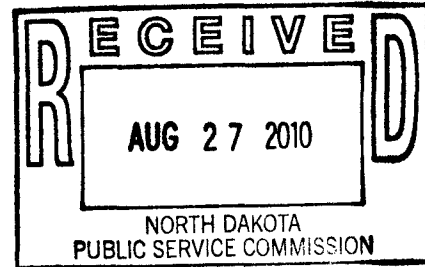


John W. Morrison
400 East Broadway, Suite 600
P.O. Box 2798
Bismarck, ND 58502-2798
701.223.6585
jmorrison@crowleyfleck.com

Via E-mail

August 27, 2010

Mr. Mitchell D. Armstrong
Attorney at Law
Smith, Bakke, Porsborg, Schweigert & Armstrong
P.O. Box 460
Bismarck, ND 58502-0460



Dear Mitch,

Thank you for your e-mail of August 25th with the proposed certification in the captioned matter.

We are enclosing the signed certification which has been executed on behalf of Hess Corporation subject to the following understandings:

Item 15 – Topsoil Segregation. As we understand Item 15, it requires Hess to strip any topsoil in place and dispose of that topsoil offsite onto an area with preexisting topsoil. Although there is very little, if any, topsoil on either the existing plant site or the expansion area, Hess will strip what topsoil there is and dispose of it accordingly.

Item 16 – Reclamation and Reseeding. For the most part, the plant site will not be reclaimed or reseeded until after operations are abandoned on the facility. If there are any fringe areas disturbed by construction which will not be used in the actual plant site, such as small areas outside the fenced area, Hess will reclaim, fertilize and reseed in accordance with the referenced recommendations.

Item 18 -Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications. Although to our knowledge there are no trees and shrubs within either the existing plant site or the expansion area, we understand that these specifications will apply to any trees or shrubs that may be cleared.

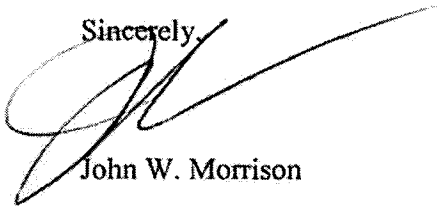
Item 24 – Design Drawings. Prior to commencing construction activities, Hess will provide the Commission staff with a survey plat showing the plant site, including the expansion area, and a

design drawing showing the location of the facility within that plant site, but the pre-construction location of the facility will not be surveyed.

Item 27 - Modifications. Our understanding is that the modifications referred to in Item 27 are physical modifications to the location of facilities as shown on the design drawings submitted pursuant to Item 24.

I will deliver the original certification to you Monday in Tioga. Let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John W. Morrison', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

John W. Morrison

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Hess Corporation
Tioga Gas Plant Expansion Project—Williams County
Siting Application

Case No. PU-09-120

CERTIFICATION RELATING TO ORDER PROVISIONS - FACILITY SITING

I am Rory D. Nelson, a representative of Hess Corporation (Hess) with authority to bind Hess to requirements to be set forth by the Commission in its Order and I certify the following:

1. Hess understands and agrees that the Certificate of Site Compatibility will be issued by the Commission subject to the conditions and criteria set forth in Chapter 49-22 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-06-08 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and that Hess will be responsible for compliance with this order and conditions and criteria set forth in the applicable laws and rules.
2. Hess agrees to hold a preconstruction conference prior to commencement of any construction, which must include a Hess representative, its construction supervisor, and a representative of Commission Staff, to ensure that Hess fully understands the conditions set forth in the Commission's order.
3. Hess agrees to comply with the rules and regulations of all other agencies having jurisdiction over any phase of the proposed energy conversion facility/expansion including all city, township, and county zoning regulations.
4. Hess agrees that it shall obtain all other necessary licenses and permits, and shall provide copies of all licenses and permits to the Commission prior to construction activity associated with the energy conversion facility/expansion that requires said license or permit.
5. Hess understands and agrees that the Certificate of Site Compatibility is subject to suspension or revocation and may, in an appropriate and proper case, be suspended or revoked for failure to comply with the Commission's order, the conditions and criteria of the certificate or subsequent modification, or failure to comply with the applicable statutes, rules, regulations, standards, and permits of other state or federal agencies.
6. Hess agrees to maintain records that will demonstrate that it has complied with the requirements of the Commission's order and the Certificate of Site Compatibility, and that it will preserve these records for Commission inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice.

7. Hess agrees to inform the Commission of its intent to start construction on the energy conversion facility/expansion prior to the commencement of construction. Once construction has started, Hess shall keep the Commission updated of construction activities on a weekly basis.
8. Hess agrees to construct and operate the energy conversion facility/expansion in the manner described in Hess's application, in any late filed exhibits and supplemental materials, and in accordance with all applicable safety requirements.
9. Hess agrees to report promptly to the Commission the presence in the permit area of any critical habitat or threatened species, endangered species, bald eagles, or golden eagles that Hess becomes aware of and which were not previously reported to the Commission.
10. Hess understands that all cultural resource mitigation plans must be submitted to the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office and approved prior to the start of any fieldwork and construction activity in the affected area.
11. Hess understands and agrees that if any cultural resource, paleontological site, archeological site, historical site, or grave site is discovered during construction, it must be marked, preserved and protected from further disturbances until a professional examination can be made by the State Historical Society, a report of such examination is filed with the Commission, and clearance to proceed is given by the Commission.
12. Hess understands and agrees that any underground piping or electric line crossings of graded roads shall be bored unless the responsible governing agency specifically permits Hess to open cut the road.
13. Hess understands and agrees that all pre-existing township and county roads and lanes used during construction must be repaired or restored to a condition that is equal to or better than the condition prior to the construction of the energy conversion facility/expansion and that will accommodate their previous use, and that areas used as temporary roads or working areas during construction must be restored to their original condition.
14. Hess understands and agrees that construction must be suspended when weather conditions are such that construction activities will cause irreparable damage to roads or land, unless adequate protection measures approved by the Commission are taken.
15. During construction, at least 12 inches of topsoil, where available (or topsoil to the depth of cultivation, whichever is greater), over and along areas where facilities will be placed must be stripped and segregated from subsoil. Any area on which

excavated subsoil will be placed must first be stripped of topsoil. After backfilling with subsoil is completed, any excess subsoil must be placed over the excavation area, blending the grade into existing topography. Topsoil must not be placed within the footprint of the facilities, and must be placed over areas containing topsoil.

16. Hess understands and agrees that reclamation, fertilization, and reseeding is to be done according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service recommendations, unless otherwise approved by the Commission.
17. Hess understands and agrees that its obligation for reclamation and maintenance of the energy conversion facility site, associated facilities, and roadways will continue throughout the life of the energy conversion facility.
18. Attached is a document titled Tree and Mitigation Specifications. Hess agrees to comply with these specifications if the Commission chooses to include all or a portion of the requirements and conditions contained in this attachment in its Order.
19. Hess agrees that staging areas or equipment shall not be located on land owned by somebody other than Hess unless otherwise negotiated with landowners.
20. Hess agrees that it shall remove all waste that is a product of construction and operation, restoration, and maintenance of the site, and properly dispose of it on a regular basis.
21. Hess agrees that it shall provide any necessary safety measures for traffic control or to restrict public access to the energy conversion facility/expansion.
22. Hess agrees that it shall advise the Commission of any extraordinary events which take place at the site of the energy conversion facility/expansion, including but not limited to injured workers or private individuals, the death of any threatened or endangered species, or the discovery of a large number of dead birds or bats on the site within five business days of such event.
23. Hess agrees that it shall implement a procedure for how complaints concerning the proposed energy conversion facility/expansion will be handled by Hess.
24. Hess agrees to provide the Commission with engineering design drawings showing surveyed structure prior to construction, and understands and agrees that it must obtain approval from the Commission or from Commission Staff prior to any changes in the energy conversion facility/expansion.
25. Hess agrees to provide the Commission with a copy (hardcopy and electronic versions) of the design specifications for the construction of the energy conversion

facility showing the location of the energy conversion facility as built, and will provide this information within three months of the completion of the construction. Hess also agrees to provide an electronic version of the as-built facility design specifications that can be imported into ESRI GIS mapping software within 3 months of the completion of the construction. This electronic map data must be referenced to the North Dakota coordinate system of 1983, North and/or South zones US Survey feet (NAD 83) UTM Zone 13N or 14N feet (NAD 83), or geographic coordinate system (WGS 84) feet. The vertical data must be in the appropriate vertical datum for the coordinate system used. All submissions must specify the datum in which the data was developed.

26. Hess understands and agrees that the authorizations granted by the Certificate of Site Compatibility for the energy conversion facility are subject to modification by order of the Commission if deemed necessary to protect further the public or the environment.
27. Hess agrees to inform the Commission in writing of any modifications to the energy conversion facility or of any plans to modify the site plan for the energy conversion facility. Any additions or modifications to the site plan for the energy conversion facility must be approved in writing by the Commission or Commission staff. Approval may be granted after notice and opportunity for hearing.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2010.

HESS CORPORATION

By Ray D. Nelson
Its Manager, Tiesha Gas Plant

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

HESS CORPORATION
Tioga Gas Plant Expansion Project—Williams County
Siting Application

Case No. PU-10-120

Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications

Inventory

1. Trees and shrubs anticipated to be cleared, including those that are considered invasive species or noxious weeds (e.g., *Caragana arborescens*, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*, *Rhamnus cathartica*, *Tamarix chinensis*, *T. parviflora*, *T. ramosissima*, *Ulmus pumila*), shall be inventoried before cutting. The inventory shall record the location, number, and species of trees and shrubs.
2. In windbreaks, shelterbelts, and other planted areas, trees or shrubs anticipated to be cleared, regardless of size, shall be inventoried for replacement.
3. In native growth areas, trees anticipated to be cleared that are 1-inch diameter at breast height (dbh) or greater shall be inventoried for replacement.
4. In native growth areas, shrubs anticipated to be cleared in the permanent right-of-way shall be inventoried for replacement.
5. In native growth areas outside the permanent right-of-way, shrubs shall be cut flush with the surface of the ground, taking care to leave the naturally occurring seed bank and root stock intact. If soil disturbance is necessary, the native topsoil shall be preserved and replaced after construction. Shrubs shall be allowed to regenerate naturally where native topsoil is preserved and replaced. Where native topsoil is not preserved and replaced, shrubs anticipated to be cleared shall be inventoried for replacement.
6. In native growth areas, trees and shrubs may be inventoried by actual count or by sampling method that will properly represent the woody vegetation population. A sampling plan developed by the company, filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission), and approved prior to the start of construction shall define the sampling method to be used for trees, for tall shrubs and for low shrubs. The data from the sample plots shall be extrapolated to the total acreage of the wooded area to be cleared to determine the species and quantity of trees and shrubs to be replaced.

Clearing for Construction

7. Trees and shrubs shall be selectively cleared, leaving mature trees and shrubs intact where practical.
8. The width of clear cuts through windbreaks, shelterbelts and all other wooded areas shall be limited to 50 feet or less unless otherwise approved by the Commission.
9. If the area of trees or shrubs actually cleared differs from the area inventoried, the difference in number of trees and shrubs to be replaced shall be noted on the inventory.

Replacement

10. Prior to 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 shall be filed with the Commission for approval.
11. Tree replacement shall be on a 2 to 1 basis with 2-year-old saplings. Shrub replacement shall be on a 2 to 1 basis with stem cuttings.
12. Trees and shrubs shall be replaced by the same species or similar species, except in the case of invasive species or noxious weeds, suitable for North Dakota growing conditions as recommended by the North Dakota Forest Service.
13. Landowners shall be given the option of having replacement trees or shrubs planted off the right-of-way on the landowner's property or waiving that requirement in writing and allowing those replacement trees or shrubs to be planted at alternative locations.
14. At the conclusion of the project, documentation identifying the actual number, variety, type, location, and date of the replacement plantings shall be filed with the Commission.
15. Tree and shrub replacements shall be inspected once a year for three years, on about the anniversary of the plantings, and, on or shortly before October 1 of each year, a report shall be submitted to the Commission documenting the condition of replacement planting and any woodlands work completed. If after three years from the anniversary of the plantings the survival rate is less than 75%, the Commission may order additional planting(s).