

**7852.2500 RIGHT-OF-WAY PREPARATION PROCEDURES AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY SEQUENCE**

**Each applicant shall provide a description of the general right-of-way preparation procedures and construction activity sequence anticipated for the proposed pipeline and related facilities.**

First, the right-of-way is surveyed, staked, and prepared for clearing. The right-of-way is then cleared and graded, as necessary, to provide construction access and safe movement of both equipment and personnel during construction. Silt fence and other erosion control measures are installed, and sensitive areas are marked for avoidance. Appropriate safety measures are implemented before excavation begins, including notification of the One-Call system to ensure third-party utilities and any adjacent pipelines are properly marked. Pipe, valves, and fittings are transported to the right-of-way by truck and placed along the right-of-way by side boom tractors or mobile cranes.

After individual pipe sections are strung along the right-of-way, they are bent to conform to the contours of the trench and terrain. The pipe segments are lined up, clamped, welded, field coated, and inspected. Trenching may occur before or after the pipe has been welded. Trenching is typically conducted using a backhoe or a crawler-mounted, wheel-type trenching machine. Where appropriate, topsoil is segregated according to applicable permit conditions. Prepared pipe is lowered into the trench and, where applicable, tied into existing facilities. During backfilling, subsoil is replaced first and then the topsoil is replaced. Precautions, such as padding the trench with soil, are taken during backfilling to protect the pipe from rock damage.

Once the pipeline has been welded and inspected, and the trench has been backfilled, the pipeline is hydrostatically tested to ensure its integrity prior to the line being filled with crude oil and placed into service. The right-of-way is then cleaned up and restored to preconstruction conditions, as practicable. Restoration includes implementing temporary and permanent stabilization measures such as slope breakers, mulching and seeding.

Section 1.3 of the EIR provides a detailed description of construction activities along with a diagram depicting the typical construction sequence.