



Home > Mid-America Pipeline Company Western Expansion Project EA

## **Project Description**

The right-of-way application filed by Mid-America Pipeline Company LLC c/o Enterprise Products Operating LP proposes the following:

- Construction, operation, and maintenance of a buried, steel pipeline included in 12 separate loop sections. Looping consists of constructing a pipeline parallel to, and 25 feet away from existing pipelines in most areas. MAPL owns most of the existing pipelines along this route. Hydraulic modeling determined the diameter, length, location, and number of segments needed to increase system capacity to the desired volume.
- The proposed pipeline looping segments commence at the existing MAPL facilities located in the Sweetwater County, Wyoming area. The new pipeline will predominantly be located parallel and adjacent to existing MAPL rights-of-way and will involve overlapping pipeline rights-of-way for temporary and permanent use.
- These pipeline segments accumulate approximately 202 miles on an approximate 840-mile long existing pipeline route commencing at MAPL's Rock Springs, Wyoming Pump Station and extending easterly, westerly, and southerly in six segments totaling approximately 84 miles in Wyoming. The next looping segments commence at the existing MAPL Lybrook Pump Station located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, and extend along the existing pipeline route in a southeasterly direction to the New Mexico/Texas state line. The New Mexico portion consists of six looping segments and totals approximately 118 miles. The 202 mile proposed system expansion includes the installation of 6-inch to 16-inch diameter pipeline looping with related appurtenances predominately within or adjacent to the existing MAPL Pipeline System. Capacity of this system will be increased by 50,000 barrel per day (bpd) with looping and pump station modifications.
- Twenty-three of the existing pump station locations along the existing corridor in Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico are proposed to be modified and/or upgraded within existing boundaries or with minor boundary adjustments. No new pump stations are proposed for this expanded pipeline system. The proposed upgrades/modifications at existing pump stations are designed to handle an increase from 225,000 bpd to 275,000 bpd with the new 50,000 bpd volumes.
- Pipeline appurtenances primarily consist of block and check valve locations, scraper traps, cathodic protection systems, and pipeline markers. These will be constructed/placed above grade in a similar configuration to existing facilities.
- The new pipeline will be buried, at a minimum, to the depth of cover requirements as described in, and in full compliance with, the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline Safety Regulations 49 CFR Part 195, Subpart C Design Requirements. Pipe wall thickness will be based on minimum yield strength of the steel for a maximum allowable operating pressures of 1650 pounds per square inch as per 49 CFR Part 195, Subpart C Design Requirements.
- It is anticipated that flowing rivers, i.e., Rio Grande, will be crossed by directional drilling techniques.
- There would not be any replacement of existing pipeline.
- Permanent and temporary use areas are required for safe and efficient pipe stringing and equipment movement. The temporary easement is required for the entire approximately 202 miles of pipeline. It is presumed that the temporary easement will overlap into existing rights-of-way of

adjoining pipelines. Additional temporary work areas may be required at, road and canal crossings, steep slopes, and other areas of topographical restrictions.

- The system capacity from Rock Springs, Wyoming will be expanded from the existing 225,000 bpd (42 gallons per barrel) to 275,000 bpd delivery at the south end of the system. Natural gas liquids primarily consist of the following hydrocarbon components: ethanes, propanes, butanes, and natural gasolines. Ethane is typically used in manufacture of polyethylene materials. Propane is typically use for space heating, cooking, fuel, and petrochemical feed stock materials. Refineries for the manufacture of motor fuels typically use butanes and natural gas. The proportional composition of the natural gas liquid stream varies in accordance with the character of the natural gas being processed at the gas processing plants and with shipper discretion. Characteristically, hydrocarbons are gaseous under atmospheric conditions. In storage and in the pipeline, these products are handled in a liquid state for more efficient transportation.
- It is anticipated that April 2004 through the end of September 2005 will consist of right-of-way acquisitions, obtaining permits, cultural clearances, granting of easements on public lands, material procurement, and contractor selection. Construction is projected to start in October 2005 and be completed in December 2006.
- The proposed looping pipeline would be located in the following States/counties; Wyoming Sweetwater, and Uinta Counties; Utah Grand and San Juan Counties; New Mexico Chaves, De Baca, Guadalupe, McKinley, Sandoval, San Juan, Rio Arriba, and Torrance Counties; Texas Gaines County.

