

Interim Covers for Operational Efficiency

Mississippi SWANA
Spring 2019





Problem:

Landfill Operations is Hard

- Rain
- Wind
- LF Liquids
- LF Gases
- Odors
- Those pesky vectors

For Some...

Well Maybe

Possible

Solution: Interim Exposed Geomembrane Cover



The Rain Issue

Known:

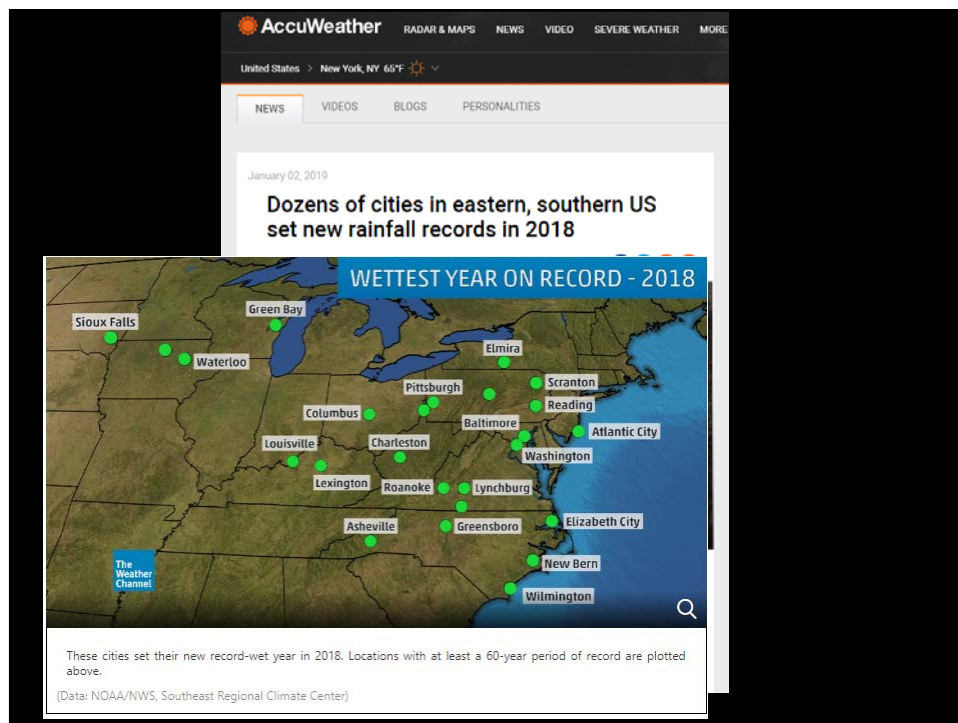
Posit 1: Leachate costs \$ (to treat)

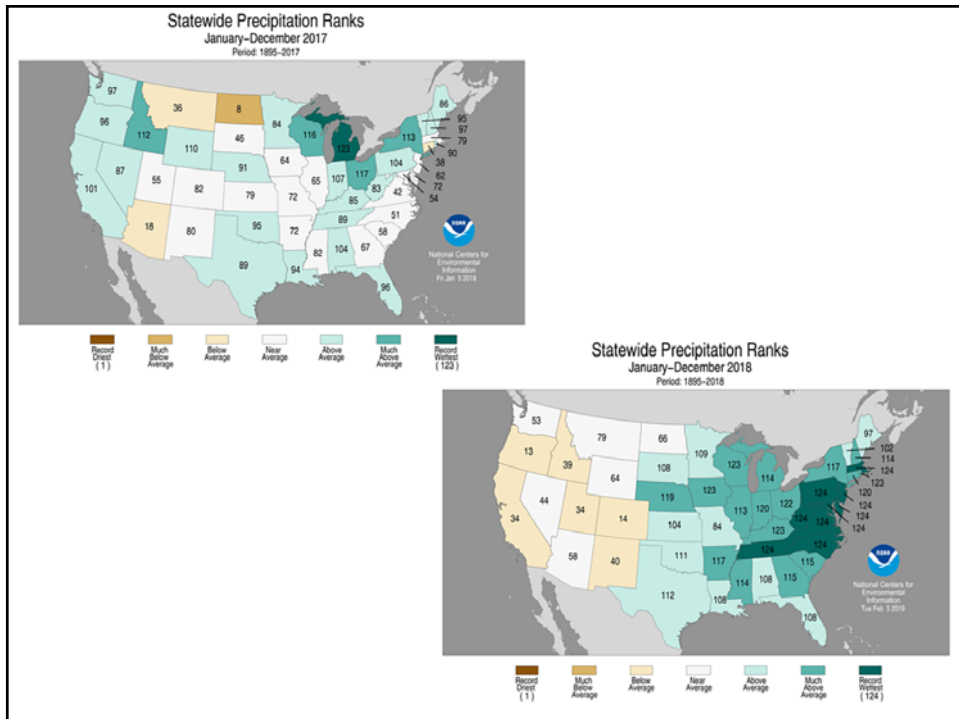
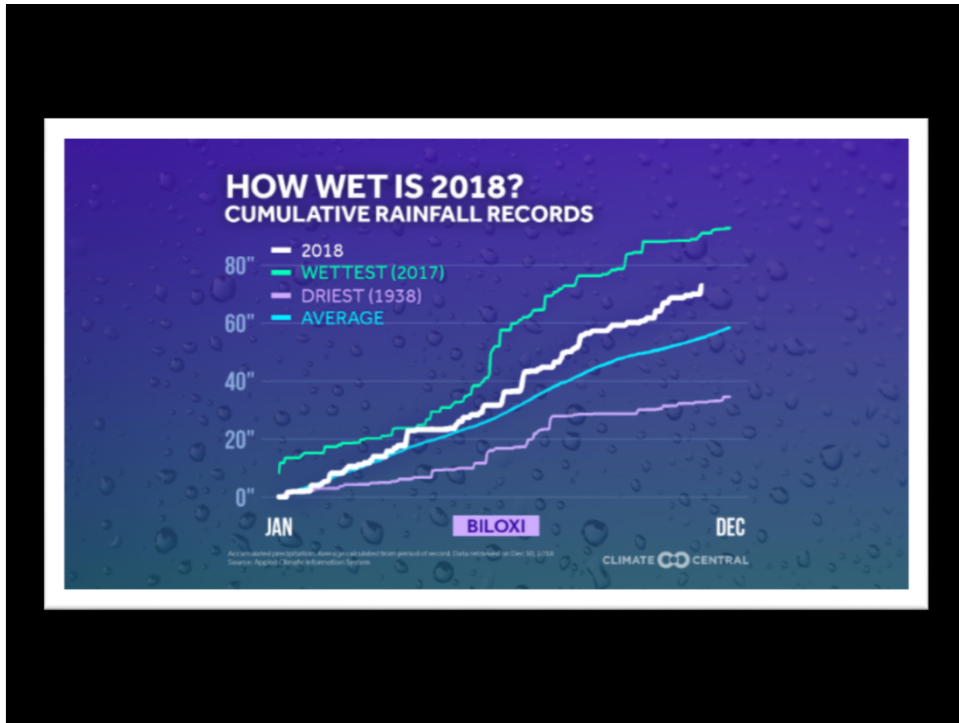
Posit 2: Rain makes Leachate

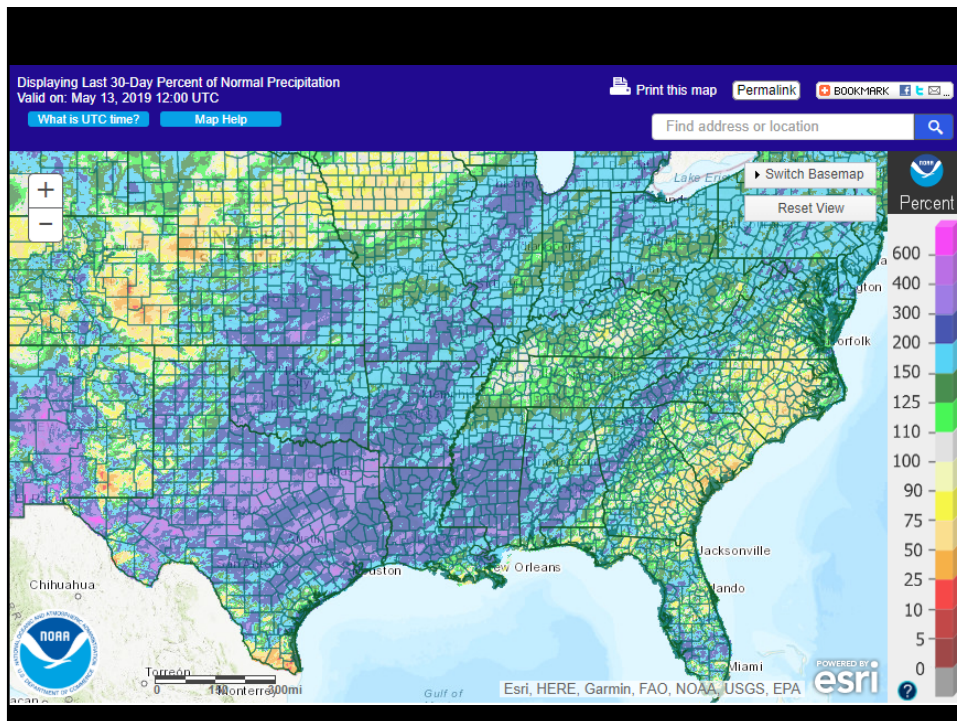
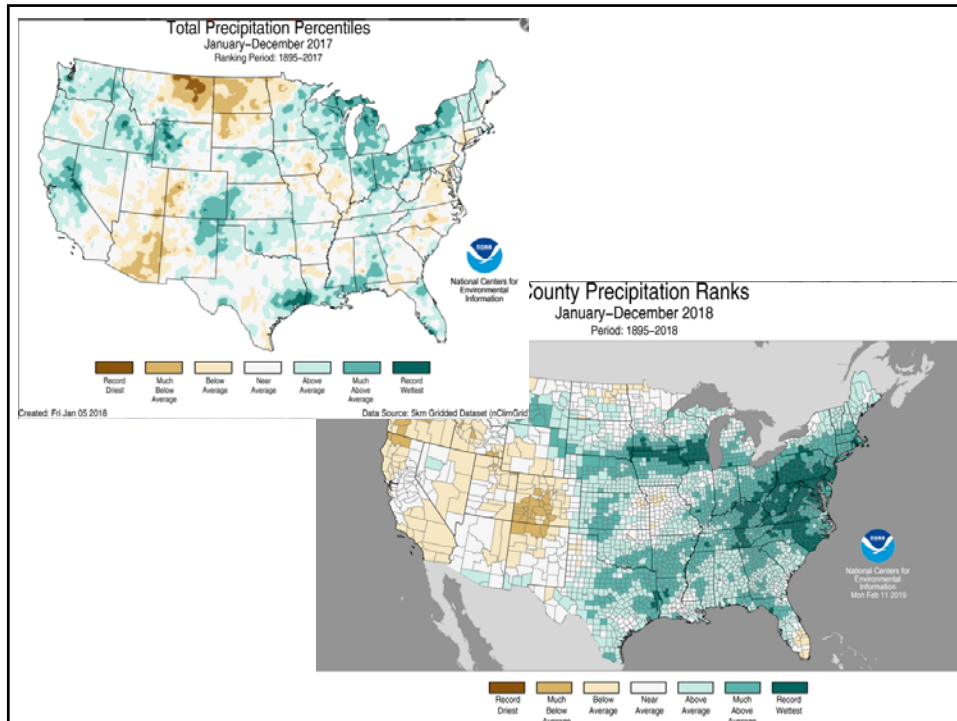
Therefore, by deduction, we have conclusions:

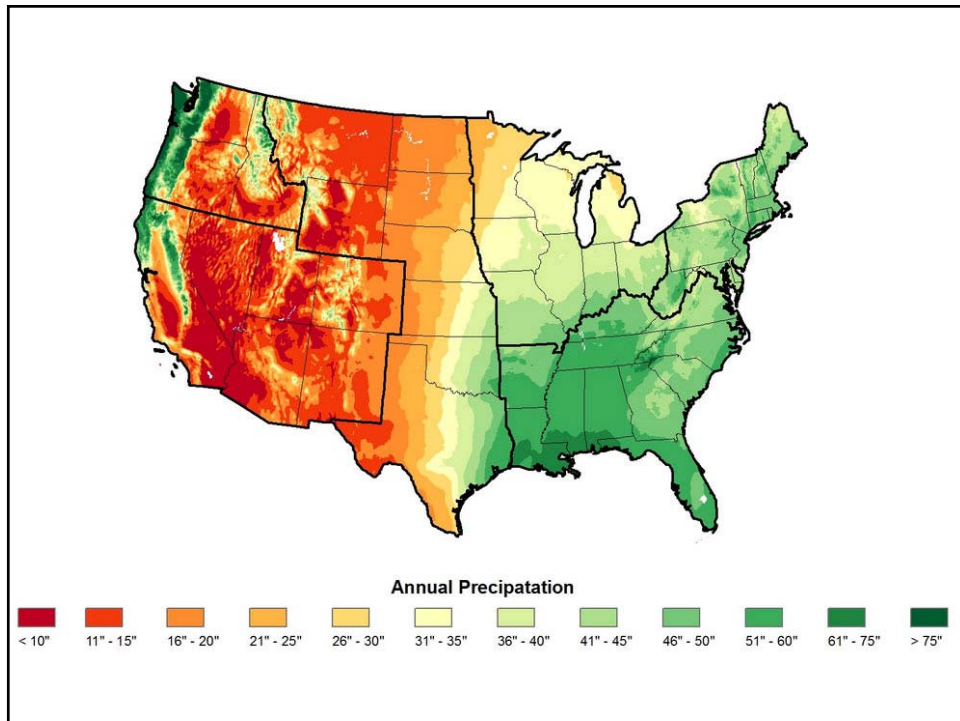
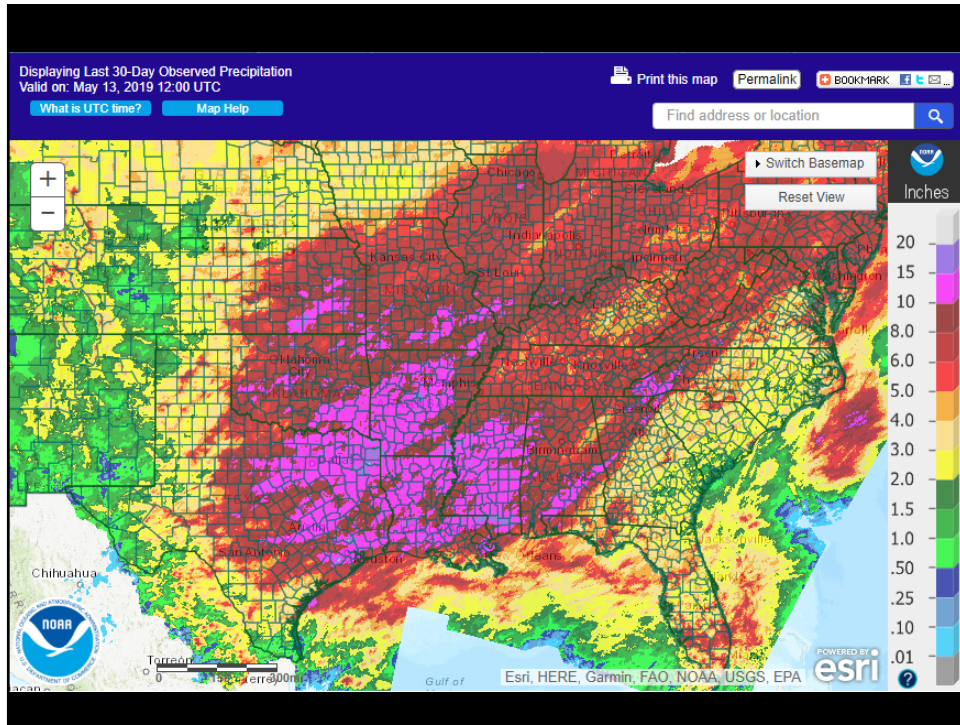
Rain costs \$

Lots of Rain = Lots of \$\$\$











Definitions

EGC = Exposed Geomembrane Cover

Temporary/Interim = Anything before final grade is reached, final cover is placed



Benefits of Interim EGC

- Reduced Leachate
 - Disposal
 - Outbreaks
- LFG Capture
 - Minimize emissions
 - Minimize O₂ intake, maximize CH₄
- Odor Control
- No Erosion
 - Clean Stormwater
 - But more of it, very near 100%
- Low Maintenance Cost (vs. IC or Final Cover)
 - Mowing, seeding, fertilizing
- Can Mitigate Veneer Stability Issues



Disadvantages of Interim EGC

- Reduced Access
- Cost?



“Temporary” EGC

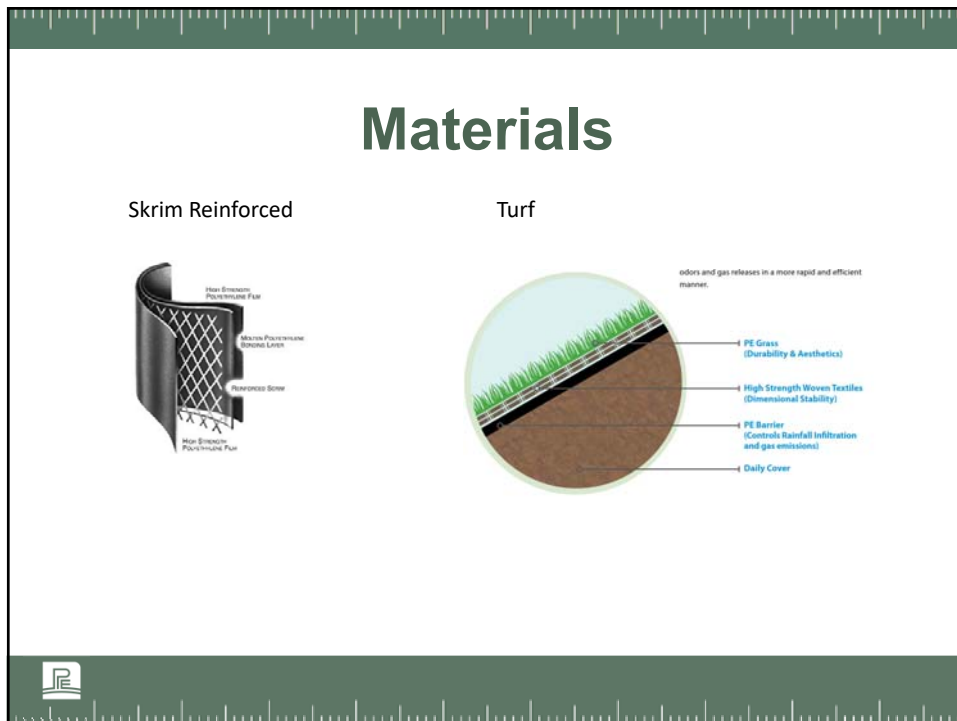
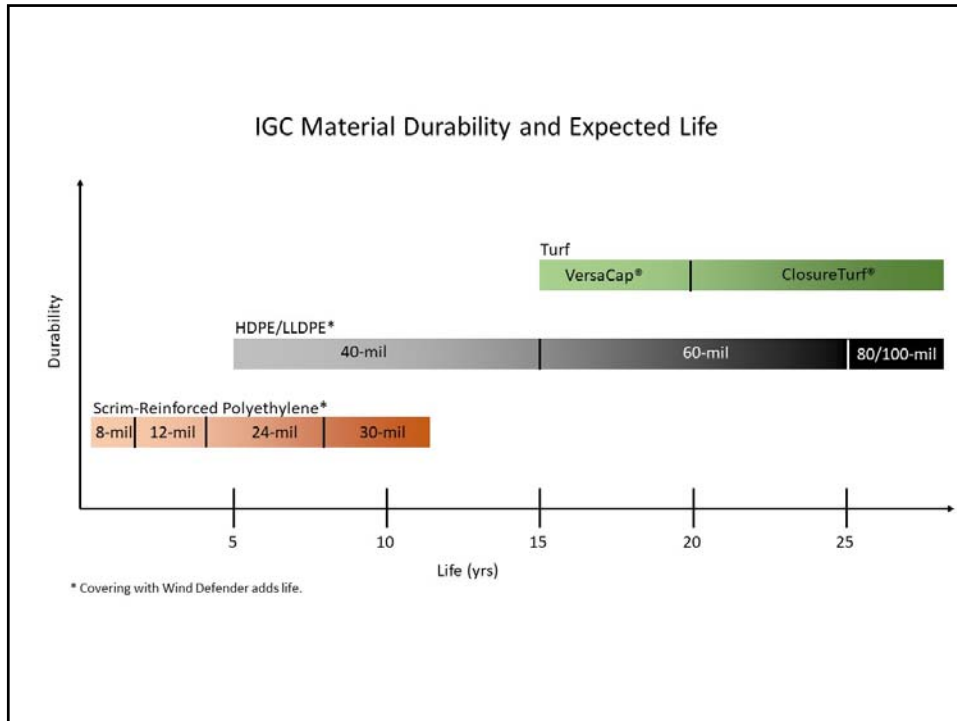
- Typically limited design life – 1-10 years
- But can easily last 20 yrs with proper material, design



EGC Materials


- HDPE
 - 60/40/30-mil
- LLDPE
 - 40-mil
- Skrim Reinforced
 - typ. 8-24-mil
- Synthetic Turf
- Others






Design Considerations for Interim EGC

- Waste Staging/Phasing
- Design Life/Durability
- Wind Uplift
- Gas Uplift
- Get the Gas Out
- Under-liner Seeps/Drainage
- Stormwater Volume Increase



Waste Staging/Phasing



EE Sequence 2 - January 2017 through June 2019

Pump Utilization Rate = 15,100 CY/MO

Projected Consumption = 293,300 CY

Cell Constructed - Cell 4 - September 2018

Excavation to Subgrade Cut = 118,700 CY

Fill = 8,500 CY


Layer Area = 170,804 SF

Infrastructure Improvements

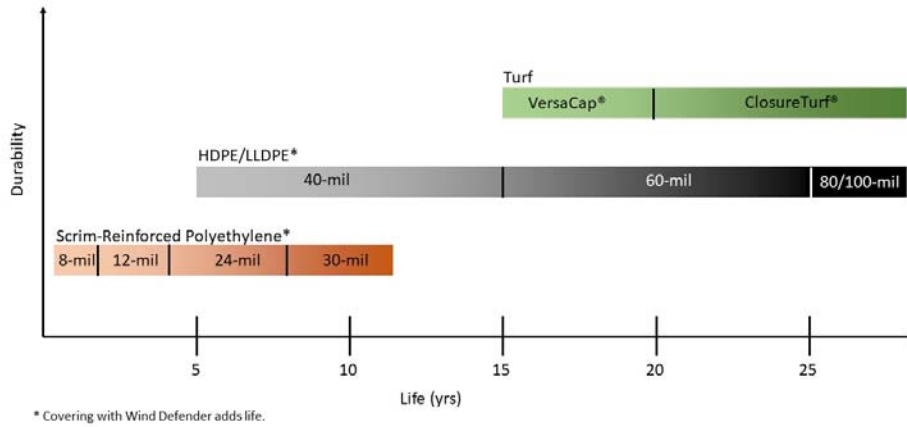
Earthwork Cut = 13 CY

Fill = 79 CY

Road Base Fill = 820 TONS



Design Life/Durability



Wind Uplift

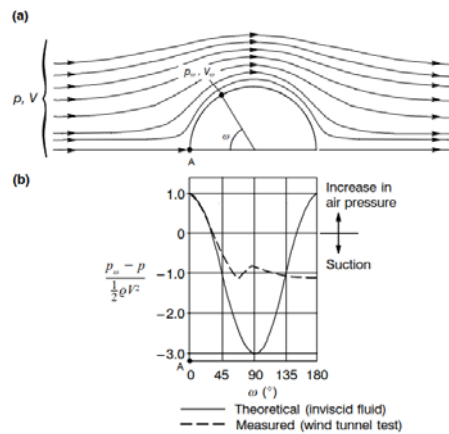


Figure 2. Illustration of pressure distribution on the surface of a cylinder (adapted from Goldstein 1938): (a) stream lines around a cylindrical obstacle; (b) air pressure variation along the surface of the obstacle.

Source: Giroud, et al., 1995



Wind Uplift

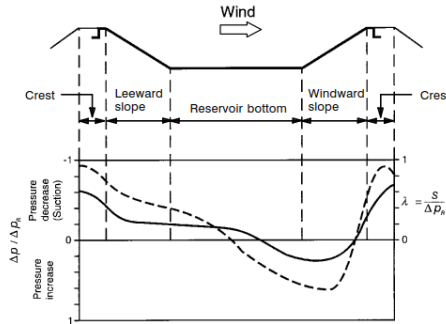


Figure 4. Change in atmospheric pressure, Δp , due to wind blowing on an empty reservoir (solid curve for wind perpendicular to dike crest line and dashed curve for worst case with wind at an angle), based on work published by Dedrick (1973, 1974a, 1974b, 1975).

Source: Giroud, et al., 1995



Wind Uplift – Suction Factor

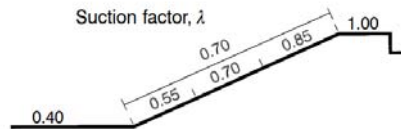


Figure 5. Recommended values of the suction factor for design of any slope based on the critical leeward slope.

Source: Giroud, et al., 1995



Wind Suction on EGC

$$S_e = 0.050\lambda V^2 e^{-(1.252 \times 10^{-4})z} - 9.81\mu_{GM}$$

with S_e (Pa), V (km/h), z (m), μ_{GM} (kg/m²)

Source: Giroud, et al., 1995



Wind Suction on EGC

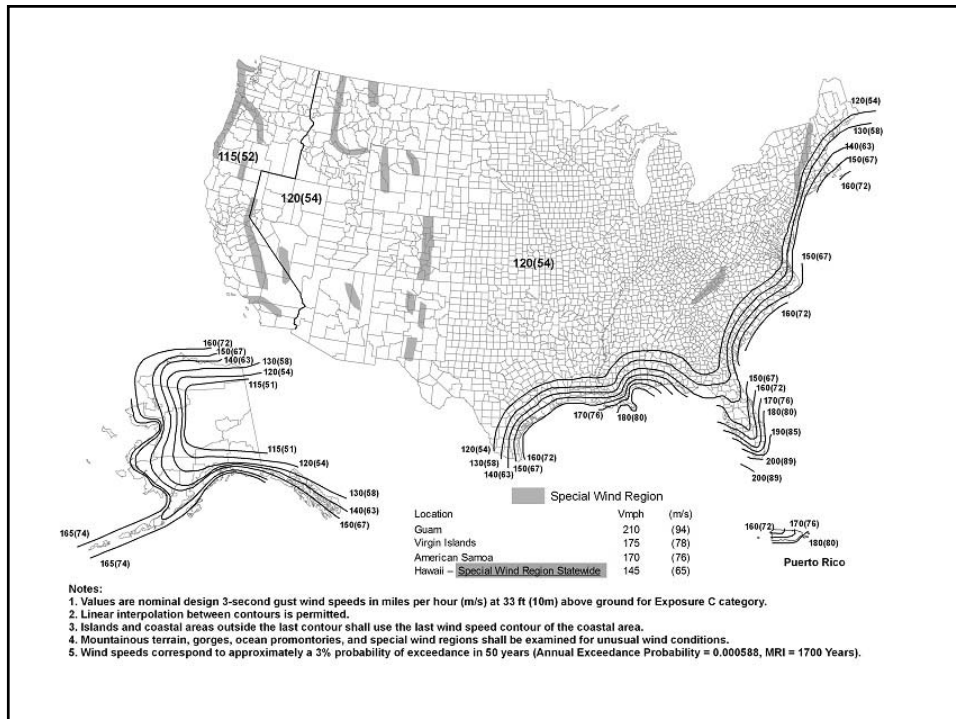
Slope Location	Wind Vel (mph)	Suction (psf)
Top	45	4.33
Mid	45	3.51
Lower	45	2.70
Top	85	16.19
Mid	85	13.28
Lower	85	10.37
Top	125	35.36
Mid	125	29.07
Lower	125	22.78

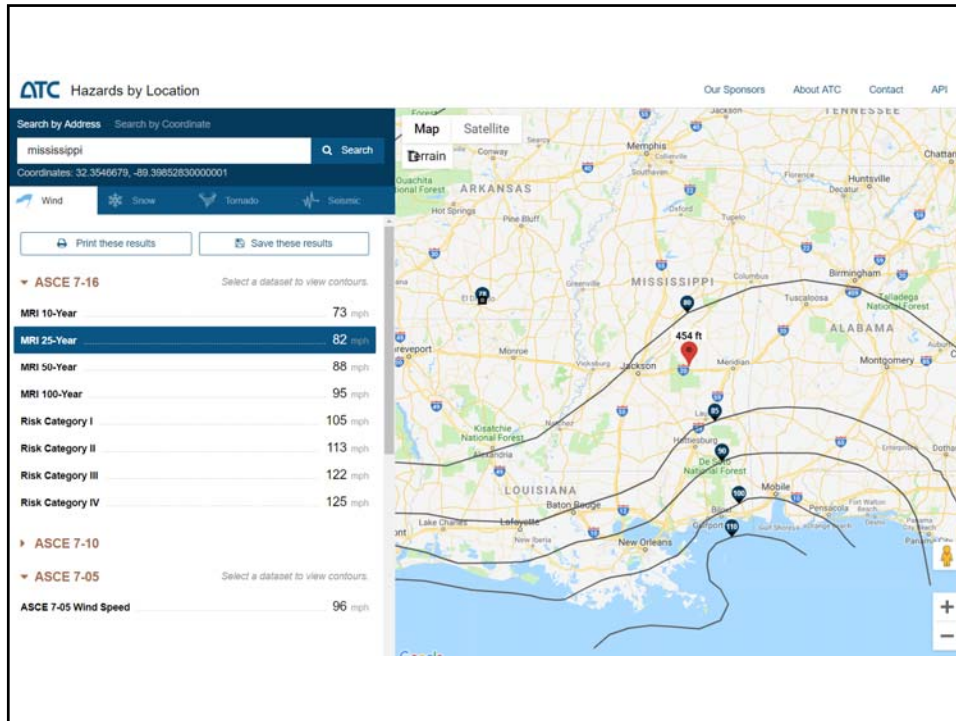
Source: Giroud, et al., 1995



Design Wind

- Building Code
 - 3-sec gust
- NOAA
 - 5-sec wind speed
 - 2-min wind speed





NOAA Weather Station data

	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
DATE	AWND	FMTM	PGTM	WDF2	WDF5	WSF2	WSF5	WSFG	
4/19/2019	15.66			260	240	31.1	42.1		
4/20/2019	11.86			280	250	28	36		
4/21/2019	2.91			320	340	15	19		
4/22/2019	3.13			230	360	12.1	15		
4/23/2019	3.8			270	240	13	16.1		
4/24/2019	2.68			230	230	14.1	16.1		
4/25/2019	7.38			300	290	25.1	31.1		
4/26/2019	8.5			310	320	19.9	25.9		

Under Liner Suction Effect

- Suction forms under liner as liner is displaced up
- Takes time to displace air volume as liner is displaced
- Not as subject to gusts

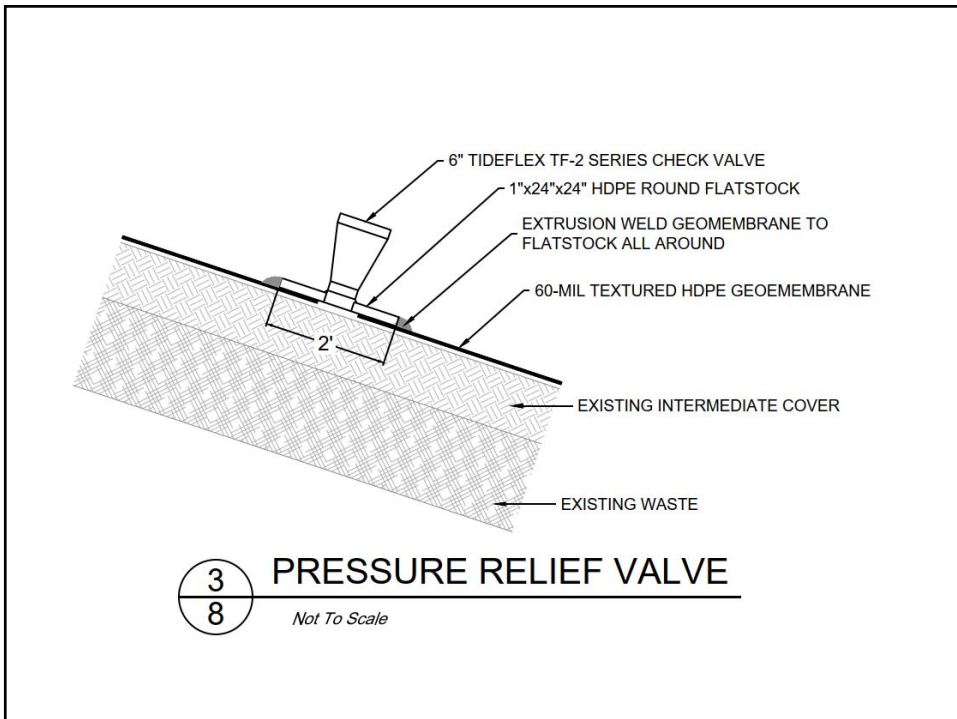


Gas Uplift

- Pressure builds quickly when GCCS goes down
- Design wind suction 3.5 psf (45 mph wind) = 0.7 in WC
- 24" soil cover = 220 psf



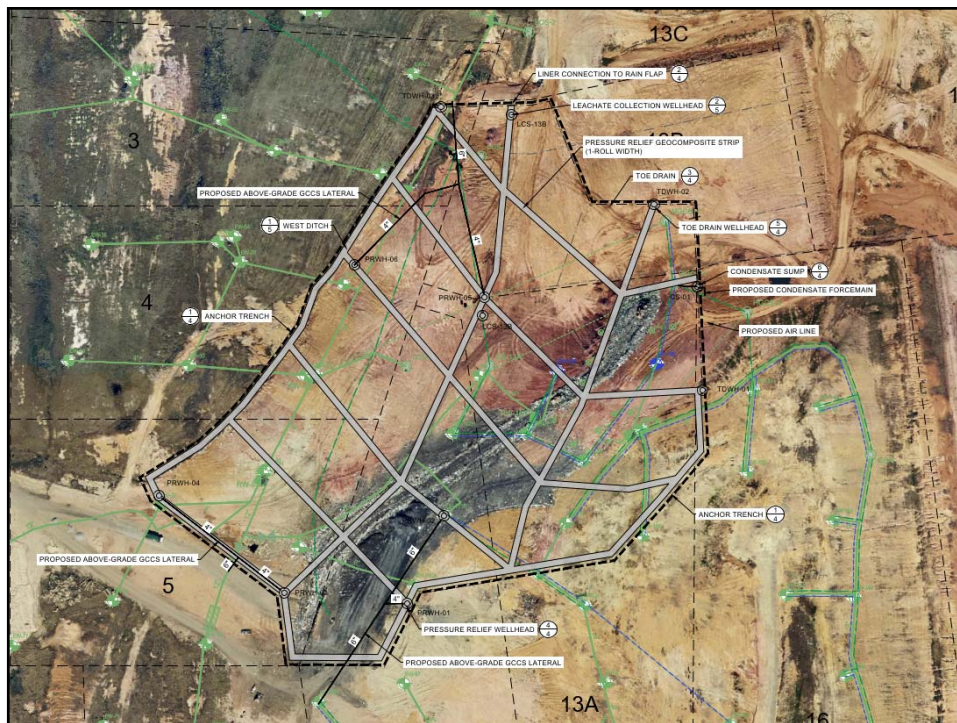
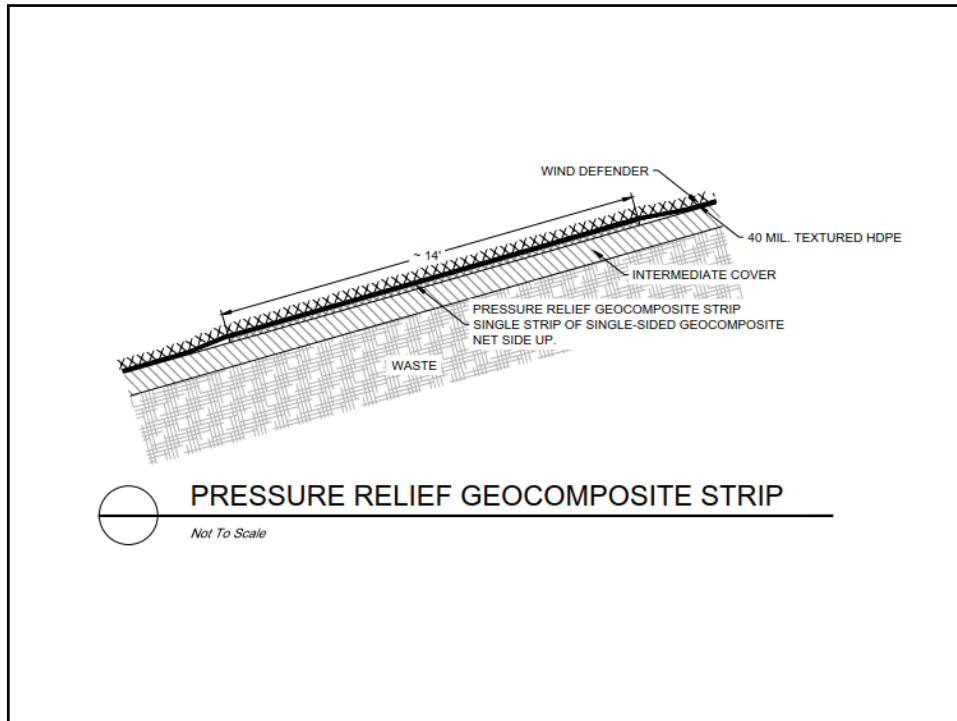


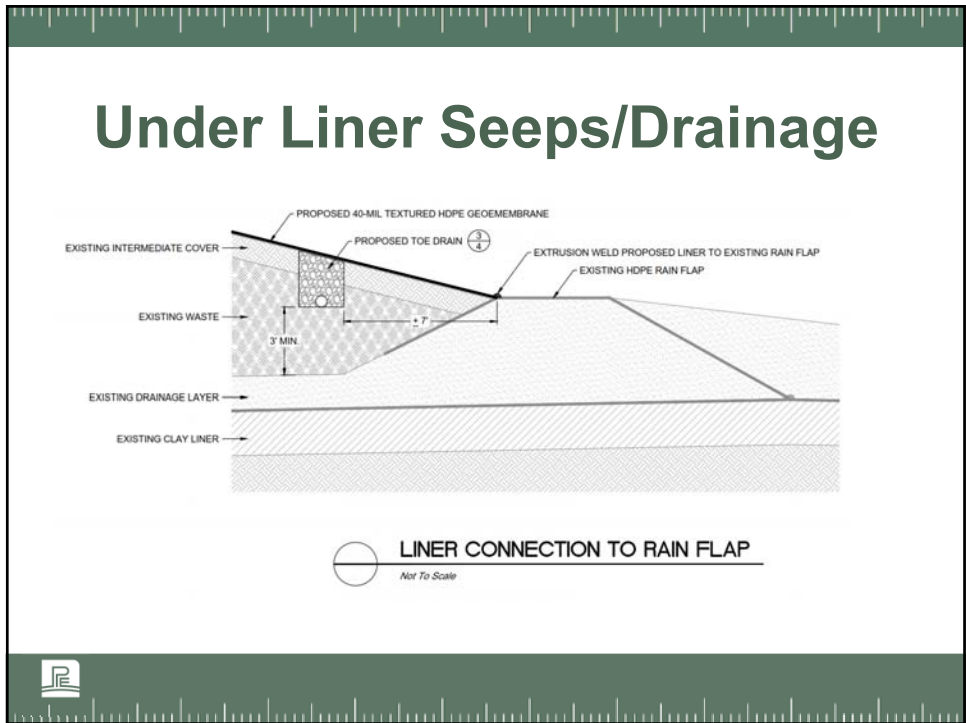
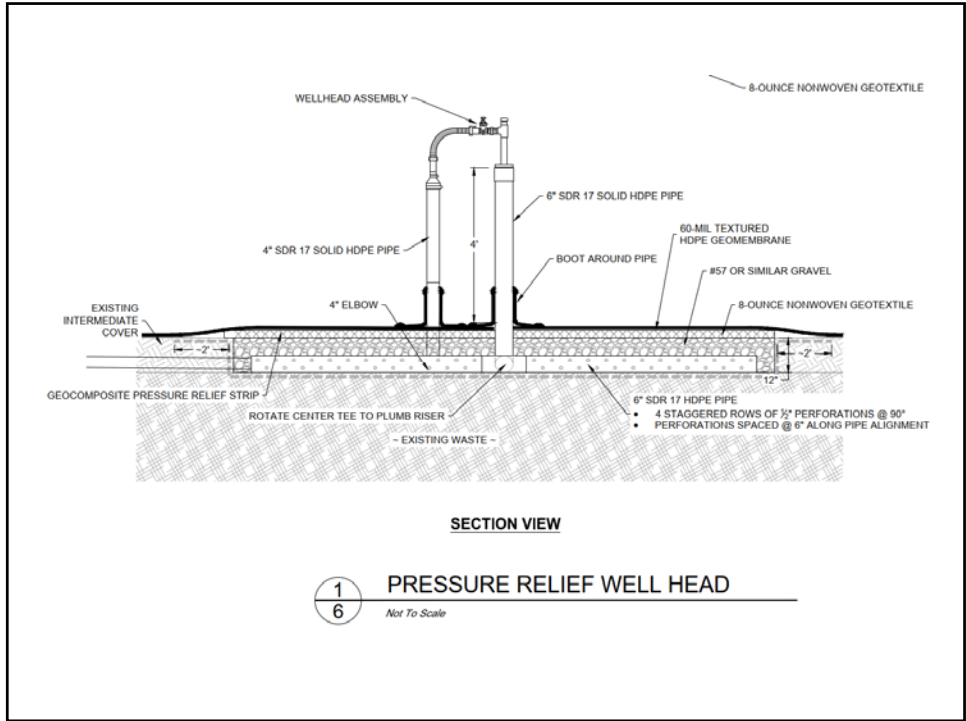




Get the Gas Out









Stormwater

- Design/account for flow and volume increase
 - Pipes/conveyances
 - Ponds
 - 15 – 30% more volume



Anchoring EGCs

- Sandbags and Ropes
- Anchor Trenches
- Roads/ Benches
- Earth Anchors
- Wind Defender



Sand Bags and Rope



Anchor Trenches



Wind Forces on EGC

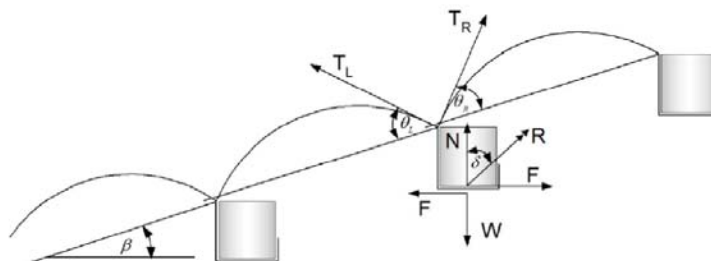
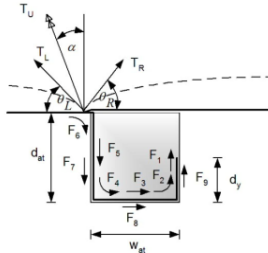


Figure 2. Schematic Diagram of Anchor Trenches [Perera et al., 2011]



Wind Forces on EGC Anchor Trench



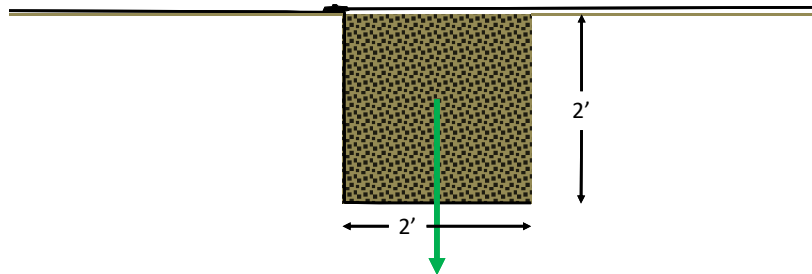
δ_s = Interface friction between geomembrane and soil above the geomembrane
 δ_z = Interface friction between geomembrane and waste below the geomembrane

Figure 3: Schematic Diagram of Forces During Anchor Trench Pullout



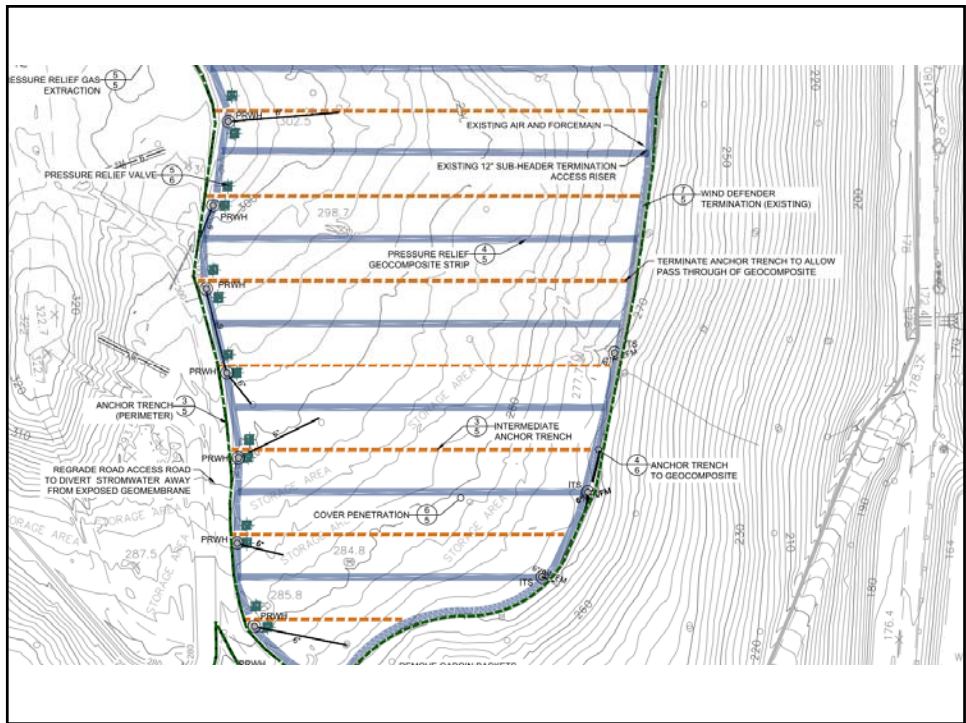
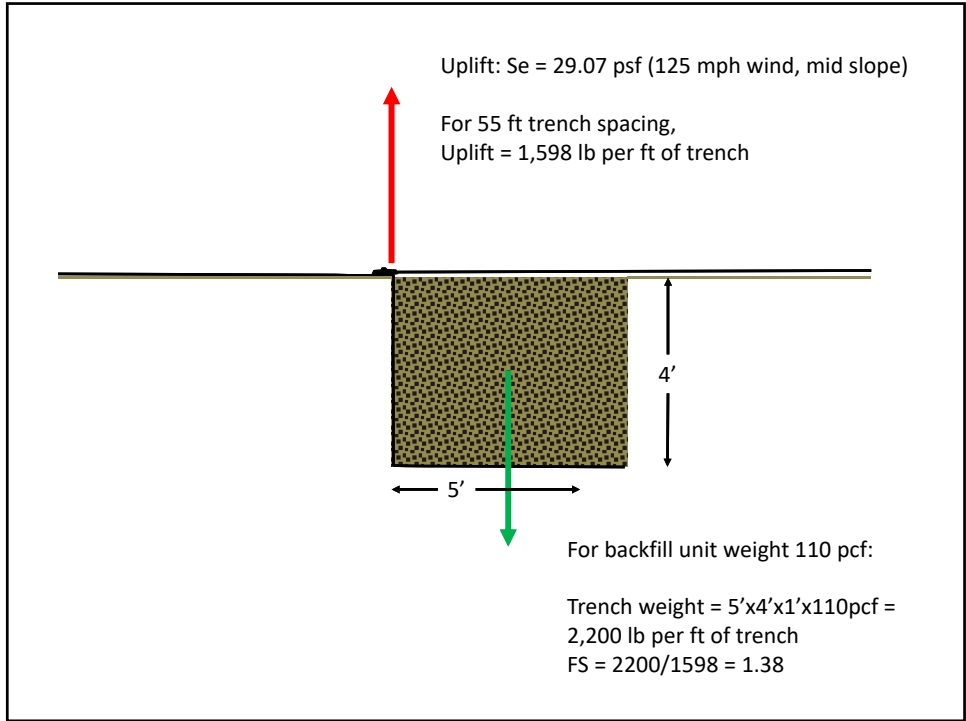
Uplift: $S_e = 3.5$ psf (45 mph wind, mid slope)

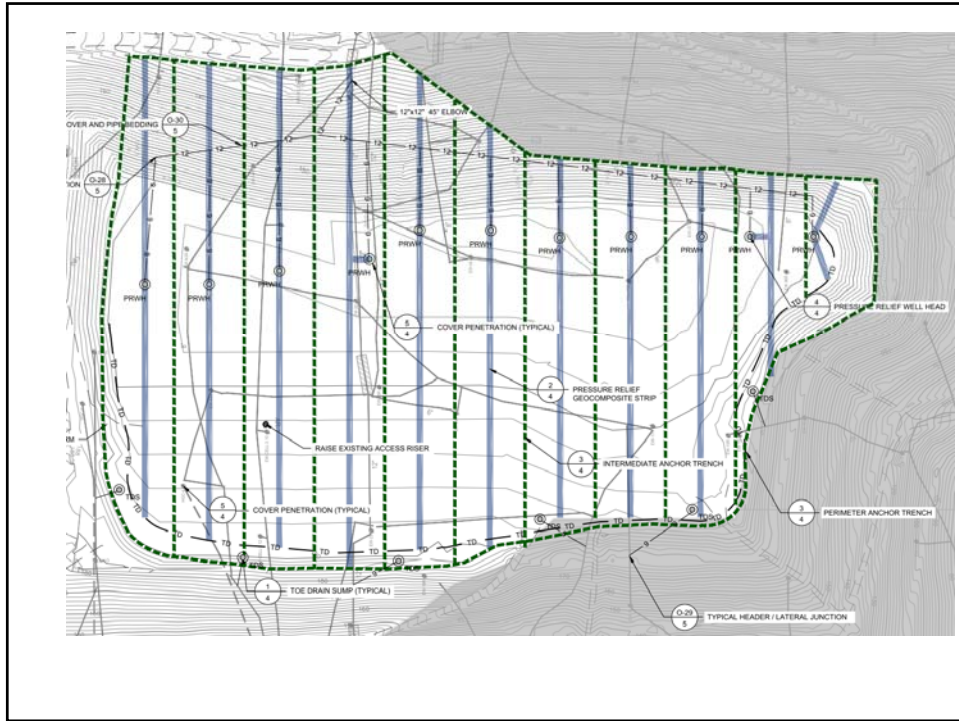
For 100 ft trench spacing,
 Uplift = 350 lb per ft of trench



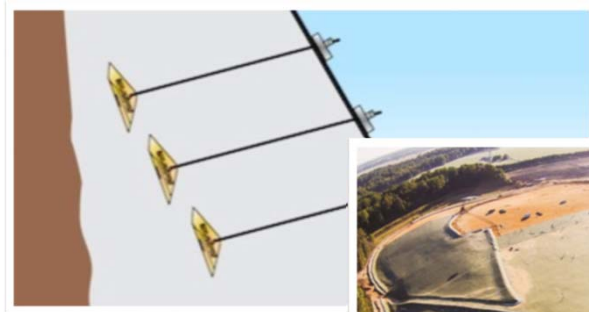
For backfill unit weight 120 pcf:

Trench weight = $2' \times 2' \times 1' \times 110 \text{ pcf} = 440$ lb per ft of trench
 $FS = 440/350 = 1.26$






Earth Anchors





Wind Defender

- “Windscreen” – breaks the suction
- “Ballast” ??








Regulatory Requirements

Temporary Covers not addressed in Regulations

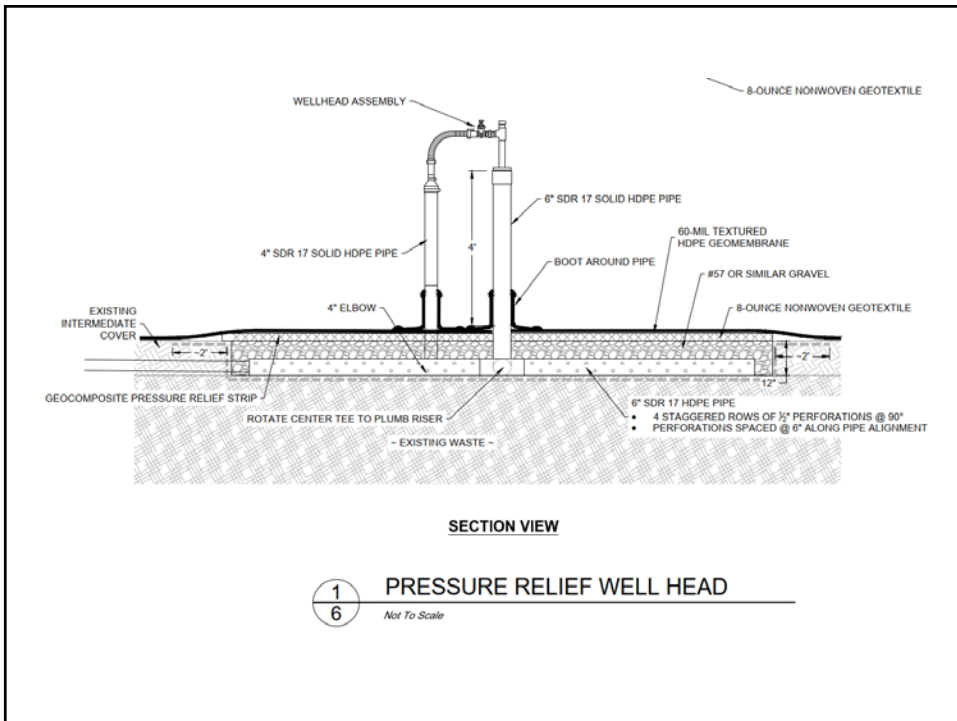
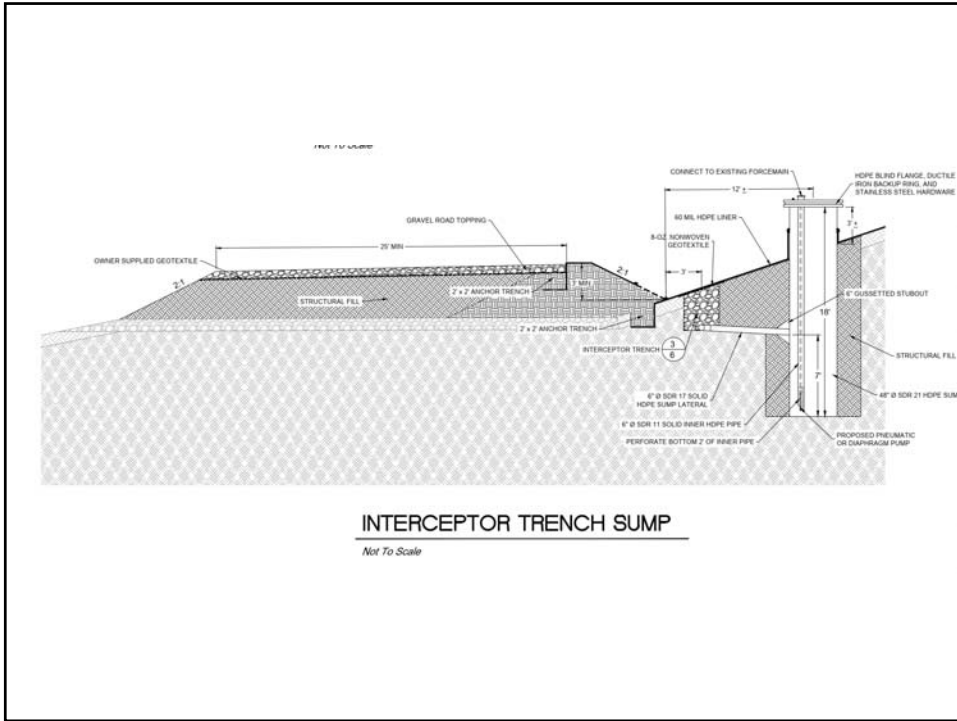


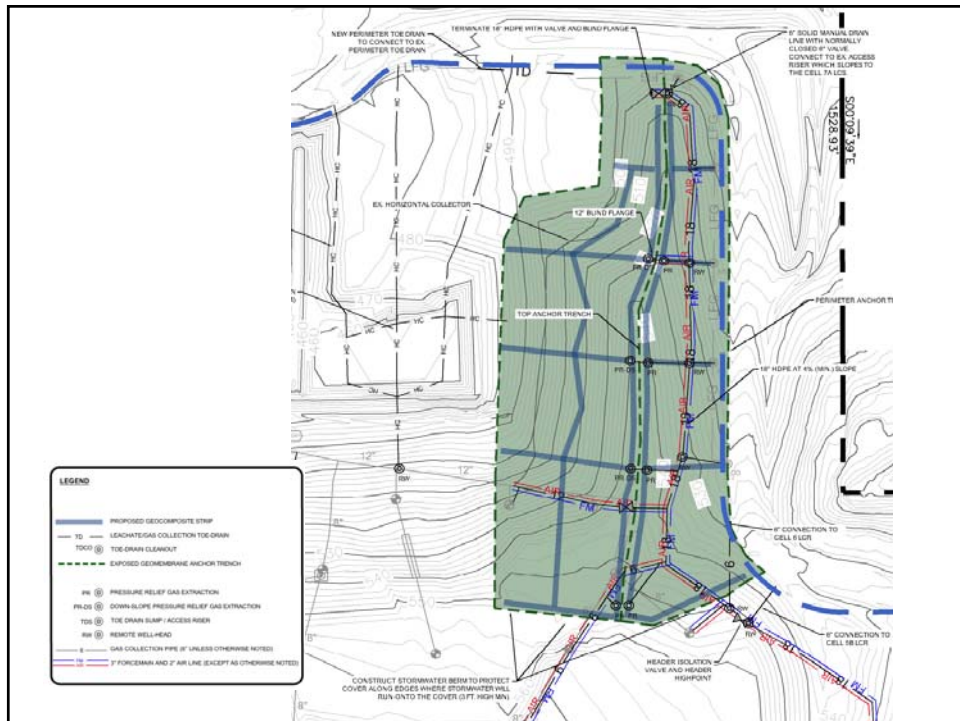
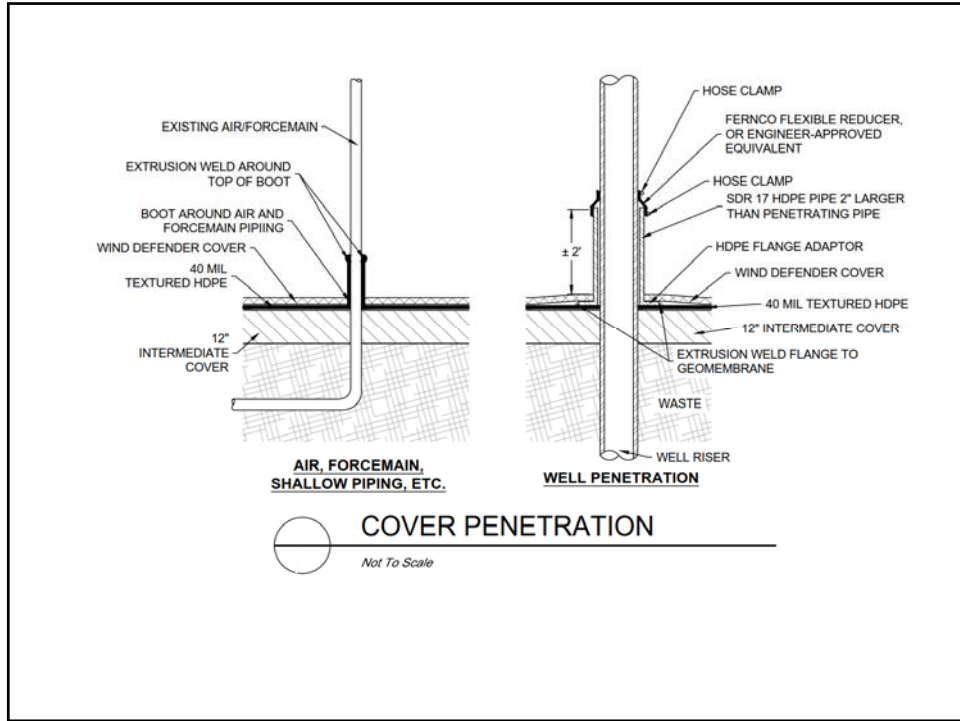
**Temporary
EGC
Maintenance**

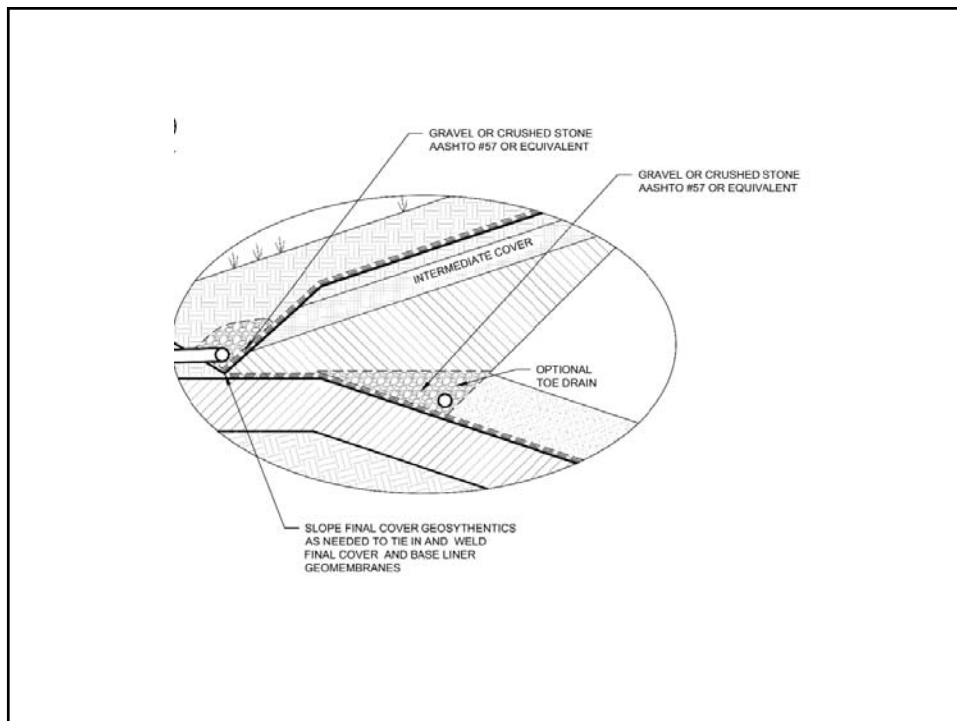
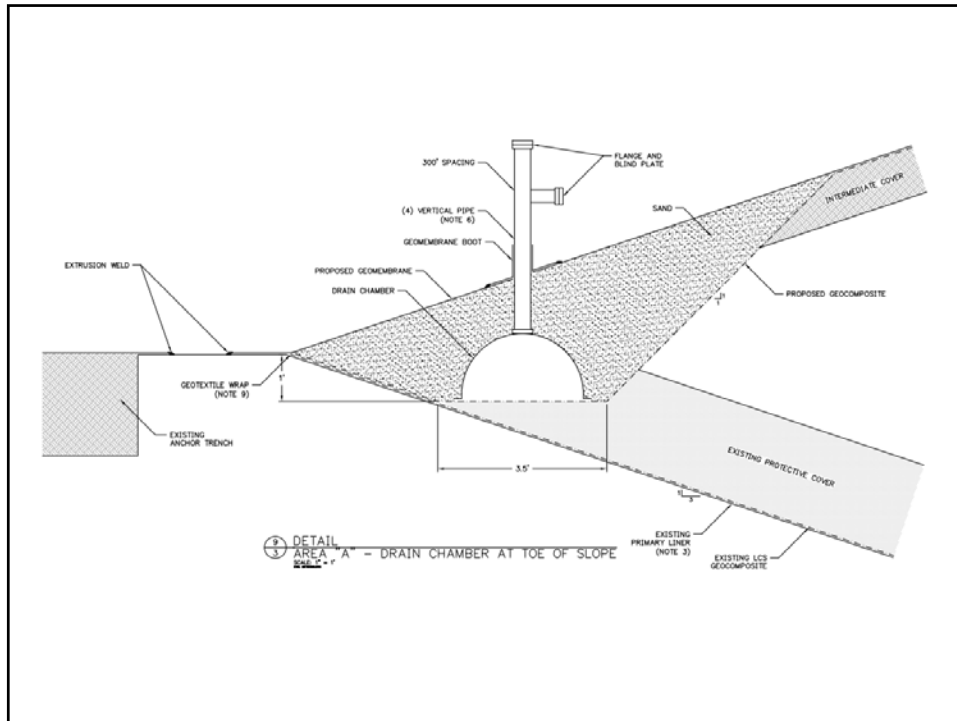
- Penetrations – creep
- Damage – hail, birds, animals
- Gas whales
- Catastrophic – hurricane, tornado



THE DEVIL'S IN THE DETAILS







Conclusion

Interim EGC can be a great way to reduce operational challenges

- Leachate
- Gas
- Stormwater/Erosion



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