

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

**IN RE: NORTH DAKOTA PIPELINE
COMPANY LLC**

)
) **Case No. PU-13-848**
)
)

**Pursuant to North Dakota Century
Code Chapter 49-22, Consolidated
Application for a Certificate of
Corridor Compatibility and Route
Permit for the Sandpiper Pipeline
Project in Mountrail, Ward,
McHenry, Pierce, Towner, Ramsey,
Nelson, Grand Forks and Williams
Counties, North Dakota,
hereinafter called the Consolidated
Application**

**Pre-Filed Testimony
of
Greg Schelin**

February 14, 2014

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Greg Schelin. I am employed by Enbridge Employee Services, Inc. at 1409
3 Hammond Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin 54880.

4

5

6 **Q. What is your position with Enbridge?**

7 A. I am the Manager of Facility Execution, Sandpiper Execution, Major Projects.

8

9

10 **Q. Please briefly describe your background and duties with Enbridge.**

11 A. I have an Associate Degree, Electrical from Lake Superior College, Duluth, MN. I have over
12 27 years of experience as an Enbridge employee. During that time, although not in the State
13 of North Dakota, I acted as the Operations representative for sites in the Superior Area and
14 was involved in ensuring project completion for Southern Access Stages 1 and 2, Southern
15 Lights, Alberta Clipper, LSR, and Line 55. In 2012 and 2013, I worked on facilities
16 associated with the Main Line Expansions, the Line 78 project, in addition to the Sandpiper
17 Pipeline Project. My current duties as Manager of Facility Execution include supervision of
18 the Project Management Staff to insure construction of facilities that promote operational
19 safety and reliability and to oversee the work of the Engineering Service Provider for
20 detailed engineering of Sandpiper facilities.

21

22

23 **Q. Describe your familiarity with the project.**

24 A. I have been involved in the planning and development phases for the Sandpiper Pipeline
25 Project for the past 12 months and serve as Manager of Facilities within the Project
26 Execution Team. In that capacity, I am thoroughly familiar with the engineering design and
27 the construction techniques that will be used to install the new and upgrade the existing
28 pipeline facilities proposed in the Consolidated Application.

29

30 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

31 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the design and construction of the facilities with
32 the Sandpiper Project as presented in the Consolidated Application as filed by North Dakota
33 Pipeline Company LLC, which I shall refer to as NDPL in my written testimony. I will also

1 sponsor certain exhibits in support of the Consolidated Application which are related to the
2 design and construction activities of these facilities.

3
4
5 **Q. Please identify which sections of the application you are sponsoring for the record?**

6 A. I am offering testimony relation to sections A.3 of the Consolidated Application.
7
8

9 **Q. Please describe the new and upgraded facilities that will be installed as part of the**
10 **Sandpiper Pipeline Project.**

11 A. The Sandpiper Pipeline Project will involve upgrading facilities at three existing NDPL
12 Stations and a new station that will be constructed near Lakota, North Dakota in Nelson
13 County.

14
15 The upgrades to the existing Beaver Lodge Station and Terminal in Williams County will
16 include mainline, booster, and transfer pumps, leak detection meters, pump station building,
17 two new electrical service buildings, firewater system pump building, and interconnecting
18 station piping and valves. In addition, two new 150,000 barrel tanks will be constructed.

19
20 The upgrades to the existing Stanley Station and Terminal in Mountrail County will include
21 injection pumps, suction manifold, leak detection meters, electrical service building, tank fire
22 foam building, firewater protection system and interconnecting pipe and valves. In addition,
23 one 80,000 barrel tank and one 55,000 barrel tank will be constructed.

24
25 The upgrades to the existing Berthold Station and Terminal in Ward County will include
26 common suction/fill manifold, relief manifold, leak detection meters, mainline and booster
27 pumps, two electrical service buildings, pig receiver and launcher, and interconnecting pipe
28 and valves. In addition, one 300,000 barrel tank will be constructed.

29
30 The new Lakota Station in Nelson County will include mainline pumps, pig launcher and
31 receiver, electrical switchyard, and interconnecting station pipe and valves.
32
33

1 **Q. What new land will be acquired for the station upgrades and the new station at**
2 **Lakota?**

3 A. 40 acres of land has been purchased adjacent to the existing Beaver Lodge Station and
4 Terminal site. The new 40-acre tract of land is located directly south of County Road 8 in
5 Section 5, Township 155 North, Range 95 West.

6
7 21 acres of land has been purchased directly east of the existing Stanley Station. The new
8 21-acre tract of land is located in Outlot 1 of the East ½ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 27,
9 Township 156 North, Range 91 West.

10
11 NDPL has an option to purchase approximately 46 acres of land for the new greenfield
12 Lakota Station. The new 46-acre tract of land is located in the East ½ of the Northwest ¼ of
13 Section 4, Township 152 North, Range 60 West. The land purchase is scheduled to be
14 completed in March, 2014.

15
16
17 **Q. How was the site for the Lakota Station chosen?**

18 A. Infrastructure Planning uses a hydraulics model for the pipeline to identify the milepost
19 location that is optimal for pump stations with the goal of using existing infrastructure
20 wherever possible. When the modelling determines that a new pumping station is needed, a
21 site is chosen that minimizes impacts to landowners and the environment, has available
22 power supply, and has good site access.

23
24
25 **Q. How does NDPL's commitment to limit environmental impacts and conserve energy**
26 **affect station design?**

27 A. Energy conservation is a major objective for NDPL as energy/power costs represent the
28 largest single recurring expense in pipeline operation. Managing energy costs, including
29 conservation of energy usage, is a high priority in NDPL's operations. NDPL's energy
30 conservation goal is to minimize power/energy unit costs through the implementation of
31 internal programs directed at continuous improvement of energy utilization efficiency.

32
33 For new pump installations, NDPL purchases high efficiency pumps and motors at a
34 premium initial cost in an effort to minimize long range energy requirements. Specifically, a

1 high polish is used on the pump impeller, and motors are custom designed for high
2 efficiency.

3
4 The installation of variable frequency induction motor drives, which I will refer to in my
5 testimony as VFD, is a program that has been in place for approximately 18 years. VFDs
6 allow the pipeline operator to vary the pump rotation speed thereby controlling the pressure
7 produced to match the desired flow rate. This eliminates the need to dissipate or waste
8 pressure (energy) with pressure control valves. Ideally, under constant operating conditions,
9 the pump would deliver constant pressures eliminating the need for pressure dissipation.
10 Therefore, operating conditions play a key role in designing the pumping stations for
11 optimum efficiency. VFDs will be specified to control the operating speed of the new
12 mainline pumps at NDPL's Beaver Lodge, Berthold, and Lakota Station sites and additional
13 injection pumps at Stanley Station.

14
15
16 **Q. How much land will be converted to industrial use as a result of the station work?**

17 A. Collectively, approximately 101 acres of land acquired at the Beaver Lodge, Stanley and the
18 new Lakota Station locations would be converted from agricultural, open space, and/or
19 herbaceous rangeland, and/or to industrial.

20
21
22 **Q. What are NDPL's plans for noise surveys?**

23 A. NDPL plans to perform pre- and post-construction noise surveys at its existing Beaver
24 Lodge, Stanley, and Berthold Pump Stations, as well as at the new Lakota Pump Station.

25
26
27 **Q. Please describe the visual impacts of the station upgrades and the new Lakota
28 Station.**

29 A. Temporary visual effects would exist during active construction at which time heavy
30 equipment, open trenches, and spoil piles would change the colors and textures of the
31 landscape. The duration of visual impacts would be short term as the reestablishment of
32 vegetation on grasslands and agricultural land following construction would occur relatively
33 quickly. The majority of the Project will result in below ground installation of pipeline, which
34 will not be visible and will not permanently affect the gently rolling vista. Permanent impacts

1 on visual resources would include additional structures built in association with Beaver
2 Lodge Station Expansion Area, Stanley Station Expansion Area,, and the new Lakota Pump
3 Station. Beaver Lodge and Stanley Stations are already in existence, and located in rural
4 agricultural areas where the additional structures would have a negligible visual effect on
5 adjacent areas. The new Lakota Pump Station will be located approximately 1mile outside
6 of the community of Lakota in a rural agricultural area. Visual impacts associated with this
7 new facility will occur as the result of the conversion of agricultural land to industrial use.
8 However, the visual effects at Lakota will be minimized by use of appropriate structures.

9
10
11 **Q. How do you ensure the safety of the employees at the stations?**

12 A. Safety begins with a thorough and professional design by an experienced engineering firm,
13 followed by clear criteria on how the construction work is to be safely executed. In the case
14 of Sandpiper, the engineering design ensures that it meets and/or exceeds all regulatory
15 requirements and industry standards. Further, a Project Safety Plan has been developed
16 that dictates specific safety expectations of the NDPL project team that's accountable for
17 managing the contractor and its work. Our Major Projects team uses a Project Scorecard to
18 itemize safety performance and activities. This data is reviewed with each contractor. In
19 addition, work is being constantly monitored by safety inspection staff on behalf of both
20 NDPL and the contractor.

21
22
23 **Q. You mentioned that in choosing the locations of the facilities you rely on a hydraulic
24 study. What do you rely on in choosing the design of the pump stations and the
25 various materials used in the construction of the pump stations?**

26 A. We have set very high standards for engineering and design to minimize impacts to the
27 environment. These standards are followed in designing the facilities. In terms of
28 procurement of the equipment, Enbridge has exacting requirements for quality and integrity.
29 These requirements are conveyed to potential suppliers who then submit bids. In selecting
30 vendors, we look at their history with Enbridge and evaluate the quality and integrity of
31 facility equipment previously provided. As well, Enbridge personnel will inspect the
32 equipment and test it to ensure that it is of the highest quality.

1 **Q. What safety measures are built into the design of the pumping units?**

2 A. Temperature, vibration, pressure, heat, and vapor are all continuously monitored. Any of
3 these modes of detection can stop the pumping units if an abnormality is detected.

4

5

6 **Q. What are you doing to maintain integrity and operational safety at Sandpiper stations
7 and terminal facilities?**

8 A. We aim to operate and maintain all of our facilities, including pump stations and terminals, in
9 a safe, responsible manner. We accomplish this through our design standards; equipment
10 and construction specifications; commissioning, operating and maintenance procedures;
11 and targeted tankage, equipment and piping specifications. A team of subject-matter experts
12 in Engineering Operations and Integrity guides a leak reduction program for the network of
13 facilities throughout our liquids pipelines system, including pump stations and terminals.

14

15

16 **Q. What measures are implemented to protect the surrounding environment if a release
17 were to occur at a facility?**

18 A. As part of the design of the facility, NDPL constructs a berm of sufficient size and depth to
19 be able to contain 110% of the total volume flowing in the facility at the maximum flow rate.
20 It is also designed to be able to contain this volume in an assumed rain storm which
21 increases total volumes by an additional 10 percent. In the event of a release berms and the
22 use of clay containment materials keeps crude contained within the facility.

23

24

25 **Q. Will NDPL be hiring locally and utilizing local resources?**

26 A. Based on the need for several crews, we'd expect various labor jobs to be sourced locally.
27 We anticipate the contractors working on the Sandpiper facilities will be sourcing various
28 supplies locally for example, gravel and washed rock will be needed for facility roads and
29 grading. In addition, the local economy will be impacted through the use of housing and
30 services by the workforce.

31

32

33 **Q. When do you anticipate starting construction of the facilities associated with the
34 Sandpiper project?**

1 A. Civil work activities are scheduled to commence in May 2014 for those station facilities which
2 have the longest lead time to complete. Such work will begin at existing station sites for the
3 construction of new tanks and pumping stations.

4
5 It is estimated that all construction must be completed by January 2016 in order to complete
6 testing and commission of the new pipeline and associated facilities, and placed Sandpiper
7 Pipeline in-service date on March 31, 2016.

8
9
10 **Q. Will NDPL comply with legal and other requirements governing the design,
11 construction, installation, operation and maintenance of the Sandpiper Pipeline and
12 associated facilities?**

13 A. Yes NDPL will comply with all applicable federal state and local regulatory and maintenance
14 of the Sandpiper Pipeline under the federal pipeline safety regulation specified in 49 Code of
15 Federal Regulations Parts 194 and 195 and all applicable national technical standards.

16
17
18 **Q. Will the Sandpiper Pipeline Project be constructed in compliance with the standards
19 established by the National Electric Safety Code?**

20 A. Yes.

21
22
23 **Q. In your opinion, if the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline Project and associated facilities
24 are designed and constructed as set forth in this Consolidated Application, as
25 presented in your written testimony and discussed during the public hearings, will
26 this pipeline be capable of being safely operated?**

27 A. Yes

28
29
30 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

31 A. Yes.

32