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February 06, 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 January 1 to 31, 2020.

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. 7

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 61.9 miles of new 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline from new facilities at WBI Energy's Tioga Compressor Station near Tioga, North Dakota, to the new WBI Energy Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station southeast of Watford City, North Dakota;
- approximately 0.3 mile of new 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline between WBI Energy's new Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station and a new interconnect with Northern Border Pipeline Company (Northern Border);
- approximately 20.4 miles of new 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline looping along WBI Energy's Line Section 25;
- approximately 9.4 miles of new 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline looping along WBI Energy's Line Section 30;
- approximately 0.5 mile of new 20-inch-diameter receipt lateral to the Tioga Compressor Station;
- upgrades to WBI Energy's Line Section 25;
- one new compressor station (Elkhorn Creek Compressor Station) and the addition of horsepower at the existing Tioga Compressor Station;
- the installation of two new and modifications to five existing delivery, receipt and transfer stations along WBI Energy's pipeline routes;
- the replacement of small segments of pipeline facilities; and
- the installation of 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 January 1, 2020 through January 31, 2020.

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^a | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 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 |
| ^a Survey progress percent complete will change slightly for the 2020 field survey season due to the incorporation of minor pipeline reroutes. | | | |

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

RESOURCE REPORTS AND APPLICANT-PREPARED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- Work continued on the final resource reports and associated supporting materials, including incorporating responses to FERC’s comments on the draft resource reports.
- A preliminary draft of the applicant-prepared environmental assessment was filed on the docket on January 16, 2020 with a courtesy copy to FERC via email on January 10, 2020.

AGENCY CONSULTATIONS AND PERMITTING

- Between January 6 and 9, 2020, several email exchanges occurred with the State Historical Society of North Dakota regarding potential cultural sites.
- On January 10, 2020, an in-person meeting occurred with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to discuss the section 408 permitting process/schedule. Between January 13 and 21, 2020, multiple additional phone conversations and email exchanges occurred with the USACE regarding the section 404/408 permitting process and the preconstruction notification.
- Between January 13 and 17, 2020, multiple phone calls occurred with the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality to discuss North Dakota Air Toxics Policy, state inventory emissions and sources, and acrolein modeling.

- On January 14, 2020, a call occurred with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management regarding the Plan of Development, Project schedule, and cost recovery.
- On January 14 and 15, 2020, a phone call and emails were exchanged with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding section 7 consultation, the Project Biological Assessment, and the FERC bi-weekly calls.
- Between January 14 and 21, 2020, multiple email and phone exchanges occurred with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) regarding the Project Biological Assessment/USFS Biological Evaluation, seed mixture requirements, and cost recovery. On January 30, 2020, an in-person meeting with the USFS occurred to discuss Project right-of-way configuration, workspace needs, and construction equipment.
- On January 15, 2020, an email exchange occurred with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department regarding fisheries information for waterbodies crossed by the Project.
- Between January 15 and 16, 2020, email exchanges occurred with the Natural Resources Conservation Service regarding agricultural conservation easements and shapefile data.
- On January 20, 2020, an email exchange occurred with the North Dakota Department of Parks and Recreation to provide updated Project information and shapefiles.
- Ongoing preparation of the Project Biological Assessment, USFS Biological Evaluation, Plan of Development, 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.
- Coordinated with the Tobacco Garden recreation area to arrange for use a mitigation payment for use of the facility during geotechnical studies in the spring of 2020.

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.
- WBI Energy requested proposals from contractors for the Lake Sakakawea HDD crossing.

UPCOMING FOR FEBRUARY 2020

- File FERC application/final resource reports in mid-February 2020.
- Submit major federal permits and supporting documents in mid-February 2020.

- Respond to FERC and agency comments on the preliminary draft of the applicant-prepared environmental assessment. Anticipate filing the revised applicant-prepared environmental assessment a couple of weeks behind the FERC application/final resource reports.
- Follow-up with agencies, Native American tribes, and other stakeholders contacted about the Project.