3.1 Project Construction

Pipeline

Construction of the new pipeline would require a typical construction right-of-way (ROW) width of 125 feet in uplands, 100 feet in non-forested wetlands, 85 feet in forested areas (wetlands and uplands), and up to 150 feet in agricultural areas. Following construction, a 50-foot wide permanent easement would be retained along the pipeline. Where necessary, Dakota Access would utilize additional temporary workspace outside of the construction ROW to facilitate specialized construction procedures, such as horizontal directional drills (HDD); railroad, road, wetland, waterbody, and foreign utility line crossings; tie-ins with existing pipeline facilities; areas with steep side slopes; and pipeline crossovers.

Aboveground Facilities

In North Dakota, six tank terminals/pump stations are located along Supply Line in Mountrail, Williams and McKenzie counties. There is only one pump station located within the state of South Dakota, in Spink County, approximately seven miles southeast of Redfield. All tank terminals and pump stations have been sited outside of USFWS easements.

Valves used to isolate specific sections of pipeline and minimize crude release in the event of an emergency would be located throughout the pipeline, including 20 throughout the Supply Line in North Dakota, 25 throughout the Mainline in North Dakota, and 40 along the pipeline in South Dakota. The permanent valve sites would be constructed within the 50-foot permanently maintained ROW, and be approximately 75-feet-long and 50-feet-wide. The spacing intervals between the valves along the ROW are based upon the location of the high consequence areas, federal regulations, and permit requirements. All valves would have remote actuators so that in the unlikely event of an emergency, these valves can be quickly activated from the operational control room to isolate sections of the pipeline to minimize environmental impacts. All valves have been situated outside of USFWS grassland easements and USFWS protected wetland basins within USFWS wetland easements to avoid permanent impacts.

All pipeline segments will allow the passage of internal inspection devices (i.e. pig), which are capable of detecting internal and external anomalies in the pipe such as corrosion, dents, and scratches. Pipeline internal inspection technology has improved significantly in recent years. Pig launcher/receivers (L/Rs) are designed to launch and receive internal inspection devices for routing maintenance during operation of the system. A total of six L/Rs would be located along the pipeline within North Dakota (at four of the six tank terminal sites and two along the mainline), and a total of three L/Rs would be installed in South Dakota. L/Rs are 200-feet-wide by 400-feet-long. These L/R stations are not located within USFWS grassland easements or USFWS protected wetland basins within wetland easements to avoid permanent impacts.

3.2 Project Timeline

Dakota Access anticipates starting construction in the spring of 2016 as soon as applicable permits and approvals have been issued. Commissioning of the facilities should occur in October 2016 for in-service by December 2016. Restoration activities will continue as necessary to ensure proper restoration of the disturbed areas.