

# BELLE FOURCHE PIPELINE COMPANY

Environmental Division  
Bob Dundas P.G., Environmental Coordinator  
Kate Forsting, Assistant Environmental Coordinator

Reply to:  
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RECEIVED

OCT 08 2012

October 4, 2012

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Patrick Fahn  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Alex Loop Tree & Shrub Planting Update (PU-07-596) –Request to Terminate

Dear Mr. Fahn:

The following is summary of the tree/shrub planting success in several areas located along the Alex Loop right of way that was completed on September 15, 2012 (inspection report and photos attached).

As described in the attached report, shrubs planted by BFPL in Section 30, T152N, R101W appear to have been choked out by established grass and shrubs. Additionally, native established shrubs that had been alive in Spring 2012 were found dead during the 9/15/12 site visit. However, it appears the area has been adequately reclaimed by vegetative cover.

All other planting areas associated with the Alex Loop planting project are reported as doing very well with trees and shrubs well established in the areas. Additionally, local landowners have reportedly been pleased with BFPL reclamation efforts along the impacted pipeline right of way. PSC contract inspectors did not identify any significant reclamation related issues during their 2011 on-site review of the project. Therefore, BFPL requests the PSC terminate any further monitoring of planting and/or reclamation efforts associated with PU-07-596 as BFPL has complied with all conditions of the PSC Tree/Shrub Mitigation Specifications as contained in the permit.

Please feel free to contact me in our Casper Office at (307) 266-0411 should you wish to discuss this matter in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Bob Dundas, P.G.  
Environmental Coordinator

e-C: Debra Bell - BFPL

File: BFPL Alex Loop

86 PU-07-596 Filed: 10/8/2012 Pages: 6  
Alex Loop Tree & Shrub Planting Update - Request  
to Terminate

Belle Fourche Pipeline Company

Bob Dundas, P.G.

PO Box 43  
Watford City, ND 58854  
701-770-1741  
September 21, 2012

Bob Dundas  
Belle Fourche Pipeline  
Casper, WY

Dear Bob,

On September 15, 2012, myself and an assistant drove to 30-152-101. We searched the area where we had planted the shrubs. We did not find any that had survived and in fact found established native shrubs that were alive this spring also dead. I am sure the established grass and shrubs could have very easily choked out the seedlings. Photos attached.

We then drove to Section 18-153-102. We inspected those Colorado Blue Spruce that were handplanted. They are doing very well. Photos attached.

Then we drove to Section 7-150-101 where we had our first planting. We had found that the invasive weed species took over the planting which is why we abandoned this site. I did take a couple photos to show the invasive Canada Thistle and Field Bindweed. (405 & 406 in Sect.30; 407-409 in Sect 18; 410 & 411 in Sect. 7)

We drove through the park in Watford City and by the fishing pond where the remainder of the trees are planted. They are doing fine, being cared for by the city forester with guards on them to protect from rodents and deer. I did not take photos of these trees but can do on request.

If you have any questions feel free to call me at 701-770-1741.

Thank you,

Cindy Geiger







