



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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July 31, 2014

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Brian R. Bjella
400 East Broadway, Suite 600
PO Box 2798
Bismarck, ND 58502-2798

**RE: Case No. PU-14-534: Tesoro High Plains Pipeline, LLC
Bakken Area Storage Hub - Williams County
Siting Exclusion Certification**

Dear Mr. Bjella,

I have reviewed the certification of Tesoro High Plains Pipeline, LLC ("Tesoro"), filed on July 3, 2014, concerning the construction of certain facilities adjacent to its existing pipeline in Section 32, Township 156 North, Range 95 West, as a part of the Bakken Area Storage Hub ("BASH"). The certification indicates that the Tesoro pipeline has been in service since the 1950s, which is prior to codification of the North Dakota Energy Conversion and Transmission Facility Siting Act.

The filing included a map depicting the location of the proposed facilities, to include a 240,000-gallon storage tank and interconnecting pipeline. According to the certification, the proposed facilities will be located within 350 feet from the centerline of Tesoro's existing pipeline. However, the map indicates that the proposed storage tank will abut the 350-foot corridor boundary and therefore will likely require construction outside of the corridor. The map also appears to depict construction (clearing of land, excavation, or other action that would affect the environment of the site, N.D.C.C. § 49-2-03(3)(a)) outside of the 350-foot corridor.

In order to complete our review of this matter, could you please provide a letter prior to construction confirming that the proposed construction for which this siting exclusion is sought under North Dakota Century Code Section 49-22-03 will be contained entirely within the 350-foot corridor adjacent to the existing Tesoro pipeline. You may contact me at 701-328-4188 with any questions concerning this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Julie Prescott
Compliance and Competitive Markets Division

c: Rick Weyen, Vice President, Tesoro

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Letter requesting additional information