

LAW OFFICES OF
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ALSO LICENSED IN:

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* Minnesota
^o Montana
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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

October 27, 2008

SHANE A. HANSON*
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WADE C. MANN*

ERNEST R. FLECK
(1921-1995)
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(RETIRED)
WILLIAM A. STRUTZ
(RETIRED)

Hand Delivered

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

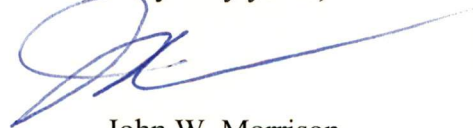
In re: Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Please find enclosed the original plus 10 copies of two letters of intent for Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation relating to an oil pipeline and natural gas pipeline.

If you have any questions, please advise.

Very truly yours,



John W. Morrison

mw
Enc.
cc: Bill Regan
Brent Miller

1 **PU-08-843** Filed: 10/27/2008 Pages: 5
Letter of Intent, Waiting Period Request

Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation
John Morrison

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In re: Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation
Gas Pipeline

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Pursuant to Section 49-22-07.1 of the North Dakota Century Code and Section 69-06-03-01 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation ("Whiting"), hereby files its letter of intent to site a natural gas pipeline in Mountrail County, North Dakota.

1. Description of size and type of facility and area to be served.

Whiting is the operator of the Robinson Lake Gas Processing Plant (the "Plant") located in the NW/4 of Section 23, Township 153 North, Range 91 West, Mountrail County, North Dakota. The Plant processes natural gas produced in association with oil, principally in the Mountrail County area, and then delivers residue gas to an interconnect with an interstate transmission line. The interconnect is located southeast of the town of Stanley, approximately 16 miles north of the Plant site in Section 26, Township 156 North, Range 91 West. The gas is delivered through a 16-mile, 6-inch steel pipeline.

The Plant is not subject to siting under Chapter 49-22 because it is not capable of processing 100 million cubic feet of gas per day. Whiting does not believe that siting is required for the gas pipeline because it is not a transmission line as that term is commonly understood in the oil and gas industry, but is rather either a component of the Plant or incidental gathering. However,

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Whiting understands that the Commission or its staff has concluded that the pipeline may constitute a “transmission line” within the historical practices of the Commission.

Simultaneously herewith, Whiting is filing a Letter of Intent for the construction of a crude oil pipeline that will parallel the gas pipeline that is the subject of this Letter of Intent. Because that crude oil pipeline will constitute a transmission line within the meaning of Chapter 49-22, a siting proceeding will be required. Accordingly, Whiting has determined that the most expeditious course of action is to obtain a corridor certificate and route permit for the gas pipeline.

Whiting hereby requests that the Commission waive the requirement of filing a letter of intent at least one year prior to filing an application for a certificate of corridor compatibility. Whiting intends to file with its application for siting an application for waiver of procedures and time schedules including the requirements as to width of the corridor, and the requirement of separate corridor and route filings and hearings so as to allow this project to be timely sited. Whiting intends to file this consolidated application as soon as the necessary studies and reviews can be completed.

2. Map of study area.

See map enclosed herewith for the route of the gas pipeline. Whiting has conducted a desk study of a corridor one mile in width, located one-half mile on each side of the route. However, because the pipeline has been constructed, Whiting has largely limited field studies to a corridor 120 foot in width, located 60 foot on either side of the route, except that to the extent the field studies identified the existence of any exclusion or avoidance areas or selection criteria within the 120-foot corridor, the corridor was widened as necessary to provide sufficient information to the Commission to fully assess the impact of such factors and any possible alternatives.

3. Anticipated construction and operation schedule.

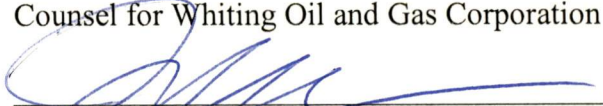
Construction of the gas pipeline is substantially complete. Until such time as the pipeline is put into service, the residue gas available at the Plant is being flared. To avoid any further physical and economic waste and the undesirable effect of further flaring on the environment, Whiting intends to put the pipeline into service as soon as possible and operate the pipeline while the siting process is being concluded.

4. Estimated cost of construction.

Whiting anticipates that the total cost of constructing the gas pipeline will be \$3.3 million.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact the undersigned at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,
Fleck, Mather & Strutz, Ltd.
Counsel for Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation



By: John W. Morrison

cc: Brent Miller

