Big River Resources Ethanol Plant
West Burlington, Iowa

Geopier® Rammed Aggregate Piers™

Project Team

Geotechnical Engineer: Beik Engineering, Inc.

Structural Engineer: Fagen Engineering, LLC

Owner: Big River Resources

General Contractor: Fagen Engineering, LLC

Geopier Installer: Peterson Contractors, Inc.

Geopier Designer: GFC – Midwest

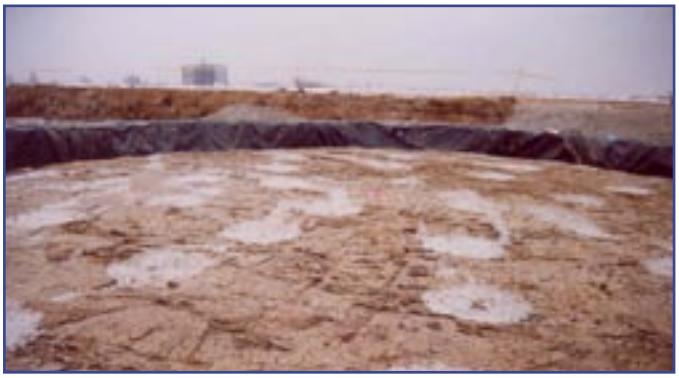
"The Geopier Intermediate Foundation System enabled the owners to keep plant construction moving forward. If we had been delayed until spring, we would have had soil moisture and dewatering issues. Not being affected by the elements was a big advantage."

Project Overview

Description:
Six storage tanks with diameters of 50-ft to 60-ft and tank bearing pressures of 4,000 psf.

Subsurface Conditions:
Stratified layers of compressible silty clay loess and fat clay to depths of 18 feet underlain by stiff glacial till.

Geopier Solution:
The Geopier Intermediate Foundation System was developed to reinforce the soft soils and support the tank floors and ringwalls. A total of 556 30-inch diameter Geopier Rammed Aggregate Piers (RAPs) were installed to depths of 18 to 20 feet. The installation of the RAPs reinforced the soft soils, improving the bearing pressure and reducing the tank settlements. The Geopier approach provided significant cost savings and a schedule advantage compared to conventional overexcavation/replacement that would otherwise have been required.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact Geopier Foundation Company at **800-371-7470**
or at **www.geopier.com**

GEOPIER FOUNDATION COMPANY

The Intermediate Foundation System