

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Mr. Jared Rabren Drake Field Airport Director Published: April 8, 2025 Expires: May 5, 2025

Little Rock District
Permit Application No. SWL 1995-12804-6

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Little Rock District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. Code 1344). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

APPLICANT: Mr. Jared Rabren

Drake Field Airport Director 4500 South School Avenue Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

AGENT: Mr. Colby Marshall

Garver LLC.

2049 East Joyce Boulevard Fayetteville, Arkansas 72703

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: The project would affect waters of the United States associated with Ward Slough. The proposed project is located in 5 unnamed wetlands and 1 unnamed intermittent tributary of Ward Slough, in the SW 1/4 of section 4 and the NW 1/4 of section 9, T. 15 N., R. 30 W., Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: The Drake Field Airport is a public use airport that is owned and operated by the City of Fayetteville and serves general aviation and charter aircraft. The Airport is located on the south side of Fayetteville, near Greenland, Arkansas and is situated near US Highway 71. The Airport covers approximately 631 acres, has one runway (Runway 16/34) and a full parallel taxiway (Taxiway B) on the west side of the runway.

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Basic: The purpose of the proposed action is to remove the safety issues caused by aircraft having to back-taxi or cross the runway when utilizing the east side of the airport.

Overall: In servicing the geographic area of Fayetteville, Arkansas, the proposed action is needed to provide arriving and departing aircraft utilizing the east side of the airfield

direct access to the Runway 34 end and thus reducing safety issues of back-taxiing or crossing the runway.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant requests authorization to fill approximately 1.33 acres of emergent wetlands and 237 linear feet of intermittent stream channel. Additionally, approximately 84 linear feet of intermittent stream channel will be culverted.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: The project was designed to avoid and minimize wetland impacts where possible and still meet the stated purpose and need. The applicant will ensure that sediment and erosion best management practices (BMPs) are followed during the construction of this project to ensure water quality standards are maintained.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant offered the following compensatory mitigation plan to offset unavoidable functional loss to the aquatic environment: Unavoidable impacts to wetlands will be compensated by purchasing wetland and stream credits from an approved mitigation bank.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is the lead Federal agency for evaluating the undertaking for effects to historic properties as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The FAA has determined the proposed action will have no impacts to historic, architectural, archaeological, or cultural resources sites listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Corps has performed an initial review of the application, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project will not affect any listed species or critical habitat.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), any required consultation with the USFWS will be conducted in accordance with 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 402. The FAA is the lead Federal agency for ESA consultation for the proposed action. Any required consultation will be completed by the FAA.

This notice serves as request to the USFWS for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

NAVIGATION: The proposed structure or activity is not located in the vicinity of a federal navigation channel.

SECTION 408: The applicant will not be required to obtain permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, would not alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Water Quality Certification. The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 121), effective November 27, 2023, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The scope of a CWA Section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a Federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. The applicant is solely responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has not submitted a certification request to the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (certifying authority). In accordance with Certification Rule Part 121.6, the Corps and the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality have determined the reasonable period of time for the certifying agency to act upon the certification request is 120 days once the applicant submits a certification request to the certifying agency. In accordance with Certification Rule Part 121.12, the Corps will notify the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator when it has received the subject certification. The Administrator is responsible for determining if the discharge may affect water quality in a neighboring jurisdiction. The DA permit may not be issued pending the conclusion of the Administrator's determination of effects on neighboring jurisdictions.

NOTE: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has not been verified by Corps personnel.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food, and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the

activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

COMMENTS: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other Interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The Little Rock District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until May 5, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs or to John Bridgeman at John.Bridgeman@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to Little Rock District Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, PO Box 867, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0867. Please refer to the permit application number in your comments.

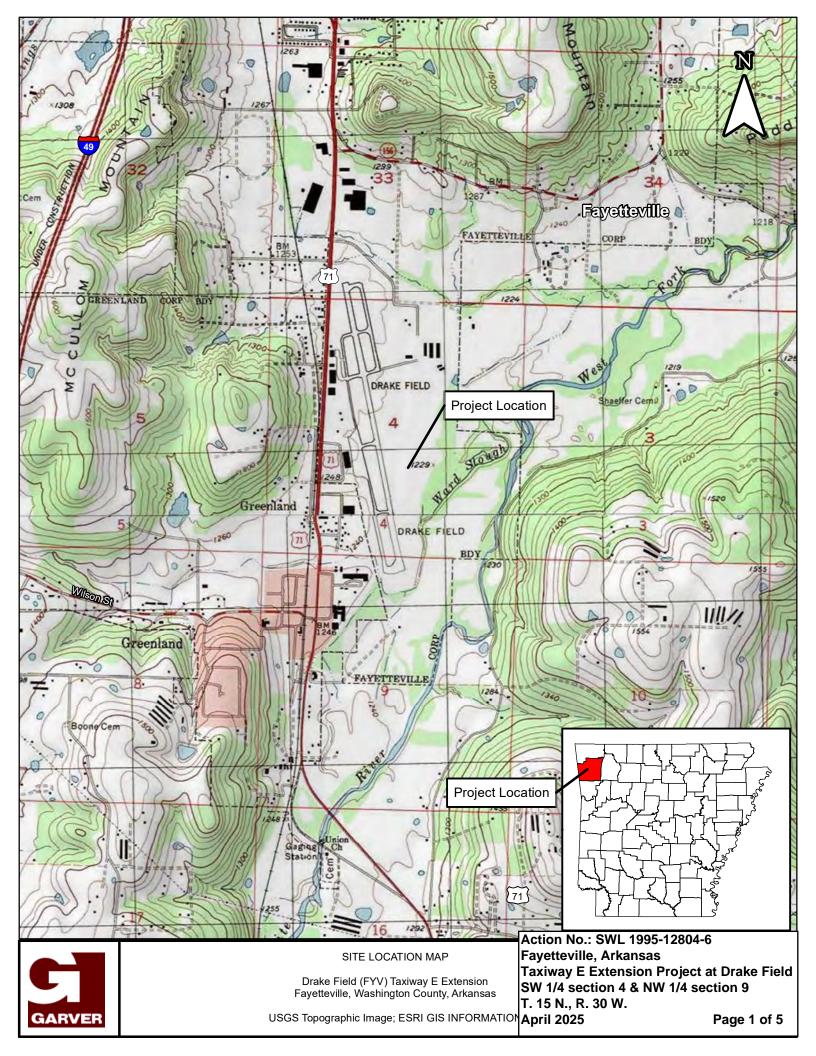
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

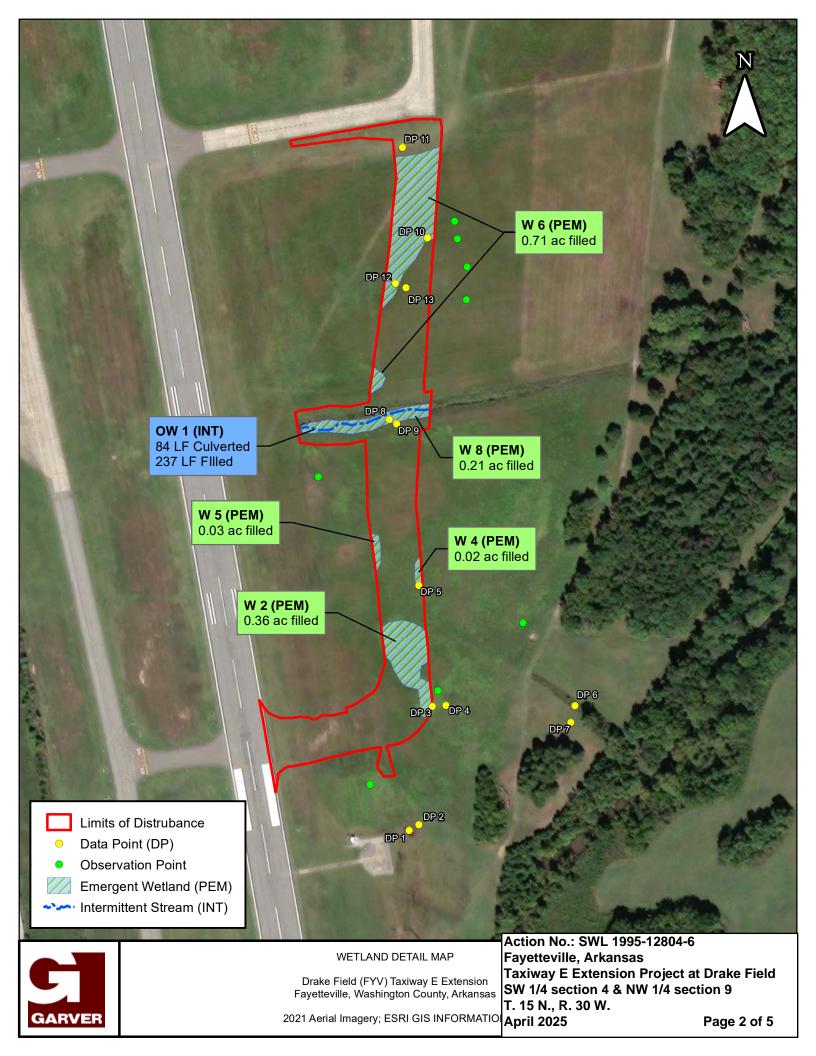
Enclosures

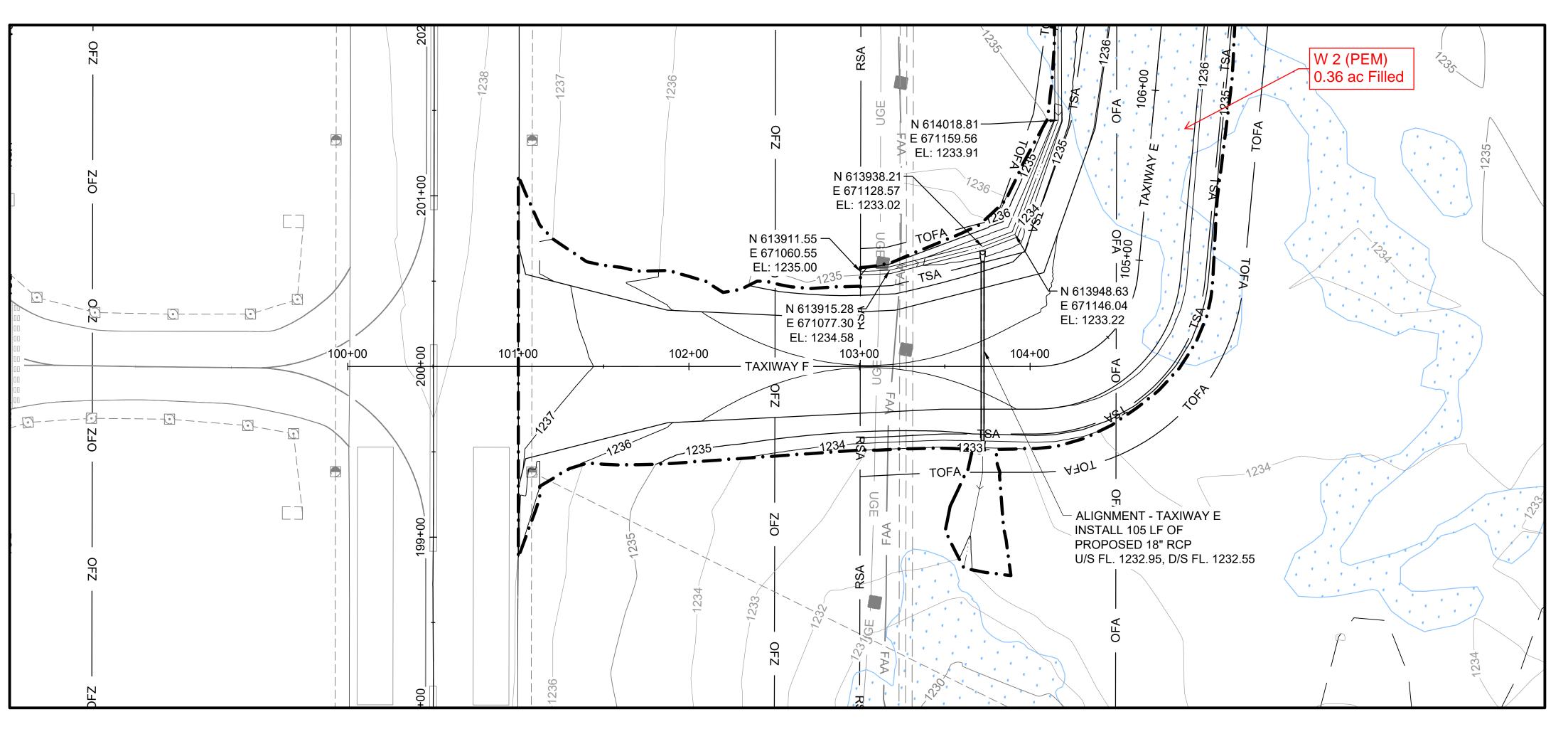
<u>Approximate Coordinates of Project Center</u>

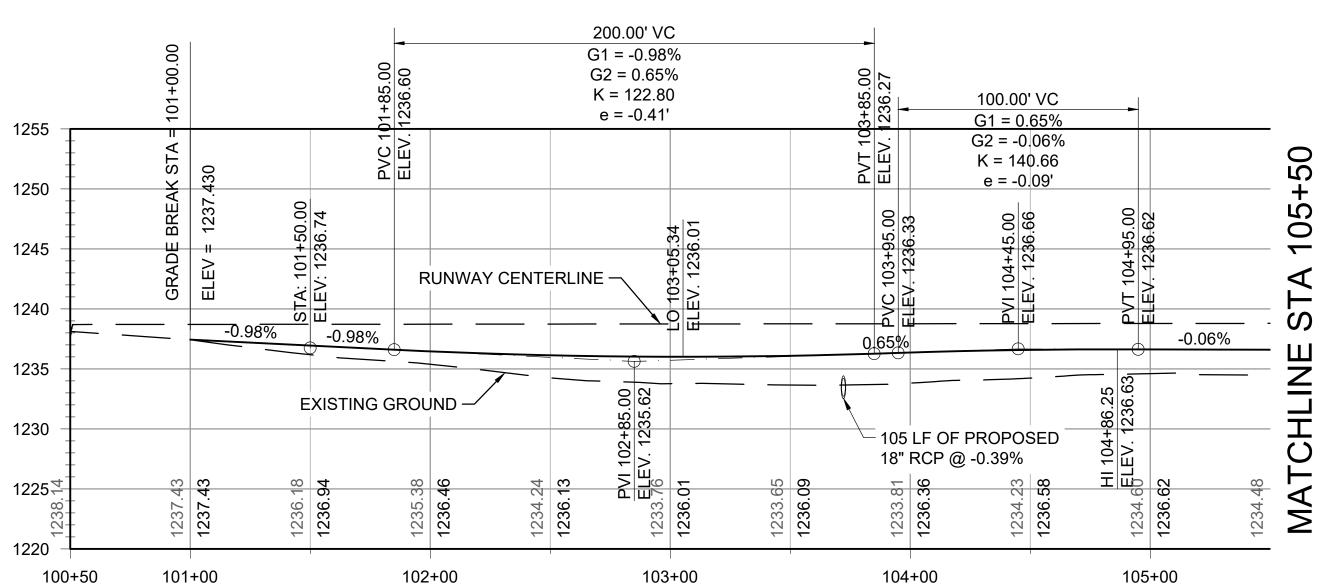
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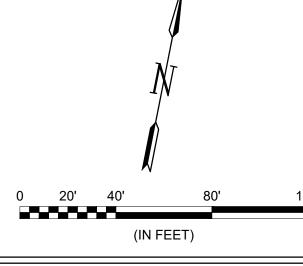
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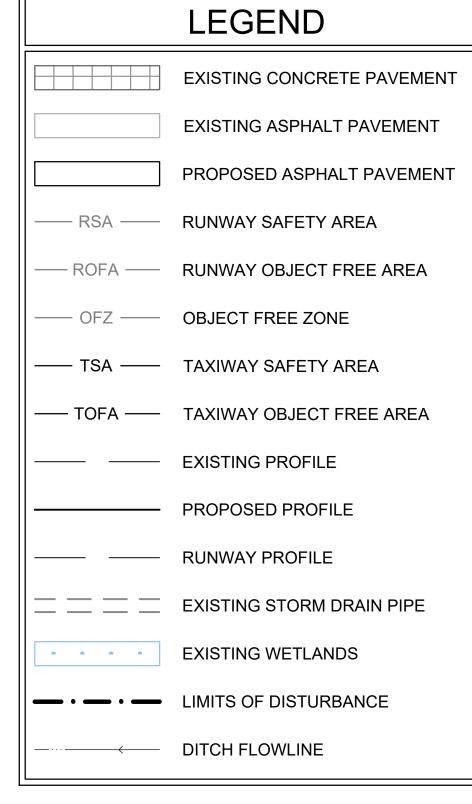












NOTE

- 1. PROFILE VERTICAL EXAGGERATION = 5.
- 2. SEE SHEET CP-001 FOR TYPICAL SECTIONS.
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TAXIWAY E & F PAVING PLAN AND PROFILE 1

KEYMAP

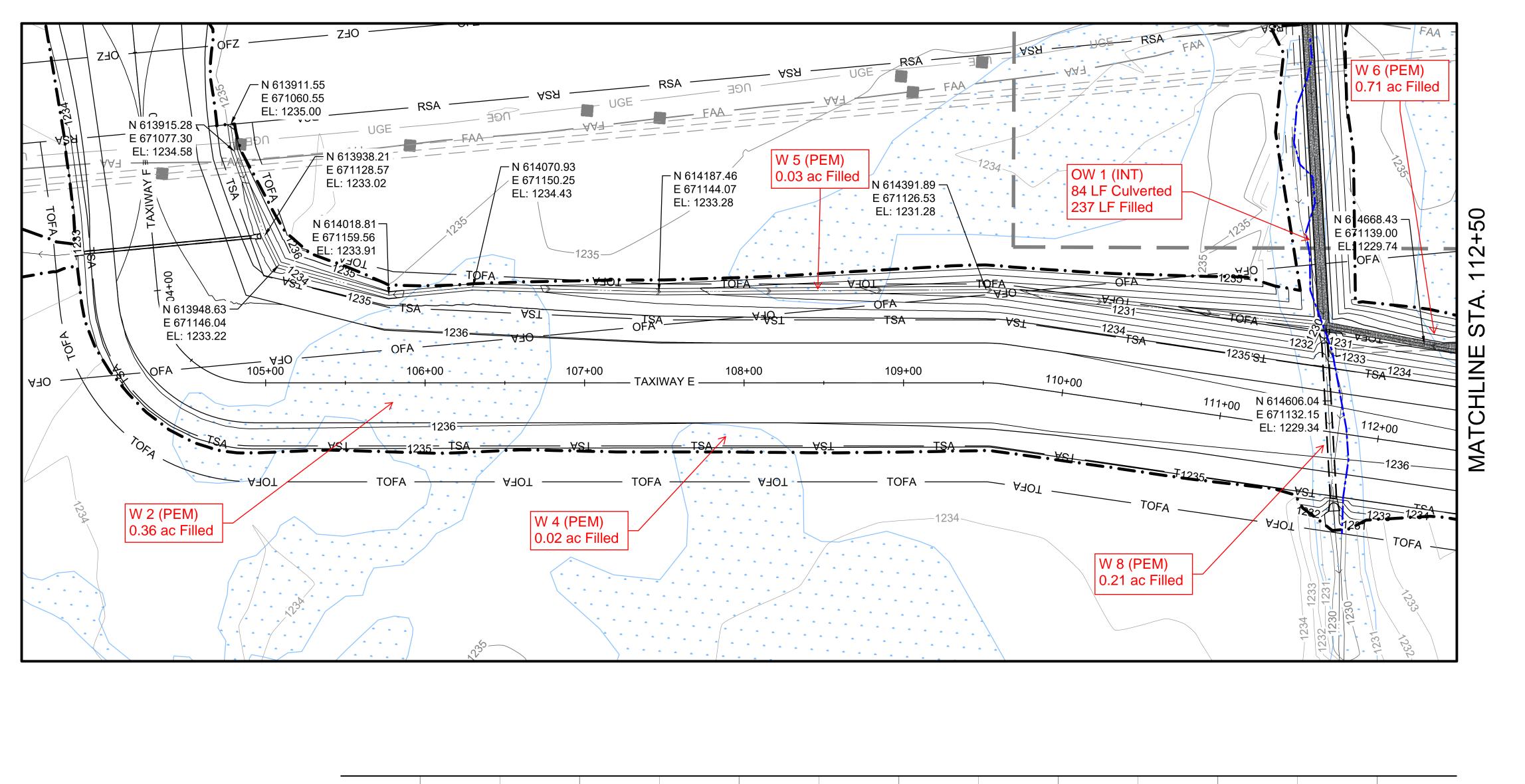
JOB NO.: 2401069 DATE: OCT. 2024 DESIGNED BY: XXX

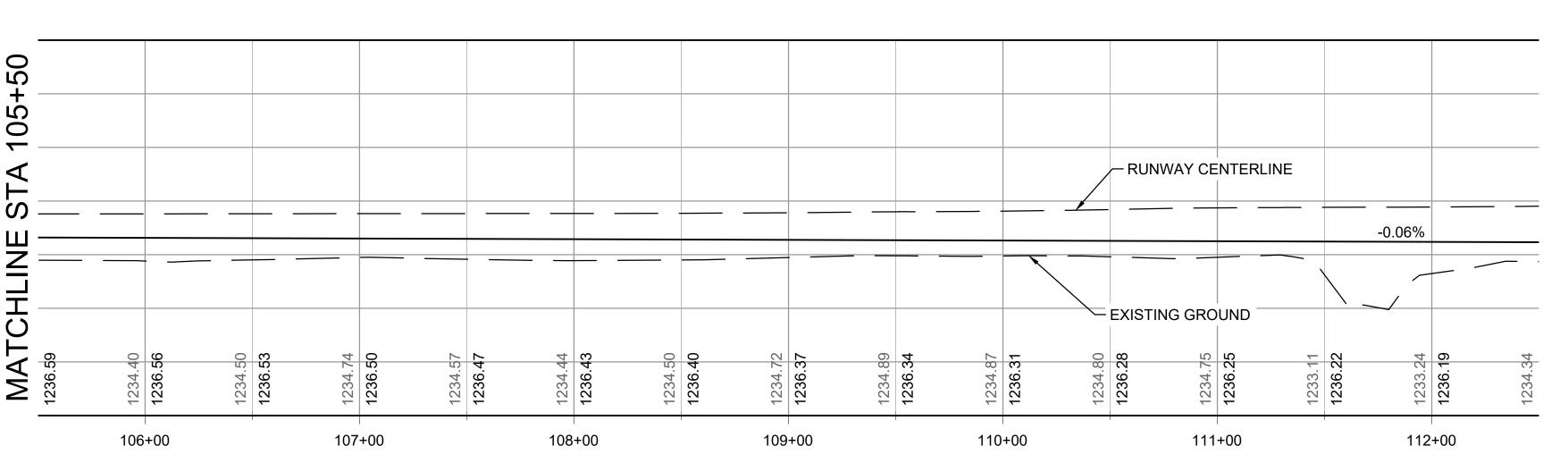
Action No.: SWL 1995-12804-6
Fayetteville, Arkansas
Taxiway E Extension Project at Drake Field
SW 1/4 section 4 & NW 1/4 section 9
T. 15 N., R. 30 W.

April 2025 Page 3 of 5

4\A13-2401069 - FYV Taxiway E Extension DS\Draw | bv: Lantz, Virginia H. (Ginnv) Plot Style: AECmono.

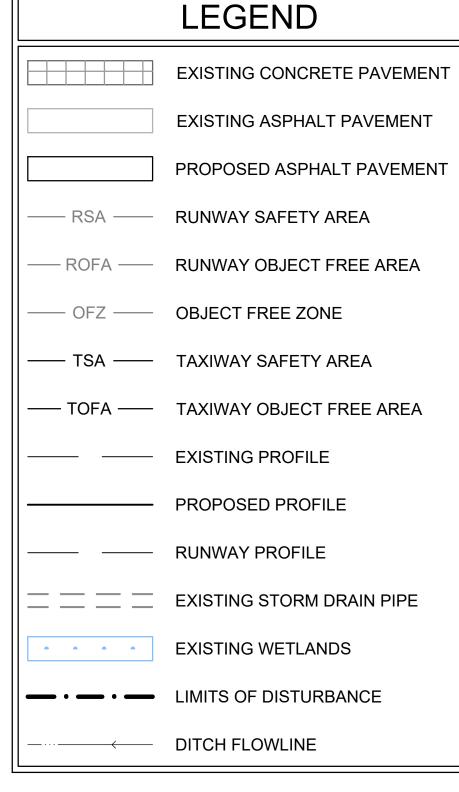
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1. SEE SHEET CP-101 FOR PLAN AND PROFILE NOTES.

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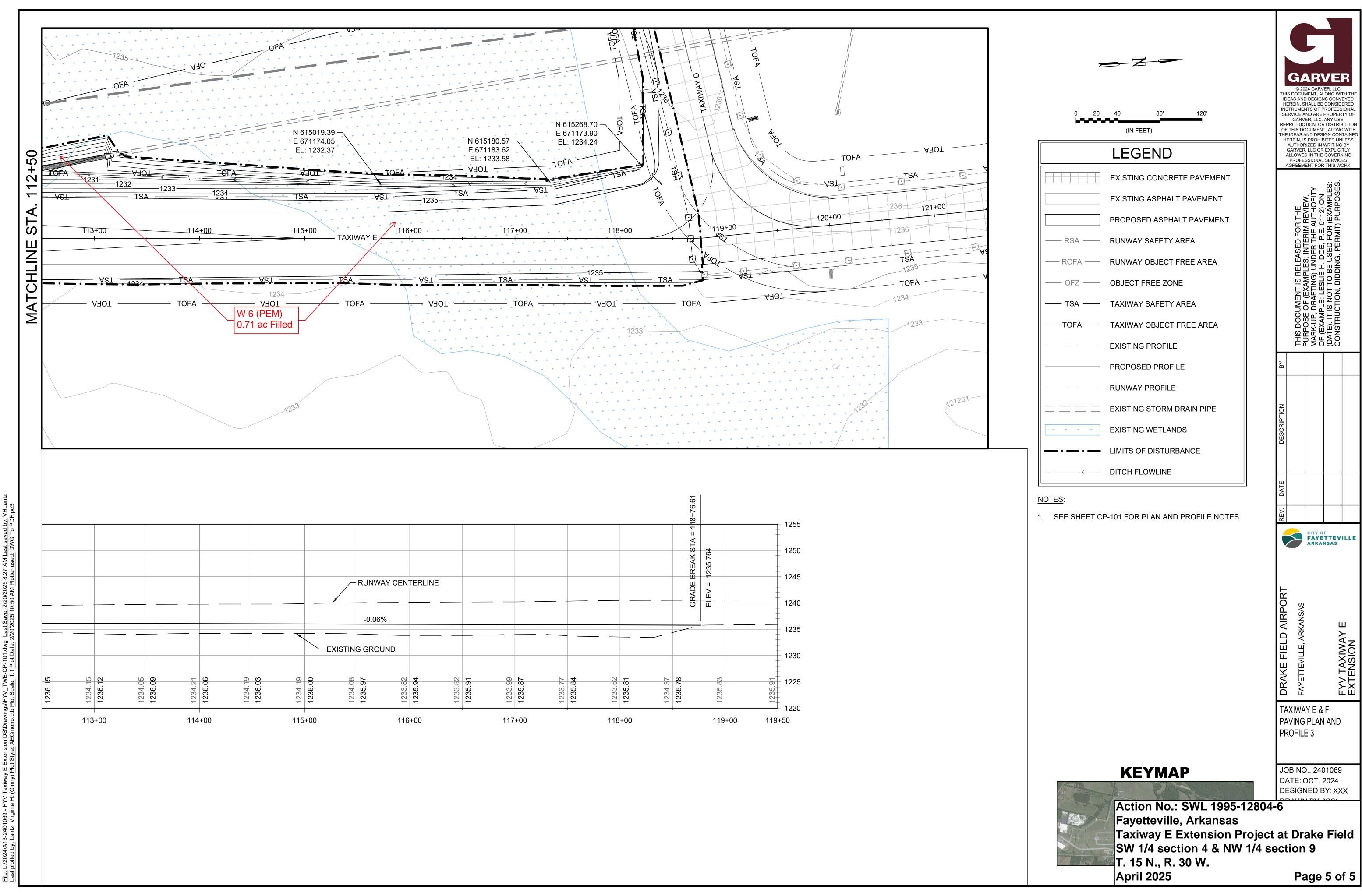
TAXIWAY E & F PAVING PLAN AND PROFILE 2

KEYMAP

JOB NO.: 2401069 DATE: OCT. 2024 DESIGNED BY: XXX

Action No.: SWL 1995-12804-6 Fayetteville, Arkansas Taxiway E Extension Project at Drake Field SW 1/4 section 4 & NW 1/4 section 9 T. 15 N., R. 30 W. **April 2025**

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CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE ARKANSAS

FYV TAXIWAY E EXTENSION

TAXIWAY E & F PAVING PLAN AND PROFILE 3

JOB NO.: 2401069 DATE: OCT. 2024 DESIGNED BY: XXX

SW 1/4 section 4 & NW 1/4 section 9

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