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January 14, 2020

Via Electronic Mail Only

Mr. Steve Kahl
Executive Director
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Email: ndpsc@nd.gov

In re: Cenex Pipeline, LLC
Case No. PU-17-097
Our File No. 020836-000001

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter is Cenex Pipeline, LLC's December 2019 Construction Report. Per the request of Commission staff, only an electronic copy is being filed.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Casey A. Furey

CAF
Enc.

cc: Patrick Fahn (via email)
Kari Carter (via email)
Robb Schwend (via email)
Travis Jones (via email)
Matt Retka (via email)
Sara Simmers (via email)

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

North Dakota Public Service Commission

Case No. PU-17-097

Monthly Construction Progress Report

1/10/2020

CHS Inc. Purchase Contract: 19872

KLJ Project Number: 1907-00112

REV	Date	Description	ORIG	APPR
0	1/10/2020	Monthly Construction Progress Report (December 2019)	TJ	RS

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 January 9, 2020.

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. None

Spread 2 (East) - Loenbro (Contractor)

a. Total Spread Length – 90.63 miles
b. Clearing/Mowing –90.63 miles (100% complete)
c. Pipe Stringing – 90.63 miles (100% complete)
d. Pipe Welding – 90.63 miles (100% complete)
e. Ditching – 75.88 miles (82% complete)
f. Backfill – 74.28 miles (82% complete)
g. Rough Cleanup – 63.10 miles (70% complete)
h. Final Cleanup – 47.21 miles (52% complete)
i. Bore Crossings Installed Since Last Report
    i. 5823+00 SKIPPER HABITAT
    ii. 7100+74 156TH ST SW
    iii. 8884+00 WETLAND
    iv. 8903+00 WETLAND
    v. 8929+55 198TH ST NW
    vi. 8990+46 184TH ST SW
    vii. 9005+34 CO RD 14
    viii. 9045+18 170TH ST NW
    ix. 9057+00 WETLAND
    x. 9170+00 WETLAND
    xi. 9178+70 37TH AVE SW
    xii. 9208+78 128TH ST SW
    xiii. 9320+00 SECTION LINE
    xiv. 9428+00 LANDING STRIP
    xv. 9440+00 GRASS RUNWAY

xvi. 9492+99 62ND ST SW
xvii. 9360+00 SOUTH BRANCH COULEE

2. Construction Progress & Look-Ahead

a. The project production for the east spread continues to make steady advancement and encountered relatively mild weather conditions during the month of December. Substantial progress was recorded over the last month, despite fewer working days due to the holiday break. Crews finished clearing 100% of the ROW under environmental monitoring in effort to remove topsoil prior to frost depth penetrating to that depth, thus allowing continued production with reduced risk of topsoil and subsoil mixing.
b. The west spread is completed entirely in North Dakota. The east spread has a completion goal of February 16, 2019.
c. Trenching, backfill, and topsoil replacement activities continue to be performed to prevent delays of surface use. Cenex recognizes the difficulties and implications of winter construction regarding backfill and reclamation and Cenex and its contractors remain diligent in preventing frozen backfill being used to the extent possible. Cenex intends to monitor ROW conditions and address any minor subsidence issues that may result of thawing in the spring. Topsoil replacement has been suspended in areas where it cannot be easily spread and distributed across the disturbance area. Landowners are being notified in locations where topsoil replacement will be delayed until the spring.
d. 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 top soiling 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. 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.