

1250 West Century Avenue Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5601 Bismarck, ND 58506-5601 (701) 530-1600

September 19, 2022

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

Re: WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. Prior Notice Request Under Blanket Authorization Docket No. CP22-____-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI Energy or Company), pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Sections 157.205 and 157.210 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, respectfully submits for filing a Prior Notice request for authorization of its 2023 Line Section 27 Expansion Project (Project) in McKenzie County, North Dakota under its blanket certificate obtained in Docket Nos. CP82-487-000, <u>et al.</u>

WBI Energy proposes to construct and operate a new compressor station, tie-in facilities including pipeline, and associated measurement facilities on its Line Section 27 to provide incremental natural gas firm transportation service.

The filing includes the following volumes:

Volume I – consists of the Application. The information contained in Volume I is public.

Volume II – consists of the Environmental Report and all associated Appendices (except for Appendices III-A and III-B, which are included in Volume III, and Appendices IV-A through IV-C, which are included in Volume IV). The information included in Volume II is public.

Volume III – consists of Appendix III-A, Flow Diagrams and Appendix III-B, Plot Plan of the proposed Spring Creek Compressor Station. The information contained in Volume III is considered Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) and WBI Energy requests privileged and confidential treatment of this information, which is labeled: "CUI/CEII – DO NOT RELEASE."

Volume IV – consists of Appendix IV-A, Class I and III Cultural Resources Inventory, Appendix IV-B, Names and Addresses of Affected Landowners, and Appendix IV-C, Precedent Agreement. Consistent with the Commission's precedent and regulations with respect to sensitive information, WBI Energy requests privileged and confidential treatment of this information, which is labeled: "CUI//PRIV – DO NOT RELEASE."

Any questions regarding this filing should be addressed to the undersigned at (701) 530-1563.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lori Myerchin

Lori Myerchin Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services

cc: Adrienne Riehl Brian D. O'Neill

Courtesy Copies: OEP Room 62-46 (2 copies)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.

Docket No. CP22-___-000

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION UNDER THE PRIOR NOTICE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NATURAL GAS FACILITIES

WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI Energy or Company), pursuant to its blanket certificate obtained in Docket Nos. CP82-487-000, <u>et al</u>.¹, hereby files this Prior Notice request for authorization, in accordance with section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)² and 18 CFR Sections 157.205 and 157.210 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission or FERC) regulations, to construct and operate mainline natural gas facilities (pipeline, compression and measurement) in McKenzie County, North Dakota. In support of its request, WBI Energy respectfully shows the following:

I. CORRESPONDENCE

The names, titles, mailing addresses and phone numbers of the persons who should be served with communications concerning this request are³:

¹ By the Commission's Order dated February 13, 1985 in Docket Nos. CP82-487-000, et al.,

⁽³⁰ FERC ¶ 61,143), WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. was authorized to acquire and operate the interstate pipeline facilities previously owned and operated by MDU Resources Group, Inc. ("MDU"), its parent company, as well as to provide the certificated service previously provided by MDU, effective January 1, 1985. MDU was originally granted blanket certificate authority in Docket Nos. CP83-1-000, <u>et al</u>.

² 15 U.S.C. § 717f(c) 2012.

³ WBI Energy respectfully requests waiver of 18 CFR § 385.203(b)(3) to allow each person listed to be included on the Commission's official service list for this filing.

Lori Myerchin Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. P.O. Box 5601 Bismarck, North Dakota 58506-5601 (701) 530-1563 lori.myerchin@wbienergy.com Andrew Bates Supervisor, Regulatory Affairs WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. P.O. Box 5601 Bismarck, North Dakota 58506-5601 (701) 530-1576 andrew.bates@wbienergy.com

and

Adrienne Riehl Assistant General Counsel MDU Resources Group, Inc. P.O. Box 5650 Bismarck, ND 58506-5650 (701) 530-1091 adrienne.riehl@mduresources.com Brian D. O'Neill Van Ness Feldman, LLP 1050 Thomas Jefferson Street NW Seventh Floor Washington, D.C. 20007 (202) 298-1987 bdo@vnf.com

II.

IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICANT AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S EXISTING OPERATIONS

The exact legal name of WBI Energy is WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. WBI Energy is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 1250 West Century Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503. WBI Energy is authorized to conduct, and is conducting, business in the states of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Minnesota.

WBI Energy is a natural gas company engaged in the transportation and storage of natural gas. WBI Energy operates underground storage reservoirs in the Cedar Creek (Baker) Field, Montana and the Elk Basin Field, Wyoming to serve its natural gas system.

III. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WBI Energy herein requests authorization to construct and operate mainline natural gas facilities, as further described below, on its Line Section 27 (North Badlands Sub-System) in McKenzie County, North Dakota. WBI Energy is referring to these facilities as its 2023 Line Section 27 Expansion Project (Project). The purpose of the Project is to provide additional capacity necessary for the transportation of incremental natural gas volumes to WBI Energy's Spring Creek interconnect with Northern Border Pipeline Company (Northern Border or NBPL) in McKenzie County. ONEOK Rockies Midstream, L.L.C. (ONEOK) is expanding the processing capacity at its Demicks Lake natural gas processing plant, and WBI Energy has entered into a Precedent Agreement with ONEOK for 175,000 equivalent dekatherms per day (dkt/day) of incremental firm transportation service from the tailgate of the Demicks Lake Plant to WBI Energy's Spring Creek interconnect. The Project has been designed to provide a timely increment of new pipeline transportation capacity to accommodate receipts of processed natural gas from expanded processing facilities as they come on-line. The total estimated cost of the Project is \$32.6 million.

IV. CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

As indicated above, ONEOK is expanding the processing capacity at its Demicks Lake natural gas processing plant. WBI Energy entered into a binding Precedent Agreement with ONEOK which provides that WBI Energy will deliver a Maximum Daily Delivery Quantity (MDDQ) of 175,000 equivalent dkt/day to the Spring Creek interconnect. Please see Appendix C of Volume IV for a copy of the Precedent Agreement between WBI Energy and ONEOK.

WBI Energy conducted a binding open season from May 2, 2022 through May 13, 2022 to transport gas from new or existing receipt locations on WBI Energy's Line Section 27 to the NBPL-Spring Creek (D) location (Point ID 01316) in McKenzie County. No further bids for firm transportation capacity were received during the open season. As a result, the Project was designed to accommodate receipts of processed gas from the expanded Demicks Lake Plant.

Incremental firm transportation capacity associated with the Project is 175,000 equivalent dkt per day, based on the daily design capacity of the proposed facilities as reflected in flow diagrams included in Volume III, Appendix A.

V. DESCRIPTION OF FACILITIES

Pipeline Facilities

WBI Energy is proposing to install two 24-inch diameter pipelines, each approximately 500 feet in length, from the proposed Spring Creek Compressor Station connecting to WBI Energy's existing Line Section 27 16-inch and 24-inch pipelines at the proposed Demicks Lake III Valve Setting. The pipelines will have a wall thickness ranging from 0.480 inch to 0.580 inch and a Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) of 1550 psig.

Aboveground Facilities

Compression Facilities

WBI Energy is proposing to install a new compressor station near the NBPL-Spring Creek Interconnect on its North Badlands Sub-System to meet the requested increase in firm transportation capacity. The proposed Spring Creek Compressor Station will consist of two 4000 horsepower Hyundai Electric Motor with Ariel KBZ/4 Compressor units, a unit cooler and motor control center for each compressor unit, an auxiliary building, communication devices, and auxiliary facilities. Design conditions for the compressor station will range from 1238-1244 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) pipeline suction pressure to 1433-1434 psig pipeline discharge pressure with a compression ratio of approximately 1.2 to 1. The station will have an electric power usage ranging from 4890 to 5153 kW/hr depending on weather conditions as detailed further in the Flow Diagrams included in Volume III, Appendix A⁴. A valve setting consisting of suction, discharge, and station bypass valves will be installed within the compressor station boundaries. A new access road will be constructed for permanent access to the facility.

Valve Settings

The proposed Demicks Lake III Valve Setting will tie the proposed compressor station into WBI Energy's existing 24-inch and 16-inch pipelines and will consist of four block valves, two crossover valves, and a building to house communication equipment. WBI Energy is proposing a new permanent access road to this valve setting.

Modifications will occur at WBI Energy's existing Cherry Creek Valve Setting on its Line Section 27 where one new automated valve and crossover piping will be installed.

Measurement Facilities

WBI Energy proposes to increase meter capacity at the Demicks Lake Plant Receipt Station by replacing two 10-inch ultrasonic meters with two 12-inch ultrasonic meters.

Capacity at the Spring Creek interconnect will be increased by installing new facilities including a 10-inch ultrasonic meter, over-pressure protection equipment, communications equipment, a gas chromatograph and gas quality analyzers, other auxiliary facilities, and associated buildings. Modifications to an existing 24-inch pig launcher/receiver and the installation of a 16-inch tie-in valve will also occur at the interconnect location.

For a layout of facilities please refer to the Plot Plans filed in Volume II, Appendix E and Volume III, Appendix B.

⁴ WBI Energy will make a tariff filing to establish a Fuel and Electric Power Reimbursement Adjustment Provision for the North Badlands Sub-System to be filed March 1, 2023, concurrent with its Annual Fuel and Electric Power Reimbursement Adjustment on its integrated system, to be effective April 1, 2023.

VI. LOCATION OF FACILITIES

The location of the Project facilities is shown on the system, topographic and aerial maps which are included in Volume II, Appendices A, B and C. WBI Energy has included flow diagrams in Volume III, Appendix A in accordance with 18 CFR Section 157.208(c)(5).

VII.

FINAL AUTHORIZATION

WBI Energy plans to commence construction following receipt of authority through the Prior Notice procedures, with an anticipated in-service date of November 1, 2023. WBI Energy understands that pursuant to Section 157.205(h) of the Commission's regulations, it will be deemed authorized to perform the actions proposed herein if no protest is filed within 60 days of issuance of the notice of this request.

VIII. COST OF FACILITIES

The total estimated cost of the Project is \$32.6 million, which is below the 2022 Prior Notice project cost limitation of \$37.1 million. WBI Energy plans to finance the Project utilizing a combination of internally generated funds and/or debt. WBI Energy will comply with the reporting requirements of Section 157.208(e)(3) of the Commission's regulations.

IX. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

An Environmental Report, along with appendices, discussing the relevant issues outlined in 18 CFR Section 380.12 of the Commission's regulations is provided as Volume II.

WBI Energy has received environmental clearances from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the North Dakota Historical Society – Historic Preservation Office. Copies of correspondence to, and clearances from, these agencies are included as Appendices L and M of Volume II.

Pursuant to Section 157.208(c)(10) of the Commission's regulations, WBI Energy commits to having the Environmental Inspector's report filed with the Commission on a weekly basis during construction.

X. OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

WBI Energy will design, construct, test, operate and maintain the proposed facilities in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal regulations, codes and standards, including the pipeline safety requirements of the Department of Transportation specified at 49 CFR 192, "Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Minimum Federal Safety Standards" and the Commission's requirements for siting and maintenance specified at 18 CFR 380.15, "Siting and Maintenance Requirements."

XI. NOTICE

In accordance with Section 157.205(b)(4) of the Commission's regulations, WBI Energy states that the proposed activity complies with the requirements of 18 CFR, Part 157, Subpart F. Pursuant to Section 157.205(b)(5), a Form of Notice suitable for publication in the Federal Register is included herewith. In accordance with Section 157.205(b)(6), WBI Energy states that it knows of no pending applications that are related to the instant filing.

XII. INFORMATION SUBMITTED

This filing includes the following volumes: Volume I contains the Application. Volume II consists of the Environmental Report and associated public appendices. Volume III contains information considered Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). The information is labeled "CUI//CEII – DO NOT RELEASE." Volume IV contains sensitive shipper, landowner and cultural resources information. WBI Energy requests privileged treatment of this information labeled "CUI//PRIV – DO NOT RELEASE."

NOW THEREFORE, WBI Energy hereby gives notice of its request for authorization to construct, modify and operate the natural gas facilities described above.

Dated this 19th day of September 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

WBI ENERGY TRANSMISSION, INC.

By <u>/s/ Lori Myerchin</u>

Lori Myerchin Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA) COUNTY OF BURLEIGH)

I, Lori Myerchin, being first duly sworn, do hereby depose and say that I am the Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services for WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.; that I have read the foregoing document; that I know the contents thereof; that I am authorized to execute such document; and that all such statements and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated this _____ day of September 2022.

By_____ Lori Myerchin Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of September 2022.

LEIF D. MATTSON, Notary Public Burleigh County, North Dakota My Commission Expires: 12/14/2022

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.)

Docket No. CP22- -000

PRIOR NOTICE REQUEST UNDER BLANKET CERTIFICATE

(September 19, 2022)

Take notice that on September 19, 2022, WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI Energy) filed a Prior Notice request for authorization, in accordance with 18 CFR Sections 157.205 and 157.210 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations under the Natural Gas Act and WBI Energy's blanket certificate issued in Docket Nos. CP82-487-000, <u>et al.</u>, for the construction and operation of mainline natural gas facilities including pipeline, compression and measurement in McKenzie County, North Dakota to provide incremental firm transportation service.

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Lori Myerchin, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services, WBI Energy Transmission, Inc., 1250 West Century Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503, (701) 530-1563 (email: <u>lori.myerchin@wbienergy.com</u>).

Any person or the Commission's Staff may, within 60 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.205), a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefore, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the NGA.

Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such motions or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <u>http://www.ferc.gov</u>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

This filing is accessible on-line at <u>http://www.ferc.gov</u>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. There is an "eSubscription" link on the web site that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email <u>FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov</u>, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Comment Date: 5:00 pm Eastern Time on (insert date).

Kimberly D. Bose

Secretary

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA) COUNTY OF BURLEIGH)

I, Lori Myerchin, being first duly sworn, do hereby depose and say that I am the Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services for WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.; that I have read the foregoing document; that I know the contents thereof; that I am authorized to execute such document; and that all such statements and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated this <u>19</u> day of September 2022.

By

Lori Myerchin Director, Regulatory Affairs and Transportation Services

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19 day of September 2022.

LE[F D. MATTSON, Notary Public Burleigh County, North Dakota My Commission Expires: 12/14/2022

