

November 6, 2020

Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Cenex Pipeline, LLC – Case No. PU-20-399 – Mountrail County

Dear Commission,

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) has reviewed the above-referenced permit designating a corridor and a route for construction, operation, and maintenance of a pipeline for transmission of petroleum products in Williams, Mountrail, and Ward Counties, North Dakota.

NDPRD's scope of authority and expertise covers properties that NDPRD owns, leases, or manages; properties protected under Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF); and rare plants and ecological communities established through the Natural Heritage Program.

The project does not appear to affect properties that NDPRD owns, leases, or manages.

The project does not appear to affect any properties protected under Section 6(f) of the LWCF.

A query of the North Dakota Natural Heritage biological conservation database determines if any current or historical plant or animal species of concern or other significant ecological communities are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the project area. Based on this review, we have no known rare species or significant ecological communities documented within or immediately adjacent to the project site.

The Natural Heritage data is not based on a comprehensive inventory; there may be species of concern or otherwise significant ecological communities in the area. The absence of data may indicate that the project area has not been surveyed, rather than confirm the project area lacks natural heritage resources.

We appreciate your commitment to rare plant, animal, and ecological community conservation, management, and inter-agency cooperation to date. For additional information, please contact me at (701-220-3377 or kgduttonhefner@nd.gov).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed project.

Sincerely,


Kathy Duttonhefner
Natural Resources Coordinator

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Agency Correspondence
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