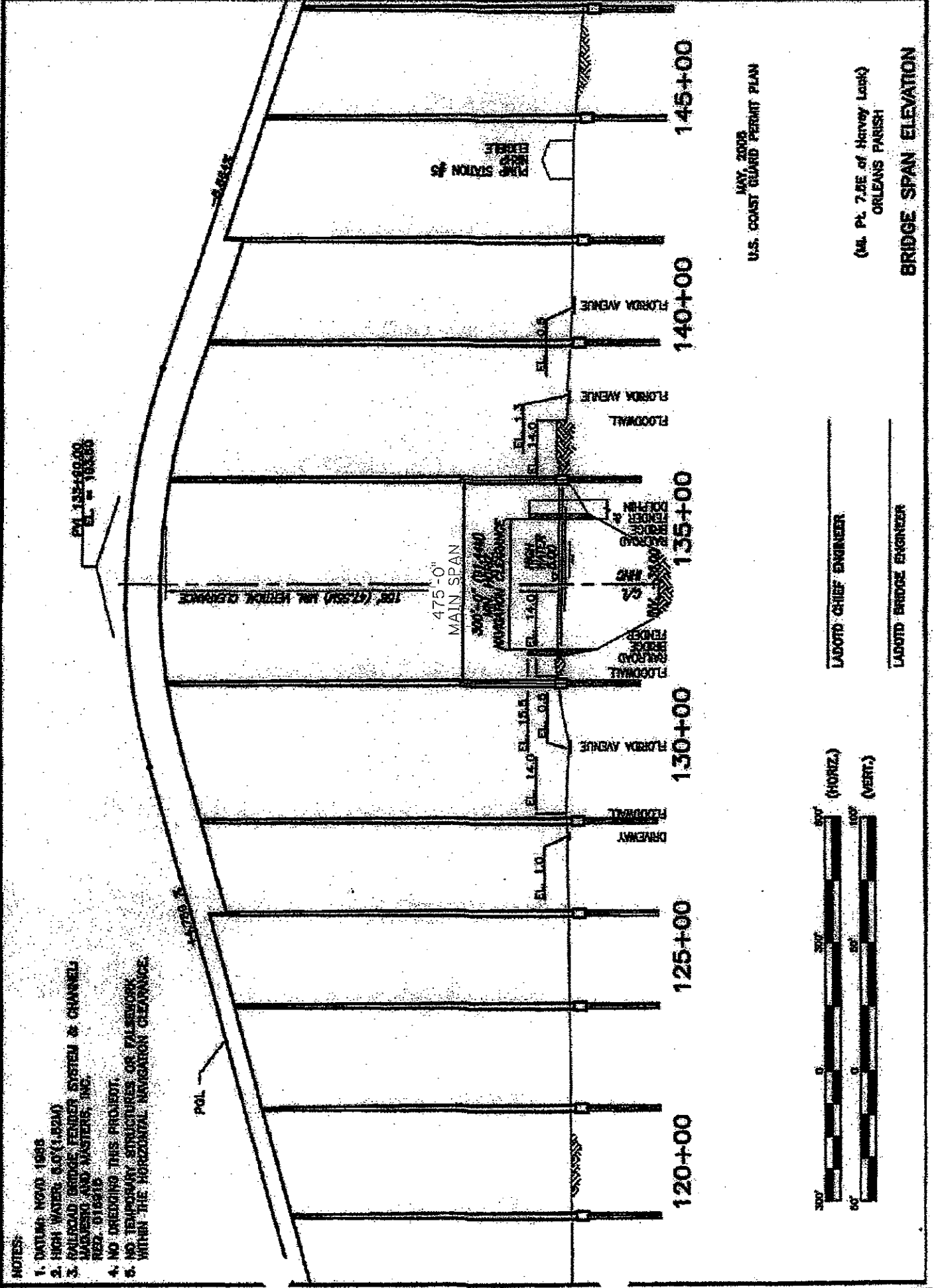
BR. NAME & STR. NO		FLORIDA AVENUE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES AT (IHNC)		DATE	MAY, 2005 REVISED JAN., 2008	SHEET	6 OF 7
PARISH	ORLEANS	ROUTE	FLORIDA AVENUE				



NOTES:

1. DATUM: NGVD 1988
2. LENGTH OF MAIN SPAN - 475' (143.26M)
3. CHANNEL LIMITS:  
 VERTICAL CLEARANCE - 150'  
 (47.55M)  
 HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE - 300'  
 (91.46M)
4. HIGH WATER - EL. +5.0 (1.52M)
5. LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS IS MAINTAINED IN PROJECT FILE.

BRIDGE:	FLORIDA AVENUE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES AT (I)INC		DATE:	MAY, 2005	SHEET	7 OF 7
PARISH:	ORLEANS	ROUTE:	FLORIDA AVENUE	REVISED:	JAN., 2008	



LAGANCO3\PROJECTS\703360001\CG PERMIT\SH7

**NOTES:**

1. DATUM: NAVD 1988
2. HIGH WATER: 5.0'(1.52M)
3. RAILROAD BRIDGE FENDER SYSTEM & CHANNEL: MARIANO AND MASTERS, INC. REV. 01/08/05
4. NO DREDGING THIS PROJECT.
5. NO TEMPORARY STRUCTURES OR PALYWORK WITHIN THE HORIZONTAL NAVIGATION CLEARANCE.

MAY, 2005  
U.S. COAST GUARD PERMIT PLAN

(MIL. PL. 7.BE of Harvey Loss)  
ORLEANS PARISH

**BRIDGE SPAN ELEVATION**

LADOTT CHIEF ENGINEER

LADOTT BRIDGE ENGINEER

