

NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**INFORMAL HEARING**

May 20, 2009

**Belle Fourche Pipeline Company  
8-Inch Crude Oil Pipeline/McKenzie County  
Siting Application**

**Case No. PU-07-596**

The November 9, 2007 order in Case No PU-07-596, Belle Fourche 8-inch crude oil pipeline, included a Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications requiring that, prior to tree/shrub replacement, documentation identifying the number and variety of trees removed as well as the mitigation plan for the proposed number, variety, type, location and date of replacement plantings be filed with the Commission for approval.

On November 4, 2008, Belle Fourche reported that 37 trees and 179 shrubs were removed during construction. [document #67]

On May 19, 2009 Belle Fourche filed a plan indicating the planting of 74 trees and 358 shrubs at various locations along the route between May 20 and June 20, 2009. [document #72]

- 37 trees removed: 10 green ash, 5 cottonwood and 22 elm.
- 74 trees to be planted: 20 green ash, 10 cottonwood and 44 elm.
- The number of trees proposed to be planted is 2 for each tree removed.
  
- 179 shrubs removed: 70 chokecherry, 14 buffaloberry, and 95 snowberry.
- 358 shrubs to be planted: 95 chokeberry, 28 buffaloberry, and 140 chokecherry, 95 caragana/lilac/chokeberry.
- The number of shrubs proposed to be planted is 2 for each shrub removed.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: I recommend approval.

PJF