

POST INSPECTION MEMORANDUM

Inspector: Al Jones / WUTC

Reviewed: Joe Subits /WUTC

Peer Reviewed: _____

Follow-Up Enforcement:

PCP* PCO* NOA WL LOC

Director Approval:

Date: February 15, 2011

Operator Inspected: TransCanada Transmission Northwest (GTN)

OPID: 15014

Region: Western

Unit Address:

201 West North River Drive
Spokane, WA 99201

Unit Inspected: Wallula, WA.

Unit ID: 3605

Unit Type: Interstate

Inspection Type: I01-Abbreviated Procedures Standard Inspection (Follow-up Inspection)

Record Location: Spokane, WA

Inspection Dates: February 2-4, 2011

AFOD: 3

SMART Activity Number:

Operator Contact: Ken Leier, Regional director

Phone: 509-533-2831 **Fax:** 509-533-2825

Emergency: 800-447-8066

Unit Description:

The Wallula District extends from the Snake River to the Washington/Oregon state line. The looped 24" and 36" lines are approximately 55 miles in length, transverse mostly agricultural wheat fields, and have a MAOP of 911 psig at approximately 72% SMYS. There are no laterals and HCAs in the District.

Facilities Inspected:

A follow-up to the August 23-27, 2010 inspection of the Wallula District was completed on February 2-4, 2011. Several sinkholes along the pipeline right-of-way were discovered at Milepost 231.5, approximately 0.5 mile upstream of the crossing of Walker Road in Walla Walla County, commonly known as the "Babcock Road sink holes." The ravine where the sinkholes are located is shallow with a slope varying from about 3% to 7% with an elevation change of about 150 feet. There are several large sink holes along the pipeline where soil has been washed out, transported along the pipeline trench, and deposited somewhere at a lower elevation. The location where the soil was deposited has not been identified. The largest hole is approximately 12 feet in length, 4 feet wide, and 4 feet in depth.

I met on site with the supervisor for Snelson Contractor to inspect the mitigation measures prepared by Golder Engineers. The plan specified 4-inch slotted drains placed under each transmission line. Each drain is connected to a 6-inch tightline pipe placed parallel to the right-of-way. The two tightlines will be monitored in the future for water intercepted for each pipeline. The trench breakers will have sand bags placed around the pipeline (see photos) and covered with a non-woven geotextile filter fabric. The actual design for the project has been changed from sixteen trench breakers to six at about 250 foot separation.

Persons Interviewed:

Kurt Smith Compliance Specialist, GTN Systems
 Brad Huntley Multi-Skilled Technician-Mechanical

Probable Violations/Concerns:

None

Follow up on the history of prior offenses that are still open:

Prior Offenses (for the past 5 years)		
CPF #	What type of open enforcement action(s)?	Status of the regulations(s) violated (Reoccurrence Offenses, Implement a NOA Revision, Completion of PCO or CO, and etc...)

Recommendations:

None

Comments:

Maintain regular inspection schedule and UTC inspect for soil erosion on pipeline.

Attachments:

- PHMSA Form 16-Gas IMP Field Verification
- Exhibit "A" photographs of trench breakers
- Exhibit "B" Sinkhole Remediation Design by Golder Associates

Version Date: 5/5/08