



Case History

Canadian operator reduces installation and cathodic protection costs for new sour crude oil gathering system

CH2054

Location

Slave Lake, Alberta

Product

Fiberspar LinePipe™

Problem

Owing to the high welding and other construction-related costs in Central Alberta, the operator sought a more economical alternative for a new 30-km (98,425 ft) 20-line gathering system. Furthermore, because the network primarily would comprise sour oil emulsion (less than 1% H₂S) transmission lines, the operator wanted to reduce long-term cathodic protection costs. In addition, the gathering system was in eco-sensitive farmland that required minimal surface footprint during installation.

Solution

By selecting Fiberspar LinePipe, which arrived on location on a customized deployment system without joints or connections in lengths up to 1.8 km from Fiberspar's Lloydminster, Alberta deployment center, the operator reduced pipe handling in the field, and eliminated the on-site welding and manpower costs required to assemble conventional steel pipelines. Furthermore, because of the non-corrosive composition of Fiberspar LinePipe, the operator removed the need to expand its cathodic protection system, thus reducing long-term maintenance costs appreciably.

Results

The ongoing installation was carried out in stages shortly after each drilling project was completed. In the course of one year, 20 lines totaling 30 km (98,425 ft) were trench-installed, including 28 km (91,864 ft) of 3 1/2" 750E and 2 km (6,562 ft) of 4 1/2" 750E pipe. As the pipe was delivered from the factory in uninterrupted lengths and installed directly in the open ditch, the operator saved in welding costs, coatings and x-ray inspections compared to a conventional steel pipeline that is assembled piece-by-piece on location. The entire system was installed in half the time, thus accelerating the flow of production to market.

Fiber Glass Systems

17115 San Pedro Avenue, Ste 200
San Antonio, Texas 78232 USA
Phone: 210 477 7500
Fax: 210 477 7560

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