

NEWS RELEASE Sept. 23, 2015

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PSC Public Hearing Scheduled for Oct. 7 in Watford City Proposal Would Convert Existing Oil Gathering Pipeline into a Transmission Line

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a public hearing in Watford City on Wednesday, Oct. 7, regarding a proposal to convert an existing crude oil gathering pipeline into a transmission line. The approximately 4.5-mile long, 8-inch diameter existing pipeline is located in McKenzie County.

Hiland Crude, LLC has submitted an application to convert their existing Alexander Tank Farm Crude Oil Pipeline and associated facilities into a transmission line. The pipeline is an extension of the Market Center pipeline system, which has been approved for conversion to a transmission pipeline. If approval is obtained to convert the 4.5-mile-long segment of the Alexander line, it will allow for delivery of crude oil passing through the Market Center System or alternatively allow for transport of crude oil from the Alexander Station to the Market Center System. The pipeline will have a maximum capacity of approximately 50,000 barrels per day. The total cost of the Alexander Pipeline was approximately \$3.6 million.

The pipeline originates 5 miles north-northeast of Alexander, N.D., at a connection with the Market Center System and runs 4.5 miles north to the Alexander Station. (Note to the media: A map showing the pipeline route has been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

Details for the public hearing are as follows:

- When: Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015 9 a.m. CDT
- Where: Teddy's Residential Suites
 113 9th Avenue SE, Watford City, N.D.

The hearing provides an opportunity for members of the public to contribute to the PSC's official record. Any comments from members of the public must be received at the hearing to be part of the record. People with concerns, questions or support/opposition for the project are encouraged to attend the hearing and present the information. <u>Information received after the hearing will not be part of the official record and cannot be used as a basis for the Commission's decision unless certain additional procedures are followed.</u>

This hearing will be conducted by a substantive Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The ALJ will conduct the hearing and related proceedings and issue a recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law and a recommended order. The PSC Commissioners will review all the information in the record and make the final decision on the case at a later date.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, grain elevators, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

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