

procedures. With the implementation of these preventative measures, contamination of groundwater due to construction activities is not anticipated.

Surface Waters

The proposed route corridor and pipeline route lie in the Upper Souris River and Des Lacs River drainage basin. Surface water generally drains to the northeast in the Des Lacs River watershed (Kenaston Station and along the pipeline route between MP 29 to 32.5), and to the southwest in the Upper Souris River watershed (Lignite Station and on the remainder of the pipeline route).

The proposed pipeline route does not cross any waterbodies.

Wetlands

EPND commissioned a wetland and waterbody assessment of the survey corridor. McCain and Associates Inc. ("McCain") completed a wetland delineation survey along the proposed route within a 250-foot-wide survey corridor. Results of the delineation are discussed in Section B.4.b.(8)(i).

The installation of the 11-mile segment of pipeline will result in only temporary impacts to wetlands. EPND will implement the measures identified in its EMP to minimize adverse effects on wetlands during construction and restore wetlands following construction. Effects on wetlands are, therefore, expected to be short-term and minor. During trenching, water quality of inundated wetlands will be temporarily affected due to the suspension of sediments and organic matter. Construction of the Project will result in temporary disturbance to some of the existing vegetation along the pipeline route and within the right-of-way.

During construction in unsaturated wetlands, topsoil will be segregated from the trench line to preserve natural sources of seed and rootstock. After the trench is backfilled, the topsoil will be replaced to facilitate the natural revegetation process. The long-term operation and maintenance of the pipeline will not have adverse effects on wetland function or value.

As discussed in Section B.2 of the Application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility, work at Berthold Station will result in the loss (fill) of approximately 1.5 acres of COE-jurisdictional wetlands, and work at Kenaston station will fill approximately 0.154 acre of isolated (non-COE jurisdictional) wetlands. Construction in COE-jurisdictional wetlands will require authorization by the COE-Omaha District. EPND will be obtaining necessary authorization for temporary and permanent wetland impacts, and work in wetlands will be conducted in accordance with applicable permit conditions.