



Florida Department of Health Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs Research Review and Advisory Committee Meeting

DATE AND TIME: June 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. ET

PLACE: Florida Department of Health Southwood Complex
4042 Bald Cypress Way, Room #240P
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Or via conference call / web conference:

Toll free call in number: 1-888-670-3525

Conference pass code: 8605907413

Website: http://connectpro22543231.na5.acrobat.com/rrac_new/

This meeting is open to the public

AGENDA: FINAL

10:00 – 10:05	Introductions and Housekeeping
10:05 – 10:15	Review Minutes of Meeting April 10, 2012
10:15 – 12:30	Nitrogen Study Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Project Task/Budget Update & Application of New Funds
12:30 – 1:00	Update on Other Projects
1:00 – 1:45	Other Business
1:45 – 2:00	Public Comment
2:00 – 2:15	Closing Comments, Next Meeting, and Adjournment

NOTE: Time slots are approximate and may be subject to change.

Florida Department of Health
Research Review and Advisory Committee for the Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs

Approved Minutes of the Meeting held at the Southwood Office Complex, Tallahassee, FL
June 21, 2012

In attendance:

- **Committee Members and Alternates:**

- In person:**

- Bill Melton (member, Consumer)
 - Clay Tappan (chairman, member, Professional Engineer)

- Via teleconference:**

- Quentin (Bob) Beitel (alternate, Real Estate Profession)
 - Taylor Brown (alternate, Division of Environmental Health)
 - Wayne Crotty (member, Septic Tank Industry)
 - Paul Davis (member, Division of Environmental Health)
 - Tom Higginbotham (alternate, Division of Environmental Health)
 - Kriss Kaye (alternate, Home Building Industry)
 - Eanix Poole (alternate, Consumer)
 - David Richardson (alternate, Local Government)

- Absent members and alternates:**

- Craig Diamond (member, Environmental Interest Group)
 - John Dryden (alternate, State University System)
 - Bob Himschoot (alternate, Septic Tank Industry)
 - Carl Ludecke (vice-chairman, member, Home Building Industry)
 - Geoff Luebkekmann (member, Restaurant Industry)
 - Susan McKinley (alternate, Restaurant Industry)
 - Tom Miller (member, Local Government)
 - Jim Peters (alternate, Professional Engineer)
 - John Schert (member, State University System)

- **Visitors:**

- In person:**

- None

- Via teleconference:**

- Damann Anderson (Hazen and Sawyer)
 - Kim Dinkins (Marion County)
 - Don Boniol (SJRWMD)
 - Roxanne Groover (FOWA)
 - Richard Hicks (DEP)
 - Josefin Hirst (Hazen and Sawyer)
 - Sarah Malone
 - Pam Tucker

- **Department of Health (DOH), Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs:**

- In person:**

- Eberhard Roeder, Professional Engineer
 - Elke Ursin, Environmental Health Program Consultant

- Via teleconference:**

- Marcelo Blanco, Environmental Health Program Consultant

1. **Introductions** – Seven out of ten groups were present, representing a quorum. The groups that were not represented were the State University System, an Environmental Interest Group, and the Restaurant Industry. Chairman Tappan called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The agenda was outlined, introductions were made, and some housekeeping issues were discussed. There were no changes to the committee since the last meeting.

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- 2. Review of previous meeting minutes** – The minutes of the April 10, 2012 meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Quentin Beitel, seconded by Bill Melton, to approve the minutes as presented. All were in favor and none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

- 3. Nitrogen Study Update** – Elke Ursin presented on the nitrogen reduction strategies study. On July 1, 2012 the project will receive \$1.5-million in budget and cash for continuation of the study. Damann Anderson presented a proposal on how to spend the \$1.5-million and which tasks will remain to be done with the final appropriation of the \$700,000 required to complete the project. The process was similar to what had been done previously when funds were appropriated by the Legislature. RRAC, along with DOH and Hazen and Sawyer, decided which tasks will be continued based on how much money is available. Damann Anderson laid out the cost of each task and subtask and discussed which elements were being added with the new funding. Quentin Beitel mentioned that he would like to see the deliverables for this project on the webpage clearly indicated by task and subtask with the exception of the rough data. He also mentioned the importance of having the Project Advisory Committee meeting. Elke Ursin stated that this is planned for the final phase of the project which has not been funded yet. Elke Ursin stated that she thought that this authorization could be done in a letter, but there might be a chance that a contract amendment would be necessary. She said she would check on this.

Motion by Quentin Beitel, seconded by Bill Melton, to approve the recommended changes and to allow staff to follow due process to make that happen. All were in favor and none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Next, Josefin Hirst presented a brief update on the various field sites and the groundwater test facility. She started with the Task C field sites and then went on to the Task B field sites. There was a site in Wakulla County which was abandoned because it appeared, after the first sample event, that the wastewater was flowing in a vertically downward direction and would not assist in the model development nor did it really show the fate and transport of nitrogen. The next site was in Seminole County with a high water table and an identifiable plume. They have done three sample events at this site, with the fourth scheduled for next week. The third site is in Polk County which will be instrumented next week, and has a well drained soil. There is a lake in the back yard and the system is in the front yard. Through preliminary site investigation they were able to find nitrogen down-gradient from the system. She stated that this should be another good system for the model. The fourth site is in Sarasota County, and they need approval from the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners before being able to do exploratory work at this site. This is a wastewater treatment facility, manned by 10-12 people all day and night. For the Task B field sites, she discussed one that had been installed in Wakulla County. This one was a Nitrex system. There have been four sampling events at this site and they anticipate monitoring bimonthly through January 2013. The next site she discussed was in Hillsborough County and will have the engineered media that was tested at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center (GCREC) in Wimauma. This site is anticipated to utilize the existing septic tank and drainfield with the nitrogen removal components being installed in between the existing components. This site is anticipated to be installed this summer depending on how long permitting might take. The third Task B site is the same site as the Seminole County Task C site, and will be installed some time after the Hillsborough site. The fourth Task B site is also in Seminole County and will be a single pass

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system (without recirculation) and is anticipated to be a site where no pump will be utilized because there is sufficient topography. After the Task C sampling has been completed, a vertically stacked type system will be installed. Next she discussed the soil and groundwater test facility, located at GCREC, going over the design concept and installation of the six test mounds. She went over the recently completed tracer test that was conducted near the groundwater test facility to show how nitrogen could move in the groundwater here. This was the second tracer test, with the first one having occurred in November 2011. Bromide solution was injected and monitored down-gradient to get a groundwater velocity. Bromide is an inert substance that moves freely with groundwater, so it gives a good way to measure the dilution effect, spread, and travel time in groundwater. Next, several slides were shown illustrating the results of what concentration of bromide was detected at the monitoring points.

Elke Ursin stated that the Nitrogen Study Status Report was sent to the Legislature and Governor by the due date and she had heard no comments on it. Quentin Beitel mentioned that the cover letter looked good. He also stated that this was another good job on the status report and it was timely. Elke Ursin thanked him and said that it was a team effort.

- 4. Update on Other Projects** – Elke Ursin gave a brief update on the 319 project on performance and management of advanced onsite systems. This project is to assess water quality protection by advanced (ATU, PBTS, etc.) systems throughout Florida. Elke Ursin presented on the progress that has been made on the remaining tasks associated with this project. Data entry is ongoing with several bureau staff assisting. As of June 18, 2012, 192 out of over 1,000 records need data entry and 373 records need a quality control review done on the data entry. The ones that need data entry are also included in the quality control review number. Elke Ursin explained that staff time was devoted to other tasks, such as the Nitrogen Study Status Report and preparing for the RRAC meeting, so time to devote to data entry was limited. She mentioned that Gerald Briggs instructed her the previous day to divide the remaining data entry between the Bureau of Onsite Sewage professional staff, so this would likely be completed in the near future with the quality control review to be completed shortly after. Staff have also been mentoring a Masters in Public Health student from the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. She is working on analyzing system user surveys, responding to demographic and use information, on systems that were sampled. After the data entry and data analysis are complete, work on the final two tasks for this project will be completed. The final tasks are creating a booklet outlining management practices for advanced systems and a final project report.

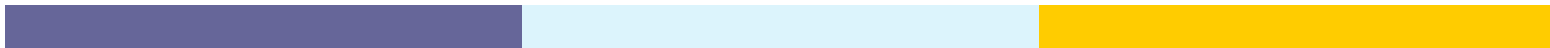
At the last RRAC meeting on April 10, 2012, RRAC directed staff to first work on existing projects and then move on to the re-ordered research priorities. There was also a motion at the last meeting to provide RRAC with the proper procedure on how to request authority to spend research funds. After consultation with Gerald Briggs, Elke Ursin stated that Bureau staff will do all they can to obtain budget authority for projects. She stated that specific budget numbers are not available yet for the next fiscal year, but that the inventory project would be a priority. She had been working on seeing what sort of low to no cost labor she could find collaborating with other individuals in the Division of Environmental Health.

- 5. Other Business** – There was no discussion on other business.
- 6. Public Comment** – The public were allowed to comment throughout the meeting. There was no additional public comment.

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- 7. Closing Comments, Next Meeting, and Adjournment** – Quentin Beitel asked that staff send RRAC an email after July 1st to let them know that everything is in order with the nitrogen study budget and cash, and whether funds could be made available for continuation of the inventory project. Topics for the next RRAC meeting will be to discuss the 319 grant report on the performance of advanced onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems in Florida and to discuss the process forward with research priorities. Elke Ursin is to send an email to RRAC when she has something to report regarding the funding questions. The next RRAC meeting will occur at some point in the future, with a date to be determined via email. The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Motion to adjourn by Bill Melton, seconded by Quentin Beitel. All were in favor and none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.



Department of Health
Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs
Research Review and Advisory Committee

Thursday June 21, 2012

10:00 am - 2:15 pm



Agenda:

- Introductions and Housekeeping
- Review Minutes of Meeting April 10, 2012
- Nitrogen Study Update
 - Project Task/Budget Update & Application of New Funds
- Update on Other Project
- Other Business
- Public Comment
- Closing Comments, Next Meeting, and Adjournment



Introductions & Housekeeping

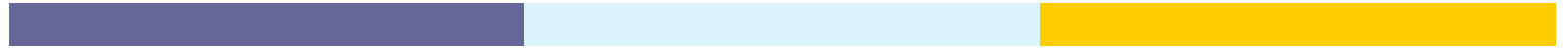
- Roll call
- Identification of audience
- How to view web conference
- DO NOT PUT YOUR PHONE ON HOLD!!!!
- Download reports:

<http://www.myfloridaeh.com/ostds/research/Index.html>



Introductions & Housekeeping

There have been no changes to the committee composition since the April meeting



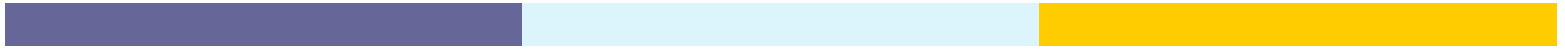
Review Minutes of Meeting April 10, 2012

- See draft minutes



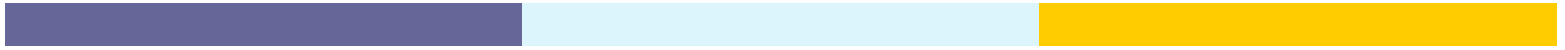
Florida Onsite Sewage Nitrogen Reduction Strategies Study

Purpose: Develop passive strategies for nitrogen reduction that complement use of conventional onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, and further develop cost-effective nitrogen reduction strategies



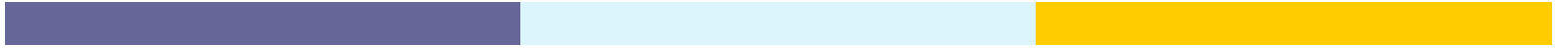
Florida Onsite Sewage Nitrogen Reduction Strategies Study

- Project is to receive \$1,500,000 in budget and cash for continuation of the study
- Presentation and discussion on application of new funds

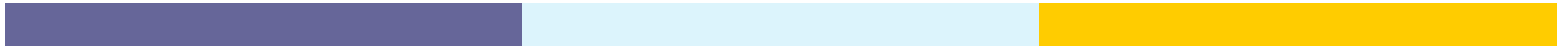


Florida Onsite Sewage Nitrogen Reduction Strategies Study

- Presentation and discussion on status of site work



Update on Other Projects



319 Project on Performance and Management of Advanced Onsite Systems

Purpose: Assess water quality protection by advanced OSTDS throughout Florida

Remaining Tasks:

- Data Entry:
 - Data entry is ongoing with several bureau staff assisting
 - As of 6/18/12:
 - o 192 systems need data entry
 - o 373 systems need a quality control review (these include those that need data entry)
- Intern working on analyzing system user surveys on sampled systems (demographic and use information)
- Management Practices
- Final Project Report

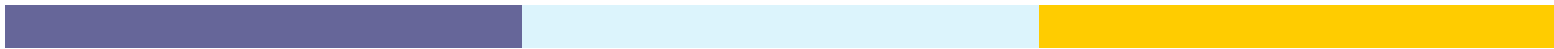


RRAC Direction

- At the April 10, 2012 RRAC meeting RRAC directed staff to first work on existing projects (i.e. nitrogen study and advanced system project).
- Motion at last meeting to provide proper procedure on how RRAC can request authority to spend research funds. We will do all we can to obtain budget authority for projects. We do not have specific budget numbers yet for the FY but the inventory would be a priority.



Other Business



Public Comment



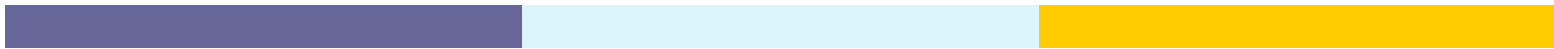
Next Meeting

Upcoming meeting topics:

- Discussion on 319 grant report on the performance of advanced OSTDS in Florida
- Discussion on process forward with research priorities

Proposed dates for next meeting:

- Will send email to RRAC at a future date to determine next meeting



Closing Comments and Adjournment

FLORIDA ONSITE SEWAGE NITROGEN REDUCTION STRATEGIES (FOSNRS) STUDY



OTIS
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSULTANTS

RRAC Meeting Presentation
June 21, 2012



Agenda

- Task C Field Sites
- Task B Field Sites
- S&GW Test Facility
- S&GW Test Facility Tracer Test

Wakulla County: C-HS1



Seminole County: C-HS2



Seminole County: C-HS2



Polk County: C-HS3



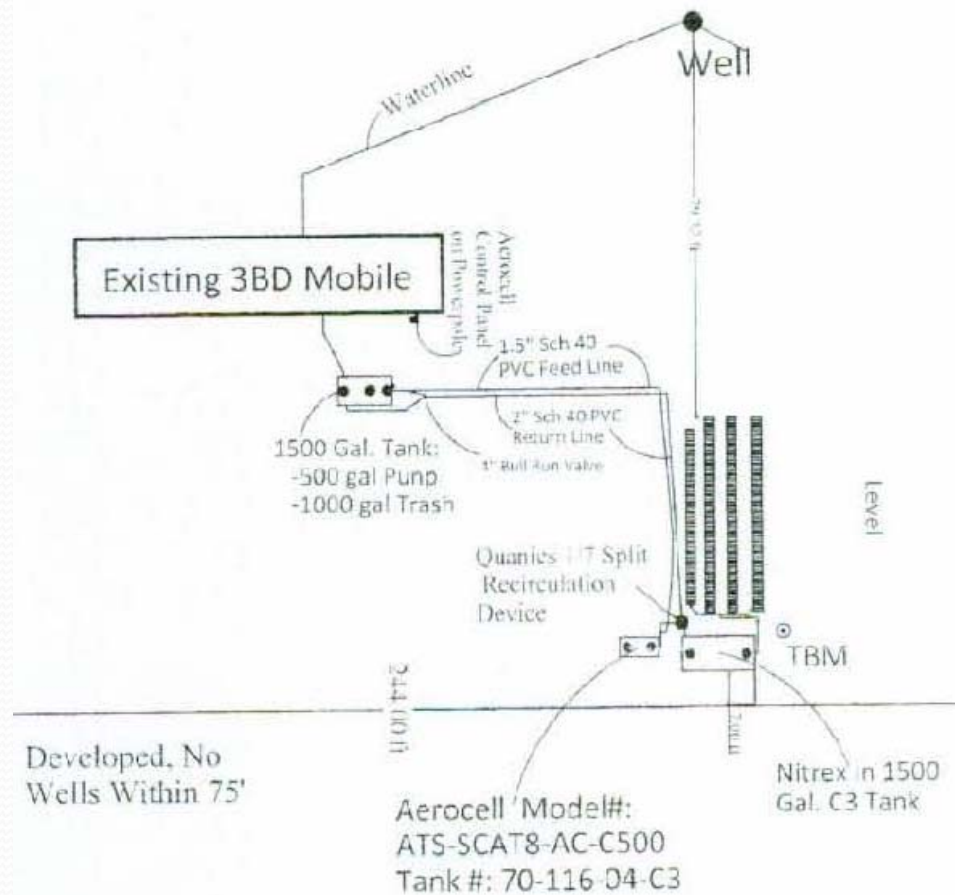
Seminole County: C-HS4



Wakulla County: B-HS1



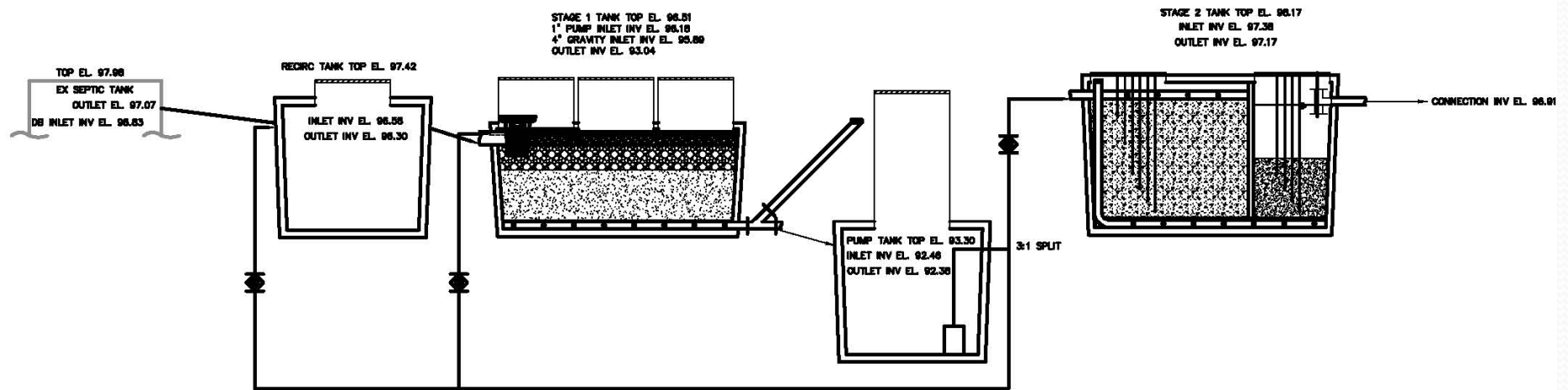
Wakulla County: B-HS1



Hillsborough County: B-HS2



Hillsborough County: B-HS2



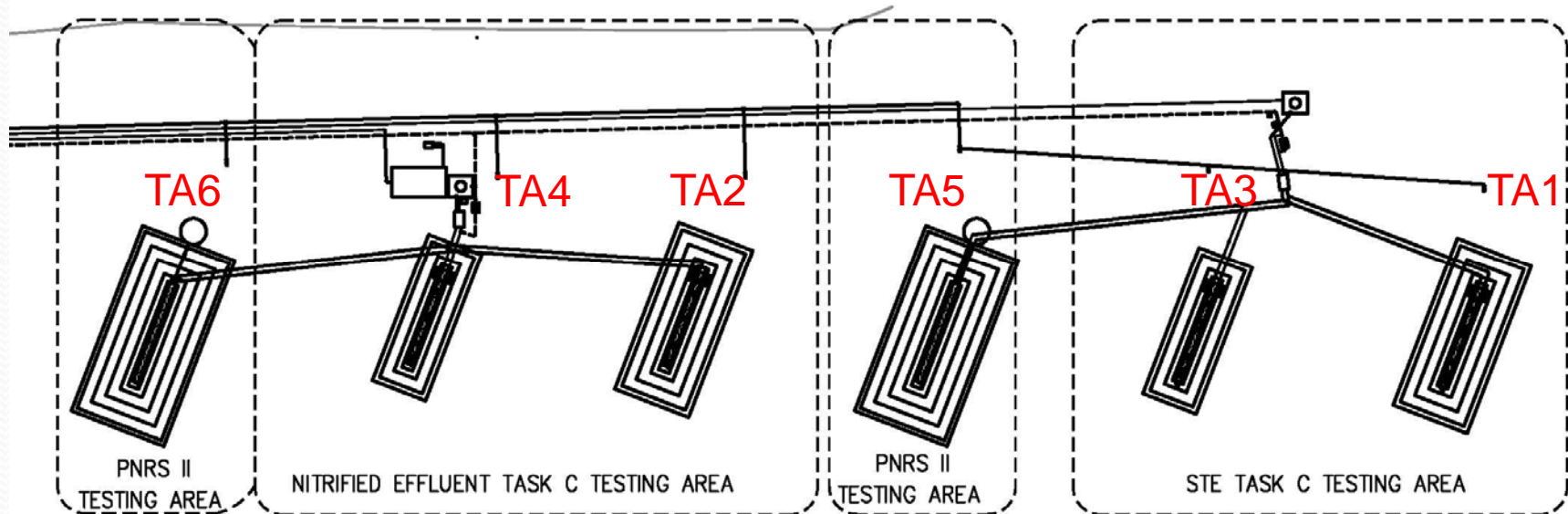
Seminole County: B-HS3



Seminole County: B-HS4



S&GW Test Facility Site Plan



S&GW Test Facility Construction



Test Area 3



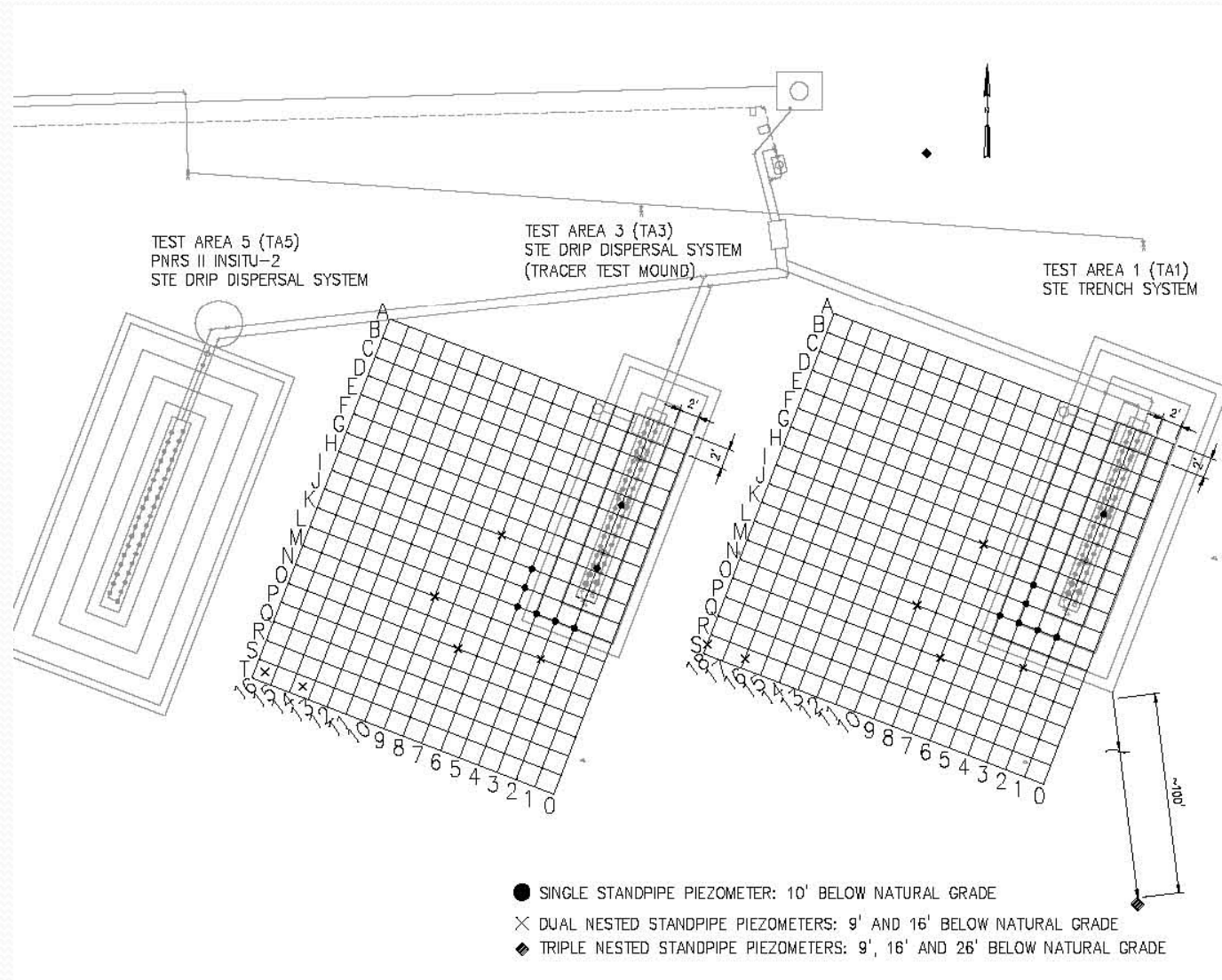
Test Area 3



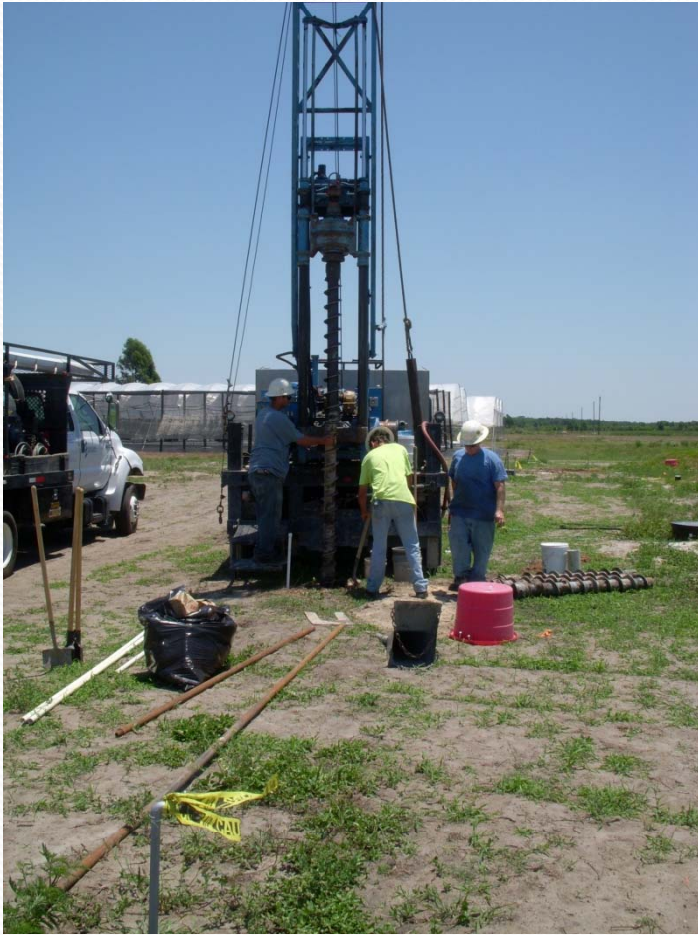
Test Area 3



S&GW Test Facility Monitoring Network



Instrumentation



Test Area 3



S&GW Test Facility Tracer Test



November 26, 12PM

