

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 3-6-09
SB 387



March 4, 2009

Montana landowners, MATL reach compromise

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Tribune Staff Writer

Developer Tonbridge Power Inc. announced Tuesday that it has successfully negotiated settlements with four Montana landowners who had objected to its Montana Alberta Tie Line transmission project.

"What it means is there are no further holdups for construction of this line in the state of Montana," said Richard Opper, director of the state Department of Environmental Quality.

The settlement clears up opposition in Montana, but a group of Alberta landowners continues to fight plans for the \$140 million transmission line, which would connect the electricity markets of Canada, at Lethbridge, and the United States, at Great Falls.

Wind farm developers, who need transmission to ship power to out-of-state markets, have sited projects along the line, but some landowners objected to the diagonal placement of poles and the use of wider H-frame poles.

In response, MATL reduced the number of miles of diagonal crossings and replaced some of the H-frames with single poles.

"Now we can proceed with the project without being pugnacious," Toronto-based Tonbridge CEO Johan van't Hof said of the Montana settlements.

In a special meeting Friday, the Montana Board of Environmental Review, with which the appeals were filed, is expected to formally dismiss the landowners' appeals.

About 130 miles of the line would cross Montana farmland. van't Hof said getting support from every landowner has been an unfair "test of unanimity," but he added that the company has tried to negotiate agreements, as opposed to being "pushy" and beginning construction without them.

"This means we weren't being strident," he said.

The appealing landowners were Chris Stephens of Dutton; neighbors Jerry McRae and Katrina Wilson Martin, also of Dutton, who filed a joint appeal; and Michael and Donald Koenig of Conrad.

Michael Koenig referred comments to Norman Grosfield, a Helena attorney representing the family in the dispute.

"We've come to a resolution that is satisfactory to my client," Grosfield said, adding a confidentiality agreement prevented any further comment.

The other landowners weren't immediately available for comment.

van't Hof said confidentially agreements have been signed in each case but, in general, the

appeals involved placement of the poles and the use of diagonal crossings over farmland.

The settlements did not involve any payments except that the company agreed to pay the landowners' legal fees, van't Hof said.

Last week, MATL said appeals of the project were partly responsible for a five-month delay in construction of the transmission line.

Construction, which was scheduled to begin this month, has been pushed back to the fall.

An appeal of the project by property owners in Alberta was heard by the Alberta Court of Appeal in January. A decision is pending.

"If the court finds something that needs to be fixed up, we'll go fix it up," van't Hof said.

Bob Williams of Montana Alberta Tie Ltd., a Tonbridge Power Inc. subsidiary, said individual negotiations with Montana landowners over easements and mitigating the impact of the line will pick up once the Court of Appeals case is settled.

The 500-foot corridor that's been authorized in Montana gives the company flexibility in the final centerline location, he said.

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Final Air Quality Permits

Permit Type: AQ (Air Quality) T5 (Title V)

| Permit Number | Permittee | Issue Date | Permit Type |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------|
| <u>1821-18</u> | CHS Inc. - Laurel Refinery | March 3, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>2598-02</u> | Centennial Concrete | March 2, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>0691-00</u> | Montana-Dakota Utilities, Inc. Lewis and Clark Station | February 25, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>OP1564-02</u> <u>TRD1564-02</u> | ExxonMobil Refining and Supply Company | February 24, 2009 | T5 |
| <u>OP2619-03</u> <u>TRD2619-03</u> | ConocoPhillips Company - Billings Refinery | February 24, 2009 | T5 |
| <u>3175-06</u> | Thompson River Power, LLC | February 10, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>4281-00</u> | Pioneer Concrete and Fuel, Inc. | February 10, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>4206-01</u> | CAP Paving Inc. | February 7, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>2945-04</u> | ConocoPhillips Company | February 5, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3179-04</u> | Signal Peak Energy, LLC. | February 5, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3282-04</u> | Global Coal Sales Group, LLC | February 5, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3261-02</u> | Schellinger Construction Co., Inc. | February 9, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3300-03</u> | Encore Energy Partners Operating, LLC - Elk Basin Battery No. 9 | February 7, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3096-01</u> | Knife River Corporation | February 3, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>2659-05</u> | Knife River - Portable Crushing/Screening Facility | January 31, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>OP2035-01</u> <u>TRD2025-01</u> | Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership | January 27, 2009 | T5 |
| <u>2822-04</u> | Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline - Saco Compressor Station | January 27, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>2566-07</u> | Knife River Corporation - Portable Crushing & Screening Operation | January 27, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>4072-01</u> | Schwend Gravel Company - Portable Crushing & Screening Facility | January 27, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>4255-00</u> | NorthWestern Energy - Mill Creek Generating Station | January 22, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>2589-14</u> | Smurfit-Stone Container Enterprises, Inc. - Missoula Mill | January 21, 2009 | AQ |

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|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------|----|
| <u>4256-00</u> | Basin Electric Power Cooperative -- Culbertson Generation Station | January 21, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>2839-03</u> | Century Construction Company, Inc | January 8, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3008-02</u> | Century Construction Company, Inc | January 8, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3328-03</u> | Hiland Partners, LP - Three Buttes Compressor Station | January 6, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3358-03</u> | Hiland Partners, LP - Vaira Compressor Station | January 6, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>4254-00</u> | Knife River Corporation | January 5, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>4262-00</u> | Helena Sand & Gravel, Inc. | January 3, 2009 | AQ |
| <u>3172-01</u> | Fisher Sand & Gravel Company | December 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2699-02</u> | Knife River Corporation | December 18, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP1821-01</u> <u>TRD1821-01</u> | CHS Inc. - Laurel Refinery | October 31, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>3293-01</u> | Montana Department of Livestock | December 9, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4068-01</u> | Knife River | December 9, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3867-01</u> | Knife River Corporation | December 6, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2832-07</u> | PSC Container Services LLC | December 5, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3235-01</u> | Sparrow Enterprises, Inc. | December 5, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2303-15</u> | Roseburg Forest Products - Missoula Particleboard | December 4, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>1120-09</u> | Spring Creek Coal Company | December 3, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3423-01</u> | Southern Montana Electric - Highwood Generation Station | November 26, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2619-24</u> | ConocoPhillips Company - Billings Refinery | November 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2996-05</u> | Knife River Corporation | November 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2569-02</u> | Prince, Inc. | November 17, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2978-05</u> | Knife River Corporation | November 14, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3106-01</u> | MillerCoors LLC | November 13, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP2784-07</u> <u>TRD2784-07</u> | NorthWestern Energy | November 6, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>OP3185-01</u> <u>TRD3185-01</u> | Rocky Mountain Power, LLC | November 6, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>2843-04</u> | Taylor Gas Compression, Inc. | November 6, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>1551-06</u> | Montana Dakota Utilities, Inc. - Glendive Operating Station | November 3, 2008 | AQ |

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|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|----|
| <u>1739-03</u> | Ranck Oil Company Inc. | October 31, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3065-03</u> | Knife River Corporation | October 28, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3406-01</u> | Knife River Corporation | October 28, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4252-00</u> | Glacier Gold, LLC | October 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4251-00</u> | Glacier Gold, LLC | October 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4250-00</u> | Glacier Gold LLC | October 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2784-05</u> | NorthWestern Energy | October 17, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3042-01</u> | Century Companies Inc. | October 14, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2641-02</u> | Century Companies Inc. | September 26, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2930-03</u> | Montana Air National Guard | September 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4245-00</u> | Flathead Electric LFGE facility | September 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4244-00</u> | Helena Sand & Gravel | September 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4236-00</u> | Northern Improvement Company | September 3, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4237-00</u> | Elkhorn Goldfields, Inc. | August 30, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3016-01</u> | Donaldson Brothers Ready Mix | August 21, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2777-03</u> | Knife River Corporation | August 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4235-00</u> | Fisher Sand & Gravel Company | August 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2606-02</u> | Knife River Corporation | August 16, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2788-03</u> | Knife River Corporation | August 16, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2997-08</u> | NorthWestern Energy | August 9, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3099-03</u> | Kootenai Paving and Construction, Inc. | August 7, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3100-01</u> | Knife River Corporation | August 6, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2161-21</u> | Montana Refining Company | August 5, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP3237-01</u> <u>TRD3237-01</u> | SSP-SiMatrix, Inc. | August 2, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>3023-01</u> | Knife River Corporation | July 31, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3142-02</u> | Knife River Corporation | July 31, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2035-04</u> | Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership | July 29, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2756-05</u> | NorthWestern Energy Utopia Field Station | July 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2766-03</u> | NorthWestern Energy South Moulton Field Station | July 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2767-05</u> | NorthWestern Energy North Moulton Field Station | July 23, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2828-02</u> | Knife River Corporation | July 19, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3237-01</u> | SSP-SiMatrix, Inc. | July 18, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3029-03</u> | Remp Sand & Gravel, Inc. | July 17, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3082-01</u> | Great Falls Animal Shelter | July 17, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3101-01</u> | Knife River Corporation | July 15, 2008 | AQ |

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|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|----|
| <u>2773-04</u> | NorthWestern Energy - Box Elder Field Station 070 | July 9, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP2303-03</u> <u>TRD2303-03</u> | Roseburg Forest Products - Missoula Particleboard Facility | July 8, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>OP2619-02</u> <u>TRD2619-02</u> | ConocoPhillips Co. Billings Refinery | July 8, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>2428-10</u> | NorthWestern Energy Main Line #1 | July 3, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3288-02</u> | Knife River Corporation | July 3, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3151-02</u> | Bridgford Industries, Inc. | July 2, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP4056-00</u> <u>TRD4056-00</u> | ConocoPhillips Co. - Pipeline and Terminal Operations | July 1, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>4215-00</u> | MR Asphalt, Inc. | June 28, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2570-03</u> | Knife River Corporation | June 28, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>1821-17</u> | CHS, Inc. | June 27, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2689-04</u> | Knife River Corporation | June 18, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3134-02</u> | Knife River Corporation | June 18, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2605-02</u> | Shumaker Trucking and Excavating Contractors, Inc. | June 18, 2006 | AQ |
| <u>OP2428-08</u> <u>TRD2428-08</u> | NorthWestern Energy - Main Line #1 Field Station | June 18, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>4206-00</u> | Capitol Gravel & Asphalt, LLC | June 17, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>4205-00</u> | TMK Construction, LLC | June 17, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP3085-00</u> <u>TRD3085-00</u> | Rocky Mountain Power, LLC | June 14, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>OP0513-04</u> <u>TRD0513-04</u> | PPL Montana, LLC - Colstrip Steam Electric Station | June 13, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>3319-02</u> | Concrete Placing Company, Inc. | June 13, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP2782-06</u> <u>TRD2782-06</u> | NorthWestern Corporation - Telestad Field Station | June 10, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>4207-00</u> | Sullivan Gravel Pit | June 6, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>OP2282-04</u> <u>TRD2282-04</u> | Luzenac America, Inc. - Three Forks Mill | June 6, 2008 | T5 |
| <u>3860-01</u> | LHC, Inc. | May 20, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>2900-06</u> | Montana Limestone Company | May 15, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3898-01</u> | Omimex Canada, Ltd. | May 14, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3179-03</u> | Bull Mountain Mining, Inc. | May 13, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>3256-01</u> | Weaver Gravel, Inc. | May 9, 2008 | AQ |
| <u>1435-05</u> | Decker Coal Company | May 9, 2008 | AQ |