Domtar Industries Inc.
Nekoosa and Port Edwards Mills
100 Wisconsin River Drive
Port Edwards, WI 54469
Tel (715) 887 5111

ORIGINAL

Domtar

Mr. Larry Thompson
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Green Bay Field Office
2661 Scott Tower Drive
New Franken, WI 54229

September 11, 2006

Ms. Julia Stephenson
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
473 Griffith Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



Dear Mr. Thompson and Ms. Stephenson:

*Subject:* Domtar Wisconsin Dam Corp.
FERC Projects 2255, 2291 and 2292
Centralia, Port Edwards, and Nekoosa Projects
Purple Loosestrife Monitoring

Attached is a report for purple loosestrife monitoring as required by Article 408 for projects 2255 and 2291, and by Article 407 for project 2292. A single report for the three projects has been prepared.

The survey was performed substantially as described in the plan submitted to the FERC Secretary on January 13, 1997, and as approved by FERC on July 16, 1997. The 2006 survey was performed during July and August as described in the report.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me at (715) 887-5155.

Sincerely,

Daniel O. Cummins, P.G.
Environmental Engineer

cc: Ms. Peggy A. Harding, Regional Engineer, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Chicago Regional Office, 230 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60604

Mr. Magalie Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426

# PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE MONITORING SURVEY FOR 2006

**DOMTAR WISCONSIN DAM CORP.**
**100 Wisconsin River Drive**
**Port Edwards, Wisconsin 54469**

**By**

**Dan Cummins, Environmental Engineer**
**Domtar Wisconsin Dam Corp.**

**FERC Projects**
**Centralia Dam – No. 2252**
**Port Edwards Dam – No. 2291**
**Nekoosa Dam – No. 2292**

## BACKGROUND

*During July and August 2006, Domtar conducted the annual purple loosestrife survey of project lands.* Utilizing past survey maps and maps of the area, Domtar personnel conducted a survey for the presence of purple loosestrife plants. Observations were made along the Wisconsin River throughout Domtar's FERC permitted property.

Surveys have been conducted annually since 1997. As part of this report, a comparison will be made to the presence of purple loosestrife in 2006 to that seen in 2005.

Where practical, purple loosestrife plants were removed by hand. In a cooperative effort with the Village of Port Edwards to control invasive species, Domtar removed a significant number of plants from project lands at our Port Edwards facilities. Estimates range to over 350 plants removed and hauled away for landfill disposal.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE POPULATIONS IN 2006

Downstream of the Nekoosa Dam, loosestrife populations appear to have remained the same (Figure No. 1). The purple loosestrife population along the left bank appears to have taken hold of the larger area seen last year. The populations that have appeared on the non-project island immediately downstream of the Nekoosa Dam have remained approximately the same. There were no plants observed on the right bank of the river, at and near the Point Basse Park.

Upstream of the Nekoosa Dam (Figure Nos. 1 and 2), purple loosestrife populations have remained essentially the same. The island immediately upstream of the Nekoosa Dam continued to have several healthy plants growing on the downstream point of the island. The bank along the mill, downstream of the Highway 73 bridge contained scattered populations of plants. The far bank is heavily forested to the water's edge and there were no purple loosestrife plants observed as in the past. The left bank of the river between Nekoosa and Port Edwards is also heavily forested and no purple loosestrife plants were observed until reaching the area of the Port Edwards Mill and dam.

At Riverside Park in Nekoosa (the right bank of the river), the purple loosestrife population continues to thrive with a noted increase in the number and apparent health of the plants. Clusters of 5, 6, or more plants are common. There was one cluster of plants extending for many feet along the bank at the park, with greater than 30 total plants. Over 90% of the purple loosestrife plants between the Nekoosa and Port Edwards Dams were removed and properly disposed.

On the village (right) side of the reservoir at Port Edwards (Figure 3), there were several clusters of plants as well as scattered single plants. These plants were removed. There was one plant on the left bank of the reservoir which was also removed. Immediately downstream of the Port Edwards Dam there were healthy clusters of plants on the left bank and on the right (island) bank. The island bank plants were removed. Individual plants continued to flourish on rock outcrops immediately downstream of the dam.

Upstream of the Port Edwards Dam (Figure No. 3), purple loosestrife seems to thin considerably continuing the trend from past surveys. Only a few plants were noted here and there, with one 5-plant cluster on a small island. This heavily vegetated portion of the river does not appear to be conducive to purple loosestrife and is similar to past survey results.

At the Centralia Dam (Figure 4), purple loosestrife exists on both the upstream and downstream portions of the dam approaches. These cleared areas are very conducive to purple loosestrife and it continues to thrive here. The flash plank section of the dam is the location of many healthy clusters of plants. These plants have been removed. The rock outcroppings immediately downstream of the Centralia Dam continues to be the location of individual and small clusters of purple loosestrife plants. Upstream of the Centralia Dam on the right bank there were occasional plants with an increase in the plant clusters near Boles Creek. This is an increase to what has been seen over the last several years.

Continuing upstream at Hansen Park there were several clusters of plants and many single plants. Areas that had not seen plants in the past contained plants, with several locations having more than one.

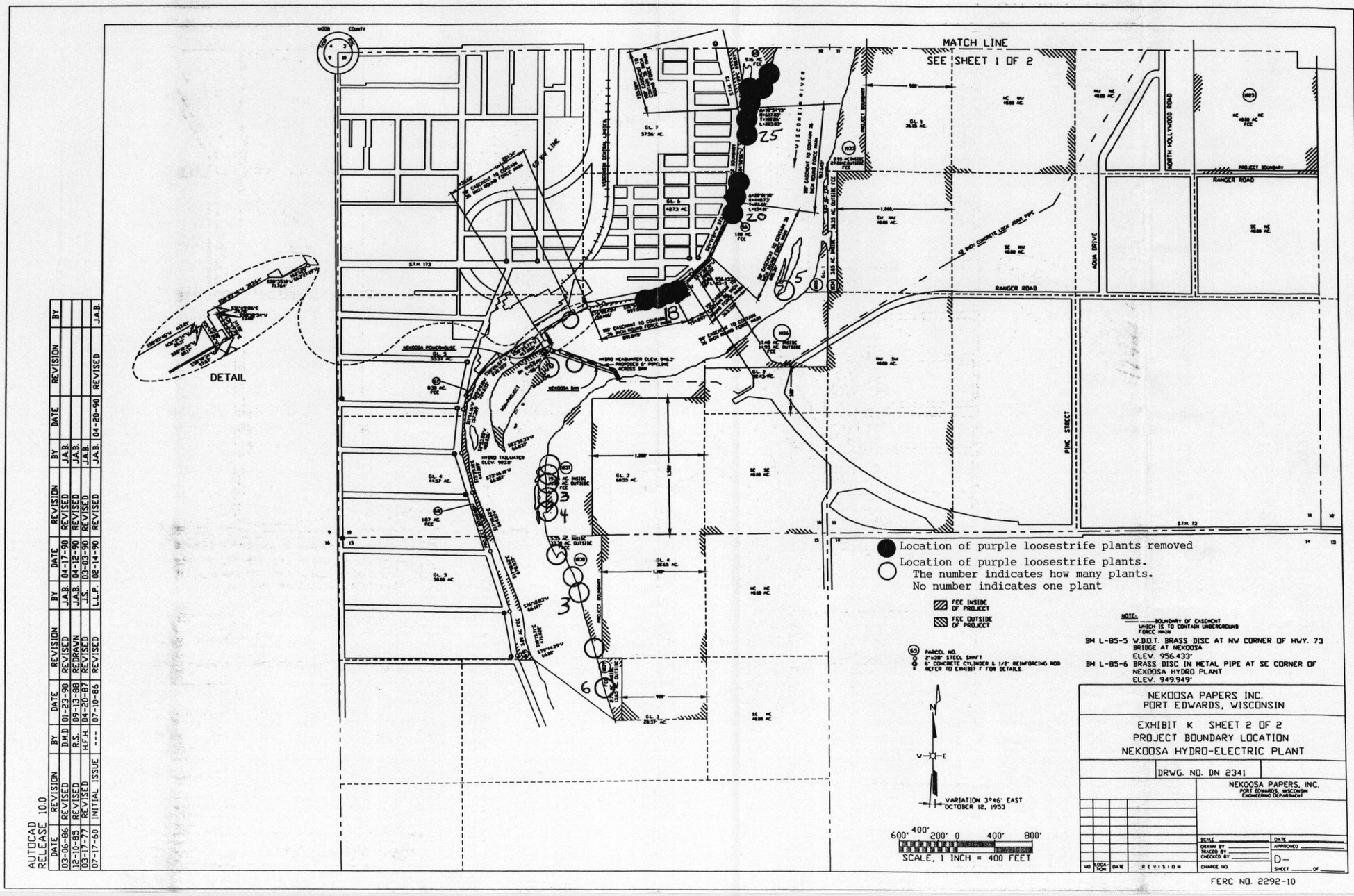
Continuing upstream into the City of Wisconsin Rapids (Figure No. 5), there were several locations of single and double plants. The right bank contained several new locations of single plants.

The electrical transmission line property (Figure No. 6) did not contain any purple loosestrife plants again this year.

## CONCLUSIONS

The net presence of purple loosestrife has appeared to increase over the observations of the past year on Domtar's FERC property. However, with the physical removal of several hundred plants in the Port Edwards section of the river, we anticipate fewer thriving areas of purple loosestrife in the future.

FIGURE 1

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| | | J.A.B. |
| | | J.A.B. |
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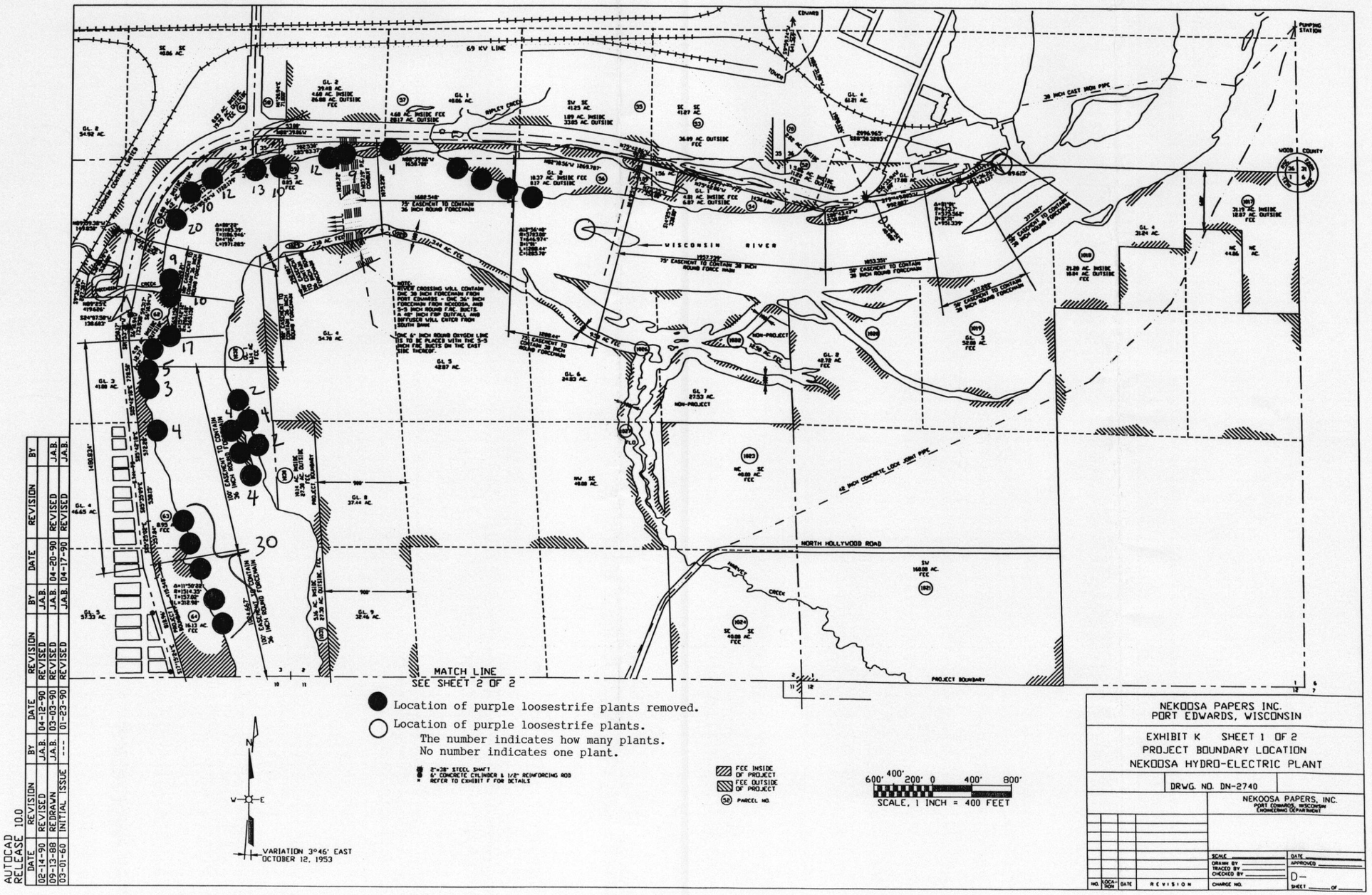
FIGURE 2

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DRWG. NO. DN-2740

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FIGURE 3

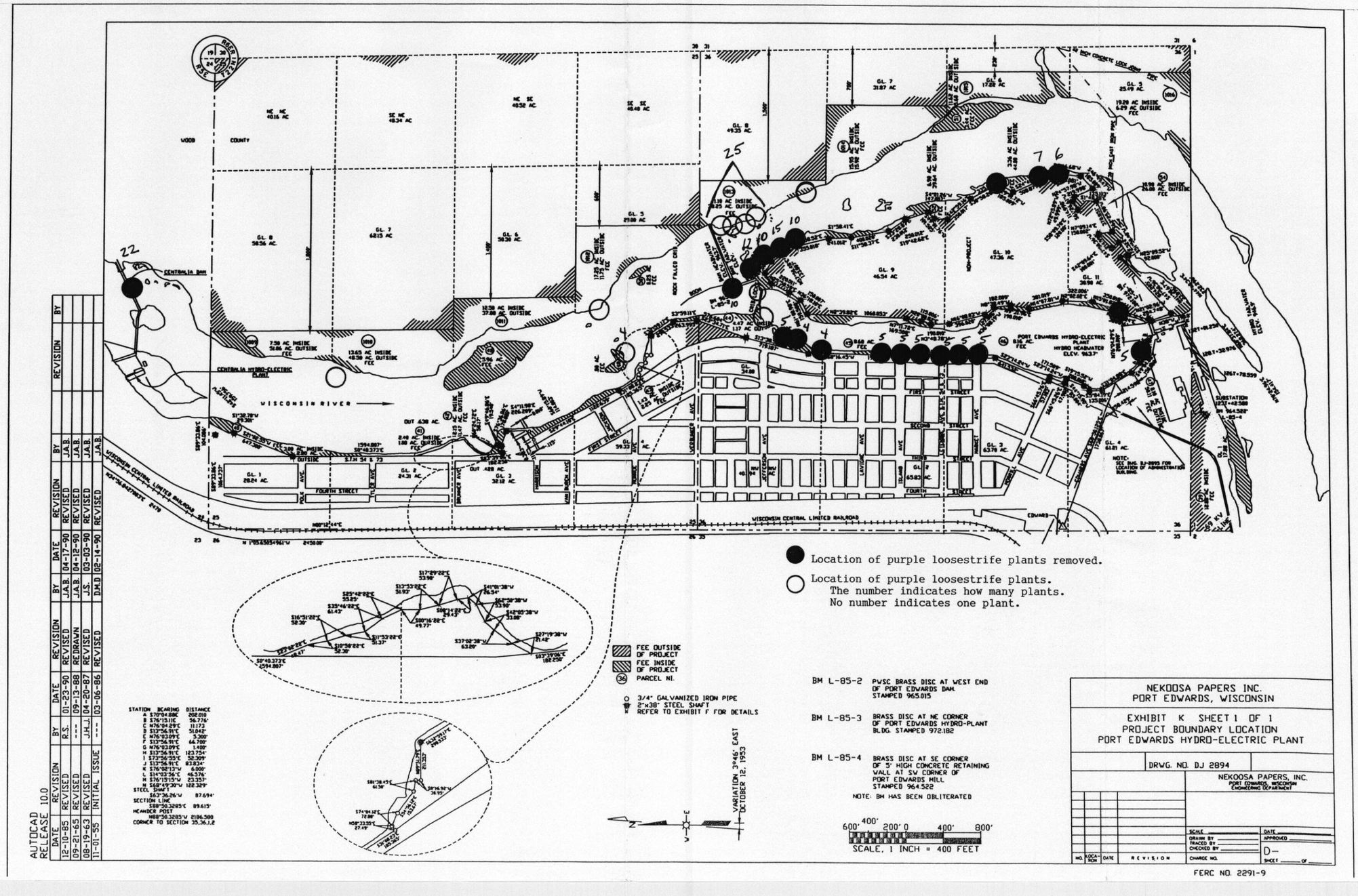


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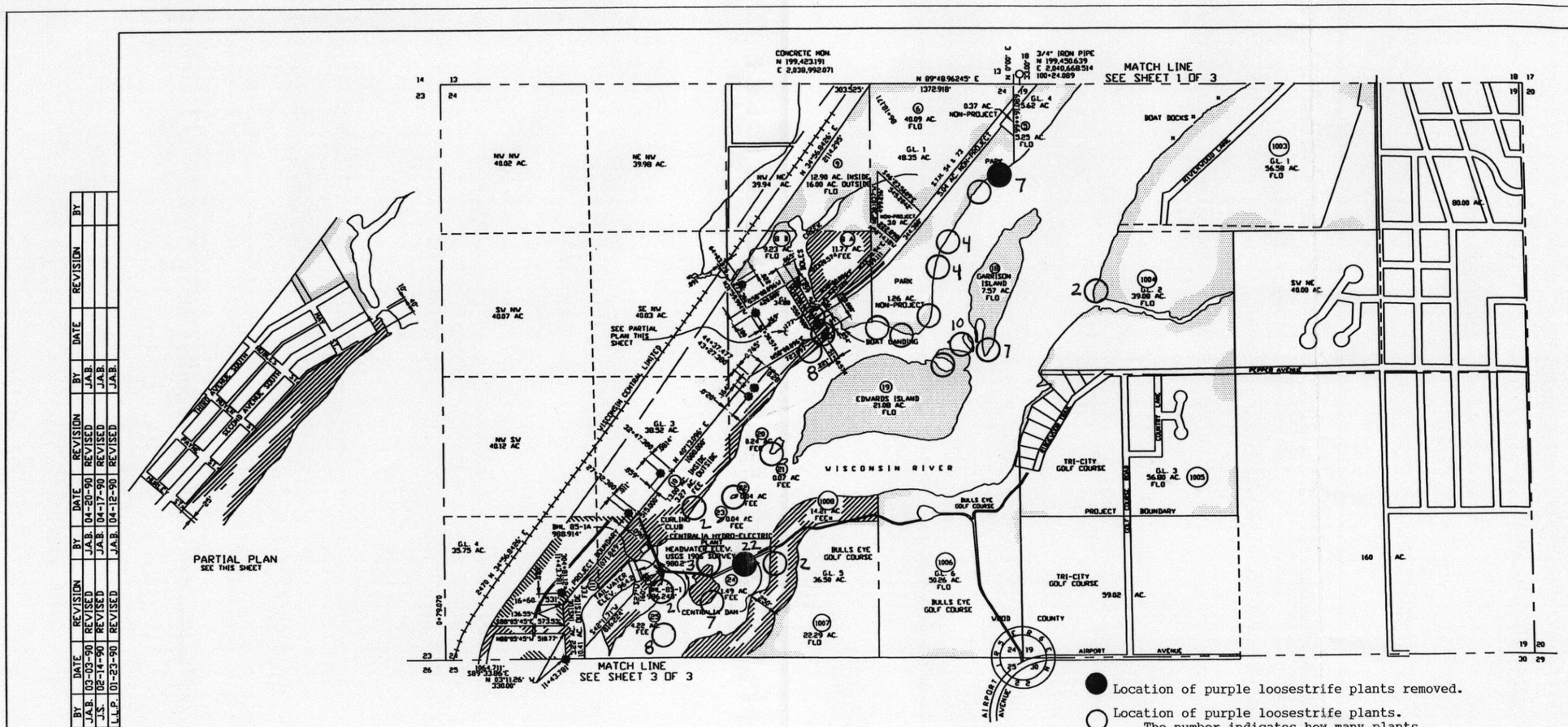
FIGURE 4




FLOWAGE RIGHTS INSIDE PROJECT
FEE INSIDE OF PROJECT
FEE OUTSIDE OF PROJECT

KEY MAP

VARIATION 3°46' EAST
OCTOBER 12, 1953

BM-L-85-1
RAILROAD SPIKE IN N. SIDE OF 36" MAPLE TREE, 50' NORTH OF NE CORNER OF POWER PLANT BLDG.
ELEV. 986.243

BM-L-85-1A
2" BRASS DISC ON WEST WINGWALL AT SOUTH SIDE OF BRIDGE TO HYDRO-PLANT
ELEV. 988.914

20 PARCEL NO.
2"x36" STEEL SHAFT ON RANDOM TRAVERSE
IRON PIPE
CONCRETE MONUMENT

600' 400' 200' 0 400' 800'
SCALE, 1 INCH = 400 FEET

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FIGURE 5

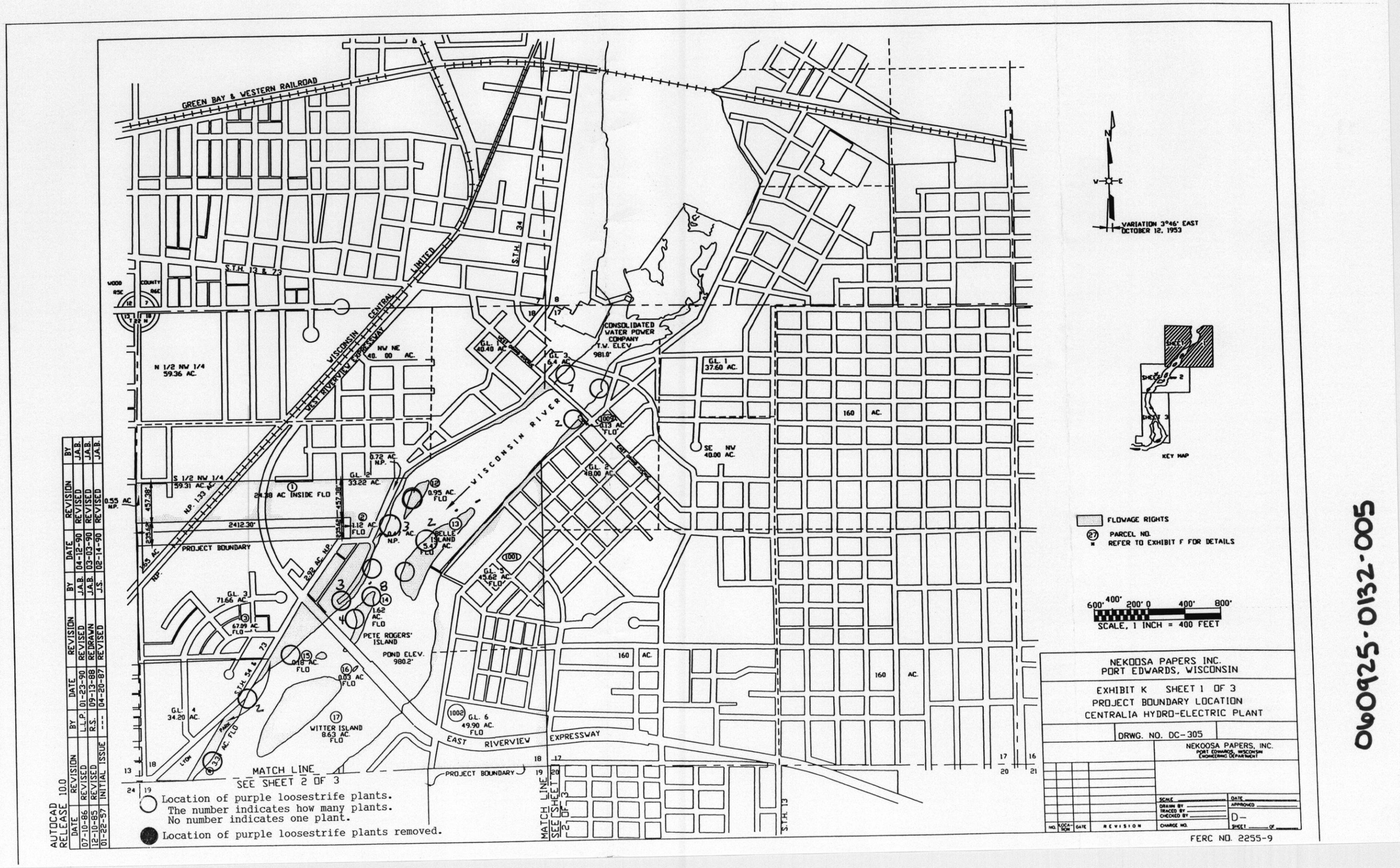


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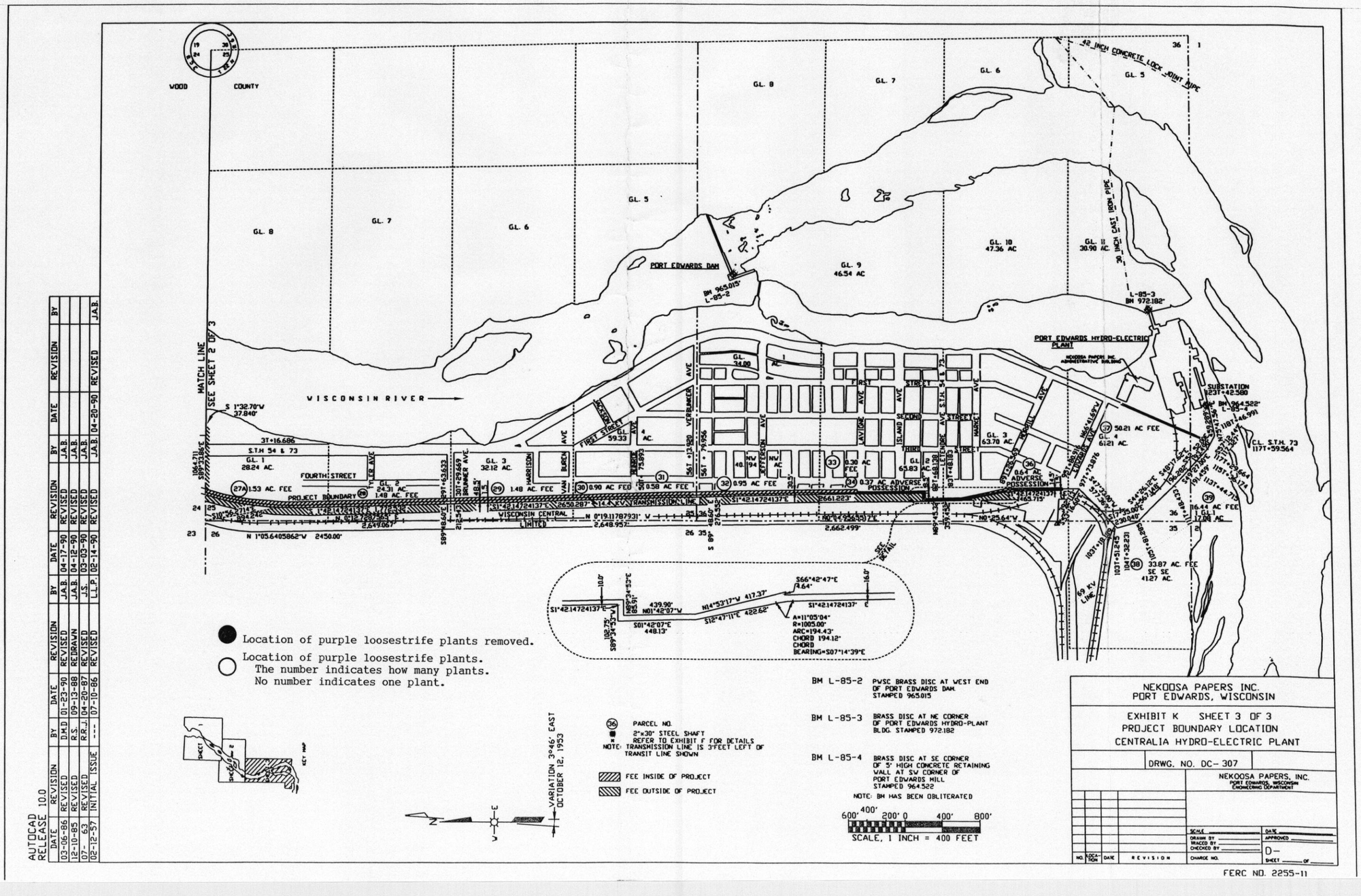
FIGURE 6

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