

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Continental Resources, Inc.
8-inch NG Buddy Domindgo Pipeline – Williams Cnty.
Siting Application

Case No. PU-22-141

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

July 6, 2022

Appearances

Commissioners Randy Christmann, Julie Fedorchak and Sheri Haugen-Hoffart.

Lawrence Bender, Attorney at Law, Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., 1133 College Drive, Suite 1000, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501, on behalf of Continental Resources, Inc.

Brian Johnson, Special Assistant Attorney General, as Counsel for the North Dakota Public Service Commission, 600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505.

Adam Renfandt, Public Utility Analyst, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505.

Hope L. Hogan, Administrative Law Judge, Office of Administrative Hearings, 2911 North 14th Street, Suite 303, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503, as Procedural Hearing Officer.

Preliminary Statement

On March 3, 2022, Continental Resources, Inc. (Continental), filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) a combined application for a certificate of corridor compatibility and route permit concerning the location of an approximately 3.1-mile long natural gas pipeline, located in Williams County, North Dakota (Application).

Also on March 3, 2022, Continental filed with the Commission an application for waiver or reduction of procedures and time schedules established under North Dakota Century Code chapter 49-22.1 and North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-06-01-02 and chapter 69-06-06, regarding separate notices and separate hearings on such applications and North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-06-06-01(2)(f) requiring a corridor width of ten percent of the corridor's length with a maximum width of six miles.

On March 8, 2022, the Commission provided notification of the Application to the townships with retained zoning authority, cities, and counties in which any part of the proposed pipeline corridor is located.

On March 18, 2022, Continental filed documents with the Commission documents to supplement the Application.

On May 4, 2022, the Commission deemed the Application complete and issued a Notice of Filing and Public Hearing (Notice) scheduling a public hearing for June 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time, at the Williston City Hall, John Kautzman Chamber Room, 22 East Broadway, Williston, North Dakota 58801.

The Notice identified the following issues to be considered with respect to the application for waiver of procedures and time schedules:

1. Is the proposed facility of such length, design, location, or purpose that it will produce minimal adverse effects and that adherence to the applicable procedures and time schedules may be waived?
2. Is it appropriate for the Commission to waive any procedures and time schedules as requested in the application?

The Notice identified the following issues to be considered with respect to the Application:

1. Will construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility at the proposed location produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Is the proposed facility compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility at the proposed location minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

May 10, 2022, and May 20, 2022, Continental filed additional documents with the Commission to supplement the Application.

On June 6, 2022, the public hearing was held at the time and place set forth in the Notice, allowing any interested parties to present testimony in person or via telephone. Exhibits 1 and 2 were admitted at the hearing.

Having allowed all interested persons an opportunity to be heard, and having heard, reviewed, and considered all testimony and evidence presented, the Commission makes its:

Findings of Fact

1. Continental Resources, Inc. is an Oklahoma corporation authorized to do business in the State of North Dakota, as evidenced by the corporate papers filed with the Commission on March 3, 2022, in Case No. PU-22-140.

Size, Type, and Preferred Location of Facility

2. Continental intends to construct an approximately 3.1-mile steel natural gas transmission line located in Williams County, North Dakota (Project). The Project will transport natural gas from an existing natural gas transmission line to Continental's Buddy Domindgo well pad where the gas will be compressed and injected downhole for enhanced oil recovery purposes.

3. The Project will be 8-inch diameter steel pipe with a wall thickness of 0.250-inches (0.322-inches for bored locations) and a maximum operating pressure of 1,440 pounds per square inch. The maximum operating temperature of the Project will be 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

4. The Project will have a maximum flow rate capacity of 30 million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCFD).

5. Aboveground facilities for the Project will be limited to pipeline markers, cathodic test stations, and two mainline block valve sites.

6. The estimated cost of the Project is \$3.55 million.

Study of Preferred Location

7. Continental initiated correspondence seeking comments from following federal, state and local agencies regarding the Project:

a. Federal: (1) Federal Aviation Commission; (2) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; (3) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; (4) U.S. Department of Defense-Cable Affairs; (5) U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources of Conservation Service; (6) U.S. Department of Agriculture-North Dakota Farm Service Agency; (7) Federal Bureau of Land Management; (8) Grand Forks Air Force Base; (9) Twentieth Airforce Ninety-First Missile Wing; and (10) U.S. Department of Defense.

b. State: (1) North Dakota Attorney General; (2) North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education; (3) North Dakota Department of Commerce; (4) North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality; (5) North Dakota Department of Human Services; (6) North Dakota Department of Transportation; (7) North Dakota Department of Trust Lands; (8) North Dakota Energy Development Impact Office; (9) North Dakota Game and Fish Department; (10) North Dakota Geological Survey; (11) North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission; (12) North Dakota Industrial

Commission-Pipeline Authority; (13) North Dakota Labor Department; (14) North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department; (15) North Dakota Soil Conservation Committee; (16) North Dakota State Water Commission; (17) Job Service of North Dakota; (18) SHPO; (19) Office of the Governor; (20) North Dakota Aeronautics Commission; (21) Western Area Water Supply Authority; and (22) North Dakota Forest Service.

- c. Local: (1) Williams County Commission; (2) Williams County Planning & Zoning Department; (3) Williams County Water Resources Board; (4) Williams County Weed Board

8. Continental conducted a Class I cultural resource literature review and a desktop analysis for wetlands, waterbodies, and other sensitive environmental resources across a one-mile-wide area centered on the Project route (Study Area).

9. Continental conducted surveys across an approximately 250-foot-wide area centered on the Project route (Survey Area). Continental conducted surveys for wetlands, waterbodies, threatened and endangered species, critical habitats, noxious weeds, and trees/saplings/shrubs. Continental also conducted a 0.5-mile line-of-sight binocular survey for raptor nests.

10. Continental conducted a Class III cultural resources inventory across the Survey Area. The Class III report was submitted to the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). In its response dated December 28, 2021, SHPO found that “there has been a good faith effort to avoid impacts to significant sites provided avoidance measures are followed as recommended.”

Siting Criteria

11. The Commission has established criteria pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 49-22.1-03 to guide the site, corridor, and route suitability evaluation and designation process. The criteria, as set forth in North Dakota Administrative Code Section 69-06-08-02, are classified as Exclusion Areas, Avoidance Areas, Selection Criteria, and Policy Criteria.

12. Continental evaluated the Project for the Exclusion Areas, Avoidance Areas, Selection Criteria, and Policy Criteria of the Commission.

13. An Exclusion Area is a geographic area that must be excluded in the consideration of a route for a transmission facility. An Exclusion Area may be located within a corridor, but at no given point may such an area or areas encompass more than fifty percent of the corridor unless there is no reasonable alternative. A transmission facility route must not be sited within an Exclusion Area.

14. Archaeological sites are Exclusion Areas. Continental testified that archaeological sites are located within the Survey Area. However, Continental testified that the Project

route does not cross any archaeological sites and that Project construction activities will not impact any archaeological sites identified within the Survey Area.

15. Continental's surveys did not record any other Exclusion Areas within the Survey Area.

16. An Avoidance Area is a geographic area that may not be considered in the routing of a transmission facility unless the applicant shows that, under the circumstances, there is no reasonable alternative. In determining whether an Avoidance Area should be designated for a transmission facility, the Commission may consider, among other things, the proposed management of adverse impacts, the orderly siting of facilities, system reliability and integrity, the efficient use of resources, and alternative routes.

17. Geologically unstable areas are Avoidance Areas. Continental testified that one landslide prone area was identified in the Survey Area. The horizontal directional drilling (HDD) technique will be utilized to cross this area.

18. Areas within 500 feet of a residence, school, or business are Avoidance Areas. There is one occupied structure within 500 feet of the Project route. Continental has obtained a waiver for this structure.

19. Continental's surveys did not record any other Avoidance Areas within the Survey Area.

20. In accordance with the Commission's Selection Criteria set forth in North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-06-08-02(3), a transmission facility corridor or route shall be approved only if it is demonstrated that any significant adverse effects that will result from the location, construction, and maintenance of the transmission facility will be at an acceptable minimum, or that those effects will be managed and maintained at an acceptable minimum. Continental has analyzed the impacts of the Project in relation to all relevant Selection Criteria.

21. Continental testified that impacts to wetlands and ephemeral drains will be avoided by using the HDD technique.

22. The Project will have no significant adverse effects on the Commission's Selection Criteria.

23. Continental analyzed the relevant Policy Criteria set forth in Section 69-06-08-02(4) of the North Dakota Administrative Code. There is no need for the Commission to give preference to the applicant in this proceeding.

Additional Measures to Minimize Impact

24. Continental has agreed to a number of steps to mitigate the impact of the Project, as indicated by the executed Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Transmission

Facility Siting, with accompanying Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications, which is incorporated by reference and attached to this Order.

25. The Project will be designed, constructed, and operated in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulations utilizing industry standards.

26. Continental testified that it will follow a written manual of procedures for conducting normal operations and maintenance activities and for handling abnormal operations and emergencies. Continental will monitor pipeline inlet pressure at the interconnection with the existing natural gas transmission line and at Continental's Buddy Domindgo well pad. Continental will utilize relief valves and pressure shutdowns to protect the pipeline from overpressure. A leak detection and monitoring system will be employed for the Project.

27. Continental will coordinate with local emergency response officials to discuss emergency response coordination and will conduct emergency deployment drills on an annual basis.

28. Continental has developed several project control documents that will be utilized in connection with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project, including a Spill Prevention and Countermeasure Plan, Corporate Emergency Response Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Damage Prevention Plan, Unanticipated Discovery and Treatment Plan, Noxious Weed Control Plan, Fugitive Dust Control Plan and Horizontal Directional Drilling Inadvertent Release Control and Mitigation Contingency Plan.

29. Continental will conduct regular pipeline monitoring, periodic inspection, internal inspections, and foot patrol inspections as required by the Department of Transportation regulations. The Project will be under cathodic protection and each weld will be x-rayed to verify the integrity of the welds.

30. Continental testified they will employ third-party inspectors throughout the construction of the Pipeline to verify safe construction procedures are followed.

31. Continental will participate in the North Dakota One-Call notification system.

32. Continental will comply with all applicable safety laws and standards.

From the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Commission now makes its:

Conclusions of Law

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the applicant, Continental Resources, Inc., and the subject matter of the Application under Chapter 49-22.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.

2. Continental is a utility as defined in Section 49-22.1-01(13) of the North Dakota Century Code.
3. The Project is a gas or liquid transmission facility as defined in North Dakota Century Code Section 49-22.1-01(7).
4. The construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project will produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota.
5. The Project is compatible with environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources.
6. The construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project minimizes adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion.
7. The proposed facility at the proposed location will produce minimal adverse effects, and it is appropriate for the Commission to waive applicable procedures and time schedules as requested in the application for waiver of procedures and time schedules pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 49-22.1-05 and North Dakota Administrative Code Chapter 69-06-06.

From the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Commission makes the following order:

Order

1. Continental's application for a waiver of procedures and time schedules is granted.
2. Continental shall construct, operate, and maintain the pipeline in accordance with the Commission's Findings of Fact.
3. Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 228 is issued to Continental Resources, Inc. designating a corridor approximately 250-feet-wide for the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 3.1 miles of 8-inch diameter natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in Williams County, North Dakota, as identified in Appendix A of the Application and identified precisely by the associated GIS map data.
4. Route Permit No. 238 is issued to Continental Resources, Inc. designating a route for the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 3.1 miles of 8-inch diameter natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in Williams County, North Dakota, as identified in Appendix A of the Application and identified precisely by the associated GIS map data. The designated route includes a route construction buffer of 20 feet on each side of the designated route, contingent upon not impacting an avoidance area unless Continental receives written authorization from the Commission before conducting any associated construction activities. Construction activities must not impact an exclusion area.

5. The Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Transmission Facility Siting (Certification), with accompanying Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications, executed June 8, 2022, is incorporated by reference and attached to this Order.
6. To the extent there are any conflicts or inconsistencies between Continental 's Application and the Certification, the Certification provisions control.
7. Continental shall obtain all other necessary licenses and permits prior to commencing construction on such portion of the Project for which the license and/or permit is required and shall provide copies of such licenses and permits to the Commission prior to construction.
8. Continental is required to comply with all applicable laws, rules, and/or regulations in the event it desires to construct another or a different transmission facility than was specified in the Application within the corridor designated in this proceeding.
9. If a spill by Continental requires notification to any other state or federal agency, Continental will also inform the Commission of such spill within 24 hours of occurrence by leaving a message at the Commission's Toll Free Number, with a follow-up email to the Commission's Executive Secretary.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Randy Christmann
Commissioner


Julie Fedorchak
Chair


Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Certificate of Corridor Compatibility Number 228

This is to certify that the Commission has designated a transmission facility corridor for Continental Resources, Inc. designating a corridor approximately 250-feet-wide for the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 3.1 miles of 8-inch diameter natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in Williams County, North Dakota.

This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of the Commission dated July 6, 2022, in Case No. PU-22-241 and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

Bismarck, North Dakota, July 6, 2022.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Executive Secretary



Commissioner

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Route Permit Number 238

This is to certify that the Commission has designated a transmission facility route for Continental Resources, Inc. for the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 3.1 miles of 8-inch diameter natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in Williams County, North Dakota.

This permit is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated July 6, 2022, in Case No. PU-22-141 and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

Bismarck, North Dakota, July 6, 2022.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Executive Secretary



Commissioner

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Continental Resources, Inc.
8-inch NG Buddy Domindgo Pipeline - Williams Cnty.
Siting Application

Case No. PU-22-141

CERTIFICATION RELATING TO ORDER PROVISIONS
TRANSMISSION FACILITY SITING

I am Bradley A. Aman, a representative of Continental Resources, Inc. ("Company") with authority to bind Company to requirements to be set forth by the Commission in its Order and I certify the following:

1. Company understands and agrees that any Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit issued by the Commission will be subject to the conditions and criteria set forth in Chapter 49-22.1 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-06-08 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and that Company shall be responsible for compliance with this order and conditions and criteria set forth in the applicable laws and rules.
2. Company agrees to comply with the rules and regulations of all other agencies having jurisdiction over any phase of the transmission facility including all city, township, and county zoning regulations.
3. Company understands and agrees that it shall obtain all other necessary licenses and permits, and shall provide copies of all licenses and permits to the Commission prior to construction activity associated with the transmission facility that requires said license or permit.
4. Company understands and agrees that any Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit issued by the Commission is subject to suspension or revocation and may, in an appropriate and proper case, be suspended or revoked for failure to comply with the Commission's order, the conditions and criteria of the certificate or subsequent modification, or failure to comply with the applicable statutes, rules, regulations, standards, and permits of other state or federal agencies.
5. Company agrees to maintain records that will demonstrate that it has complied with the requirements of the Commission's order issuing a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit, and that it will preserve these records for Commission inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice.
6. Company understands and agrees that the authorizations granted by any Certificate of Corridor Compatibility or Route Permit issued by the Commission for the

transmission facility are subject to modification by order of the Commission if deemed necessary to protect further the public or the environment.

Construction:

7. Company agrees to hold a preconstruction conference prior to commencement of any construction, which must include a Company representative, its construction supervisor, and a representative of Commission Staff, to ensure that Company fully understands the conditions set forth in the Commission's order.
8. Company understands and agrees that all cultural resource mitigation plans must be submitted to the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office and approved prior to the start of any fieldwork and construction activity in the affected area.
9. Company understands and agrees that topsoil removal will begin when the Commission's third-party construction inspector is present at the Project site to observe that topsoil is properly removed and kept segregated from subsoil until replacement occurs. Company shall establish the date and time for the Commission's third-party construction inspector's topsoil removal oversight in the preconstruction conference.
10. Company agrees to inform the Commission and the Commission's third-party construction inspector of its intent to start construction on the transmission facility prior to the commencement of construction. Once construction has started, Company shall keep the Commission and the Commission's third-party construction inspector updated on construction activities on a monthly basis.
11. Company understands and agrees that the pipeline will be buried to a minimum depth from the ground surface to the top of the pipe of 48 inches in range land, 48 inches for cultivated land, 48 inches at the bottom of the ditch for road crossings, and 72 inches across undeveloped section lines.
12. Company understands and agrees that all topsoil, up to 12 inches, or topsoil to the depth of cultivation, whichever is greater, over and along trench areas where cuts will be made, must be carefully stripped and segregated from the subsoil. Any area on which excavated subsoil will be placed must also be stripped of topsoil. The stripped topsoil must not be stockpiled in natural drainages, and must be protected from water erosion. Care must be taken to protect topsoil from unnecessary compaction by heavy machinery. 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. After backfilling with subsoil is completed, any excess subsoil must be placed over the excavation area, blending the grade into existing topography. Topsoil must be replaced over areas from which it was stripped only after the subsoil is replaced.

13. Company understands and agrees that all buried facility crossings of graded roads must be bored unless the responsible governing agency specifically permits Company to open cut the road.
14. Company understands and agrees that staging areas or equipment shall not be located on land owned by a person other than Company unless otherwise negotiated with landowners.
15. Company understands and agrees that if any cultural resource, paleontological site, archeological site, historical site, or grave site is discovered during construction, it must be marked, preserved and protected from further disturbances until a professional examination can be made and a report of such examination is filed with the Commission and the State Historical Society.
16. Company understands and agrees that construction must be suspended when weather conditions are such that construction activities will cause irreparable damage to roads or land, unless adequate protection measures are taken by Company.
17. Company understands and agrees that the Commission has authority to stop Project construction activities in the event of a probable violation of the siting laws, siting rules, or applicable Commission Orders if, in the opinion of the Commission, construction activities are likely to result in irreparable or significant harm.

Restoration and Maintenance:

18. Company understands and agrees that it shall, as soon as practicable upon the completion of the construction of the transmission facility, restore the area affected by the activities to as near as is practicable to the condition as it existed prior to the beginning of construction.
19. Company understands and agrees that all pre-existing township and county roads and lanes used during construction must be repaired or restored to a condition that is equal to or better than the condition prior to the construction of the transmission facility and that will accommodate their previous use, and that areas used as temporary roads or working areas during construction must be restored to their original condition.
20. Company understands and agrees that reclamation, fertilization, and reseeding is to be done according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service recommendations, unless otherwise specified by the landowner and approved by the Commission.

21. Company will fulfill its obligation for reclamation and maintenance of the approved transmission facility right-of-way, transmission facility, and associated facilities continuing throughout the life of the transmission facility.
22. Company will repair all fences and gates removed or damaged during all phases of construction and operation of the transmission facility.
23. Company will repair or replace all drainage tile broken or damaged as a result of construction and operation of the transmission facility.
24. Company agrees to comply with the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications, attached.
25. Company understands and agrees that it shall remove all waste that is a product of construction and operation, restoration, and maintenance of the site, and properly dispose of it on a regular basis.
26. Company understands and agrees that it shall provide any necessary safety measures for traffic control or to restrict public access to the transmission facility.

Communication with Landowners and PSC:

27. Company understands and agrees that, prior to beginning construction of the transmission facility at a location, it shall send a letter to each landowner with whom an easement was executed for that location specifying the name and phone number of the company representative who is responsible for receiving and resolving landowner issues for the life of the easement.
28. Company understands and agrees that it will file with the commission the name and phone number of the current company representative who is responsible for receiving and resolving landowner issues for the transmission facility. The company will update this information whenever there is a change to the current company representative for the life of all easements for the transmission facility.
29. Upon request, Company agrees to provide the Commission with engineering design drawings of the transmission facility prior to construction.
30. Company understands and agrees that it shall advise the Commission as soon as reasonably possible of any extraordinary events which take place at the site of the transmission facility, including injuries to any person.
31. Company agrees to report to the Commission, as soon as reasonably possible, the presence in the permit area of any critical habitat or threatened or endangered species of which Company becomes aware and which were not previously reported to the Commission.

32. Company understands and agrees that it shall inform the Commission in writing of any plans to modify the transmission facility or of any plans to modify the site plan for the transmission facility.
33. Company agrees to provide the Commission with both an electronic and a paper copy of the corridor approved by the Commission and the facility design specifications for the construction of the transmission facility showing the location of the transmission facility as built, and will provide this information within 3 months of the completion of the construction. Company also agrees to provide an electronic version of the corridor approved by the Commission and the facility design specifications for the construction of the transmission facility showing the location of the transmission facility as built that can be imported into ESRI GIS mapping software within 3 months of the completion of the construction. This electronic map data must be referenced to the North Dakota coordinate system of 1983, North and/or South zones US Survey feet (NAD 83) UTM Zone 13N or 14N feet (NAD 83), or geographic coordinate system (WGS 84) feet. The vertical data must be in the appropriate vertical datum for the coordinate system used. All submissions must specify the datum in which the data was developed.
34. Company shall notify the Commission as soon as reasonably possible if any damage, as defined by North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-23, occurs to underground facilities during construction conducted under the certificate or permit issued in this proceeding. In the event of any damage to underground facilities, Company shall suspend construction in the vicinity of the damage until compliance with One-Call Excavation Notice System requirements under North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-23 has been determined.

Route Adjustments Before or During Construction:

35. Company agrees to utilize the following procedures if Company seeks a route adjustment before or during construction of the pipeline, pursuant under N.D.C.C. §49-22.1-15.
36. Company will specifically identify which subsection of NDCC 49-22.1-15 it is requesting the adjustment under. Company will file the name and contact information for a key contact person for the purposes of notice and communication during the adjustment application.
37. **ROUTE ADJUSTMENT WITHIN DESIGNATED CORRIDOR, NO AVOIDANCE AREA AFFECTED:** Before conducting any construction activities for any adjustment to the designated route within the designated corridor under NDCC 49-22.1-15(1), the Company will file:

- a. Certification and supporting documentation affirming that construction activities will be within the designated corridor, will not affect any known exclusion or avoidance areas within the designated corridor;
- b. Certification and supporting documentation, including a map meeting the requirements of N.D. Admin. Code § 69-06-04-01(2)(n) identifying the designated corridor, route and the route adjustment;
- c. Certification that Company will comply with the Commission's order, law and rules designating the corridor and route.

38. **ROUTE ADJUSTMENT WITHIN DESIGNATED CORRIDOR, AVOIDANCE AREA AFFECTED:** Before adjusting the route of a gas or liquid transmission line under NDCC 49-22.1-15(2), within the designated corridor that may affect an avoidance area, and before conducting any construction activities for any adjustment to the designated route within the designated corridor, the Company will file:

- a. A specific description of the avoidance area expected to be impacted, including a map meeting the requirements of N.D. Admin. Code § 69-06-04-01(2)(n) identifying:
 - i. the designated corridor, route and the route adjustment;
 - ii. all exclusion and avoidance areas within the portion of the designated corridor containing the route adjustment
- b. Certification and supporting documentation affirming:
 - i. That construction activities will be within the designated corridor
 - ii. That construction activities will not affect any known exclusion area
- c. All field studies performed on the portion of the designated corridor containing the route adjustment;
- d. Specific information about any mitigation measures Company will take within the adjustment area;
- e. Certification that each owner of real property on which the adjustment is to be located and any applicable governmental entity with an interest in the same adjustment area do not oppose the adjustment;
- f. Certification that unless the Commission previously authorized the impact to the same avoidance area, that the utility has good cause and a specific reason to impact the avoidance area and a reasonable alternative does not exist;
- g. Certification that Company will comply with the Commission's order, law and rules designating the corridor and route.

Company acknowledges and agrees that:

1. Written authorization from the Commission for impacting the avoidance area is necessary prior to commencement of construction activity unless the Commission fails to act within ten working days of receipt of filing a complete adjustment application, in which case the adjustment is deemed approved.
2. The initiation of the ten working days begins upon receipt of a complete filing, to include Company's certifications, supporting documentation and maps. However, Commission may extend the ten working day provision if Company, in the person of the key contact referenced above, is informed of the reason additional time is necessary for extension and has no objection to an extension.

39. **ROUTE ADJUSTMENT OUTSIDE DESIGNATED CORRIDOR, NO AVOIDANCE AREA AFFECTED:** Before adjusting the route of a gas or liquid transmission line under NDCC 49-22.1-15(3), outside the designated corridor and not affecting any exclusion and avoidance area, before conducting any construction activities for any adjustment to the designated route outside the designated corridor, the Company will file:

- a. Certification and supporting documentation affirming that construction activities will not affect any known exclusion or avoidance areas,
- b. Certification and supporting documents stating the length of the proposed route outside of the corridor and a map meeting the requirements of N.D. Admin. Code § 69-06-04-01(2)(n) identifying the designated corridor, corridor adjustment, designated route and the route adjustment;
- c. Certification that each owner of real property on which the adjustment is to be located and any applicable governmental entity with an interest in the same adjustment area do not oppose the adjustment; and
- d. Detailed field studies indicating exclusion and avoidance areas for the proposed adjustment area; and
- e. Certification that Company will comply with the Commission's order, law and rules designating the corridor and route.

40. **ROUTE ADJUSTMENT OUTSIDE DESIGNATED CORRIDOR, AVOIDANCE AREA AFFECTED:** Before adjusting the route of a gas or liquid transmission line under NDCC 49-22.1-15(4), outside the designated corridor that may affect an avoidance area, and before conducting any construction activities for any adjustment to the designated route outside the designated corridor, the Company will file:

- a. A specific description of the avoidance area expected to be impacted, including a map meeting the requirements of N.D. Admin. Code § 69-06-04-01(2)(n) identifying:
 - i. the designated corridor, corridor adjustment, route and the route adjustment;

- ii. all exclusion and avoidance areas within the adjustment area
- b. Certification that construction activities will not affect any known exclusion area;
- c. Certification that the utility has good cause and a specific reason to impact the avoidance area and a reasonable alternative does not exist within the designated corridor and route;
- d. Certification that each owner of real property on which the adjustment is to be located and any applicable governmental entity with an interest in the same adjustment area do not oppose the adjustment;
- e. Provide specific information about any mitigation measures Company will take within the adjustment area;
- f. Detailed field studies indicating exclusion and avoidance areas for the proposed adjustment area; and
- g. Certification that Company will comply with the Commission's order, law and rules designating the corridor and route.

Company acknowledges and agrees that:

1. Written authorization from the Commission for impacting the avoidance area is necessary prior to commencement of construction activity unless the Commission fails to act within ten working days of receipt of filing a complete adjustment application, in which case the adjustment is deemed approved.
2. The initiation of the ten working days begins upon receipt of a complete filing, to include Company's certifications, supporting documentation and maps. However, Commission may extend the ten working day provision if Company, in the person of the key contact referenced above, is informed of the reason additional time is necessary for extension and has no objection to an extension.

41. When applicable, Company may submit the field studies from the original application for the corridor and route provided they cover the adjustment area.

Dated this 8 day of June, 2022.

CONTINENTAL RESOURCES, INC.

JSW

By Bradley A. Aman
Bradley A. Aman

Its VP, Facilities & Projects

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications

Inventory

Prior to cutting or clearing trees or shrubs for construction:

- All trees one-inch or greater in diameter at breast height must be inventoried to record the location, number, and species.
- All shrubs and all coniferous trees of any diameter must be inventoried to record the location, number, and species.

Clearing

The maximum width of tree and shrub removal is 50 feet, unless otherwise approved by the Commission.

Replacement

1. Landowners must be given the option to have trees and shrubs that are removed from their property replaced on their property. The landowner may waive this option in writing. If the landowner waives this option, the company shall plant replacement trees and shrubs in an alternate location in the same region, if practical.
2. Trees and shrubs must be replaced on a minimum two-to-one basis. The company shall develop a Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan (Plan) in consultation with landowners who are seeking replacement trees and shrubs and in accordance with USDA-NRCS-North Dakota Field Office Technical Guide: Windbreak and Woodland Tree Care and Management. The guidelines outlined in the Technical Guide shall be followed until filing of the Plan summary outlined in number 5 below.
3. The purpose of the company's Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan is to create 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.
4. The Plan, including the proposed number, variety, type, location, and approximate date for plantings, shall be filed with and approved by the Commission.
5. Two years after completion of the plan, the company must file a summary documenting how the plan achieved the purpose outlined in number 3 above. The summary must also report the number of surviving replacement trees and shrubs.
6. The Commission will consider, on a limited basis as conditions warrant, mitigation plans that provide long-term wildlife habitat and conservation benefits but do not involve the replanting of trees and shrubs.