



Jansen CN Access Spur Community Engagement and Outreach

Month of April 2022

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About the project

Canadian National Railway (CN) is proposing to construct and operate a new 47 km long rail spur (“CN Access Spur”) connecting the BHP Jansen Mine Joint Access Spur (“JAS”) north of the Village of Jansen to CN’s Watrous subdivision east of the Town of Nokomis, Saskatchewan. The route maximizes setback from existing residential properties, minimizes or avoids environmentally sensitive areas, minimizes crossings of other railways, highways and municipal roadways and minimizes splitting of land parcels/land usage.

The proposed schedule for the CN Access Spur construction begins with rail earthworks in April 2023 and both track and signal work in August 2024, subject to approval by the Canadian Transportation Agency (“CTA”) prior to construction.

About this engagement process

Throughout the month of April 2022, CN engaged with local municipalities, First Nations and communities specific to the CN Access Spur project. This included the building of a dedicated microsite (cnjansenrailspur.ca), development of a discussion guide, face to face engagement and two open houses conducted in the Village of Jansen on April 26, 2022 and in the Town of Nokomis on April 27, 2022.

The CN outreach and engagement follows similar activities undertaken by BHP since 2017, including a series of engagements such as public open houses, stakeholder meetings, government engagement and landowner discussions, when the rail spur project was first proposed to support the BHP Jansen Project. BHP met with the landowner group to negotiate land option agreements with finalisation at the end of 2021. Early discussions and engagement were led by BHP previously due to project requirements and BHP internal approval timing of the BHP Jansen Project.

Overall, during CN’s engagement, there was vocal support for the CN Access Spur project and no new concerns were raised. CN committed to keeping the lines of communication open and to working collaboratively with stakeholders moving forward.

Municipal and Indigenous engagement

On April 12th and 13th, CN met with leaders at the RM of Usborne, Prairie Rose and Mount Hope; Towns of Lanigan, LeRoy and Nokomis; and Villages of Drake and Jansen. Additionally, on April 20th, CN met with Willow Creek Developments (Beardy's and Okemasis' Cree Nation) and George Gordon Developments (George Gordon First Nation).

BHP met with the Chiefs of Day Star and Muskowekwan First Nations and CN will arrange meetings with them in the near future. BHP coordinated the above engagements to provide a brief update on the BHP Jansen Project and was available to answer questions. CN is preparing information packages to send to each of the First Nations to assist with additional engagement.

Meeting format included: introductions; treaty land acknowledgment; update on the BHP Jansen Project; overview of proposed CN Access Spur project; overview of the CTA application process; proposed routing for the Access Spur (with maps provided); contracting opportunities for local and Indigenous organisations; advise of, and encourage participation in, the April 26th and 27th Open Houses and obtain any concerns/feedback. CN distributed CN's Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan, CN's Winter Plan, CN In Your Community publication, CN 2022 calendars and profiled CN's Saskatchewan Community Board and the availability of grants (up to \$25,000) for eligible community projects.

Summary of feedback	
What we heard	Actions/Response
Vocal support and enthusiasm for the project was present in all the sessions	Speaks to economic opportunity and sustainability of mine project and requirement of access to CN Rail
Indigenous groups interested in economic and employment opportunities	Committed to ongoing engagement
No new concerns or issues have emerged in the past couple of years (ie: since earlier engagement)	Speaks to BHP's previous and ongoing outreach prior to CN's involvement
There is interest in community support in several areas including firefighting and first response training and equipment and donations	Across its network, CN engages with local fire departments on training and education and is committed to doing the same here.
Road realignments need to be finalized and designs reviewed with RM's of Prairie Rose and Mount Hope, including crossing width (to accommodate oversized farm equipment)	Pursuant to the <i>Railway Safety Act</i> , Notice of Railway Works will go to local municipalities for comment/input on crossing design/location, with a 60-day feedback period
Muskowekwan First Nations has aggregate and aggregate haul, if happening in RM Usborne, needs to be pro-actively coordinated	This would be considered should CN procure local aggregate and/or haul aggregate within RM of Usborne
CN legacy issues (ie: rail noise and vibration, cleanliness of existing right-of-way (ROW), etc)	CN made a commitment to work closely with local community to address issues quickly and proactively as they arise
Concerns about fire department response, weed control on ROW, dust, blocked crossings, train	CN made a commitment to work closely with the local community to address issues quickly and proactively as

speed, noise, whistle cessation, road damage and maintenance

they arise. A request to consider a tree planning donation could be considered under existing programs.

Open houses

On April 26th and 27th, CN hosted open houses in Jansen and Nokomis respectively. In addition to giving advance notice about the open houses to local municipalities, First Nations and to provincial government (as noted above), open house details were communicated through paid advertisements in local newspapers, a postcard mailed to 8200 homes in the area, email invitations to municipalities and First Nations, a project-specific website (cnjansenrailspur.ca) and in local media coverage.

The April 26th open house at Jansen was attended by 46 people; the April 27th open house at Nokomis had 30 people in attendance. There was a good cross section of community members, local leadership and some representation from the provincial government. First Nations leadership was not present at the open houses, however, one company that has a Joint Venture with George Gordon First Nation was in attendance. BHP was involved in the open houses to provide a brief update on the BHP Jansen Project and to answer any BHP-specific questions. These CN led open houses follow four BHP-led open houses that took place in Nokomis and Jansen between 2017 and 2018, which were attended by 220 people in total.



46 people attended the Jansen open house, held at the community hall on Apr. 26, 2022.



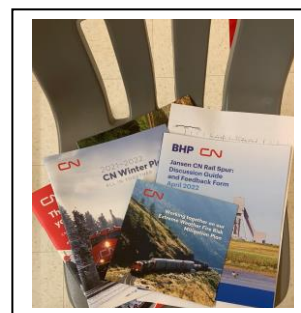
30 people attended the Nokomis open house, held at the community hall on Apr. 27, 2022.

Open House format included: introductions; treaty land acknowledgment; overview of BHP's community complaints and grievance process; value share; overview of the BHP Jansen Project; overview of the proposed CN Access Spur project; overview of the CTA application process; proposed routing for the Access Spur (with maps provided); contracting opportunities for locals; and a fulsome question-and-answer period.

The sessions were scheduled for two hours each, with time set aside for one-on-one and small group discussions, aided by large map displays. Both sessions ended in audience applause, with a strong theme of community collaboration to this point.

Materials given to attendees included:

- CN Access Spur discussion guide
- Feedback questionnaire
- Detailed CN Access Spur map
- CN’s Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan
- CN’s Winter Plan
- CN In Your Community publication
- CN 2022 calendars



Summary of feedback	
What we heard	Actions/Response
Vocal support and enthusiasm for the project was present in both sessions and in submitted comments	Speaks to economic opportunity and understanding of the role potash plays in these agricultural centres
Accommodations for movement of oversized farm equipment, like combines, over crossings on spur	<p>Transport Canada sets standards for public and private crossings and updated standards in 2014</p> <p>CN committed to engaging with municipalities and landowners on crossing designs when they are available</p>
Concerns about road re-alignment, grade crossing safety, etc.	<p>Road realignments need to be finalized and designs will be reviewed with RMs of Prairie Rose and Mount Hope</p> <p>Grade crossings will adhere to all Transport Canada regulations with proactive and regular outreach from CN teams throughout the design process</p>
Weeds/invasive plants	<p>CN is committed to looking at mitigation efforts, specifically for clubroot, as it builds out the spur</p> <p>CN will seed ROW after construction with a grass mix similar to what is already growing locally.</p> <p>CN has a vegetation control program to comply with safety rules.</p>
Concerns about the potential of bringing in clubroot from construction equipment building the spur	CN will learn from stakeholders, including BHP, regarding best practices and mitigation to build a comprehensive plan into the spur construction that protects farmland from clubroot
Timing of construction of spur/local jobs	<p>Some surveying occurring this year for construction, but there will be minimal impact to this year’s farming activities</p> <p>Earthworks are not expected to start until Spring 2023</p>

	<p>Where possible, the project will look at local providers to support construction</p> <p>Construction will predominantly occur during normal business hours (8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday)</p>
Frequency of trains, line operation	<p>Two to four trains per week in Phase 1, possibility of more in the future but nothing finalized</p> <p>CN will lead construction and be the operator</p>
Timeline for train crossing and trains blocking roads when accessing CN wye	<p>It takes approximately five minutes for a train of this length (177 cars) to clear a crossing.</p> <p>CN locomotive engineers would wait for a signal to connect, via the wye, to the main line off the spur and will ensure minimal impacts on any crossings</p>
Water movement/culverts	<p>CN will work with local stakeholders on effective water management, within the regulations set out by Transport Canada</p>
Impact to community well in the RM Prairie Rose (near Jansen)	<p>BHP (and CN) monitoring and committed to test before and after construction</p> <p>BHP (and CN) committed it would put a new well in should it be required</p>

In total, to this point (May 5, 2022), CN has received 12 comment forms, seven in hard copy and five virtually. Any interested respondents were asked to provide comments by end of day, May 6, 2022. The comments in the forms are consistent with the themes identified in the two open houses and presented here.

Next steps

Two themes came to the forefront as part of the April 2022 engagement: 1) stakeholders appreciate the ongoing and regular engagement with project proponents; and 2) the vast majority of stakeholders are ready for the project to commence, as it has been on their radar for some time.

CN will continue to engage with local stakeholders regularly and proactively as part of the CN Access Spur project. The recent open houses, municipal and Indigenous engagement, has provided useful context for CN and has allowed for the furtherance of key relationships with people and communities who will be impacted by the CN Access Spur when it is operational and during construction.