

# Design, Permitting of Trenchless Crossings in USACE Flood Control Projects



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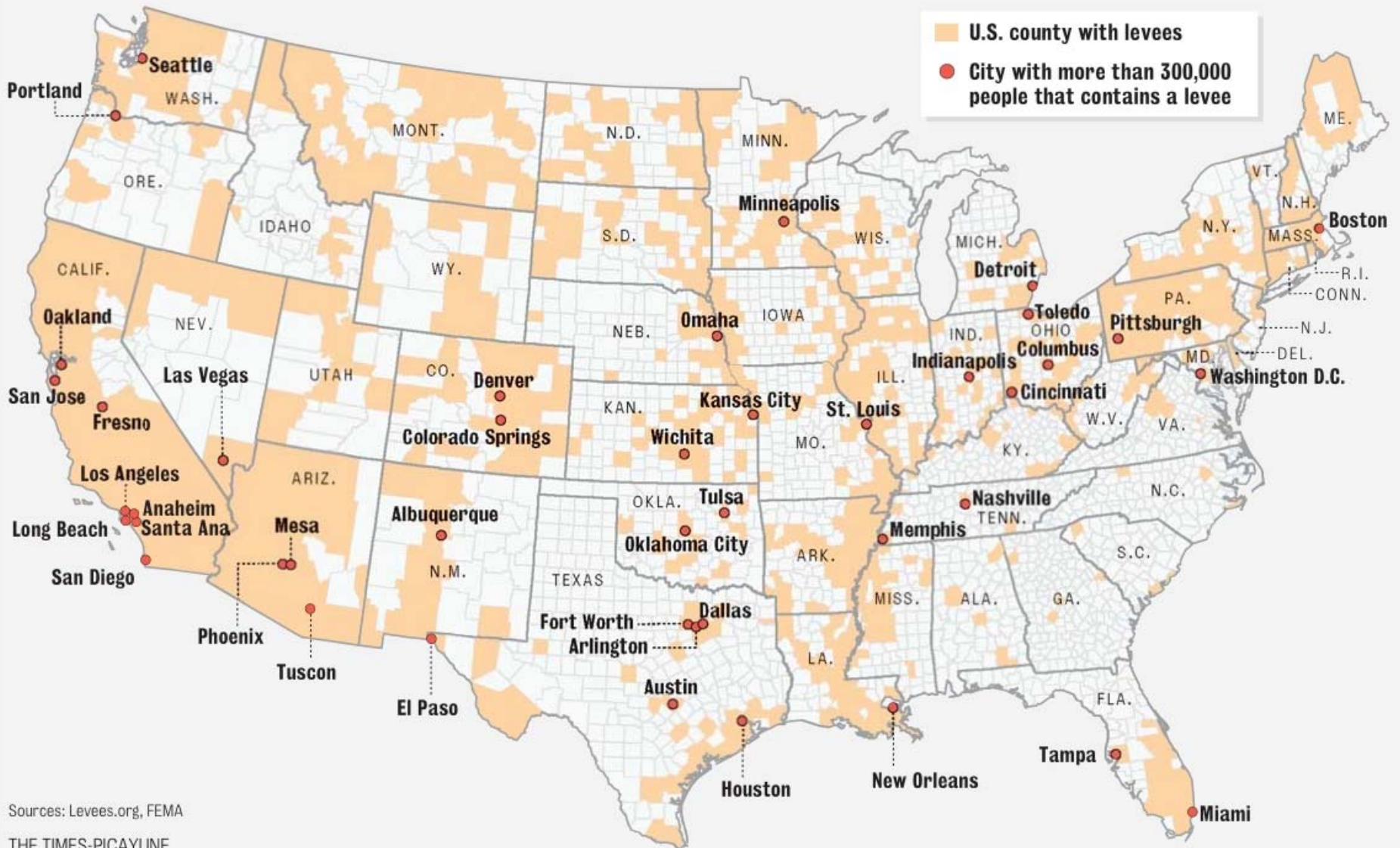


January 31, 2018



# LEVEES EVERYWHERE

There are 881 counties in the U.S. with levees. Those counties contain more than 50 percent of the nation's population.



Sources: Levees.org, FEMA

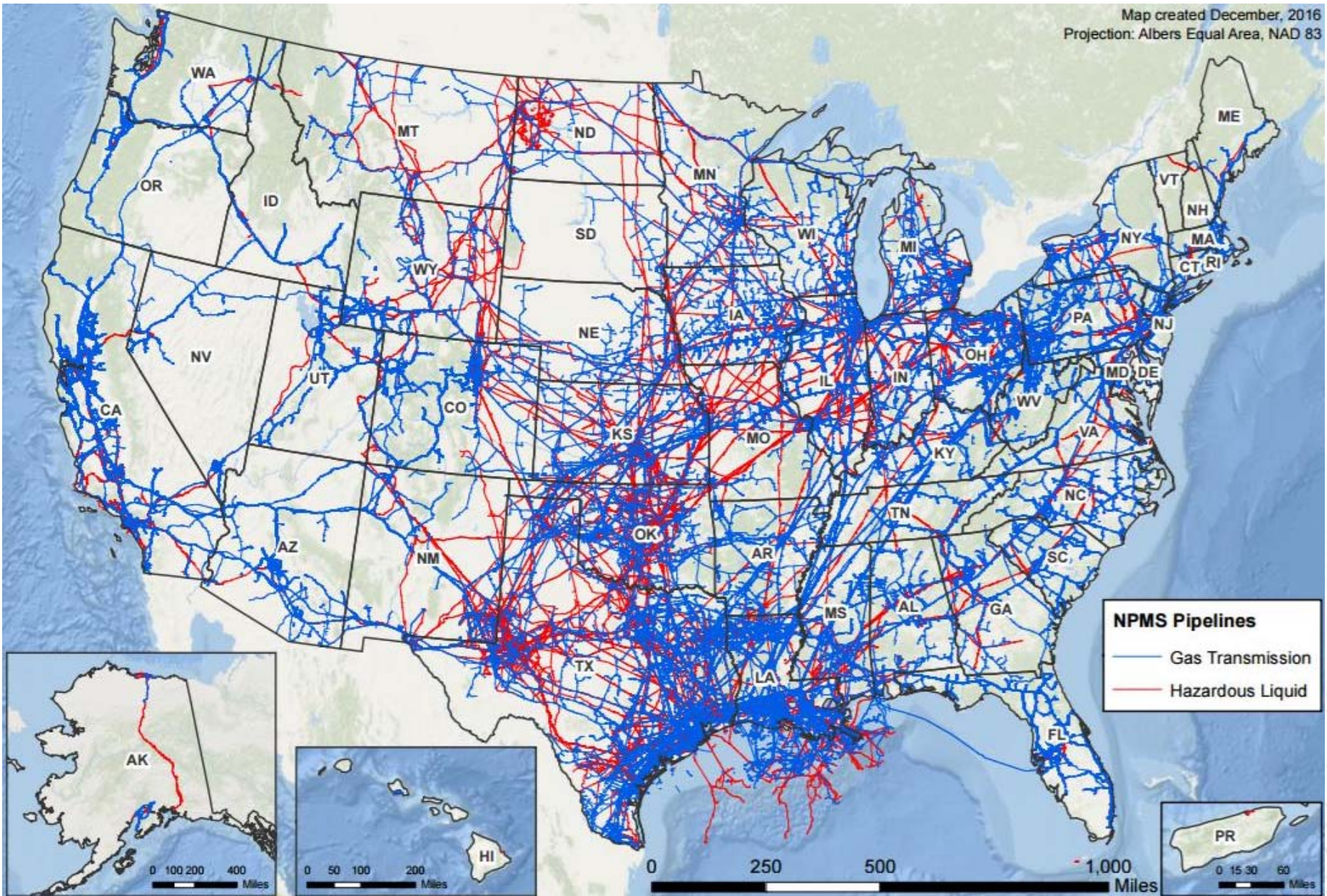
THE TIMES-PICAYUNE



# Underground Construction Technology

International Conference & Exhibition

Map created December, 2016  
Projection: Albers Equal Area, NAD 83





## About USACE Levees

- FEMA estimated levees located in 22% of nation's 3,147 counties
- Estimated 43% of US population lives in counties with levees
- 85% of nation's estimated 100,000 miles of levees locally owned & maintained—reliability unknown
- Increased development behind levees = increase in risk to public
- Rough estimates >\$100 billion to repair & rehabilitate nation's levees
- Water & environment levees 2009 grade = D-



## WHERE WE ARE — U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS





# Over or Under





# Over the Top of Levee





# Between the Levees





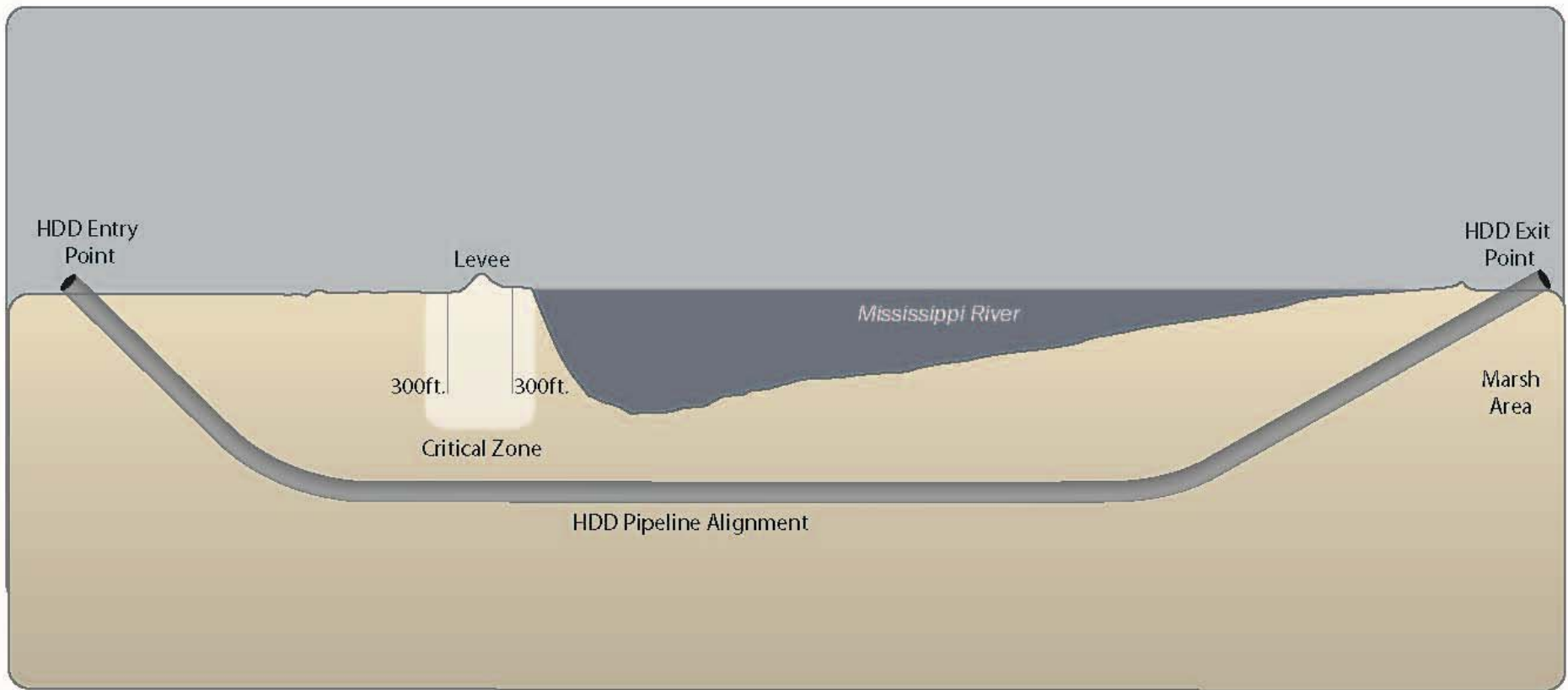


# Under the Levee





# Under the Levee





# Direct Pipe Under the Levee





# Threats to Flood Protection

- Slope stability & settlement





# Threats to Flood Protection

- Slope stability & settlement

**Table 3.1 – Slope Stability Design Factors of Safety.**

Analysis Condition	Required Minimum Factor of Safety	
	Spencer Method <sup>1</sup>	MOP <sup>2</sup>
End of Construction <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A
Design Hurricane <sup>4</sup> (SWL)	1.5	1.3
Water at Project Grade (levees) <sup>5</sup>	1.4 (1.5) <sup>6</sup>	1.2
Water at Construction Grade (levees) <sup>5</sup>	1.2	N/A
Extreme Hurricane (water @ top of I-Walls) <sup>5</sup>	1.4 (1.5) <sup>6</sup>	1.3
Extreme Hurricane (water @ top of T-Walls) <sup>5a</sup>	1.4 (1.5) <sup>6</sup>	1.2
Low Water (hurricane condition) <sup>7</sup>	1.4	1.3
Low Water(non-hurricane condition) <sup>8</sup> S-case	1.4	1.3
Water at Project Grade Utility Crossing <sup>9</sup>	1.5 (1.4)	1.3 (1.2)

NOTES:

1. Spencer method shall be used for circular and non-circular failure surfaces since it satisfies all conditions of static equilibrium and because its numerical stability is well suited for computer application. These factors of safety are based on well defined conditions where: (a) available records of construction, operation, and maintenance indicate the structure has met all performance objectives for the load conditions experienced; (b) the level of detail for investigations follow EM 1110-1-1804, Chapter 2, for the PED phase of design; and (c) the governing load conditions are established with a high level of confidence. Poorly defined conditions are not an option, and the Independent Technical Review must validate that the defined conditions meet the requirements in this footnote.

2. Method of Planes shall be used as a design check for verification that levee and floodwall designs satisfy historic district requirements. Analysis shall include a full search for the critical failure surface per stratum since it may vary from that found following the Spencer method.



# Threats to Flood Protection

- HDD Drilling fluid release & flow through the annulus





## Know Early

- First, check routing
- Avoidance best solution for cost, schedule, risk
- Longest lead time for permitting
- Soil conditions control design & construction
- Meet local USACE District early to discuss levee concerns
- Most rigorous construction requirements
- Most expensive design & construction option



# Permitting – Year or More

**Routing**

**Geotechnical  
Conditions**

**Construction  
Dictates  
Permitting**





## Permitting – Year or More

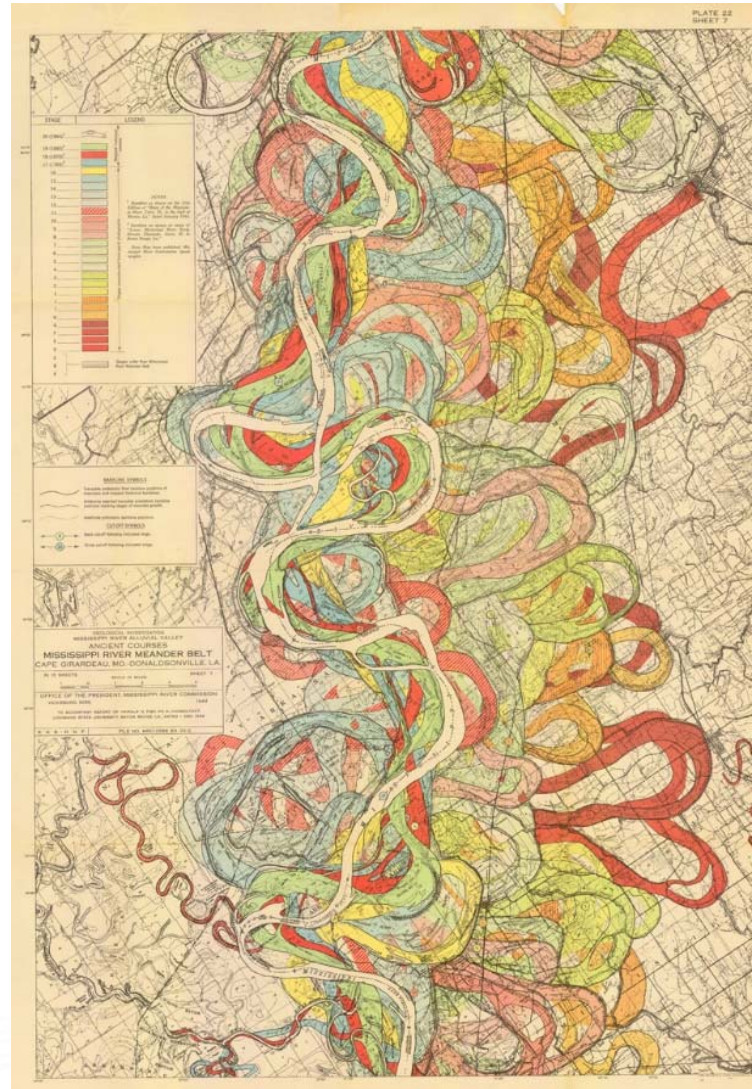
**Design**

**USACE  
District  
Review**

**USACE  
RMC  
Review**



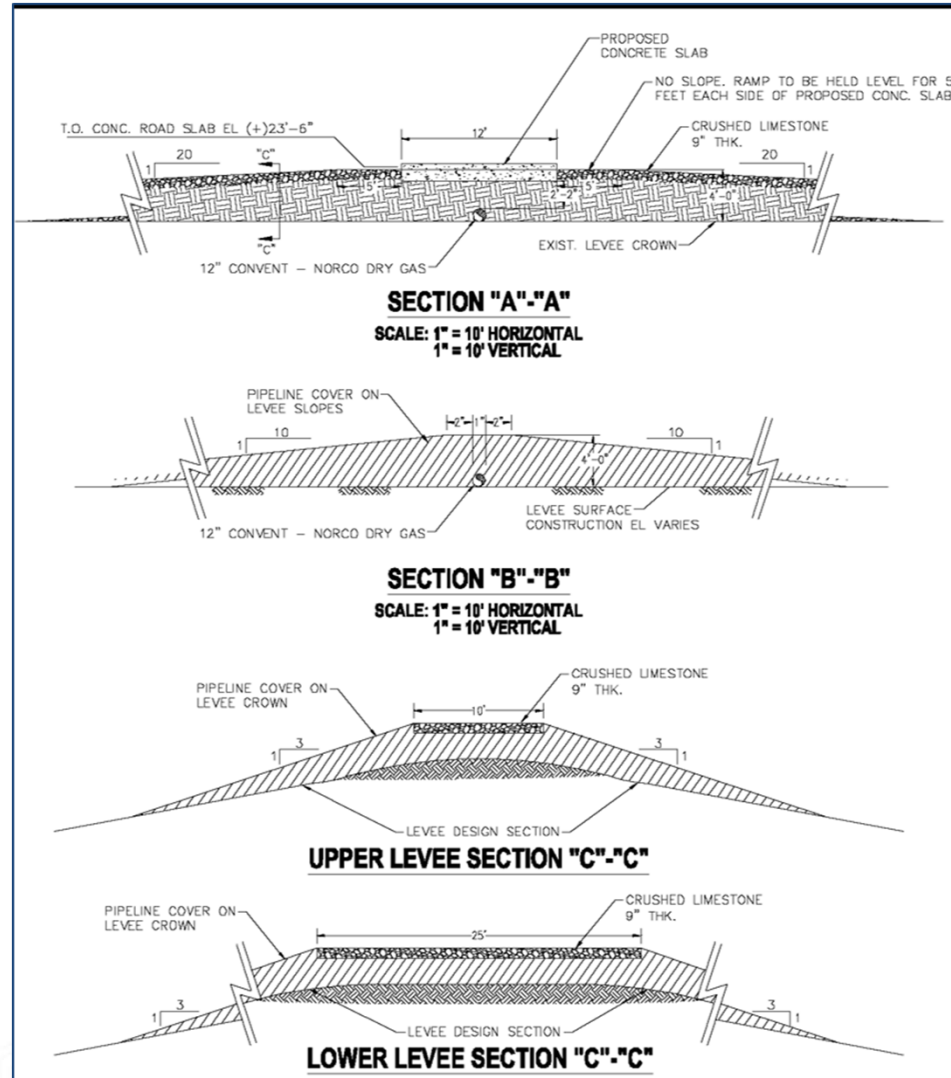
# Know Soil Conditions Before Route Finalized



Historical Map of  
Mississippi River  
Channels



# Over the Top Requirements





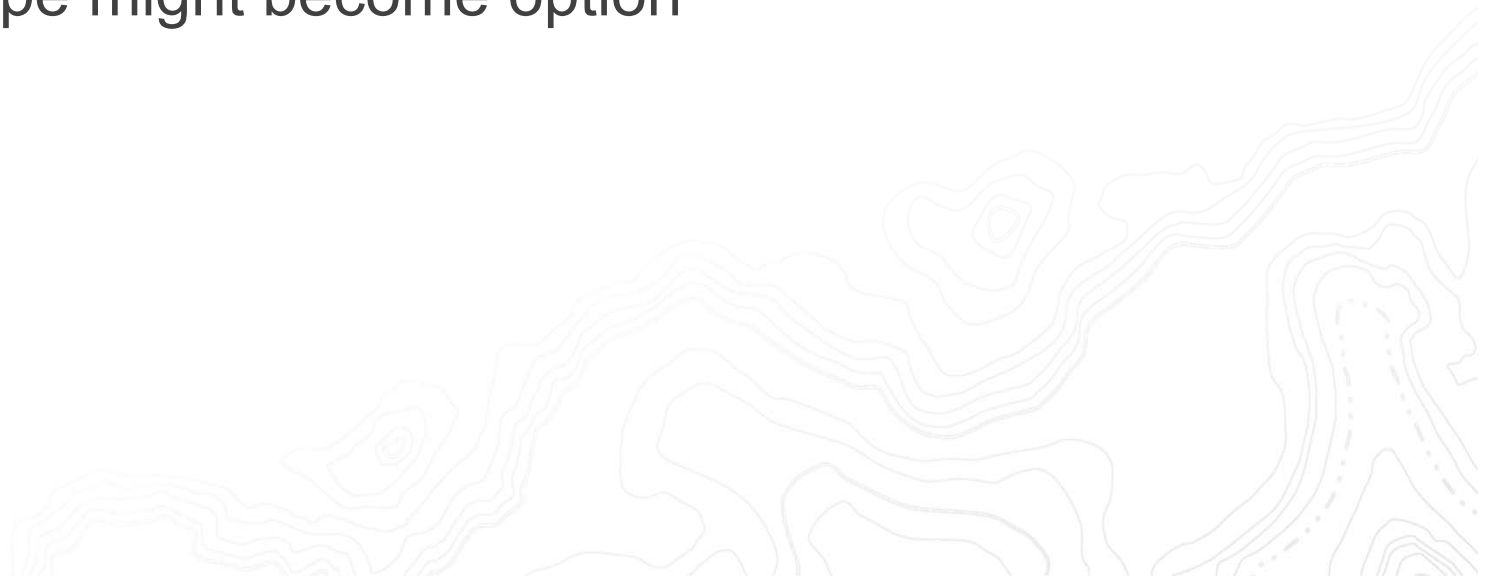
# Over the Top Requirements





## HDD Concerns

- Some soils will not meet USACE requirements against hydraulic fracture
- Risk may be reduced with pilot hole intersect
- Risk of inadvertent returns also depends on contractor performance
- Direct Pipe might become option



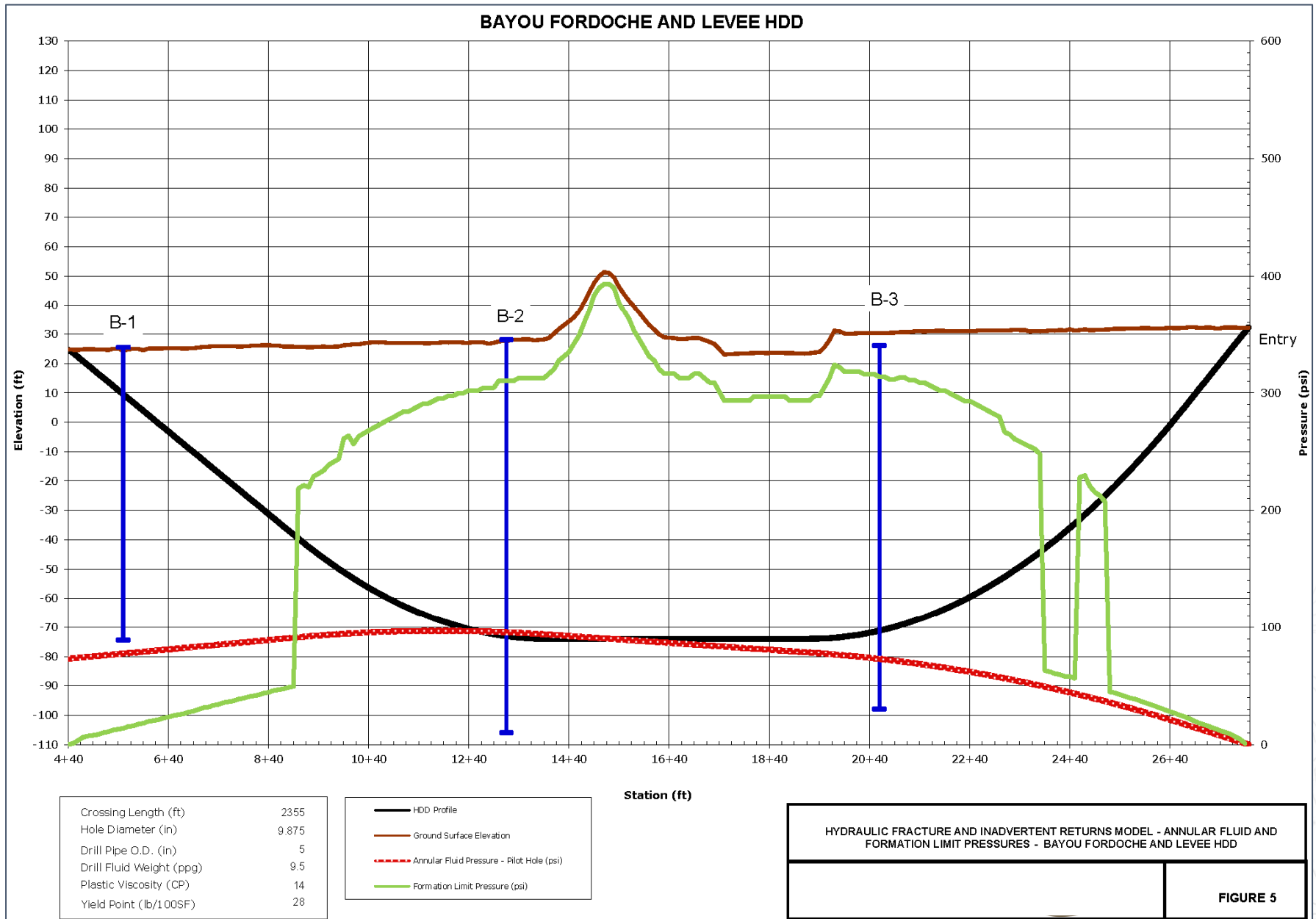


# Direct Pipe Limitations

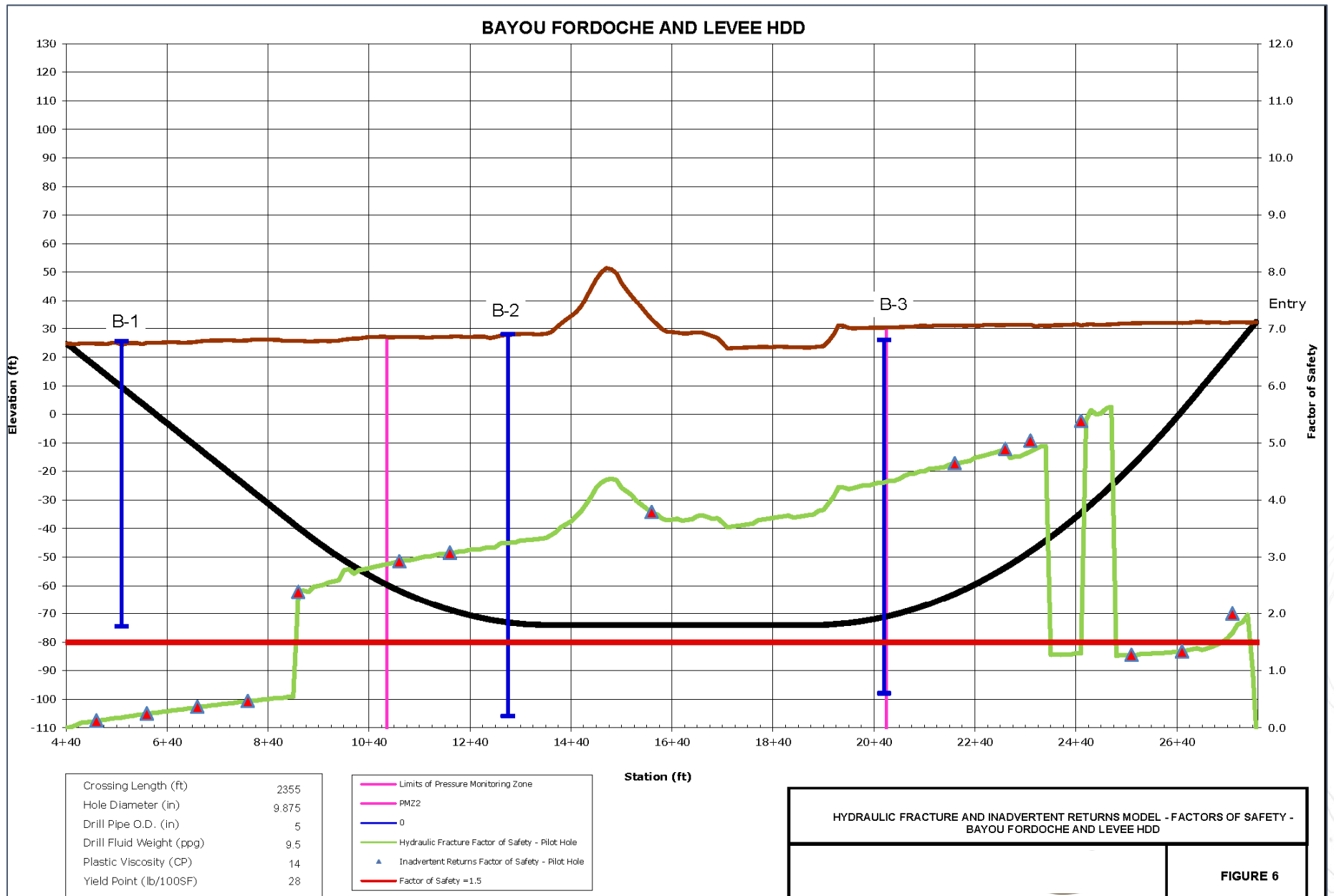
- Diameter & length













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## Questions?

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