

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ALTER A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT UNDER SECTION 408

TITLE: Crown Castle Fiber, LLC – CC1426 Aerial Fiber Optic Telecommunication Utility Line over the Inland Waterway from Rehoboth Bay to Delaware Bay (L&R Canal) Federal Navigation Channel in the City of Lewes, Sussex County, Delaware

PUBLIC NOTICE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 408-NAP-2025-0018

PUBLIC NOTICE COMMENT PERIOD:

Begins: **04 November 2025**

Expires: **19 November 2025**

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army Section 408 permission for certain work at or near a federal project of the United States, as described below and shown on attached figures. Written comments are being solicited from anyone having an interest in the requested alteration. Comments will become part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE's) administrative record and will be considered in determining whether to approve the request. Comments supporting, opposing, or identifying concerns that should be considered by the USACE in its decision process are all welcome.

This public notice is not a paid advertisement and is for public information only. Issuance of this notice does not imply USACE endorsement of the project as described.

1. REQUESTOR: In compliance with 33 USC 408 (Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; hereinafter Section 408), Crown Castle Fiber, LLC has requested permission to install one (1) aerial fiber optic telecommunication utility line over the Inland Waterway from Rehoboth Bay to Delaware Bay (L&R Canal) Federal Navigation Channel in the City of Lewes, Sussex County, Delaware.

2. LOCATION: The proposed project is located at the L&R Canal just east of the Savannah Road drawbridge in the City of Lewes, Sussex County, Delaware, between two (2) existing utility poles sited at 38.775366, -75.137491 (southern pole) and 38.775905, -75.137169 (northern pole); with approximate overall center coordinates 38.775659, -75.137404.

3. LOCATION MAP(S)/DRAWING(S): Please see attached Project Plan Sheets 1 through 5.

4. REQUESTER'S PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed action entails the installation of one (1) new 217.0-foot long, approximately 2.0-inch diameter aerial fiber optic utility line, crossing over the Inland Waterway from Rehoboth Bay to Delaware Bay (L&R Canal) Federal Navigation Channel between existing City of Lewes utility poles. The aerial utility line will cross over the L&R Canal's Federal Navigation Channel at 62.0-feet-4.0-inches, 65.0-feet-9.0-inches, and 69.0-feet-6.0-inches, corresponding to the vertical heights over the High Tide Line, Mean High Water Line, and Mean Low Water Line, respectively. The aerial utility line is proposed to be installed using a large snap with the jack/grip/sling method to get the utility line across the canal and up the utility poles. No in-water vessels will be utilized.

The stated purpose of the project is to provide fiber optic communication capabilities.

5. REGULATORY AUTHORITY: This request will be reviewed according to the provisions of Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 408). A requestor has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from the USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC Section 1344) and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 USC 1413). Any Section 10/404/103 permit decision associated with the proposed alteration is separate from and will not be included in the Section 408 permission decision. An approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE: A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action, and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. While ensuring compliance is the responsibility of USACE, the requester is providing all information that the Philadelphia District identifies as necessary to satisfy all applicable federal laws, executive orders, regulations, policies, and ordinances. Based on information provided by the applicant to date, current Corps regulations governing NEPA implementation, and/or the contents of existing NEPA documentation if available, it is likely that the proposed action will be determined to be categorically excluded from the need to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This determination will be finalized following completion of agency coordination and prior to issuance of the Section 408 Permission Decision.

7. EVALUATION: As part of its evaluation, USACE will first make a determination that the submittal from the requestor is complete. The Philadelphia District is working closely with the requestor to ensure that all required technical plans, maps, drawings, and specifications are provided and are complete. Once the package is complete, a District-led review will be conducted to determine, in accordance with Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-216, whether the proposed alteration will impair the usefulness of the USACE Project or be injurious to the public interest, as follows:

- A. *Impair the Usefulness of the Project Determination.* The Philadelphia District's Section 408 review team will determine if the proposed alteration will limit the ability

of the federally authorized project to function as authorized, or will compromise or change any authorized project conditions, purposes or outputs.

- B. *Injurious to the Public Interest Determination.* Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts that the proposed alteration to the USACE project may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors that are relevant in each particular case. Factors that may be relevant to the public interest depend upon the type of USACE project being altered and may include, but are not limited to, such things as conservation, economic development, historic properties, cultural resources, environmental impacts, water supply, water quality, flood hazards, floodplains, residual risk, induced damages, navigation, shore erosion or accretion, and recreation. The decision whether to approve an alteration will be determined by the consideration of whether benefits are commensurate with risks. If the potential detriments are found to outweigh the potential benefits, then it may be determined that the proposed alteration is injurious to the public interest.

8. SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The USACE 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 the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by USACE to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permission for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are considered in making a final determination whether the proposed action will be categorically excluded from the need to prepare further NEPA documentation. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

- A. It should be noted that materials submitted as part of the Section 408 request become part of the public record and are thus available to the general public under the procedures of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Individuals may submit a written request to the Philadelphia District Corps of Engineers, Office of Counsel to obtain copies of said materials under the FOIA.
- B. It is presumed that all parties viewing this notice will wish to respond to this public notice; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the project as described.

9. COMMENT SUBMISSION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Written comments on the described work should reference the USACE Public Notice Identification Number found on the first page of this notice. Comments must reach this office no later than the stated expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments or requests for additional information should be emailed or mailed to the following address:

Email: Bishel.Baby@usace.army.mil
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Philadelphia District
Attn: Bishel B. Baby
1650 Arch Street, 7th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2004

LEGEND

SYMBOL	LEGEND	SYMBOL	LEGEND	SYMBOL	LEGEND	SYMBOL	LEGEND	SYMBOL	LEGEND
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLE		MANHOLE		POWER ABOVE GROUND PEDESTAL		RING CUT BOX		CAUTION
	POWER POLE		DOUBLE LID MANHOLE				WALL MOUNT PANEL		STRAIGHT & TURNS
	JOINT POLE		VAULT		RAILROAD SIGNAL POLE		RACK MOUNT PANEL		
	TRANSFORMER POLE		CROWN CASTLE HANDHOLE		RAILROAD SIGNAL GATE		PULL / JUNCTION BOX		RIGHT TURN
	JOINT TRANSFORMER POLE				RAILROAD SIGNAL CROSSING		ENCLOSURE WALL MOUNT		LEFT TURN
	CROWN CASTLE OWNED POLE		EXISTING HANDHOLE		RAILROAD SIGN		PASSIVE FILTER WALL		STRAIGHT
	STEEL POLE		JUNCTION BOX		ROAD SIGNS		PASSIVE FILTER RACK		HOV LANE
	CONCRETE POLE		ABOVE GROUND PEDESTAL		SURVEY MARKER		RISER CONDUIT		BICYCLE LANE
	POLE - TEMPORARY		BORE PIT		PARKING METER		CABINET		MILE MARKER POST
	TRAFFIC SIGNAL POLE		TEST PIT		CONCRETE SIDEWALK		SLACK COIL		SIGN, TEMP
	LIGHT POLE		UNKNOWN CAP				LB BOX		CHANNELIZING DEVICE
	YARD LIGHT		TRAFFIC CONTROL CAB		GAS VALVE		SLACK LOOP		FLAGGER
	CROSSWALK LIGHT		TRAFFIC SIGNAL BOX		GAS MARKER		CAN / SPLICE ENCLOSURE		FLAG TREE
	RISER		TRAFFIC SIGNAL HANDHOLE				TICK		
	ANCHOR		CCF MARKER		FIRE HYDRANT				TYPE III BARRICADE
	SIDEWALK ANCHOR				WATER VALVE		HUB		
	QUEENS POST ANCHOR				WATER CAP		TOWER - LATTICE		WORK VEHICLE / ATTENUATOR
	ROCK ANCHOR		CONCRETE TELCO PAD		WATER VAULT		TOWER - MONOPOLE		
	BUILDING ANCHOR						TOWER - MICROWAVE		POLICE CAR
	GROUND LOCATION		SAN SEWER CAP		TREE		ANTENNA		
	BOND LOCATION		SAN SEWER MANHOLE		PINE TREE		FIBER NODE/REMOTE EQUIPMENT		ARROW PANEL
	POWER XFMR				BRUSH AND SHRUB				
			STORM DRAIN MANHOLE		BUS SHELTER				ARROW PANEL TRAILER
			CATCH BASIN		MAIL BOX				



SITE INFORMATION
LEWES AND REHOBOTH
CANAL PERMIT
SAVANNAH RD
LEWES, DE
38°46'32.4"N / 75°08'14.7"W
PD#

ISSUED FOR:				
REV	DATE	DRWN	DESCRIPTION	DES-QA
1	10/23/25	SPI - LS	PROFILE	

LEGEND

SHEET NUMBER:
T - 2

REVISION:
1

LINETYPES

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

	CROWN PROPOSED AERIAL		PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
	EXISTING AERIAL		PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
	CROWN PROPOSED UG CONDUIT		PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
	CROWN EXISTING UG CONDUIT		PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
	CROWN PROPOSED UG PWR CONDUIT		PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
			PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
			PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
	3RD PARTY UG CONDUIT		PROPOSED FIBER COUNT
	POWER UG		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	3RD PARTY FIBER		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	COMMUNICATIONS		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	GAS LINE		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	WATER MAIN		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	SEWER		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	SANITARY SEWER		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	STORM SEWER		EXISTING FIBER COUNT
	RECLAIM WATER		
	TRAFFIC		
	FENCE		
	CENTER LINE		GUARDRAIL
	EDGE OF PAVEMENT		RAILROAD
	RIGHT OF WAY		PROPERTY LINE
	BACK OF CURB		

TYPICAL UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION:

- RESTORE ALL SURFACES TO EQUAL OR BETTER CONDITION.
- VERIFY ALL MEASUREMENTS AND DISTANCES.
- MAINTAIN MINIMUM 12" SEPARATION BETWEEN PROPOSED CROWN CASTLE DUCTS & EXISTING UTILITIES.
- NO PROPOSED RUNNING LINE CHANGES ARE TO BE DONE WITHOUT CROWN CASTLE OSPE APPROVAL.
- MAINTAIN A MIN BENDING RADIUS OF 5' ON ALL DUCT CONFIGURATION.

TYPICAL AERIAL CONSTRUCTION:

- MAINTAIN POLE ATTACHMENTS 40" BELOW NEUTRAL.
- FOR NEW POLE ATTACHMENTS, REFER TO ALPINE/TRANSMISSION WINDLOAD CALCULATION SHEETS.
- NEW FIBER OPTIC CABLE TO BE ATTACHED TO EXISTING POLES AND LASHED TO NEW 10M STRAND FOR CROWN CASTLE: ATTACHMENT HEIGHT AS INDICATED IN TYPICAL MINIMUM AERIAL CLEARANCE AND SEPARATION AS SHOWN ON AERIAL DETAIL 001 OF 001.
- MAINTAIN A RATIO OF LEAD OVER HEIGHT EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 75% AT ALL ANCHOR LOCATIONS. DOWN GUY SIZE WILL BE SAME AS SUPPORTING STRAND SIZE

FOR CONSTRUCTION:

- EXTREME CAUTION TO BE TAKEN TO CONTAIN SLURRY AROUND WORK AREAS NEAR WETLANDS TO AVOID ANY WATER QUALITY ISSUES!



SITE INFORMATION
 LEWES AND REHOBOTH
 CANAL PERMIT
 SAVANNAH RD
 LEWES, DE
 38°46'32.4"N / 75°08'14.7"W
 PD#

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REV	DATE	DRWN	DESCRIPTION	DES-QA
1	10/23/25	SPI-LS	PROFILE	

LINETYPES

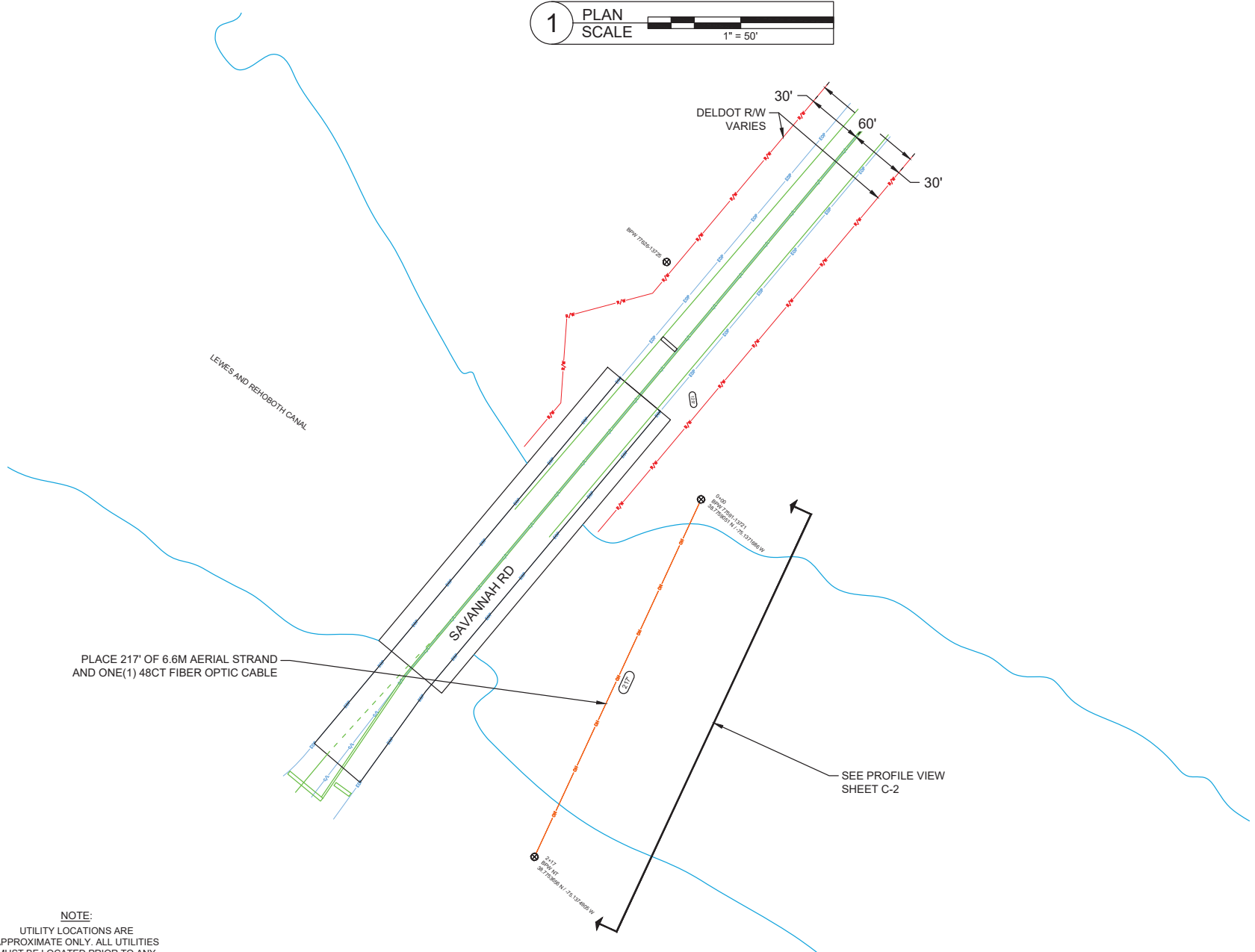
SHEET NUMBER:

T - 3

REVISION:

1

1 PLAN SCALE 1" = 50'



PLACE 217' OF 6.6M AERIAL STRAND AND ONE(1) 48CT FIBER OPTIC CABLE

SEE PROFILE VIEW SHEET C-2

NOTE:
UTILITY LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY. ALL UTILITIES MUST BE LOCATED PRIOR TO ANY EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES



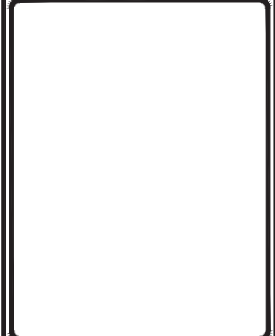
CC CROWN CASTLE
100 CARLSON WAY, SUITE 12
DOVER, DE 19901

SPI COMMUNICATIONS
690 SUGARTOWN RD
MALVERN, PA 19355

SITE INFORMATION
LEWES AND REHOBOTH CANAL PERMIT
SAVANNAH RD
LEWES, DE
38°46'32.4"N / 75°08'14.7"W
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ISSUED FOR:

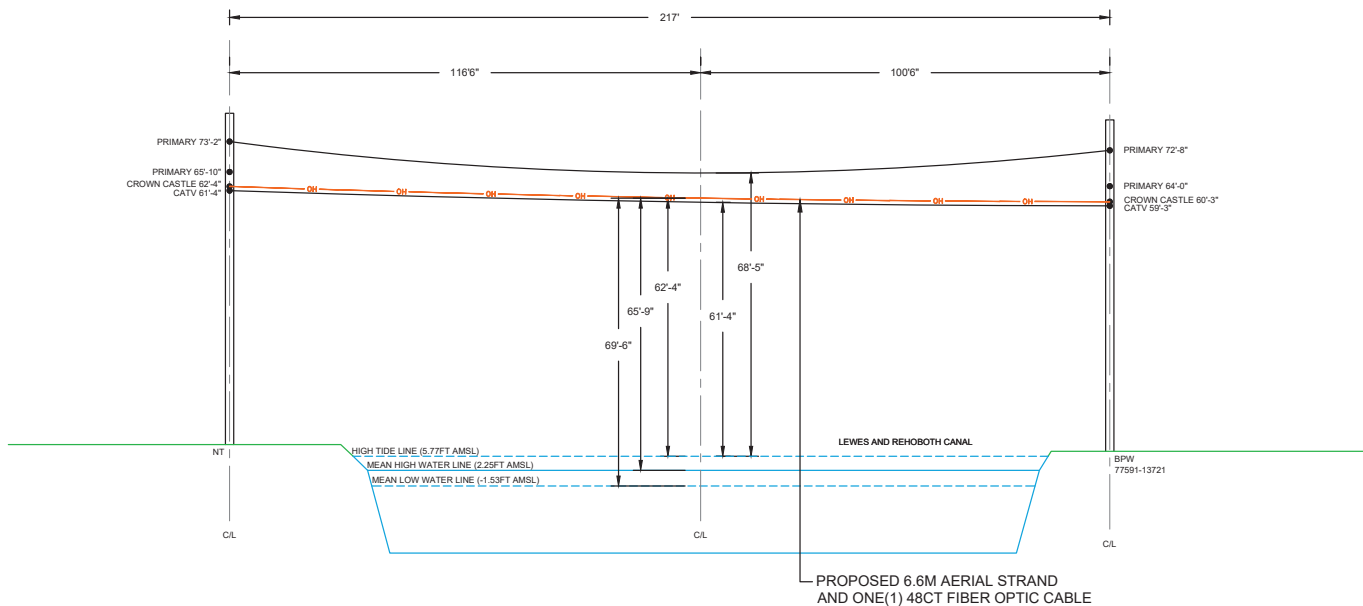
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OSP PLAN

SHEET NUMBER: **C - 1** REVISION: **1**

PROFILE - FACING NORTHWEST



1 PLAN SCALE
1" = 30'



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LEWES AND REHOBOTH CANAL PERMIT
SAVANNAH RD
LEWES, DE
38°46'32.4"N / 75°08'14.7"W
PD#

ISSUED FOR:

REV	DATE	DRWN	DESCRIPTION	DES-QA
1	10/23/25	SPI - LS	PROFILE	

OSP PLAN

SHEET NUMBER: **C - 2** REVISION: **1**