November 6, 2025

### **HONOR FLIGHT:** A heroes welcome

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in hand-to-hand combat and survival before deploying to Vietnam with the HAL-3 Seawolves (Helicopter Attack Light Squadron 3).

Nehl was honorably discharged due to family hardship when his father suffered a heart attack. He returned to his family farm in Watauga, South Dakota. At the time of his discharge, Nehl was a C3 (Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class).

In five years, only 44 out of 2,700 Naval Air personnel died in action, and one was close to Nehl's heart. "I had a close friend who was killed. He was out of our squadron," explains Nehl. "He was the  $43^{\rm rd}$  person that

was killed just a couple of months after I came back," he continued.

Although Nehl's time in the military was full of triumph, the Honor Flight ceased to amaze him. "When we got over to Washington, D.C., two firetrucks were shooting water across the runway and the plane went underneath it as a salute to the plane," Nehl says.

Nehl was impressed by the police escort through the middle of halted traffic as they made their way to the capital.

Although Nehl served in Vietnam, the Korean War Memorial stood out to him. "The

way they had the statues positioned, the certain parallels, everything was angled so there's always somebody looking at you, covering each other," he says. The realistic positioning of soldiers brings to life the reality of war time.

The welcome home from Vietnam veterans was harsh. Veterans were ridiculed due to the widespread opposition to the war. Many having to hide their identity by abandoning their uniform, others being assaulted. "When I flew back from Vietnam I got spit on in the airport," Nehl says. "The Vietnam veterans were never received well coming back. This [homecoming] was pretty special. To have the recognition from all of the people in the airport in Bismarck. The whole airport was packed."

Nehl may not have received the homecoming he deserved in 1970, but on September 24, 2025, he finally got the heartfelt welcome home that he and countless others had waited a lifetime for.

If you would like to apply for the Honor Flight or know of someone, please reach out to Fred Eslinger for an application or visit https:// westernndhf.org/ and click on "Forms and Applications" at the top of the page.

### TRANSMISSION LINE:

Montana and North Dakota. The North Plains Connector will be open to all sources of electrical power generation. In response to demand, the project will be able to transport power in either direction along the line.

The transmission line will extend from an existing substation in Colstrip, Mont., to two separate connections in North Dakota, one near Center and the other near St. Anthony.

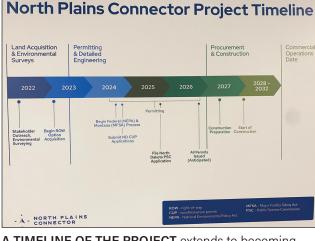
Last year, the company received a \$700 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for the \$4 billion to \$5 billion project.

North Plains Connector is now in the permitting phase, with approvals expected in 2026.

County conditional use permits have been obtained in four counties, including Grant, Hettinger, Slope and Golden Valley. Morton and Oliver county permits are still in progress.

Other steps include siting approval by the Public Service Commission and federal environmental reviews, which will include public comment periods.

"We've already begun the federal permitting, We expect to have a draft



A TIMELINE OF THE PROJECT extends to becoming operational in 2032.

**Environmental Impact** Statement this fall, barring any super extended government shutdowns," Johnson said.

Roughly 350 landowners will be involved across Montana and North Dakota.

"We're nearing completion of all of the easements. Everyone who is on the route has been talked to and has been OK with the route," Johnson said.

"It just takes about this long to really build the kind of support that you need for it and to do the environmental studies and all of the things that we've done. We're about 100% done with our survey work, which is great. Having studied the right of way and get all of the science in place to be able to support the project, all of that's going well," Johnson said.

Construction of the converter stations will take the most time, Johnson said. Those are the substations where direct current electricity at transmission voltages is converted to lowervoltage alternating current.

**During construction** of the transmission line, material storage yards will first be placed about every 30 miles. The monopole structures will be 110 to 160 feet tall, placed about 1,200 feet apart. The 4- to 5-inch thick conductor will be strung using cranes and helicopters. Following construction, restoration of the site is

completed.

This 3,000-megawatt type of connector is fairly unique in North Dakota, and the United States, Johnson said.. And as an HVDC line, it will be able to transmit power over longer spans with less line loss.

Through the transmission line, generators of power will have access to new markets going both directions.

This line is being developed as a privately owned "merchant transmission line,' but North Plains Connector is expected to be owned, operated and maintained by local utilities.

"The folks that will own and operate and maintain are all incumbent utilities from across the broad northern region of the United States. It's a large project at 3,000 megawatts, so we have about seven different utilities that will own portions of the project so far," Johnson said.

During the past three years, Grid United partnered with the North Dakota **Community Foundation** to establish the North **Plains Connector** Community Investment Program. Those funds have been used by eight North Dakota community foundations as local grants. The company is now working with the North Dakota Community Foundation to extend that funding for three more years.

# Raleigh Rodeo Club Supper, & Auction Saturday, Nov. 8 Branded Bar & Grill • Flasher

5:30 p.m. CT - Steak Supper prepared by Dakota Community Bank 7:30 p.m. CT - Live Auction & year-end awards

Steak supper - \$25; Kids hot dog meal - \$5 Contact Travis Rossow at 701-595-1729 or Logan Weinhandl at 701-516-6039 for more information.



### CITY OF SELFRIDGE CITY AUDITOR POSITION

The City of Selfridge is seeking a part-time detailoriented and motivated individual to serve as City Auditor. This position works under the direction of the Mayor and City Council and is responsible for managing city records, financial reporting, payroll, and compliance with North Dakota Century Code and city ordinances.

#### Key Responsibilities:

- Attend and record council meetings
- •Maintain official city records and financial accounts
- Prepare monthly and annual financial statements and budgets
- Manage payroll and employee records
- Assist residents in a professional and courteous

#### **Qualifications:**

Strong organizational, financial, and communication skills required. Prior bookkeeping, accounting, or municipal experience preferred (training available for the right candidate). Must possess a valid driver's license.

#### Wages:

- •Starting at \$25 per hour, depending on experience
- •Hours: Approximately 25-30 hours per month
- Location: Selfridge, ND
- Application Deadline: Open until Filled

To apply, submit a cover letter and résumé to: City of Selfridge, PO Box 12, Selfridge, ND 58568

The City of Selfridge is an Equal Opportunity Employer. October 30, November 6, 2025

## NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of the **Grant County Fair Association** will be held

Monday, Nov. 10, 2025 • 6:00 p.m. MT at the fair building in Carson, ND. Purpose of the meeting will be to elect a Board of Directors.

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### **Help Wanted:**

Plant Operator

Looking for a self-motivated team player to fill an entry-level position at the Glen Ullin plant for all phases of year-round plant operations and product packaging. Forklift and loader experience desired or a willingness to learn. Competitive wage, full health, dental, life, shortterm disability, holiday pay, vacation pay and Employee Share Ownership. This is an opportunity to grow with an expanding local company. Competitive pay DOE.

Please send applications and resumes to: Abrasives, Inc., ATTN: Russ Schroeder, 4090 Hwy. 49, Glen Ullin, ND 58631 or rschroeder@abrasivesinc.com. Applications can be found on our website at www.abrasivesinc.com or call

701-348-3610.