

**Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership**

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December 15, 2015

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

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

In Re: North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC  
Berthold Station Expansion Project  
Docket No. PU-11-232

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On behalf of North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC, we hereby submit the original and eleven (11) copies of North Dakota Pipeline and North Dakota Forest Service – North Dakota Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership Program: 2015 Project Status Update, regarding the Berthold Station Expansion Project, Docket No. PU-11-232, and reporting the tree and shrub plantings through December 31, 2014.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions. Thank you,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sally Joyce' in a cursive script.

SALLY JOYCE

SJ:ca  
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Pat Fahm  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

156 **PU-11-232** Filed: 12/18/2015 Pages: 5  
2015 project status update and tree and shrub  
plantings through 12-31-2014

Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC

Sally Joyce



## NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

"To care for, protect and improve forest and natural resources to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations."

December 7, 2015

Sara Ploetz, Environmental Analyst II  
Enbridge, LLC  
1409 Hammond Avenue  
Superior, WI 54880

Dear Ms. Ploetz,

Attached is the 2015 Annual Project Summary for the North Dakota Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership Program between the North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) and Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC, an approved program to replace 1,353 trees and shrubs to comply with the North Dakota Public Service Commission mitigation requirements. This three-year program is being financed through an award from Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC to the North Dakota Forest Service.

As of December 31, 2014, 1095 trees and shrubs have been planted on the properties of landowners having lost trees and shrubs through the construction of the Little Muddy and Beaver Lodge Loop Pipelines. An additional 774 trees and shrubs were planted on the properties of willing landowners at alternate locations, including the Parshall Bay Recreation Area, bringing the total number of trees and shrubs planted to 1,869.

In the summer of 2015 the tree plantings were inspected. These inspections indicated that 91% of the trees and shrubs planted are alive. The goal of this tree planting partnership has been met.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC with its mitigation tree planting obligations set forth by the North Dakota Public Service Commission. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you need further assistance or information.

Sincerely,

Larry A. Kotchman  
State Forester

**Enbridge Little Muddy & Beaver Lodge Loop Pipelines  
Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership  
2015 Project Status Update**

**Prepared for:  
Sara Ploetz, Environmental Analyst II  
Enbridge  
1409 Hammond Avenue  
Superior, WI 54880**



**Larry Kotchman, State Forester  
NDSU- North Dakota Forest Service  
307 First Street East  
Bottineau, ND 58318  
December 7, 2015**

**Overview**

Mitigation criteria established by the Public Service Commission (PSC) ensures that trees and shrubs lost or destroyed during construction projects are replaced at a 2:1 ratio. As a result of the Enbridge Little Muddy and Beaver Lodge Loop pipeline projects (case numbers PU-10-612, PU-10-613, PU-10,232 and PU-11-606) 1,230 trees and shrubs must be planted to satisfy the mitigation requirements for this project. An additional number of trees and shrubs will be planted to offset unanticipated mortality, bringing the total number to be planted to 1,353. A minimum of 75% of these replacements must be living at the end of three growing seasons to satisfy criteria. Landowners impacted by the project have been offered a choice of having replacement trees and shrubs planted on their property or planted elsewhere at alternative locations. The remaining number of trees and shrubs will be planted at alternative locations through cooperative projects with tree planting entities and private landowners.

The NDFS is administering a mitigation tree planting program in cooperation with local soil conservation districts and private tree planting vendors. Interested landowners desiring to establish appropriate conservation tree plantings may apply with the NDFS for assistance. Eligible landowners will be encouraged to work directly with local soil conservation district partners and private tree planting vendors to secure professional tree planting design assistance and tree planting services. Practice specifications will be influenced by species suitability, soil characteristics, topography, land-use and the landowner's objectives. Eligible conservation tree planting practices include, but are not limited to, living snow fences, windbreaks, wildlife plantings, riparian restoration and buffers, and vegetative fuel breaks.

**2015 Update**

As of December 31, 2014, the tree and shrub mitigation planting requirements resulting from the Enbridge Little Muddy and Beaver Lodge Loop pipeline projects were satisfied. 1,869 trees and shrubs were planted at 11 locations. The plantings were inspected in 2015 and revealed that 91% were still living.

The following table describes the activities to be undertaken and the status of each as of December 2015:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status December 2015</b>
Enbridge provides funding to the NDFS, a map of the construction project showing the project route and indicating the preserved right-of-way and/or any restrictions relating to tree or shrub planting, the names and contact information of landowners directly impacted by the construction process, and	Completed

Note:  
In paragraph one (Overview) above, the North Dakota Forest Service identifies Berthold Station Expansion Project as Docket PU-10,232. The correct docket is PU-11-232.

copies of any communication with the impacted landowners relating to the replacement of trees and shrubs on their property.	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status December 2015</b>
NDFS receives applications to the Tree Conservation Assistance Program, an established program, which serves to identify suitable locations for off-site tree planting projects. All plantings will follow NRCS specifications ND-CPA-4s will be completed.	Completed
NDFS reviews applications and appropriate locations for off-site plantings that were selected. Plans are forwarded to SHPO for cultural resource review. NDFS develops award letters and agreements. Agreements are signed with landowners.	Completed
Sites are prepared for tree planting by mechanical or chemical means. Trees are ordered from nurseries. Trees are delivered from nurseries and stored in coolers. Site is inspected and staked for planting. Trees are planted. Fabric weed barrier is installed.	Completed
Invoice sent to NDFS. Reimbursements made through NDSU Business Office.	Completed
Landowners maintain projects as per agreement.	Ten year agreements initiated in 2013, 2014
NDFS inspects the tree and shrub plantings to determine mortality after at least one growing season.	Completed
NDFS provides Enbridge with an annual report detailing the progress of the mitigation project, number and locations of plantings, and the mortality of the plantings following at least one growing season.	Completed