

Pipeline Construction

Stages of pipeline construction:

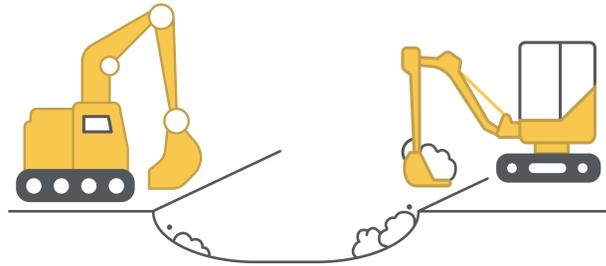
This 1,210 km (1,947 mile) project is divided into 12 spreads: 10 in the U.S. and two in Canada. Construction is being carried out by our highly qualified prime contractors and their work packages are designed to enable crews to work in both summer and winter months.



Clearing and grading

After crews identify and mark the pipeline right-of-way, the topsoil is removed and stored for future reclamation. The ground is then prepared to ensure the surface is level for construction equipment.

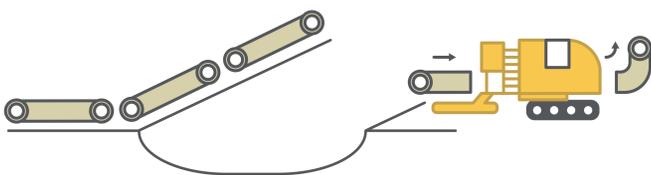
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Trenching

Construction crews use backhoes or ditching machines to dig a trench for the pipeline.

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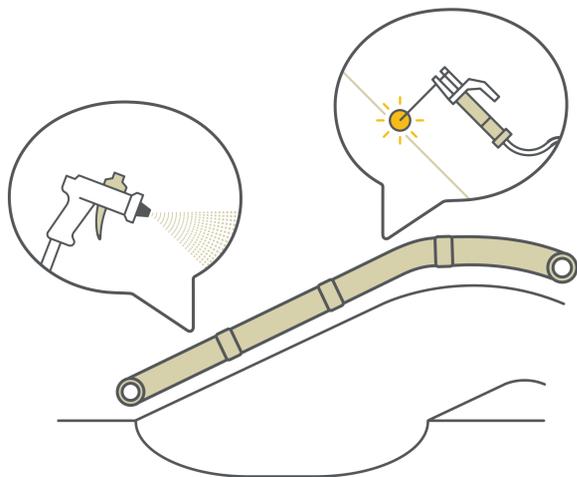


Stringing/bending

Pipeline crews line-up sections of the pipe end-to-end along the edge of the trench. A machine bends the pipe to ensure it follows the route and contour of the land.

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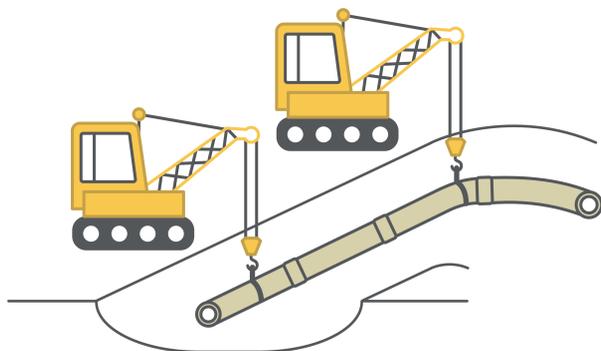


Welding/coating

Welders join the pipe segments together. Each weld is inspected and certified using X-ray or ultrasonic technology. Pipeline joints are coated with an anti-corrosion material and then the coating is inspected.

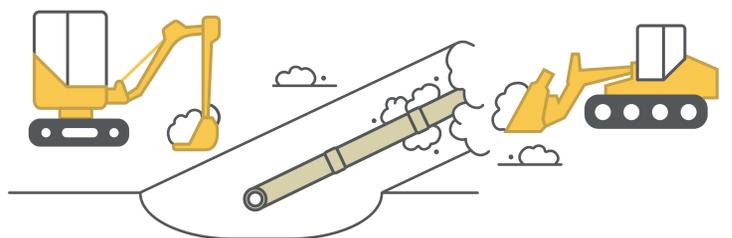
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Lowering/tie-ins

Following careful inspection, a special crane lowers the section of welded pipe into the trench. A separate crew completes the final welds (tie-ins) connecting continuous lengths of pipeline.

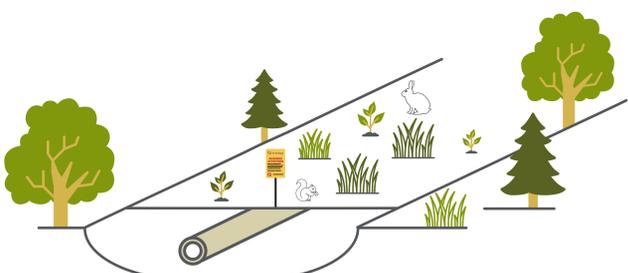


Backfilling

The soil is returned to the trench and is replaced in the sequence it was removed to bury the pipeline. The land is prepared for reclamation.

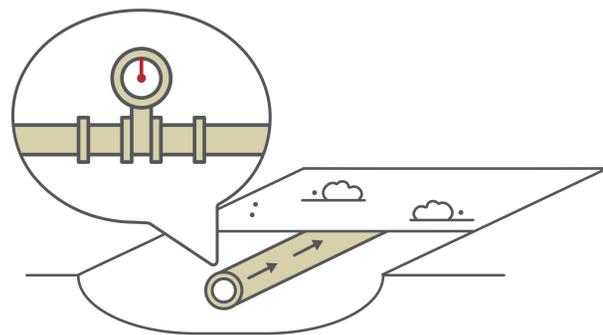
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Cleanup/reclamation

Once testing is complete, the right-of-way is stabilized and the ground surface is contoured to reestablish original drainage patterns. The topsoil is replaced, allowing for the re-establishment of appropriate vegetation. The goal is to bring the land as close to the original state as possible.



Pressure testing

The pipeline is filled with water and pressurized to a level that exceeds the operating pressure of the pipeline, ensuring it's ready to transition safely to operation.