

A contract awarded last March will result in water flowing into North Dakota ABM Safeguard sites by the end of December.

Announcement of completion of the project to deliver water from the Fordville Aquifer to sites near Nekoma and Concrete, ND, was made by the Huntsville Division of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The 59-mile pipeline system is being placed by Zurn Engineers of Upland, California, under a contract of \$3,845,000. Overall testing, cleanup, and completion of the waterline is expected by the end of this month, the Corps announced.

"Completion of the waterline represents a major step in that it will mark the close out of the first significant field contract in the program," said Barney Trawicky, Huntsville Division construction chief.

The waterline system consists of 59 miles of pipeline ranging in diameter from six to 12 inches. There are 10 wells, 10 pumphouses and pumps, three booster stations, reservoirs at each booster station and at the Missile Site Radar near Nekoma and the Perimeter Acquisition Radar near Concrete, a chlorination system and an instrument building.

The water line runs north from 10 wells in the Fordville area to near Edinburg, ND, where it branches, sending one line west to the MSR site near Nekoma and one line north to the PAR site near Concrete.

The Fordville Aquifer was selected by the North Dakota State Water Commission as the best source in the area to provide the quality and quantity of water required for the Safeguard complex. A total of 1,610-acre-feet of water annually will be required at the two sites and their associated facilities.

The state permit issued for the system allows a maximum pumpage of 1,000 gallons per minute. The wells are strategically located to avoid adverse effects on water levels in the aquifer.

A status report on the water delivery contract reads: "All pipe has been placed; pumps have been installed in all well houses; wells are complete except for roofs on well houses; reservoirs are complete except for backfilling around the exteriors. Remaining work includes testing of about 40 miles of pipe and installation of telemetering equipment."

Trawicky reported, "One important benefit to be realized when water starts flowing through the system is that the major construction contractor, Morrison-Knudsen Company and Associates, will no longer be required to haul water into the sites for construction purposes."