

September 15, 2014

Mr. Jerry Lein
Public Utility Analyst
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



Dear Mr. Lein,

Carlson McCain Inc, (CMI) performed a construction inspection applying engineering and science principles for the purpose of ensuring that PSC Case No. PU-12-790, Basin Electric Power Cooperative's (BEPC) two natural gas simple cycle electric generators (Lonesome Creek Station - Phase II) totaling 90 MW located approximately 14 miles west of Watford City in McKenzie County, North Dakota., is being constructed in compliance with the siting laws (N.D.C.C. 49-22) and rules (N.D. Administrative Code Article 69-09) and applicable Commission orders.

BEPC and the general contractor, Salisbury Industries (SI), were met at the project field office on September 10, 2014, by CMI Inspector Ryan Krapp to review construction progress and practices. Those in attendance were Chris Johnson, BEPC Construction Coordinator, and Scott Moore, SI-Environmental, Health and Safety Representative.

Weekly construction progress reports have been routinely submitted since surface clearing was initiated on April 23, 2014. Mr. Johnson indicated that construction progress is good, no changes to construction plans were indicated and the project is approximately on schedule for a mid-December completion. Mr. Moore presented the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) weekly inspection reports for review. Notes on routine repairs to erosion control devices (ECDs) and cleanout of sediments were found therein. Overnight or longer equipment storage occurs in one area. There have been no reportable petroleum spills there or in the construction area. No other concerns were noted.

Site Inspection

The weather conditions at the time of the field visit were mostly cloudy, 50 degrees, with light wind. Mr. Johnson took Mr. Krapp around the site to inspect the fenced perimeter and activities contained within. Overall, the construction plans appeared to have been followed on the ground as outlined in project documentation submitted to the PSC.

The temporary construction workspace (Site) east of the fenced Lonesome Creek Station occurs within a cultivated agricultural field in which the topsoil was removed and surfaced with gravel. The site is being used for multiple field office buildings, fabrication sheds, equipment, and storage for construction materials. This Site was fenced and ECDs (silt fencing, straw waddles, fiber matting) were placed in appropriate areas of need. A silt fence was attached to the perimeter site fence and appears to have been properly maintained. Straw waddles and fiber matting is also placed around the site in potentially erodible areas. The ECD's appeared to routinely catch and contain eroded fine soils as designed and SI

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maintenance crews have routinely cleaned out sediment catch areas and repaired ECD's as documented. No repairs were needed at time of the inspection.

There was one concrete washout basin within the fenced temporary work area. The shallow basin had containment berms established around the perimeters and no issues with erosion or leaching were observed. Mr. Johnson indicated that in the same area there were other concrete washout basins that had been removed and cleaned up. The construction plans were reviewed with Mr. Johnson and

The ditches and slopes around the entire site had been seeded with grasses last fall/spring and covered with fiber matting in many areas. However, the soils in the area are very sandy and the weedy species Russian thistle (*salsola collina*) and Kochia (*kochia scoparia*) are prevalent around the site. These species are not considered noxious and are providing soil stability at this time. Mr. Johnson indicated that the previous landowner has been contracted by BEPE to do some spraying to control the weeds around the site. Mowing has been done in some areas and it was recommended to continue this practice to aid the planted grass establishment.

Discussions with BEPC and SI personnel after the inspection included:

- 1) Continue to ensure ECDs are being inspected, maintained and reported on as needed (at a minimum biweekly or immediately after >0.5 inches of rainfall)
- 2) Notify the North Dakota Public Service Commission and the inspector of construction completion and reclamation timing (expected to occur spring 2015)
- 3) Continue spraying and/or mow weedy species to help in grass reestablishment

CMI has found the BEPC Lonesome Creek Station - Phase II is being constructed in compliance with the siting laws (N.D.C.C. 49-22) and rules (N.D. Administrative Code Article 69-09) and applicable Commission orders at this time.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan J. Krapp
Natural Resource Specialist

cc: Mr. Chris Johnson, BEPC
Mr. Cris Miller, BEPC

Attachment: Photos
Notes

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Figure 1. Overview of BEPC Lonesome Creek Station. Phase I turbine is operating while Phase II construction is in progress.



Figure 2. Photo of the access road to temporary construction site. Straw waddles are seen in shallow ditch which slow water flow and reduce soil erosion. Sediment from these ECD's are routinely cleaned out and repaired.

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Figure 3. Photo taken from within the temporary construction site facing the south perimeter fence. Silt fencing was installed and working effectively around the site.



Figure 4. Concrete washout area. The basin was recently cleaned out and berms reconstructed.

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Figure 5. Photo of the northeast corner of the temporary construction site and soil storage piles. Silt fencing is in place and working properly to contain the soils on-site.



Figure 6. Straw wattles in place to reduce erosion of sandy soils into culvert.

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Figure 7. Straw waddles placed to contain sediments in a shallow ditch on-site. Sediment was recently removed from behind the waddles.



Figure 8. Permanent stormwater pond located west side of the permanent station. Inlets and outlets are rock rip-rapped and appeared to be in good condition. Any stored water has evaporated leaving a small amount of sediment in the bottom.



FIELD INSPECTION LOG

DAILY LOG	DATE	9	-10-	14
	SHEET	1	OF	1

PROJECT NAME: Lone some Creek Station Phase II CASE NO. PU-12-790

FIELD ACTIVITY SUBJECT: Field Audit #1

NOTES:

Meet w/ Chris Johnson - BEPC - Const Coord.
 + Scott Moore - Salisbury - EH+S Contractor On-site

- Reviewed SWPP inspection logs w/ Scott
- all in order - Weekly inspections completed
- ~~at~~ erosion control repairs, silt removed periodically as directed
- site review/inspection w/ Chris

Site

- Silt fence est. around fenced perimeter ✓ Good, maintained
- Concrete washout basin bermed + contained
- Reveg est. in ditches / some weed spp. but no noxious species
- Adjacent landowner contracted to spray periodically
- Stormwater pond empty -

LATITUDE, LONGITUDE	CHANGES FROM PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
	<u>None</u>

WEATHER CONDITIONS	PHOTO(S)
<u>Overcast, 50°</u>	<u>Yes</u>

CARLSON MCCAIN PERSONNEL ON SITE Ryan Krapp

SIGNATURE