



**Cenex Pipeline, LLC  
10” Refined Products Pipeline - Sidney to Minot**

**North Dakota Public Service Commission**

**Case No. PU-17-097**

**Monthly Construction Progress Report**


**11/7/2019**



CHS Inc. Purchase Contract: 19872

KLJ Project Number: 1907-00112

REV	Date	Description	ORIG	APPR
0	11/7/2019	Monthly Construction Progress Report (October 2019)	TJ	RS

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2611 Gabel Road Billings, MT 59102	KLJ Project No.: 1907-00112	CHS PC No.: 19872	Form Revision Date: 11/7/2019

The information contained herein is based upon internal daily/weekly coordination reports prepared by Cenex (Owner), WCI (Third-Party QC Inspector), and KLJ (Consultant). The information is reported through October 31, 2019.

## 1. General

### Spread 1 (West) - Frontier Services (Contractor)

- a. Total Spread Length (excluding MT segment) - 59.07 miles
- b. Clearing/Mowing - 59.07 miles (100% complete)
- c. Pipe Stringing - 59.07 miles (100% complete)
- d. Pipe Welding - 59.07 (100% complete)
- e. Ditching - 59.07 miles (100% complete)
- f. Backfill - 59.07 miles (100% complete)
- g. Rough Cleanup - 59.07 miles (100% complete)
- h. Final Cleanup - 59.07 miles (100% complete)
- i. Bore Crossings Installed Since Last Report
  - i. 2578+50 SECTION LINE
  - ii. 2563+90 147TH AVE NW
  - iii. 3517+25 59TH ST NW
  - iv. 3629+00 LITTLE MUDDY RIVER
  - v. 3759+00 WETLAND CROSSING
  - vi. 3609+50 59TH ST NW
  - vii. 1818+02 ACCESS ROAD

### Spread 2 (East) - Loenbro (Contractor)

- a. Total Spread Length - 90.63 miles
- b. Clearing/Mowing - 84.49 miles (93% complete)
- c. Pipe Stringing - 75.60 miles (83% complete)
- d. Pipe Welding - 64.45 miles (71% complete)
- e. Ditching - 42.46 miles (47% complete)
- f. Backfill - 39.88 miles (44% complete)
- g. Rough Cleanup - 24.52 miles (27% complete)
- h. Final Cleanup - 8.67 miles (9% complete)
- i. Bore Crossings Installed Since Last Report
  - viii. 5961+75 ND HWY 1804
  - ix. 6052+00 96TH AVE NW
  - x. 6239+00 UTILITY CROSSING
  - xi. 6376+30 90TH AVE NW
  - xii. 6775+00 LITTLE KNIFE RIVER CROSSING
  - xiii. 7022+25 78TH AVE NW
  - xiv. 7031+00 WETLAND CROSSING
  - xv. 7038+00 WETLAND CROSSING
  - xvi. 7045+70 55TH ST NW



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- xvii. 7087+70 SECTION LINE
- xviii. 7143+65 76TH AVE NW
- xix. 7152+00 WETLAND CROSSING
- xx. 7160+00 WETLAND CROSSING
- xxi. 7188+00 WETLAND CROSSING
- xxii. 7201+00 SECTION LINE
- xxiii. 7210+00 WETLAND CROSSING
- xxiv. 7253+95 74TH AVE NW
- xxv. 7285+00 WETLAND CROSSING
- xxvi. 7392+00 WETLAND CROSSING
- xxvii. 7474+30 70TH AVE NW
- xxviii. 7527+15 SECTION LINE
- xxix. 7633+60 67TH AVE NW

## 2. Construction Progress & Look-Ahead

- a. The project production has continued to be impacted by weather with early snowstorms encountered; however, the cold weather period has not been long enough for frost-conditions to set in significantly and limit the ability to segregate topsoil from subsoil.
- b. The west spread is completed entirely in North Dakota. The east spread has a completion goal of December 31, 2019.
- c. Cenex and its contractors acknowledge and understand there are additional provisions required for cold-weather construction, which are summarized as follows:
  - i. Cenex has committed to the following applicable winter construction guidelines as set forth in the following documents: North Dakota State University Extension Service, Publication R1728, "Successful Reclamation of Lands Disturbed by Oil and Gas Development and Infrastructure Construction, August 2014; INGAA Foundation, Inc. Report No. 2013.04, "Planning Guidelines for Pipeline Construction During Frozen Conditions," December 2013. In addition, unless otherwise approved by the Commission, topsoil must be removed before topsoil freezes in the late fall/early winter to the point that frost inhibits proper soil segregation. In accordance with the above-referenced documents, Cenex may utilize the construction methods detailed below.
  - ii. Frozen conditions can inhibit effective topsoil segregation. When soil is frozen to a depth greater than the depth of topsoil, the soil will come off in thick slabs that contain both topsoil and subsoil, and mixing can result. If topsoil will proceed under these conditions, it should be done at the excavation only. A ripper should be used to break up the frozen topsoil over the trench line only. Care should be taken to only rip to the actual depth of topsoil. Topsoil in the spoil storage area should be graded smooth to minimize mixing during backfilling. Sufficient time is needed to allow the newly graded topsoil to freeze in place prior to trenching.
  - iii. Summer construction of large diameter pipelines in saturated/standing water wetlands with unconsolidated soils can be difficult and potentially result in greater wetland disturbance including wider trench widths and extensive rutting/surface disturbance.

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Constructing across these types of wetlands in the winter can result in fewer impacts. Heavy construction equipment can use and travel along the construction ROW in the winter by establishing temporary winter frost/ice roads over areas typically saturated during the summer. These frost/ice roads protect underlying vegetation and upper layers of wetland surfaces from disturbance potentially created during summer construction. The area of open excavation will be minimized during winter construction to reduce amount of frozen backfill and facilitate restoration to pre-construction contours. If winter conditions preclude final grading and cleanup, the Contractor will stabilize the area and temporary erosion control measures will remain in place until permanent erosion control measures are installed.

- iv. Dependent on site and weather conditions, Cenex may require the Contractor to install dormant seeding, mulching, and/or installation of erosion control blanket on stream banks or other sensitive locations.
- d. Cenex does not anticipate needing to request approval of alternative winter construction methods with the PSC, as much of the clearing is completed on the project. The minimal clearing remaining is anticipated to be complete prior to winter conditions impacting topsoil segregation. It is estimated approximately 3,000' of topsoil stripping remains, of which, approximately 2,000' is on Cenex's property.
- e. Cenex has reiterated the following points noted during recent PSC field inspections to the contractors on each spread:
  - i. Continue to implement erosion control measures, especially if topsoil stockpiles are to be left over winter.
  - ii. Use timely chemical and/or physical control to suppress weeds within topsoil stockpiles to facilitate successful revegetation of the project during reclamation.
  - iii. Use spotters and carefully handle soil during subsequent trench backfilling to minimize subsoil/topsoil mixing, and to assure subsoil and topsoil remains segregated to the greatest extent feasible.
  - iv. Backfill trenches to assure the pipeline is buried with a minimum of 48 inches of cover, and to 72 inches of cover across unimproved section lines.