

Western Expansion Pipeline III Fact Sheet

Updated November 28, 2012

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is initiating a public scoping process in order to solicit public comments and identify issues for an Environmental Assessment (EA) that will be prepared for the proposed Western Expansion Pipeline III (WEP III) Project.

What is the WEP III Project?

The Plan of Development (POD), prepared by Mid-America Pipeline (MAPL), and submitted to the BLM, proposes to construct, operate, and maintain about 233 miles of natural gas liquids pipeline which would tie into and be installed adjacent to their existing system that runs through New Mexico. This project crosses Federal lands managed by the BLM Farmington, Rio Puerco, and Roswell Field Offices, as well as lands administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The project would also cross Tribal, State, and private lands.

The proposed project would consist of about 233 miles of 16-inch diameter pipeline, comprised of 6 loop pipeline segments (portions of segments 1 and 3 would be 20-inch diameter), in San Juan, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, McKinley, Bernalillo, Santa Fe, Torrance, Guadalupe, Lincoln, De Baca, Chaves, and Lea counties, New Mexico.

Where exactly are the proposed loop segments?

MAPL's proposed loops are described in the POD. The POD can be viewed online at www.blm.gov/nm/westernexpansionpipeline.

On November 26, 2012, MAPL submitted an amendment to the POD removing Segment 4 from the project. In addition, 3.6 miles from Segment 6 were also removed and the length of Segment 3 was increased by one-tenth of a mile. An updated map reflecting these changes is attached.

Why is the pipeline needed?

The proposed pipeline loop segments would accommodate increased production in the Rocky Mountain Region by transporting natural gas liquids to Hobbs, New Mexico and ultimately to markets in Mont Belvieu, Texas.

How much of the project is on BLM-administered land?

Of the 233 miles proposed, about 66 miles would be installed on BLM-administered lands, 26 miles on BIA-administered lands, 27 miles on State lands, and 114 miles on private lands. Construction is proposed for 2013 and would be completed within 9 months.

What is the footprint for the proposed project?

MAPL has requested a 50-foot permanent right-of-way and an additional 75 feet of temporary construction width for the length of the 6 loop pipeline segments. Additional temporary work areas have also been requested in various locations (road crossings, stream crossings, steep slopes, etc.).

How many jobs would this project create, if approved?

MAPL estimates that construction activities would require the employment of approximately 550 to 600 workers consisting of MAPL employees, contractor employees, construction inspection

staff, and environmental inspection staff. A peak workforce of 600 employees would be required with an average workforce of 200 workers during construction. At this time, MAPL does not anticipate the need for additional employees to maintain the facilities after construction, if approved.

How will BLM decide whether to permit the project?

The BLM will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act requirements for this proposal. The EA will consider a reasonable range of alternatives, including a No Action alternative, and will disclose the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the proposal.

What are the potential impacts?

Resource surveys are in progress and the results will be included in the EA. The EA will assess the potential effects of the proposed project and will also identify measures that could reduce impacts to communities and resources. This assessment will provide the basis for the BLM's decision.

Are there opportunities for the public to comment on this project?

Yes. As a starting point in the assessment, the BLM is soliciting input on issues that will be considered in the preparation of the EA. At this time, the public is encouraged to provide any comments, concerns, or issues they may have with regard to the proposal. Originally, the public comment period ended on November 20, 2012, but the comment period has since been extended. To best facilitate the development of the EA comments must be received by December 5, 2012.

Where do I submit my comments and questions?

Written comments and questions should be directed to Lorraine Salas, BLM National Project Manager stationed at the Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess St., Las Cruces, NM 88005. Comments may also be submitted electronically to lsalas@blm.gov or faxed to 575-525-4412.

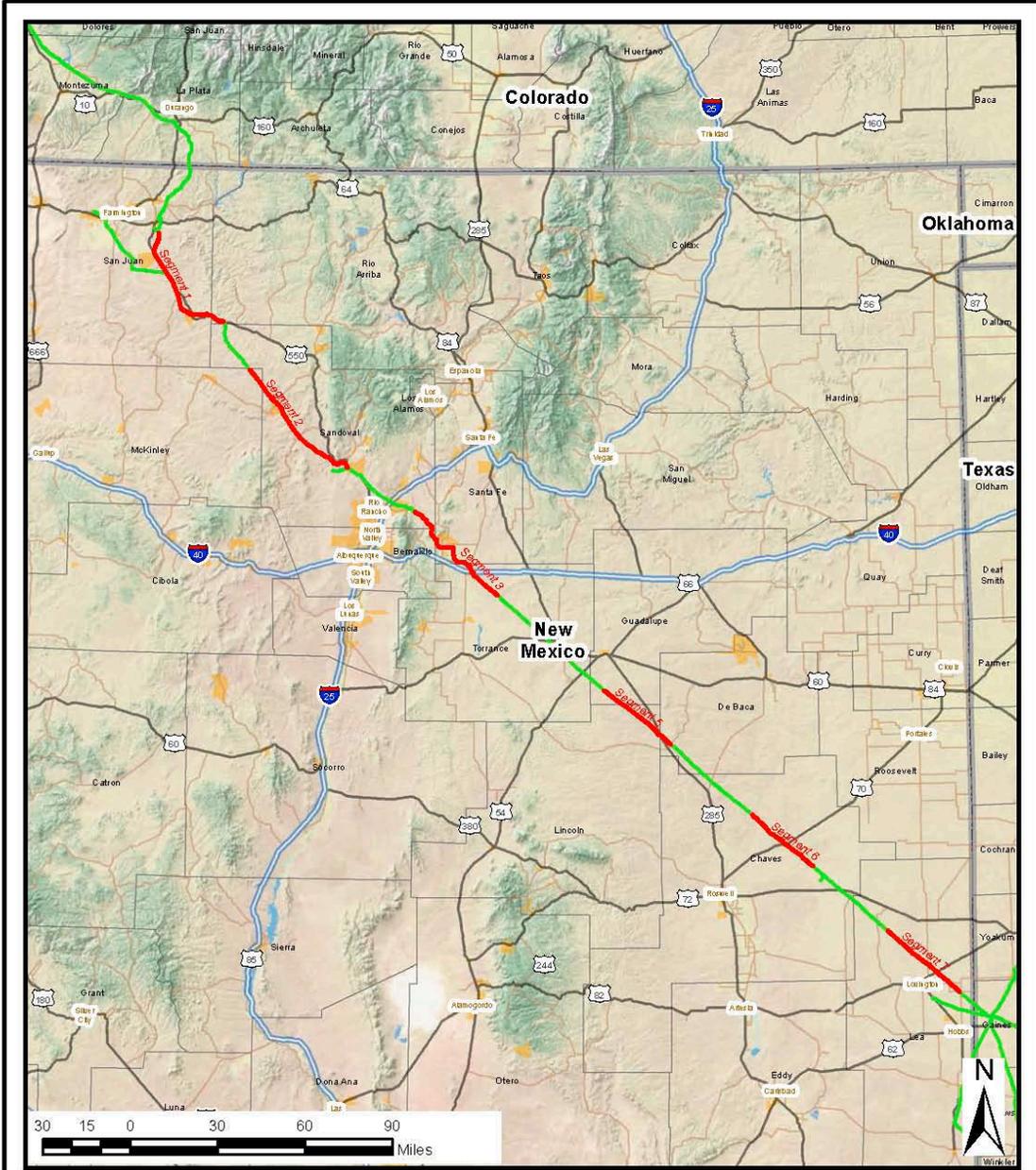
Where can I get more information?

MAPL's proposed plan of development, which provides additional information, is available for review at www.blm.gov/nm/westernexpansionpipeline. Digital and hard copies of the maps referred to in the plan of development are available at the following BLM field offices.

Farmington Field Office
6251 College Blvd., Suite A
Farmington, NM 87402

Rio Puerco Field Office
435 Montano Road Northeast
Albuquerque, NM 87107-4935

Roswell Field Office
2909 W. Second Street
Roswell, NM 88201-2019



- Legend**
- Proposed Centerline
 - Existing Corridor

MID-AMERICA PIPELINE

General Location of the WEP III Project