Frequently Asked Questions

Arbuckle II Pipeline Project

What is the Arbuckle II Pipeline?
The Arbuckle II Pipeline is being constructed to transport natural gas liquids (NGLs) from ONEOK's existing NGL gathering system in Oklahoma to the company's storage and fractionation facilities at Mont Belvieu, Texas. The approximately 530-mile, 24- and 30-inch diameter pipeline is expected to have initial capacity to transport up to 400,000 barrels per day of unfractionated NGLs.

Why do you want to build the Arbuckle II Pipeline?
Additional NGL takeaway capacity is critical to meeting the needs of producers who are increasing production in the STACK and SCOOP plays in Oklahoma. The Arbuckle II Pipeline will strengthen ONEOK's position in high-production areas of the Mid-Continent and provide additional reliability and redundancy on our NGL system.

What experience does the company have with pipelines?
ONEOK is a leader in the gathering, processing, storage and transportation of natural gas and NGLs in the United States. The company owns and operates the following NGL assets:

- 7,100 miles of NGL gathering pipelines
- 4,300 miles of NGL distribution pipelines
- 26 million barrels of NGL storage capacity
- 7 NGL fractionators
- 8 NGL product terminals
- 840,000 barrels per day of net NGL fractionation capacity

What are NGLs?
NGLs consist primarily of ethane, ethane/propane mix, propane, iso-butane, butane and natural gasoline. NGLs are used primarily by agriculture, petrochemical and plastics industries, as well as for refining and home heating uses.

How will you ensure that the Arbuckle II Pipeline is safe?
The safety of the public and its employees is the highest priority for ONEOK. In general, pipelines remain one of the safest and most efficient methods of transporting energy. ONEOK operates extensive NGL and natural gas pipeline systems, compressor stations and a variety of other facilities.

The Arbuckle II Pipeline will meet or exceed applicable government and industry standards in design and construction. It will be monitored daily during construction, tested prior to being placed into service and inspected regularly for integrity.

Our trained technicians will monitor and control the pipeline around the clock using a combination of highly sophisticated sensors and communications technology and will perform periodic, on-the-ground inspections. We also will educate the public on how to live and work safely near the pipeline and inform local emergency responders of how to respond to any emergency.

What would happen if the Arbuckle II Pipeline were to rupture or leak?
ONEOK goes to great lengths in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of its pipeline systems to ensure safety and reliability; however, if a rupture is detected, the company automatically stops the flow of product and contacts local emergency responders.

Upon notification, ONEOK and local emergency responders work in tandem to enact pre-established response plans and notify affected landowners. In all cases, emergency responders are directed to protect people first, followed by the environment and property.

What is an easement?
An easement, or right of way (ROW), is a limited right to use a portion of property for specific purposes. ONEOK will compensate the landowner for the right to construct, operate and maintain an underground pipeline, and in limited cases, aboveground equipment, such as valves and cathodic protection sites related to the pipeline.

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What can the public expect during construction?

The first step of pipeline construction involves surveying and staking the pipeline ROW. Then, the route will be cleared and graded, if necessary, to create a suitable working surface for construction. Finally, a trench is dug, the depth of which varies according to local conditions but must comply with regulatory standards.

The second step involves laying the pipe along the right of way, also known as "stringing." When necessary, the pipe sections are bent to conform to the contour of the surrounding land. The pipe sections are welded together by qualified welders and are X-rayed to verify their integrity before being coated and inspected prior to being lowered into the trench.

The third step of construction involves backfilling the trench, and the final step is restoring the ROW to as near as practical to its original condition. Through a process called hydrostatic testing, the pipeline is then filled with water and safely pressure tested to validate its design and strength. As dictated by unique conditions, directional drilling (or tunneling) may be used to avoid potential impacts on the public.

Whose jurisdiction does the pipeline fall under?

The Arbuckle II Pipeline is an interstate NGL pipeline, subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Other federal, state and local agencies may issue permits or approvals in connection with the construction of the pipeline.

How deep underground will the pipeline be?

The depth of cover – or the amount of cover between the top of the pipeline and ground level – will be determined by environmental conditions. In normal soil conditions, depth of cover is 3 feet. In areas of rock, it is 2 feet.

These depths are in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation pipeline safety regulations and will allow for consistent use of the land as specified in easement agreements. ONEOK employees will work with the necessary agencies and stakeholders to satisfy all regulations. Any additional concerns or issues from stakeholders on depth of cover will be considered.

What reviews take place before pipeline construction?

ONEOK consults with all required local, state and federal agencies. In addition, environmental, constructability, civil and engineering surveys are completed.

Additional Information and Contacts:

www.oneok.com/arbuckle2pipeline

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