



Rob Oquist - Commissioner Dist. 1
Tim Knabenshue - Commissioner Dist. 2
Jim Baldwin - Commissioner Dist. 3
Kaysie Schmidt - County Administrator
Rose Pugliese – Interim County Attorney

Otero County Board of Commissioners

1041 Permit Authority Agenda December 15, 2026

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes - December 8, 2025
4. Consideration and Action Items
 - a. Consider approving the Release of Bond and Deposit for Front Range Pipeline and authorizing Commissioner Rob Oquist, as Chair, to sign.
5. Adjourn



December 8, 2025
1041 Permit Authority Public Hearing

The Board now meets pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Rob Oquist	Chairman
Tim Knabenshue	Commissioner
Jim Baldwin	Commissioner
Kaysie Schmidt	Administrator
Rose Pugliese	Interim County Attorney
Lynda Scott	Clerk

Guests in attendance: Jack Middleton, Taylor Michel, Bryant Coen, Jordan Thomas, Jeremy Capuccio, Nayo Parrett, Nancy Harrington, Bette McFarren, Lucas Rink, David Goebel, Jacob Topping, Adrian Hart and Julie Worley.

Chr. Oquist called for approval of the minutes from the November 3rd, 2025, meeting. Co. Baldwin motioned to approve the minutes. Co. Knabenshue seconded. Motion carried.

Chr. Oquist requests a motion to open a Public Hearing regarding the Application for a Permit to Conduct a Designated Activity for State Interest or to Engage in Development in a Designated area of State Interest by Three Corners Connector, LLC. The time is now: 1:38pm. Co. Knabenshue motioned to approve. Co. Baldwin seconded. Motion carried.

Chr. Oquist: I will now defer to Interim County Attorney Pugliese to proceed with the public hearing.

Attorney Pugliese presented an overview of the public hearing as follows: Applicant will be giving a presentation followed by questions by the Commissioners. Questions will then be answered to best of the presenter's ability. There will then be a Staff presentation/recommended conditions. Questions will be accepted after that by the Commissioners.

Bryant Coen with Three Corners Connector started the presentation with slides. They are, at this time, in Pueblo, CO, and want to expand to make the system more sufficient. The grid is 290 miles long at 390 megawatts of energy. The area through Otero County will have a transfer station that will connect the Eastern and Western grids. This will be a \$200 million dollar project.

Taylor Michel was next and she gave information on the route. Routing transmission lines is a rather complex process. We begin with two end points and then develop a study between those two points and state getting research data. The research into areas begins with wetlands, waterways and specific wildlife habitats. Land use data also gives them an idea of where population centers are situated in state land, private land, infrastructure, airports and any listed historical sites. They will then compile that data into a preliminary route with the areas that will be more compatible with the project. Once that is complete, they will then start meeting with state and local authorities to discuss the project and the preliminary route to get feedback.

Jordan Thomas, Project Manager, presented that he has been in the field for the last two years and has a 100% in voluntary acquisition easements. There have been to date 116 route changes and 11 of those were in Otero County. The company has invested \$425,000 in a Colorado Community Investment

Group. There will be connecting grids so that if one side goes down the whole thing doesn't go down. They also use different markets so that they have a more reliable and cost-effective solution. Mr. Thomas talked a little bit about the financial impact on the project over a 40-year projection model with revenues up to \$3.6 million.

Taylor Michel presented more information on the parameters of the project. There will be 47.7 miles of HVDC transmission line, temporary and permanent access roads, one Fiber Repeater Station, temporary and permanent workstations. Co. Knabenshue asked about the height of the poles. Discussion was held and pole range would be above 50 feet. Co. Knabenshue asked if the 116 route changes are complete and the answer was, they have some at 100% and some they are still working on.

Interim County Attorney Rose Pugliese called Lex Nichols Land Use Administrator for his presentation/recommended conditions.

Mr. Nichols, Land Use Administrator, asked a question about the decommission payments. The answer given was that they still have some commitments that they must fulfill and see about State permitting, utility commissions as well as additional decommissioning requirements. Mr. Nichols commented that they had several meetings about revegetation and commitment to water. The bond estimation for revegetation is \$3.6 Million. The County prefers a Surety Bond, 90% of the amount would be \$3million 240 thousand in a bond renewable every five years and 10% held by the Treasurer's office as cash. As per processes, the year 2031 would be when the process of monitoring the revegetation begins. The County would need a list of properties for the permit authority. Three Corners Connector, LLC will need to get all permits needed by State and County/local authorities. County will need to have access at least once a year to inspect. Mr. Nichols recommended the permit to be given.

Ms. Pugliese, Interim County Attorney, states that from a legal perspective the application is complete. All legal notices have been posted, and the public hearing was conducted today.

Chr. Oquist: I will now open the public hearing up to members of the public for comments, either for or against the Application. Please state your name and county of residence. There were no public comments.

Chr. Oquist: Does the Applicant have any closing comments or responses to public comment? There were no comments or responses from Applicant.

Chr. Oquist requests motion to close the public hearing. Co. Baldwin motioned to approve closing the public hearing. Co. Knabenshue seconded. Motion carried.

The time is now: 2:07pm.

Chr. Oquist: Thank you to the audience for participating in the public hearing.

Chr. Oquist: The 1041 Permitting Authority Board will be considering the 1041 Permit Application, issuing written findings, conclusions, and actions on the Permit within 120 days. A copy of the submitted 1041 Permit Application is posted to the Otero County's website for public view.

Chr. Oquist request motion to adjourn the 1041 hearing. Co. Knabenshue motioned to approve adjourning the meeting. Co. Baldwin seconded. Motion carried.

The time is now: 2:08pm.

With no further business, The Board adjourned the meeting.

Clerk

Chairman



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Office of the Commissioners

December 15, 2025

M. Robb Plehn SR/WA Sr. Land Representative
Enterprise Products
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Centennial, CO 80112
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Re: Front Range Pipeline 1041 Permit Release
Permit Pursuant to the Provisions of the "Guidelines and Regulations for
Areas and Activities of State Interest of Otero County"

Dear 1041 Permittee:

Pursuant to your Front Range Pipeline 1041 Permit: Additional Permit Conditions (5)(b)—
"Upon notice to the Permit Authority of the fulfillment of all permit conditions and the Permit
Authority's concurrence therein, the Permit Authority may terminate any further annual review
requirements."

Otero County Permit Authority has received notice that all permit conditions and the
requirements of the "Revegetation Classification Standards and Special Conditions for 1041
Permits" have been met as of this date.

After a public meeting was held on December 15, 2025, the Otero County Permit Authority
agreed to release your Arch Surety Bond in the amount of \$607,500.00 and will refund your
10% cash deposit in the amount of \$67,500.00

Very truly yours,

Otero County Permit Authority

Rob Oquist, Chair

pc: Rose Pugliese, Interim Otero County Attorney
Kaysie Schmidt, Otero County Administrator
Lex Nichols, Land Use Administrator