

NORTH DAKOTA – DAPL OPTIMIZATION PSC REQUEST (EMMONS COUNTY NOISE)

QUESTION: “As it relates to the Emmons County Pump Station, what is the anticipated level of noise (1) immediately adjacent to the ‘noise generator’; (2) the fence line of the facility; and (3) at the nearest residence or business.”

DAKOTA ACCESS ANSWER:

The average day night decibel level of the newly installed Emmons County Pump Station will be 55 decibels (dBA) or less at Dakota Access’ fence line. Dakota Access’ technical design of the pump station contemplates noise impacts and specifically includes noise mitigation measures to achieve a 55 dBA or less day night average at its fence line. As stated in the June 20, 2019 Application for an Amended Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Amended Route Permit in Emmons County (“Amendment Application”), a building will enclose the newly installed electric pumps and motors at the site. The building will be approximately 75 feet wide, 252 feet long, and 36 feet in height and will be lined with noise attenuating mineral wool fiberglass insulation, specifically for the purpose of sound mitigation. Additionally, acoustical treatments such as insulated duct sections and internally lined air hoods are included in the wall and roof mounted fans for noise attenuation. Collectively, these noise mitigation efforts will limit noise attributed to the Emmons County Pump Station to 55 dBA day night average at the fence line. According to the manufacturer of the electrically driven motors and pumps described in Dakota Access’ Amendment Application, approximately 96 dBA of sound power will be generated inside the building at the pumps.

Given that the design of the building contemplates and includes noise mitigation and acoustical treatments, Dakota Access does not believe that the Emmons County Pump Station will cause any noise related impact to neighboring residences. The closest residence to the site is approximately 1,580 feet to the south. This residence is not occupied (the owners live in town) and is owned by the family that sold Dakota Access the property to install the Emmons County Pump Station. There is also a summer cabin approximately 2,850 feet to the north of the site. A Site Map depicting these dwellings is attached hereto.