

Public Service Commission

NEWS RELEASE March 13, 2017 **For Immediate Release, Contact:** Randy Christmann, (701) 328-4091 Julie Fedorchak, (701) 391-1140

PSC Schedules Public Hearing in Watford City for Proposed Crude Oil Pipeline Conversion Project

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a public hearing in Watford City on Monday, March 27, regarding a proposal to convert an existing crude oil gathering pipeline into a transmission line. The approximately 54-mile long, 8-inch diameter existing pipeline is located in McKenzie County.

Targa Badlands, LLC, has submitted an application to convert their existing gathering pipeline system and associated facilities into a transmission line. The pipeline includes storage tanks at both the Johnsons Corner and Alexander facilities. The Johnsons Corner facility includes two 20,000-barrel capacity storage tanks and the Alexander facility possesses a single 30,000-barrel capacity storage tank. Targa wants to now use the storage tanks to store crude oil before it is transported by the pipeline. Additionally, Targa is planning for the ability to flow crude in either direction through the pipeline. In order to do this, the gathering pipeline system has to be converted into a transmission line.

The pipeline is located between Johnsons Corner and Alexander, N.D. When the project is completed, the pipeline will deliver crude oil from other portions of the Targa gathering system and from various production sites across Dunn and McKenzie Counties to the Enbridge terminal near Alexander. The pipeline will have a maximum capacity of 50,000 barrels per day, an increase from the current capacity of approximately 17,550 barrels per day. When completed, the entire system is estimated to have cost \$85 million to construct, including initial construction and the conversion costs. (Note to the media: A map showing the proposed location of the project has been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

Details for the public hearing are as follows:

- When: Monday, March 27, 2017 9 a.m. Central
- Where: Teddy's Residential Suites 113 9th Ave. SW, Watford City, ND 58854

The hearing provides an opportunity for members of the public to contribute to the PSC's official record. Any comments from members of the public must be received at the hearing to be part of the record. People with concerns, questions or support/opposition for the project are encouraged to attend the hearing and present their information. <u>Information received after the hearing will not be part of the official record and cannot be used as a basis for the Commission's decision unless certain additional procedures are followed.</u>

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, grain elevators, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

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