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January 8, 2020

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.W., Room 1A, East Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.

North Bakken Expansion Project

Docket No. PF19-7-000

On July 3, 2019, the Director of the Office of Energy Projects issued a letter in the above-referenced docket approving the request of WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI Energy) to commence the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Pre-filing Review Process for its proposed North Bakken Expansion Project (Project). Pursuant to Section 157.21(f)(6) of the Commission's regulations, WBI Energy herewith submits its monthly progress report for the Project for the period of December 1 to 31, 2019.

Should you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact me at (701) 530-1563.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lori Myerchin

Lori Myerchin Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.

Enclosure: Monthly Progress Report No. 6

WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. North Bakken Expansion Project Docket No. PF19-7-000 Monthly Progress Report Period Ending December 31, 2019 Report No. 6

### INTRODUCTION

By letter order dated July 3, 2019, WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI Energy) was granted approval by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or the Commission) to utilize the Commission's Pre-Filing Review Process for the proposed North Bakken Expansion Project (Project). The Project will consist of:

- approximately 61.7 miles of 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline from new facilities at WBI Energy's existing Tioga Compressor Station near Tioga, North Dakota to the new WBI Energy Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station southeast of Watford City, North Dakota;
- approximately 20.2 miles of 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline between the existing Tioga Compressor Station and the existing Norse Plant Receipt Station along WBI Energy's existing Line Section 25;
- approximately 9.6 miles of new 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline looping on WBI Energy's Line Section 30 between an existing valve setting and WBI Energy's existing Tioga Compressor Station;
- approximately 0.5 mile of 20-inch-diameter receipt lateral at the Tioga Compressor Station;
- uprates to WBI Energy's existing Line Section 25;
- one new compressor station (Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station) and the addition of horsepower at the existing Tioga Compressor Station;
- two new and modifications to five existing delivery, receipt, and transfer stations; and
- block valves, pig launcher/receiver stations, and associated appurtenances.

The Project, as proposed, will allow WBI Energy to add approximately 350 million cubic feet per day (MMcf/d) of natural gas transportation capacity from the Bakken region of northwest North Dakota to Northern Border's existing mainline for transit on that system. The Project has been assigned Docket No. PF19-7-000.

This Monthly Progress Report provides a brief summary of significant Project activities or changes in Project information that have occurred during the period beginning December 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.



### FIELD SURVEYS

- Field surveys were completed for all areas with access permission as of the end of October 2019; any remaining surveys will occur in 2020. Survey access was obtained from approximately 95 percent of the landowners.
- A table of survey progress for each pipeline facility as of the end of the 2019 field survey season is included below.

North Bakken Expansion Project Pipeline Facility Survey Progress as of October 31, 2019			
Pipeline Facility	Wetland/Waterbody Surveys (percent complete)	Cultural Resources Surveys (percent complete)	Dakota Skipper Habitat Surveys (percent complete)
Tioga-Elkhorn Creek	93%	90%	91% (McKenzie County)
Line Section 25 Loop	100%	100%	100% (Burke and Mountrail Counties)
Line Section 30 Loop	100%	94%	Not applicable
Tioga Compressor Lateral	100%	100%	Not applicable

• Survey data processing and survey report preparation activities were ongoing.

### RESOURCE REPORTS

• Work continued on the final resource reports and associated supporting materials.

### AGENCY CONSULTATIONS AND PERMITTING

- On December 4, 2019, a message was left for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the status of the Geotechnical Survey Work Permit Application, the schedule for section 404/408 Project review, and a potential in-person meeting in January 2020.
- On December 4, 2019, an email exchange occurred with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding wetland easements.
- On December 13, 2019, an email exchange occurred with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding the BLM Right-of-way Application and the proposed construction right-of-way width across U.S. Forest Service (USFS) land.
- Between December 2 and 13, 2019, multiple email exchanges and phone calls occurred
  with the USFS regarding the construction right-of-way width across USFS land, Dakota
  skipper habitat, a possible reroute within the Dakota Prairie Grassland, and the Project
  Biological Assessment/USFS Biological Evaluation.
- Preparation of the Project Biological Assessment and multiple permit applications were in progress during this period.



# STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

• Continued to track comments from landowners, agencies, and/or other stakeholders.

# **ENGINEERING AND RIGHT-OF-WAY**

- WBI Energy continued to contact landowners to refine routing and obtain access for surveys.
- WBI Energy continued to work on aboveground facility layout and design.
- WBI Energy continued to finalize Project footprint information for use in the final resource reports.

# **UPCOMING FOR JANUARY 2020**

- Respond to FERC comments on the draft resource reports.
- Ongoing updates to the final resource reports and associated supporting materials.
- Provide a preliminary draft of the applicant-prepared environmental assessment to FERC.
- In-person meeting with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- Ongoing agency consultation/permitting activities.
- Follow-up with agencies, Native American tribes, and other stakeholders contacted about the Project.

