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South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Pierre, South Dakota

Regarding: HP 14-001

Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota:

Regarding the matter of application by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for a permit to construct the Keystone XL Project, and in response to TransCanada's request to define scope of discovery, I respectfully request that the Public Service Commission allow discovery to include retained resource rights in the traditional treaty territory of the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1868.

I make this request based on my years as Legislative Assistant with responsibility for Indian Affairs for the Honorable Doug Bereuter, (R-NE), retired, and on my years as Legislative Specialist in Indian Affairs for the Washington, D.C. law firm of Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, and Endreson, LLP, as it was then known; now Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Endreson and Perry, LLP.

Ordinary people like myself understand the power of treaties. As a United States citizen, I recognize and support the treaties between sovereign nations and the United States. As a citizen, I expect the United States government to honor and defend the Fort Laramie Treaties and respect the terms that it extended to the signatories. To honor the treaties is not optional.

As a member of several local and regional clean water organizations in New York—Gas Free Seneca, Finger Lakes Clean Water Initiative, Seneca Lake Pure Waters, Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, to name but four—my concern for water and protection of it underscores and amplifies the heart of my appeal to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission to reject TransCanada's request for re-permitting.