

9/11/15

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

RECEIVED

SEP 14 2015

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Ref: Docket#HP14-002

Dear Commissioners:

I am a concerned citizen and board member of Perry Township in southeastern South Dakota. Please consider the concerns that I would like to address in regards to the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline.

1. I believe the easements already obtained in this process should be thrown out. The easements were signed under false pretenses. The dishonest and unscrupulous tactics used by land agents have been observed. Also, landowners have not been equally compensated as they have signed easements. Recently, a landowner, who was approached at the beginning of the year, was offered twice as much for the easement rights as he was earlier offered. Why is this allowed? The landowners are really not in favor of the installation of the pipeline but they were told they would have no choice because of eminent domain. They were also influenced by being told that if the pipeline permit is not granted, they would be able to keep the money. Pipes brought into the area at the beginning of the year were a definite intimidation factor. I believe that you, the PUC, should reevaluate the number of landowners who would have signed if the threat of eminent domain and other statements had not been used as intimidating factors.
2. As a result of the installation of the Lewis & Clark Pipeline in my local area, crop production within that easement area is still down to around one-fourth of what it should be. I have proof as I harvest alfalfa along that route. This pipeline area was installed in 2008. In three to five years, the Dakota Access Pipeline route will not be back to full production. Signed easements lacking further protection will not help the landowners later.
3. During the installation of the Lewis & Clark Pipeline, gravel roads in Perry Township were heavily damaged as the large equipment traveled through the county. To protect our township from possible damage from the pipeline contractors, I would ask that the PUC set a bond to cover damages for each mile used during construction (if the PUC grants the permit).

Estimated expenses for miles used:

\$13,068 per mile for gravel, 3" thick, 15' wide (this is minimum)-quoted from Friessen Construction Company today

\$500 per mile to grade or maintain during and after construction

These numbers would not cover any additional damage done to culverts or the road itself. The \$13,568 per mile would only cover the estimated maintenance expense.

As monitoring is done in the future by Dakota Access employees, the roads will be traveled by out-of-state employees. We already experience the presence of the out-of-state vehicles. These out-of-state employees do not pay taxes for the maintenance of the roads. The local taxpayers will be responsible for the additional costs.

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4. Another concern is about the contractors used in the installation. If the contractor should file bankruptcy before any additional damage expense can be recovered, is there something in writing to show that the Dakota Access Pipeline or Energy Transfer will cover the damages? Townships (or landowners for that matter) should not have to hire attorneys to recover damages experienced.

I believe that the installation of the Dakota Access Pipeline in South Dakota is not a good thing. I ask that you deny the permit application.

Sincerely
Edward Fett Perry Township supervisor

Edward Fett

██████████
Lennox, SD 57039
██████████

Leola M. Bergeson
[REDACTED]
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
[REDACTED]

RECEIVED
SEP 16 2015
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

September 12, 2015

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Docket HP14-002

Public Utility Commissioners:

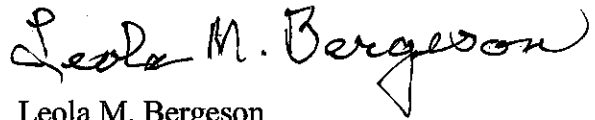
I write out of great concern for the attempt to take over private property for the Dakota Access pipeline. So many areas of concern, I couldn't possibly list them all, but I am a witness to a severe grievance against farmers who will be forced to give up good crop-growing, privately owned land to eminent domain.

Eminent domain: that entity which takes what it wants when it wants it, with no regard for law abiding citizens who have made their land a viable bread-basket for the rest of us; no regard for right or wrong; no regard for the right-use of all citizens' property rights today or in the future.

This entire project puts Americans in danger: Danger of losing individual rights to the eminent domain bully. And danger because Dakota Access will carry Bakken Shale Oil, which has a reputation of being the "most explosive" compared to many locations around the world.

I write to beg you to put a stop to the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Respectfully,


Leola M. Bergeson

(No email address at this time)

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