ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received in the Office of the Procurement Manager, Greenville Utilities Commission, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 until 2:00 PM (EDT) on September 4, 2025, and immediately thereafter publicly opened and read for the Tree Removal Services.

Instructions for submitting bids and complete specifications will be available in the Office of the Procurement Manager, Greenville Utilities Commission, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina during regular office hours, which are 8:30AM – 5:00PM Monday through Friday.

Greenville Utilities Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Late bids will not be considered.

PRE-BID MEETING – A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at Greenville Utilities Commission, New Operations Center, Engineering Building, 3355 NC 43N, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm (EDT).

The intent of the Pre-Bid Meeting is to allow the bidders an opportunity to ask questions and make clarifications prior to submitting a bid.

A site walkthrough will be performed. Only portions of the bid/contract will be discussed. Lack of discussion or clarification of any portion of the bid/contract does not relieve the Bidder from conforming to the provisions of the same.

Questions regarding this bid request should be directed to, Cleve Haddock, Lifetime CLGPO Procurement Manager at (252) 551-1533, haddocgc@guc.com. All questions must be received by or before August 26, 2025.

SECTION I

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORMAL BIDS

RELATED TO THE PURCHASE OF APPARATUS, SUPPLIES,

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

1.0 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids, subject to the conditions made a part hereof, will be received in the Office of the Procurement Manager, Greenville Utilities Commission, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 until 2:00 pm (EDT) on the day of opening. Bids submitted in a fax or e-mail in response to this Invitation for Bids will not be acceptable. Late Bids will not be considered.

2.0 STANDARD FORMS REQUIRED

Each bidder must submit a proposal on the enclosed bid forms. The bid must be signed by an authorized official of the firm. Return only the attached Proposal Form. Do not return the Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders or Specifications.

3.0 PREPARATION OF BID

Bids must be in sealed envelopes clearly marked on the outside with the name of the bid and the bid opening date and time. Bid shall be addressed to PROCUREMENT MANAGER, GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION, 401 S. GREENE STREET, GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 27834.

4.0 TIME FOR OPENING BIDS

Bids will be opened promptly and read at the hour and on the date set forth in the advertisement in the Office of the Procurement Manager, Greenville Utilities Main Office, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina. Bidders or their authorized agents are invited to be present.

5.0 **DEPOSIT**

A deposit is required for this bid.

6.0 NC SALES TAX

Do **not** include NC sales taxes in bid figure; however, Greenville Utilities Commission (GUC) does pay sales tax. Sales tax should be added to the invoice as a separate item.

7.0 FEDERAL EXCISE TAX

GUC is exempt from Federal Excise Tax and will issue a Federal Exemption Certificate upon request to the successful bidder.

8.0 EXCEPTIONS TO BE CLEARLY STATED

If bid is not in strict accordance with Section II, "Specifications," bidder must list or note all exceptions **on the Request for Proposal Form**, otherwise, it is fully understood that the successful bidder will furnish equipment and/or materials exactly as specified. GUC reserves the right to accept or reject bids with noted minor deviations from specifications and to determine the lowest and best responsible bid from the standpoint of quality, performance, and price.

9.0 EVALUATION AND AWARD OF BIDS

GUC reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any and all informalities, and to disregard all nonconforming or conditional bids or counter proposals. In evaluating bids, GUC shall consider whether the bids comply with the prescribed requirements, plus all alternates or options requested. GUC reserves the right to include or exclude any option or alternative in GUC's opinion is in GUC's best interests. If a bid is to be awarded, it will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder whose evaluation by GUC indicates that the award will be in GUC's best interests. Only firm prices will be considered for award of this bid.

10.0 CONTRACT PERIOD

NA.

11.0 PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS

Bidders are urged to compute all discounts into the price offered. If a prompt payment discount is offered, it may be considered in the award of the contract.

12.0 NUMERICAL ERRORS

In the case of a discrepancy between a unit price and the extension (the unit price multiplied by the number of units), the unit price governs. In the case where numerical bids are stated both in numbers and in words, the words govern.

13.0 BID WITHDRAWAL

A bidder must notify GUC in writing of its request to withdraw a bid within seventy-two (72) hours after the bid opening, not including Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays. In order to justify withdrawal, the bidder must demonstrate that a substantial error exists and that the bid was submitted in good faith.

14.0 MINORITY BUSINESS PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

GUC has adopted an Affirmative Action and Minority and Women Business Enterprise Plan (M/WBE) Program. Firms submitting a proposal are attesting that they also have taken affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment, and to utilize M/WBE suppliers of materials and/or labor.

15.0 QUANTITIES

Quantities specified are only estimates of GUC's requirements. GUC reserves the right to purchase more or less than the stated quantities at prices indicated in the submitted Proposal Form based on our actual needs.

16.0 DELIVERY

Shipments will be made only upon individual releases from a blanket purchase order issued by GUC in accordance with GUC's current needs. Time is of the essence with respect to all deliveries under this Agreement.

Delivery of all equipment, materials, or supplies shall be made Free on Board (FOB) GUC Warehouse, 701 Utilities Way, Greenville, North Carolina 27834, unless otherwise specified. The agreed price for such equipment, materials, or supplies shall include all costs of delivery and ownership, and risks of loss shall not be transferred from Provider to GUC until express written acceptance of delivery and inspection by GUC. Delivery hours are between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday only. **GUC's purchase order number is to be shown on the packing slip or any related documents.** GUC reserves the right to refuse or return any delivery with no purchase order number or which is damaged. GUC will not be charged a restocking fee for any delivery which is refused or returned.

17.0 <u>DELIVERY TIME</u>

Delivery time is to be stated and will be considered in the evaluation of bids. Failure by the successful bidder to meet quoted delivery shall be interpreted as non-compliance with these specifications and may be deemed sufficient cause for removal of the manufacturer and/or distributor from our lists as acceptable manufacturers or bidders.

18.0 MANUFACTURER

Bidder is to specify the manufacturer of items being quoted.

19.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding this bid request must be received by <u>August 26, 2025</u> and must be directed to Cleve Haddock, Lifetime CLGPO, Procurement Manager at (252) 551-1533, haddocgc@guc.com.

20.0 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The attached Terms and Conditions apply to all purchases made by Greenville Utilities Commission (GUC) and must be considered as part of the bid proposal.

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

SECTION II

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

REQUEST FOR BID TREE TRIMMING SERVICES SPECIFICATIONS

September 4, 2025

General Description

The successful Contractor will supply labor, tools and equipment as specified necessary to provide services capable of independently performing tree and stump removal. Stumps will be removed on parcels identified on Tree(s) Removal Locations and Cost Form & Vegetation Management Drawings. See Appendix A for Vegetation Management Drawings.

Safety

Job site activities shall at all times be conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Local requirements, to include but not limited to, the North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Standards, The National Electrical Safety Code and the North Carolina Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.

Work Week

The work week will be within GUC's normal working hours. These hours are 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding holidays, as shown on the attached holiday schedule.

Damage to Facilities

The Contractor shall be responsible for damages to any Greenville Utilities Commission or customer-owned facilities caused by its employees.

Supervision

The Contractor shall remain in close communication with the GUC Representative at all times. No work shall commence unless it has been directed by the GUC Representative.

Scope of Work

1. Standards Compliance:

All tree removal services shall be conducted in accordance with recognized good forestry standards.

2. Project Requirements & Clearing Limits:

Tree removal services shall be executed for GUC relocations in accordance with the requirements of the NCDOT State Transportation Improvement Project (STIP) U-2817. The scope of work encompasses the area along Old Tar Road, commencing at Worthington Road and extending to the intersection of Evans Street and Firetower Road, located within the jurisdictions of Winterville and Greenville, North Carolina.

3. Disposal:

All trees, stumps, and debris located within the designated clearing limits shall be completely removed from the site. All removed materials shall be hauled off-site for disposal. On-site chipping of trees is not permitted. The method of disposal, once removed from the site, is at the discretion of the contractor, provided it complies with all applicable laws and regulations.

4. Stump Removal:

All stumps shall be removed or ground in all improved areas, as identified on the Vegetation Management Drawings and as specifically marked by engineering personnel in the field.

5. Tree Trimming and Removal:

All tree removal or trimming within the clearing limits shall be conducted comprehensively, from ground level to the upper canopy (ground to sky).

6. Danger Trees:

All identified danger trees shall be trimmed or removed in accordance with the Greenville Utilities Vegetation Management Guidelines.

7. Permitting Compliance:

All work shall be performed in strict compliance with the terms, conditions, and limitations of any and all permits issued in connection with the NCDOT STIP U-2817 project.

Customer Notification

Greenville Utilities Commission will provide advance notification of customers being affected by tree removal activities. All tree removal requests will be referred to the Greenville Utilities Commission Representative and approved prior to removal.

Emergency Services (Not Applicable)

Contingency

Any situation which occurs such that the Contractor cannot satisfactorily perform the job, should be brought to the attention of the Greenville Utilities Commissions Representative immediately. The Contractor will be required to respond to customer complaints within 24 hours. If the GUC Representative deems a complaint valid, the Contractor will be expected to resolve the claim immediately. The successful Contractor is responsible for all costs as a result of its and/or employee(s) negligence.

Contractor Employees

Employees will maintain a professional attitude toward the work being performed and toward any and all customer contact incurred while working.

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

VENDOR PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

1.	Please provide a brief history of your firm:
2.	Please provide a statement of qualifications and describe experience level for each crew position:
3.	Please provide your firm's office location(s):
4.	Please provide a list of similar work completed or in process:
5.	Please describe age and type of equipment proposed:
6.	Please provide at least three (3) references with contact information:

Questions 1–6 must be answered. GUC reserves the right to reject any bid that has incomplete responses.

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

BID FORM, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

FOR TREE TRIMMING SERVICES

The undersigned respondent hereby declares that it has carefully examined the enclosed detailed specifications for furnishing GUC with the services listed below. The undersigned respondent further agrees, if this bid is accepted within thirty (30) days from the date of the opening, to furnish any or all of the items upon the quoted prices.

<u>I</u>	BID SUMMARY
TOTAL TREE REMOVAL COST	\$
TOTAL STUMP REMOVAL COST	\$
GRAND TOTAL	\$
All questions pertaining to this RFB r	must be received by or before August 26, 2025.

Start Date For All Tree Removal is September 22, 2025 and All Tree Removal Must be Completed By October 20, 2025 Per The Specifications And Tree Locations Identified Within This RFB.

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

Tree Removal Locations and Cost Form

<u>Complete and Check All Math</u>: It is the responsibility of the Proposer to extend all prices and supply a total price where applicable.

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

Tree(s) Removal Locations And Cost Form					
Vegetation Management Drawing #	Stump Removal Parcels	Stump Removal Price	Matting Required Parcels	Matting Price	Tree Removal Price
SHEET #: 4	N/A	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 5	20, 21, 33	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 6	44, 45, 53	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 7	62, 64, 67, 68	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 8	75, 76, 321	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 9	80,81	\$	84, 85	\$	\$
SHEET #: 10	88, 89, 90, 94, 95, 97, 100	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 11	101, 102, 103, 104, 108, 109	\$		\$	\$
SHEET #: 12	109, 112	\$		\$	\$
	Sub Total				

Grand Total	
0.0	

Letter of Compliance to E-Verify for Greenville Utilities Commission

1. I have submitted a bid for contract or desire to enter into a contract with the Greenville

	Utilit	ties Commission;
2.	I am	art of my duties and responsibilities pursuant to said bid and/or contract, I affirm that aware of and in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify, Article 2 of Chapter of the North Carolina General Statutes, to include (mark which applies):
3.	of sa	After hiring an employee to work in the United States I verify the work authorization aid employee through E-Verify and retain the record of the verification of work orization while the employee is employed and for one year thereafter; or
4.		I employ less than twenty-five (25) employees in the State of North Carolina.
5.	to th	art of my duties and responsibilities pursuant to said bid and/or contract, I affirm that the best of my knowledge and subcontractors employed as a part of this bid and/or tract, are in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify, Article 2 of Chapter 64 of North Carolina General Statutes, to include (mark which applies):
6.	work verif	After hiring an employee to work in the United States the subcontractor verifies the authorization of said employee through E-Verify and retains the record of the fication of work authorization while the employee is employed and for one year eafter; or
7.		Employ less than twenty-five (25) employees in the State of North Carolina.
		Specify subcontractor:
		(Company Name)
	Ву:	(Typed Name)
		(Authorized Signatory)
	_	(Title)
		(Date)

Awarded vendor must supply a Certificate of Liability Insurance (COI), with GUC as the Certificate Holder within 10 days of award.

Greenville Utilities Commission

401 South Greene Street

Greenville, North Carolina 27834

Attention: Cleve Haddock

Contact me at 252-551-1533 if you have any questions. Cleve Haddock

BID BOND

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT,	THAT W	Е	
as Principal, andas Surety, who is duly licensed to act as Surethe Greenville Utilities Commission, Greenville Utilities Commission, Greenville United States of Americanade, we bind ourselves, our heirs, administ firmly by these present.	ville, NC, _ DOLLA ca, for the	as Obligee, in th RS (\$ payment of whi	te penal sum of) (5% Bid Bond), ich, well and truly to be
SIGNED, Sealed and dated this _		day of	, 2025.
WHEREAS, the said Principa	al is herew	ith submitting a	Proposal for
TREE REM	MOVAL S	SERVICES	
and the Principal desires to file this Bid Bon the bidding documents contained herein;	d in Lieu	of making the ca	ash deposit as required by
NOW, THEREFORE, THE CONDITION Of principal shall be awarded the Purchase Order Purchase Order within ten (10) days after the shall be null and void; but if the principal fair the bidding documents contained herein, the Obligee the amount set forth in the first parasuch payment, the Surety shall pay the Oblig Bond as set forth in the first paragraph hereof in-Fact is attached hereto.	er for whi e award o ils to so a Surety sh graph her gee an am	ch the bid is sub f same to the print ecept such purch all, upon deman eof, and upon fa ount equal to do	mitted and shall accept the ncipal, then this obligation ase order as required by ad, forthwith pay to the ilure to forthwith make uble the amount of this Bid
		Pr	incipal
	Ву		(SEAL)
		Co	orporate Surety
	Ву		(SEAL)

PERFORMANCE BOND/PAYMENT BOND

Date of Execution:	
Name of Principal:	
(Contractor)	
Name of Surety:	
Name of Contracting Body:	
Amount of Bond:	
Project:	
J	

KNOW ALL THESE MEN BY THESE PRESENT, That We, the Principal and Surety above named, are held and firmly bound unto the above named Contracting Body, hereinafter called the Contracting Body, in the penal sum of the amount stated above the payment of which sum well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, and successors, jointly and severally, firmly by these present.

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION IS SUCH that whereas the Principal entered into a certain Contract with the Contracting Body, identified as shown above and hereto attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, if the Principal shall well and truly perform and fulfill all the undertakings, covenants, terms, conditions, and agreements of said Contract during the original term of said Contract and any extensions there of that may be granted by the Contracting Body, with or without notice to the Surety, and during the life of any guaranty required under the Contract, and shall also well and truly perform and fulfill all the undertakings, covenants, terms, conditions, and agreements of any and all duly authorized modifications of said Contract that may hereafter be made, notice of which modifications to the Surety being hereby waived, then, this obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the above bounded parties have executed this instrument under the several seals on the date indicated above, the name and corporate seal of each corporate party being hereto affixed, and these present duly signed by its undersigned representative, pursuant to authority of its governing body.

Executed in <u>five (5)</u> counterparts.	
Witness:	CONTRACTOR:
(Proprietorship or Partnership)	(Trade or Corporate Name)
ATTEST:	
By:	By:
Title:(Corporate Secretary or Assistant Secretary Only)	Title:
	(CORPORATE SEAL)
Witness:	SURETY COMPANY:
Countersigned:	By:
	Title:(Attorney-in-Fact)
N.C. Licensed Resident Agent	
(Name and Address – Surety Agent)	(SURETY SEAL)
Surety Company Name and N.C. Regional or Branch Office Address	

It is certified that this proposal is made in good faith and without collusion or connection with any other person responding on the same above listed items. It is also certified that this proposal is made in good faith and without collusion or connection with any GUC employee(s).

Certified check or cash for \$		_or proposal bor	nd for S	\$	_attached.
Firm Name			_	Phone ()	
Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Fax ()	E-Mail				
Authorized OfficialType	ed Name		Γitle		
	Signa	ture		Date	

Two (2) copies of your bid should be received no later than September 4, 2025 at 2:00 PM (EDT).

NO BIDS CONSIDERED UNLESS SUBMITTED ON THIS FORM(S)

(RETURN ONLY THIS FORM(S) AND EXCEPTION, E-VERIFY)

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Employees

DATE: August 1, 2024

2025 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE SUBJECT:

The following holidays will be observed by the City of Greenville and Greenville Utilities Commission during 2025:

New Year's (2025) Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 20, 2025

Good Friday Friday, April 18, 2025

Memorial Day Monday, May 26, 2025

Juneteenth Thursday, June 19, 2025

Independence Day Friday, July 4, 2025

Labor Day Monday, September 1, 2025

Veterans Day Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Thanksgiving Thursday, November 27, 2025

Friday, November 28, 2025

Christmas Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Thursday, December 25, 2025

New Year's (2026) Thursday, January 1, 2026

For 2025, the floating holiday has been designated as a personal day that eligible employees may use at any time during the year, with supervisory approval.

This information is being provided now in order to allow you to make personal plans for the use of the holidays.

Michael Cowin

Anthony C. Cannon City Manager GUC General Manager/CEO

SECTION III

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF

APPARATUS, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, LABOR AND EQUIPMENT

These Terms and Conditions, made and entered into on this the day of	, by
and between GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE,	PITT
COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, with one of its principal offices and places of business at	401 S.
Greene Street, Post Office Box 1847, Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina 27835-184	7,
hereinafter referred to as "GUC" and, a,	
organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of	,
with one of its principal offices and places of business at	
hereinafter referred to as "PROVIDER";	 ,

1.0 TAXES

No taxes shall be included in any bid prices. GUC is exempt from Federal Excise Tax. GUC is not exempt from North Carolina state sales and use tax or, if applicable, Pitt County sales and use tax. Such taxes shall be shown as a separate item on the invoice.

2.0 <u>INVOICES</u>

It is understood and agreed that orders will be shipped at the established contract prices and quantities in effect on dates orders are placed. Invoicing at variance with this provision may subject the contract to cancellation. Applicable North Carolina sales tax shall be invoiced as a separate line item. All invoices must bear the GUC purchase order number. Mail all invoices to Greenville Utilities Commission, Finance Department, P. O. Box 1847, Greenville, NC 27835-1847.

3.0 PAYMENT TERMS

Payments for equipment, materials, or supplies will be made after the receipt and acceptance of the equipment, materials, supplies or services and after submission of a proper invoice. GUC's normal payment policy is thirty (30) days. GUC will not be responsible for any goods delivered without a purchase order having been issued. Payment will be made in U. S. currency only.

4.0 QUANTITIES

Quantities specified are only estimates of GUC's requirements. GUC reserves the right to purchase more or less than the stated quantities at prices indicated in the submitted Proposal Form based on our actual needs.

5.0 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The Provider will take affirmative action in complying with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and employment of the handicapped, and concerning the treatment of all employees, without discrimination by reason of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or physical handicap.

6.0 CONDITION AND PACKAGING

Unless otherwise indicated in the bid, it is understood and agreed that any item offered or shipped shall be new and in first class condition, that all containers shall be new and suitable for storage or shipment, and that prices include standard commercial packaging.

7.0 SAMPLES

Samples of items, if required, must be furnished free of expense to GUC, and if not destroyed, will, upon request, be returned at the Provider's expense. Request for the return of samples must be made at the bid opening, otherwise, the samples will become GUC's property. Each individual sample must be labeled with Provider's name.

8.0 SPECIFICATIONS

Any deviation from specifications must be clearly pointed out, otherwise, it will be considered that items offered are in strict compliance with specifications, and the Provider will be held responsible. Deviations must be explained in detail. **The Provider shall not construe this paragraph as inviting deviation or implying that any deviation will be acceptable.**

9.0 INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE

Providers are to furnish all information requested. Further, as may be specified elsewhere, each Provider must submit with its proposal: cuts, sketches, descriptive literature, and/or complete specifications covering the products offered. Reference to literature submitted with a previous bid does not satisfy this provision. Bids which do not comply with these requirements will be subject to rejection.

10.0 AWARD OF CONTRACT

As directed by statute, qualified bids will be evaluated and acceptance made of the lowest responsible, responsive bid most advantageous to GUC as determined upon consideration of such factors as prices offered, the quality of the article(s) offered, the general reputation and performance capabilities of the Provider, substantial conformity with the specifications and other conditions set forth in the bid, the suitability of the article(s) for the intended use, the related services needed, the date(s) of delivery and performance, and such other factors deemed by GUC to be pertinent or peculiar to the purchase in question.

Acceptance of the order includes acceptance of all terms, conditions, prices, delivery instructions, and specifications as shown on this set of Terms and Conditions and in this order or attached to and made a part of this order.

The conditions of this order cannot be modified except by written amendment in the form of "Amended Purchase Order," which has been approved by GUC's Procurement Manager.

In the event of a Provider's failure to deliver or perform as specified, GUC reserves the right to cancel the order or any part thereof, without prejudice to GUC's other rights. The Provider agrees that GUC may return part of or all of any shipment at Provider's expense. GUC may charge the Provider with all reasonable expenses resulting from such failure to deliver or perform.

11.0 MEDIATION/BINDING ARBITRATION

In the event of any dispute between the Parties, the Parties agree to submit any dispute to non-binding mediation before a mutually agreeable Mediator prior to initiating litigation. If the Parties are unable to agree upon a Mediator within thirty (30) days after demand therefore, either Party may petition a Court of competent jurisdiction for the designation of a qualified Mediator for these purposes. Each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses of participating in the mediation (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees), and each Party shall bear one-half (1/2) of the costs and expenses of the Mediator. Unless otherwise agreed, the Parties will hold the mediation in Greenville, North Carolina. The matters discussed or revealed in the mediation session shall not be disclosed in any subsequent litigation.

In the event the matter is not resolved in mediation, either Party may request arbitration. The parties shall jointly select an Arbitrator, and shall be bound by the decision of the Arbitrator with respect to any dispute between the parties with respect to this Agreement. If the parties are unable to mutually agree upon an Arbitrator, the Parties shall each select an Arbitrator, and the two Arbitrators so selected shall select a third Arbitrator, and the decision of the majority of the Arbitrators shall be conclusive and binding upon the Parties. The Parties at all times agree to equally split the costs of any Arbitrator(s) selected in an effort to resolve the dispute between the Parties. Any party desiring to resolve a dispute under the terms of this Agreement shall notify the other Party in writing, and the Parties shall seek to agree upon a mutually agreed-upon Arbitrator within a period of ten (10) days from the date of such written demand. If the Parties are unable to agree within such ten (10) day period, the Parties shall each select an Arbitrator, and the two (2) Arbitrators so selected shall select a third Arbitrator within fifteen (15) days from the date of the written demand for arbitration, and a decision shall be rendered by the Arbitrator(s) so selected within five (5) days after such Arbitrator(s) is selected.

12.0 GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS

In the event any Governmental restrictions may be imposed which would necessitate alteration of the material, quality, workmanship, or performance of the items offered on this bid prior to their delivery, it shall be the responsibility of the successful Provider to notify the GUC Procurement Manager, at once, indicating in its letter the specific regulation which required such alterations. GUC reserves the right to accept any such alterations, including any price adjustments occasioned thereby, or, in the sole discretion of GUC, to cancel the contract.

13.0 INSURANCE

- **13.1** Coverage During the term of the contract, the Provider at its sole cost and expense shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with the following coverage and limits:
 - 13.1.1 Workers' Compensation The Provider shall provide and maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance, as required by the laws of North Carolina, as well as employer's liability coverage with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 each accident, covering all Provider's employees who are engaged in any work under the contract. If any work is sublet, the Provider shall require the subcontractor to provide the same coverage for any of its employees engaged in any work under the contract.

- **13.1.2 General Liability** Commercial Liability Coverage written on an "occurrence" basis in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
- 13.1.3 Automobile Automobile Liability Insurance, to include coverage for all owned, hired, and non-owned vehicles used in connection with the contract with a minimum combined single limit of \$1,000,000 per accident.
- 13.1.4 Cyber –The Vendor shall maintain Cyber Liability Insurance with limits of \$3,000,000 per occurrence, providing protection against liability for: (1) privacy breaches (including liability arising from the loss or disclosure of confidential information no matter how it occurs); (2) system breach; (3) denial or loss of service; (4) introduction, implantation, or spread of malicious software code; and (5) unauthorized access to or use of computer systems. Cyber Liability Insurance shall not include any exclusion or restriction for unencrypted portable devices or other media. Vendor shall provide evidence of continuation or renewal for a period of two (2) years following termination of the Agreement.
- **13.2** Requirements Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of the Provider. All such insurance shall meet all laws of the State of North Carolina. Such insurance coverage shall be obtained from companies that are authorized to provide such coverage and that are authorized to do business in North Carolina by the Commissioner of Insurance. The Provider shall at all times comply with the terms of such insurance policies and all requirements of the insurer under any of such insurance policies, except as they may conflict with existing North Carolina laws or this contract. The limits of coverage under each insurance policy maintained by the Provider shall not be interpreted as limiting the Provider's liability and obligations under the contract. It is agreed that the coverage as stated shall not be canceled or changed until thirty (30) days after written notice of such termination or alteration has been sent by registered mail to GUC's Procurement Manager.

14.0 PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS

The Provider shall hold and save GUC, its officers, agents, and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, on account of any copyrighted articles or any patented or unpatented invention, device or appliance manufactured or used in the performance of this contract.

15.0 PATENT AND COPYRIGHT INDEMNITY

The Provider will defend or settle, at its own expense, any action brought against GUC to the extent that it is based on a claim that the product(s) provided pursuant to this agreement infringe any U.S. copyright or patent; and will pay those costs, damages, and attorney fees finally awarded against GUC in any such action attributable to any such claim, but such defense, settlements, and payments are conditioned on the following: (1) that Provider shall be notified promptly in writing by GUC of any such claim; (2) that Provider shall have sole control of the defense of any action on such claim and of all negotiations for its settlement or compromise; (3) that GUC shall cooperate with Provider in a reasonable way to facilitate the settlement of defense of such claim; (4) that such claim does not arise from GUC modifications not authorized

by the Provider or from the use of combination of products provided by the Provider with products provided by GUC or by others; and (5) should such product(s) become, or in the Provider's opinion likely to become, the subject of such claim of infringement, then GUC shall permit Provider, at Provider's option and expense, either to procure for GUC the right to continue using the product(s), or replace or modify the same so that it becomes non-infringing and performs in a substantially similar manner to the original product.

16.0 EXCEPTIONS

All proposals are subject to the terms and conditions outlined herein. All responses will be controlled by such terms and conditions and the submission of other terms and conditions, price catalogs, and other documents as part of a Provider's response will be waived and have no effect on this Request for Proposal or any other contract that may be awarded resulting from this solicitation. The submission of any other terms and conditions by a Provider may be grounds for rejection of the Provider's proposal. The Provider specifically agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in this set of Terms and Conditions by affixing its name on the signatory page contained herein.

17.0 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Except as provided by statute and rule of law, GUC will keep trade secrets which the Provider does not wish disclosed confidential. Each page shall be identified in boldface at the top and bottom as "CONFIDENTIAL" by the Provider. Cost information shall not be deemed confidential. The determination of whether a matter is confidential will be determined by North Carolina law.

18.0 ASSIGNMENT

No assignment of the Provider's obligations or the Provider's right to receive payment hereunder shall be permitted without the express written consent of GUC, provided however, upon written request approved by the GUC Procurement Manager, solely as a convenience to the Provider, GUC may:

- Forward the Provider's payment check directly to any person or entity designated by the Provider, and
- Include any person or entity designated by Provider as a joint payee on the Provider's payment check.
- In no event shall such approval and action obligate GUC to anyone other than the Provider, and the Provider shall remain responsible for fulfillment of all contract obligations.

19.0 ACCESS TO PERSON AND RECORDS

GUC shall have reasonable access to persons and records of Provider as a result of all contracts entered into by GUC.

20.0 INSPECTION AT BIDDER'S SITE

GUC reserves the right to inspect, at a reasonable time, the item, plant, or other facilities of a prospective Provider prior to contract award and during the contract term as necessary for GUC's determination that such item, plant, or other facilities conform with the specifications/requirements and are adequate and suitable for the proper and effective performance of the contract. Provider may limit GUC's access to restricted areas.

21.0 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

Any and all payments of compensation of this specific transaction and any continuation or any renewal or extension are dependent upon and subject to the allocation of GUC funds for the purpose set forth in this Agreement.

22.0 GOVERNING LAWS

All contracts, transactions, agreements, etc., are made under and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

23.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Bids, proposals, and awards are subject to applicable provisions of the North Carolina Administrative Code and General Statues and Laws of the State of North Carolina.

24.0 EXECUTION

In the discretion of GUC, failure of a duly authorized official of Provider to sign the Signatory Page may render the bid invalid.

25.0 CLARIFICATIONS/INTERPRETATIONS

Any and all questions regarding these Terms and Conditions must be addressed to the GUC Procurement Manager. Do not contact the user directly. **These Terms and Conditions are a complete statement of the parties' agreement and may only be modified in writing signed by Provider and the GUC Procurement Manager.**

26.0 SITUS

The place of all contracts, transactions, agreements, their situs and forum, shall be North Carolina, where all matters, whether in contract or tort, relating to the validity, construction, interpretation, and enforcement shall be determined.

27.0 TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

GUC or Provider may terminate this Agreement for just cause at any time. Provider will be paid for all time and expenses incurred as of the termination date. Termination for just cause by either party shall be by certified letter and shall be effective thirty (30) days after signed and acknowledged receipt of said letter. Just cause shall be based on reasonable grounds, and there must be a fair and honest cause or reason for such action. The causes for termination, include, but are not limited to: (1) Provider's persistent failure to perform in accordance with the Terms and Conditions, (2) Provider's disregard of laws and regulations related to this

transaction, and/or (3) Provider's substantial violation of the provisions of the Terms and Conditions.

28.0 <u>DELIVERY</u>

Shipments will be made only upon releases from a purchase order issued by GUC in accordance with GUC's current needs.

Time is of the essence with respect to all deliveries under this Agreement. Delivery of all equipment, materials, or supplies shall be made Free on Board (FOB) GUC Warehouse, 701 Utility Way, Greenville, North Carolina 27834, unless otherwise specified. The agreed price for such equipment, materials, or supplies shall include all costs of delivery and ownership, and risks of loss shall not be transferred from Provider to GUC until express written acceptance of delivery and inspection by GUC. Delivery hours are between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday only. GUC's purchase order number is to be shown on the packing slip or any related documents. GUC reserves the right to refuse or return any delivery with no purchase order number or which is damaged. GUC will not be charged a restocking fee for any delivery which is refused or returned.

29.0 <u>INDEMNITY PROVISION</u>

Provider agrees to indemnify and save GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION of the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina, and the City of Greenville, North Carolina, its co-owners, joint venturers, agents, employees, and insurance carriers harmless from any and all losses, claims, actions, costs, expenses including reasonable attorney fees, judgments, subrogations, or other damages resulting from injury to any person (including injury resulting in death), or damage (including loss or destruction) to property of whatsoever nature of any person arising out of or incident to the performance of the terms of this Contract by Provider, including, but not limited to, Provider's employees, agents, subcontractors, and others designated by Provider to perform work or services in, about, or attendant to, the work and services under the terms of this Contract. Provider shall not be held responsible for any losses, expenses, claims, subrogations, actions, costs, judgments, or other damages, directly, solely, and proximately caused by the negligence of Greenville Utilities Commission of the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina. Insurance covering this indemnity agreement by the Provider in favor of Greenville Utilities Commission of the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina, and the City of Greenville, North Carolina, shall be provided by Provider.

30.0 FORCE MAJEURE

Neither party shall be considered in default in the performance of its obligations hereunder to the extent that the performance of any such obligation is prevented or delayed by any cause, existing or future, which is beyond the reasonable control of such party. In any such event of force majeure, the parties shall advise each other of such event, and the parties shall negotiate an equitable adjustment to their respective obligations under this Agreement.

31.0 WARRANTY(IES)

The Provider hereby includes all warranties, whether expressed or implied, including, but not limited to, the Implied Warranty of Merchantability and the Implied Warranty of Fitness for a Particular Purpose.

32.0 INTEGRATED CONTRACT

These Terms and Conditions, Instructions to Bidders, Specifications, and the selected Provider's bid represents the entire contract between the Parties. No verbal or other written agreement(s) shall be held to vary the provisions of this Agreement.

33.0 CONTRACT PROVISIONS

Each of the provisions of these Terms and Conditions shall apply to the full extent permitted by law, and the invalidity in whole or in part of any provision shall not affect the remainder of such provision or any other provisions.

34.0 <u>E-VERIFY</u>

E-Verify - I understand that E-Verify is the federal E-Verify program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies, or any successor or equivalent program used to verify the work authorization of newly hired employees pursuant to federal law in accordance with NCGS §64-25 et seq. I am aware of and in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify and Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes. To the best of my knowledge, any subcontractors employed by me as a part of this contract are in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify and Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

35.0 IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT CERTIFICATION

By acceptance of this purchase order, Vendor/Contractor certifies that, as of the date of the purchase order or contract, it is not on the Final Divestment List as created by the State Treasurer pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-6A-4. In compliance with the requirements of the Iran Divestment Act and N.C.G.S. § 143C-6A-5(b), Vendor/Contractor shall not utilize in the performance of the contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Final Divestment List.

36.0 UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Contracts funded with federal grant or loan funds must be procured in a manner that conforms with all applicable federal laws, policies, and standards, including those under the Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200).

37.0 SAFETY STATEMENTS

Safety Culture Commitment Statement:

At Greenville Utilities, we are committed to a culture of safety that prioritizes the well-being of our employees, contractors, and the communities we serve.

We believe that everyone deserves to work in a safe environment, and we are dedicated to fostering a culture where **safety is a core value**, **not just a priority**.

Here's what that means to us:

- **Employee and Contractor Safety:** We are committed to providing a safe work environment for all employees and contractors. We will invest in safety training, resources, and equipment to prevent accidents and injuries.
- **Open Communication:** We encourage open and honest communication about safety concerns. We believe everyone has a right and responsibility to speak up about unsafe work practices and potential hazards.

- **Continuous Improvement:** We are committed to continuous improvement in safety performance. We will learn from incidents and near misses, and we will actively seek ways to improve our safety processes and procedures.
- Accountability: We hold ourselves and our contractors accountable for safe work
 practices. This includes providing clear safety expectations, enforcing safety rules, and
 recognizing safe behavior.
- **Collaboration:** We believe in working collaboratively with employees, contractors, and regulatory agencies to achieve the highest level of safety.

Our commitment to safety extends beyond our employees. We work closely with our contractors to ensure they share our safety values. We expect them to implement robust safety programs, train their workers thoroughly, and adhere to all safety regulations. We are confident that by working together, we can create a culture of safety where everyone goes home safe and healthy every day.

This commitment statement is a public declaration of our unwavering dedication to safety. We will continue to strive for zero incidents while promoting a positive safety culture that prioritizes the well-being of everyone involved in our utility operations.

Safety Management System Commitment Statement:

At Greenville Utilities, we are unwavering in our commitment to delivering safe and reliable utility service through a robust Safety Management System (SMS). This system forms the foundation of our safety culture, ensuring the well-being of our employees, contractors, and the communities we serve.

Our SMS commitment emphasizes:

- **Zero Incidents:** We believe all incidents are preventable. We strive for zero incidents by proactively managing risks and continuously improving our safety practices.
- **Empowered Workforce:** We foster a culture where safety is everyone's responsibility. This includes providing comprehensive safety training for both employees and contractors, empowering them to identify and report hazards.
- **Data-Driven Decisions:** We utilize data from inspections, incident investigations, and performance metrics to make informed decisions for risk mitigation and continuous improvement of our SMS.
- **Leadership Engagement:** Our leadership team actively demonstrates a commitment to safety by participating in safety reviews, audits, and promoting safety as a core value.
- Contractor Collaboration: We extend our safety commitment to our contractors. We require contractors working on our system to adhere to SMS principles, participate in safety briefings, and maintain strong safety programs within their own organizations.
- **Transparent Communication:** We believe in open communication about safety. We encourage employees and contractors to report concerns without fear of reprisal. We also maintain transparent communication with stakeholders about SMS performance.

This SMS commitment is a continuous journey, not a destination. We are dedicated to regularly reviewing and updating our system to reflect best practices and emerging technologies. Through continuous improvement and a commitment to a positive safety culture, we aim to remain an industry leader in safe and reliable utility service.

38.0 NOTICES

Notices to the Parties should be sent to the names and addresses specified below:

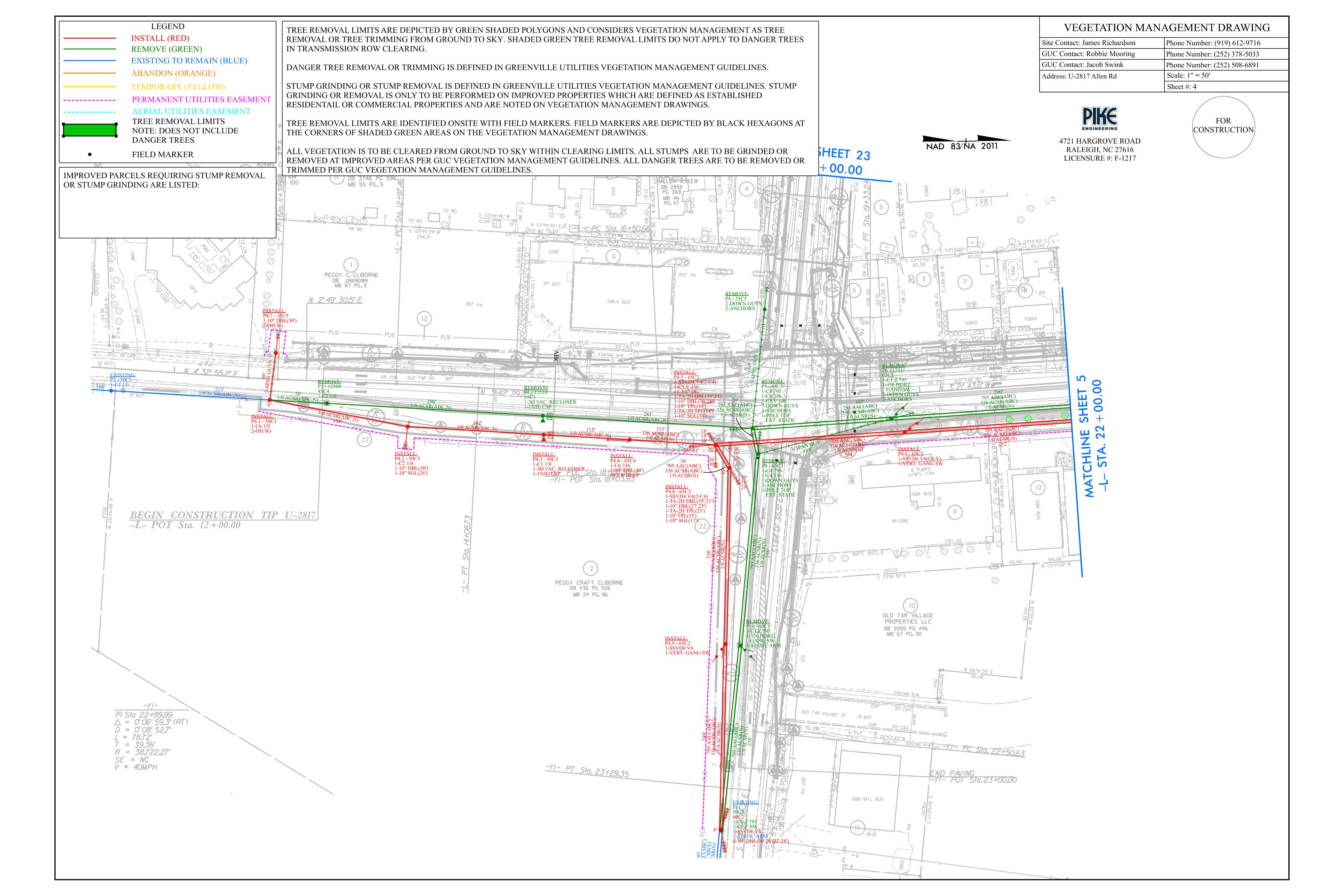
Cleve Haddock, Lifetime CLGPO Procurement Manager Greenville Utilities Commission P.O. Box 1847 Greenville, NC 27835-1847

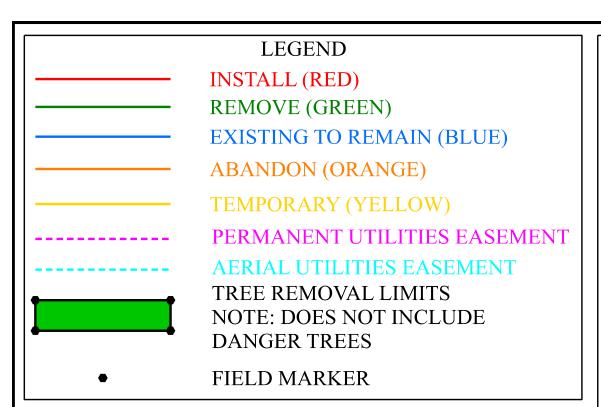
Vendor Specified on Page 1 of Section III when awarded.

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION	COMPANY NAME:
By: Anthony C. Cannon	By:
Title: General Manager/CEO (Authorized Signatory)	Title: (Authorized Signatory)
Date:	Date:
Attest:	Attest:
Name (Print): Amy Wade	Name (Print):
Title: Executive Secretary	Title: Corporate Secretary
Date:	Date:
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	(CORP. SEAL)
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL	CONTENT:
By: Phillip R. Dixon	
Title: General Counsel	
Date:	

Appendix A: Vegetation Management Drawings

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]





IMPROVED PARCELS REQUIRING STUMP REMOVAL OR STUMP GRINDING ARE LISTED:
PARCEL 20, PARCEL 21, PARCEL 33

TREE REMOVAL LIMITS ARE DEPICTED BY GREEN SHADED POLYGONS AND CONSIDERS VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AS TREE REMOVAL OR TREE TRIMMING FROM GROUND TO SKY. SHADED GREEN TREE REMOVAL LIMITS DO NOT APPLY TO DANGER TREES IN TRANSMISSION ROW CLEARING.

DANGER TREE REMOVAL OR TRIMMING IS DEFINED IN GREENVILLE UTILITIES VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.

STUMP GRINDING OR STUMP REMOVAL IS DEFINED IN GREENVILLE UTILITIES VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES. STUMP GRINDING OR REMOVAL IS ONLY TO BE PERFORMED ON IMPROVED PROPERTIES WHICH ARE DEFINED AS ESTABLISHED RESIDENTAIL OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES AND ARE NOTED ON VEGETATION MANAGEMENT DRAWINGS.

TREE REMOVAL LIMITS ARE IDENTIFIED ONSITE WITH FIELD MARKERS. FIELD MARKERS ARE DEPICTED BY BLACK HEXAGONS AT THE CORNERS OF SHADED GREEN AREAS ON THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT DRAWINGS.

ALL VEGETATION IS TO BE CLEARED FROM GROUND TO SKY WITHIN CLEARING LIMITS. ALL STUMPS ARE TO BE GRINDED OR REMOVED AT IMPROVED AREAS PER GUC VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES. ALL DANGER TREES ARE TO BE REMOVED OR TRIMMED PER GUC VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.

VEGETATION MANAGEME	NT DRAWING

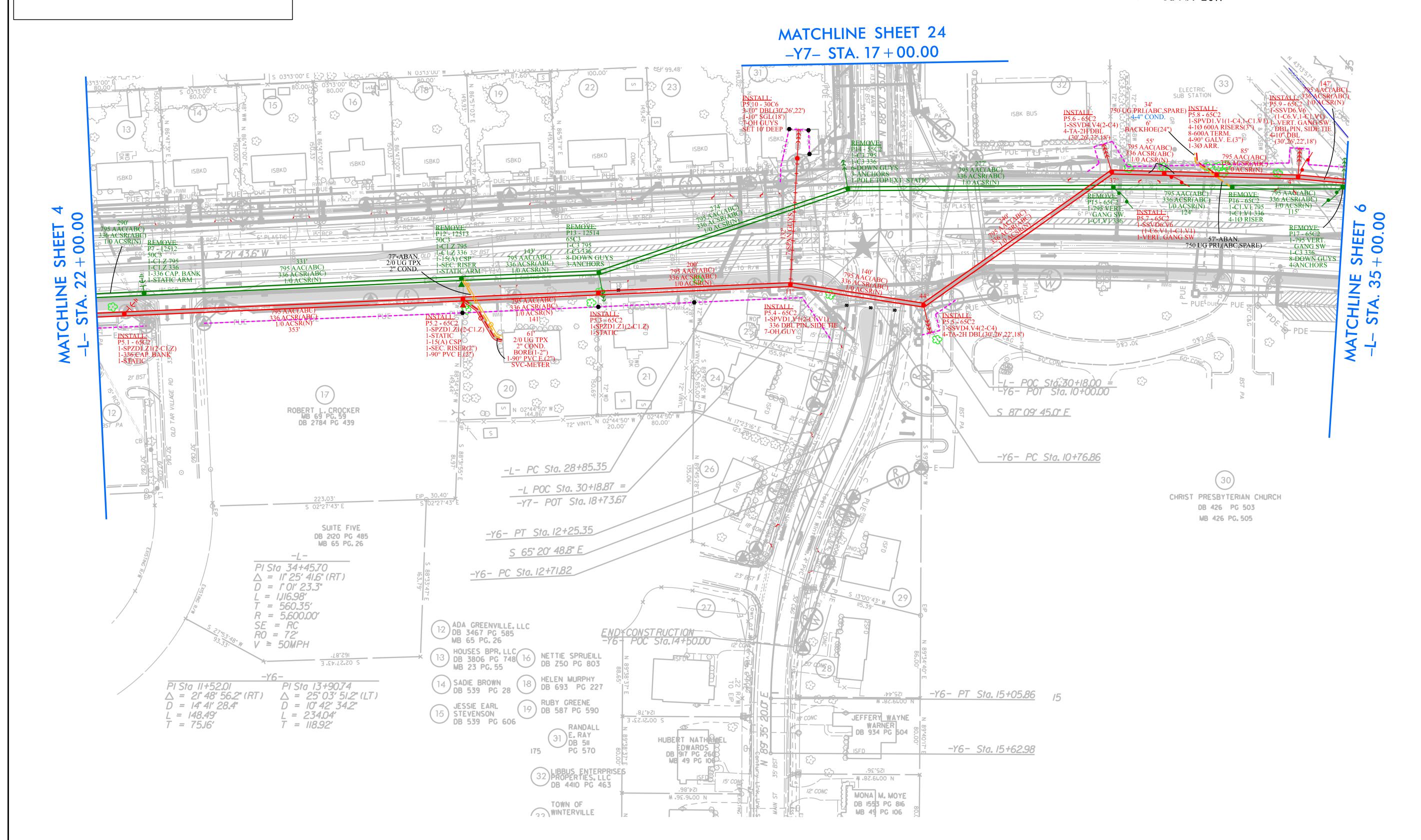
Site Contact: James Richardson	Phone Number: (919) 612-9716
GUC Contact: Robbie Mooring	Phone Number: (252) 378-5033
GUC Contact: Jacob Swink	Phone Number: (252) 508-6891
Address: U-2817 Allen Rd	Scale: 1" = 50'
	Sheet #: 5

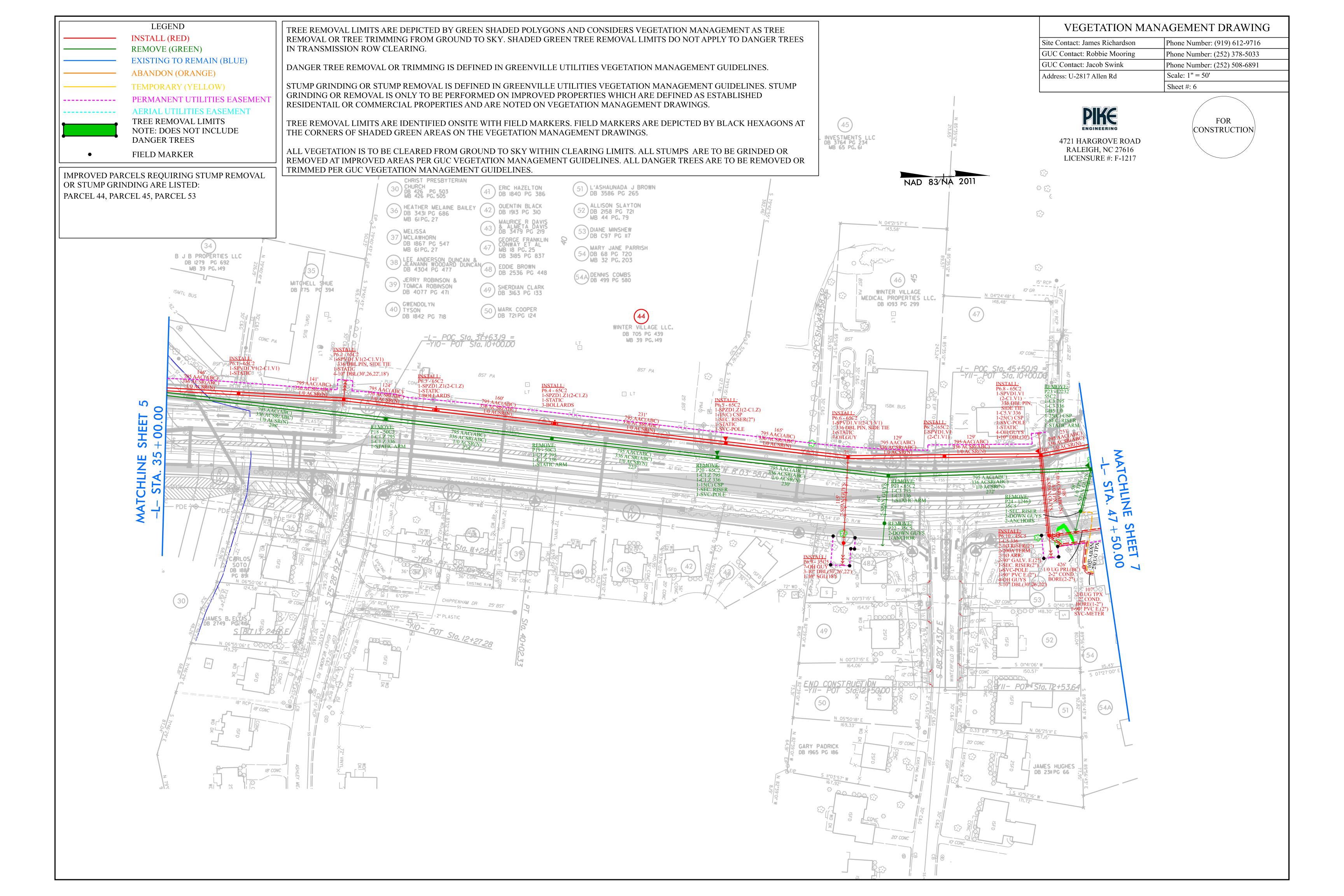


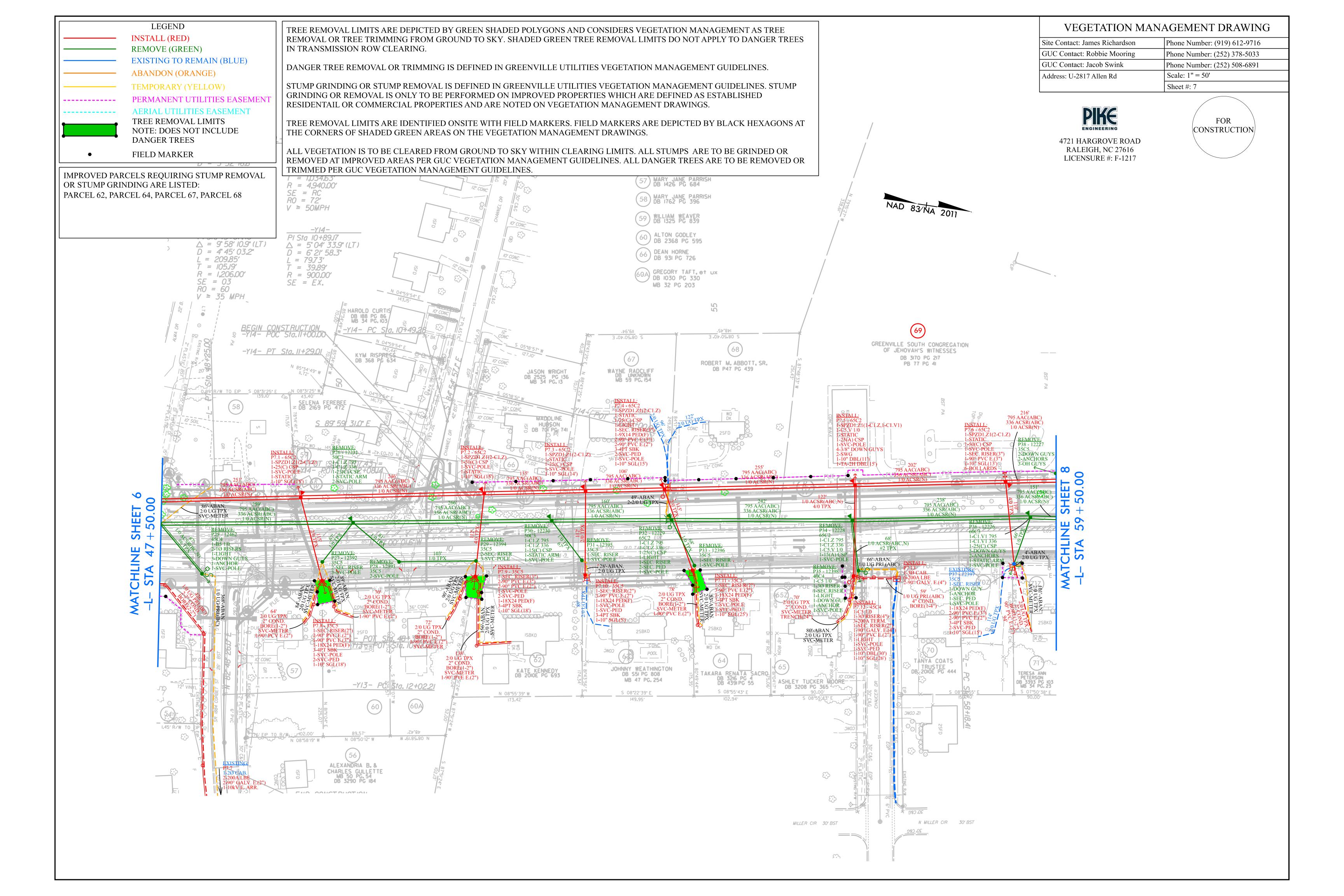
4721 HARGROVE ROAD RALEIGH, NC 27616 LICENSURE #: F-1217

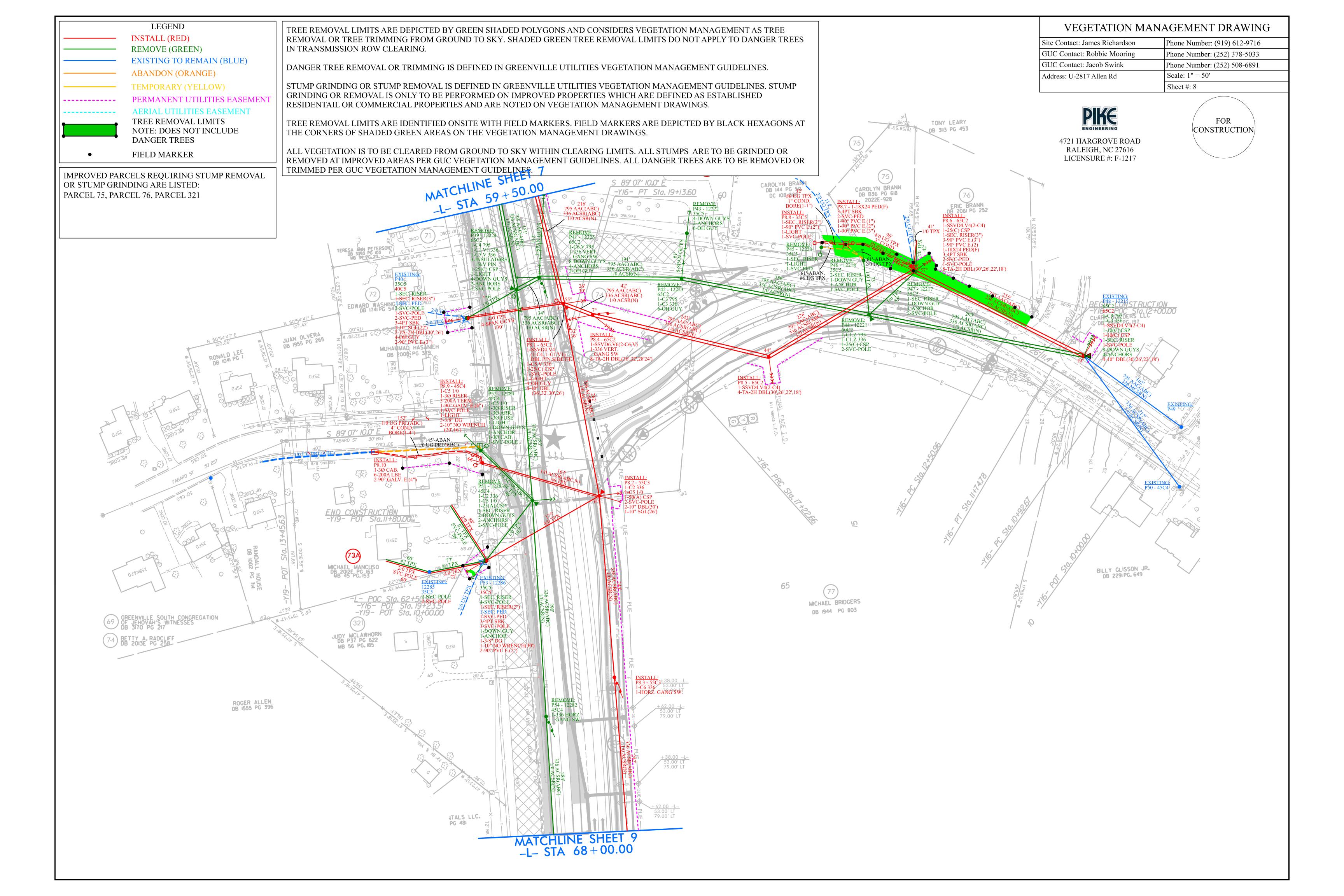


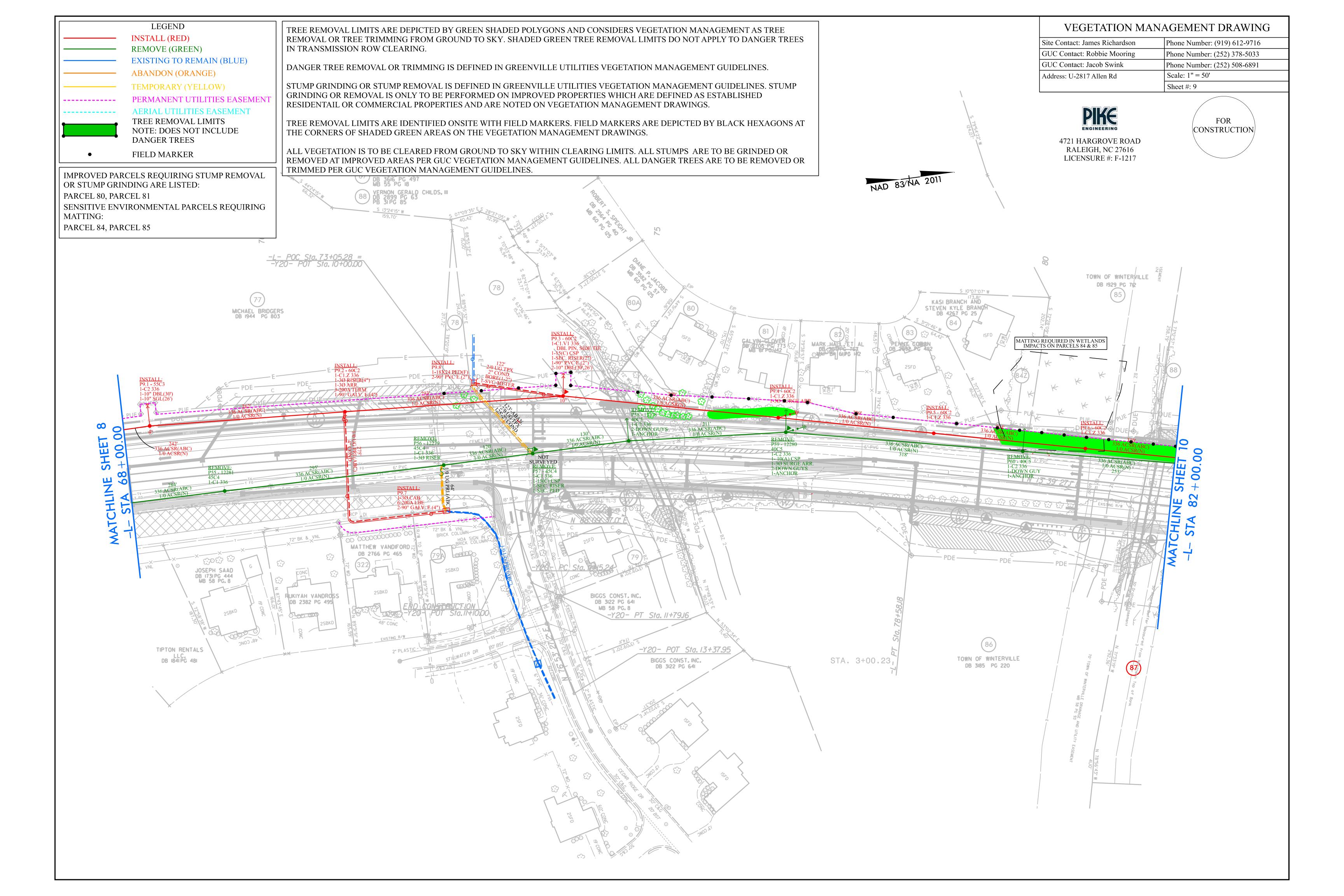
NAD 83/NA 2011

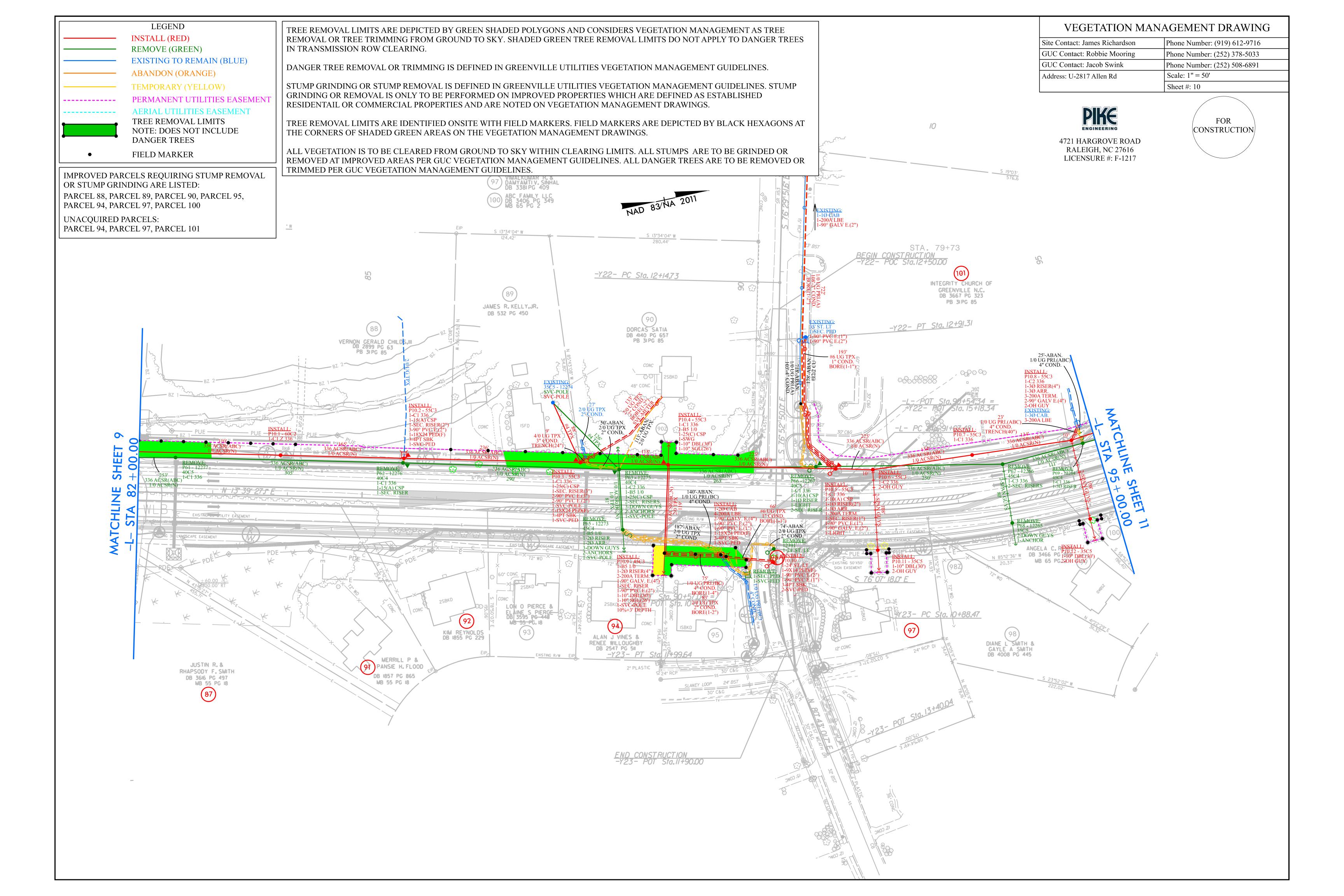


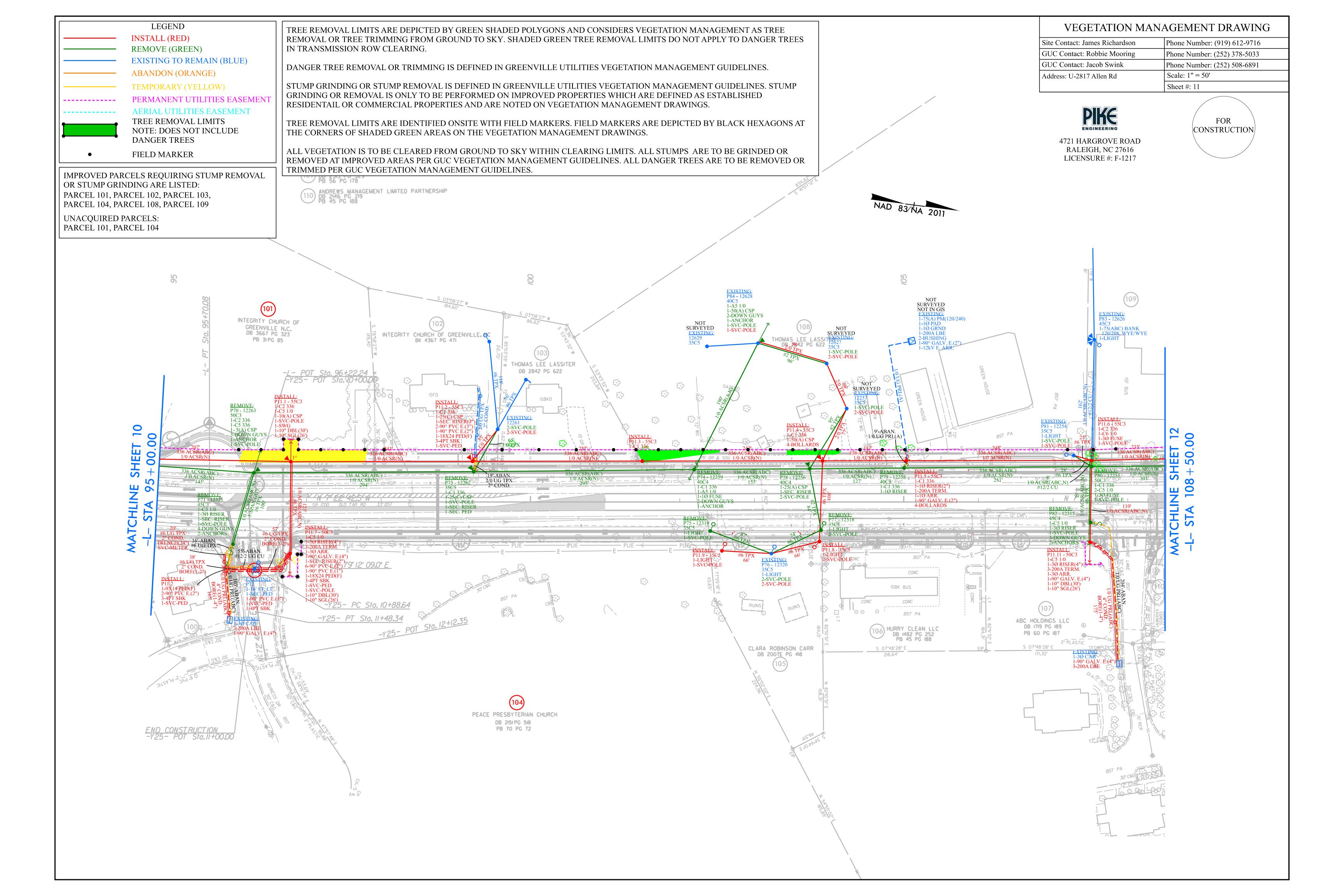


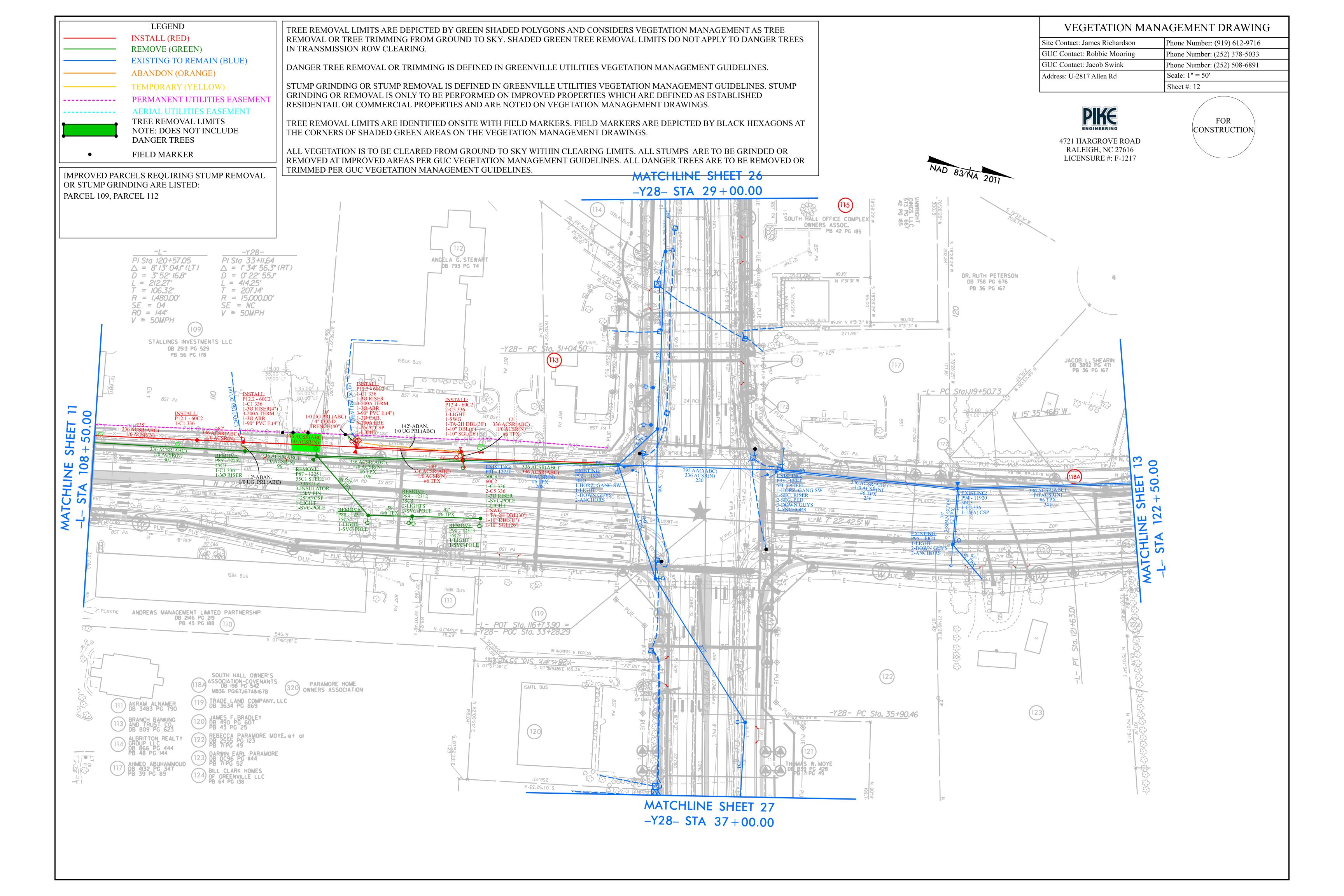












Appendix B: GUC Vegetation Management Guidelines

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

Greenville Utilities

Vegetation Management Guidelines



1.0 Overview

Greenville Utilities Commission (GUC) acknowledges that trees in rural and urban settings are a vital element of the quality of life. However, when tree limbs become too close to power lines, it is dangerous and electric service can be impaired. Greenville Utilities' power line right-of-way responsibilities are first, to maintain public safety and the safety of our employees, and second, to provide reliable power to our community.

Trees growing near energized conductors are hazardous to public safety. Trees do not have to physically touch conductors to be dangerous, given the right conditions electricity can arc from power lines to nearby trees. When these trees become energized, they can catch fire and can potentially electrocute anyone near the tree at ground level.

Trees cause the majority of power outages affecting the Utility's customers. Fallen trees and tree limbs that become entangled in lines, wind-blown branches that cross the lines as they fall to the ground, and tree limbs that grow into or close to power lines are the major causes of outages. Not only are such service interruptions inconvenient for customers, but they can also threaten public safety when power is interrupted to vital services such as hospitals, traffic signals, and fire alarm systems, or to customers with life-support systems.

As part of the Utility's obligation to provide safe and reliable electrical service to customers, the utility has developed a vegetation management program designed to keep tree limbs and shrubs safely away from power lines.

The Utility will trim all trees and vegetation around its energized power lines, fiber optic cables, utility poles and pad mount transformers. All tree trimming will be done to obtain maximum clearance with due regard to current and future tree health and symmetry. It is important to keep alleys and rights-of- way clear of debris so crews have access to perform maintenance or emergency functions safely.

2.0 Clearances

The Utility attempts to maintain a five-year trim cycle in rural areas and a three-year trim cycle in urban areas. According to the National Electric Safety Code, the amount of clearance needed in a given area depends on the voltage of the line and the type of line construction. Line sag during temperature extremes, as well as wind movement of power lines and trees also must be taken into consideration.

All tree trimming shall conform to good forestry standards with respect to line-clearing procedures. Because proper pruning requires cutting at certain points, branches will be cut at a main branching point, or at the trunk, leaving no stub. At a minimum, trees shall be trimmed back to existing cuts of prior line-clearing activities. Any limb within 10 feet of all electrical lines will be cut back. Sometimes this may mean the branch is cut more than 10 feet from the lines, but it helps preserve the health of the tree.

Directional pruning is the preferred method of trimming. Figure 1 illustrates the 10 foot minimum side clearance from tree limbs to the nearest conductor.

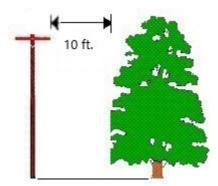


Figure 1: Minimum Side Clearance

In general, the trimming guidelines in Table 1 shall be used to maintain a minimum 10 feet of clearance.

Table 1: Minimum Trimming Guidelines

Druming Mothodo	Tree Growth	Secondary	Primary
Pruning Methods	free Growth	Service	Distribution ³
Topping	Fast Growers ¹	6 Ft.	10 Ft.
	Slow Growers ²	4 Ft.	8 Ft.
Directional	Fast Growers	6 Ft.	8 Ft.
	Slow Growers	4 Ft.	6 Ft.
Overhang	Fast Growers	6 Ft.	15 Ft.
	Slow Growers	4 Ft.	12 Ft.

¹ <u>Fast Growers</u> will be defined as any species whose average annual growth is greater than 24 inches or its annual sucker growth is greater than 60 inches. (Elm, Pine, Soft Maple, Poplar, Willow, etc.)

Any limb above the shall be removed. Certain main branches on older trees can remain inside the minimum clearance or overhang the line, but this depends on the health of the tree, direction of growth and likelihood of its limbs reaching the lines. Figure 2 illustrates how overhang will be trimmed, ground to sky.

² <u>Slow Growers</u> will be defined as any species whose average annual growth is 24 inches or less and its annual sucker growth is 60 inches or less. (Cedar, Hard Maple, Oak, Hickory, Fruit Trees, etc.)

³ Trimming distances in Table 1 are for distribution lines at a voltage of 12.47 kV. Sub-transmission and transmission lines require greater trimming distances.

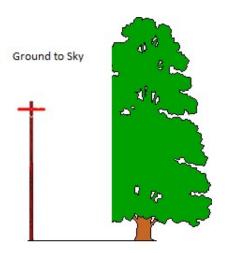
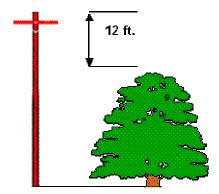


Figure 2: Overhang Trimming Method

All species located within the utility easement that have a maturity height exceeding 15 feet and with trunk diameters of 10 inches or less at chest height will be removed at ground level. Slow growing species may be left if they have a minimum trunk size exceeding 10 inches and will be pruned/topped to maintain 12 feet of clearance to the nearest primary conductor. Figure 3 illustrates the required minimum clearance for trees located within the utility easement.



3.0 Services and Street Lights

Trimming for services to residences and private lights is the responsibility of the customer. To reduce the risk of electrical hazards, the Utility will drop the service wire and re-connect it after a qualified contractor has completed the tree work. There is no charge for this service, but it must be scheduled 48 hours in advance. Contact the Utility's dispatch center to schedule this service.

4.0 Danger Tree Identification and Removal

While designing electric transmission lines an Engineer will designate danger trees along the transmission route. Danger trees are trees outside of the utility easement that may cause undue interference with transmission lines. Greenville Utilities Commission

will remove, trim, or top any tree at the discretion of the commission that is designated as a danger tree. See Appendix A for Greenville Utilities' danger tree agreement.

Appendix B illustrates the methodology used in designating danger trees. Any tree within the utility easement will be removed. Trees that will reach within 5 feet of a point underneath the outside conductor will be designated as danger trees. A 45-degree line will be drawn 5 feet from the outside conductor extending upward. Any vegetation above the line will be topped or removed at the discretion of the commission.

5.0 Stump Removal/Grinding

After removing trees within a new easement, Greenville Utilities Commission will remove or grind stumps and repair the property owner's yard at the completion of the project. Stump removal is only provided for established residential and commercial properties. Stumps on unimproved rural tracts of land will not be removed. GUC is not responsible for removing or grinding stumps of trees within an established easement or trees that were removed during routine annual trimming.

Greenville Utilities Commission may agree to reimburse for stump removal in the event a property owner elects to hire an outside contractor to remove a stump prior to project completion. Property owners shall seek GUC's reimbursement approval prior to removing the stump. If the stump is removed prior to project completion GUC will not reimburse the property owner for removal of debris or landscaping associated with stump grinding. See Table 2 column 2 for the appropriate reimbursement level. The Commission is not responsible for any damages or inadequate work caused by the property owner's contractor.

In the event a property owner elects to hire an outside contractor to remove a stump upon project completion, Greenville Utilities Commission may agree to reimburse the expense. Property owners shall seek GUC's reimbursement approval prior to removing the stump. If the stump is removed upon project completion GUC will reimburse the property owner for removal of debris or landscaping associated with stump grinding. See Table 2 column 3 for the appropriate reimbursement level. The Commission is not responsible for any damages or inadequate work caused by the property owner's contractor.

GUC will use the guidelines in Table 2 when evaluating reimbursement requests. Reimbursement levels are determined by stump diameter.

Table 2: Stump Removal Reimbursement

Stump Diameter (inch)	Cost fo	or Stump Grind Only	Cost Stun	np Grind & Lanscape
<10	\$	30.00	\$	45.00
11-15	\$	45.00	\$	67.50
16-20	\$	60.00	\$	90.00
21-25	\$	75.00	\$	112.50
26-30	\$	90.00	\$	135.00
31-35	\$	105.00	\$	157.50
36-40	\$	120.00	\$	180.00
41-45	\$	135.00	\$	202.50
46-50	\$	150.00	\$	225.00
51-55	\$	165.00	\$	247.50
56-60	\$	180.00	\$	270.00
61-65	\$	195.00	\$	292.50
66-70	\$	210.00	\$	315.00
71-75	\$	225.00	\$	337.50
76-80	\$	240.00	\$	360.00
81-85	\$	255.00	\$	382.50
86-90	\$	270.00	\$	405.00

¹Costs in the table above will be used as guidelines and are subject to change based on the labor market. Reimbursements will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

Appendix A, Danger Tree Agreement

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

PITT COUNTY

AGREEMENT TO CUT, TRIM, REMOVE, AND CLEAR DANGER TREES ON ADJOINING PROPERTY TO PREVENT UNDUE INTERFERENCE WITH 115 kV ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINES

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into on this the day of, 20, by and between Greenville Utilities Commission of the City of Greenville, North Carolina (hereinafter
referred to as "Commission") and (hereinafter referred to as "Owner").
<u>WITNESSETH</u> :
THAT WHEREAS, Owner currently owns a tract or parcel of land denominated Parcel Number according to the records in the Office of Tax Administration, Pitt County, North Carolina, with a physical address of, Greenville, NC 27834; and
WHEREAS, Commission is concerned that the existence of several trees and vegetation in the area with such electric transmission line now or in the future; and
WHEREAS, Commission has requested from Owner, and Owner has agreed to grant to Commission, a right to cut, clear, trim, and remove any danger trees or vegetation, or limbs, or branches that might unreasonably interfere with the reasonable operation and maintenance of such electric transmission lines; and
WHEREAS, the parties desire to reduce to writing their agreements with respect thereto.
NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration passing from each party to the other, receipt of which is hereby respectively acknowledged by each of the parties hereto, Commission and Owner do hereby agree each with the other as follows:
1. Owner hereby grants to the City of Greenville for the use and benefit of Commission an access easement to go upon the property of Owner at reasonable times and with the least interference to any reasonable use of Owner of such property in order to cut, clear, trim, and remove any danger trees or vegetation that may interfere unreasonably (in the discretion of Commission), in the reasonable opinion of Commission, with the operation and maintenance of a 115 kV electric transmission line constructed. For and in consideration of such grant, Commission hereby agrees to pay to Owner the full sum of Dollars (\$) contemporaneously with the execution of this
Agreement.
2. The parties stipulate and agree that it is anticipated that a line will be established from the outward boundaries of the electric transmission line so as to designate an approximately 45° angle within which any trees or vegetation may be removed, or cut, or trimmed, or cleared.
3. Commission will designate an engineer to designate all danger trees and vegetation with

advance notice to Owner, and Owner hereby agrees that thereafter Commission, or its employees or agents, may reasonably remove or top off, at its option, any such danger tree or vegetation, as herein provided.

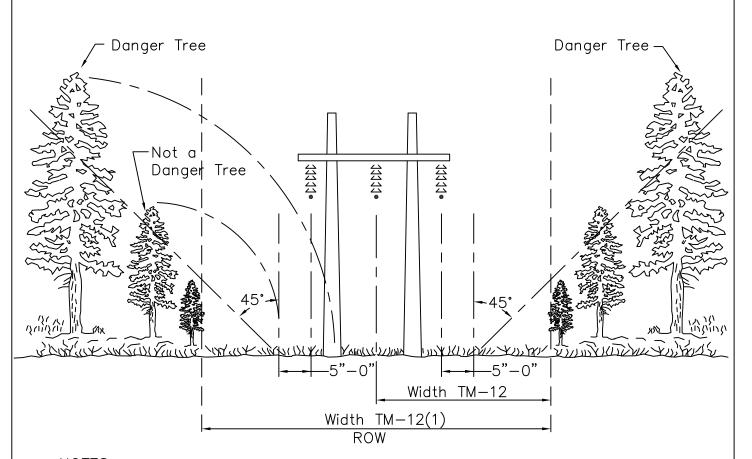
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Commission has executed this Agreement through its General Manager and attested by its Executive Secretary, all pursuant to authority of its Board of Commissioners duly given, and Owner shall adopt the word SEAL as his or her seal as hereunto described as hand and seal to this Agreement on this the year first above written. This Agreement shall become effective if and when all parties have entered into this Agreement on this the day and year first above written.

		ENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSI CITY OF GREENVILLE, NORTH	
	Ву:	Anthony C. Cannon	
		General Manager/Chief Executiv	
ATTEST:			
Amy Carson Wade, Executive Secreta	iry		
[OFFICIAL SEAL]			
OWNER:			
	Ву:	Authorized Signatory	_(SEAL)
		, and g and g	
NORTH CAROLINA PITT COUNTY			
I,	nally appolities Conforegoing	mmission, and that by authority du instrument was signed in its name	owledged that she is the ly given and as an act o by Anthony C. Cannon
all pursuant to the authority of the Boa			

WITNESS my hand and seal, this the	_ day of, 20
	NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:	_
NORTH CAROLINA PITT COUNTY	
I, and State, do hereby certify that day and acknowledged the due execution of the form	, a Notary Public in and for the aforesaid County, Owner, personally appeared before me this egoing Agreement.
WITNESS my hand and seal, this the	_ day of, 20
	NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:	

Appendix B, Right-Of-Way Clearing Guide

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]



NOTES:

- 1. Engineer will designate all danger trees which shall be removed or topped at option of contractor. In approximately level terrain, trees which would reach within 5 feet of a point underneath the outside conductor in falling are examples of danger trees.
- 2. As directed by the engineer, portions of the right—of—way (ROW) must be cut so that stumps will not prevent the passage of tractor and trucks along the ROW.
- 3. The unit for clearing one—half of the ROW is "WIDTH TM—12."
- 4. The unit for clearing the full ROW is "WIDTH TM-12(1)."
- 5. The unit for clearing danger trees is "TM-13."

						O. E.A.D.N.I.O.
			TRANSMISSION ROW CLEARING			
				RIGHT-OF-WAY CLEARING GUIDE		
						TM-12,-12(1),-13
Reissued 03/98	NO.	REVISION	DATE			1111 12, 12(1), 10