

# Memorandum

To: Commissioners Julie Fedorchak, Randy Christmann and Brian Kroshus

From: Patrick Fahn

Date: February 5, 2021

Subject: ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C., 12-Inch NGL Pipeline - McKenzie County, Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan (Case No. PU-19-85)

On January 5, 2021, ONEOK Pipeline, L.L.C. (ONEOK) filed its Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan (Plan) for the Little Missouri Lateral Pipeline Project constructed in 2019, Case No PU-19-85.

ONEOK inventoried trees and shrubs within the certificated corridor that were expected to be removed during the Project. ONEOK also conducted a postconstruction tree and shrub assessment in the fall of 2019 to verify the number of trees and shrubs actually removed during construction. 76 trees and 851 shrubs were removed during construction. Per the required 2:1 replacement ratio, a total of 152 trees and 1,702 shrubs will be replanted.

ONEOK plans to sponsor a specific replanting project through the North Dakota Petroleum Foundation's (NDPF) Plantings For The Future Program for the tree and shrub mitigation and reporting requirement. ONEOK will also provide the landowners that were affected by tree and shrub removal the option to have the same 2:1 ratio plantings replaced on their properties. The NDPF will conduct a post-planting survey to determine survival rates and results of this inspection will be provided to the Commission.

Two years after replanting occurs, ONEOK will file a summary documenting how this Plan achieved sustainable plantings appropriate for the local soil and growing conditions that will provide long-term benefit to landowners, farmers and ranchers, the community, wildlife, and the environment, as directed in the NDPSC's Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications.

Staff believes the Plan complies with the NDPSC's Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications and recommends approval.