

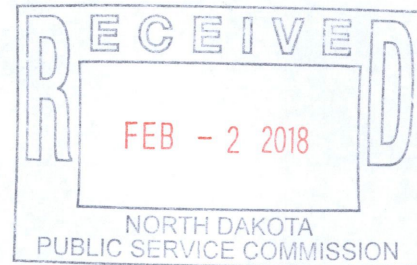


Erica Powell
Senior Regulatory Advisor
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Enbridge Energy,
Limited Partnership
5400 Westheimer Court
Houston, Texas 77056
USA

February 1, 2018

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



RE: Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership
Line 3 Maintenance Project, Pembina County, ND
Case No. PU-14-226
Tree and Shrub Mitigation

On behalf of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership, please find enclosed the original and a copy of the following reports regarding the Line 3 Maintenance Project, Pembina County, North Dakota:

- Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance – Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership: 2016 Project Status Update and,
- Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance – Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership: 2017 Final Project Report.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional copies.

Sincerely,

Erica Powell
Senior Regulatory Advisor

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Patrick Fahn, ND PSC

4 **PU-14-226** Filed: 2/2/2018 Pages: 9
2016 tree planting status update and 2017 final project report

Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership
Erica Powell, Senior Regulatory Advisor



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 15, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Orthober,

Attached is the 2016 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. A total of 534 trees and shrubs were to be replanted, along with additional plantings to offset unanticipated mortality. As of December 7, 2015, 630 trees and shrubs were planted at three locations.

Mitigation guidelines require that 75% (401) of the original 534 trees and shrub be alive after three growing seasons. These plantings were inspected in 2016, following the second growing season. As a result of these inspections, it is observed that only 258 trees and shrubs are alive at the three sites. This number is below the threshold set in the mitigation requirements. As a result, we would recommend additional replanting to offset the mortality. We would be glad to coordinate this task in the spring of 2017. The plantings will be inspected again in 2017.

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

Enclosure

**Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance
Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership
2016 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 15, 2016

As of December 7, 2015, the tree and shrub mitigation planting requirements resulting from the Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance project were satisfied. A total of 630 trees and shrubs were planted at three locations, including the additional plantings to offset unanticipated mortality. These plantings were inspected in 2016, following the second growing season. As a result of these inspections, it is observed that 258 trees and shrubs are alive, including the additional plantings to offset unanticipated mortality. This is above the acceptable mortality level. Apparently the Icelandic Park planting did not establish well because the site was heavily distributed during the prior dam reconstruction. We recommend that additional plantings be installed in 2017 to offset the higher than anticipated mortality. If you desire, we would be glad to include the work as part of our original cost structure proposal. The plantings will be inspected again in 2017. Details of the planting locations, species and inspection results are included in Appendix A, attached.

The following table describes the activities to be undertaken and the status of each as of December 2016:

| Activity | December 2016 |
|--|--|
| 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) are developed, reviewed and ranked. 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 |
| Landowner maintains trees as per agreement. | 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

| Location Description | Legal Description | Number Planted | Tree and Shrub Species | 2016 Inspection – Number Alive |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Bourbanis Dam | 11-161N-52W, Pembina County | 250 | Hackberry, quaking aspen, Siberian elm, American plum, aromatic sumac, redosier dogwood, native cottonwood, juneberry | 150 |
| 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 | 28 (Exceeds anticipated mortality level) |
| 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 | 80 |
| Totals | | 630 | | 258 |



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."

October 30, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Orthober,

Attached is the 2017 Final Project Report 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. A total of 534 trees and shrubs were to be replanted, along with additional plantings to offset unanticipated mortality. As of May 19, 2017, a total of 1,094 trees and shrubs were planted at four locations in Pembina and Walsh Counties.

Mitigation guidelines require that 75% (401) of the 534 trees and shrub be alive after three growing seasons. An additional planting was done in May 2017 due to poor establishment at one of the original sites planted in 2015. With the additional planting, a total of 641 trees and shrubs have survived. This amount exceeds the number required by 240.

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

Enclosure

**Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance
Mitigation Tree Planting Partnership
2017 Final Project Report**

**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
October 13, 2017

As of October 12, 2017, the tree and shrub mitigation planting requirements resulting from the Enbridge Line 3 Maintenance project were satisfied. A total of 630 trees and shrubs were planted during the 2015 season at three locations, including the additional plantings to offset unanticipated mortality. These plantings were inspected in 2016, following the second growing season. As a result of these inspections, it is observed that 258 trees and shrubs are alive, including the additional plantings to offset unanticipated mortality. This is above the acceptable mortality level. Apparently the Icelandic Park planting did not establish well because the site was heavily disturbed during the prior dam reconstruction. It was recommended that additional plantings be installed in 2017 to offset the higher than anticipated mortality.

An additional 464 trees were planted on private property in Walsh County during the 2017 planting season because there were no planned plantings under contract in Pembina County. As of October 12, 2017, 383 trees have survived – a survival rate of 82%. This puts the total live stem count at 641, which is well above the number required for the entire project. The performance of this planting will be monitored to ensure stem numbers at or above the amount required for mitigation. This ongoing monitoring will be included as part of our original cost structure proposal and no additional funds are required.

Details of the planting locations, species and inspection results are included in Appendix A. The following table describes the activities to be undertaken and the status of each as of December 2017:

| Activity | December 2017 |
|--|--|
| 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) are developed, reviewed and ranked. 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 |
| Landowner maintains trees as per agreement. | Ten-year agreements initiated in 2015. Completed |
| Tree planting sites are inspected for survival. | Completed |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Annual project summary report outlining tree and shrub species and numbers planted prepared by NDFS and provided to Enbridge. | Completed |
|---|-----------|

Appendix A

| Location Description | Legal Description | Number Planted | Tree and Shrub Species | 2017 Inspection – Number Alive |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Bourbanis Dam | 11-161N-52W, Pembina County | 250 | hackberry, quaking aspen, Siberian elm, American plum, aromatic sumac, redosier dogwood, native cottonwood, juneberry | 150 |
| 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 | 28 (Exceeds anticipated mortality level) |
| 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 | 80 |
| Private Property | 36-156N-52W, Walsh County | 464 | linden, cottonwood, bur oak, Black Hills and Colorado blue spruce | 383 |