

interoffice
MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioner Randy Christmann
Commissioner Julie Fedorchak

From: Sara Cardwell, Public Utility Analyst *SC*

Subject: PU-13-825 Bakken Oil Express, LLC, 16-inch Crude Oil Pipeline/Dunn & Stark
Counties
Tree and Shrub Replacement Plan

Date: February 26, 2017

On February 24, 2017, Bakken Oil Express, LLC, filed a revised tree and shrub replacement plan for the above case in compliance with the Commission's Orders and the Certification Relating to Order Provisions, Transmission Facility Siting with accompanying Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications that the Company signed for this project.

The Company reported 289 trees and shrubs removed during construction necessitating the planting of 578 trees and shrubs to meet the 2:1 planting requirement.

In 2015, the Company planted 390 trees and shrubs on landowner properties to replace trees and shrubs removed during construction. The remaining landowners did not want the trees and shrubs replaced on their property. As a result, the Company had to look for a place to plant the remaining trees. Late last year, they were able to come to an agreement with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGFD) to place the remaining trees within a habitat improvement project located in Stark County, ND. The NDGFD will begin Project preparation in the fall of 2017 and plant the remaining trees and shrubs in the spring of 2018.

A motion to approve the plan will be on the agenda for your consideration at the March 15, 2017 Commission meeting.