

An Important Landowner Consideration for Gas Leasing a Small Single Tract In Pennsylvania.

March 1, 2017
Royalty Check LLC

The smaller acreage Pennsylvania landowner may believe that due to the location of their property they have substantial bargaining power with drilling operators in obtaining an individual lease to extract natural gas from their mineral property. For the most part, in practice, this bargaining power is quite limited. This misconception can result in essentially losing the natural gas beneath the property and its value. This will be shown by examples. These are the facts.

(An obvious way to increase the lease bargaining power of the smaller landowner is by combining the smaller tracts into thousands of acres covered by the terms of a single lease. But, this is a subject with its nuances to be covered elsewhere.)

The Pennsylvania property boundaries do not lend themselves for simple horizontal drilling for natural gas. The surface property boundaries tend to follow the surface features of hills and streams. Over the years, original land tracts have been subdivided into smaller tracts. For the most part, the mineral property boundaries have inherited this complex mosaic. This is true even if the surface rights at some point in time have been severed from the mineral property. Severing often occurred after initial timbering of the land was completed and the surface sold for other purposes. This can result in larger but still irregular mineral property tracts that were not further subdivided as the surface property continued to be developed.

If the mineral property was not severed from the surface, the mineral property tracts became smaller. Many larger farms were divided among children. With time, the surface land near suburban areas has become more valuable as smaller acreages with residences than as operating smaller farms. The closer the surface property is located to an urban area, the tracts tend to get smaller and smaller. As a result, properties of less than 100 acres with irregular boundaries have become the majority of a complex patchwork of mineral property ownership in the prime drilling areas in Pennsylvania.

The laterals for horizontal drilling of a single well are now typically 6,000 feet long with some exceeding 10,000 feet. A single well pad likely needs to have at least four wells to be economical. Some well pads have over ten wells. This means in the vicinity of a single well pad with only four wells at least 550 acres needs to be available. Further this acreage must be perfectly aligned with the natural fissures in the gas bearing shale. In practice, leasing parts of properties totaling 1000 acres may be required to obtain the 550 acres and to support a single well pad with straight horizontal laterals. This assumes a typical 1000-foot spacing between laterals. Nice straight horizontal laterals are the preference for the driller. This preference can provide a small landowner with perhaps 10

to 20 acres a feeling of some bargaining power when negotiating the terms of a lease to drill under their property. After all, their property may be in the direct path for drilling and is the only tract in the way of simple horizontal drilling.

As will be shown in practice, the bargaining power of the smaller acreage is really limited. It is easy to simply drill around the property. With the current laws in Pennsylvania, some or all the gas can still be extracted from beneath property by hydro-fracking without payment as long as the horizontal lateral bore does not go directly under the property. The following are actual well plats showing the ability to drill around property boundaries and stay within quite irregular tracks. These well bores are typically over a mile beneath the surface. Independent verification of the drill path or deviation from the planned drill path is not readily available. These examples are obtained from the well permits as filed with the Pennsylvania DEP. The examples were found by examining well plats for other reasons. There are seventeen examples. They are all from recent well permits filed from 2013 to 2015. These examples are by no means exhaustive and are not meant to highlight any one area of the state or operator. A straight horizontal bore maybe the driller's preference, but is certainly not mandatory. The examples are intended to clearly demonstrate a single tract or boundary can be drilled around if necessary.

The examples clearly show the technical ability to steer the horizontal lateral into curves and "S" shapes. Well bores go very close to unleased tracts where undoubtedly gas will be extracted, perhaps without royalty payment to the mineral owner. Small tracts are drilled around.

The following is a summary listing of the examples by page number. Some examples show the well bores clearly steering around small properties. Others examples show the well bore very close to the tract boundaries of perhaps unleased properties. Some examples show how the operator must deal with irregular tracts by placing bends in the horizontal section. One example shows "threading the needle" past several small properties.

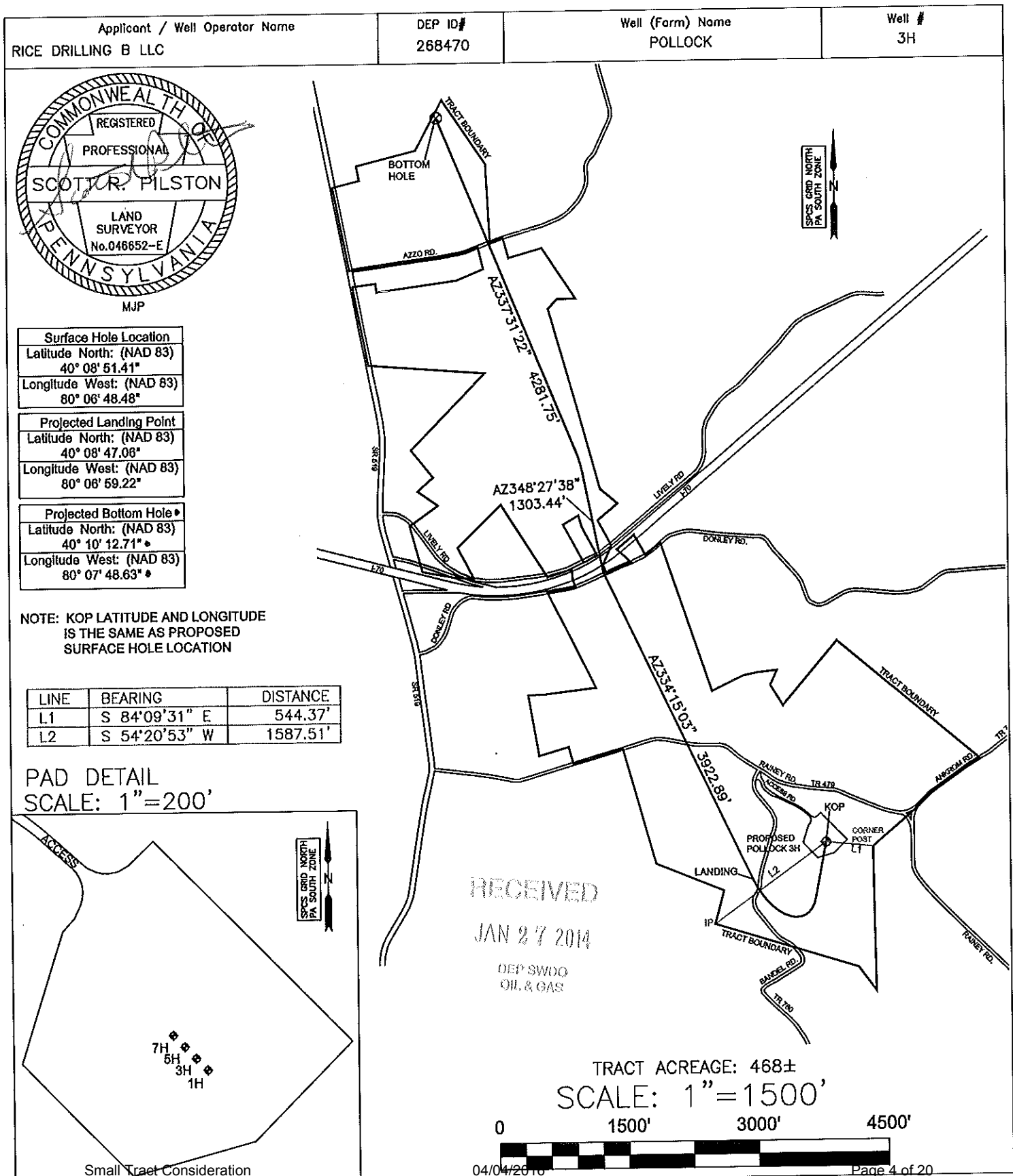
Hopefully, this will prevent an over confident landowner or their representative from completely losing the value of their mineral property.

Page Number	Well Bore to Property Feature to note
Page 4	Well Bore Past Small Property
Page 5	Well Bore Past Small Property
Page 6	Well Bore Past Small Property
Page 7	Bent Well Bore Small Property
Page 8	Well Bore Close to Tract Boundary
Page 9	Well Bore Close to Tract Boundary
Page 10	Well Bore Close to Tract Boundary
Page 11	Well Bore Close to Tract Boundary
Page 12	Well Bore Close to Tract Boundary
Page 13	Well Bore Bend In Irregular Tract
Page 14	Well Bore Bend In Irregular Tract
Page 15	Well Bore with "S" Bend
Page 16	Well Bore "Threading the Needle" past several small tracts
Page 17	Well Bore bent In Irregular Tract
Page 18	3D bend in vertical section before landing point
Page 19	3D bend in vertical section before landing point
Page 20	Bottom Hole to Tract Boundary

WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

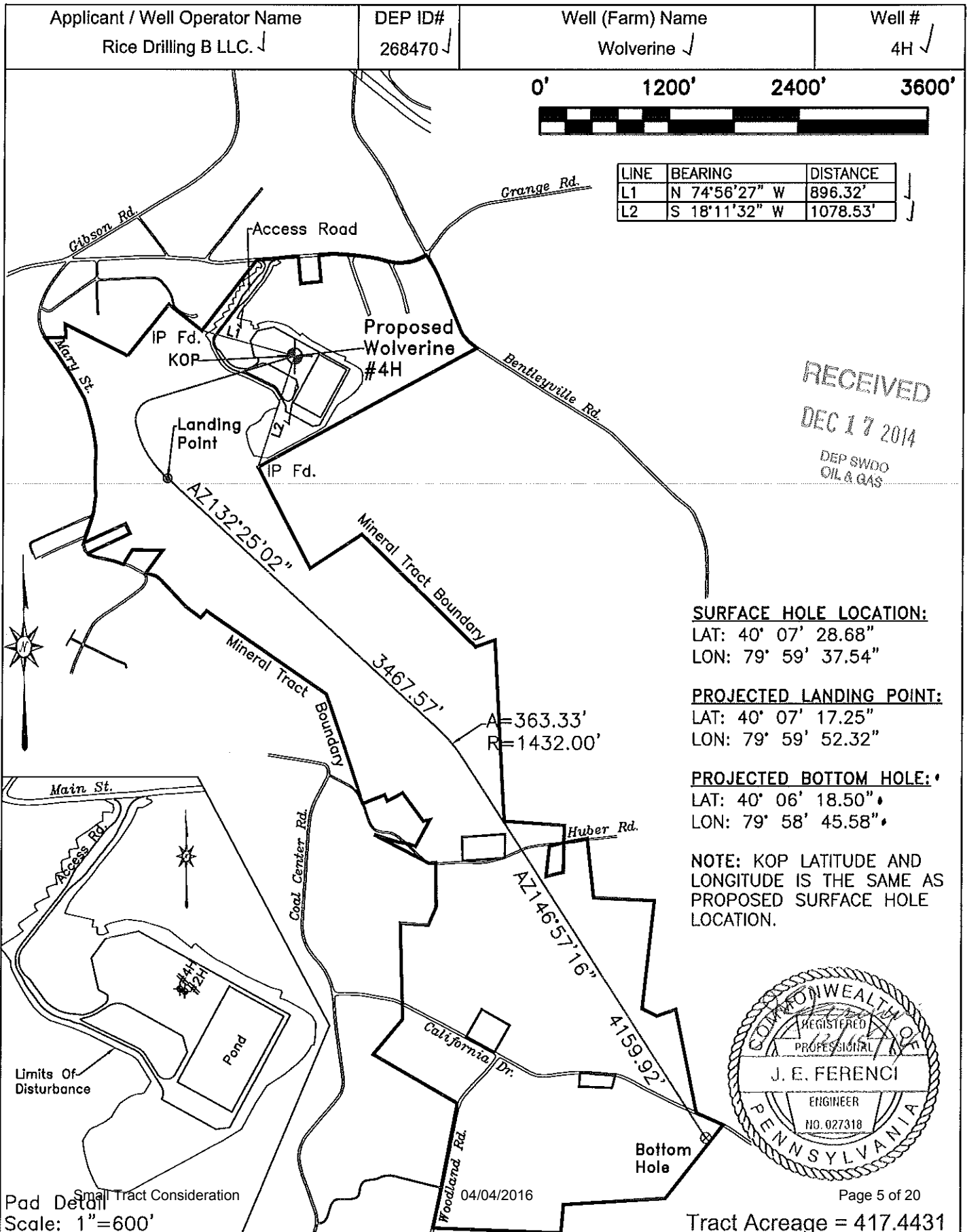
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as ⊗ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

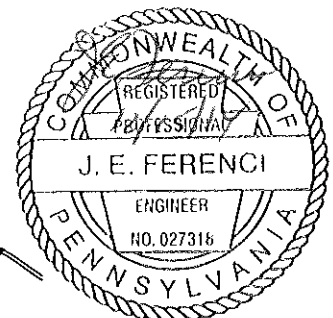
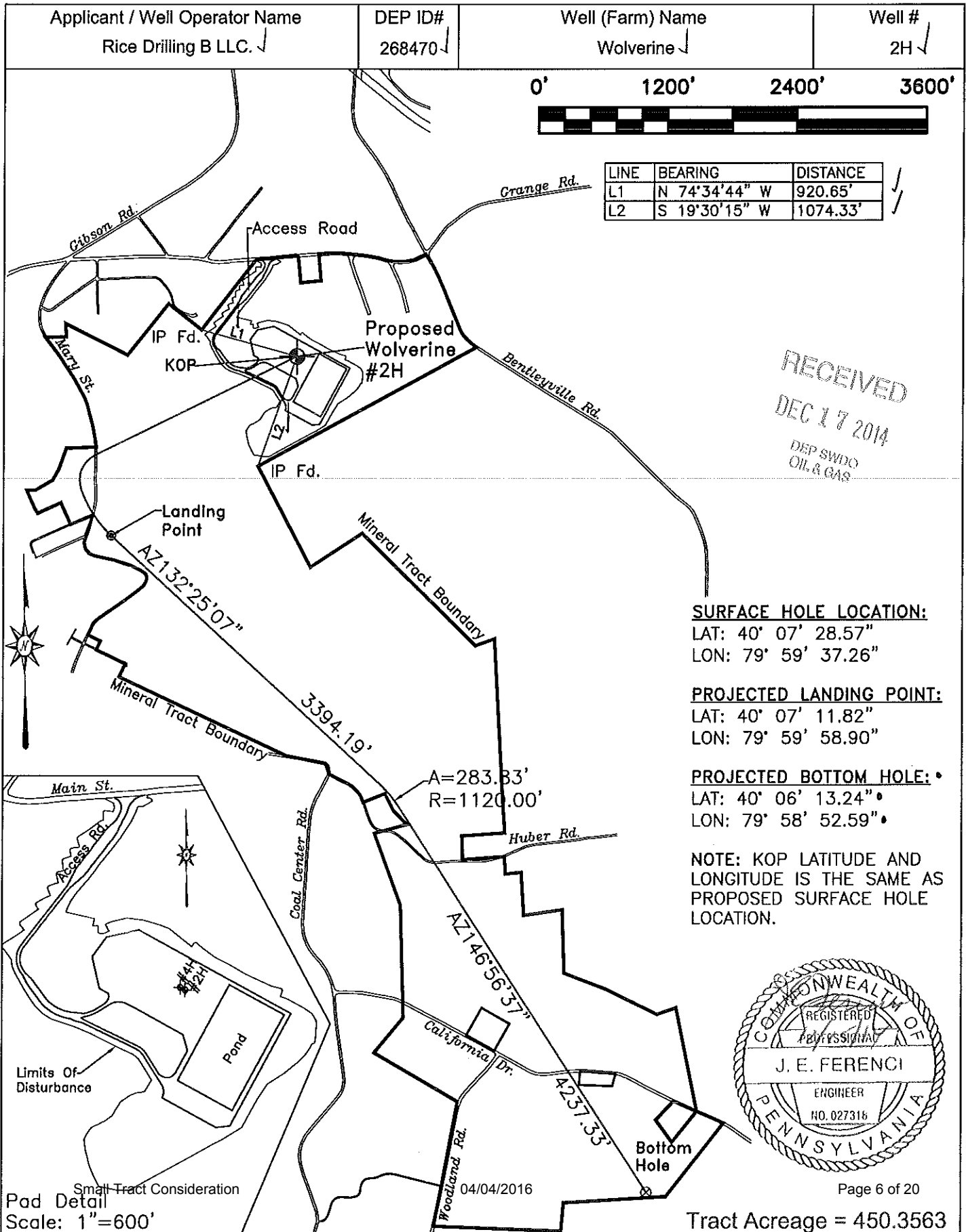
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.

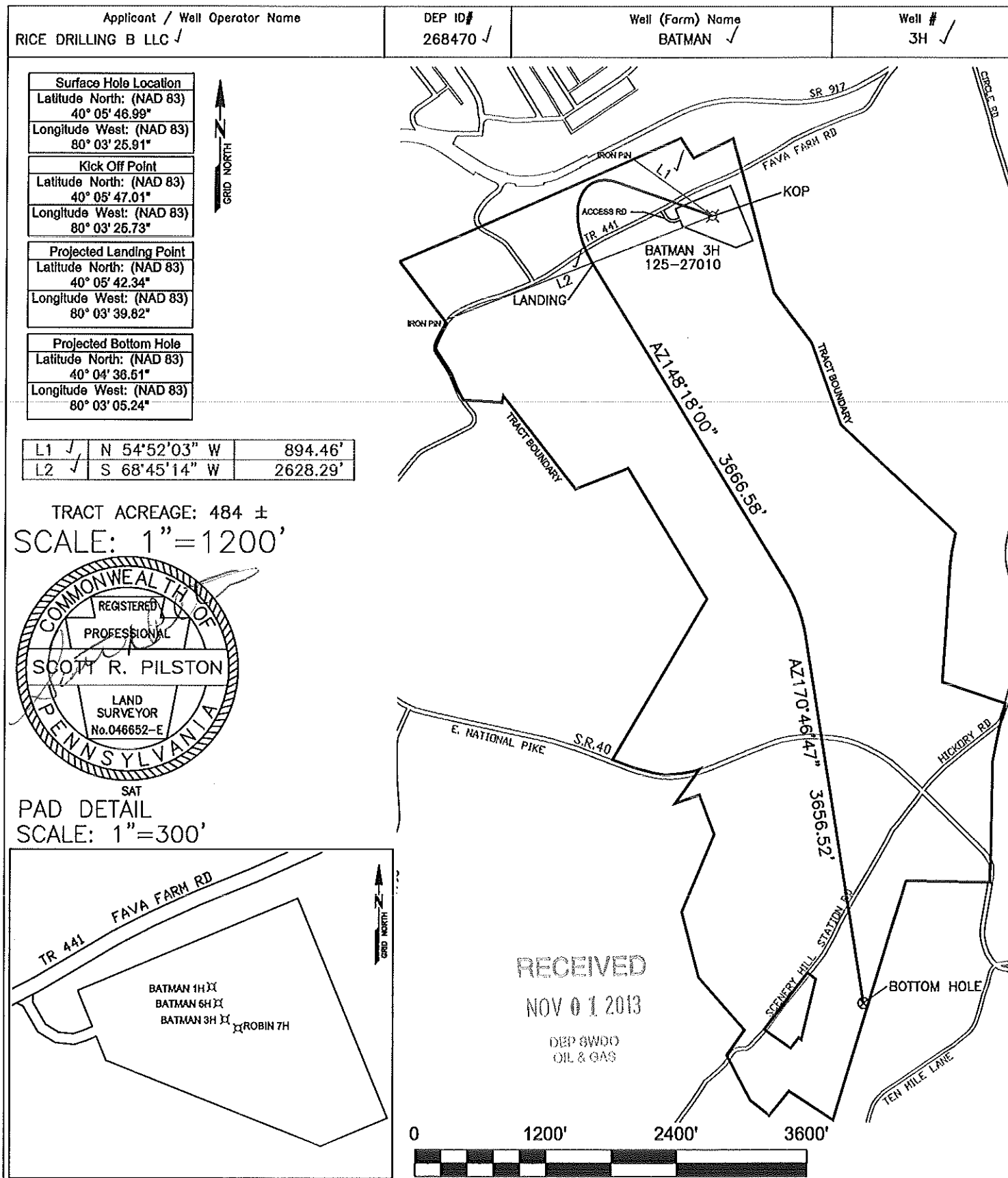


WELL LOCATION PLAT

125-27010-00-01
DRILL DEPTER

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as ⊗ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



RECEIVED

NOV 01 2013

DEP 8WDO
OIL & GAS

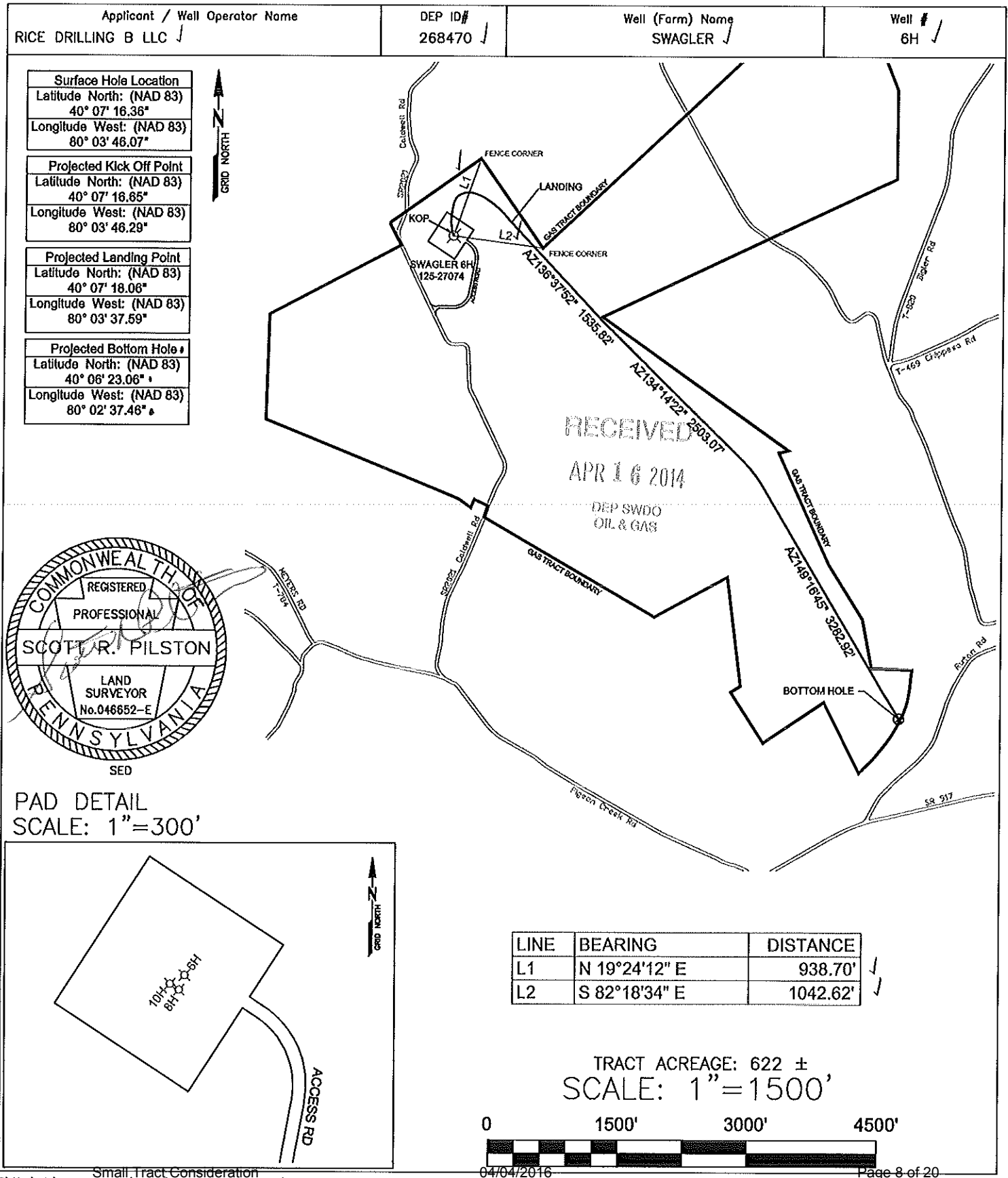
04/04/2016

Page 7 of 20

WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

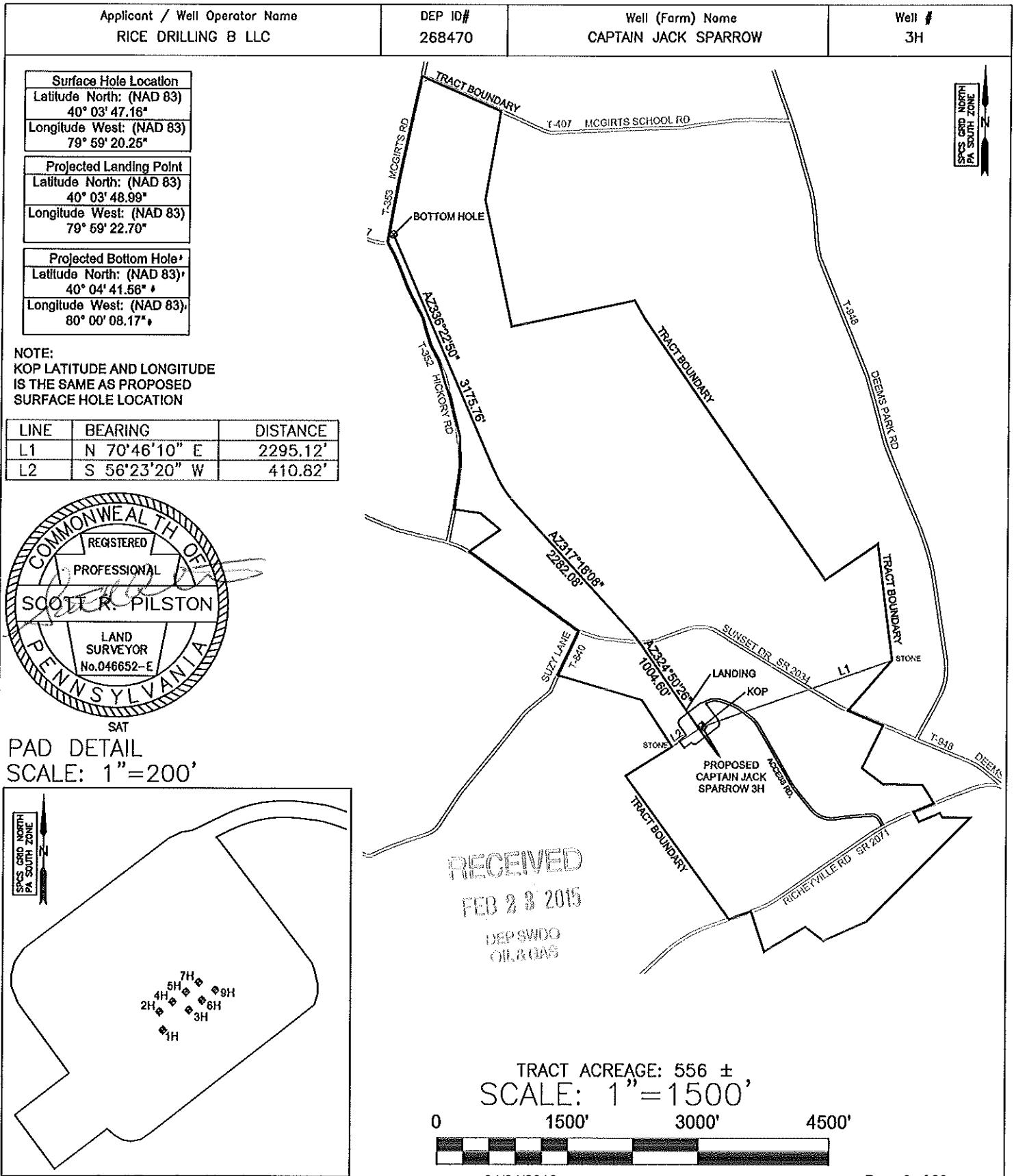
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

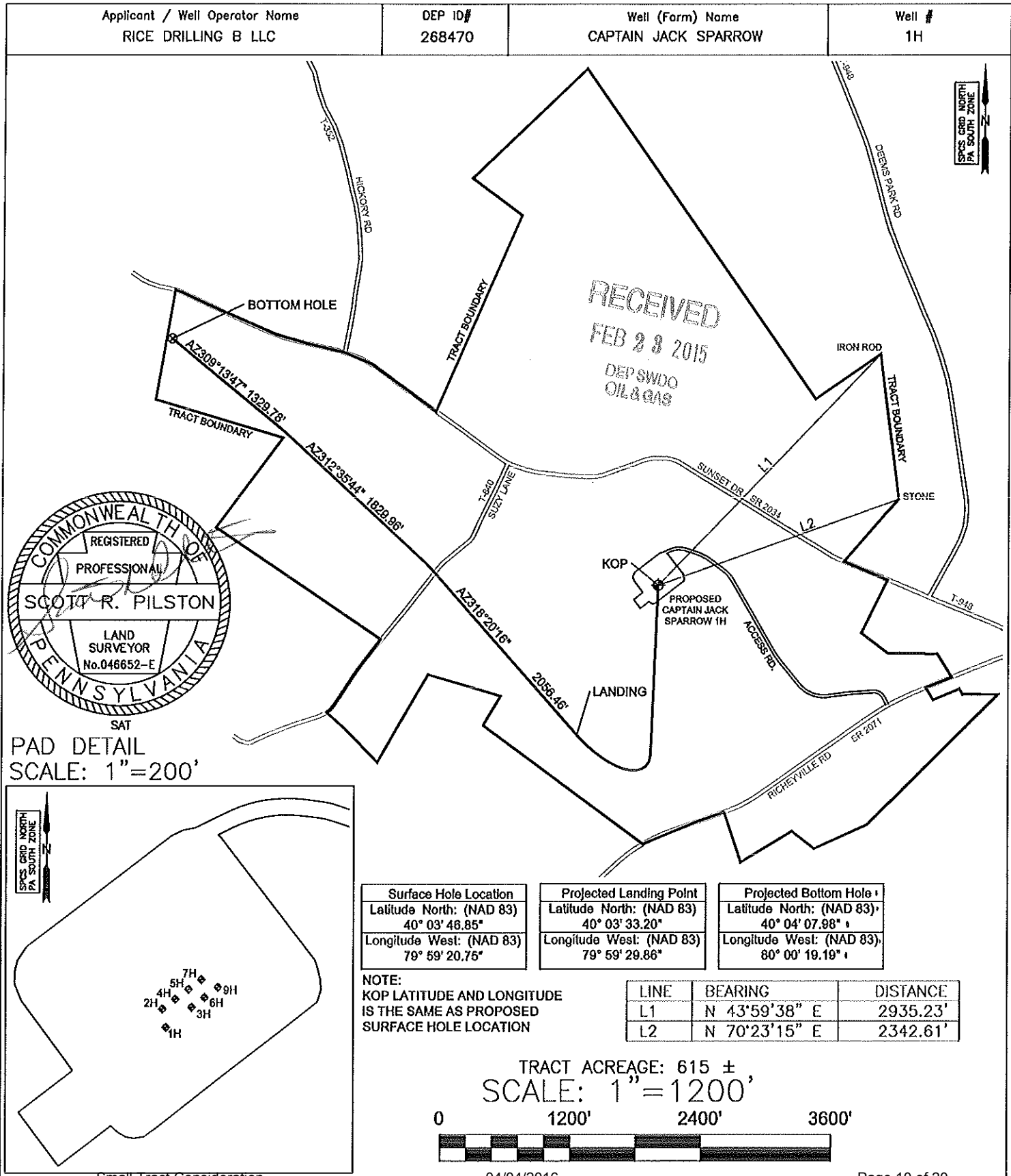
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

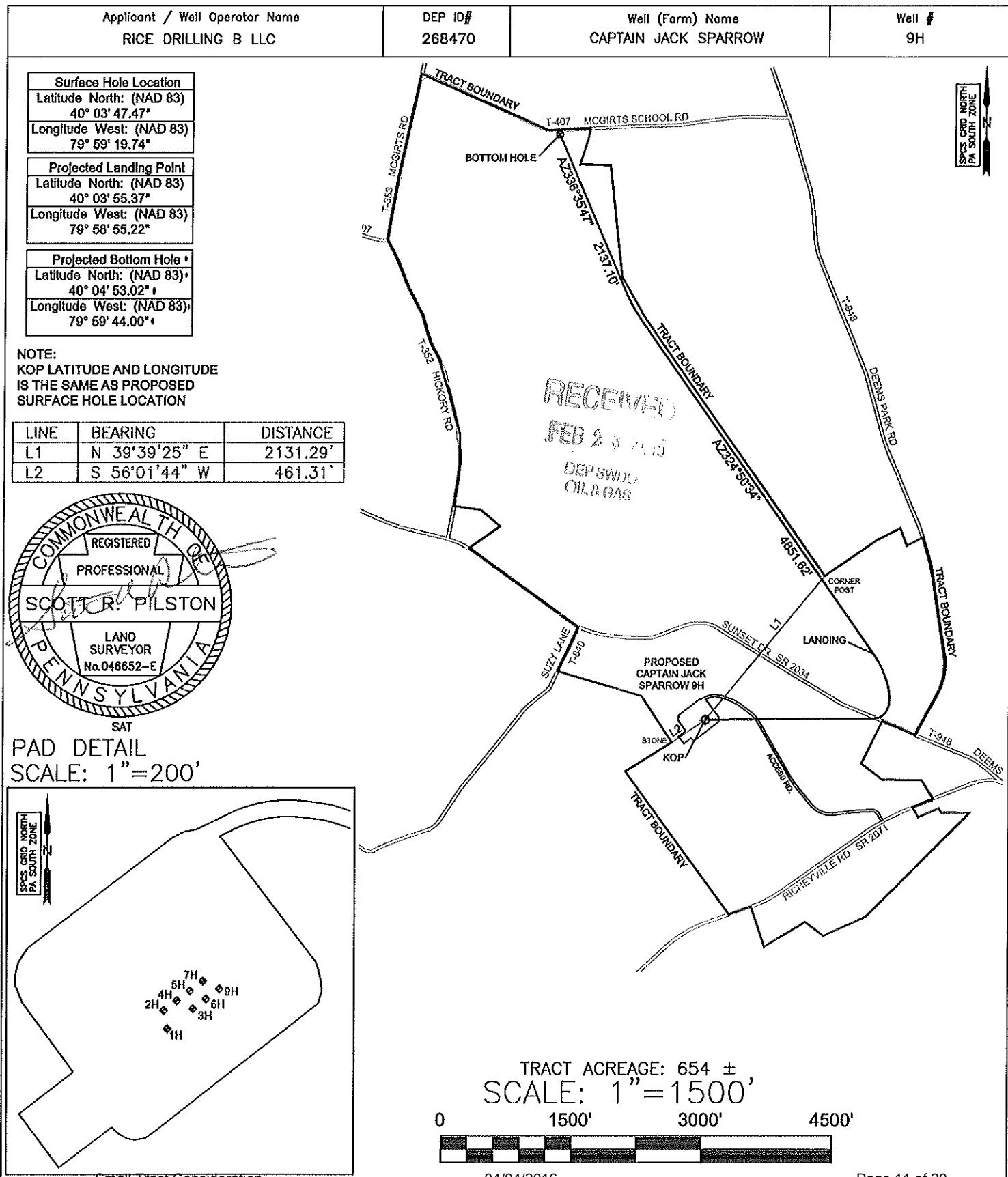
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

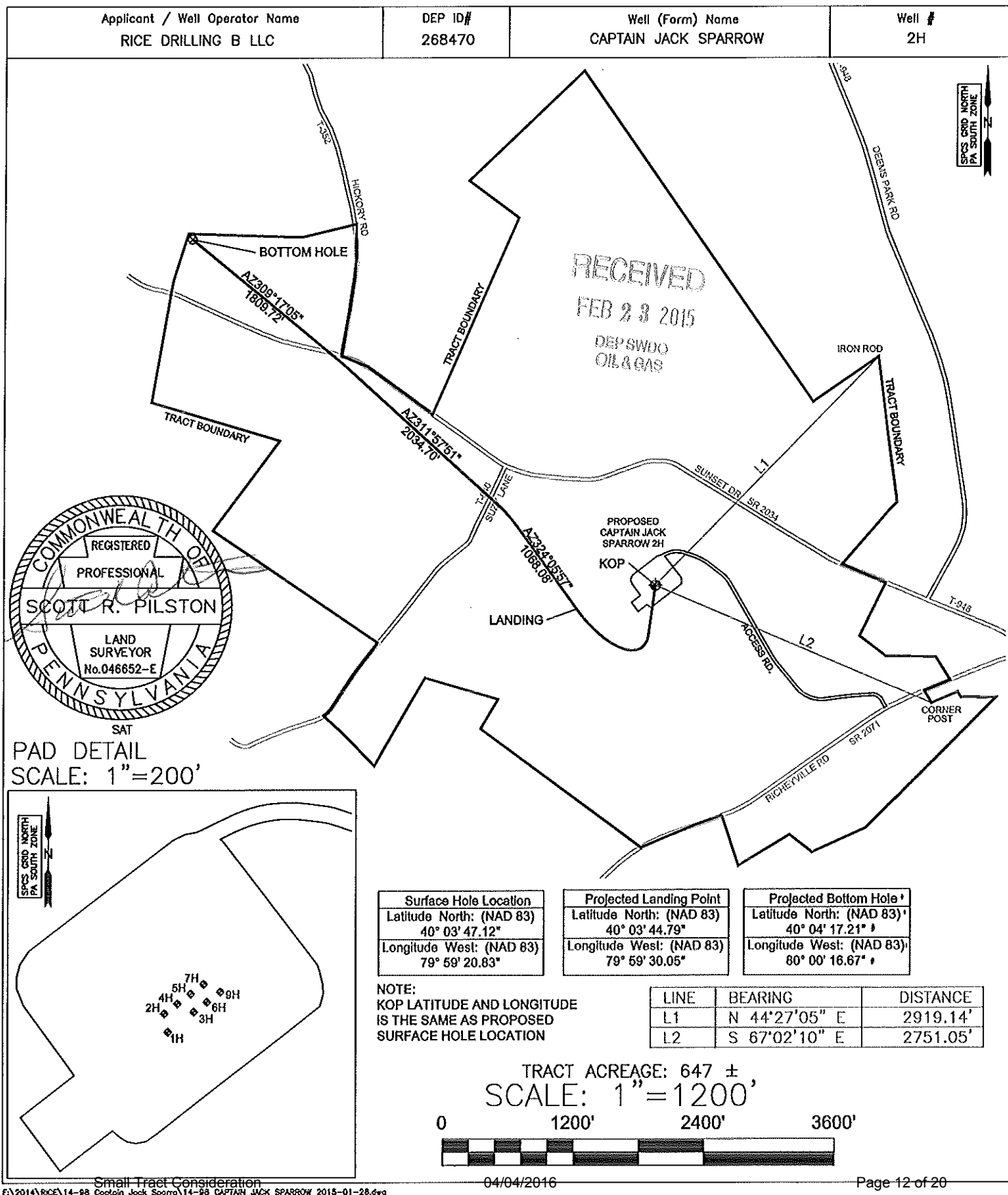
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.

Applicant / Well Operator Name	DEP ID#	Well (Farm) Name	Well #
Rice Drilling B LLC.	268470	Wolverine	6H

0' 1200' 2400' 3600'

SURFACE HOLE LOCATION:

LAT: 40° 07' 28.79"

LON: 79° 59' 37.83"

PROJECTED LANDING POINT:

LAT: 40° 07' 22.68"

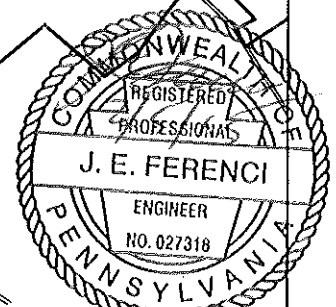
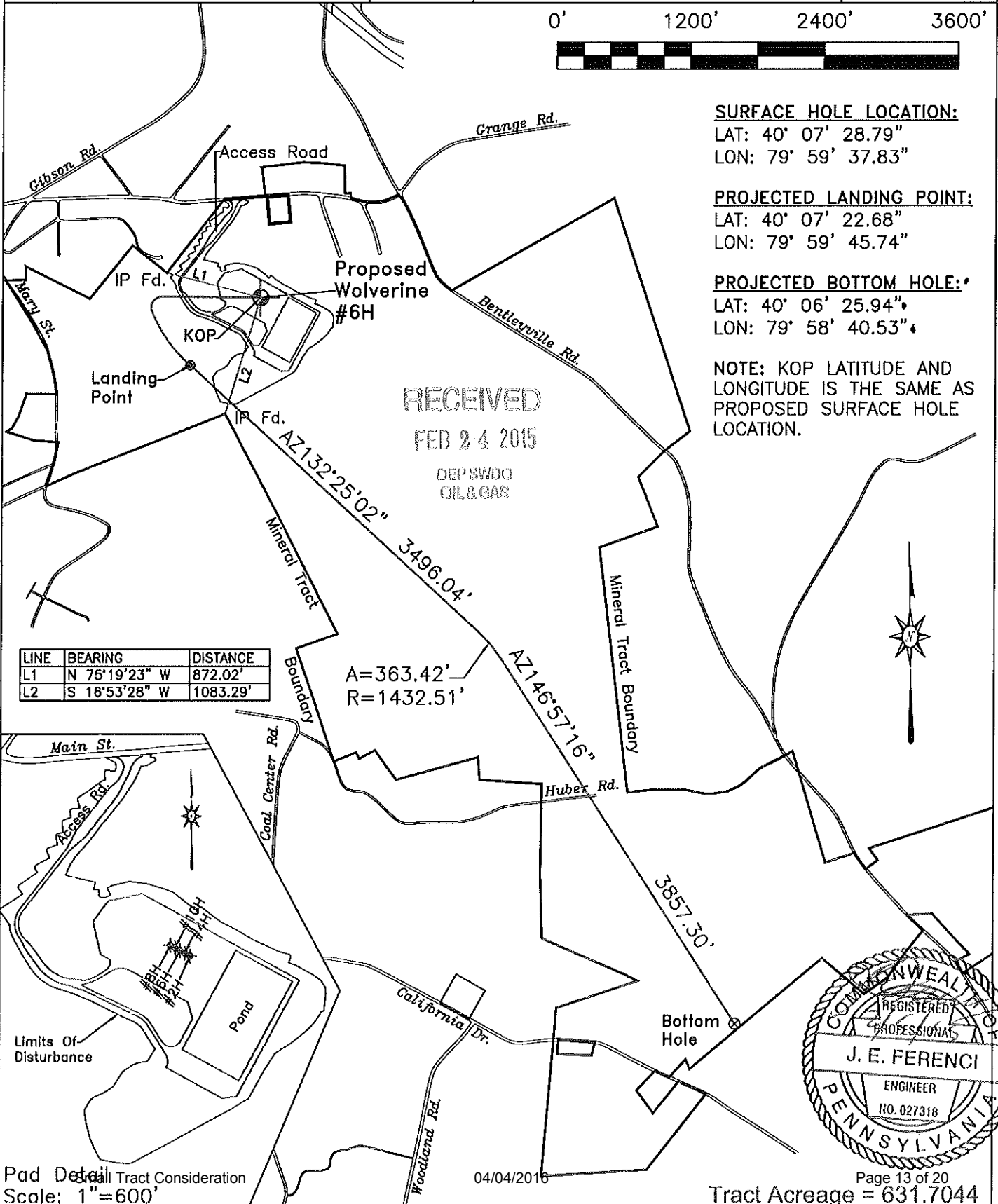
LON: 79° 59' 45.74"

PROJECTED BOTTOM HOLE:

LAT: 40° 06' 25.94"

LON: 79° 58' 40.53"

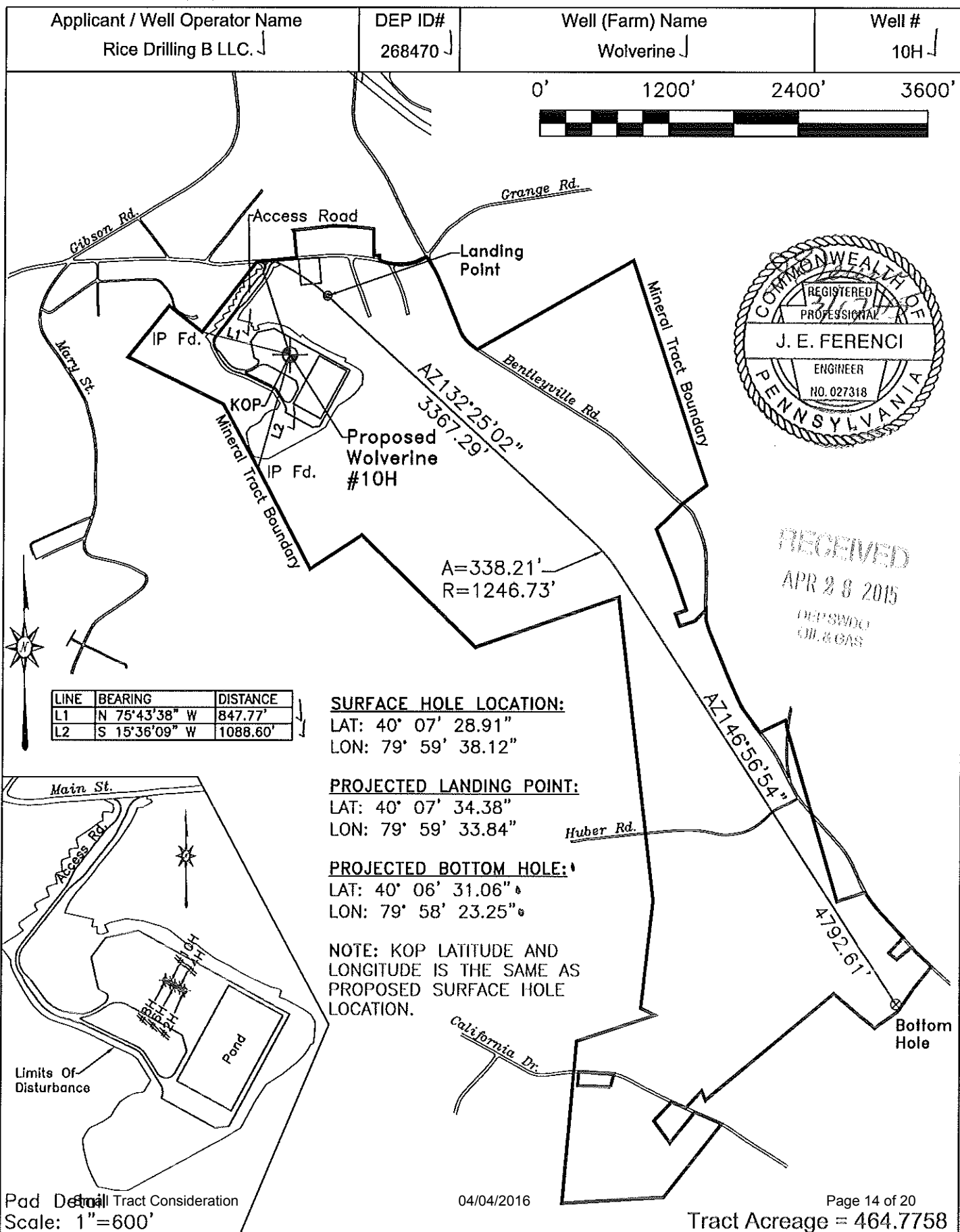
NOTE: KOP LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE IS THE SAME AS PROPOSED SURFACE HOLE LOCATION.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

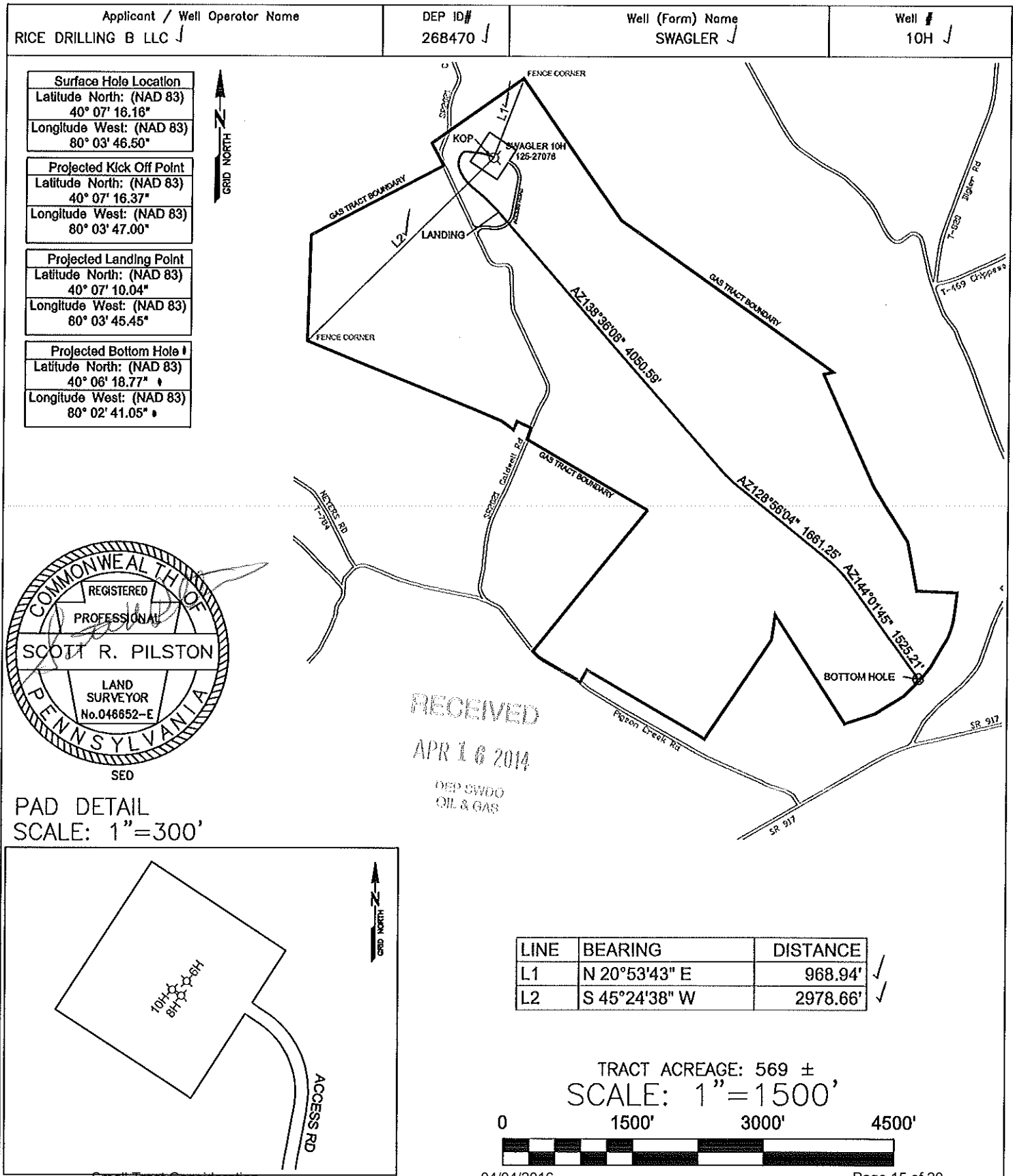
If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as ⊗ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.

Applicant / Well Operator Name	DEP ID#	Well (Farm) Name	Well #
Rice Drilling B LLC.	268470	Waterboy	4H

0' 1500' 3000' 4500'



LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
L1	N 47°24'29" W	703.09'
L2	S 44°32'56" W	1645.29'

SURFACE HOLE LOCATION:

LAT: 40° 09' 50.98"

LON: 80° 09' 30.90"

PROJECTED LANDING POINT:

LAT: 40° 09' 47.81"

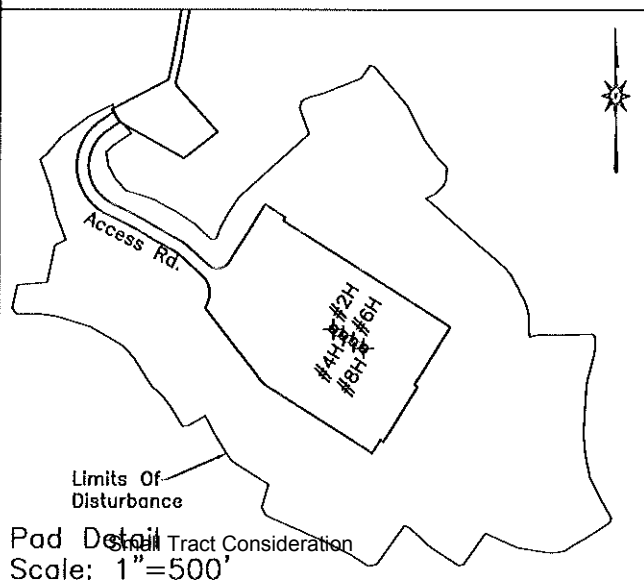
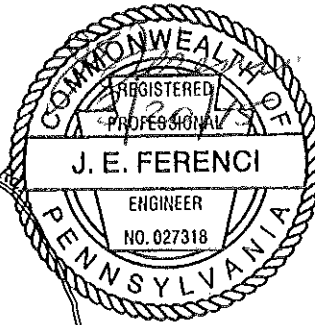
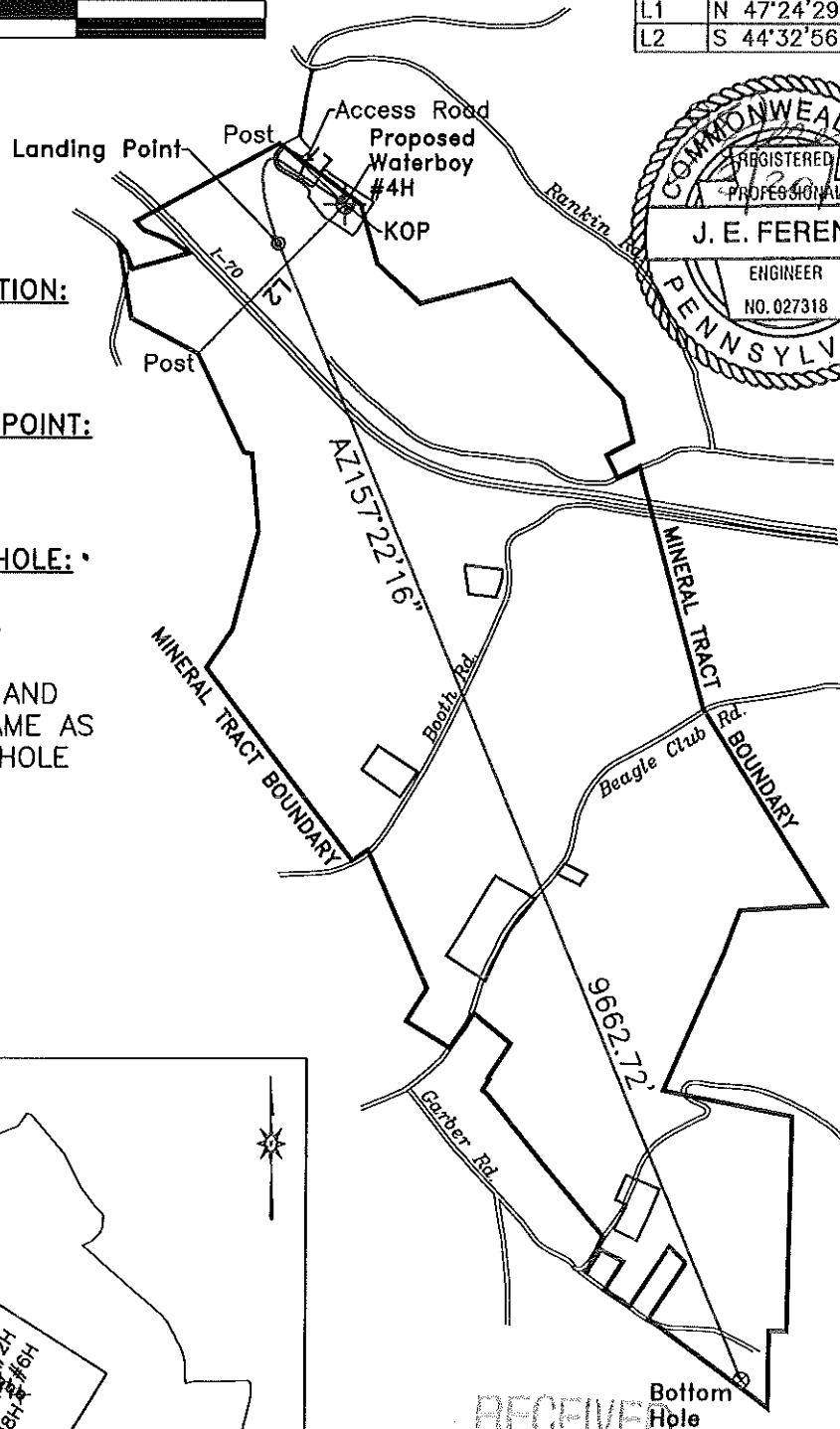
LON: 80° 09' 37.53"

PROJECTED BOTTOM HOLE:

LAT: 40° 08' 20.70"

LON: 80° 08' 46.54"

NOTE: KOP LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE IS THE SAME AS PROPOSED SURFACE HOLE LOCATION.



RECEIVED

APR 10 2015

DEPSWDO
OIL & GAS

04/04/2016

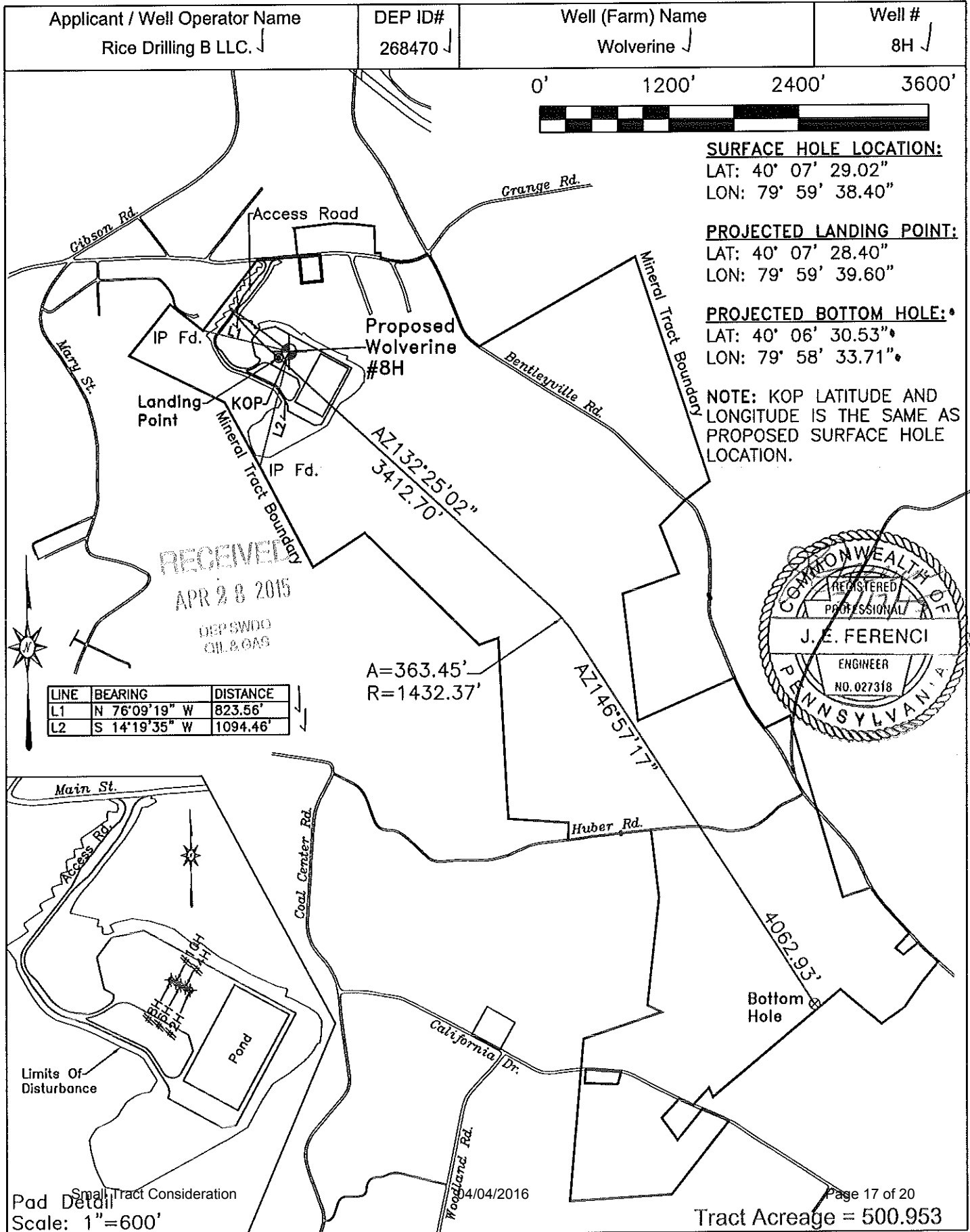
Tract Acreage = 542.8816

Page 16 of 20

WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as $\otimes$ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.

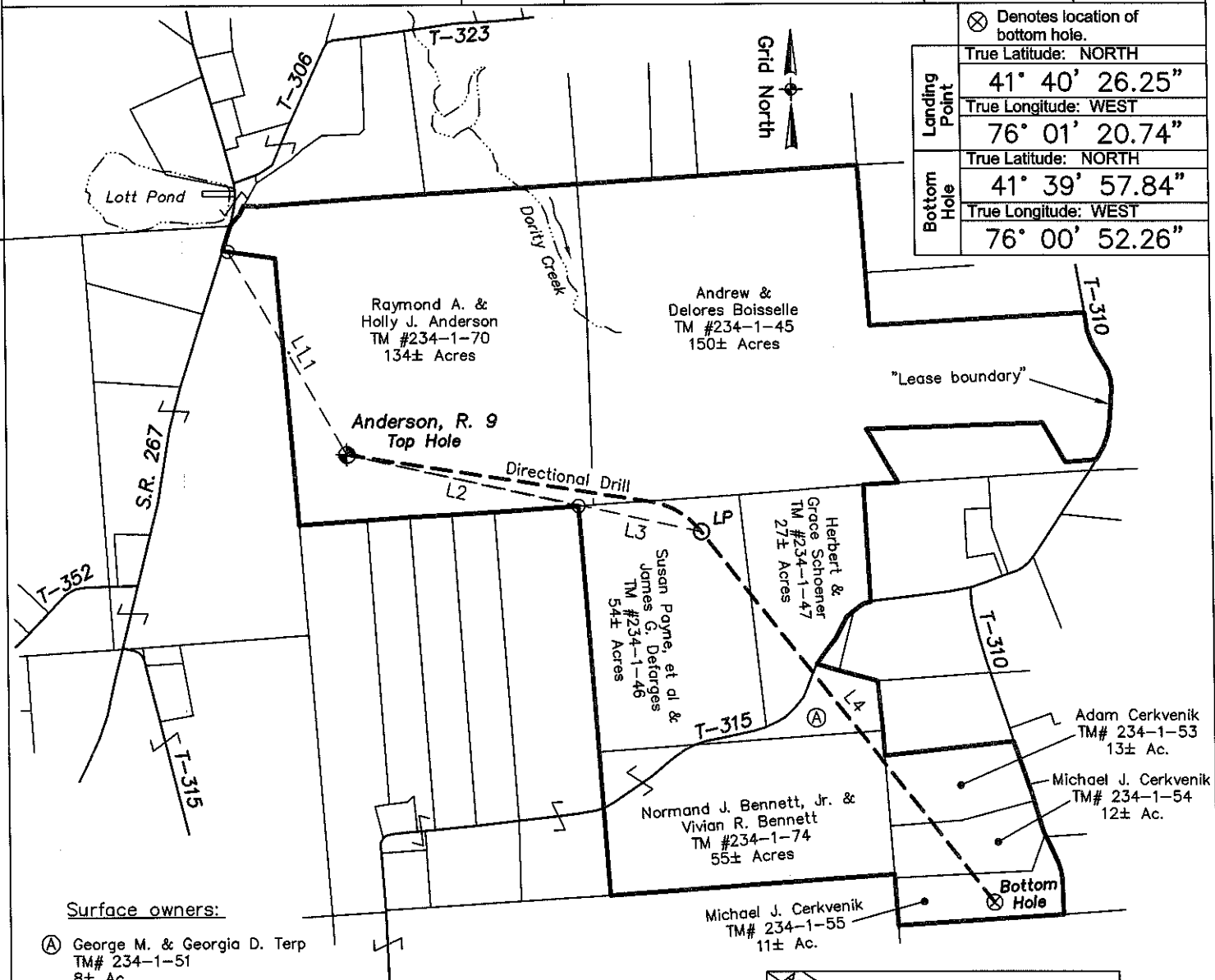


WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

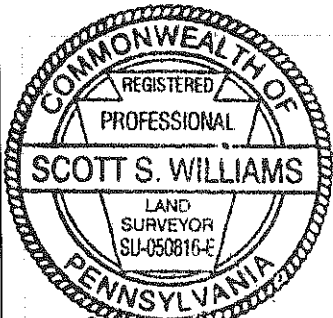
115 31640

Applicant / Well Operator Name: Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.	DEP ID #: 43513	Well (Farm) Name: Anderson, R.	Well #: 9	Serial #
--	--------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------	----------



Acreage is taken from the
Susquehanna County Assessment
Office and are not verified by survey.

Acreage is not intended for
lease or unit definition.



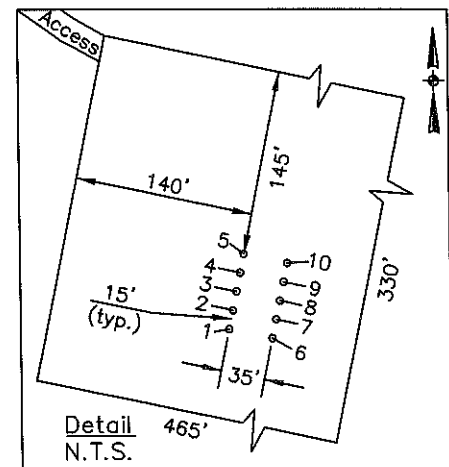
Location Ties

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
L1	S 30°06' E	1797'
L2	N 77°23' W	1818'

Directional Drill Ties

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
L3	S 77°36'33" E	2777'
L4	S 38°04'48" E	3597'

Note: This map is for well location
purposes only and does not represent a
complete survey. Corners and lines
important to the location of the well were
located by actual survey; other lines are
from deeds or tax maps.

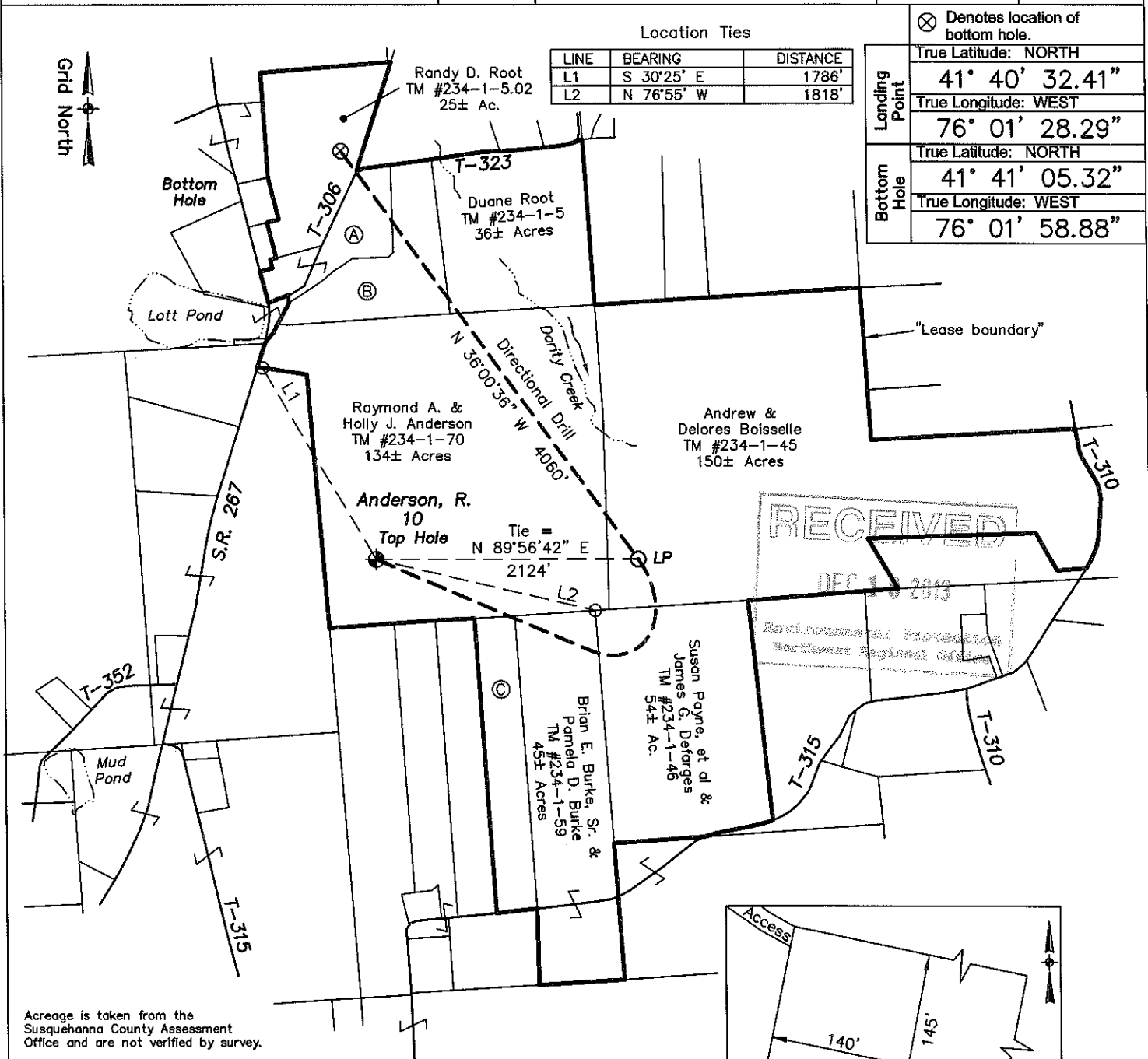


WELL LOCATION PLAT

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

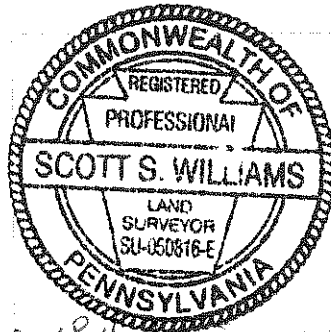
115 21641

Applicant / Well Operator Name: Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.	DEP ID #: 43513	Well (Farm) Name: Anderson, R.	Well #: 10	Serial #
--	--------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------	----------



Acreage is taken from the Susquehanna County Assessment Office and are not verified by survey.

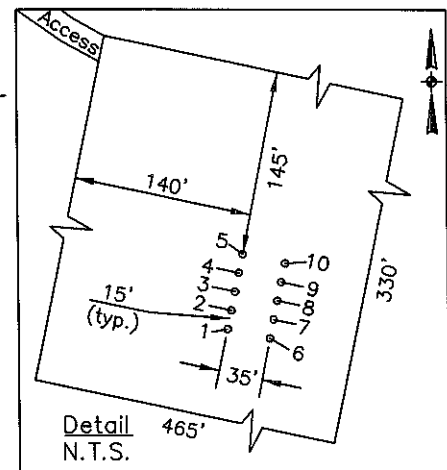
Acreage is not intended for lease or unit definition.



Surface owners:

- John Joseph Gazzillo, III & Michelle L. Gazzillo
 (A) TM #234-1-75 10± Ac.
 (B) TM #234-1-5.03 20± Ac.
 (C) Steven S. Wintergrass
 TM# 234-1-61 18± Ac.

Note: This map is for well location purposes only and does not represent a complete survey. Corners and lines important to the location of the well were located by actual survey; other lines are from deeds or tax maps.



WELL LOCATION PLAT

125-24936-00-02
DRILL DEEPER

Page 3 Plan View of Deviated Well Bore

If well has a lateral other than vertical show the bottom hole location on the plat drawing as ⊗ and include the Coordinates in the provided section at the bottom of the drawing area. The top hole and bottom hole locations are to be connected by a bolded line this is to depict the proposed courses of the actual wellbore to be drilled.

