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#### VIA EMAIL

October 16, 2020

Mr. Jeffrey Maxted Alliant Energy – Environmental Services Manager 4902 North Biltmore Lane Madison, WI 53718-2148

Re: Unstable Areas Determination CCR Surface Impoundments - §257.64 Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin

Mr. Jeffrey Maxted,

This Unstable Areas Determination has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) published Final Rule for Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System – Disposal of Coal Combustion Residual (CCR) from Electric Utilities (40 CFR Parts 257 and 261, also known as the CCR Rule) published on April 17, 2015 (effective October 19, 2015) and subsequent amendments. This letter assesses the factors of both CCR units at Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WPL), Columbia Energy Center (COL) in Pardeeville, Wisconsin in accordance with the CCR Rule §257.64 Unstable Areas. For purposes of this Report, "CCR unit" refers to an existing or inactive CCR surface impoundment.

## **Background Information**

In accordance with the requirements set forth in §257.64 of the CCR Rule a CCR unit must not be located in an unstable area. The owner or operator must consider all the following factors:

- On-site or local soil conditions that may result in significant differential settling,
- On-site or local geologic or geomorphologic features; and,
- On-site or local human-made features or events (both surface and subsurface).

## **Facility Specific Information**

The WPL COL is located in Columbia County at W8375 Murray Road, Pardeeville, WI. Figure 1 provides both a topographic map and an aerial of the COL facility location, with the approximate property boundary of the facility identified. COL has two CCR surface impoundments, which are identified as follows (Figure 2):

- COL Primary Ash Pond (existing)
- COL Secondary Ash Pond (inactive)

## **Differential Settling**

The COL Primary Ash Pond and COL Secondary Ash Pond are subdivided from a larger outer embankment constructed of compacted fine sand. The soil below the foundation of the embankment is medium dense fine sand from backwaters of the Wisconsin River underlain by very dense fine sand deposited by glaciation. Borings taken in 1971 indicated that rock is located at approximately 90 feet below the top of the embankments, Exhibit A.

In addition to the 1971 borings, borings were taken in the embankment in June of 2011 and indicate the embankment soil is dense fine sand (SP). Borings from 2015 were taken in the embankment between the COL Primary Ash Pond and COL Secondary Ash Pond for the installation of monitoring wells also indicates the embankments are dense sand, Exhibit A.

The boring logs from 1971 indicate that the foundation soil is the same as the embankment soil. However, the boring logs indicate that the upper part of the foundation sand is loose and transitions to very dense with depth. The results of the borings taken in 2015 indicate the embankment sand is dense to very dense.

The density observations from the soil borings were used to assign soil properties to the embankment and foundation soils using NAVFACS DM-7<sup>1</sup>, Exhibit B. The internal friction angles selected based on the Standard Split Spoon (SPT) results reported on the borings are:

Soil Type	Internal Friction Angle °	Total Unit Weight (lb/ft3)			
Embankment Sand	35	120			
Foundation Sand	30	110			

Based on the known geotechnical information, both the COL Primary Ash Pond and the COL Secondary Ash Pond are not susceptible to significant differential settlement. Additionally, annual inspections of the embankments for the last 4 years have indicated no observable areas of differential settlement on the embankments.

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Wisconsin Power and Light Company

Mr. Maxted

October 16, 2020

<u>Unstable Areas Determination</u> Columbia Energy Center

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Naval Facilities Engineering Command Design Manual DM-7, Figure 3-7 "Density versus Angle of Internal Friction for Cohesionless Soils", March 1971

## Geologic and Geomorphologic Features

Columbia County Wisconsin consists mostly of glacial drift, while The Bedrock Geology of Wisconsin (Exhibit C) shows that the site likely contains underlying bedrock comprised of sandstone with some dolomite and shale<sup>2</sup>. A general bedrock stratigraphy of Columbia County is also included in Exhibit C<sup>3</sup>.

While there are karst formations known to exist in Wisconsin, they are predominately in the east, south, and west parts of the state (Exhibit D<sup>4</sup>). This map shows that the COL impoundments are not located in an area susceptible to karst formation and/or paleosinks (sinkholes).

Several figures and tables have been included in Exhibit E from the COL Biennial Groundwater Monitoring Report for 2017-2018<sup>5</sup>. This document illustrates that the local groundwater direction is generally away from the impoundments toward the Wisconsin River. Additionally, the nested well water elevation data for MW-217/MW220RR and MW-48A/MW-48B suggests that there is very little downward gradient. As result, there is little risk for the formation of paleosinks.

## Human-made Features or Events

Based on the information provided herein, both the COL Primary Ash Pond and the COL Secondary Ash Pond are not susceptible to anthropogenic activities that could exist in this area, which could include a large dam failure, failure due to improper cut and fill during construction, excessive drawdown of groundwater, extreme fluctuations in flooding from human-made changes, or failure due to underground mines.

## **Unstable Areas Determination**

After review of the reasonably and readily available documentation, the following CCR Units are not located in unstable areas:

- COL Primary Ash Pond
- COL Secondary Ash Pond

Mr. Maxted 3 Unstable Areas Determination
Wisconsin Power and Light Company October 16, 2020 Columbia Energy Center

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Geological and Natural History Survey, April 1961 Revised 2005, "Bedrock Geology of Wisconsin"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Harr, C.A., L.C. Trotta, and R.G. Borman, 1978, "Ground-Water Resources and Geology of Columbia County, Wisconsin", University of Wisconsin-Extension Geological and Natural History Survey Information Circular 37, 1978.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Bradbury, K.R., "Karst and Shallow Carbonate Bedrock in Wisconsin" University of Wisconsin-Extension Geological and Natural History Survey, Factsheet 02, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> SCS Engineers, "Biennial Groundwater Monitoring Report for 2017-2018", January 31, 2019

## **Qualified Professional Engineer Certification**

The owner or operator of the CCR unit must obtain a certification from a qualified professional engineer attesting that the documentation as to whether a CCR unit meets the requirements 40 CFR 257.64(b).

To meet the requirements of 40 CFR 257.64(c), I Mark W. Loerop hereby certify that I am a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Wisconsin; and that, to the best of my knowledge, all information contained in this document is correct and the document was prepared in compliance with all applicable requirements in 40 CFR 257.64.



By: June

Name: MARIL LO

Date: October 16, 2020

cc: Tony Morse, Alliant Energy

att: Figure 1 – Site Location

Figure 2 – Location of Critical Cross Sections

Exhibit A –Soil Boring Logs Exhibit B – Soil Strength

Exhibit C - Bedrock Information

Exhibit D –Karst Information

Exhibit E - Groundwater Information

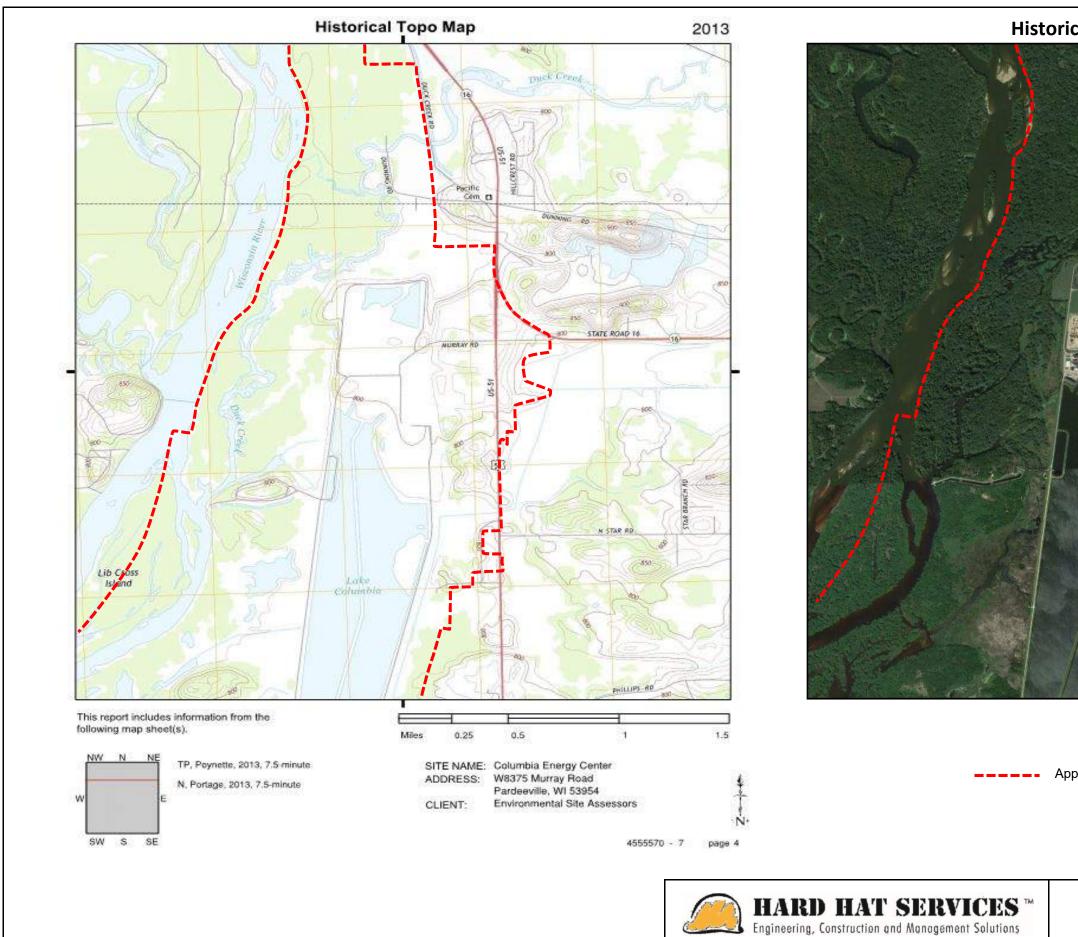
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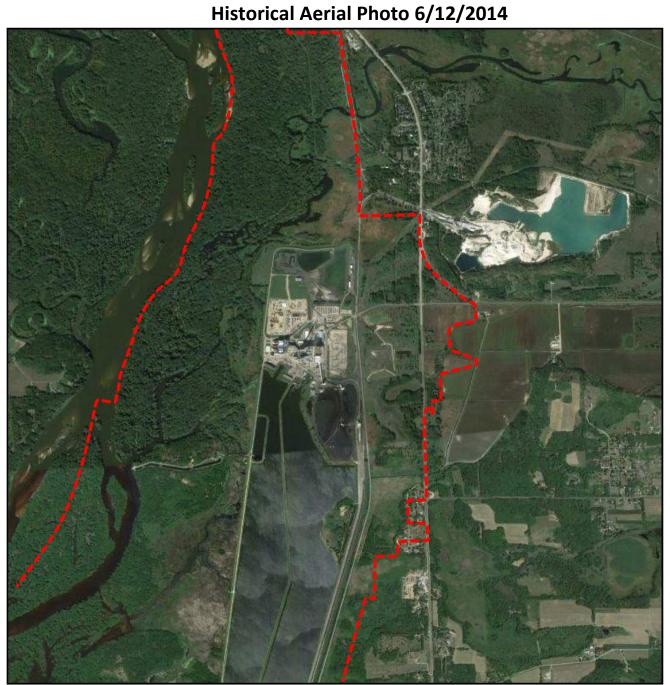
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## **FIGURES**

Alliant Energy Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin

Unstable Area Determination
Figure 1 – Site Location
Figure 2 – Critical Section Location



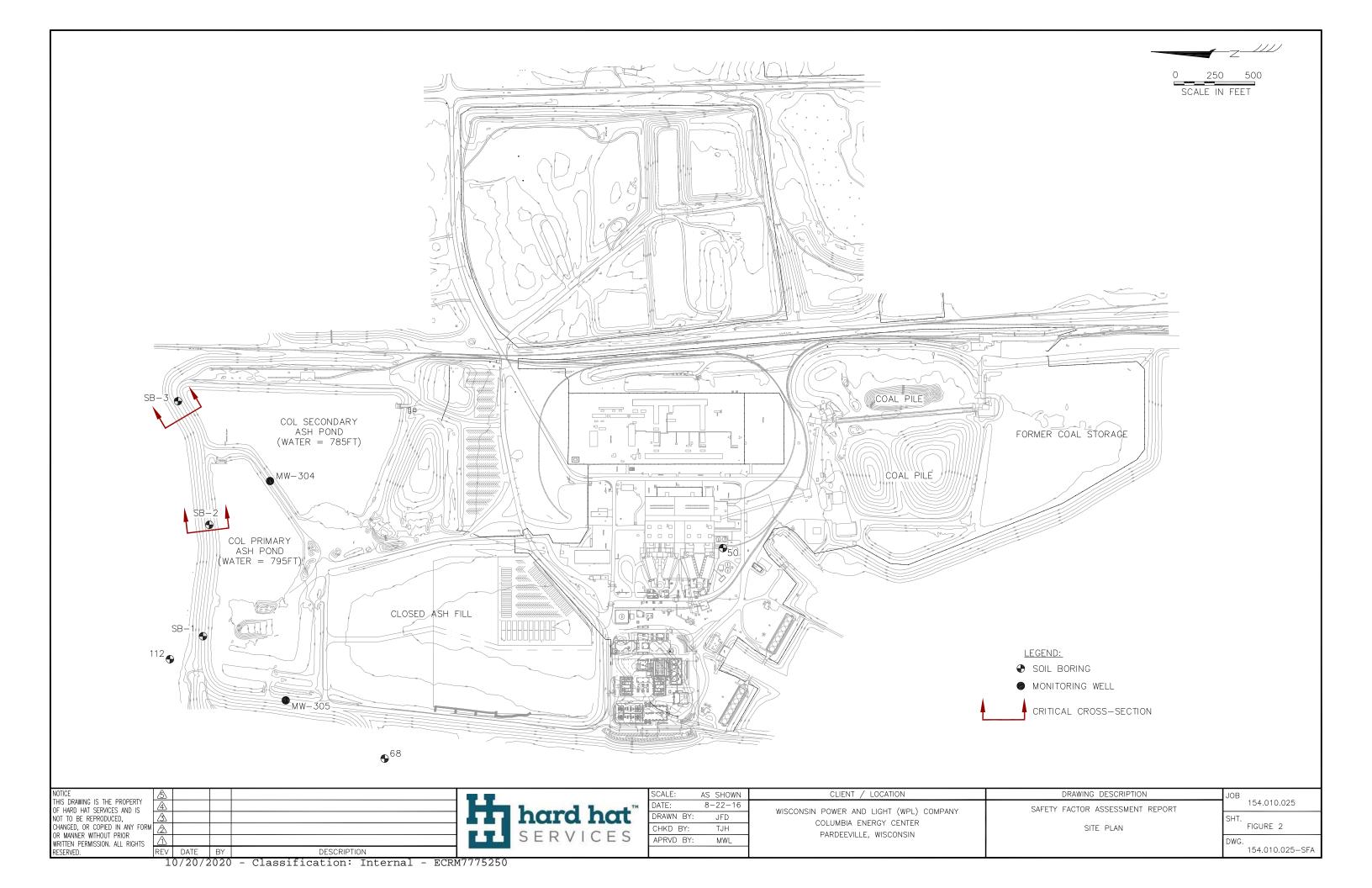


**Approximate Property Boundary** 



Site Location Columbia Energy Center Wisconsin Power and Light Company Figure 1

7/12/2016



## **EXHIBIT A – SOIL BORING LOGS**

Alliant Energy Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

## SOIL BORING LOG INFORMATION

Form 4400-122 Rev. 7-98

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S5	24	23 31 30 29		ne as above except							М					
S6	20	910	4 trac	e gravel.								М				

Signature **SCS** Engineers Tel: (608) 224-2830 Zach Watson 2830 Dairy Drive Madison, WI 53711 Fax:

This form is authorized by Chapters 281, 283, 289, 291, 292, 293, 295, and 299, Wis. Stats. Completion of this form is mandatory. Failure to file this form may result in forfeiture of between \$10 and \$25,000, or imprisonment for up to one year, depending on the program and conduct involved. Personally identifiable information on this form is not intended to be be used for any other purpose. NOTE: See instructions for more information, including where the completed form should be sent.

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State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

## SOIL BORING LOG INFORMATION

Form 4400-122 Rev. 7-98

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Page For Zack Watson Firm SCS Engineers
2830 Dairy Drive Madison, WI 53711

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This form is authorized by Chapters 281, 283, 289, 291, 292, 293, 295, and 299, Wis. Stats. Completion of this form is mandatory. Failure to file this form may result in forfeiture of between \$10 and \$25,000, or imprisonment for up to one year, depending on the program and conduct involved. Personally identifiable information on this form is not intended to be be used for any other purpose. NOTE: See instructions for more information, including where the completed form should be sent.

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	Length Att. & Recovered (in)	Blow Counts	Depth In Feet	Soil/Rock Description And Geologic Origin For Each Major Unit	USCS	Graphic	Log	Well	Diagram	PID/FID	Pocket Penetration (tsf)	Moisture Content	Liquid	Plasticity	P 200	RQD/
		31 30 41 50/2	-	SILTY SAND, trace gravel, tan (10YR 5/6), some large dolomite chunks.	SM							W				
			-18	End of boring at 18 ft bgs.												

## Boring Log Legend

#### **Sample**

No: (Number) Soil samples are numbered consecutively from the ground surface. Core samples are numbered consecutively from the first core run.

Interval: The depth of sampling interval in feet below ground surface

#### **Blow Count**

The number of blows required to drive a 2-inch O.D. split-spoon sampler with a 140 pound hammer falling 30-inches. When appropriate, the sampler is driven 18 inches and blow counts are reported for each 6-inch interval. The sum of blow counts for the last two 6-inch intervals is designated as the standard penetration resistance (N) expressed as blows per foot.

#### **Recovery in Inches**

The length of sample recovered by the sampling device.

#### U.S.C.S. Soil Type

The Unified Soil Classification System symbol for recovered soil samples determined by visual examination or laboratory tests. Refer to ASTM D2487-69 for a detailed description of procedure and symbols. Underlined symbols denote classifications based on laboratory tests (i.e. <u>ML</u>), all others are based on visual classification only.

#### **Percent Moisture**

Natural moisture content of sample expressed as percent of dry weight.

#### q., TSF

Unconfined compressive strength in tons per square foot obtained by hand penetrometer. Laboratory compression test values are indicated by underlining.

#### **Contact Depth**

The contact depth between soil layers is interpreted from significant changes in recovered samples and observations during drilling. Actual changes between soil layers often occur gradually and the contact depths shown on the boring logs should be considered as approximate.

#### Soil Description and Remarks

Soil descriptions include consistency or density, color, predominant soil types and modifying constituents.

	Cohesive Soils		Cohesionle	ess Soils
Consistency	g <sub>u</sub> (TSF)	Blows/ft.	Density	Blows/ft.
Very Soft	less than 0.25	0-1	Very Loose	4 or less
Soft	0.25 to 0.50	2-4	Loose	5 to 10
Medium Stiff	0.50 to 1.00	5-8	Medium Dense	11 to 30
Stiff	1.00 to 2.00	9-15	Dense	30 to 50
Very Stiff	2.00 to 4.00	15-30	Very Dense	Over 50
Hard	more than 4.00	Over 30		

### Particle Size Description Definition of Terms

Boulder =	Larger than 12 inches	Trace =	5 to 12 percent by weight
Cobble =	3 to 12 inches	Some =	12 to 30 percent by weight
Gravel =	0.187 to 3 inches	And =	Approximately equal fractions
Sand =	0.074 to 4.76 mm	( ) =	Driller's observation
Silt and Clay =	smaller than 0.074 mm	, ,	

#### Piezo.

(Piezometer) Screened interval of the piezometer installation is denoted by cross-hatching.

#### **General Note**

The boring log and related information depicted subsurface conditions only at the specified locations and date indicated. Soil conditions and water levels at other locations may differ from conditions occurring at these boring locations. Also the passage of time may result in a change in the conditions at these boring locations.

#### Soil Test Boring Refusal

Defined as any material causing a blow count greater that 50 blows/6 inches. Such material may include bedrock, "floating" rock slabs, boulders, dense gravel seams, hard pan clay, or cemented soils. Refusal is usually indicated in fractional notation showing number of blows as the numerator and inches of penetration as the denominator.



## **BORING LOG**

CLIENT: Aether dbs

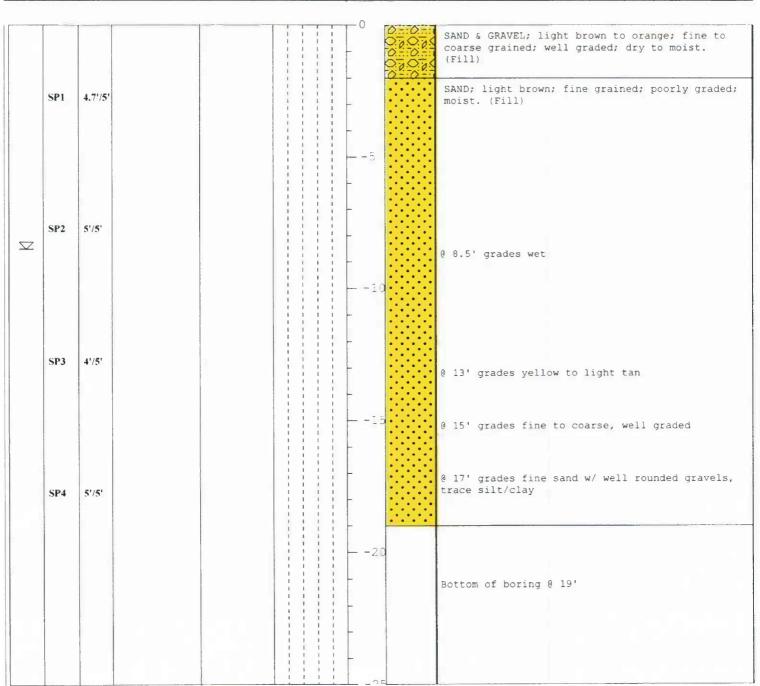
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PROJECT: Alliant Columbia Station BORING NO.: SB1

page 1 of 1

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Environmental Field Services, LLC

## **BORING LOG**

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COORDINATES: E NOT SURVEYED

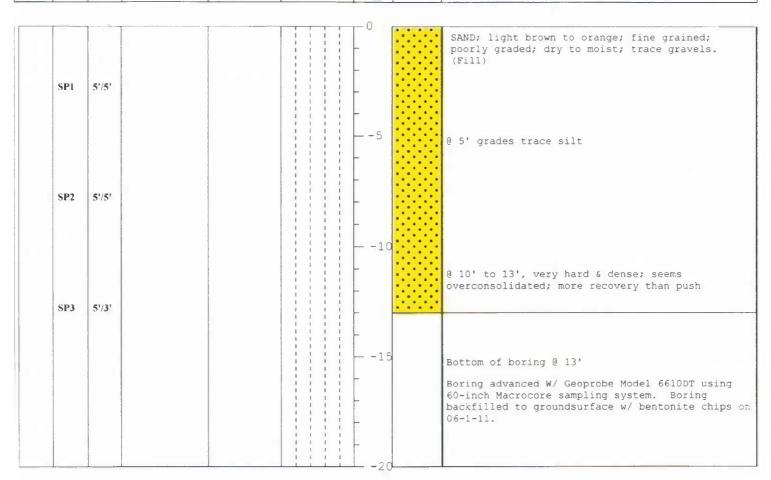
**CLIENT: Aether dbs** 

**PROJECT: Alliant Columbia Station** 

**BORING NO.: SB2** 

page 1 of 1

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## **BORING LOG**

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COORDINATES: E NOT SURVEYED

Environmental Field Services, LLC

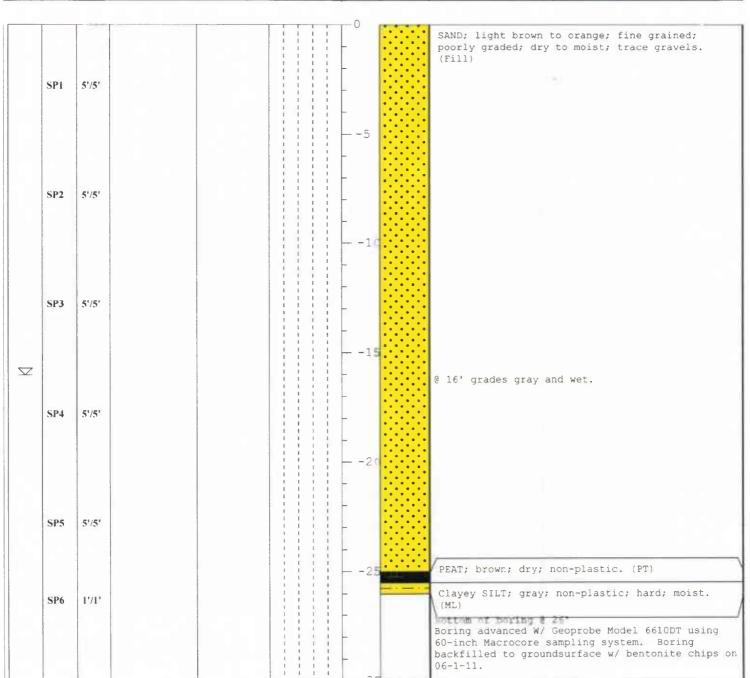
**PROJECT: Alliant Columbia Station** 

**CLIENT: Aether dbs** 

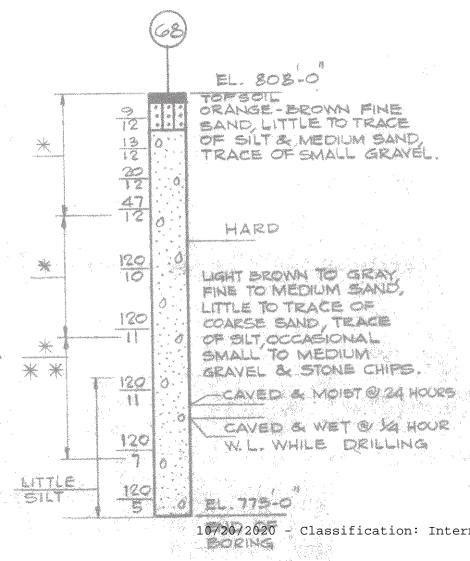
BORING NO.: SB3

page 1 of 1

WHILE DRILLING SAMPLE NO.	SAMPLE RECOVERY	SAMPLE INFROMATION	POCKET PENETROMETER (TONS/FT2)	CONSISTENCY VS. DEPTH	DEPTH IN FEET	
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USED 54-0 OF CASING EL. 873-0 ORANGE-BROWN FINE SAND, LITTLE TO TRACE OF SILT & MEDIUM SAND, TRACE OF SMALL GRAVE 4 FIRM 24 HARD LIGHT BROWN TO GRAY, FINE TO MEDIUM SAND, LITTLE TO TRACE OF COARSE SAND, TRACE OF SILT, OCCASIONAL SMALL TO MEDIUM GRAVEL & STONE CHIPS. 120 .. OH DAYS . WHILE DEILLING Lacking Gravel & STONE CHIPS (00) BOULDER - 6" BLACK GRANITE LIGHT BROWN TO WHITE FINE TO MEDIUN SAND. PROBABLE 100 10/20/2020 - Classif



N.W. #505 10/20/2020 - Classification: Internal - ECRM777 END OF FAMILIA

## **EXHIBIT B - SOIL STRENGTH**

Alliant Energy Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin

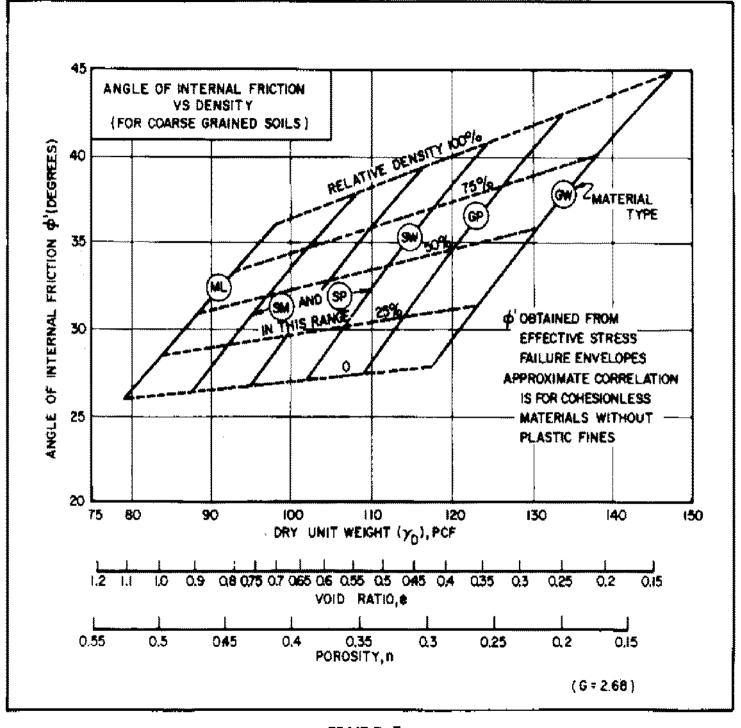
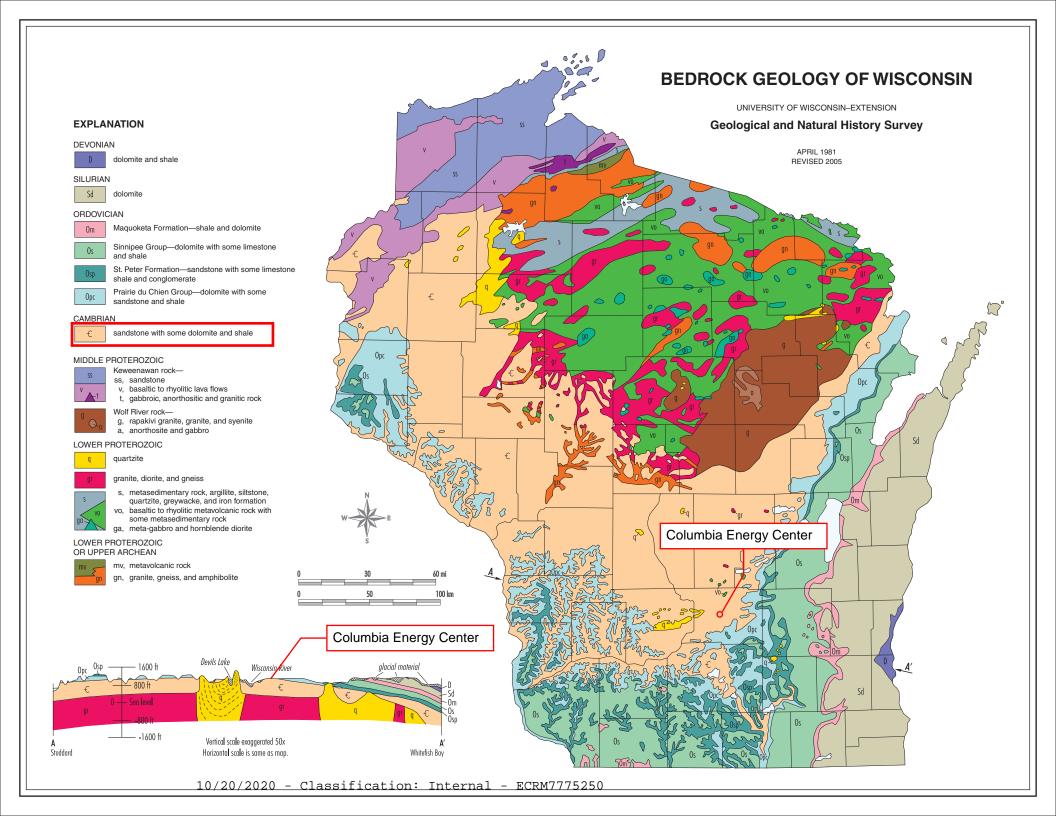


FIGURE 7
Correlations of Strength Characteristics for Granular Soils

## **EXHIBIT C – BEDROCK INFORMATION**

Alliant Energy Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin



## **GEOLOGIC HISTORY OF WISCONSIN'S BEDROCK**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The bedrock geologic record in Wisconsin is divided into two major divisions of time: the Precambrian, older than 600 million years, and the Paleozoic, younger than 600 million years. The Precambrian rocks are at the bottom and consist predominantly of crystalline rocks. They are overlain by Paleozoic rocks which consist of relatively flat-lying, in some cases fossil-bearing, sedimentary rocks.

Precambrian rocks form the bedrock beneath the glacial deposits in northern Wisconsin and occur beneath the Paleozoic rocks in the south (see the cross section on the reverse side). Paleozoic rocks may once have covered northern Wisconsin, but if they did, they have been removed by erosion. Glacial deposits, including clay and sand and gravel, cover bedrock in the northern and eastern three-fifths of the state.

In areas covered by glacial deposits, surface outcrops are so sparse that details of the bedrock geology are obscured. In such areas the only clues to the underlying rocks are obtained from rock cuttings and cores obtained from drill holes and from geophysical surveys which disclose magnetic and gravity variations.

#### **Precambrian Eon**

The Precambrian is divided into two eras, the older Archean and the younger Proterozoic. Each is subdivided into three periods—Early, Middle, and Late.

#### Archean

Rocks older than 2,500 million years are termed Archean. The oldest Archean rocks are gneisses (gn), or banded rocks. These are more than 2,800 million years old and are in Wood County. Similar old ages have been determined for rocks south of Hurley, where recognizable volcanic rocks (mv) have been intruded by 2,700 million year old granite (gn). All of these rocks have been extensively deformed, and in many areas they are so highly altered that their original nature and origin are extremely difficult to interpret. Because of this difficulty, the older gneisses and some younger (Proterozoic) gneissic and crystalline rocks are combined on this geologic map.

#### **Proterozoic**

There are four principal groups of rocks in the Proterozoic. The oldest are around 1,800 to 1,900 million years old. These Early Proterozoic rocks consist of sedimentary (s) rocks including slates, greywacke and iron formation, and volcanic (vo) rocks. The sedimentary rocks dominate in the north, with volcanic rocks becoming more abundant in central Wisconsin. These layered rocks were intruded by gabbros (ga), diorities, and granites (gr) about the same time that they were being folded and deformed.

Quartz-rich Early Proterozoic sedimentary rocks (q) occur as erosional remnants, or outliers, on the older Proterozoic rocks; they were deformed about 1,700 million years ago. The Barron Quartzite in the Blue Hills of Rusk and Barron Counties, the Baraboo Quartzite in Sauk and Columbia Counties, and Rib Mountain Quartzite in Marathon County are some of the major remaining areas of once widespread blankets of sandstone.

The oldest Middle Proterozoic rocks include the granites, syenites, and anorthosites (g, a) of the Wolf River complex. This extensive body of related granitic rockswas intruded into Lower Proterozoic volcanic and sedimentary rocks around 1,500 million years ago.

The youngest Proterozoic rocks in Wisconsin are about 1,100 million years old and are called Keweenawan rocks. At the time of their formation a major rift or fracture zone split the continent from Lake Superior south through Minnesota and into southern Kansas. Keweenawan rocks can be divided into two groups: an older sequence of igneous rocks including lavas (v) and gabbros (t); and a younger sequence of sandstone (ss). These rocks occur in northwestern Wisconsin. In central Wisconsin diabase dikes were also emplaced at this time.

At the close of the Precambrian, most of Wisconsin had been eroded to a rather flat plain upon which stood hills of more resistant rocks such as the quartzites in the Baraboo bluffs.

#### Phanerozoic Eon

The Phanerozoic is divided into three eras. They are from the oldest to the youngest: the Paleozoic (old life), Mesozoic (middle dife) and Cenozoic (most recent life). The Paleozoic is represented in the paleozoic is repre

sented by a thick sequence of sandstones, shales, and dolomites (dolomite is similar to lime-stone); the Mesozoic, possibly by gravels; and the Cenozoic, only by glacier-related deposits.

In the Paleozoic Era the sea advanced over and retreated from the land several times. The Paleozoic Era began with the Cambrian Period (€) during which Wisconsin was submerged at least twice beneath the sea. Sediments eroded by waves along the shoreline and by rivers draining the land were deposited in the sea to form sandstone and shale. These same processes continued into the Ordovician Period (Opc, Osp, Os, Om) during which Wisconsin was submerged at least three more times. Animals and plants living in the sea deposited layers and reefs of calcium carbonate which are now dolomite. Deposits that built up in the sea when the land was submerged were partially or completely eroded during the times when the land was elevated above sea level. At the close of the Ordovician Period, and in the succeeding Silurian (Sd) and Devonian (D), Wisconsin is believed to have remained submerged. There are no rocks of the Paleozoic Era younger than Devonian in Wisconsin. Whether material was deposited and subsequently removed by erosion, or was never deposited, is open to speculation.

Absence of younger Paleozoic rocks makes interpretation of post-Devonian history in Wisconsin a matter of conjecture. If dinosaurs roamed Wisconsin, as they might well have in the Mesozoic Era some 200 million years ago, no trace of their presence remains. Available evidence from neighboring areas indicates that toward the close of the Paleozoic Era the area was gently uplifted and it has remained so to the present. The uplifted land surface has been carved by millions of years of rain, wind, running water, and glacial action. With the possible exception of some pebbles about 100 million years old, no Mesozoic age bedrock has been identified in Wisconsin.

In the last million years during a time called the Pleistocene, glaciers invaded Wisconsin from the north and modified the land surface by carving and gouging out soft bedrock, and depositing hills and ridges of sand and gravel as well as flat lake beds of sand, silt, and clay. In this manner, the glaciers smoothed the hill tops, filled the valleys, and left a deposit of debris over all except the southwestern part of the state. The numerous lakes and wetlands which dot northern Wisconsin occupy low spots in this Pleistocene land surface. Glacial deposits are not shown on the map of bedrock geology. A separate glacial deposits map is available.

#### **Cross Section**

To assist in understanding the bedrock geology of Wisconsin, a cross section has been prepared (see reverse side). A cross section represents a vertical slice of the Earth's crust showing the subsurface rock layers in much the same way as a vertical slice of cake shows the layers of cake and frosting. The Wisconsin cross section shows the subsurface geology along a line from Stoddard in Vernon County, through Devils Lake near Baraboo in Sauk County, to Whitefish Bay in Milwaukee County. The horizontal scale is the same as that of the geologic map, but the vertical scale is exaggerated to that vertical thicknesses are expanded 50 times compared to horizontal distances. The Paleozoic rocks are show as layers, the younger units lying above the older units. They are also shown dipping to the west in the western part of the state and dipping east in the eastern part of the state, thus forming an arch. The center and oldest parts of this arch are found in the Baraboo bluffs, where the Baraboo Quartzite is exposed at the surface. As shown in the cross section by fines lines in the quartzite, the Baraboo area was folded into a U-shaped structure, or syncline, before the Paleozoic rocks were deposited. Quartzite and granite underlie the Paleozoic rocks along this section.

The gray unit shown at the top of the rock sequence in the eastern part of the cross section represents glacial materials which do not occur to the west.



Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

3817 Mineral Point Road; Madison, Wisconsin 53705-5100; 608/263.7389; FAX 608/262.8086; www.uwex.edu/wgnhs/lames M. Robertson, Director and State Geologist

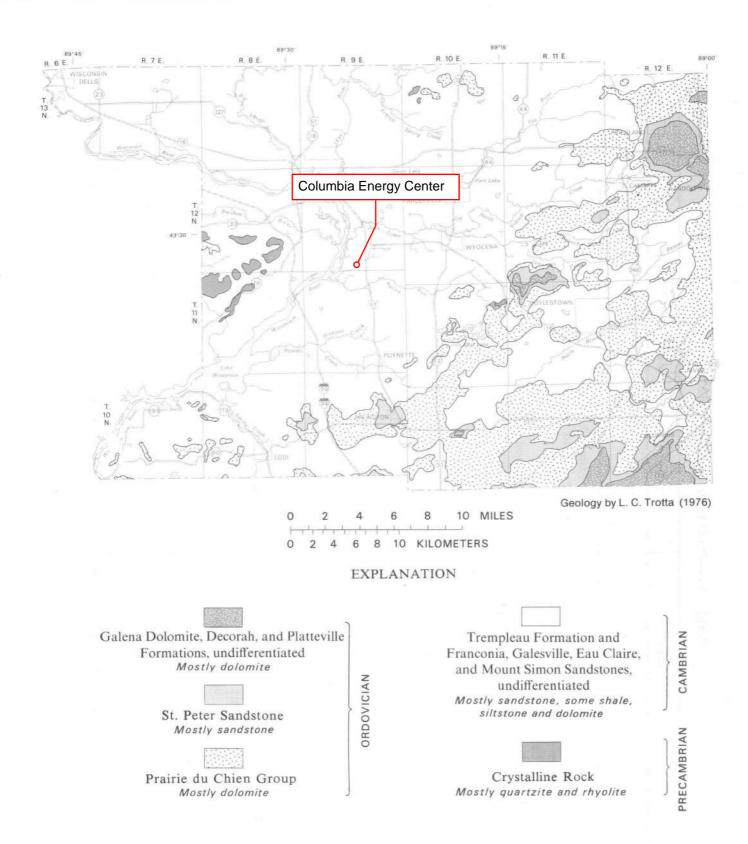


Figure 2. Bedrock geology.

Table 1.--Stratigraphy of Columbia County

System	Rock unit	Predominant lithology
RNARY	Holocene deposits	Unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, gravel, and organic matter.
QUATERNARY	Pleistocene deposits	Unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, gravel, cobbles, boulders, and organic matter.
LAN	Galena Dolomite, Decorah Formation, and Platteville Formation, undifferentiated	Dolomite and some slightly shaly dolomite, light-gray to blue-gray.
ORDOVICIAN	St. Peter Sandstone	Sandstone, dolomitic in some places, shaly at base in some places, white, light-gray, or pink, fine- to medium-grained.
	Prairie du Chien Group	Dolomite, tan, gray, or white; some sandstone and sandy dolomite.
	Trempealeau Formation	Sandstone, dolomitic, very fine- to medium-grained; dolomite interbedded with siltstone, light-gray.
CAMBRIAN	Franconia Sandstone	Sandstone, dolomitic, very fine- to medium-grained; siltstone, dolomitic.
CAME	Galesville, Eau Claire, and Mount Simon Sand- stones, undifferentiated	Sandstone, light-gray, fine- to coarse-grained, mostly medium grained.
PRECAMBRIAN	Precambrian rocks, undifferentiated	Crystalline rocks, mostly quartzite and rhyolite.

## **EXHIBIT D - KARST INFORMATION**

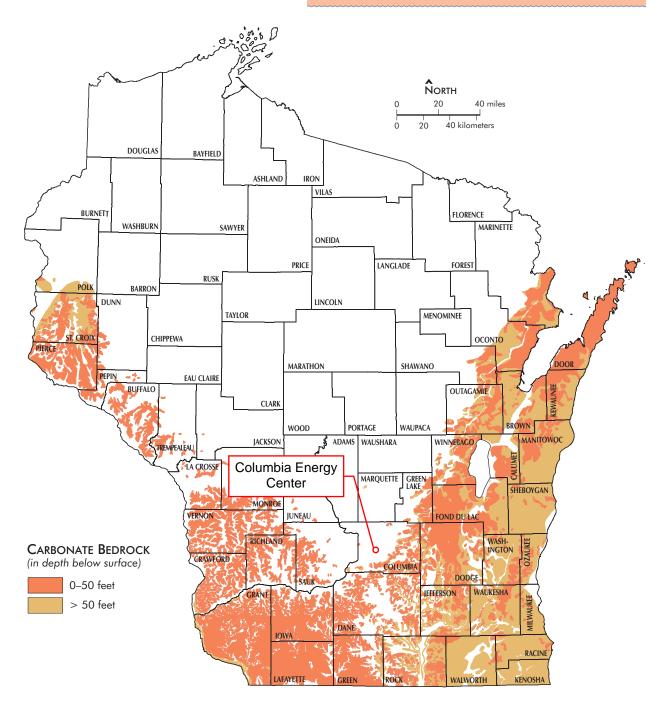
Alliant Energy Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin

## Karst and shallow carbonate bedrock in Wisconsin

## **Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey**

Factsheet 02 | 2009

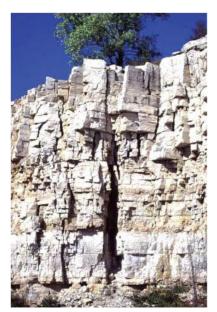
Areas with carbonate bedrock within 50 feet of the land surface are particularly vulnerable to groundwater contamination.





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**Director and State Geologist:** James M. Robertson



Fracturing and bedding in an exposure of carbonate bedrock near Sturgeon Bay in Door County.

Carbonate bedrock, rock formations composed primarily of limestone or dolomite, underlie the southern third of Wisconsin in a V-shaped belt (see map on other side). These rocks are commonly fractured, with the fractures providing primary pathways for groundwater movement.

Carbonate rocks are soluble, and percolating surface water can enlarge fractures to form conduits, caves, and sinkholes that are the hallmarks of a **karst** system and its related karst landscape.

In Wisconsin, karst landscapes are direct evidence of underlying shallow, fractured carbonate bedrock. But the lack of classic karst features in a landscape does not mean that shallow fractured carbonate bedrock is absent, or that the groundwater is potentially any less vulnerable to contamination.

# Carbonate bedrock and groundwater contamination

Carbonate formations are important aquifers in Wisconsin. These aquifers supply water for homes, farms, cities, industries, and other human uses as well as maintaining water levels in lakes and wetlands and flows in streams and springs.

# Karst and shallow carbonate bedrock in Wisconsin

#### **Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey**

Factsheet 02 | 2009

Carbonate aquifers are exceptionally vulnerable to contamination for two reasons:

- Groundwater flow in fractured rocks and karst systems can be extremely rapid—tens to hundreds of feet per day.
- Carbonate rocks are poor at filtering or otherwise removing contaminants.

## Some site-specific questions to ask about carbonate aquifers

Carbonate aquifers are particularly vulnerable where overlying soils are thin or absent. There are numerous examples of groundwater contamination of carbonate aquifers in such settings in Wisconsin. Consequently, land-use activities in areas of carbonate rock must be carefully managed to avoid the release of contaminants to groundwater.

Types of questions to ask:

- Is carbonate bedrock present in the subsurface?
- How deeply is it buried? In other words, what is the thickness of the overlying material?
- What is the nature of the overlying material? For example, what is its origin, composition, grain size, etc?

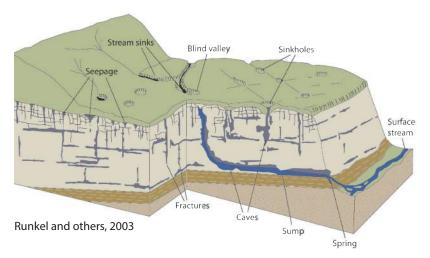
Water- and land-use management plans in areas with carbonate bedrock should always address these sorts of questions as they seek to protect groundwater quantity and quality.

## For more information, contact

Kenneth R. Bradbury, Ph.D. Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey 608.263.7921, krbradbu@wisc.edu

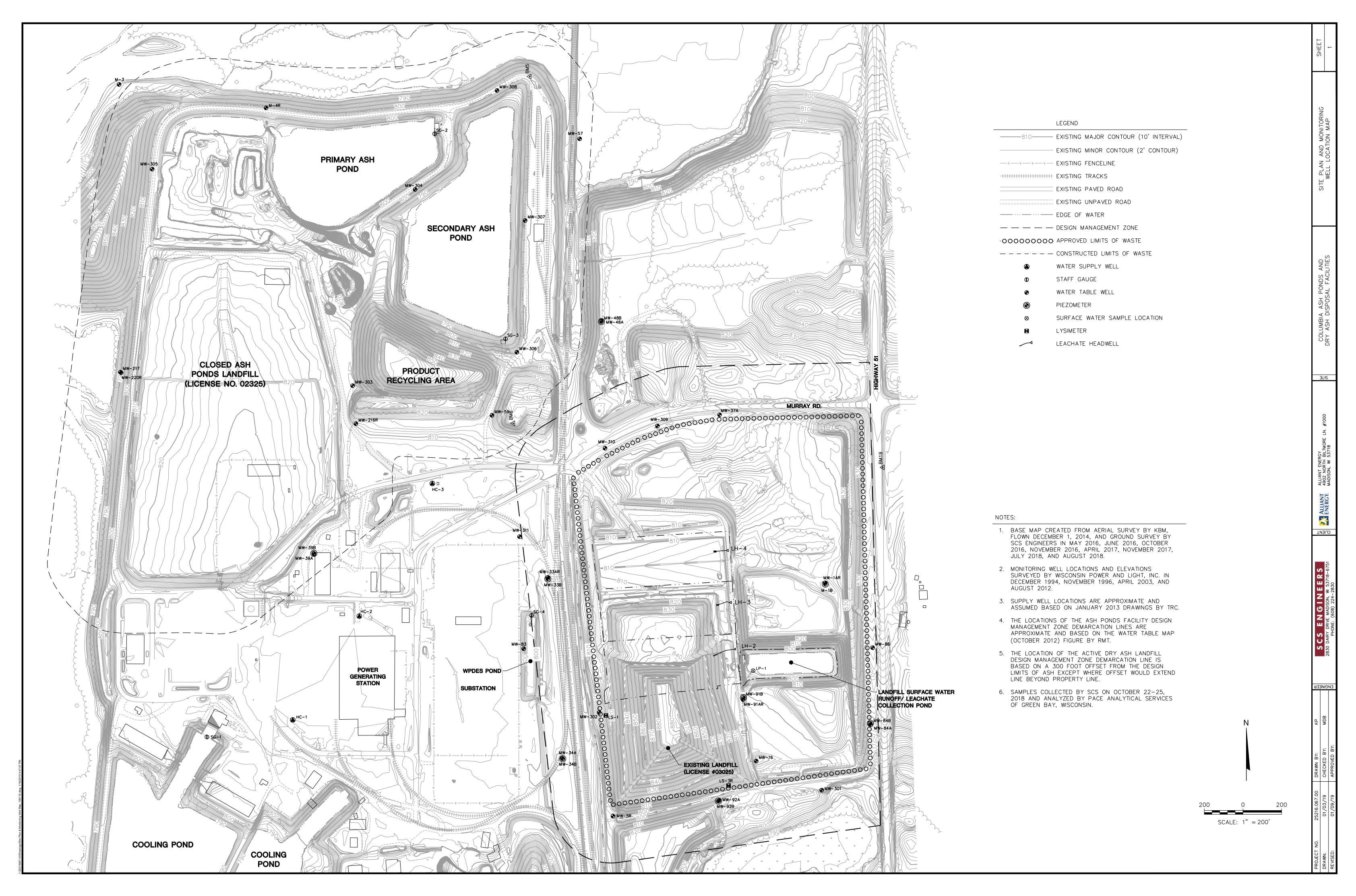


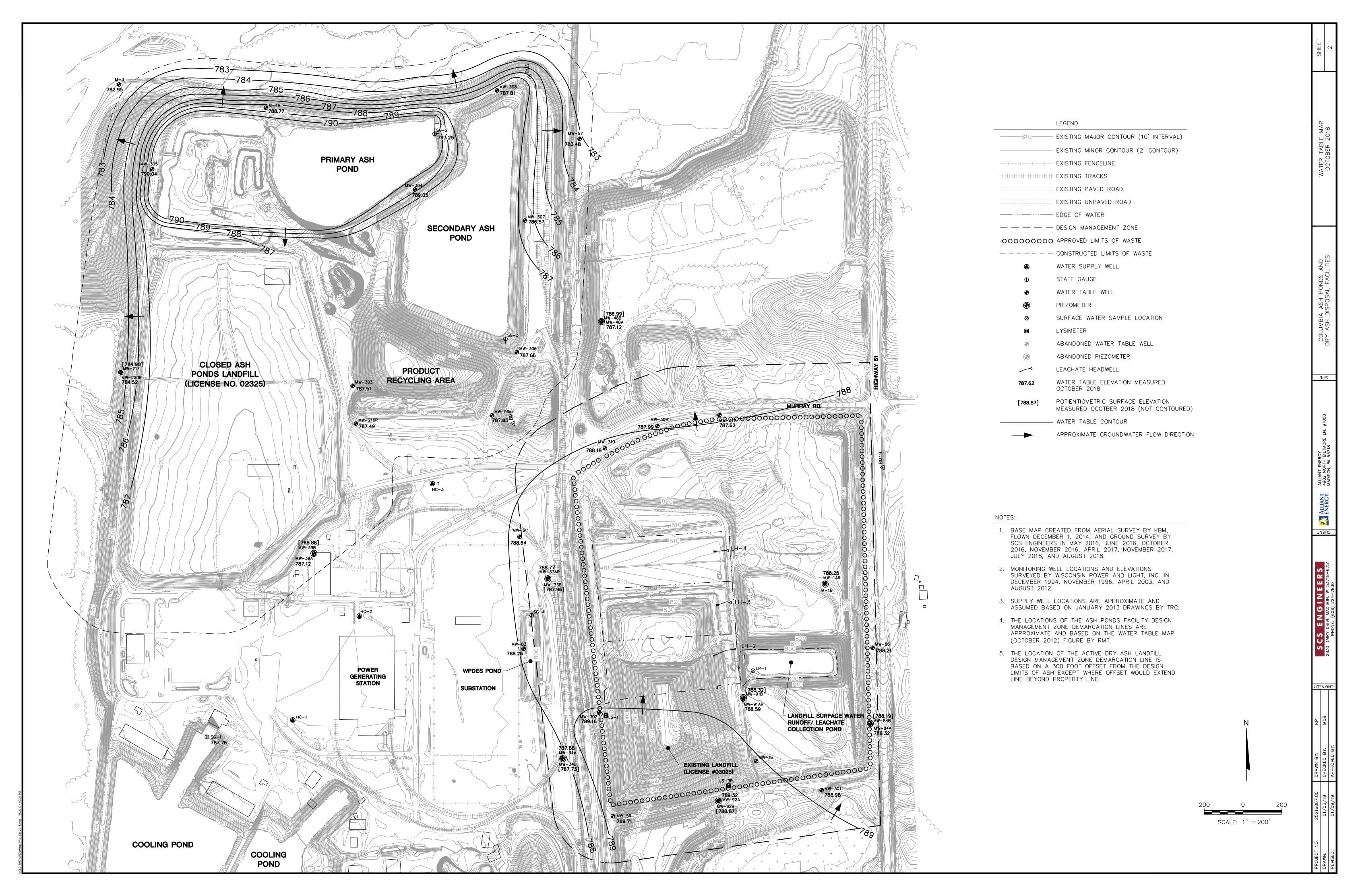
Typical features of a karst sytem and landscape: Seepages, sinkholes, caves, fractures, springs, and stream sinks.



## **EXHIBIT E - GROUNDWATER INFORMATION**

Alliant Energy Wisconsin Power and Light Company Columbia Energy Center Pardeeville, Wisconsin





# 2017-2018 Monitoring Results - Groundwater Monitoring Wells Wisconsin Power and Light - Columbia Energy Center Ash Ponds Disposal Facility SCS Engineers Project #25216067

Datas Ni	Banaston B. 1.	Elevation (ft	Surface Water Elevation (ft	Calco Fi II	Oder Fill	Turbidity,	Specific Conductance, Field	pH, Field	Temperature,	Arsenic, Dissolved	Barium, Dissolved	Boron, Dissolved	Chromium, Dissolved	Sulfate, Dissolved
Point Name	Reporting Period	AMSL)	AMSL)	Color, Field	Odor, Field	Field	(µmhos/cm)	(Std. Units)	Field (deg C)	(µg/L)	(µg/L)	(µg/L)	(µg/L)	(mg/L)
M-3	Apr-17	782.94		Lt. Brown	N	Slight	912	9.21	9.2	0.56 J	9.2 9.0	1,090	0.57 J	103 102
	Oct-17	780.93		Lt. Brown	N	Moderate	582	7.31	15.3	0.54 J		1,080	<1.0	
	Apr-18	782.89 782.95		Lt. Brown	N N	Moderate	536 491	7.77 7.62	7.4 13.80	0.90 J 0.78 J	8.7 10.8	597 678	1.5 J <1.0	40.8 46.3
M-4R	Oct-18 Apr-17	782.95 787.95		Lt. Brown N	N N	Moderate N	1,212	7.55	11.7	0.78 J	24.6	499	<0.39	130
/ <b>₩\-4</b> K	Oct-17	787.93 787.04		N	N	N	7.39	7.33	15.9	<0.28	21.9	1,500	<1.0	180
	Apr-18	790.43		N	N	N	7.39	7.2	10.6	0.95 J	19.1	878	1.1 J	167
	Oct-18	788.47		N	N	N	819	7.44	16.40	0.40 J	26.8	1,580	<1.0	131
AA\A/ 20 A	Apr-17	785.44		N	N	Slight	2,809	9.2	10.7	0.40 J	64.9	221	2.3	95.9
MW-39A	Oct-17	783.35		Lt. Brown	N N	Moderate	1,428	7.27	15.8	0.36 J	50.0	190	2.3 2.7 J	58.6
		782.86				Moderate	•	7.49		0.38 J	31.1		2.7 J	
	Apr-18 Oct-18	787.12		Lt. Brown Lt. Brown	N N	Very	2,516 686	7.49	11. <i>7</i> 13.00	<0.28 J	55.5	166 289	2.7 J	40.8 68.9
44\4/ 2OB		785.20		N N	N N	very N		10.0	10.9	0.28 J	33.6	259	<0.39	104
MW-39B	Apr-17 Oct-17	783.20		N	N	N	1,208	7.06	13.0	0.28 J	35.3	267	<1.0	112
		782.87		N	N	N	1,124	7.00 7.1	12.8	0.51 J	36.5	296	<1.0	92.1
	Apr-18 Oct-18	786.88		N	N	N	1,1 <i>44</i> 871	7.1	12.60	0.31 J	24.9	290	<1.0	46.2
MW-48A	Apr-17	785.82		Lt. Brown	N	Moderate	1,031	7.40	12.7	0.28 J	25.8	26.9	1.7	17.2
MW-48A	Oct-17	784.30		Brown	N N		1,040	6.72	11.9	0.28 J	26.6	34.5	<1.0	17.2
	Apr-18	783.14		Lt. Brown	N	Moderate Moderate	971	6.62	10.4	0.36 J	20.0	26.3	<1.0	10.2
	Oct-18	787.12		Lt. Brown	N	Very	1,079	6.90	10.20	0.30 J	25.8	31.8	1.1 J	18.7
MW-48B	Apr-17	785.69		N	N	Slight	750	7.20	12.3	0.39 J	22.7	148	0.67 J	32.1
/V\ VV -40D	Oct-17	784.19		N	N	N	785	7.24	11.7	0.29 J	28.7	181	1.3 J	29.6
		783.09		N	N N	N	846	7.24	11.3	0.30 J	27.2	179	<1.0	29.0
	Apr-18 Oct-18	786.99		N	N	N	880	7.10	11.40	0.30 J	27.2	213	1.2 J	21.9
AA\A/ 57	Apr-17	782.77		Brown	N	High		8.82	8.2	18.5	66.6	883	1.2	6.9
MW-57	Oct-17	782.77		Lt. Brown	N N	Moderate	1,188 833	6.99	11.6	18.6	69.5	663	<1.0	12.7 J
	Apr-18	783.04		Brown	Slight	Slight	764	7.63	6.9	14.8	51.9	596	<1.0	22.8
	Oct-18	783.48		Gray	Yes	Slight	583	7.03	11.30	17.0	57.1	839	<1.0	17.1 J
MW-59	Apr-17	786.09		Pale White	N N	Moderate	733	7.12	11.6	0.51 J	13.0	444	2.7	127
MW-59	Oct-17	784.23		Lt. Brown	N	Slight	425	7.53	11.6	1.3	13.0	233	2.7 2.7 J	59.9
	Apr-18	783.02		Lt. Brown	N	Slight	652	8.27	12.4	0.48 J	12.0	262	2.7 J	64.9
	Oct-18	787.73		Lt. Brown	N	Slight	191.9	7.48	10.80	0.46 J	17.4	284	1.8 J	25.7
MW-216R	Apr-17	785.95		Lt. Brown	N	High	1,033	9.10	11.0	0.46 J	11.4	1,390	6.3	128
MW-210R	Oct-17	783.89		N	N	Moderate	697	7.69	12.5	0.40 J	12.8	1,260	6.3	143
	Apr-18	783.23		Lt. Brown	N	Moderate	603	7.09	11.6	0.50 J	11.1	1,160	4.1	102
	Oct-18	787.49		Lt. Brown	N	Slight	475	7.75	12.70	0.44 J	13.2	814	2.6 J	73.5
MW-217 MW-220RR	Apr-17	784.29		N	N	N	1,088	9.76	8.9	2.4	8.5	1,900	1.1	281
	Oct-17	782.48		N	N	N	1,005	8.76	11.7	3.6	7.1	2,720	1.1 J	326
	Apr-18	783.26		Yellow	N	N	1,015	9.68	12.6	3.0	7.1	2,720	<1.0	286
	Oct-18	784.90		Yellow	Yes	N	880	8.97	11.70	2.9	5.0	2,450	<1.0	311
	Apr-17	784.90		Brown	Slight	High	669.3	10.35	9.1	5.6	32.4	202	11.9	27.8
	Oct-17	782.61		Brown	Slight	Moderate	651	7.2	13.5	6.5	25.5	641	11.0	12.5 J
	Apr-18	783.45		Brown	Slight	Slight	679	8.06	10.8	1.9	18.0	271	1.3 J	20.1
	Oct-18	784.52		Dark Brown	Slight	Moderate	359.4	7.22	13.90	3.4	25.9	151	4.1	15.3

# Table 2. Summary of Calculated Vertical Hydraulic Gradients, 2017-2018 WPL - Columbia Dry Ash and Ash Ponds Disposal Facilities Columbia County, Wisconsin / SCS Engineers Project #25216067

Date	MW-33AR/MW-33BR	MW-34A/MW-34B	MW-84A/MW-84B	MW-91AR/MW-91B	MW-92A/MW-92B	MW-39A/MW-39B	MW-48A/MW-48B	MW-220RR/MW-217
April 10-13, 2017	-0.014	-0.001	-0.006	-0.009	-0.012	-0.005	-0.005	0.009
October 3-5, 2017	-0.011	-0.002	NM <sup>(1)</sup>	-0.011	-0.019	-0.004	-0.004	-0.006
April 23-25, 2018	0.122	-0.040	-0.064	-0.008	-0.018	0.000	-0.002	-0.009
October 23-25, 2018	-0.027	-0.005	-0.008	-0.012	-0.018	-0.005	-0.005	0.017

#### Note

A positive vertical gradient indicates upward flow potential, and a negative vertical gradient indicates downward flow potential.

NM = Groundwater elevation at one or both wells was not measured during this sampling event.

1: The groundwater elevation at MW-84A was not measured prior to purging for sampling during the October 3-5 sampling event. The level was allowed to return to static and was measured on 10/10/2017.

Created by:	MDB	Date: 1/7/2015
Last revision by:	MDB	Date: 1/2/2019
Checked by:	AJR	Date: 1/2/2019