DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE PUMP STATIONS



Capacity Optimization

Energy Transfer plans to optimize the Dakota Access Pipeline to accommodate additional volumes of crude oil out of the Bakken production region of North Dakota. To do this, additional horsepower will be created by adding pumps at new and existing pump stations along the route. We will purchase property outright for three new mid-point pump stations; one each in North Dakota, South Dakota and Illinois.

There will be no mainline construction

Why We Need Pump Stations

Crude oil is transported through underground pipelines with the help of pump stations to keep the crude oil flowing. Pump stations enable crude oil to travel long distances from the areas of production like North Dakota to markets across the United States. The pump stations are located at precise distance intervals along the pipeline. The design of each station including the number of pumps varies based on a variety of factors including the diameter and maximum operating pressure of the pipe, the product and volume being moved, and the elevation profile of the system. The pump stations are used to boost the liquid pressure to allow crude oil to move at the desired flow rates.

Pump stations also are often the launch point for inline inspection monitoring devices also known as "pigs". These tools are vital for the maintenance, safety and efficiency of the pipeline.

Sound and Visual Minimizations

Pump stations along the Dakota Access Pipeline are designed to minimize residual sound and aesthetic impact, and to provide additional environmental protection. All pumps and motors at each pump station are isolated within a closed structure that is lined with noise reducing insulation. Additionally, acoustical treatments such as insulated duct sections and internally lined air hoods are included in the wall and roof mounted fans for noise attenuation.

The Dakota Access pump stations are designed for noise levels to not exceed 55 decibels at the fence line. For comparison, a normal conversation occurs at about 55 decibels and an automobile at 50 feet can be as much as 90 decibels. In addition, all pump stations are in very rural areas with no homes within 1.000 feet.



Safety of the Pump Stations

Pump stations on interstate pipelines are highly regulated facilities that must comply with standards established by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). They are remotely controlled with many instruments, detectors and transmitters that are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by highly trained control specialists. Technicians and operating specialists also visit the sites regularly.

What does a typical pump station look like?



