

Bakken Oil Express II Project – Notification

BLM Notice of Right-of-Way Grant Application

Under the provisions of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Bakken Oil Express (BOE) II Project (Project). This notice is announcing the beginning of the process to solicit public comments regarding issues and resource information for the proposed Project.

The BLM is the designated lead Federal agency for preparation of the EA for the Project. Agencies with legal jurisdiction or special expertise have been invited to participate as cooperating agencies in preparation of the EA. Currently, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) - McKenzie Ranger District has agreed to participate as a cooperating agency.

BOE II Project Information

The applicant, BOE Pipeline, LLC (BOE), has filed a ROW grant application proposing to construct, operate, and maintain a crude oil transmission pipeline and ancillary facilities, connecting to the previously constructed BOE pipeline in Dunn and Stark Counties, North Dakota, (see Figure 1). The Project would obviate the need for continued trucking of crude oil, and thereby provide a more efficient and reliable means of transportation and product delivery.

Specifically, the Project entails construction and operation of:

- Approximately 42 miles of 16-inch welded steel crude oil pipeline;
- Receipt, measurement, metering, storage, and/or pump facilities at the north and south terminal locations;
- Ancillary facilities (e.g. mainline valves, launchers/receivers, communications, etc.).

The Project pipeline would receive crude oil at the proposed northern terminus near Johnson's Corner, North Dakota and transport the oil to BOE's existing receipt / pumping facility near

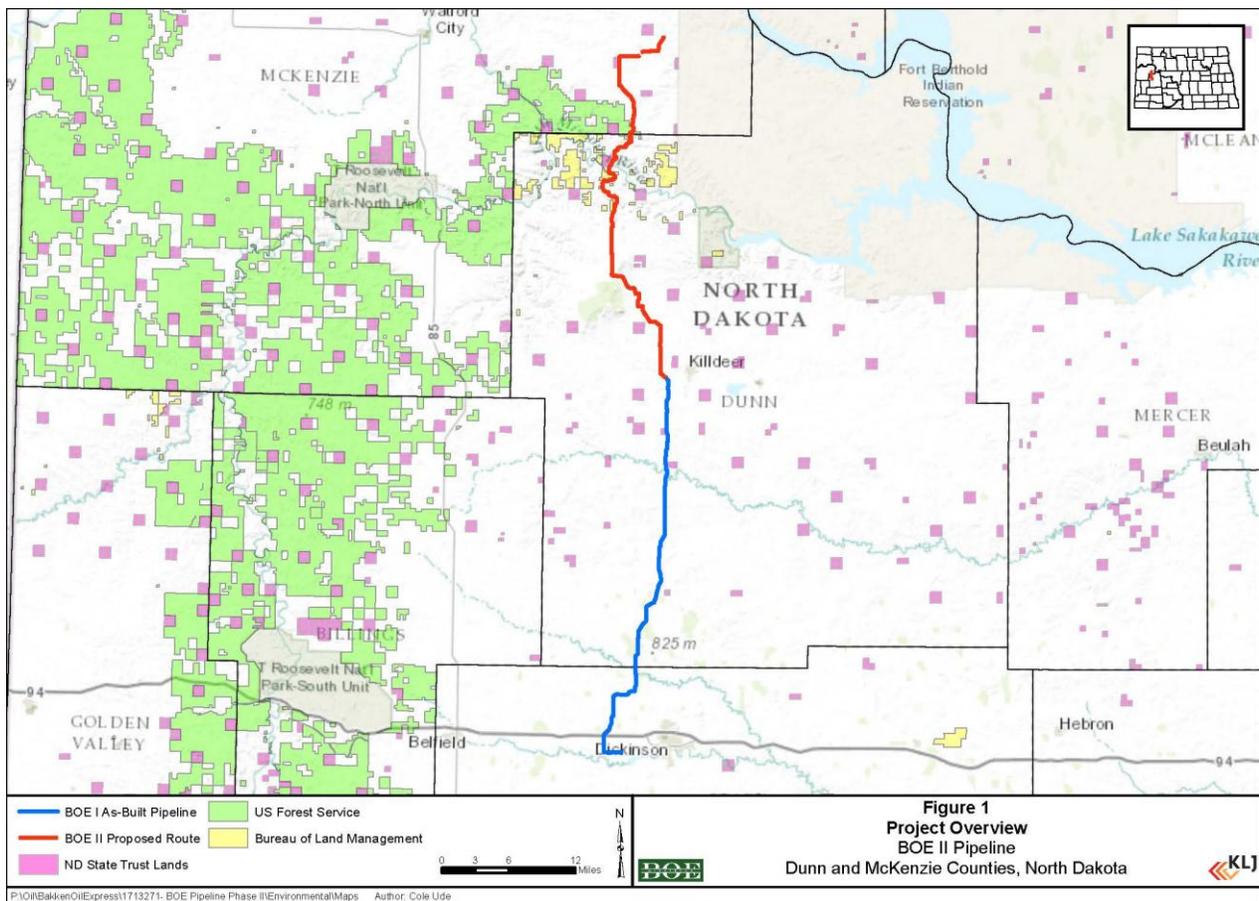
Killdeer, North Dakota. The crude oil would ultimately be transported through BOE's existing pipeline from Killdeer to their crude-to-rail facility near Dickinson, North Dakota. Approximately 2.4 miles of the proposed Project pipeline route would be located on federal lands.

The Project pipeline would be buried underground and would follow existing pipeline, utility, or roadway easements where practicable to minimize resource impacts and the development of new rights-of-way/utility corridors. Currently, BOE proposes to install the pipeline through environmentally sensitive areas (e.g., streams/wetlands, areas of considerable erosion concern, etc.) by narrowing the construction right-of-way and/or using horizontal directional drilling (HDD) techniques to minimize impacts to resources. Additionally, pipeline route adjustments may be adopted to further minimize impacts to environmental resources, as determined through environmental field survey, landowner coordination, and resource agency consultations.

Purpose of BLM's Notice

The purpose of the notice process is to obtain feedback on relevant issues that may influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EA. BLM and USFS personnel have preliminarily identified the following issues that will be addressed in the EA: potential impacts to surface and groundwater from an accidental release of oil during pipeline operation; plant and animal species including special and sensitive status species; cultural resources and historic sites; noxious weeds; migratory birds; soils and hydrology; and socioeconomic impacts. The BLM is providing notice of the proposed BOE II Project, and welcomes all comments on the proposed Project for consideration in the EA. We will keep you informed of decisions resulting from the EA analysis. When completed, the EA will be made available on the BLM's website at: http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/north_dakota_field.html.





BLM will use the NEPA public participation requirements to assist the agency in satisfying the public involvement requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)(54 U.S.C 306108) pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). The information about cultural resources within the area potentially affected by the proposed BOE II project will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources in the context of both NEPA and Section 106 of NHPA. Written comments and/or resource information may be mailed to:

BLM North Dakota Field Office
Attention Lowell Hassler, Project Manager
BOE II Project
99 23rd Avenue West, Suite A
Dickinson, ND 58601

Comments may also be submitted electronically by e-mail to lhassler@blm.gov.

To ensure that written comments and information are fully considered during the preparation of the EA, the BLM must receive them by close of business June 8, 2015. "Before including your address, phone number,

e-mail address, or any other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that will be possible."

** Facsimile comments will not be accepted. Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, at the BLM North Dakota Field Office, 99 23rd Avenue West, Suite A, Dickinson, ND 58601.*