

Coal Combustion Residuals Impoundment Liner Design Certification and Retrofit Plan

Conemaugh Generating Station
Ash Filter Ponds B and C
New Florence, Pennsylvania

GAI Project Number: C190459.03, Task 005
March 2023

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Professional Engineer's Certification

The Retrofit Plan, including liner design, for the Conemaugh Generating Station Ash Filter Ponds B and C was prepared by GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI). This Professional Engineer's Certification is limited to the information available to GAI at the time the Plan was written. On the basis of and subject to the foregoing, it is my professional opinion as a Professional Engineer licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that the Plan has been prepared in accordance with good and accepted engineering practices as exercised by other engineers practicing in the same discipline(s), under similar circumstances, at the same time, and in the same locale. It is my professional opinion that the liner design is consistent with the requirements of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 257.72, as required by Section 257.72(c); that the liquid flow rate through the lower component of the alternative composite liner is no greater than the liquid flow rate through 2 feet of compacted soil with a hydraulic conductivity of 1×10^{-7} centimeters per second, as required by Section 257.70(c)(2); and that the Plan is consistent with the requirements of Section 257.102(k)(2), as required by Section 257.102(k)(2)(iv). These regulatory sections are portions of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's "Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities," published in the Federal Register on April 17, 2015 with an effective date of October 19, 2015.

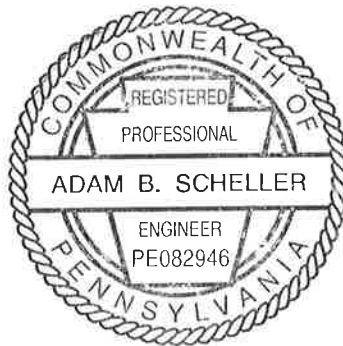
The use of the words "certification" and/or "certify" in this document shall be interpreted and construed as a Statement of Professional Opinion and is not and shall not be interpreted or construed as a guarantee, warranty or legal opinion.

Adam B. Scheller, PE
Printed Name of Professional Engineer

PE082946
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania License Number


Signature of Professional Engineer

3/14/2023
Date



1.0 Introduction

The Conemaugh Generating Station (Station) is a steam electric generating station located along the Conemaugh River in West Wheatfield Township, Pennsylvania (PA). Four ash filter ponds (AFPs) are located at the Station. The AFPs consist of AFPs A, B, C, and D. All of the AFPs were constructed, and are operated, under a PA Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) permit. The AFPs function as settling ponds and are part of the Station's ash water recycle system. During Station operations, bottom ash is sluiced from the ash hoppers to the hydrobins. Overflow and drainage from the hydrobins is then discharged to the AFPs, where the coal combustion residual (CCR) material is permitted to settle. The AFPs currently have engineered clay liner systems. Two of the AFPs (B and C) are planned to be retrofitted in 2023 to include liner systems that meet the requirements specified in Title 40, Part 257, Subpart D of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), *Standards for the Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals in Landfills and Surface Impoundments* (CCR Rule).

2.0 Retrofit Plan

2.1 Retrofit Description

AFPs B and C will be retrofitted in accordance with Section 257.102(k)(1) of the CCR Rule. The retrofit activities will include:

- Removal of CCR that has accumulated in the AFPs protective cover system;
- Removal of underlying clay soils that visually appear to have been in contact with CCR; and
- Installation of a liner system that meets the requirements of the CCR Rule. The new liner system will include:
 - Subbase [contaminant resistant (enhanced) geocomposite clay liner (EGCL)].
 - Secondary liner [60-mil textured high-density polyethylene (HDPE) geomembrane].
 - Geocomposite drainage net and perforated pipe collection system.
 - Composite primary liner (EGCL and 60-mil textured HDPE geomembrane).
 - 16 ounce per square yard non-woven cushion geotextile.
 - Protective cover consisting of concrete uniform section mat on the AFP bottom and side slopes.

Material removed from AFPs B and C will be disposed of at the Station's CCR landfill. Removal of accumulated sediment from the AFPs is performed periodically as part of normal cleaning and maintenance. This procedure is not considered to be part of the retrofit activities.

2.2 Schedule of Retrofit Activities

AFPs B and C will be taken out of service at the same time and replaced concurrently during 2023. AFPs B and C will be placed back into service immediately following construction. The two ponds that are not being retrofitted at this time, AFPs A and D, will remain in service to maintain normal operations at the Station. Construction of the retrofit activities for AFPs B and C are scheduled to begin in the second quarter of 2023. AFPs B and C retrofit activities are expected to be completed during the 2023 construction season.

2.3 CCR Removal Volume and Area Estimate

Sections 257.102(k)(2)(c) and (d) require estimates of the maximum amount of CCR that will be removed and the maximum area affected as part of the retrofit operation. Soil, aggregate, and sediment are included in the AFPs B and C volume estimates, as they may be intermingled with CCR.

The volumes to be removed were calculated based on the Figure 1 areas of the inner dikes and AFP bottoms. The thicknesses of materials to be removed from the AFP bottoms include 2.5 feet of bottom ash, 1.5 feet of No. 8 aggregate, and an estimated 6 inches of the clay bottom. The estimated thicknesses of materials to be removed from pond side slopes are 1.5 feet of rock and 6 inches of clay.

The area of each pond affected by the retrofit operation is shown on Figure 2. The estimated volumes and areas are summarized on Table 1.

Table 1

Estimate of Volumes to be Removed and Pond Areas to be affected by Retrofit Operations

Ash Filter Pond	CCR and Soils to be Removed (cubic yards)	Pond Areas to be Affected (square feet)
B	4,900	66,600
C	4,400	61,300
Total	9,300	127,900

2.4 Retrofit Notifications

In accordance with §257.102(k)(5), the Station will post a notification of intent to initiate retrofit to the operating record prior to the initiation of retrofit activities. This plan will become part of the Station's operating record. Within 30 days of completion of retrofit activities, a notification of completion of retrofit activities, including certification by a qualified professional engineer, will be posted to the operating record, in accordance with §257.102(k)(6). The retrofit plan and applicable notifications will be posted to the Station's publicly accessible internet site.

2.5 Liner Design

Section 257.102(k)(1) requires retrofits to meet liner design criteria of §257.72, which refers to §257.70(c). Under §257.70(c), CCR surface impoundments may be lined with an alternative composite liner which must consist of a geomembrane upper component and a lower component that is not a geomembrane with a liquid flow rate no greater than the liquid flow rate of 2 feet of compacted soil with a hydraulic conductivity of no more than 1×10^{-7} centimeters per second. Under the CCR Rule, the liquid flow rate comparison of an alternative composite component, such as an EGCL, to that of compacted soil must be determined based on the equation provided at Section 257.70(c)(2), which includes the hydraulic conductivity of the liner, hydraulic head above the liner, and the thickness of the liner. Based on our calculations, the composite liners for Ash Filter Ponds B and C meet this liquid flow rate comparison. The constructed materials meet the requirements for chemical properties, strength, and side slope shear resistance.

Section 257.72 requires that surface impoundment alternative liners meet the requirements of 257.70(c). In accordance with §257.70(c)(3), the composite liner will be constructed of materials that meet the requirements for chemical properties, strength, and side slope shear resistance; placed upon a foundation providing adequate support; and installed to cover all surrounding earth likely to be in contact with CCR or leachate. In accordance with 257.72(b), dikes will not be constructed on top of the composite liner. Certification from a qualified professional engineer that the alternative composite liner has been constructed in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements will be provided upon completion of retrofit as required by §257.72(d).

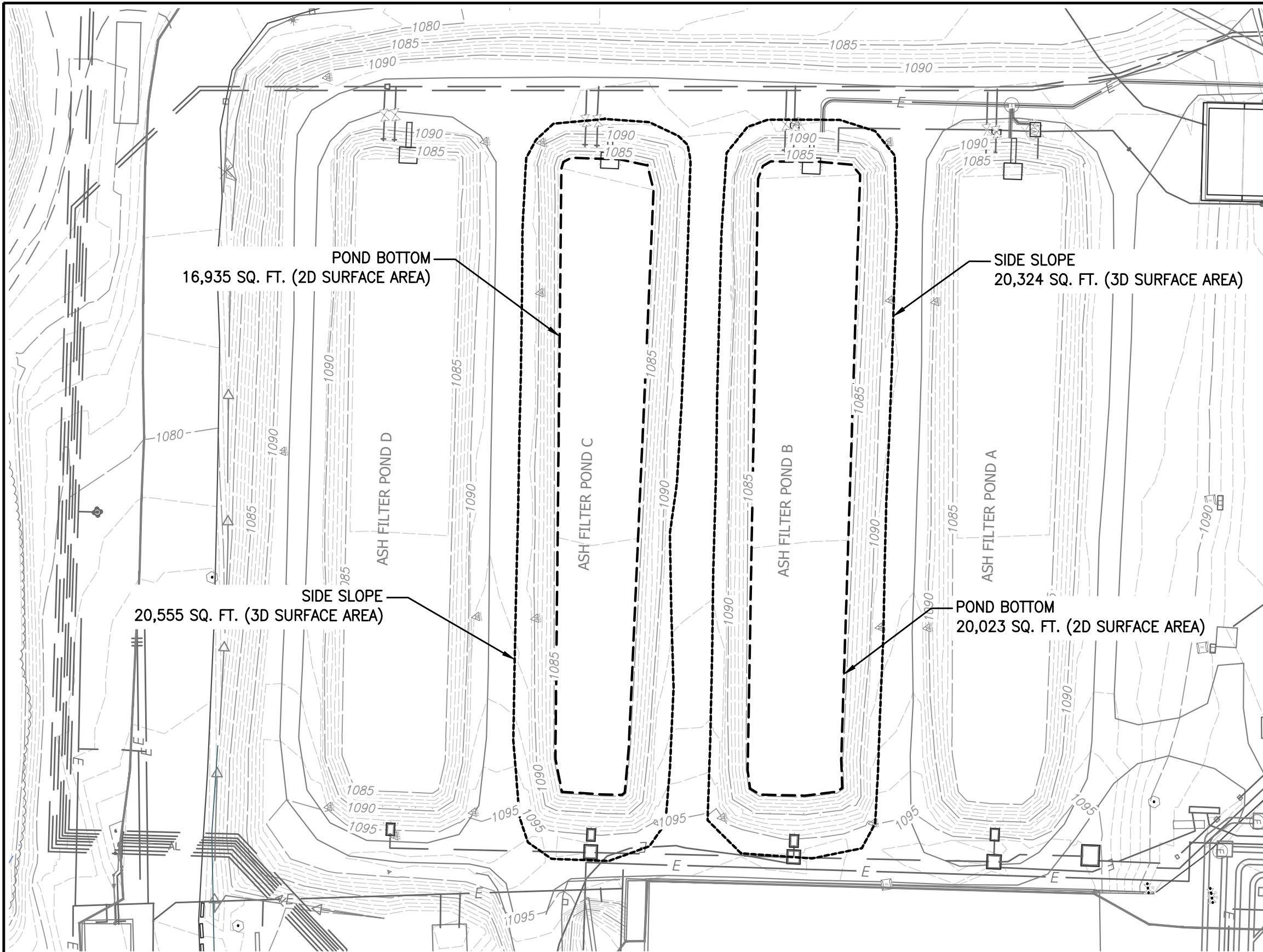
3.0 References

Gilbert Associates, Inc. *New Filter Pond 4 Plan, Sections, and Details (D-782-008)*. Prepared for Conemaugh Generating Station. February 1980 (Revision 10 October 1995).

United States Environmental Protection Agency. *40 CFR Parts 257 and 60 Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Disposal System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residual from Electric Utilities*, Final Rule, April 2015.

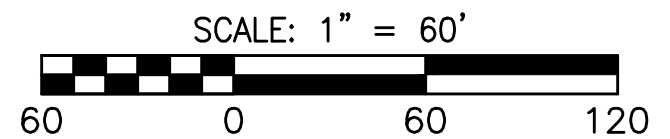
FIGURES

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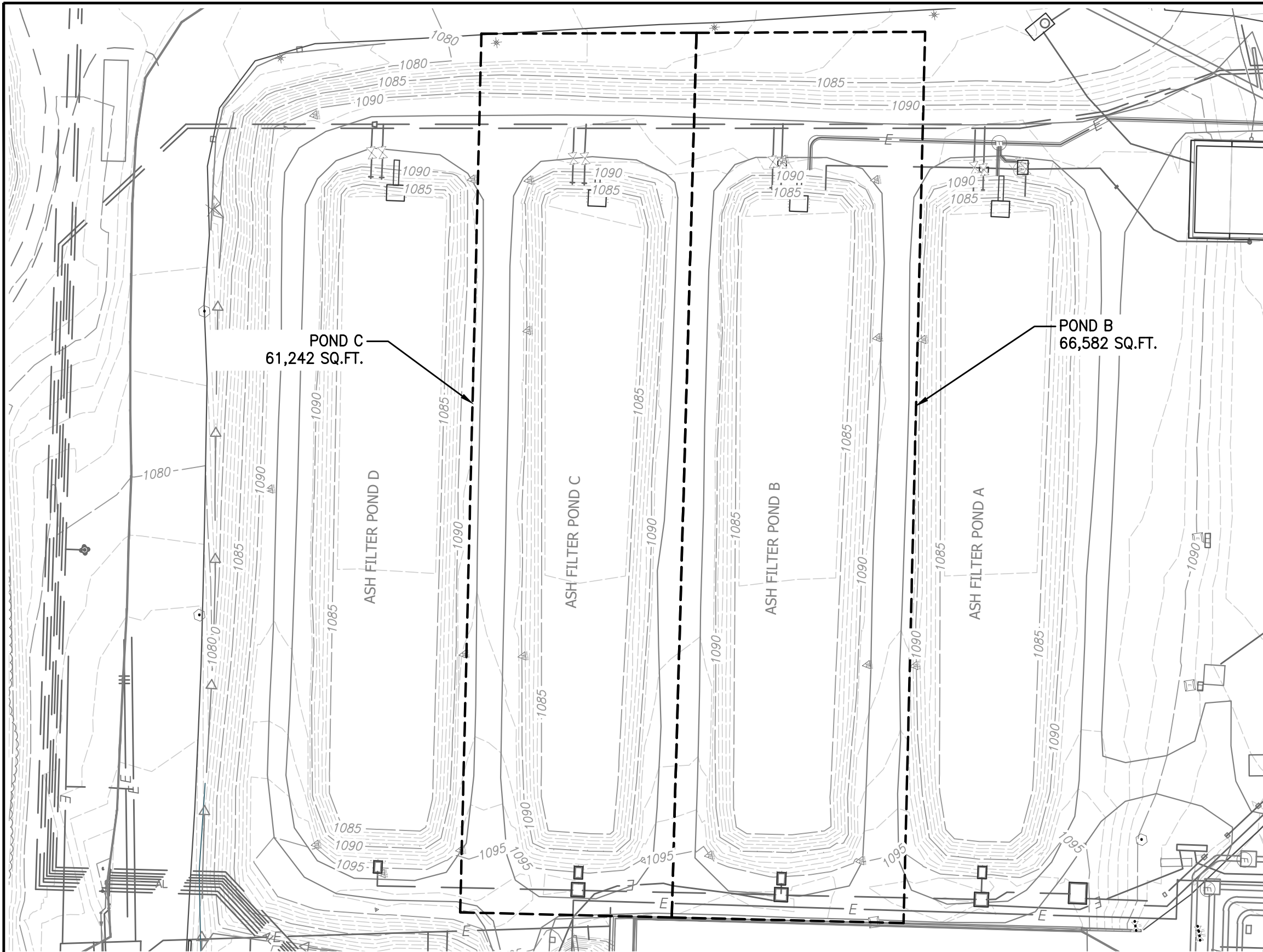


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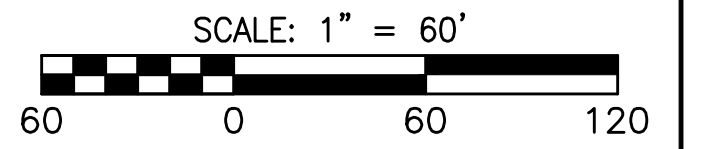
 CONEMAUGH GENERATING STATION NEW FLORENCE, PA	DRAWING NO.
	FIGURE 1
AREAS OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL ASH FILTER POND B AND C RECONSTRUCTION	SHEET: 1 OF 1
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CONEMAUGH GENERATING STATION
 NEW FLORENCE, PA

POND AREAS DISTURBANCE
 ASH FILTER POND B AND C RECONSTRUCTION

DRAWING NO.	FIGURE 2
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