



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 10, 2013

Subject: Vantage Pipeline Project – Final Environmental Assessment

To: All Interested Parties



The U.S. Department of State (DOS) has issued a final environmental assessment (Final EA) for the Vantage Pipeline Project (Project). DOS is the lead federal agency and is acting consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act. The proposed Project is to construct and operate an ethane pipeline and related facilities at the international border of the United States and Canada, originating from a source near Tioga, North Dakota, United States, extending northwest through Saskatchewan, Canada, and terminating near Empress, Alberta, Canada. The proposed Project would traverse Williams and Divide Counties, North Dakota.

On November 15, 2010, Vantage Pipeline US LP (Vantage) applied to DOS for a Presidential Permit for the construction, operation, and maintenance of pipeline facilities on the United States-Canada border for the transportation of ethane. On January 11, 2011, DOS issued a *Notice of Receipt of Application for a Presidential Permit to Construct, Operate and Maintain Pipeline Facilities on the Border of the United States* in the Federal Register (Volume 76, No. 7, page 1659). On August 19, 2011, the DOS issued to the public and parties listed on the environmental mailing list the *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and to Initiate Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Proposed Vantage Pipeline Project* (NOI). On December 13, 2011, DOS also issued the NOI (dated December 9, 2011) in the Federal Register (Volume 76, No. 239, page 77583). On May 3, 2012, DOS issued a Draft EA for the Project. The Draft EA described the proposed Project, including its anticipated impacts and alternatives, and addressed comments received during the public scoping period and additional information received from Vantage.

This Final EA incorporates updated information regarding the Project that was received and developed subsequent to the May 2012 Draft EA, such as updated Section 7 and 106 consultations and plans.

The EA has been issued to the public and parties listed on the environmental mailing list, and is available for download from the DOS Project-related website (<http://www.vantagepipeline.state.gov/>).

For further information on the Project EA, contact Genevieve Walker using the contact information provided below.

Sincerely,

Genevieve Walker
NEPA Coordinator and Project Manager
United States Department of State
Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
2201 C Street, NW, Room 2726
Washington, DC 20520
Email: walkerg@state.gov