Pizzagalli Construction is constructing a $25 million expansion to the Mattawoman Wastewater Plant in La Plata, Maryland. The project is a BNR expansion upgrade which will improve the quality of the water discharging into the Potomac River, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay.

Major portions of the project include the construction of several new structures involving the excavation of over 100,000 cubic yards of soil, and placement of 33,000 cubic yards of concrete.

With the depth of excavations ranging from 14 to 22 feet, we were unable to obtain the legal and safe sloping requirements due to site constraints. As such it was necessary to install some type of shoring system to limit the extent of the excavations for most structures.

During the beginning stages of the project, we went through various scenarios with several Engineering and Shoring Companies to obtain the safest and most cost effective method of shoring for the project. The folks at ICON listened to us, became involved in the project, and were truly attentive to our needs. Instead of pushing something onto us, they worked with us to customize solutions for our particular project.

We ended up shoring approximately 1000 linear feet of excavated areas using the beam and plate systems provided by ICON. Some excavations required HP 12 x 53 x 25' long beams on 4' centers with 4' x 10' steel plates, while others utilized HP 14 x 89 x 35' long I beams on 8' centers utilizing 8' x 20' plates. Once the I beams were driven to the necessary depth using a vibratory hammer, the plates were placed between the beam webs and also driven to the bottom of the excavation with a vibratory hammer.

Everything worked as designed and we were able to realize savings in both time and money over some of the other systems we looked at – which as every contractor knows, time IS money. I was very impressed with the professional attitude and enthusiasm of Dave Mellor, the ICON representative that we dealt with. Dave always returns phone calls promptly, knows the business, and I found him to be trustworthy and genuine. I look forward to working with Dave again on future projects and wish that all folks were this easy to deal with.

J. Michael Cecil
Project Manager
Pizzagalli Construction