



October 8, 2019

Via Electronic Delivery

Patrick Fahn
Director, Public Utilities Division
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**RE: Case No. PU-15-137
ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C.
Post Construction Inspection Report Follow-up**

ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C. (OBP) respectfully submits the following information as an update to its OBP tree and shrub mitigation plans for the above-referenced project.

PU-15-137–Lonesome Creek NGL Pipeline, McKenzie County, North Dakota

Background:

In accordance with OPB's application, orders, and construction plans, OBP avoided the removal of trees and shrubs to the greatest extent feasible during construction of the Lonesome Creek Project; however, 13 trees could not be avoided on one property. These losses were inventoried in a filing on March 11, 2016 in which OBP proposed to work with the McKenzie County SCD to mitigate losses by planting replacement trees at a 2 to 1 ratio for a total target of at least 26 trees. In a January 23, 2017 letter documenting post-construction inspection reports, Commission staff noted: *On March 14, 2016 the Company filed a Tree Removal Inventory and Plan. At this time, to comply with the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specification agreed to as a part of the Certification Relating to Order Provisions, the Company needs to report on the plantings and the inspection of those plantings for three years. The trees should have been planted in the spring of 2016 and the annual inspection should have been reported on in October of 2016.*

In response, OBP noted it is working with the McKenzie County SCD to conduct tree mitigation activities in 2017 and the first annual inspection will be completed in September 2018 in accordance with Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specification #16.

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Plan Summary

Species	Removed	Planned Plantings (3 to 1 Ratio)	Required Plantings (2 to 1 Ratio)	Survival Target (75% of 2 to 1 Ratio)
Trees	13	39	26	20

OBP Update:

2018 Planting, Mortality & Survivability Update

Species	Total Planted to Date	September 2017 Mortality	September 2018 Mortality	Total Survival
Trees and Shrubs	118	55	28	35

McKenzie County SCD staff reported in 2017 that it planted 84 trees on the property affected by the Lonesome Creek Project, of which only 29 survived due to the severe drought conditions in 2017. In 2018, McKenzie SCD staff reported that it planted an additional 34 trees on property affected by the Lonesome Creek Project, of which 6 survived. Over the two-year period, this indicates 118 trees have been planted and 35 have survived, which exceeds OBP's total 2 to 1 survival target.

OBP anticipates that the McKenzie County SCD staff plantings will exceed the planting requirements for the above projects. OBP expects to provide additional details about its planting efforts in its next update to the Commission in Fall 2019.

Thank you for your attention to enclosed materials. Please contact me at 405-893-2045 or, via email, at Patrick.Coco@oneok.com with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,



Patrick N. Coco, P.E.
Environmental Engineer