

June 27, 2013

VIA HAND DELIVERY

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



**RE: BakkenLink Pipeline LLC's
10 YEAR PLAN FOR 2013-2023
CASE NO. PU-13-_____**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Please find enclosed herewith for filing an original and ten copies of the following:

1. BakkenLink Pipeline, LLC's Ten-Year Plan: 2013-2023;
2. BakkenLink Pipeline, LLC's Notice of Filing Ten-Year Plan: 2013-2023; and
3. Affidavit of Service of Ten-Year Plan.

A CD containing a copy of each of the above-referenced documents in PDF format is also enclosed. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


LAWRENCE BENDER

LB/jrr

Enclosures

cc: Ray Sheldon

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PU-13-480 Filed: 6/27/2013 Pages: 11
2013-2023 Ten year plan and Notice of filing ten year plan

BakkenLink Pipeline, LLC
Lawrence Bender

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Case No. PU-13-_____

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF A TEN
YEAR PLAN BY BAKKENLINK PIPELINE LLC

**NOTICE OF FILING TEN YEAR PLAN
2013-2023**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 27, 2013, in accordance with Section 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-06-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, BakkenLink Pipeline LLC filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission its Ten Year Plan for the years 2013 through 2023, which discusses its proposed pipeline project to be located in Billings, Dunn, McKenzie, Stark and Williams Counties, North Dakota. A copy of said Ten Year Plan was filed with the Auditors for Billings, Dunn, McKenzie, Stark and Williams Counties, North Dakota, on June 27, 2013.

Dated this 27th day of June, 2013.

Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.

By 

LAWRENCE BENDER, ND Bar #03908
JILLIAN RUPNOW, ND Bar #06937
Attorneys for BakkenLink Pipeline LLC
200 North 3rd Street, Suite 150
P. O. Box 1855
Bismarck, ND 58501-1855
(701) 221-4020

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the following document:

NOTICE OF FILING TEN-YEAR PLAN: 2013-2023

was on the 27th day of June, 2013 served by placing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, properly addressed to the following:

North Dakota Aeronautics Commission
P.O. Box 5020
Bismarck, ND 58502-5020

North Dakota Office of Attorney General
State Capitol
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 125
Bismarck, ND 58505

North Dakota Dept. of Agriculture
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 602
Bismarck, ND 58505-0020

North Dakota Dept. of Health
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0200

Dept. of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 325
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

North Dakota Dept. of Labor
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 406
Bismarck, ND 58505-0340

Department of Vocational Education
c/o Career and Technical Education
State Capitol, 15th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 270
Bismarck, ND 58505-0610

Economic Development and Finance Commission
North Dakota Dept. of Commerce
PO Box 2057
Bismarck, ND 58502-2057

Energy Development Impact Office
North Dakota State Land Dept.
P.O. Box 5523
Bismarck, ND 58506-5523

North Dakota Game and Fish Department
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

North Dakota Geological Survey
600 E. Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Office of Governor Jack Dalrymple
State of North Dakota
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0001

North Dakota State Highway Department
115 D Street
Richardton, ND 58652

North Dakota Department of Transportation
608 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

State Historical Society
of North Dakota
612 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
1st Floor - Judicial Wing, Rm. 117
Bismarck, ND 58505-0300

Job Service North Dakota
P.O. Box 5507
Bismarck, ND 58506-5507

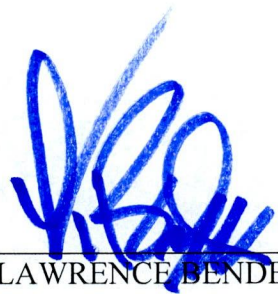
North Dakota State Land Dept.
1707 North 9th Street
P.O. Box 5523
Bismarck, ND 58506-5523

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Dept.
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 3
Bismarck, ND 58503-0649

Division of Community Services
Dept. of Commerce
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 2
PO Box 2057
Bismarck, ND 58502-2057

North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee
c/o NDSU Extension Service
2718 Gateway Ave., Suite 104
Bismarck, ND 58503

North Dakota State Water Commission
900 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 770
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850



LAWRENCE BENDER

TEN YEAR PLAN: 2013-2023
BakkenLink Pipeline LLC

June 2013

In accordance with Section 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-06-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, BakkenLink Pipeline LLC (BakkenLink), submits the following Ten Year Plan for years 2013 through 2023.

- (1) A description of the general location, size, and type of all facilities to be owned or operated by the utility during the ensuing ten years, as well as those facilities to be removed from service during the ten-year period.

The current Project consists of approximately 132 miles of 8-inch and 12-inch steel crude oil pipeline extending from Beaver Lodge, North Dakota to a crude oil rail loading facility located near Fryburg, North Dakota. The Project is located in the following North Dakota counties: Billings, McKenzie, Stark, and Williams. The segment of the Project originating at Johnsons Corner area in McKenzie County to Fryburg in Billings County will be placed into operation in 2013. The northernmost segment of the Project from Beaver Lodge to the Johnsons Corner is awaiting additional permits, primarily related to the lands crossed by this segment of the Project under the jurisdiction of federal agencies

Receipt points are being constructed for input of product by other entities. Receipt points consist of a tee installed in the pipeline to allow connection to a truck terminal or other producer related facilities that are not a part of this Project and will be constructed by other entities. A mid-route pumping station may be added in the future to boost pipeline capacity.

- (2) An identification of the location of the tentative preferred site for all energy conversion facilities and the tentative location of all transmission facilities on which construction is intended to be commenced within the ensuing five years and such other information as may be required by the commission. The site and corridor identification shall be made in compliance with the criteria published by the commission pursuant to section 49-22-05.1.

There are no energy conversion facilities associated with the BakkenLink project.

BakkenLink evaluated a study area to determine the best location for the placement of the corridor and route in order to minimize any potential land use and environmental impacts, maximize public benefits, and take into consideration design and construction limitations and economics. The selected location of the route within the corridor was made in compliance with Chapter 49-22-05.1, as discussed in the Application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit, Amendment to Application, and the Commission's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order in Case No. PU-10-218.

At this time, BakkenLink has no firm plans to construct additional pipeline facilities outside the Project within the next five years. However, BakkenLink is considering new projects that would expand and extend the pipeline system that would add capacity and new outlets to accommodate the continued growth of crude oil production in western North Dakota.

- (3) A description of the efforts by the utility to coordinate the plan with other utilities so as to provide a coordinated regional plan for meeting the utility needs of the region.

BakkenLink will continue to reach out to and work with the owners of other crude oil pipelines to develop interconnects in order to maximize the efficient use of collective pipeline capacity within western North Dakota. In some cases pipelines do compete for some of the same business which may restrict the ability to coordinate. In the future, additional receipt points may be developed, as well as outlet connections with third party pipelines, including potentially the Enbridge North Dakota pipeline system, the Tesoro High Plains Pipeline system, and the Bridger Pipeline system. Additionally, the strategic position of the Project will encourage the development of pipeline gathering laterals and receipt points and outlet connections with third party pipelines along the pipeline route.

- (4) A description of the efforts to involve environmental protection and land-use planning agencies in the planning process, as well as other efforts to identify and minimize environmental problems at the earliest possible stage in the planning process.

BakkenLink has consulted with various federal, state, and local governments, as well as local businesses and residents. Scoping letters presenting the Project were mailed to the various agencies and governing units in September and October of 2010. The recipients of these letters include:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
- National Park Service
- N.D. Game and Fish Department (NDGF)
- N.D. Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD)
- N.D. Department of Health (NDDH)
- N.D. Water Commission
- N.D. State Land Department
- N.D. State Historical Preservation Office

- (5) A statement of the projected demand for the service rendered by the utility for the ensuing ten years and the underlying assumptions for the projection, with that

information being as geographically specific as possible, and a description of the manner and extent to which the utility will meet the projected demands.

Crude oil production in the catchment area of the pipeline continues to rapidly increase due to high level of drilling activity, better than expected drilling results, and increasing drilling rig efficiencies, among other things. Based on current drilling activity, BakkenLink estimates that crude oil production from the Bakken and Three Forks formations will increase significantly beyond the capacity of the BakkenLink pipeline and other regional pipelines. For example, the most recent U.S. Geological Survey information doubled its previous estimate from 2008 of undiscovered, technically recoverable oil, stating there now may be 7.4 billion barrels of oil still undiscovered in the Bakken and Three Forks formations in North Dakota and Montana.¹ Information from the NDDMR indicates that oil production has increased dramatically over the past five years from nearly 110,000 bpd in 2007 to over 782,000 bpd in March 2013,² and production is expected to continue to increase dramatically.³

The major constraint in transporting oil from North Dakota to refining centers continues to be the lack of pipeline capacity. Several major projects have been planned to address the growing volumes of crude oil, but pipeline capacity is not expected to keep pace with the production, leaving incremental volumes to find alternative transportation methods, primarily rail.

With the constraints to the existing transportation infrastructure in the Project area, BakkenLink provides an additional safe and efficient mechanism to transfer crude oil to existing and new outlets. Without this pipeline capacity, increased movement of crude oil will occur by tanker truck over public roadways, a public safety issue that the Project addresses. Thus, the Project will provide the additional needed capacity to transport crude oil production safely and economically from the Bakken and Three Forks formations to facilities with access to major markets.

¹ United States Geological Survey. Assessment of Undiscovered Oil Resources in the Bakken and Three Forks Formations, Williston BakkenLink Province, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota, 2013. Web access in May 2013 at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2013/3013/>

² North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources. North Dakota Monthly Oil Production Statistics. Web access in May 2013 at <https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/stats/historicaloilprodstats.pdf>

³ North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources. Activities and Projections. Web access in May 2013 at: <https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/presentations/ActivityandProjectionsWilliston2010-08-03.pdf>

The ever-increasing crude oil production in western North Dakota, as evidenced by the North Dakota Industrial Commission's latest drilling and production statistics,⁴ indicates that the regional transportation service provided by the BakkenLink pipeline will continue to be needed during the next ten years and beyond.

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⁴ North Dakota Industrial Commission, Department of Mineral Resources, Oil and Gas Division. "North Dakota Drilling and Production Statistics." Web access in May 2013 at:
<https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/stats/statisticsvw.asp>

Beth Innis
Williams County Auditor
205 E. Broadway
Williston, ND 58802

and depositing the same, with postage prepaid, in the United States mail at Bismarck, North Dakota.

Chris Score

Chris Score

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of June, 2013.

Sheila A. Larson

Notary Public

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