

January 6, 2015

Mr. Chris Nelson, PUC
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Subject – XL Pipeline

RECEIVED
JAN 08 2015
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION


I feel we need a pipeline, but will never need Tar Sands Oil! The key word in that sentence is TAR. A more fitting name would be Tar Sands GUNK!

This oil is not pumped from wells, but mined like coal from mostly open pit mines. At best it has the consistency of peanut butter, at worst like soft coal. It has to be diluted with hazardous chemicals in order to make it flow anywhere. In a pipeline it must be moved at warmer temperatures and higher pressure than other oil. If it's exposed to air, the chemicals evaporate and the mess left behind is very hard to clean up, and sometimes impossible. It's not water soluble and does not float on water like real oil. It sinks to the bottom and has been known to foul lakes and streams for years, if not centuries.

Why our three representative in Washington are pushing this project is beyond my comprehension. I'm sure it would create jobs, but never in the numbers they're using, unless there is a serious break in the line. That would create a lot of jobs for a long, long time. Two of them are on record as saying the pipeline would free rail roads to help get our crops to market. Right now, there are about 25 unit trains hauling Bakken oil through Jamestown and Fargo on the way to refineries in the east. Some as far as Delaware, and many others hauling crude 400 miles to Douglas Wyoming. These trains are a mile long, and have at least three engines pulling each train. A pipeline from Dickinson to the refineries in Texas and Louisiana would aid our farmers much more, and much faster.

With the price of oil as it is now, it's not profitable to even harvest tar sand oil and the pipeline may be a mute point. If you cannot vote no on this project, please vote to delay any decision for now. Lets see what happens with the price of oil, and what President Obama and Nebraska do.

Respectfully;



Mr. Terry Slattery



001699

January 6, 2015

Ms. Kristie Fiegen PUC
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

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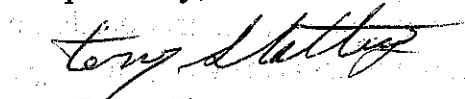
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Respectfully;



Mr. Terry Slattery



001700

January 6, 2015

Mr. Gary Hanson, PUC
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

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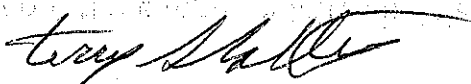
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Respectfully;



Mr. Terry Slattery

001701

From: PUC
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 3:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Keystone XL, HP14-001

Mr. Slattery:

This is in response to your letter that arrived in today's mail regarding tar sands oil and the Keystone XL Pipeline. The pipeline construction permit application request was filed by TransCanada on Sept. 15, 2014 is currently being processed by the commission. Since this is an open docket before the commission and commissioners serve in a quasi-judicial capacity on dockets, all communication with commissioners must take place in a public forum. Therefore, your letter and my response will be filed in the online docket so that all parties and interested individuals including other commissioners may read them.

Here is a link to the docket, HP14-001: <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/2014/hp14-001.aspx> .

Here is a link to a document which helps explain the commission's authority regarding pipeline applications:
<http://www.puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/pipelinesiting.pdf> .

And here is a link to additional information regarding this project which may be of interest:

<http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/keystoneupdate.aspx> .

Given your interest, I encourage you to follow along as this docket is processed and new information is shared via documents filed online.

I appreciate receiving your comments and opinions about this proposed pipeline project. Questions and concerns such as these are the focus of the commission as we process the docket and conduct the hearing. Thank you for writing to share them with me.

Gary Hanson, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.sd.gov

001702