



August 23, 2012

Christopher Marhol
Public Utility Analyst
ND Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RECEIVED

AUG 28 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Marohl:

Carlson McCain, Inc (CMI) conducted an on-site inspection of the Plains Pipeline, L.P. Nelson to Ross Pipeline (Case No. PU-12-40) on August 15, 2012. CMI Inspector Ryan Krapp met with Plains Pipeline (Plains) personnel at their Ross field office to discuss construction progress. Those in attendance were:

Jim Fleetwood - Project Engineer
Terry Wainright - Construction Manager
Seth Woodell - Environmental Monitor/Inspector
Tom McCormick - Director E&RC

Construction progress was discussed and no concerns were raised at the office meeting. Mr. Woodell and Mr. Krapp proceeded to the right-of-way (ROW) to view construction procedures and progress. Propipe, LLC., based out of Frenchtown, MT, is the contracted pipeline installer. Multiple phases of construction and reclamation were underway. Mr. Woodell discussed environmental and safety practices being implemented. Inspection notes and photos taken along the ROW are attached to this letter.

Current construction practices and procedures being implemented in the field by Plains are in compliance with the Public Service Commission (PSC) Provisions for Transmission Facility Siting. Plains has installed and is maintaining gates at fence crossings within the ROW for vehicle and equipment crossings; erosion control devices (ECDs) are in place and functioning along the ROW; drainage crossings and wetland areas area being protected with ECDs; and wooden mats and bridges are being used at road ditch crossings and in wetland areas as appropriate. US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) recommendation to maintain a 0.5-mile no surface disturbance until August 30, 2012, around the area of the documented piping plover and habitat has been maintained.

Areas of concern noted by the inspector and discussed with Plains personnel after inspection included:

- 1) Further review of the planned bore pit location on the west side of the Little Knife River. The delineated wetland edge was staked near the edge of the existing surface-water level. Hydric vegetation was observed beyond the staked wetland edge, within the proposed construction ROW.
- 2) Review submitted typical detail of wetland crossing to ensure crossing construction procedures will be in compliance.

Construction Inspection Summary

Plains Pipeline, L.P. Nelson to Ross Pipeline (NRP) - Mountrail County

PSC Case No. PU-12-40

Plains personnel agreed to further review these items. CMI contacted and discussed these items with Plains' environmental consultant, Mr. William McCarthy of E-3 Environmental, LLC (E-3). Mr. McCarthy assured CMI that they will be in contact with Plains project and environmental managers to review.

Please contact me at 701-595-7003 if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan J. Krapp
Natural Resource Specialist

cc: Mr. Jim Fleetwood - Project Engineer, Plains Pipeline, LP
Mr. Tom McCormick - Director E&RC, Plains Pipeline, LP
Mr. William McCarthy - E-3 Environmental, LLC

Attachment

Construction Inspection Summary
Plains Pipeline, L.P. Nelson to Ross Pipeline (NRP) - Mountrail County
PSC Case No. PU-12-40



Figure 1. Typical wooden mat bridge at roadway ditch crossing. Additional protection provided by geofabric lining placed under mat and straw bales placed at edges.



Figure 2. Partially reclaimed ROW. Pipeline installed, trench backfilled and topsoil spread. Topsoil not spread on travel corridor still in use.

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Figure 3. Typical fence line and foreign pipeline crossing.



Figure 4. Additional example of road ditch crossing in ROW for vehicles and equipment.

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Figure 5. Typical flume pipe crossing of an ephemeral drainage.



Figure 6. USFWS easement wetland avoided within an agricultural field. The easement wetland will be bored under. A travel corridor is established around wetland and protected by silt fence and straw bales.

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Figure 7. Photo taken facing east along ROW from east side of the Little Knife River. Straw waddles are utilized in slope trenches, slope breakers are placed across ROW where topsoil is removed, straw bales and silt fence are placed across ROW at bottom of slope.



Figure 8. Photo taken looking west along ROW from west side of the Little Knife River. Silt fence borders the location of the bore pit work area appropriately set back from wetland.

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Figure 9. East facing overview photo of Little Knife River planned west side of bore pit work area.



Figure 10. Bore pit work area in flat above water edge with silt fence installed. Wooden mats were in place to allow soil sample truck to drill at planned bore pit location (right).

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Figure 11. Photo of silt fence placed at edge of the ROW in an area of potential surface water intrusion onto the ROW.



Figure 12. Foreign pipeline marking at ROW crossing. Additional soil placed on top of pipeline crossing per request of pipeline owner.



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG	DATE	8	15	2012
	NO.	1		
	SHEET	1	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP)

CASE NO. PU-12-40

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT:

1st Construction Inspection - (Environmental)

NOTES:

Meeting at Ross Plains Pipeline Office - 10am

Present: Ryan Krapp - Carlson McCain (PSC Representative)

Jim Fleetwood - NRP - PP

Terry Vemright - NRP - PP

Seth Woodell - NRP - PP

Tom McCormick - NRP - PP

Seth Woodell - Environmental Inspector - PP

took Ryan K. out in field to inspect construction right-of-way (ROW)

Propipe, LLC - Frenchtown, MT - Pipe Layers

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE

CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Cloudy, 65°

PHOTO(S)

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE

SIGNATURE

DATE

8-15-2012



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.	12+00	Sec	35
SHEET	2	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP) CASE NO. PU-1240

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: Road Boring - South of Nelson Take Off

NOTES:

- Matting in place over ditch crossing
- Sediment fencing in place - functioning
- Plann Pipeline has gone over & above min req. by geo lining ditch crossings & straw waddle placement to reduce potential erosion into ditch from ROW

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Cloudy, 65° PHOTO(S): 1 - Yes

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE : RK

SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 8-15-12



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG	DATE	8	15	12
	NO.	38 th	5/2	35
	SHEET	3	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: *Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP)* CASE NO. *PU-12-40*

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: *Installed Pipeline - Partial Reclamation*

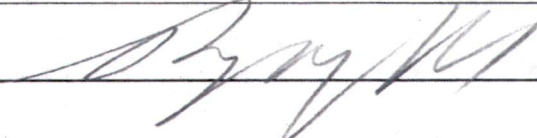
NOTES:

- ROW has been stripped, erosion control devices (ECD) placed, trench dug, pre-laid, backfilled & topsoil replaced except on travel corridor
- ECD's are kept in place at appropriate areas as entire ROW has been reclaimed
- ROW very clean looking & no erosion noted

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE: _____ CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS: _____

WEATHER CONDITIONS: *Cloudy, 65°* PHOTO(S): *#2*
Yes

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE: *RK*

SIGNATURE:  DATE: *8-15-12*



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.	81+00	Sec	74
SHEET	4	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP)

CASE NO. PU-12-40

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: Fence line Crossing onto Horse pasture

NOTES:

- Landowners fence being maintained during construction, - Gated

- Flume drainage crossing maintained by straw bales + silt fencing

- Appropriate buffers maintained

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE

CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Cloudy, 65°

PHOTO(S)

73+4 Yes

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE

RK

SIGNATURE

DATE

8-15-12



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.			
SHEET	5	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: *Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP)*

CASE NO. *PU-12-40*

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: *Drainage - Flume crossing*

NOTES:

- Drainage crossing - Flume pipe under travel corridor
- Sand bags top side of pipe w/ silt fence skirted sides
- Silt Fence & ECD below drainage as well

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE

CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Cloudy, 65°

PHOTO(S)

#5 - Yes

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE

RK

SIGNATURE

DATE

8-15-12



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.	202401	(Sec	32)
SHEET	6	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP)

CASE NO. PU-12-40

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: Little Knife River Crossing

NOTES:

- Straw wattles placed in trenches on hill slopes leading to bore location of Little Knife on East side
- Breaker's cut across stripped ROW \approx 100 ft
- Extra work space silt fenced $>$ 100 ft from wetland edge (setback based on SWPP specs)
- West side of Little Knife
- ★ Planned bore location too close to water edge
- Wetland edge determination suspect
- Recommended to bring out wetland scientists to review with Plains Pipeline
- Potentially move bore location back out of flat lands to higher elevation (\approx 200 ft)

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE

CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

No bore typicals found in PSC app.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

65°, Cloudy

PHOTO(S)

#16 Yes

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE

SIGNATURE

DATE

8-15-12



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.	399+50	(Sec	35)
SHEET	7	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP) CASE NO. PU-12-40

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: Wetland Bore Location - Sec 35

NOTES: USFWS Easement Area

- Agricultural field
- Silt fence installed at cultivated field edge, ~ 15 ft from current water edge
- No former vegetative buffer to be maintained at 2050 ft vegetative buffer
- Well maintained fence(s) + Storm bales
- Travel corridor established around wetlands with permission of landowner to access outside of ROW to ensure no impact to easement wetland

* Adequate ECP's, including matting, fences, bales, raddles have been maintained to ensure no sediment has impacted wetlands or drainages

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

WEATHER CONDITIONS PHOTO(S)

65°, cloudy Yes # 7

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE RK

SIGNATURE DATE



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.	763+00	7716+00	See 76
SHEET	8	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP) CASE NO. PU-12-40

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: Hwy 2 Crossing Bore

NOTES:

- ROW Work Area + Spoil Piles bordered by silt fence + straw bales -
- Slope breakers in place
- No erosion concerns or notations
- Foreign pipeline crossing built up per owner requests (photo of pickup on top)

Hwy 2 Crossing - End of Inspection

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

WEATHER CONDITIONS PHOTO(S)
65°, Cloudy Yes #8

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE EK

SIGNATURE [Signature] DATE 8-15-12



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG

DATE	8	15	12
NO.	9		
SHEET	9	OF	9

PROJECT NAME: *Plains Pipeline, L.P. - Nelson Take-off to Ross Pipeline Project (NRP)* CASE NO. *PU-12-40*
 FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: *Pipeline Inspection Summary - (Environmental)*

NOTES:

- Ensure 50ft vegetative buffer of wetlands in native grasslands
- Maintain 10-20ft buffer of wetlands in agricultural fields
 * Different than typical construction detail
- Review Little Knife Crossing (West) Proposed Bore Location close to waters edge potentially in wetland habitat
- * Plains pipeline personnel were consulted about above recommendations and agreed to review/consult with E-3 consultants to review accuracy/compliance

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE	CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
—	See notes above

WEATHER CONDITIONS	PHOTO(S)
—	—

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE *RK*

SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE <i>8-15-12</i>
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