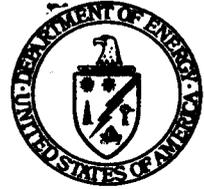




## Department of Energy

Ohio Field Office  
Fernald Area Office  
P. O. Box 538705  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705  
(513) 648-3155



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**MAR 20 1998**  
DOE-0385-98

**Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager**  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V-SRF-5J  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

**Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager**  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
401 East 5th Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

### **REVISED STRATEGY FOR WETLAND MITIGATION AT THE FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

The purpose of this letter is to propose Department of Energy's (DOE) revised strategy for wetland mitigation. The Preliminary Wetland Mitigation Assessment discussed the feasibility of expanding the northern forested wetland for the purposes of wetland mitigation. This assessment evaluated three alternatives for their potential of supporting on-property wetland mitigation and provided a recommendation for Alternative 3 as the most feasible alternative to mitigate a portion of the fifteen (15) acres of wetlands, per DOE's regulatory commitment. However, the land parcel affected by Alternative 3 is located near areas which will require excavation activities of an unknown extent in approximately five years to achieve soil certification (Figure 1). If wetland mitigation was performed within the next two years in the area designated as Alternative 3 in the Preliminary Wetland Mitigation Assessment, then adjacent excavation activities could potentially jeopardize the success of wetland mitigation by altering the hydrology of the mitigated wetland or excavating the mitigated wetland. Due to the unknown extent of excavation in the area of Alternative 3, it would not be prudent to pursue wetland mitigation in this area in the near-term. This area would be more conducive for wetland mitigation in the long-term and as such could be considered as Phase 2 Wetland Mitigation (Figure 1).

As a revised strategy for wetland mitigation, DOE is proposing an area located in the northeast portion of the site for Phase 1 Wetland Mitigation (Figure 1) to address a portion of the fifteen (15) acre regulatory commitment of mitigated wetlands. Preliminary

calculations indicate this area contains an adequate watershed to provide surface water hydrology. In addition, this area consists of tight clay soil to provide an impermeable substrate. The soil and hydrology conditions of the Phase 1 Wetland Mitigation area may be able to support approximately six to eight (6-8) acres of mitigated wetlands. The type and size of wetland system to be supported will be determined during wetland mitigation design. The majority of this area has achieved certified clean status with the exception of the sedimentation basins which are scheduled to be certified clean by the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 1998. Upon certification of the sedimentation basins this area will be readily available to pursue wetland mitigation. DOE is requesting your concurrence with this wetland mitigation strategy so that Phase I wetland mitigation design can be initiated. If necessary, we could conduct a meeting to discuss this strategy in more details.

If the Phase 1 and Phase 2 Wetland Mitigation areas will not support all fifteen (15) acres of mitigated wetlands then additional on-site areas will be assessed for the purposes of conducting wetland mitigation as they become available for land use.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Pete Yerace at (513) 648-3161, or me at (513) 648-3139.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:Yerace

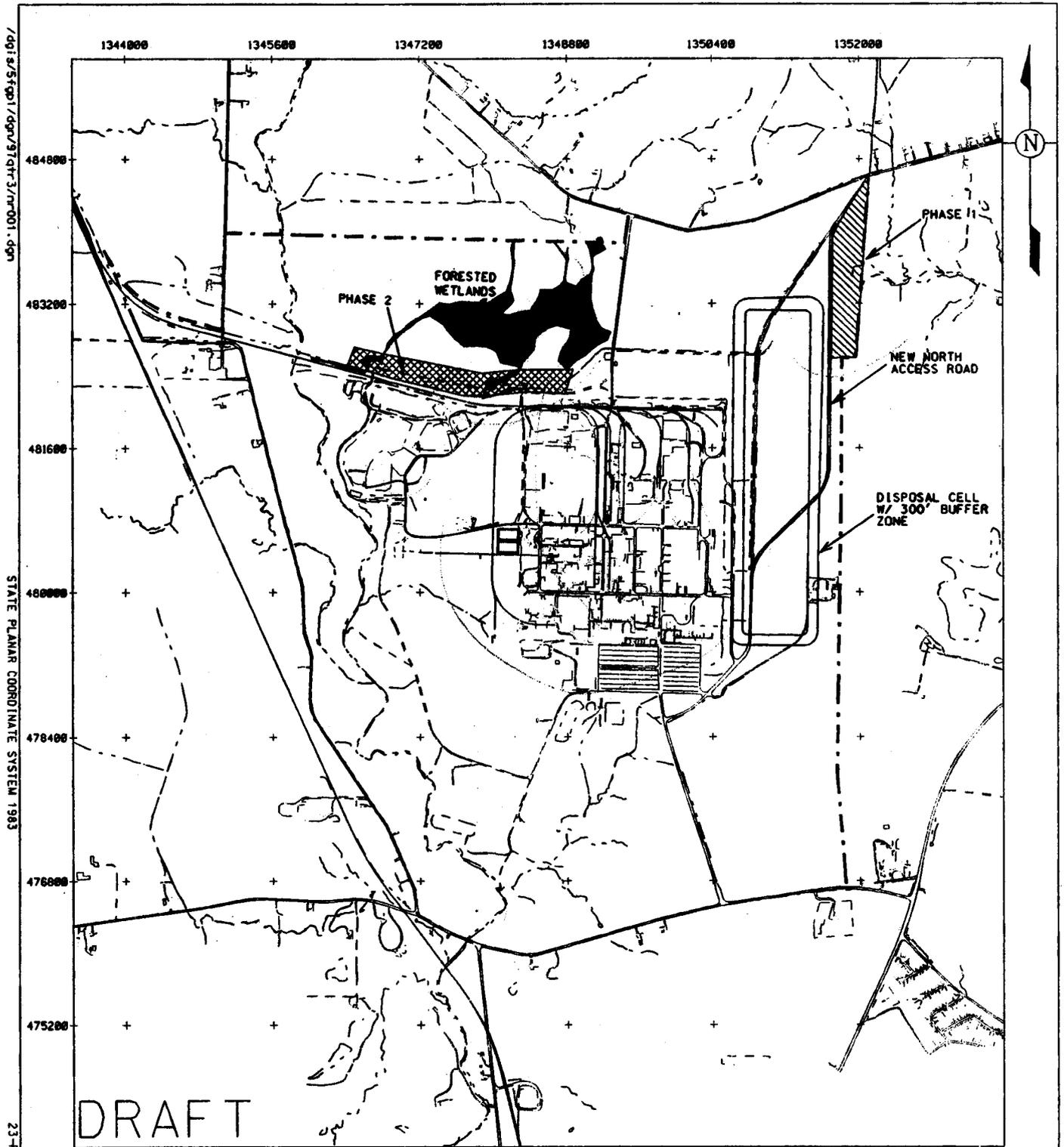
Enclosure: As Stated

cc w/enc:

N. Hallein, EM-42/CLOV  
R. J. Janke, DOE-FEMP  
J. Chapman, USEPA  
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, 5HRE-8J  
D. Henne, USDOJ  
B. Kurey, USFWS  
R. Beaumier, TPSS/DERR, OEPA-Columbus  
L. Merchant, OEPA-Columbus  
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (3 copies total of encs.)  
F. Bell, ATSDR  
M. Schupe, HSI GeoTrans  
B. Fletcher, ODNR  
R. Vandegrift, ODOH  
F. Barker, Tetra Tech  
D. Carr, FDF/52-2  
J. Chiou, FDF/52-5  
A. Duarte, FDF/35  
T. Hagen, FDF/65-2  
M. Harmon, FDF/90  
C. Straub, FDF/52-2  
E. Woods, FDF/65-2  
AR Coordinator, FDF/78

cc w/enc:

A. Tanner, DOE-FEMP  
EDC, FDF/52-7



LEGEND:

--- FEMP BOUNDARY

[Diagonally hatched box] PHASE 1 WETLAND MITIGATION

[Cross-hatched box] PHASE 2 WETLAND MITIGATION

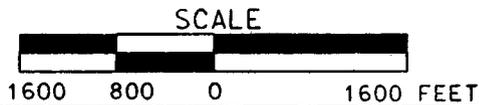
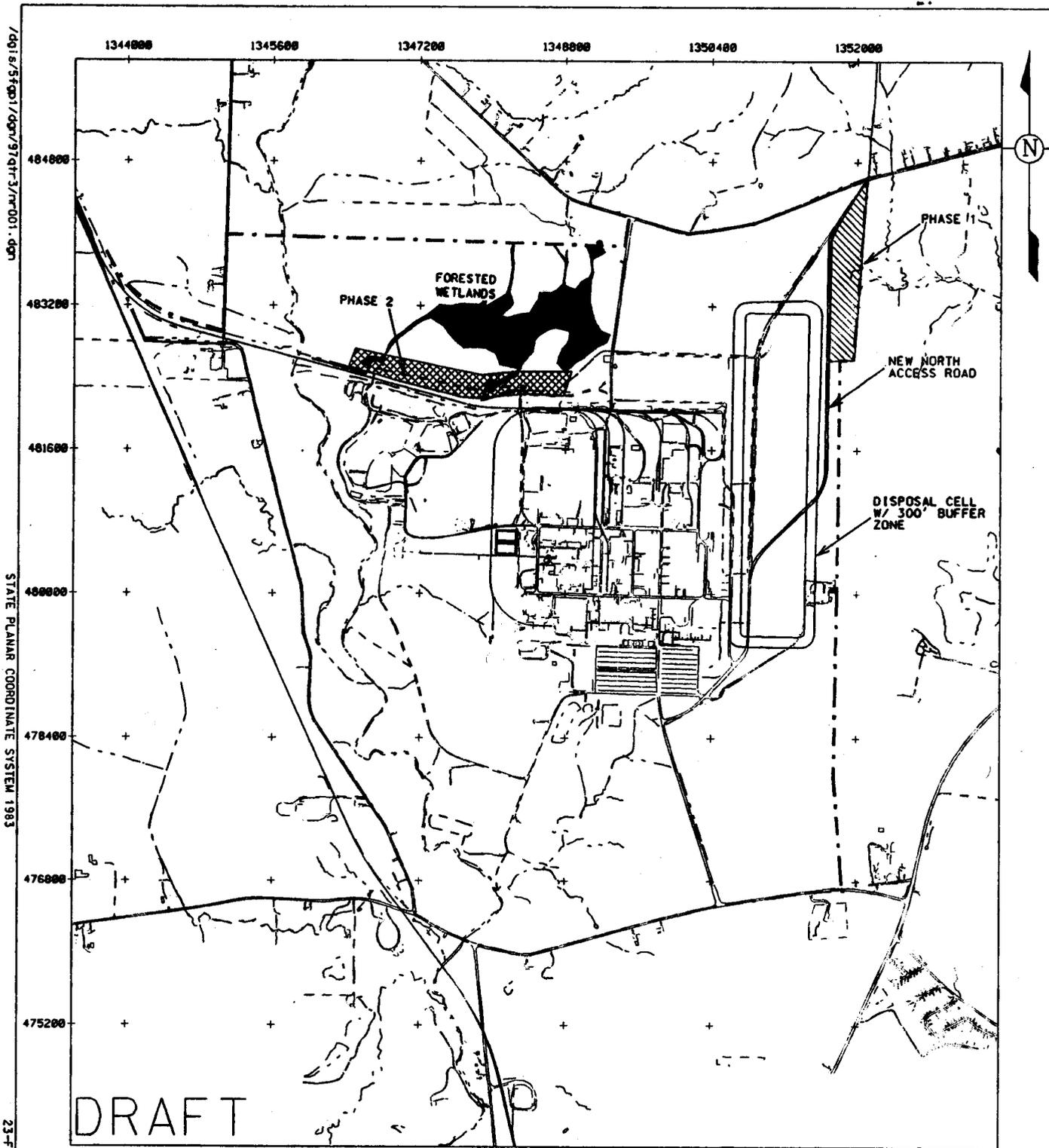
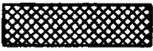


FIGURE 1. WETLAND MITIGATION AREAS



LEGEND:

- FEMP BOUNDARY
-  PHASE 1 WETLAND MITIGATION
-  PHASE 2 WETLAND MITIGATION

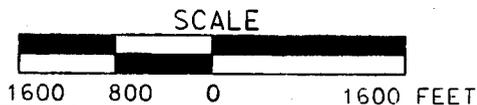
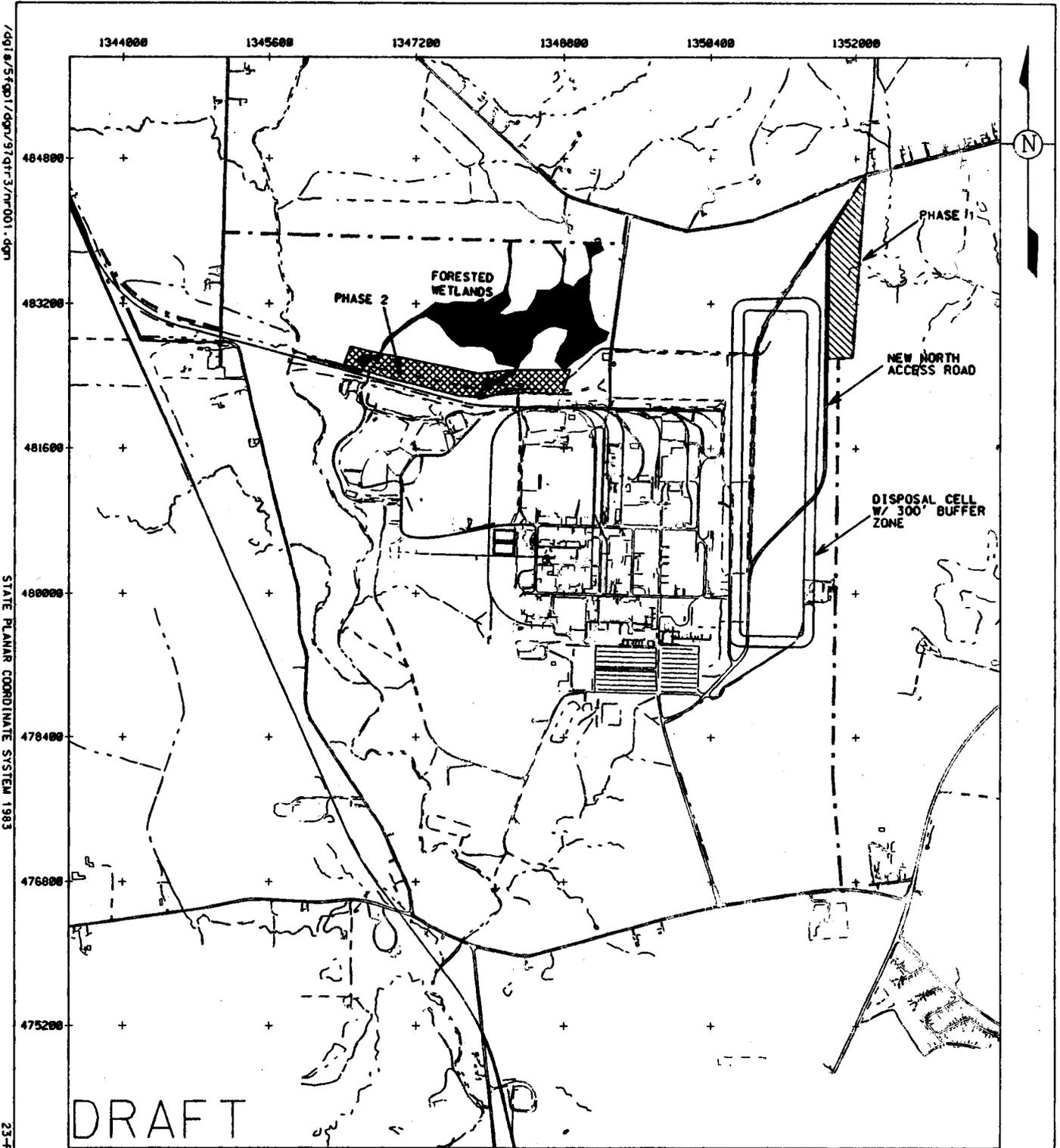


FIGURE 1. WETLAND MITIGATION AREAS



LEGEND:

--- FEMP BOUNDARY

[Hatched Box] PHASE 1 WETLAND MITIGATION

[Cross-hatched Box] PHASE 2 WETLAND MITIGATION

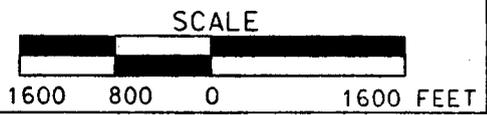


FIGURE 1. WETLAND MITIGATION AREAS