



**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE MONITORING PROGRAM
WEEKLY SUMMARY REPORT NO. 6
NORTH BAKKEN EXPANSION PROJECT
DOCKET NOS.: CP 20-52-000 AND CP 20-52-001
FOR THE PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 5 THROUGH 11, 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-one (21) Daily Monitoring Reports consisting of sixteen (16) Acceptable Reports and five (5) Communication Reports. No Noncompliance or Problem Area Reports were issued during this reporting period. No Level 1 and two (2) Level 2 variance requests were 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	16	81
Communication	5	37
Problem Area	0	0
Noncompliance	0	0
Serious Violation	0	0
Approved Level 1 Variances	0	1
Approved Level 2 Variances	2	28
Total Reports and Variances	23	147

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

The Compliance Monitor inspected various activities in progress along the Project, including:

- *Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station – pouring concrete for pillars, rebar installation, welding, sanding, and painting, installation of concrete wash pits, topsoil removal, mulching and soil storage;*
- *Line Section 25 Loop (MP 0 – 20.3) – 12-inch pipeline installation; trench backfill; rough clean-up; variance request review;*
- *Line Section 30 Loop (MP 0 – 9.6) – no monitoring activity;*
- *Tioga Compressor Lateral (MP 0 – 0.5) – completion of pipeline installation at multiple existing foreign utilities; backfilling of trench;*
- *Tioga Compressor Station – on-going concrete placement for foundations at the compressor and ancillary buildings and pipe racks; site preparation and installation of temporary and permanent erosion controls;*
- *Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Pipeline Spread 1 (MP 0 – 23.0) – Erosion control device installation; backfill activities; installation of the foundations of a valve set and a launcher; exposure of existing underground lines in preparation for tie-ins; welding, coating, trenching, and lowering-in activities through agricultural lands; x-ray of pipeline welds;*
- *Tioga to Elkhorn Creek Pipeline Spread 2 (MP 23.0 – 62.8) – inadvertent releases (IR) on the Project right-of-way from a guided bore; wetland crossings; installation of equipment bridges; ditching; WBI-issued non-compliance; boring completion; grading activities; storage of topsoil; variance request review;*
- *Tioga Plant Receipt Station – no monitoring activity;*
- *Section 25 Uprates Pipeline (MP 0.0 to 0.5)- land surveying and staking for three bore locations; staking of temporary workspaces;*
- *Norse Transfer Station – no monitoring activity;*
- *Robinson Station – installation of the meter building aboveground piping and operating instruments; assembly of control valve and piping to complete final tie-in;*
- *Springbrook Station – no monitoring activity;*
- *Lignite Plant and Border Stations – no monitoring activity;*
- *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 new building meters, instruments, aboveground piping and control valves; welding and assembly of pipeline;*
- *Lake Sakakawea Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) – pilot HDD; 24-hour drilling; collection and off-site disposal of excess drilling mud; and*
- *Temple Valve Tract – Inspections for in-service request.*



COMMUNICATION REPORTS

Communication reports provide documentation of relevant meetings between the FERC Compliance Monitor and landowners, agency staff, Project representatives, EIs, and others. The three (3) communication reports below present compliance-related information for keeping this weekly summary report relevant to current Project activities. Two (2) communication reports detailing variance request reviews are not included.

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_05Sep2021_VH1	9/5/2021	Tioga Elkhorn Cr PL Spread 2 MP 27.5	No	The Lead EI told the Compliance Monitor of an IR that occurred at MP 27.5, where mud, water, and bentonite came to the surface in dry waterbody S-MK-ea-001. The bore was on a 24-inch reaming pass when the IR occurred. The contractor installed sandbags to contain the IR. Vacuum trucks were used to clean up the material. The Lead EI reported that the site was cleaned up and that there were approximately 200 to 250 gallons of IR material removed. The Lead EI advised the Compliance Monitor that the bore would be monitored and that there would be continual discussions with the contractor to try and prevent the IRs from occurring.
TiogaElkhorn Cr PL Spread 2_08Sep2021_VH1	9/8/2021	Tioga Elkhorn Cr PL Spread 2 MP 32.6 To MP 32.8	No	The Lead EI notified the Compliance Monitor of a WBI-issued non-compliance. An open-cut method was supposed to be used to install pipe at MP 32.6, but instead a boring method was used without an approved variance. The Lead EI stated that survey crews came to the area after being advised that variance request V53 had been drafted to change the open-cut method to a cradle bore at this location. The survey crew was going to stake the area described in variance request V53 so that it could be reviewed by the Lead EI and the Compliance Monitor prior to variance approval. When the survey crew arrived, they noticed that this area had already been bored. The Lead EI stated that a non-compliance report would be issued for this action. He noted that WBI would be advised that this incident would require an after-the-fact variance request to change the crossing method in this area.
Other_11Sep2021_HT1	9/11/2021	Other MP 0.0	Yes	The Compliance Monitor conducted a follow-up inspection of the pending in-service request at the Temple Valve. All construction activities were shut down for the day. The entire site was flagged with orange safety fences and access was barricaded. The Spread 1 Lead EI informed the Compliance Monitor that construction crews at this particular site are WBI employees and that their workdays are limited to Monday through Friday. Access to the site was limited and restricted. Follow-up inspections will continue through the remaining phases of construction and restoration.



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

Two (2) Level 2 variance requests were approved for the Project during this reporting period.

SUMMARY OF APPROVED VARIANCES FOR THE NORTH BAKKEN EXPANSION PROJECT					
Variance Number	Variance Level ^a	Date Received	Location (Spread or Facility/ Milepost [MP]/ County/State)	Description	Status (Approval Date)
L2-V49-DM	Level 2	9/3/2021	South - Tioga to Elkhorn Cr PL Spread 2 MP 30.2 – MP 30.3 and MP 36.4 – MP 36.5	WBI requested to change the construction crossing method from cradle bores to guided bores for waterbodies s-meeb-002 and s-mk-ea-003. The method changes were needed so that the proper depth under the waterbodies could be achieved. No workspace changes were associated with this variance request and no surveys were required. No sensitive resources would be affected with successful bores.	9/5/2021
L2-V54-DM	Level 2	9/8/2021	South – Tioga to Elkhorn Cr PL Spread 2 MP 33.6 – MP 33.8	WBI requested to change the construction crossing method from open-cut to a guided bore east of State Hwy. 1806. The purpose of the construction method change was to avoid an ephemeral drainage. Two 45-foot-wide by 300-foot-long additional temporary workspaces were needed for the bore affecting 0.62 acre of cultivated crops, developed open space, and a grassland area. No new surveys were required and no sensitive resources would be affected with successful bores.	9/9/2021

^a Variance Level Definitions

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



Line Section 25 Loop – Pipeline installation under two existing foreign pipelines (September 7, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 5.8

Tioga Elkhorn Creek PL Spread 2 – Bore pipe pulled under County Highway 43. Pipe capped and ditch left open for pending tie-in (September 7, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 29.8



Tioga Elkhorn Creek PL Spread 1 – Temporary erosion controls and equipment bridge over wetland s-wm-ee-001 (September 8, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 12.3

Tioga Elkhorn Creek PL Spread 2 – Bore pipe installed at Station No. 1725+54 (September 8, 2021) – Communication – MP 32.7



Robinson Lake Plant Receipt Station – New header piping and valve pending final installation of control valve tie-in (September 9, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 0.0



Tioga Elkhorn Creek PL Spread 1 – 68th Street contractor yard in Williams County (September 9, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 0.0



Other – Temple Valve piping and launcher and receiver at the Line Section 30 Loop (September 10, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 0.0



Tioga Elkhorn Creek PL Spread 2 – Pipe was strung and stacked on skids in preparation for welding activities. (September 10, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 26.7



Elkhorn Compressor Station – Site limits of disturbance hydro-mulched along with erosion control devices installed at the steep drop (September 11, 2021) – Acceptable – MP 61.7

Other – The Temple Valve construction site has been barricaded while there is temporarily no construction activity (September 11, 2021) – Communication – MP 0.0