

## Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards Application

### Cogen Project Summary:

The Region of Waterloo in Ontario operates several conventional wastewater treatment plants which produce digester gas as waste byproduct. CH2M HILL Canada Limited, a Jacobs Company, along with teammates CIMA+ and Eramosa Engineering Inc. led the design and services during construction for the installation of Cogeneration Facilities at the Region's three largest plants: Waterloo, Kitchener, and Galt. These facilities combust digester gas producing electricity and heat which reduces carbon dioxide emissions while providing green energy.

### Q1: Innovation (40%)

The Region retained the Jacobs Team to complete the approvals, design, equipment pre-selection, tendering, and services during construction for the Cogeneration Facilities project. The Region completed this project simultaneously at three different sites: Waterloo Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), Kitchener WWTP, and Galt WWTP. By capturing the energy in digester gas and using it to generate both electricity and heat, the Region took a substantial step towards a greener future.

The Jacobs Team completed the following scope of work for all three sites:

- Completed conceptual and preliminary design of Cogeneration Facilities
- Completed necessary effort for obtaining regulatory approvals and permits
- Coordinated with three Utility Companies and provincial agencies to secure funding incentives
- Completed detailed design with Region reviews to facilitate input from operations staff
- Completed two pre-selections for all three sites: the cogeneration engine supply, and one for the gas conditioning system supply
- Provided tender period assistance, project management, contract administration and site inspection services during the two-year construction period
- Participated in commissioning and training of the Region's Operations staff for each of the major systems
- Provided post construction services such as record drawings, addressing deficiencies and transfer the operation to the Region

This project used innovative green technology to deliver an environmentally significant project in the Region that aligned with its goals to become a sustainable community, as outlined in the Region's Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Action Plan. The Jacobs team delivered a practical and innovative design that offered economic and environmental benefits to the Region and its residents. These economic benefits include offsetting electricity costs for the sites and reducing the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the atmosphere.

Jacobs included innovative flexible features into the design. For example, if digester gas production at a site is low or unavailable, the cogeneration facilities have the capability to run on natural gas or a natural gas-digester gas blend.

A delivery approach that allowed the project to succeed was through the pre-purchasing process. This allowed the Jacobs Team and the Region to develop emission and efficiency goals for the cogeneration engines and put them out for tender. The successful bidder was a vendor that supplied the CHP units from Germany. A proven technology from a reliable manufacturer was provided as a result since biogas utilization is much more common in Europe than in North America.

#### Q2: Complexity (20%)

The project had a high level of complexity due to the fact that there were three different sites, all with different existing conditions, and consequently, design parameters. These conditions had to be evaluated in the approval and conceptual design phases so that the detailed design would provide a constructable and cost effective solution at each site. For example, all structures involved had to be flood-proof due to their proximity to watercourses. Additionally, the gas quality and quantity varied, which needed to be considered from a process perspective to size the generator engines appropriately and obtain Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) Digester Gas Installation Approvals.

Construction management was also complicated due to the number of sites and different parties involved. Each of the three sites had different operational staff and operated under different Natural Gas authorities and Electrical Local Distribution Companies (LDCs). These hurdles were overcome through diligent and frequent communications both within the team and with the various project stakeholders that placed an emphasis on schedule, identification of upcoming challenges, and development of solutions.

Another layer of complexity was delivering the project in time to meet the deadlines set by the provincial and federal governments for the Region to secure project funding. Due to the global pandemic, equipment and material deliveries were delayed, impeding these deadlines. This was overcome through the proactive actions taken by the project team (Region, Jacobs Team, Contractor, Suppliers) to identify and secure critical path items as soon as the pandemic was announced.

#### Q3: Social and/or Economic Benefits

The cogeneration facilities generate electricity and heat from digester gas. The resulting energy is used on site, and means that both electrical energy consumption and natural gas consumption are greatly reduced.

The Galt and Waterloo WWTP cogeneration facilities each generate an electrical capacity of 600 kilowatt-electric (kWe), while the Kitchener WWTP cogeneration facility generates 800 kWe. Each of the Galt and Waterloo cogeneration facilities deliver more than 33 percent of their respective WWTP's electrical load, and the Kitchener cogeneration facility delivers more than 70 percent of the Kitchener WWTP electrical load.

The generated heat is transferred to the plants' hot water systems, which is then used to heat buildings and digester sludge. By using this thermal energy, the natural gas load to the boilers is reduced.

This production of electricity and heat reduces energy consumption at each of the three largest plants in the Region, which reduces electricity and natural gas costs for the Region.

A secondary societal benefit which the Region is exploring is to use the facilities for educational and awareness purposes with various technical and stakeholder groups and members of the public.

#### Q4: Environmental Benefits

Before the installation of the cogeneration facilities, digester gas was inefficiently used in boilers with the excess digester gas sent to flare. The complete combustion of digester gas releases carbon dioxide, a GHG, into the atmosphere. Incomplete combustion results in the emission of methane, a GHG with 25 times more global warming potential than carbon dioxide. As a result, the implementation of cogeneration facilities reduces the GHG emissions from each of the wastewater treatment plants.

This reduction, when compared to pre-construction WWTP emission levels, equates to 934 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year at Waterloo WWTP, 425 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year at Kitchener WWTP, and 554 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year at Galt WWTP when the Cogeneration facilities are running at 100% on biogas.

Additionally, the cogeneration facilities include gas conditioning upstream of the engine generators and exhaust treatment equipment downstream of the engine generators. Before the blend of digester gas and natural gas is combusted in the engine generator, it is dried, filtered and cooled by a gas conditioning system to remove constituents that may hinder the efficiency of the combustion process. Exhaust from the generator engine is treated with urea to lower the concentration of harmful constituents emitted to the atmosphere.

Typical energy recovery of the cogeneration facilities is 70 percent of digester gas energy value, with 35 percent as electricity and 35 percent as heat. The cogeneration facilities not only reduce GHG emissions but reduce the Region's reliance on electricity and natural gas.

#### Q5: Meeting the Client's Needs

This project aligns with the Region's goals of becoming a sustainable community. This is outlined in the Region's GHG Inventory and Action Plan, which includes a statement to reduce 10% of 2009 emission levels by the year 2019. While this project was completed after 2019, it shows continuing improvement by the Region to achieve its goal to optimize the use of renewable energy resources. The economic feasibility of this project was made possible by government and utility incentive programs to reduce electricity consumption and carbon footprint.

The Jacobs Team successfully delivered this project for the Region by securing these grants and incentives while delivering a facility design that met long term performance goals. This was

achieved by incorporating operation and maintenance, technology, and previous design lessons from other municipal cogeneration installations. Operations staff were also key members of the project team during design, procurement, installation, and technology. As end users, their experience and input on design and installation procedures was invaluable.

The Jacobs Team worked closely and successfully with the General Contractor (W.A. Stephenson Mechanical Contractors Ltd.) during construction to manage schedule and budget. Schedule was of critical importance as there was a deadline for when the facilities had to be operational to secure funding and incentives. During construction, in-house project management tools were used to keep the project on schedule and meet milestones.



**Region of Waterloo**

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
DIVISION

**JACOBS**

**CIMA**

**ERAMOSA**  
ENGINEERING INC.

# DIGESTER GAS COGENERATION FACILITIES AT THE WATERLOO, GALT & KITCHENER WWTPs

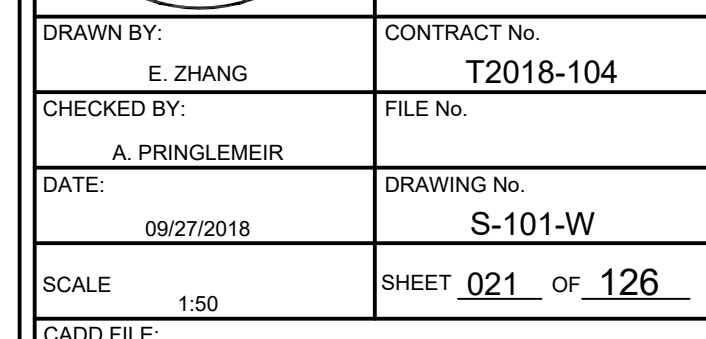
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KEN SEILING REGIONAL CHAIR

T. SCHMIDT, P. ENG.  
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES







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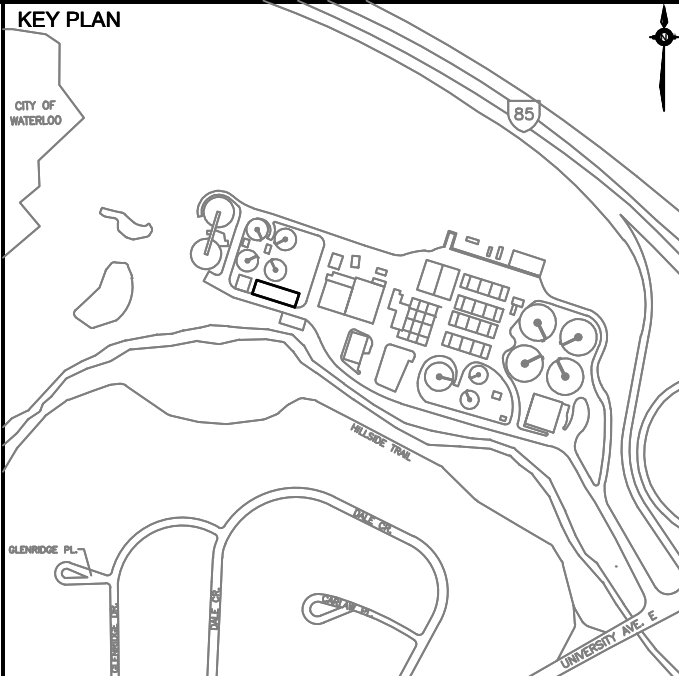
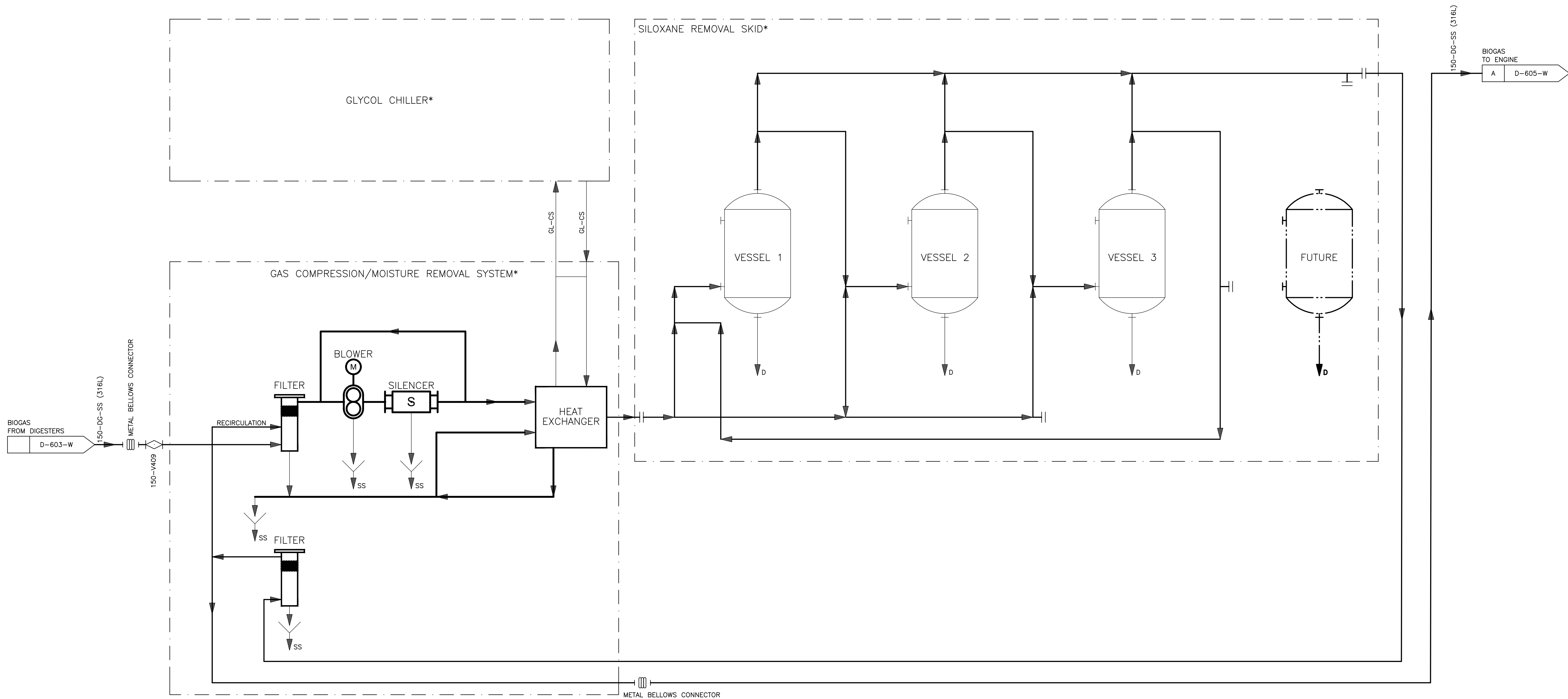
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LEGENDS:

- -- FUTURE  
--- -- VENDOR SUPPLIED  
--- -- PROCESS LINES  
--- -- ELECTRICAL LINES

NOTE

\* THE GAS CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH SPECIFICATION SECTION 11390 GAS CONDITIONING SYSTEM AND ITS RELATED SPECIFICATION SECTIONS. THE EQUIPMENT AND PIPING SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING IS ONLY SHOWN SCHEMATICALLY AND SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE.



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NOTES:



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WATERLOO, GALT AND KITCHENER WWTP  
DIGESTER GAS  
COGENERATION FACILITIES

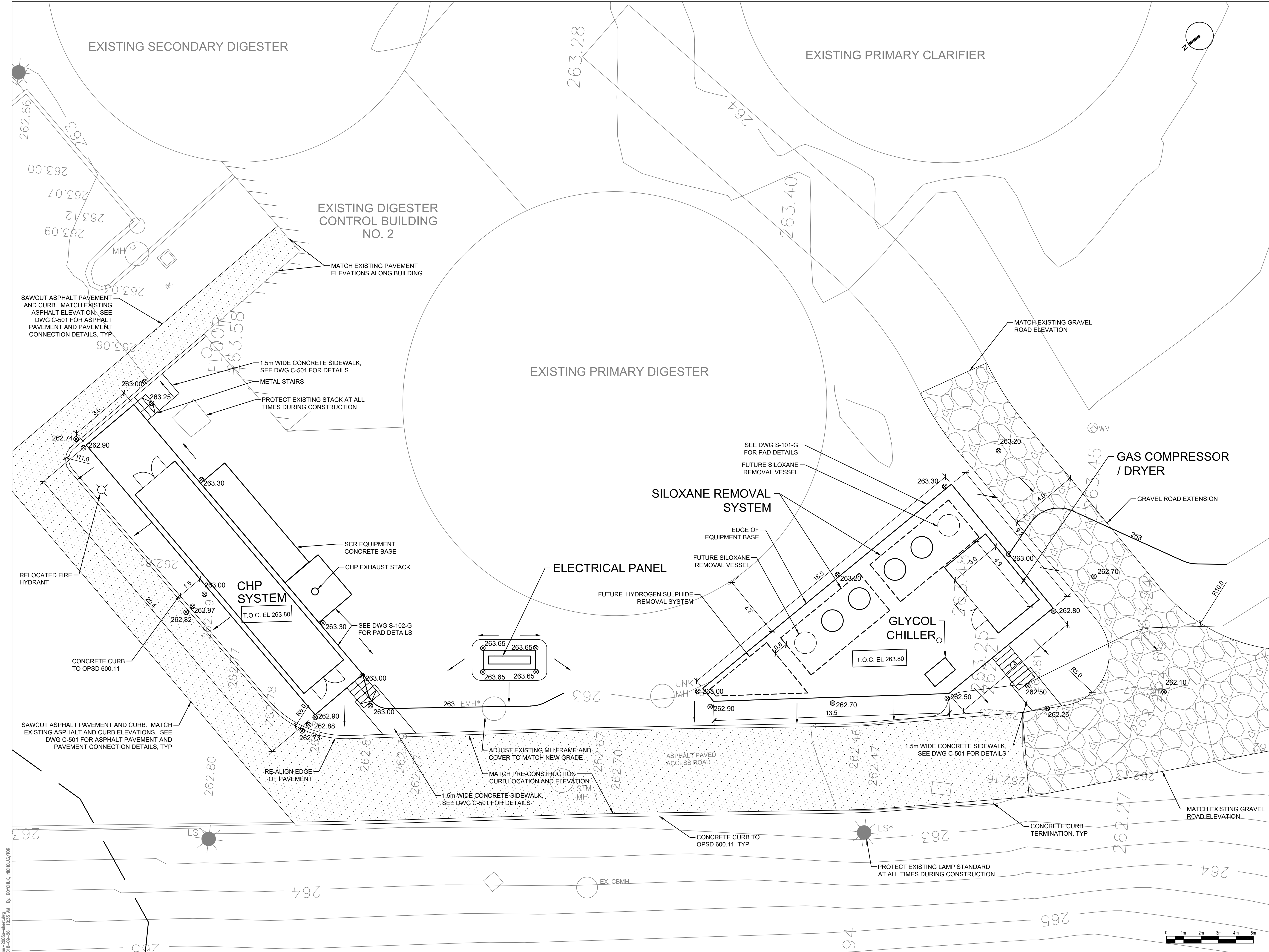
WATERLOO WWTP  
GAS CONDITIONING SYSTEM  
P&ID



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KEY PLAN

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NOTES:

1.

RESTORE ALL DISTURBED UN-PAVED AREAS WITH 150mm TOPSOIL AND SOD. RESTORE ALL HARD PAVED AREAS WITH MATERIALS SIMILAR TO EXISTING CONDITION. MATCH EXISTING THICKNESS, ELEVATIONS AND COLOURS.

2.

REFER TO DWG C-106-G FOR SEDIMENTATION CONTROL NOTES, DETAILS AND REQUIREMENTS.

3.

CONFIRM EXISTING GRADES AND CONTOURS PRIOR TO COMMENCING CONSTRUCTION. REPORT ANY DISCREPANCIES IMMEDIATELY TO THE ENGINEER.

4.

GRCA FLOODPLAIN LIMITS ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE SHEET BOUNDARY. REFER TO DWG C-106-G FOR GRCA FLOODPLAIN LIMITS.

JACOBS

CIMA

ERAMOS

ENGINEERING INC.

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WATERLOO, GALT AND KITCHENER WWTP DIGESTER GAS COGENERATION FACILITIES

GALT WWTP CIVIL GRADING PLAN

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

A. SHAHREKH SEFANLOU

100170044

09/18/2018

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

DRAWN BY:

A. RIOLO

CHECKED BY:

A. SEFANLOU

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09/27/2018

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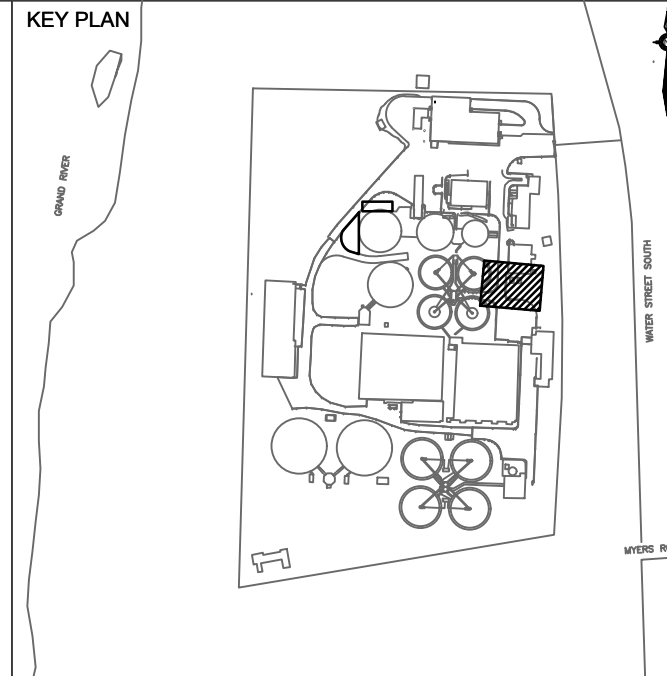
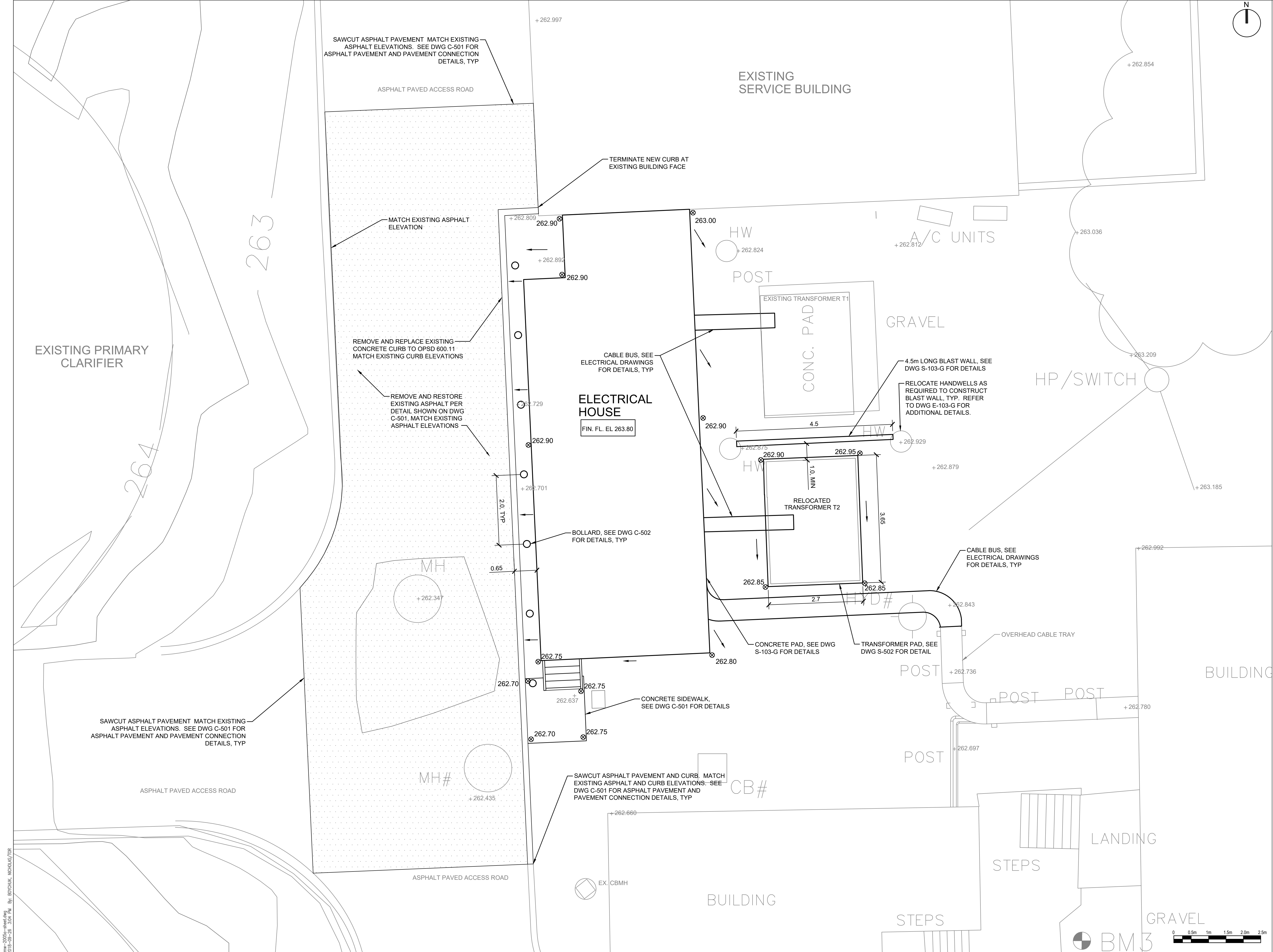
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  - REFER TO DWG C-106-G FOR SEDIMENTATION CONTROL NOTES, DETAILS AND REQUIREMENTS.
  - CONFIRM EXISTING GRADES AND CONTOURS PRIOR TO COMMENCING CONSTRUCTION. REPORT ANY DISCREPANCIES IMMEDIATELY TO THE ENGINEER.
  - GRCA FLOODPLAIN LIMITS ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE SHEET BOUNDARY. REFER TO DWG C-108-G FOR GRCA FLOODPLAIN LIMITS.
  - REFER TO DWG E-101-G FOR REMOVALS.
  - REFER TO DWG E-103-G FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND LAYOUT DETAILS.

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ENGINEERING INC.

Region of Waterloo

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WATERLOO, GALT AND KITCHENER WWTP  
DIGESTER GAS COGENERATION FACILITIES

GALT WWTP  
CIVIL  
ELECTRICAL HOUSE  
GRADING PLAN

A. SHAHMEH SEPANLOU  
100170044  
ON/01/01/2018  
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

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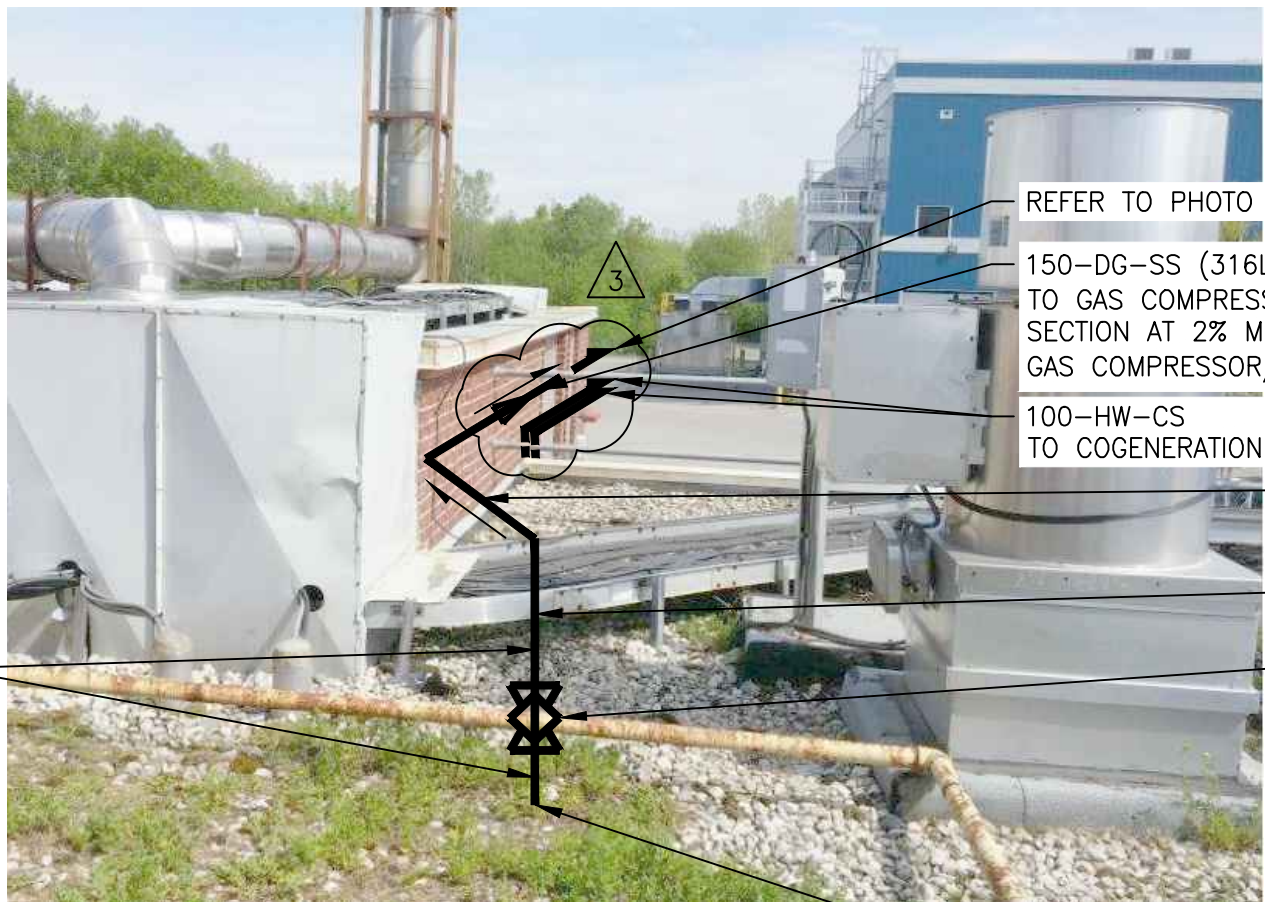


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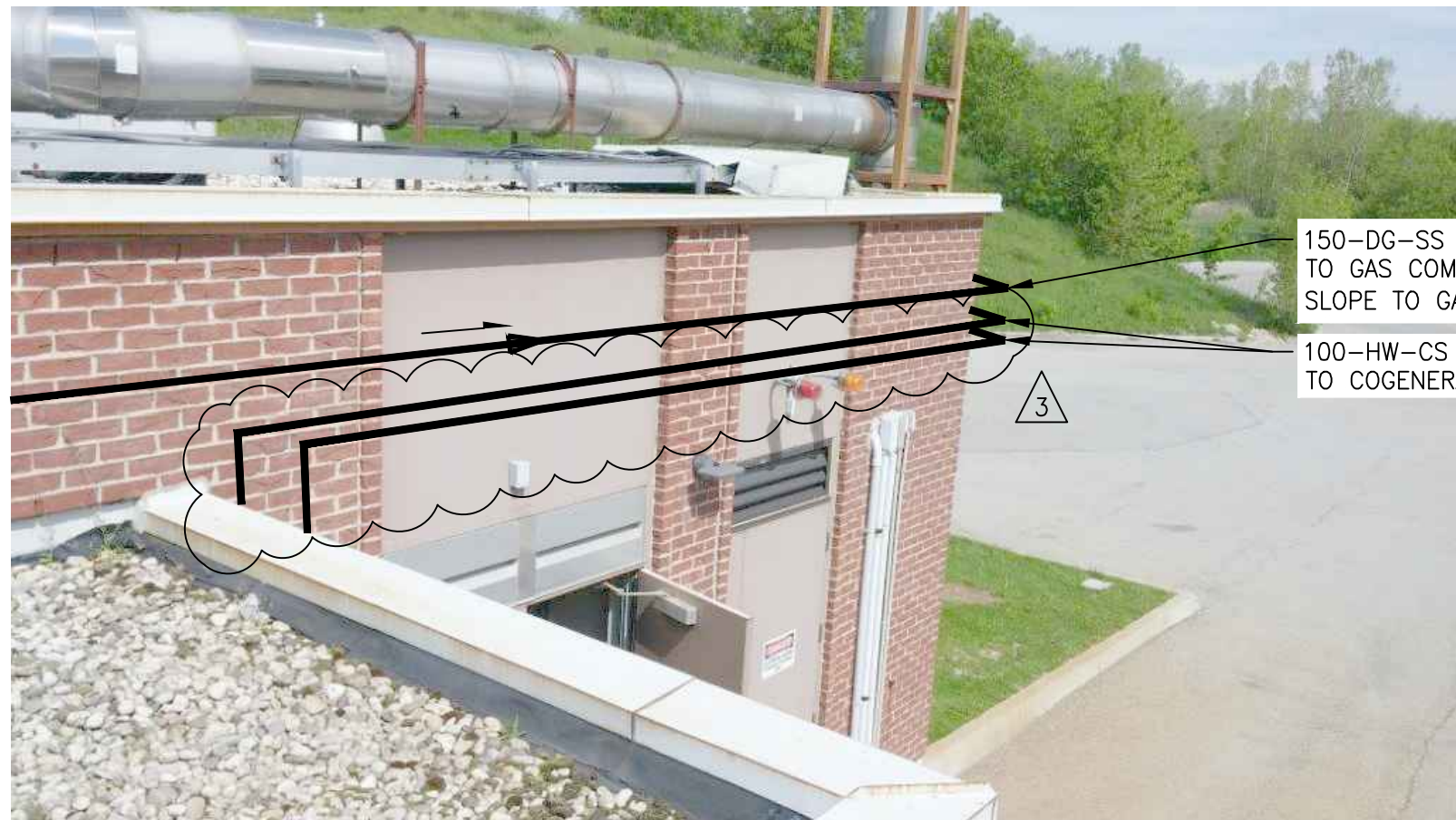
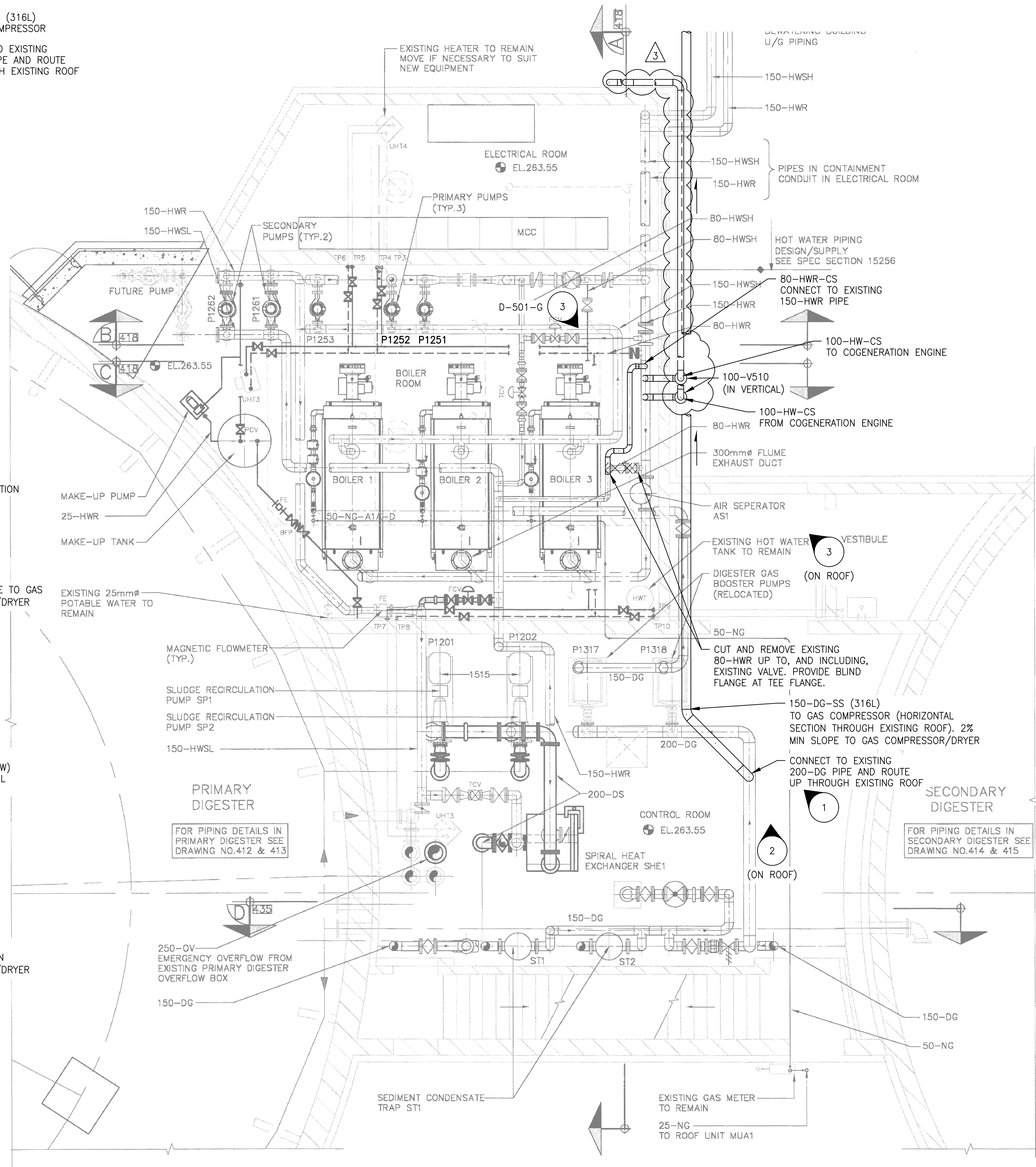
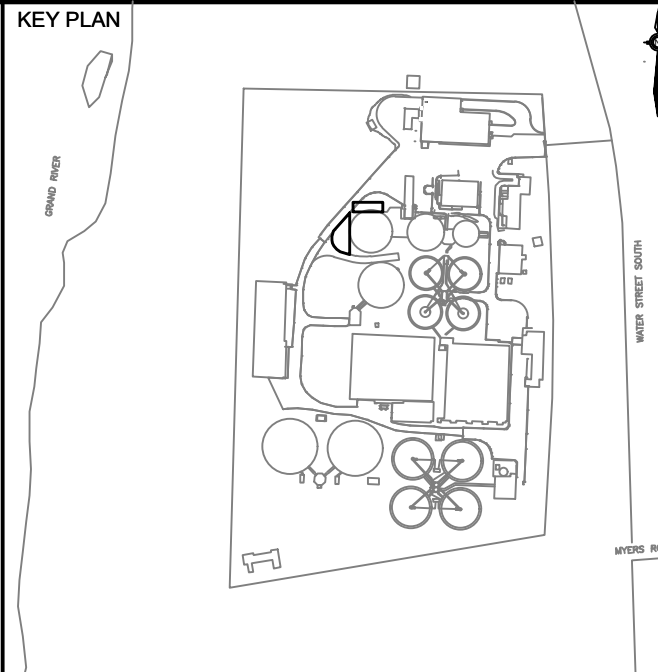


PHOTO 3



PART PLAN ABOVE GROUND LEVEL  
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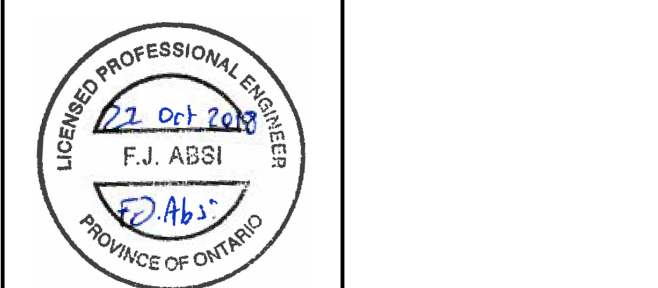
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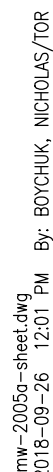
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DIGESTER GAS  
COGENERATION FACILITIES

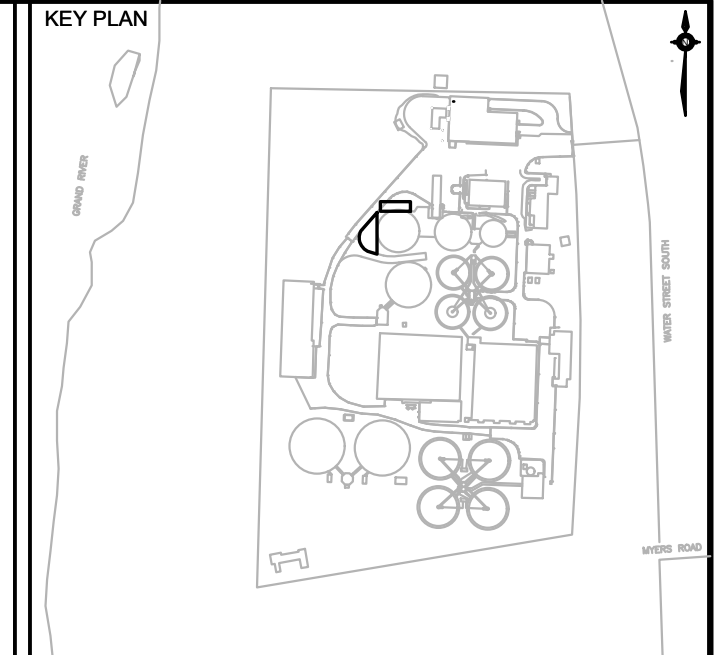
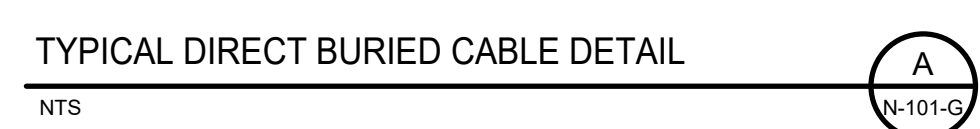
GALT WWTP  
BOILER AND CONTROL ROOM  
PIPING TIE-INS  
PART PLAN ABOVE GROUND



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NOTES:
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1. FIBRE OPTIC CABLE IN RIGID STEEL CONDUIT FROM FIBRE WALL MOUNT ENCLOSURE GALFWEA TO PULL BOX.
2. CONTRACTOR TO SUPPLY AND INSTALL NEW CONDUITS IN BUILDINGS TO ROUTE CABLING.
3. PROVIDE ALL X-RAYING PRIOR TO CORING.
4. ALL RESTORATIONS TO RESTORE TO CURRENT CONDITIONS INCLUDING ASPHALT, GRASS, SIDEWALKS, ETC. BY THE CONTRACTOR.
5. OBTAIN ALL LOCATES PRIOR TO EXCAVATIONS. ALL EXCAVATIONS BY HYDROVAC.
6. NETWORK DESIGN WAS BASED ON THE CONDITIONING SYSTEM FROM BIOSPARK COORDINATE AND PROVIDE ALL REQUIREMENTS TO MEET THE INTENT OF THE UPGRADES FOR A COMPLETE AND FULLY FUNCTIONAL SYSTEM.
7. ALL CONDUITS ENTERING CLASSIFIED AREAS TO INCLUDE EYS SEALING.
8. PULL BOX LOCATION ON DRAWINGS IS APPROXIMATE CONTRACTOR TO LOCATE ALL PULL BOX IN SUITABLE LOCATION BASED ON SITE CONDITIONS.

**JACOBS**

**CIMA**  
**ERAMOSA**  
ENGINEERING INC.



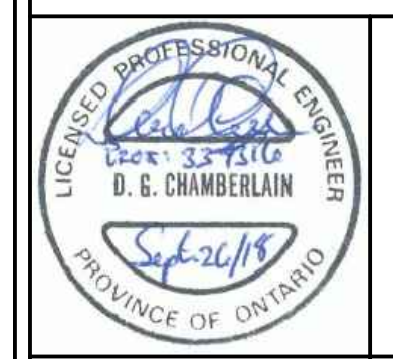
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WATERLOO, GALT AND  
KITCHENER WWTP  
DIGESTER GAS  
COGENERATION FACILITIES

GALT WWTP  
NETWORK  
SITE PLAN  
MODIFICATIONS (1)



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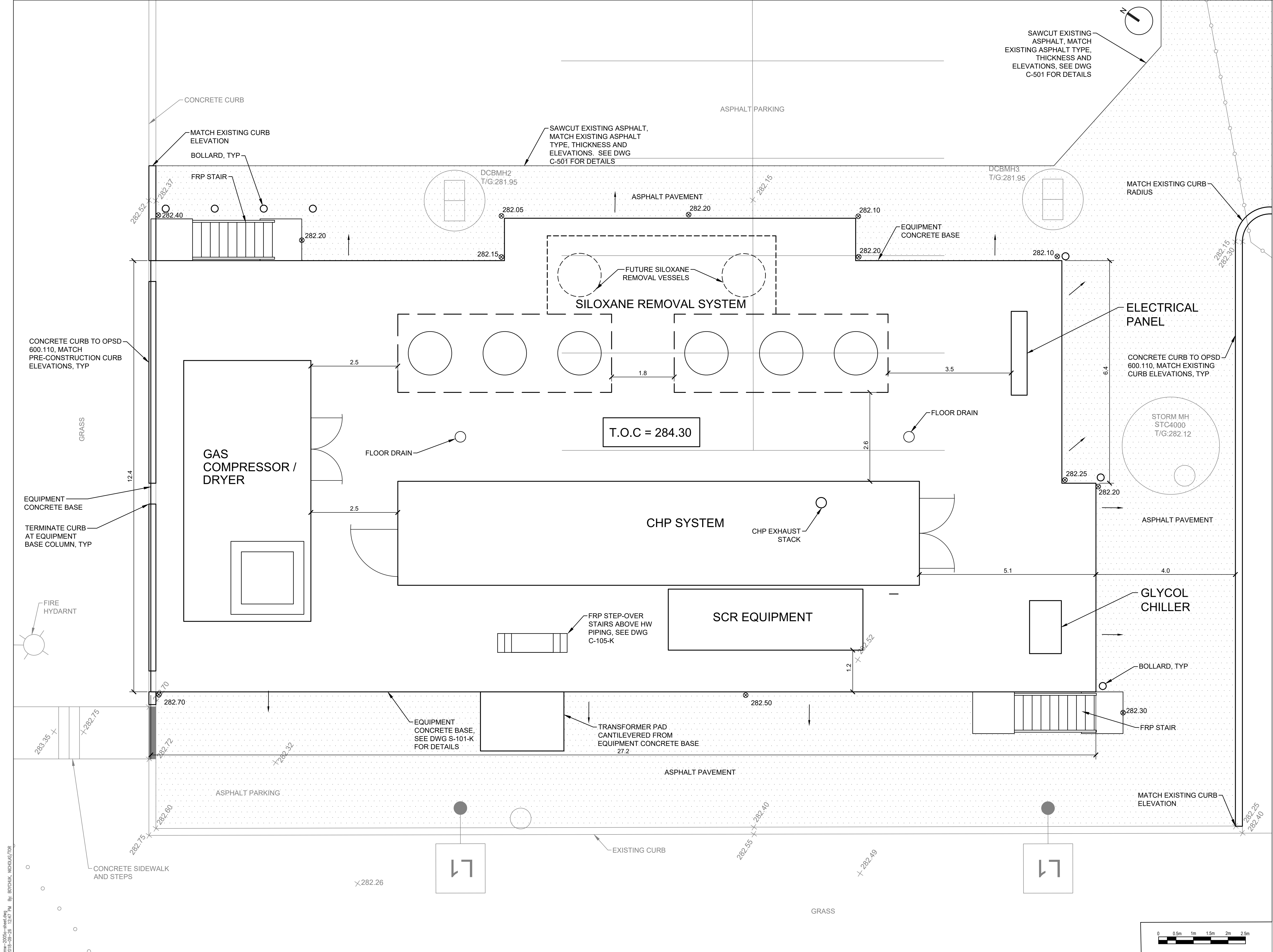
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KEY PLAN

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WATERLOO, GALT AND KITCHENER WWTP DIGESTER GAS COGENERATION FACILITIES

KITCHENER WWTP CIVIL GRADING PLAN

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A. RIOLO

CHECKED BY:  
A. SEPANLOU

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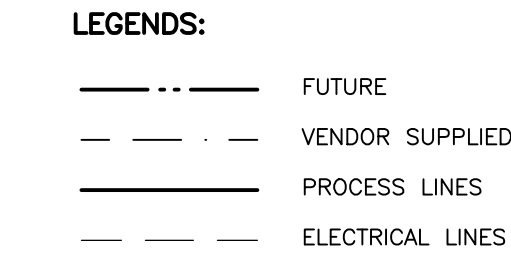
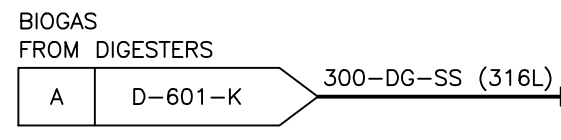
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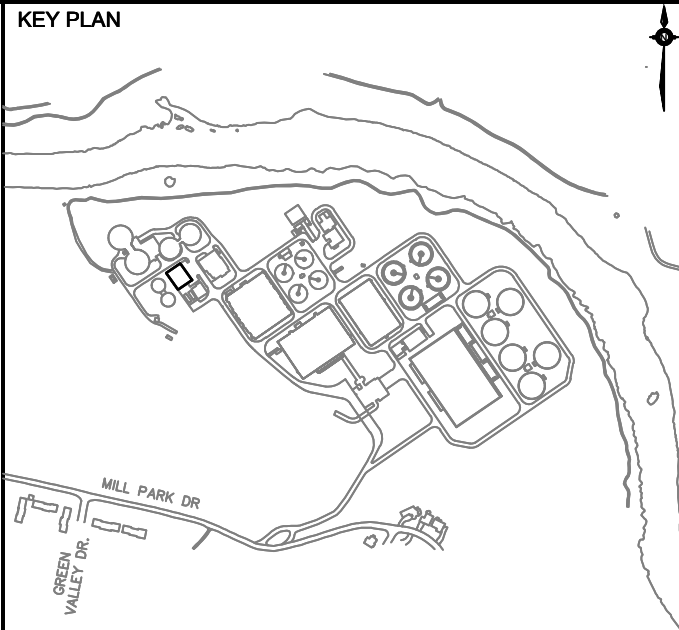
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METAL BELLOWS CONNECTOR



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**NOTES:**



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WATERLOO, GALT AND  
KITCHENER WWTP  
DIGESTER GAS  
COGENERATION FACILITIES

KITCHENER WWTP  
GAS CONDITIONING SYSTEM  
P&ID



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