

## **APPENDIX J**

### **FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION PLAN**

# FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION PLAN

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# **FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION PLAN**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This Fire Prevention and Suppression Plan identifies measures to be taken by Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC (Company) and its construction contractors (Contractor) to prevent and suppress all fires in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations. Measures identified in this plan, apply to work within the project area defined as the right-of-way, access roads, all work and storage areas, and other areas used during construction of the project. It is the Contractor's responsibility and obligation to take the initial and independent action to control and suppress all fires resulting from its operations regardless of the location or extent of such fires.

## **2.0 PURPOSE**

The risk of fire danger during pipeline construction is related to smoking, spark arresters, catalytic converters, vehicle fires, welding, normal operation, and refueling of equipment. This plan describes standard fire prevention measures, prevention measures to be taken during extreme fire hazard conditions, as well as procedures to be taken to control a fire in the event one is accidentally started. The fire prevention and suppression measures described in this plan will be in effect from the beginning to the end of construction.

## **3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES AND COORDINATION**

The Company and the Contractor have the responsibility for providing all necessary fire-fighting equipment on the project site to their respective employees, and operating under the requirements of this plan. Prior to construction, the Company will contact the appropriate authorities to establish communications, obtain permits (if applicable), and/or fulfill other obligations as directed by fire control authorities. In addition to the above, the Company will:

- Ensure that prevention, detection, pre-suppression, and suppression activities are in accordance with this fire plan and federal, state, and county laws, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to fire;
- Accompany agency representatives on fire tool and equipment inspections and take corrective action upon notification of any fire protection requirements that are not in compliance; and
- Restrict operations on federal and tribal lands during conditions of high fire danger as directed by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs Fire Management Officer as described in Section 4.10 Restricted Operations.

Restrictions may change by advance written notice by fire control authorities. However, required tools and equipment will be kept in serviceable condition and be immediately available for fire suppression at all times.

## **4.0 STANDARD FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES**

### **4.1 Training**

The Contractors will ensure that all personnel are familiar with the measures and procedures of this plan. The Contractor will also inform each construction crew member of fire dangers, locations of extinguishers and equipment, and inform individuals of their responsibilities for fire prevention and

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suppression during regular safety briefings. Agency fire personnel may be requested to provide a fire safety briefing.

### **4.2 Fire Guard**

During construction activities, the Contractors will have a designated representative in charge of fire control on the job at all times. The Contractor will designate a Fire Guard for each construction spread prior to construction activities. The Fire Guard must be physically able, vigilant, and suitably trained to detect fires and use required firefighting equipment. The Fire Guard will not perform other functions during pipeline construction in addition to their Fire Guard responsibilities. The Fire Guard will be identified by a hard-hat decal and/or other appropriate/alternative designations.

### **4.3 Smoking**

Smoking will be prohibited, except in designated areas. Designated areas will consist of an area cleared and graded to native rock (stone) or mineral soil, and will be a minimum of 10 feet in diameter. All burning tobacco and matches will be extinguished before discarding. Smoking will also be prohibited while operating equipment or vehicles, except in enclosed cabs or vehicles.

### **4.4 Burning**

Burning of slash, brush, stumps, trash, explosives storage boxes, or other project debris will be prohibited on the project, unless written authorization and approval is given by the appropriate land management agency or owner. Nor will lunch or warming fires be permitted except in designated, cleared areas receiving prior approval. No fires will be left unattended. No burning will be conducted during periods of official agency fire restrictions.

### **4.5 Spark Arresters, Mufflers, and Exhaust Tailpipes**

Internal combustion engines will be equipped with spark arresters unless it is:

1. Equipped with a turbine-driven exhaust supercharger.
2. A passenger vehicle or light truck equipped with a factory designed muffler and exhaust system in good working condition.
3. A heavy truck or other vehicle used for heavy hauling that is equipped with a factory designed muffler and with a vertical stack exhaust system extending above the cab.

A daily inspection of all engines (stationary and mobile) will be made to ascertain that spark arrestors and mufflers are whole and effective, and that there are no connections that can leak burning particles. In the event that a spark arrestor or muffler is found to be defective, that piece of equipment will not be allowed to operate until the defect is corrected.

### **4.6 Vehicle Parking, Operation, and Refueling**

No motorized equipment, including worker transportation vehicles, will be driven or parked outside of the designated and approved working areas. Gasoline, oil, and lubricants will be transported in approved

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containers in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association Code. Glass containers will not be used to store gasoline or other flammable materials.

### **4.7 Welding**

Welding will be done only at sites that have been cleared to mineral soil. Immediately following welding or cutting operations, and before leaving the site, a careful inspection will be made to detect and extinguish smoldering materials. A 10-pound fire extinguisher will be kept with welding units at all times along with the standard fire equipment required (see Section 4.9).

The root bead grinding process will be shielded to prevent materials from leaving the site that has been cleared to mineral soil. The sparks from the grinders will be prevented from travel off of the construction corridor. The type of shielding may be as simple as a piece of plywood to block the sparks path or a mobile shelter.

### **4.8 Blasting**

In the event that blasting is necessary, electric caps will be required; however, under certain conditions fuse caps may be used. Primer cord shall be understood to be an explosive and not fuse. After blasting, attention will be given to detecting and suppressing fires that may occur. Blasting-related fire prevention measures will be included in a blasting plan that will be developed and approved by the appropriate agencies.

### **4.9 Fire Control Equipment**

All clearing and construction crews will have fire tools including extinguishers, shovels, and axes, available in the event a fire occurs. All motorized vehicles will be equipped with a minimum 10-pound ABC extinguisher, a fire shovel, and an axe (Pulaski style fire axes are recommended).

The Contractor shall have on site and available for use, a water tanker having a capacity of 200 gallons. The tanker will have a pressure pump, an adjustable nozzle, and a minimum of 300 feet of hose.

It is also recommended that in addition to the fire tools carried by the crews and in the vehicles that fire tool caches be maintained at staging areas and work sites to provide additional tools in case the person discovering the fire is not equipped to fight it. A cache is recommended to contain 5 round pointed shovels and 5 Pulaski style fire axes. The cache should be painted in a conspicuous color, sealed, and labeled "Fire Tools Only."

### **4.10 Restricted Operations**

The Contractor will comply with all fire restrictions on federal lands at the direction of the Authorized Officer. Restrictions may vary from stopping specific operations at a given time or completely shutting down operations. The Company may obtain approval, in the form of a written waiver, to continue some or all operations if acceptable precautions are approved and implemented. A list of precautions that will be taken during a fire restriction is provided in Section 5.0.

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### **5.0 EXTREME FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES**

In the event of extreme fire conditions, fire closures may result in all or part of the construction operations being suspended. Depending on site-specific fire danger and hazards, the local land management agency may elect to waive, in writing, all or part of the prohibitions in the fire closure. Conditions that shall be met in the event a waiver is granted shall be specified by the local land management agency, in writing. The following are examples of, but not limited to, measures that may be implemented, in order to be granted a waiver to some or all restrictions:

1. All work areas will be inspected one hour after the end of authorized activities each day to ensure no ignitions have occurred.
2. A mobile water tank containing a minimum of 200 gallons of water with 300 feet of hose line will be located within 250 feet of any type of machine that is powered by an internal combustion engine and any motor vehicles (including heavy equipment) being operated on forest lands.
3. A water tank, containing a minimum of 200 gallons of water, with pump and a 300 foot hose line will be positioned within 250 feet of any welding or cutting activities.
4. A look out familiar with operations of the pump and hose line will be posted in the immediate vicinity of each exempted activity, and dedicated to watch for fire ignitions.

### **6.0 FIRE CONTROL PROCEDURES**

The Company will notify the Authorized Officer of any fires during construction of the pipeline. The Contractor will comply with all rules and regulations administered by the Authorized Officer concerning the use, prevention, and suppression of fires on federal lands. In the event of a fire, the following actions will be taken:

1. The Contractor will take the initial fire suppression action in the work area and the Fire Guard will be notified.
2. The Fire Guard will direct the suppression activities, contact the Company and appropriate Authorized Officer and fire dispatch center, and determine whether or not to request assistance from the local fire emergency response agency (see Table – 1). The Company or Authorized Officer may also determine to contact a fire emergency response agency.
3. Suppression actions will continue until the fire is out or until the crew is relieved by a fire emergency response agency or authorized representative of the agency on whose land the fire occurs.
4. Heavy equipment will not be used for fire suppression outside the limits of the approved right-of-way without prior approval of the Authorized Officer or private landowner, unless there is imminent danger to life or property.
5. The Fire Guard will remain at the fire scene until the fire is fully extinguished. The Fire Guard will prepare a report for any fire indicating its location, cause, and action taken. The report will be submitted to the Company, the Authorized officer, and appropriate agencies.

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### **7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

The Company's Construction Inspectors and any third-party inspectors relevant to the operation will inspect the job site and the Contractor's operations for compliance with all provisions of this plan. In addition, federal, state, and local fire control agencies may perform random inspections in areas under their jurisdiction. At the discretion of the Authorized Officer, an inspection of the project area on federal lands may be initiated at any time to check for compliance with this plan.

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**TABLE – 1. EMERGENCY FIRE CONTROL CONTACTS**

<u>Contact Name/Agency</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Office Location</u>
Vacant - BLM/FS FMO	505/793-1838	Bloomfield, NM
Chuck Campbell-BLM/FS AFMO <a href="mailto:cscampbell@fs.fed.us">cscampbell@fs.fed.us</a>	505/320-4081	Bloomfield, NM
Calvin Miller Four Corners Dispatch-BLM/FS <a href="mailto:calvin_miller@blm.gov">calvin_miller@blm.gov</a>	505/632-1963	Bloomfield, NM
Dave Mertz - Forest Fire Mgmt. Officer/ Kaibab National Forest	Emergency 24/7 # 928/635-2601 Forest Supervisors Office # 928/635-8200	Williams, AZ
Curtis Heaton - Forest Fire Mgmt. Officer - Prescott National Forest	Emergency 24/7 Phone # 928/777-5700 Forest Supervisors Office # 928/443-8000	Prescott, AZ

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Some typical questions you should be prepared to answer:

1. Fire location? – Use landmarks, be exact if possible.
2. Type of fire? – Vegetation fire, vehicle fire, structure fire.
3. Type of fuels? – Grass, brush, trees, etc.
4. Threats to structures, people, work equipment, etc.?
5. Special hazards present? – Powerlines, fuel tanks, explosives, etc.
6. Color of smoke, rate of spread?
7. Your name and phone number for additional information.