



Note: These illustrations are conceptual and general in nature; specific sites, processes and equipment vary.

1 Survey and Staking

Months ahead of construction, field crews conduct civil, cultural and environmental surveys along the proposed pipeline route, or right-of-way. A final route is then selected and marked with stakes.

2 Front-End Clearing

Crews prepare for construction by removing trees and grading the soil within the right-of-way and temporary workspace areas.

3 Right-of-Way Grading

In cultivated areas, the topsoil along the right-of-way is stripped by bulldozer and stored in piles for careful replacement later.

4 Stringing Pipe

Crews re-stake the final route of the pipeline and lay out or "string" sections of the pipe in a single line within the right-of-way.

5 Bending Pipe

Crews bend the pipe to follow the contours of the land and weld the pipe sections together.

6 Line-Up, Initial Weld

These pipes are already coated to prevent corrosion. The integrity of the weld is inspected, and the weld joint is coated.

7 Trenching

Backhoes or wheel ditchers are used to dig a trench.

8 Soil Separation

In agricultural areas, careful attention is paid to properly separating and storing the topsoil and subsoil so they do not mix.

9 Final Coating and Inspection

The pipe coating is inspected one more time.

10 Lowering Pipe into Trench

The pipe is surveyed and laid within prepared trench bottom.

11 Backfill and Rough Grade

The trench is then backfilled with subsoil (and separated topsoil).

12 Testing Final Tie-In

Before operation, water is used to test the pressure of the line and ensure the structural integrity of the pipe and welds.

13 Final Clean-Up and Restoration

Final grading is performed and topsoil is spread over work area. Right-of-way is restored to pre-construction contours and reseeded with native species.