



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Soil-Bentonite Cutoff Wall Through Dense Alluvium with Boulders into Bedrock, McCook Reservoir

Tri-Services Infra-Structure Conference

2-4 August 2005

(St. Louis, MO)

William A. Rochford, P.E.





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Outline

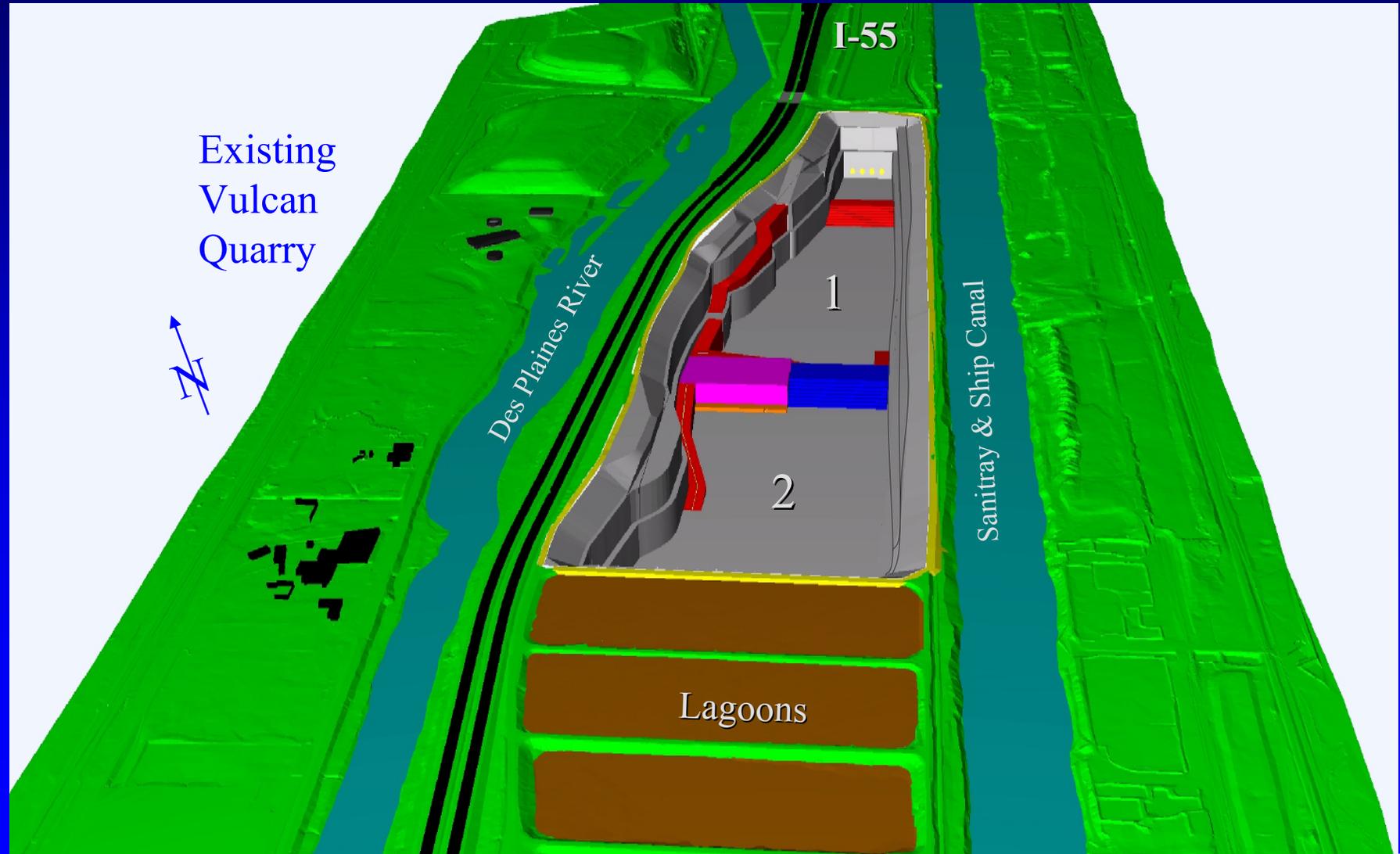
- Reason for Cutoff Wall
- Test Section
- Demonstration Section
- Verification
- Lessons Learned





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Reservoir Plan Schematic





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

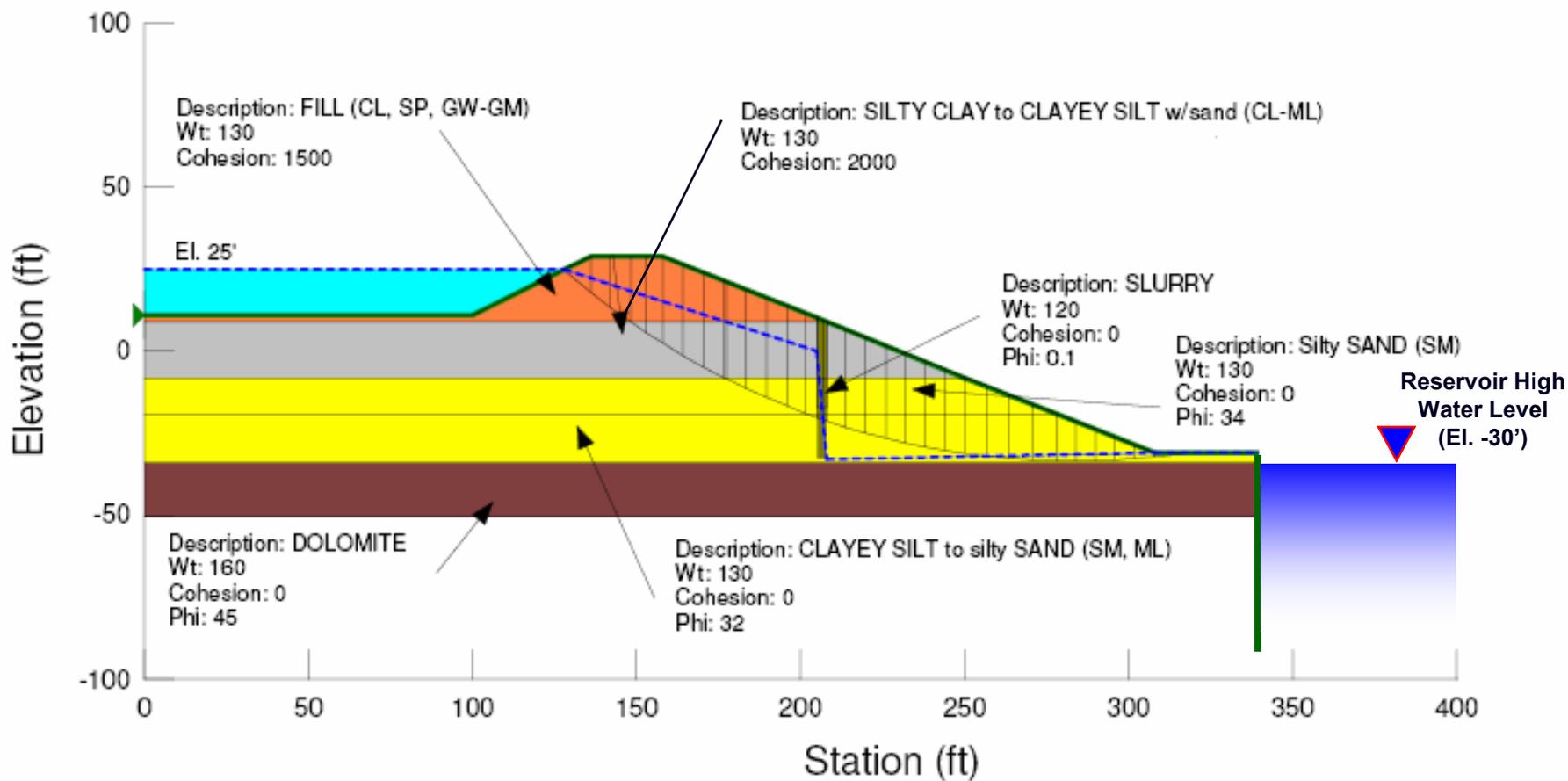
Historic River Channel





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

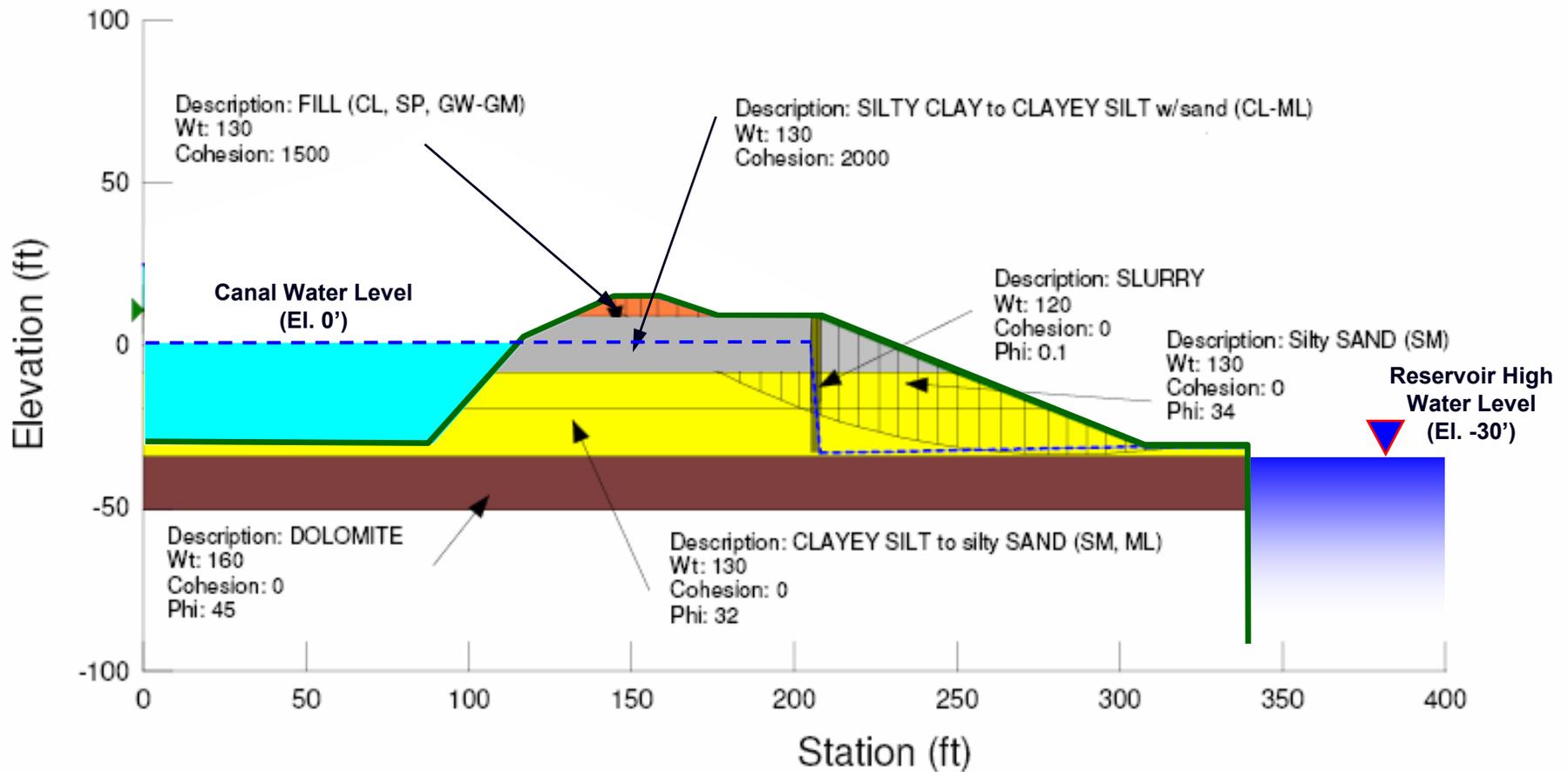
Riverside & Lagoon Cross-Section





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Canalside Cross-Section





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Slope Erosion





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Test Section

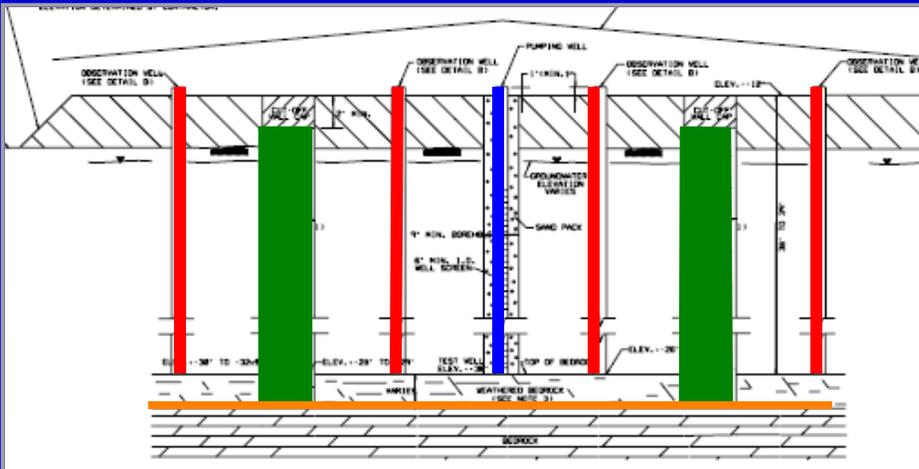
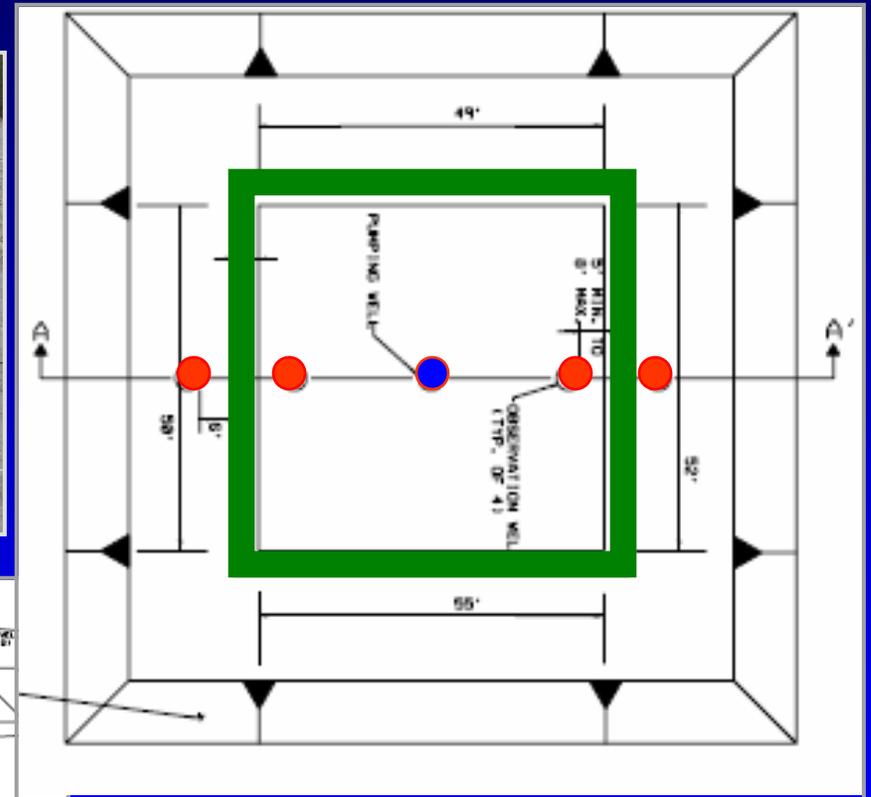
- **Construction – July-Aug 2000**
- **4-sided Box (50' x 50')**
- **Pump Test**





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Test Section





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

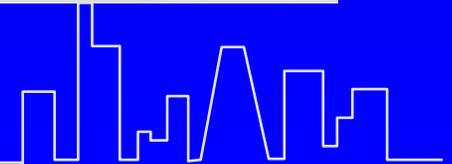
Excavator





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Boulders





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Hardpan



Soil Type	USCS Classification	Moisture Content $w_c\%$	Dry Density γ_d	Specific Gravity G_s
Clayey Silt	ML	9.8	133.3	2.75





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Demonstration Section & Initial Wall Construction

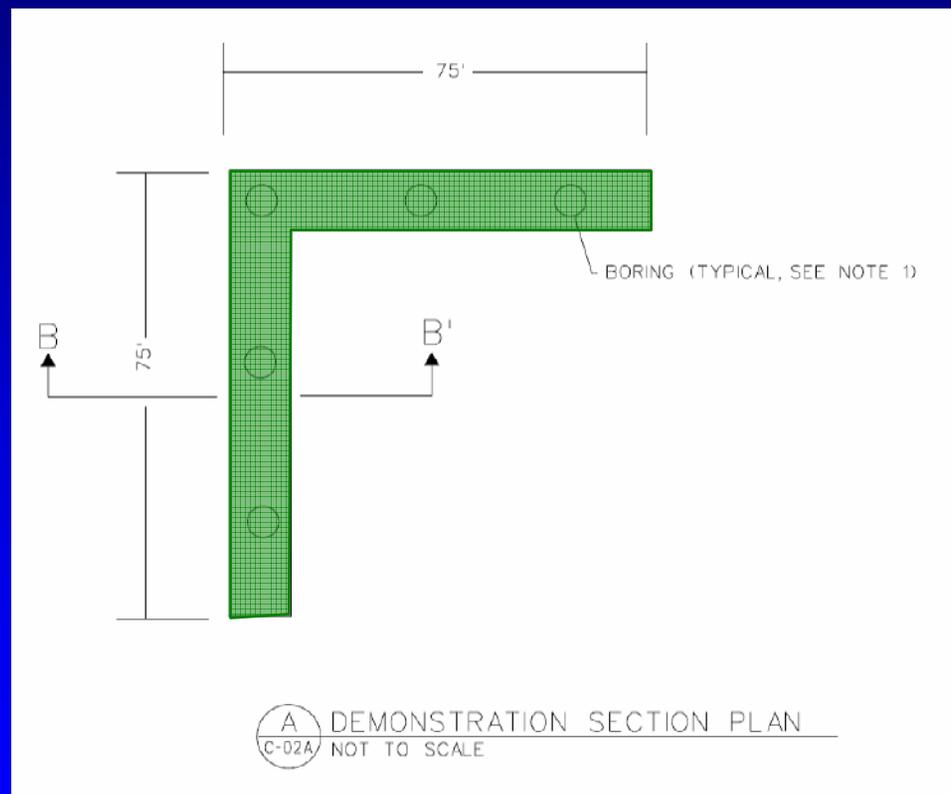
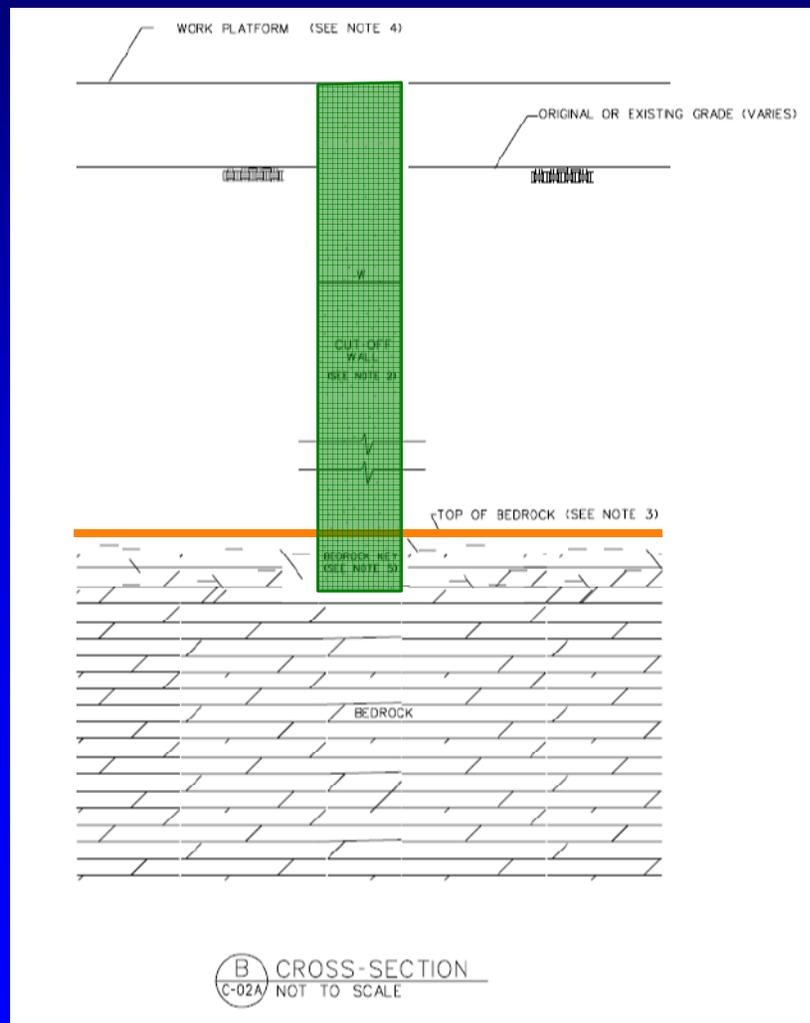
- **Modified Contract to Demonstrate Alternate Method to Penetrate Hardpan and Bedrock**
- **Conducted Investigation of Completed Section**
- **Developed More Stringent & Intensive QA Inspection Program**





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

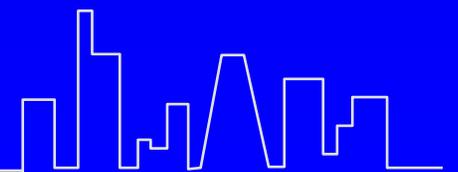
Demonstration Section Modification





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Chisel





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Initial Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Initial Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Investigation





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Probing for Cutoff Wall





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

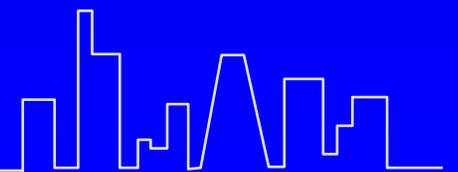
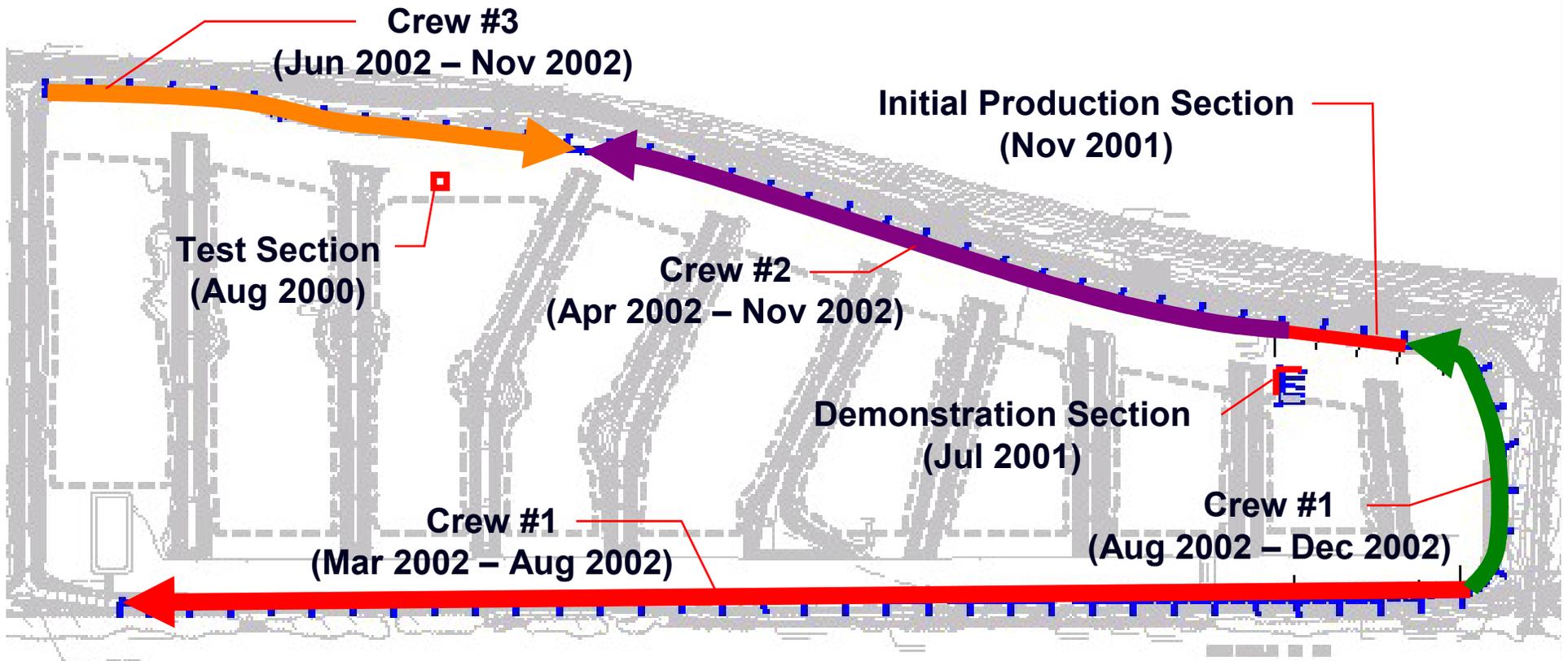
Backfill Sampling





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

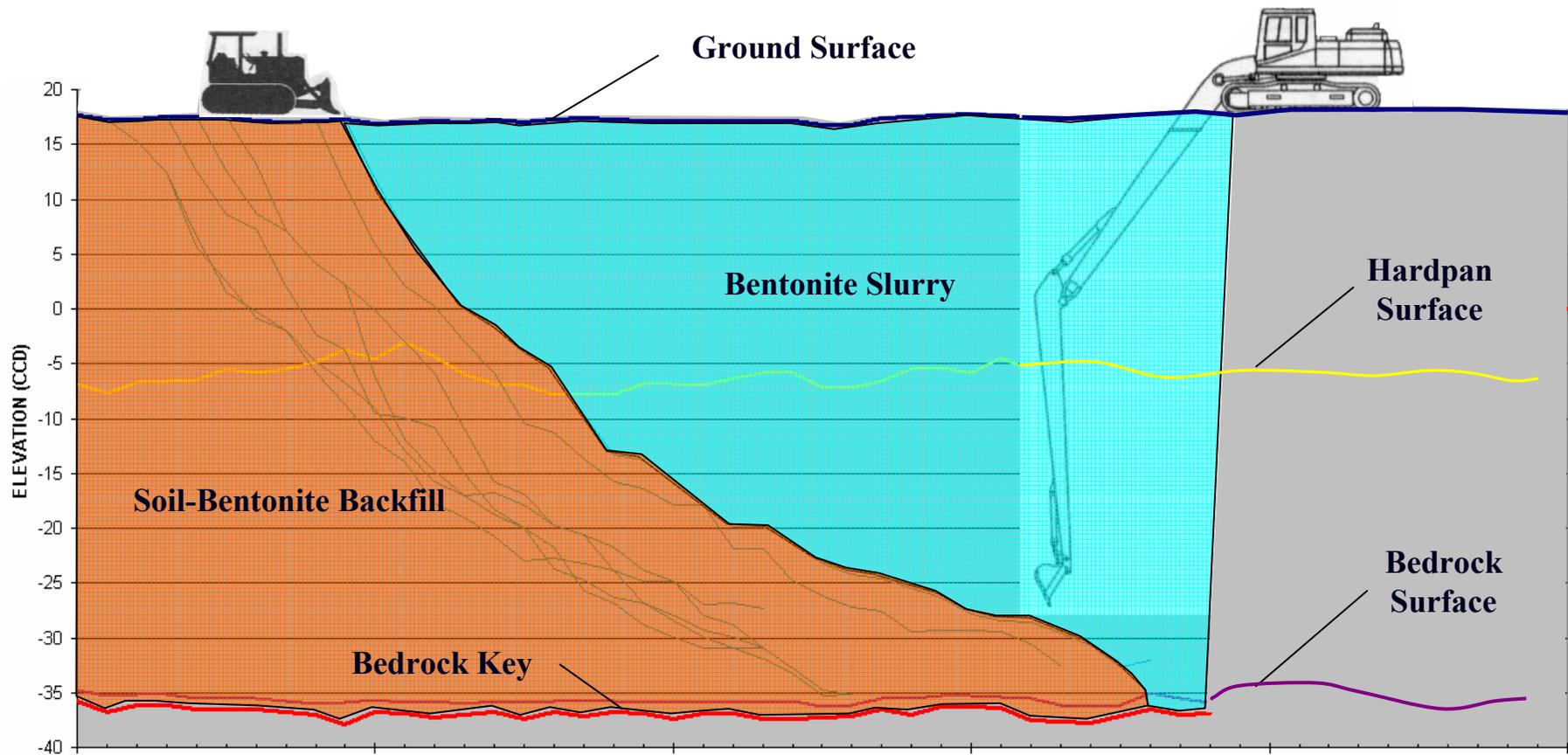
Cutoff Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

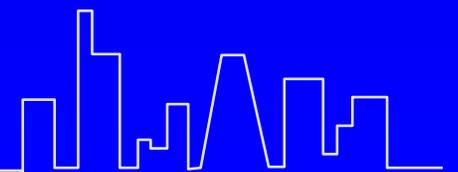
Cutoff Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Cutoff Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Cutoff Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Cutoff Wall Construction





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

QA/QC Verification

- **Depth Measurements During Excavation**
- **Bedrock Key Verification**
- **Post-Construction Depth Measurements**





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

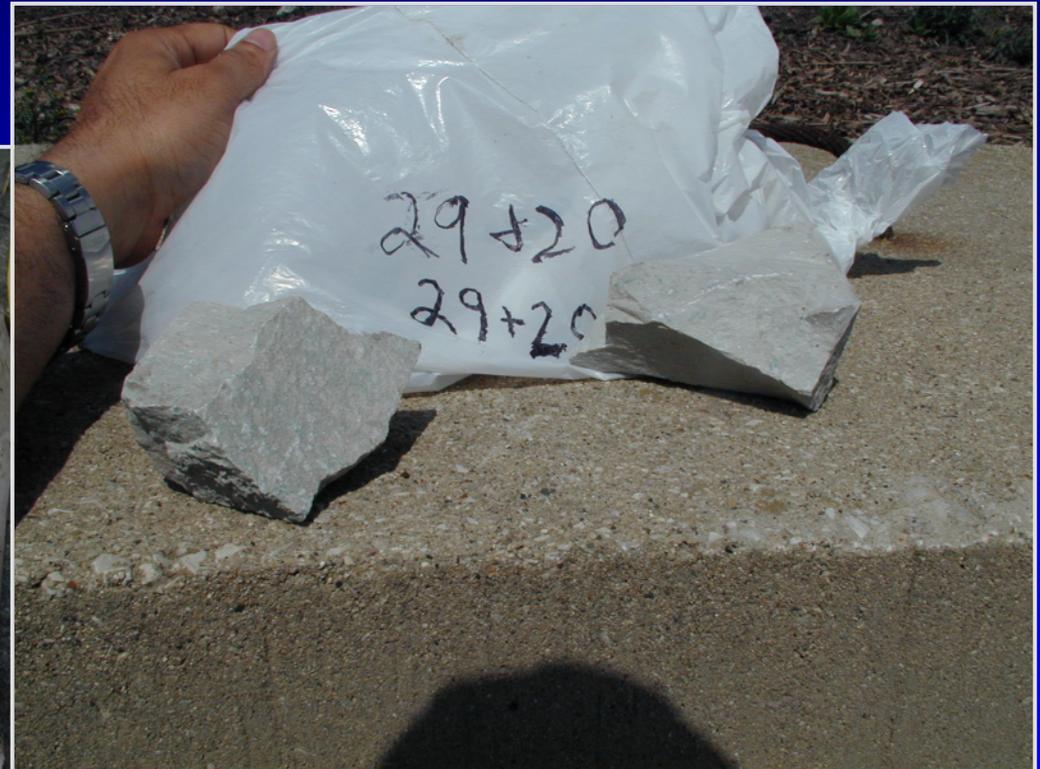
Depth Measurements





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Bedrock Key Verification





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

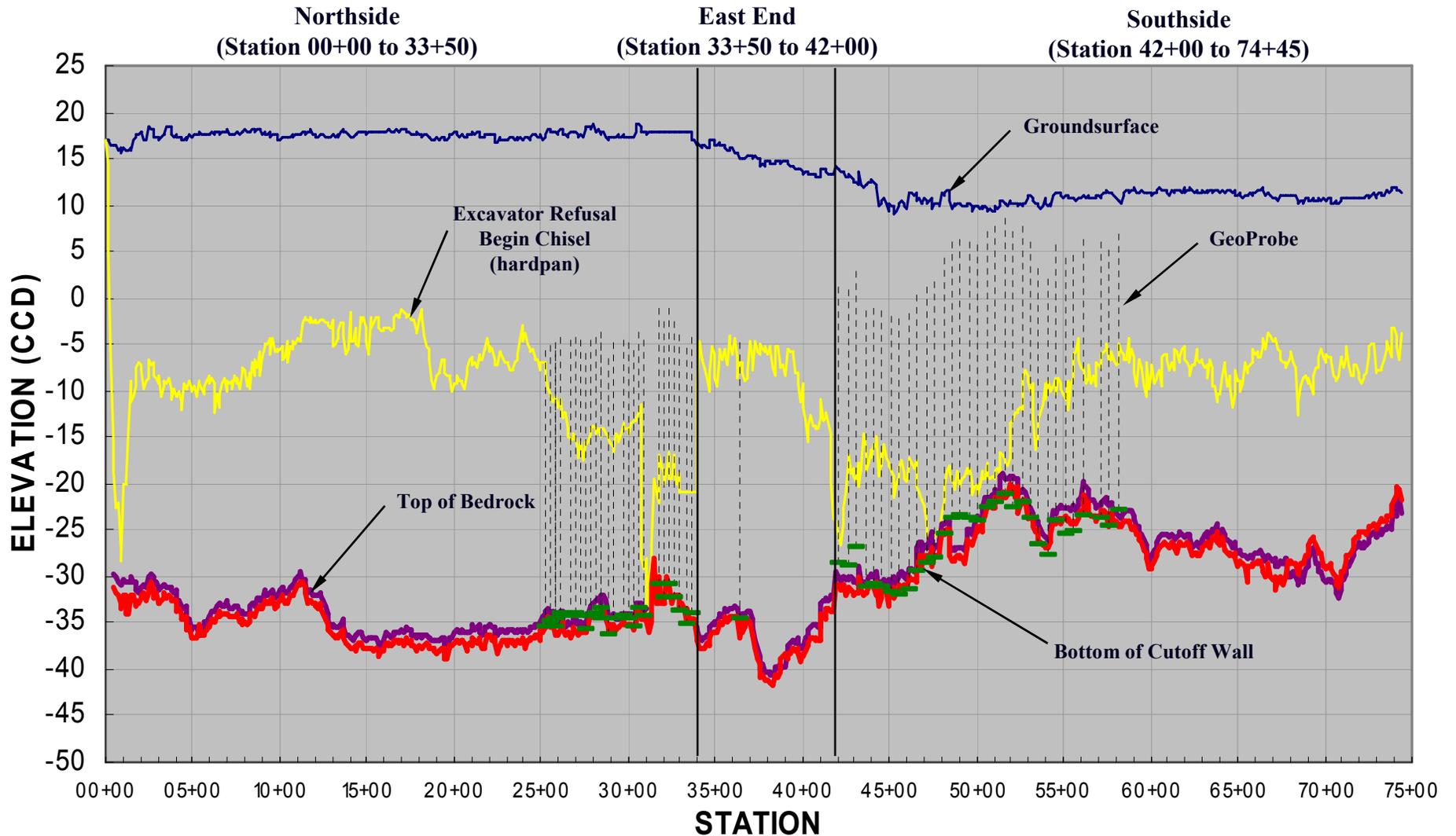
Depth Verification





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Wall Profile

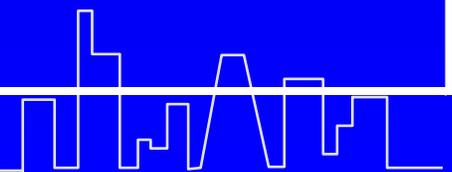




US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

Construction Summary

	Estimated (Square Feet)	Actual (Square Feet)	
Trench @ \$6.25/sf	263,000	182,706	w/Excavator
Trench @ \$48.42/sf	14,880	145,375	w/Chisel
Bedrock Key @ \$48.42/sf	7,440	7,271	w/Chisel
Total	285,320	335,352	





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

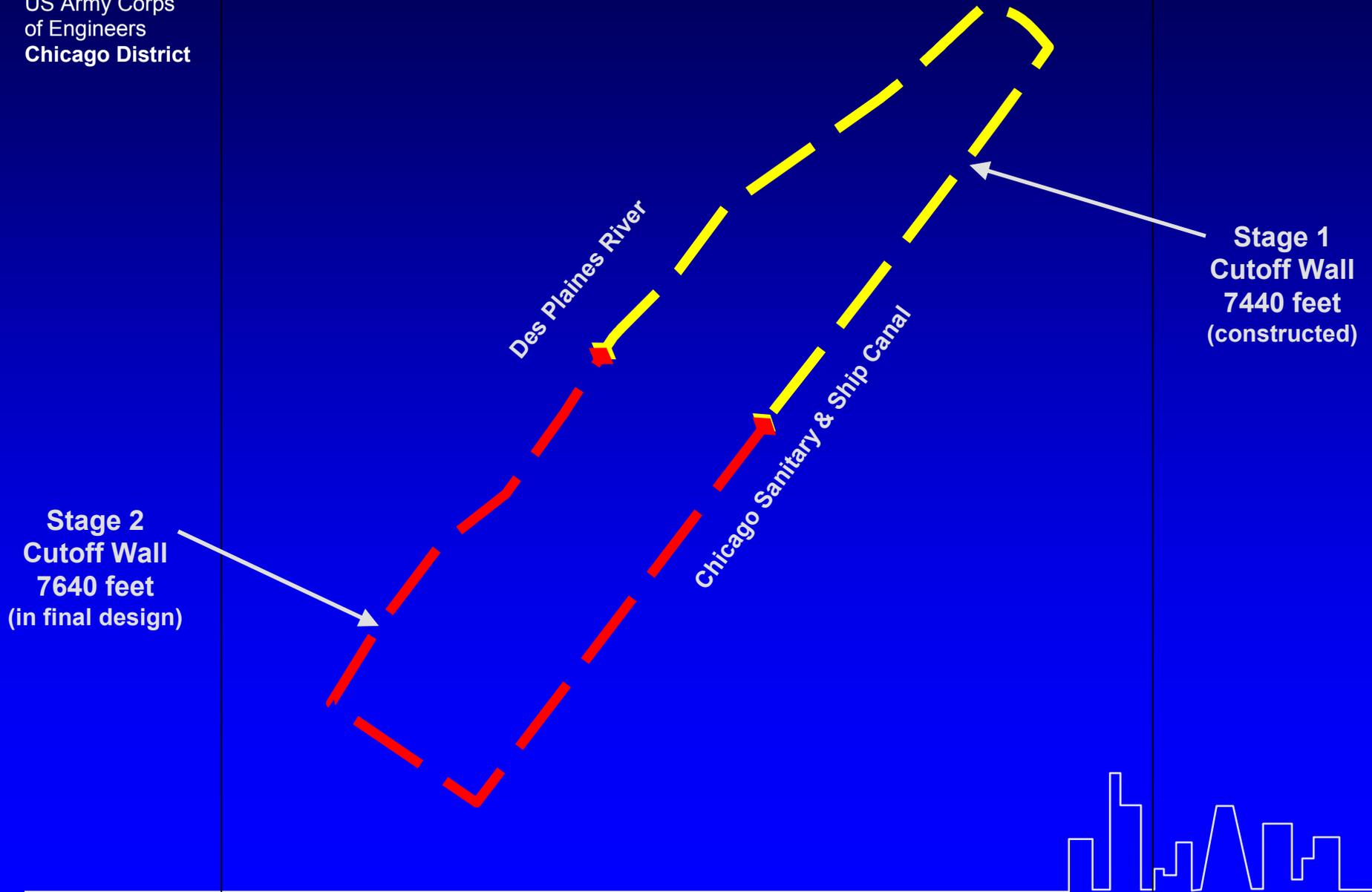
Lessons Learned

- **Ensure Thorough Site Investigations**
- **Cutoff Walls MUST be keyed into Underlying Layer for Seepage Control, VERIFY**
- **Subsurface Construction Requires a High Level of QA/QC, especially at Start-Up**
- **Keep Close Coordination between Design and Construction**
- **Perform a Test Section**





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District



Des Plaines River

Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal

Stage 1
Cutoff Wall
7440 feet
(constructed)

Stage 2
Cutoff Wall
7640 feet
(in final design)



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Chicago District

