



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
L7615(YOSE-PM)

# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park  
P. O. Box 577  
Yosemite, California 95389

### Memorandum

**To:** Chad O. Thomas, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

**From:** Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2015-004 Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement (56789)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project and completed its environmental assessment documentation, and we have determined the following:

- There will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- There will be no adverse effect on historical, cultural, or archeological resources.
- There will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

The subject proposed project, therefore, is now cleared for all NEPA and NHPA compliance requirements as presented above. Project plans and specifications are approved and construction and/or project implementation can commence.

For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- Archeological monitoring is recommended to identify presence/absence of cultural material and to document any findings.
- The new building must have design and materials compatible with existing structures and should be done with guidance from historical architect. Building design needs to match the adjacent historic building including materials, wall patterns, shape and color.
- The new structure is over twice the size of the existing well house and it will have a much greater visual impact on the overall Hetch Hetchy entrance area. To minimize that impact, the proposed Schweitzer 1 structure shall have the poured concrete horizontal lap siding wall treatment. Building siding and roof shall be stained or painted to match the existing adjacent buildings. Given the size of the metal doors, the doors shall be painted to match the building's color. Prior to application of a color to the building, a color sample shall be provided by the manufacturer for review and approval by the park Cultural Resources Program Manager.

**Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:**

None

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 56789.

*The signed original of this document is on file at the  
Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in  
Yosemite National Park.*

//Don L. Neubacher//

Don L. Neubacher

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File



## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** 2015-004 Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement

**PEPC Project Number:** 56789

**Project Description:**

The primary goal of this project is the replacement of the current well house located at the Mather Entrance Station. The current well house is unserviceable. The building envelope is neither weather tight nor rodent proof placing employees at risk of exposure to Hantavirus as well as having unacceptable code violations within the structure.

The current well house is stick built with no foundation and measures 7'4" x 6'4". The new well house will be located approximately 15- 20 feet from the existing structure and increase in size to approximately 10' x 12'. The size increase is needed to accommodate a new filtration system and an additional pressure vessel for more water storage capacity.

The preference of the utilities staff for this project is to use a prefabricated concrete building, pre-built and placed on site. The prefabricated building's exterior will be modified onsite to match the exterior siding of the adjacent ranger station. The modifications would be completed by attaching horizontal siding over the concrete structure. Although the ranger station has cedar shingles, the well house siding would not be cedar shingles but would be poured into the building roof design to match cedar shingles. The exterior will be painted to match existing color on the adjacent structures.

**Project Locations:**

Tuolumne County, CA

**Mitigation:**

- Archeological monitoring is recommended to identify presence/absence of cultural material and to document any findings.
- The new building must have design and materials compatible with existing structures and should be done with guidance from historical architect. Building design needs to match the adjacent historic building including materials, wall patterns, shape and color.
- The new structure is over twice the size of the existing well house and it will have a much greater visual impact on the overall Hetch Hetchy entrance area. To minimize that impact, the proposed Schweitzer 1 structure shall have the poured concrete horizontal lap siding wall treatment. Building siding and roof shall be stained or painted to match the existing adjacent buildings. Given the size of the metal doors, the doors shall be painted to match the building's color. Prior to application of a color to the building, a color sample shall be provided by the manufacturer for review and approval by the park Cultural Resources Program Manager.

**Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):**

Categorical Exclusion Form - Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement - PEPC ID: 56789

C.8 Replacement in kind of minor structures and facilities with little or no change in location, capacity or appearance.

**On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances (e.g. all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.**

**Superintendent:** //Don L. Neubacher// **Date:** 6/1/15  
Don L. Neubacher

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## ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

### DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 03/25/2015

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 Departmental Manual revisions and proposed Director's Order 12 changes

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Park Name:** Yosemite National Park  
**Project Title:** 2015-004 Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement  
**PEPC Project Number:** 56789  
**Project Type:** Reconstruction (REC)  
**Project Location:**  
**County, State:** Tuolumne, California  
**Project Leader:** Chad Thomas

Is project a hot topic (controversial or sensitive issues that should be brought to attention of Regional Director)? No

#### B. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.		Negligible			The new foundation measures 10 feet by 12 feet and approximately 6 inches deep.
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality		Negligible			There will be temporary air emissions during the well house installation.
4. Soundscapes		Negligible			This project includes some temporary construction noises while the well house is being installed.
5. Water quality or quantity	No				

<b>Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources</b>	<b>No Effect</b>	<b>Negligible Effects</b>	<b>Minor Effects</b>	<b>Exceeds Minor Effects</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
6. Streamflow characteristics	No				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	No				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	No				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	No				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	No				
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	No				
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	No				Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage Site.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	No				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	No				
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	No				
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities,	No				

<b>Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources</b>	<b>No Effect</b>	<b>Negligible Effects</b>	<b>Minor Effects</b>	<b>Exceeds Minor Effects</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
etc.					
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	No				
18. Archeological resources		Negligible			There are archeological sites in the area. Archeological monitoring is recommended to identify presence/absence of cultural material and to document any findings.
19. Prehistoric/historic structure		Negligible			The well house is not a historic structure but it is adjacent to one. It is recommended by the park Historic Architect that the structure's materials, wall patterns, shape and color match the nearby historic structure.
20. Cultural landscapes	No				
21. Ethnographic resources		Negligible			February Tribal Spreadsheet; there were no comments received. There are no known ethnographic concerns in the project area.
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No				
25. Energy	No				

<b>Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources</b>	<b>No Effect</b>	<b>Negligible Effects</b>	<b>Minor Effects</b>	<b>Exceeds Minor Effects</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
resources					
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	No				
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	No				
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No				The new well building will house the upgraded equipment necessary to meet code requirements.
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

### **C. MANDATORY CRITERIA**

<b>Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Comment or Data Needed to Determine</b>
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		No		
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or		No		



<b>Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Comment or Data Needed to Determine</b>
critical areas?				
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		No		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		No		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		No		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		No		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		No		
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		No		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		No		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		No		
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on		No		

<b>Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Comment or Data Needed to Determine</b>
federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?				
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		No		

**For the purpose of interpreting these procedures within the NPS, any action that has the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values would constitute an action that triggers the DOI exception for actions that threaten to violate a federal law for protection of the environment.**

#### **D. OTHER INFORMATION**

1. Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes
- 1.A. Did personnel conduct a site visit? No
2. Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No
3. Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? No
4. Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? Yes, February Tribal Spreadsheet.
5. Are there any connected, cumulative, or similar actions as part of the proposed action? (e.g., other development projects in area or identified in GMP, adequate/available utilities to accomplish project) No

#### **E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES**

<b><u>Interdisciplinary Team</u></b>	<b><u>Field of Expertise</u></b>
Don L. Neubacher	Superintendent
Kathleen Morse	Chief of Planning
Randy Fong	Chief of Project Management
Jeff Hilliard	Chief of Administration Management
Ron Borne	Chief of Facilities Management
Linda C. Mazzu	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Kris Kirby	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Kevin Killian	Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection
Chad Thomas	Project Leader
Madelyn Ruffner	Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager

Renea Kennec	NEPA Specialist
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## F. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

### Recommended:

Compliance Specialists	Date
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>5/18/15</u>
<u>//Madelyn Ruffner//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	<u>5/27/15</u>
<u>//Randy Fong//</u> Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	<u>5/29/15</u>

### Approved:

Superintendent	Date
<u>//Don L. Neubacher//</u> Don L. Neubacher	<u>6/1/15</u>

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## PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: March 31, 2015

### PROJECT INFORMATION

**Park Name:** Yosemite National Park  
**Project Title:** 2015-004 Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement  
**PEPC Project Number:** 56789  
**Project Type:** Reconstruction (REC)  
**Project Location:**  
**County, State:** Tuolumne, California  
**Project Leader:** Chad Thomas

### PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
<b>SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST</b>				
Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		No		
Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		No		
Park rare plants or vegetation?		No		
Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		No		
<b>NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
Entail ground disturbance?	Yes			
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			Archeological monitoring is recommended to identify presence/absence of cultural material and to document any findings.
Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	Yes			The new well house will be slightly southwest and larger than the existing building. This is to retain the trees in the general vicinity.
Has a National Register form been completed?		No		

<b>ESF Addendum Questions</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?	Yes			
<b>WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?		No		
Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		No		
Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		No		
Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			N/A	
Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		No		
Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		No		
Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		No		
<b>WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
Within designated Wilderness?		No		
Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		No		



# ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

### 2. Project Description:

**Project Name:** 2015-004 Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement

**Prepared by:** Renea Kennec **Date Prepared:** 03/25/2015 **Telephone:** 209-379-1038

**PEPC Project Number:** 56789

**Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])**

Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station; archeological sites in the area

### 3. Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify historic properties?

☐ No

☒ Yes

Source or reference:

### 4. Potentially Affected Resources:

#### Historical Structures/Resources Affected:

**Name and numbers:** Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station

**NR status:** 8 - Within a Register-eligible district

#### Ethnographic Resources Affected:

**Name and numbers:** Resources of Religious and Cultural Significance

### 5. The proposed action will: (check as many as apply)

☐ No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

☐ No Replace historic features/elements in kind

☐ No Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure

☐ No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment  
(inc. terrain)

☐ Yes Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric)  
to a historic setting or cultural landscape

☐ No Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible

☐ No Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible

☐ Yes Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources

No Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting,  
landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources

No Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or  
structures)

Other (please  
specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Supporting Study Data:

(Attach if feasible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)

### B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:

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☒ Anthropologist

Name: Mike Turek

Date: 05/14/2015

Comments: There are no known ethnographic concerns in the project area.

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* ☐

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No

Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

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☒ Archeologist

Name: Sonny Montague

Date: 03/25/2015

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* ☐

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No

Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Archeological monitoring is recommended to identify presence/absence of cultural material and to document any findings.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

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☒ Historical Architect

Name: Charles Tonetti

Date: 05/01/2015

Comments: The existing well house to be demolished is not a historic structure. It will be replaced with a new prefabricated concrete structure.

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* ☐

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☒ No Historic Properties Affected ☐ No

Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Because the new structure is over twice the size of the existing well house, it will have a much greater visual impact on the overall Hetch Hetchy entrance area. To minimize that

Assessment of Effect Form - Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement - PEPC ID: 56789

impact, the proposed Schweitzer 1 structure shall have the poured concrete horizontal lap siding wall treatment. Building siding and roof shall be stained or painted to match the existing adjacent buildings. Given the size of the metal doors, the doors shall be painted to match the building's color. Prior to application of a color to the building, a color sample shall be provided by the manufacturer for review and approval by Program Manager for Cultural Resources.

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[ X ] Historical Landscape Architect

Name: Kevin McCardle

Date: 05/04/2015

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]*

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No

Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: The building, door and frame must be painted or stained to match the color of the existing Ranger Station.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

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**No Reviews From:** Curator, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor

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## C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1. Assessment of Effect:

☐ No Potential to Cause Effects

☐ No Historic Properties Affected

☒ No Adverse Effect

☐ Adverse Effect

### 2. Documentation Method:

[ ] A. STANDARD 36 CFR PART 800 CONSULTATION

Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

[ ] B. STREAMLINED REVIEW UNDER THE 2008 SERVICEWIDE PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA)

The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.

APPLICABLE STREAMLINED REVIEW Criteria  
(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)

[ ] C. PLAN-RELATED UNDERTAKING



Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 2008 Servicewide PA and 36 CFR Part 800.  
Specify plan/EA/EIS:

☒ D. UNDERTAKING RELATED TO ANOTHER AGREEMENT

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

1999 Programmatic Agreement as amended in 2014.

☐ E. COMBINED NEPA/NHPA Document

Documentation is required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD has been developed and used so as also to meet the requirements of 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6

☐ G. Memo to SHPO/THPO

☐ H. Memo to ACHP

**SHPO/THPO Notes:**

**3. Additional Consulting Parties Information:**

**Additional Consulting Parties:** No

**4. Stipulations and Conditions:**

**Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the assessment of effect above is consistent with 36 CFR Part 800 criteria of effect or to avoid or reduce potential adverse effects.**

**5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures:**

**Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties:  
(Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)**

- Assessment of Effect - Archeological monitoring is recommended to identify presence/absence of cultural material and to document any findings.
- Assessment of Effect - The new building must have design and materials compatible with existing structures and should be done with guidance from historical architect. Building design needs to match the adjacent historic building including materials, wall patterns, shape and color.
- The new structure is over twice the size of the existing well house and it will have a much greater visual impact on the overall Hetch Hetchy entrance area. To minimize that impact, the proposed Schweitzer 1 structure shall have the poured concrete horizontal lap siding wall treatment. Building siding and roof shall be stained or painted to match the existing adjacent buildings. Given the size of the metal doors, the doors shall be painted to match the building's color. Prior to application of a color to the building, a color sample shall be provided by the manufacturer for review and approval by the park Cultural Resources Program Manager.

**D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:**

**Historic Preservation Officer:**

Kimball  
Koch

//Kimball Koch//

**Date:** 5/19/15

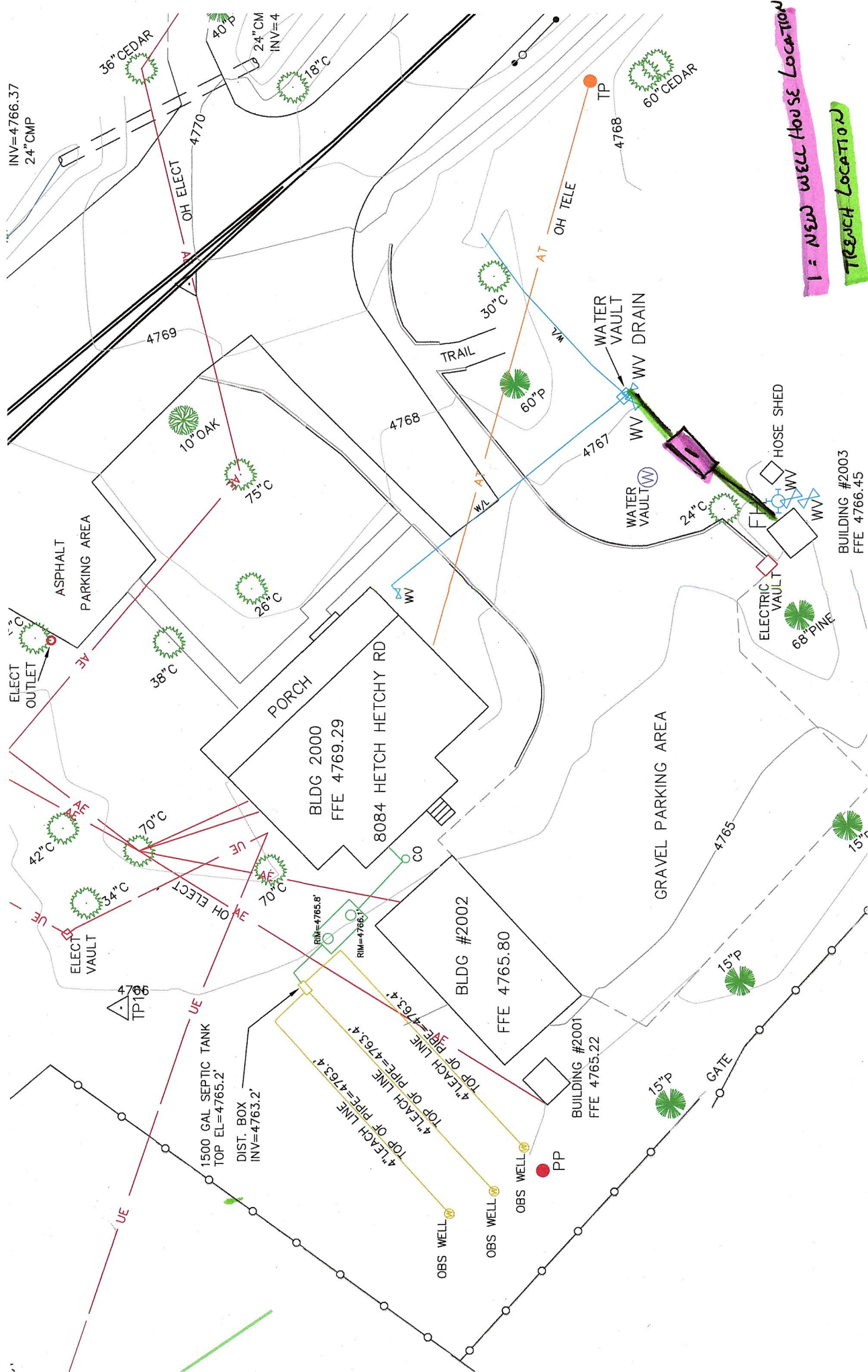
**E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL**

**The proposed work conforms to the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.**

**Superintendent:** //Don L. Neubacher//  
Don L. Neubacher

**Date:** 6/1/15

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I = NEW WELL HOUSE LOCATION  
TRENCH LOCATION