

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Hiland Crude, LLC  
New Town Expansion Project – Mountrail County  
Siting Application**

**Case No. PU-15-416**

**CERTIFICATION RELATING TO ORDER PROVISIONS  
TRANSMISSION FACILITY SITING  
GATHERING LINE CONVERSION TO TRANSMISSION LINE**

I am William E. Wolf, a representative of Hiland Crude, LLC (“Company”) with authority to bind Company to requirements to be set forth by the Commission in its Order and I certify the following:

1. Company understands and agrees that any Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit issued by the Commission will be subject to the conditions and criteria set forth in Chapter 49-22 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-06-08 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and that Company shall be responsible for compliance with this order and conditions and criteria set forth in the applicable laws and rules.
2. Company agrees to comply with the rules and regulations of all other agencies having jurisdiction over any phase of the transmission facility including all city, township, and county zoning regulations.
3. Company agrees that it shall obtain all necessary licenses and permits, and shall provide copies of all licenses and permits to the Commission prior to initiating operation of the transmission facility that requires said license or permit.
4. Company understands and agrees that any Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit issued by the Commission is subject to suspension or revocation and may, in an appropriate and proper case, be suspended or revoked for failure to comply with the Commission’s order, the conditions and criteria of the certificate or subsequent modification, or failure to comply with the applicable statutes, rules, regulations, standards, and permits of other state or federal agencies.
5. Company agrees to maintain records that will demonstrate that it has complied with the requirements of the Commission’s order issuing a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit, and that it will preserve these records for Commission inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice.
6. Company understands and agrees that the authorizations granted by any Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit issued by the Commission for

the transmission facility are subject to modification by order of the Commission if deemed necessary to protect further the public or the environment.

**Construction:**

7. Company agrees to hold a construction conference prior to initiating operation of the facility as a transmission facility, which must include a Company representative, its construction supervisor, and a representative of Commission Staff, to ensure that Company fully understands the conditions set forth in the Commission's order.
8. Company understands and agrees that all cultural resource mitigation plans must be submitted to the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office and approved prior initiating operation of the facility as a transmission facility.
9. Company agrees to inform the Commission and the Commission's third-party construction inspector immediately prior to the Company initiating operation of the facility as a transmission facility.
10. Company certifies that the pipeline has been buried to a minimum depth from the ground surface to the top of the pipe of 48 inches in range land, 48 inches for cultivated land, and 48 inches at the bottom of the ditch for road crossings, and 72 inches across undeveloped section lines. Company agrees that if any pipeline is not buried 72 inches across undeveloped section lines, and the section is later developed into a roadway, it will incur all costs related to burying the pipeline 48 inches below the bottom of the ditch. This agreement shall inure and be binding upon any successor or assignee of the Company and shall not cause any unreasonable delay of any roadway project.
11. Company certifies that all topsoil, up to 12 inches, or topsoil to the depth of cultivation, whichever is greater, over and along trench areas where cuts were made, was stripped and segregated from the subsoil. Any area on which excavated subsoil was placed was also be stripped of topsoil. After backfilling was completed, any excess subsoil was placed over the excavation area, blending the grade into existing topography. Topsoil was replaced over areas from which it was stripped only after the subsoil was replaced.
12. Company certifies that all buried facility crossings of graded roads were bored unless the responsible governing agency permitted Company to open cut the road.
13. Company certifies that staging areas or equipment were not located on land owned by a person other than Company unless otherwise negotiated with landowners.
14. Company certifies that if any cultural resource, paleontological site, archeological site, historical site, or grave site discovered during construction, was marked, preserved and protected from further disturbances until a professional examination

could be made and a report of such examination was filed with the Commission and the State Historical Society and clearance to proceed was given by the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.

15. Company certifies that construction was suspended when weather conditions were such that construction activities would cause irreparable damage to roads or land, unless adequate protection measures were taken by Company.

**Restoration and Maintenance:**

16. Company certifies that upon completion of the construction of the facility, Company restored the area affected by the activities to as near as was practicable to the condition as it existed prior to the beginning of construction.
17. Company certifies that all pre-existing township and county roads and lanes used during construction were, or are being, repaired to a condition that is equal to or better than the condition prior to the construction of the transmission facility and accommodates their previous use, and that areas used as temporary roads or working areas during construction were, or are being, restored to their original condition.
18. Company certifies that reclamation, fertilization, and reseeding was, or is being done according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service recommendations, unless otherwise specified by the landowner and approved by the Commission.
19. Company understands and agrees that its obligation for reclamation and maintenance of the transmission facility right-of-way, transmission facility, associated facilities, fences and gates, drainage tile, and roadways will continue throughout the life of the transmission facility.
20. Company agrees to comply with the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications, attached.
21. Company certifies that it removed all waste that was a product of construction and has properly disposed of it. Company understands and agrees that it shall remove all waste that is a product of operation, restoration, and maintenance of the site, and properly dispose of it on a regular basis.
22. Company certifies that it provided any necessary safety measures for traffic control or to restrict public access to the transmission facility during construction.

**Communication with Landowners and PSC:**

23. Company understands and agrees that, prior to operating its facility as a transmission facility, it shall send a letter to each landowner with whom an


easement was executed for that facility specifying the name and phone number of the company representative who is responsible for receiving and resolving landowner issues for the life of the easement.

24. Company understands and agrees that it will file with the Commission the name and phone number of the current company representative who is responsible for receiving and resolving landowner issues for the transmission facility. The Company will update this information whenever there is a change to the current company representative for the life of all easements for the transmission facility.
25. Upon request, Company agrees to provide the Commission with engineering design drawings of the transmission facility prior initiating operation of the facility as a transmission facility.
26. Company understands and agrees that it shall advise the Commission as soon as reasonably possible of any extraordinary events which take place at the site of the transmission facility, including injuries to any person.
27. Company agrees to report to the Commission, as soon as reasonably possible, the presence in the permit area of any critical habitat or threatened or endangered species of which Company becomes aware and which were not previously reported to the Commission.
28. Company understands and agrees that it shall inform the Commission in writing of any plans to modify the transmission facility or of any plans to modify the site plan for the transmission facility.
29. Company agrees to provide the Commission with both an electronic and a paper copy of the corridor approved by the Commission and the facility design specifications for the transmission facility showing the location of the transmission facility as built, and will provide this information within 3 months of commencement of operation of the facility as a transmission facility. Company also agrees to provide an electronic version of the corridor approved by the Commission and the facility design specifications of the transmission facility showing the location of the transmission facility as built that can be imported into ESRI GIS mapping software within 3 months of commencement of operation of the facility as a transmission facility. This electronic map data must be referenced to the North Dakota coordinate system of 1983, North and/or South zones US Survey feet (NAD 83) UTM Zone 13N or 14N feet (NAD 83), or geographic coordinate system (WGS 84) feet. The vertical data must be in the appropriate vertical datum for the coordinate system used. All submissions must specify the datum in which the data was developed.

30. Company shall notify the Commission as soon as reasonably possible if any damage, as defined by North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-23, occurs to underground facilities during activities conducted under the certificate or permit issued in this proceeding. In the event of any damage to underground facilities, Company shall suspend activities in the vicinity of the damage until compliance with One-Call Excavation Notice System requirements under North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-23 has been determined.
31. When applicable, Company may submit the field studies from the original application for the corridor and route provided they cover the adjustment area.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

HILAND CRUDE, LLC

By   
WILLIAM WOLF

Its ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL

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**Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications**

**Inventory**

1. Trees and shrubs anticipated to be cleared, including those that are considered invasive species or noxious weeds (*e.g.*, *Caragana arborescens*, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*, *Rhamnus cathartica*, *Tamarix chinensis*, *T. parviflora*, *T. ramosissima*, *Ulmus pumila*), must be inventoried before cutting. The inventory must record the location, number, and species of trees and shrubs.
2. In windbreaks, shelterbelts and other planted areas, trees or shrubs anticipated to be cleared, regardless of size, must be inventoried for replacement.
3. In native growth areas, trees anticipated to be cleared that are 1 inch diameter at breast height (dbh) or greater must be inventoried for replacement.
4. In native growth areas, shrubs anticipated to be cleared in the permanent right-of-way must be inventoried for replacement.
5. In native growth areas outside the permanent right-of-way, shrubs must be cut flush with the surface of the ground, taking care to leave the naturally occurring seed bank and root stock intact. If soil disturbance is necessary, the native topsoil must be preserved and replaced after construction. Shrubs must be allowed to regenerate naturally where native topsoil is preserved and replaced. Where native topsoil is not preserved and replaced, shrubs anticipated to be cleared must be inventoried for replacement.

6. In native growth areas, trees and shrubs may be inventoried by actual count or by a sampling method that will properly represent the woody vegetation population. A sampling plan developed by the company, filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) and approved prior to the start of construction must define the sampling method to be used for trees, for tall shrubs and for low shrubs. The data from the sample plots must be extrapolated to the total acreage of the wooded area to be cleared to determine the species and quantity of trees and shrubs to be replaced.

### **Clearing for Construction**

7. Trees and shrubs must be selectively cleared, leaving mature trees and shrubs intact where practical.
8. The maximum width of clear cuts through windbreaks, shelterbelts and all other wooded areas is 50 feet, unless otherwise approved by the Commission.
9. If the area of trees or shrubs actually cleared differs from the area inventoried, the difference in number of trees and shrubs to be replaced must be noted on the inventory.

### **Replacement**

10. Prior to tree and shrub replacement, documentation identifying the number and variety of trees and shrubs removed, as well as the mitigation plan for the proposed number, variety, type, location and date of replacement plantings, must be filed with the Commission for approval.
11. Two 2-year-old saplings must be planted for every one tree removed. Two shrubs (stem cuttings) must be planted for every one shrub removed.
12. Except in the case of invasive or noxious species, trees and shrubs must be replaced by the same species or similar species, suitable for North Dakota growing conditions as recommended by the North Dakota Forest Service.

Invasive or noxious species must be replaced by similar non-invasive or non-noxious species suitable for North Dakota growing conditions as recommended by the North Dakota Forest Service.

13. Tree and shrub replacement must not be conducted within a 20 to 30 foot wide path over the pipeline to facilitate visual inspections of the right-of-way in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation safety regulations.
14. Landowners must be given the option of having replacement trees and shrubs planted on the landowner's property, either on or off the right-of-way. The landowner must also be given the opportunity to waive those options in writing in order to have replacement trees and shrubs planted off the landowner's property.
15. At the conclusion of the project, documentation identifying the actual number, variety, type, location and date of the replacement plantings must be filed with the Commission.
16. Tree and shrub replacements must be inspected annually, in September, for three years. The first annual inspection must be at least one year from the anniversary date of the original plantings. A report of each annual inspection must be submitted to the Commission by October 1 of each year, documenting the condition of plantings and any woodlands work completed as of September of each year. If after the third annual report the survival rate is less than 75%, the Commission may order additional planting(s).