

# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE MONITORING PROGRAM

WEEKLY SUMMARY REPORT NO. 11

NORTH BAKKEN EXPANSION PROJECT DOCKET NOS.: CP 20-52-000 AND CP 20-52-001

FOR THE PERIOD: OCTOBER 10 THROUGH OCTOBER 16, 2021

On June 1, 2021, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) published an Order Issuing Certificate (Certificate) to WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI) to construct and operate pipeline and ancillary facilities in Burke, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams Counties, North Dakota for the North Bakken Expansion Project (Project).

WBI agreed to fund an Environmental Compliance Monitoring Program during construction of the Project. This report provides a summary of the FERC Compliance Monitors' construction review for this reporting period. The Compliance Monitors are responsible for reviewing WBI's construction activities and documenting compliance with the FERC Certificate.

During this reporting period, the Compliance Monitors issued twenty-two (22) Daily Monitoring Reports consisting of nineteen (19) Acceptable Reports and three (3) Communication Reports. No Noncompliance or Problem Area Reports were issued during this reporting period. One (1) Level 2 variance request was approved for the Project during this reporting period. A tabular summary of the daily compliance reports and approved variances are presented below.

SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE MONITOR REPORTS AND APPROVED VARIANCES FOR THE NORTH BAKKEN EXPANSION PROJECT								
Compliance Level	Number of Reports and Variances for this Reporting Period	Cumulative Number of Reports and Variances						
Acceptable	19	191						
Communication	3	48						
Problem Area	0	0						
Noncompliance	0	0						
Serious Violation	0	0						
Approved Level 1 Variances	0	2						
Approved Level 2 Variances	1	34						
Total Reports and Variances	23	275						

During this reporting period, two full-time Compliance Monitors conducted inspections documenting compliance with the Project's environmental requirements along the Project's right-of-way. The Compliance Monitors coordinated with WBI's Environmental Inspectors (EIs) this week to inspect and discuss issues, planned and ongoing construction activities, review areas subject to variance requests, and clarify interpretations of the Project requirements. The activities of the Compliance Monitors were directed by the Compliance Manager, who coordinated with FERC staff as well as with WBI's field management and support staff.



#### SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Project components are listed below along with a summary of the Compliance Monitors' inspection activities during this reporting period, as applicable:

- Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station topsoil segregated; erosion control devices installed; welding; hydro-mulch applied;
- Line Section 25 Loop [Milepost (MP) 0 20.3] fence and pipeline marker installation; cleanup and restoration; backfill and grading at mainline valves;
- Line Section 30 Loop (MP 0-9.6) anomaly dig up and repair at wetland; restoration;
- Tioga Compressor Lateral (MP 0 0.5) no monitoring activity;
- Tioga Compressor Station no monitoring activity;
- Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Pipeline Spread 1- North Spread (MP 0 23.0) construction delays due to snow and ice; cleanup and restoration; equipment bridge removal; installation of temporary and permanent erosion controls; seeding and mulching; debris disposal;
- Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Pipeline Spread 2 South Spread (MP 23.0 62.8) mat bridge installation; bore installation; maintenance of temporary erosion controls; topsoil replacement; variance review; excavation of bell holes; welding, trenching, and lowering-in; right-of-way grading; backfilling activities;
- Tioga Plant Receipt Station no monitoring activity;
- Section 25 Uprates Pipeline (MP 0.0 to 0.5) maintenance of temporary erosion controls; hydrostatic testing;
- Norse Transfer Station installation of pipe and instruments; pig launcher/receiver installation;
- Robinson Lake Plant Receipt Station no monitoring activity;
- Springbrook Station no monitoring activity;
- Lignite Plant and Border Stations aboveground pipe and instrument installation; backfill and finish grading; debris disposal;
- Elkhorn to Northern Border Interconnect Pipeline (MP 0-0.3) no monitoring activity;
- Williston-Tioga-Minot Re-route (MP 0 0.2) no monitoring activity;
- *Norse Plant Receipt Station installation of pipe and instruments;*
- Lake Sakakawea Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) North drilling and reaming; excess fluids disposal; preparation for hydrostatic test; pullback segment placed on rollers;



- Lake Sakakawea HDD South –no monitoring activity;
- Temple Valve Tract no monitoring activity; and
- Northern Border Interconnect –grading; pipe stringing; topsoil segregation; installation of erosion controls.



# **COMMUNICATION REPORTS**

Communication reports provide documentation of relevant meetings between the FERC Compliance Monitor and landowners, agency staff, Project representatives, EIs, and others. The one (1) communication report described below presents compliance-related information for keeping this weekly summary report relevant to current Project activities. Two (2) other communication reports detailing a variance request review and a suspension of work activities due to snow/ice were issued during this reporting period and are not included below.

SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION REPORTS FOR THE NORTH BAKKEN EXPANSION PROJECT							
Compliance Level/Report Number	Date Issued	Location (Spread/ Facility/ Milepost [MP]/ County/State)	Follow-up Required (Yes or No)	Description			
TiogaElkhorn Cr PL Spread 2_11Oct2021_VH1	10/11/2021	TiogaElkhorn Cr PL Spread 2 (South) MP 36.3 to MP 36.4	Yes	The Compliance Monitor conducted an inspection of a guided bore after a reported inadvertent release occurred inside stream s-mk-ea-003 [Tobacco Garden Creek (Porcupine Coulee)]. The Compliance Monitor was advised by the EI that the stream bed began to rise while the contractor was conducting boring activities. When the stream bed was observed to be rising, the contractor's environmental crew began to add containment structures (sand bags) at the area in case the upraised area burst and an inadvertent release occurred. After the containment structure was installed and pumps were placed in the area inside secondary containments, the upraised area opened and bentonite entered the stream within the limits of disturbance. A reported small amount of lightly turbid water was observed to have traveled beyond the limits of disturbance, but dissipated quickly. Hydro-vac trucks were used to vacuum the released material and pumps were used to continue pumping clean water around the release area. The contractor was pulling the pipe while the Compliance Monitor discussed that once the pipe is pulled, crews will complete the final clean-up.			



# PROBLEM AREA AND NONCOMPLIANCE REPORTS

Problem area reports record an observation where an area or activity does not meet the definition of acceptable, but is not considered a noncompliance.

Noncompliance reports record an observation where an area or activity that violates (is not in compliance with) the Project specifications, results in damage to resources, or places sensitive resources at unnecessary risk.

The Compliance Monitors issued no problem area or noncompliance reports during this period.



## **SUMMARY OF LEVEL 1 AND LEVEL 2 VARIANCE REQUESTS**

No Level 1 variance requests and one (1) Level 2 variance request was approved for the Project during this reporting period.

## SUMMARY OF APPROVED VARIANCES FOR THE NORTH BAKKEN EXPANSION PROJECT

Variance Number	Variance Level <sup>a</sup>	Date Received	Location (Spread or Facility/ Milepost [MP]/ County/State)	Description	Status (Approval Date)
L2-V62-DM	2	10/14/2021	Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Pipeline Spread 2 (South) MP 59.6 to MP 59.7	WBI requested to access an area totaling 0.38 acre for staff and equipment to install temporary livestock fencing. The request was made by the landowner to keep cattle out of the right-of-way. The fencing will be removed after construction is complete. No sensitive resources were located in the area. No new surveys were required.	10/14/2021

### <sup>a</sup> <u>Variance Level Definitions</u>

Level 1 Variance – reviewed and approved or denied by the Compliance Monitors. These requests must be within the approved workspace or of like use and are for site-specific, minor, performance-based changes to Project specifications or mitigation measures that provide equal or better protection to environmental resources.

Level 2 Variance – reviewed and approved or denied by the Compliance Manager. These requests involve Project changes that would affect an area outside of the previously approved work area, but within the corridor previously surveyed for cultural resources, sensitive species, sensitive resources, etc.



# SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS OF OBSERVED ACTIVITIES



Lake Sakakawea HDD North - Pipe welded and ready to be placed on rollers (October 11, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 19.9



Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 2– response to inadvertent release in waterbody (October 11, 2021) – Communication – MP 36.3



Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 1 – Restored right-of-way (October 11, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 8.5



 $\label{line} Line \ Section \ 30 \ Loop-Restored \ right-of-way \ through \ hay fields \ (October \ 12, \ 2021)-Acceptable-MP \ 0.5$ 





Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 2 – Mat bridge and welded pipe at wetland w-mk-wa-002e (October 12, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 53.2



Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 1 – Restoration and installation of erosion control blankets at bar ditch (October 12, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 11.9



Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 2 – Pipe welded, erosion control devices installed. Snowy conditions (October 13, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 58.1



Lake Sakakawea HDD North – Erosion control devices installed (October 14, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 23.2





Northern Border Interconnect – Right-of-way graded and topsoil segregated. Pipe stored on skids and prepared for welding (October 14, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 0.2



Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 1 – Restoration complete through hay fields (October 14, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 8.5



Lignite Plant Receipt and Town Border Station – Lignite Meter Station, pipe, and equipment (October 15, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 0.0



Line Section 25 Loop – Mainline valve 6.8 is installed (October 16, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 6.8







Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 2 – Pipe lowered into trench (October 16, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 51.0

Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Spread 2 – Equipment bridge installed at wetland w-mk-eb-006e. Pipe welded and erosion control devices installed (October 16, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 55.2