

Site/Project Location: Northern Divide Wind Transmission Line **Date of Inspection:** 21 October 2020

Keitu staff visited the Northern Divide Wind Energy Transmission Line project for a construction inspection. Inspection of construction sites focused on (1) confirming surface disturbance/work occurring within ND PSC-approved work corridor and/or route; (2) topsoil segregation occurring; (3) vegetation removal consistent with tree & scrub mitigation plan; and (4) storm water runoff and sediment control.

Observed Work / Weather Conditions

Visit occurred between 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The weather was mostly sunny, temperature at 27°F, winds at 5-10 mph out of the north and no precipitation.

The transmission line project has been underway since July of 2020. At the time of the inspection, construction of the project substation was nearing completion, and construction of the transmission line structures was ongoing. Construction of the transmission line and substation is expected to be completed in the winter of 2020-2021.

Photo GPS points were taken during the inspection as a location reference for transmission line structures and the substation. Transmission line structures that were completed and currently under construction were visited. All transmission line structures visited were located outside the determined exclusionary zones and several signs marking cultural and environmental exclusionary zones were noted.

Top Soil Management / Condition / Erosion Control / Stormwater Management

During the inspection, stripped topsoil was noted along string roads, transmission line ROW, and structure locations. Topsoil was appropriately segregated from the subsoil with it being piled along the opposite side of string roads and in separate piles where transmission line structures were being constructed. Erosion control and stormwater management BMPs were in good condition and working effectively; although the ground was frozen at the time of the inspection.

Vegetation Condition

There were no locations visited during the inspection where trees were removed for the transmission line ROW. NextEra Energy acknowledged that there may be some trees removed for the construction of the transmission line; however, the number of trees removed would be minimal. NextEra Energy will follow the tree and shrub mitigation plan submitted as part of their Application for Certificate of Site Compatibility.

Deficiencies

No deficiencies were noted during the construction inspection.

Actions Taken/To Be Taken

Reclamation and revegetation seeding will be completed in the spring of 2021 after the ground thaws. Topsoil piles will be used to revegetate areas not used for permanent roads.

Keitu Inspector: ZAP

Inspection Report Submitted: 12 November 2020

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Construction Inspection Report
Keitu Engineers & Consultants, Inc.

Report Photo #1 "Transmission Line ROW with Structures under Construction"



Report Photo #2 "Project Substation nearing Completion"



Report Photo #3 “Sign Marking Cultural and Environmental Exclusionary Zones”



Report Photo #4 “Equipment in for Transmission Line Structure Construction”



Site Location Map

