

**Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership**  
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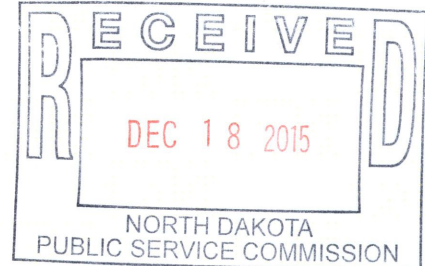
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December 15, 2015

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

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



In Re: Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership  
Line 3 Maintenance Project, Pembina County, ND  
Docket No. PU-14-226

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On behalf of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership, we hereby submit the original and eleven (11) copies of Enbridge and North Dakota Forest Service – North Dakota Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership Program: 2015 Project Status Update, regarding the Line 3 Maintenance Project, Pembina County, North Dakota, Docket No. PU-14-226.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions. Thank you,

Very truly yours,

SALLY JOYCE

SJ:ca  
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Pat Fahn  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

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2015 North Dakota mitigation tree planting program  
project status update

Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership

Sally Joyce



## NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

"To care for, protect and improve forest and natural resources to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations."

December 7, 2015

Andrew Orthober  
Environmental Analyst, Environment Projects (US), Enbridge  
1409 Hammond Avenue- Second Floor  
Superior, WI 54880

Dear Mr. Orthober,

Attached is the 2015 Annual Project Summary for the North Dakota Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership Program between the North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) and Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC, to mitigate the loss of 267 trees and shrubs that were removed as a result of the Line 3 maintenance work in Pembina County, North Dakota. 534 trees and shrubs were to be replanted, with an additional 53 to be planted to offset unanticipated mortality.

As of December 7, 2015, 630 trees and shrubs were planted at three locations. These plantings will be inspected in 2016 and 2017 to ensure survival rates of at least 75%.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC with its mitigation tree planting obligations. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you need further assistance or information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry A. Kotchman".

Larry A. Kotchman  
State Forester

**Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance  
Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership  
2015 Project Status Update**

**Prepared for:  
Andrew Orthober  
Environmental Analyst, Environment Projects (US), Enbridge  
1409 Hammond Avenue- Second Floor  
Superior, WI 54880**



**Larry Kotchman, State Forester  
NDSU- North Dakota Forest Service  
307 First Street East  
Bottineau, ND 58318  
December 7, 2015**

## Overview

Mitigation criteria established by the Public Service Commission (PSC) ensures that trees and shrubs lost or destroyed during construction projects are replaced at a 2:1 ratio. A minimum of 75% of these replacement trees and shrubs must be living at the end of three growing seasons in order to meet the mitigation requirements. A total of 267 trees and shrubs were removed as a result of the Line 3 maintenance work in Pembina County, North Dakota, resulting in 534 trees and shrubs to be replanted. An additional 53 would be planted to offset unanticipated mortality.

The North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) coordinates with many diverse natural resource partners across the state. These partners have been exceptionally willing to support new tree planting opportunities to achieve unified and common goals. Eligible conservation tree planting practices include, but are not limited to, living snow fences, windbreaks, wildlife plantings, riparian restoration and buffers, and vegetative fuel breaks.

## 2015 Update

As of December, 2015, the tree and shrub mitigation planting requirements resulting from the Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance project were satisfied. 630 trees and shrubs were planted at 3 locations. Details of the planting locations and species are included in the attached Appendix A.

The following table describes the activities to be undertaken and the status of each as of December 2015:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>December 2015</b>
Enbridge provides NDFS with an inventory of the trees and shrubs removed.	Completed
NDFS and local vendors receive requests from landowners wishing to have trees and shrubs placed on their property.	Completed
NDFS and local partners meet with landowner on site to design tree planting. All plantings will follow Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) practice specifications and ND CONS-4 (tree planting planning worksheets) will be completed.	Completed
Tree planting plan (ND CONS-4) is developed and submitted to NDFS with tree planting cost estimates. Plans are submitted to appropriate State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. Plans reviewed and ranked by NDFS Tree Conservation Assistance Program review committee with priority given to landowners impacted by the project. Award letters and agreements are executed between NDFS and landowners and copies are sent to SCDs.	Completed
Landowner prepares site for tree planting. Trees are planted and weed barrier is installed.	Completed

Activity	December 2015
Landowner maintains trees as per agreement.	10 Ten year agreements initiated in 2015.
Tree planting sites are inspected for survival.	April - November 2016, 2017
Annual project summary report outlining tree and shrub species and numbers planted prepared by NDFS and provided to Enbridge.	December 31, 2015, December 31, 2016, and December 31, 2017.

Appendix A: Planting locations and species descriptions.

Location Description	Legal Description	Number Planted	Species
Bourbanis Dam	11-161N-52W, Pembina County	250	Hackberry, quaking aspen, Siberian elm, American plum, aromatic sumac, redosier dogwood, native cottonwood, juneberry
Icelandic State Park	10-161N-55W, Pembina County	280	Golden currant, redosier dogwood, aromatic sumac, juneberry, caragana, hackberry, quaking aspen, American plum, native cottonwood, sandbar willow, bur oak
Tetrault Woods State Forest	32-163N-56W, Pembina County	100	Boxelder, chokecherry, native cottonwood, highbush cranberry, redosier dogwood, diamond willow, golden willow, laurel leaf willow, sandbar willow