
From: Ashley Yonker [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 7:05:30 PM
To: PUC
Subject: HP14-001: No to Keystone XL
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Dear South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners Hanson, Nelson, and Fiegen:

*I am writing to you to request you reject the Keystone XL Pipeline certification in docket HP14-001. The risks this pipeline and its construction pose to the health, safety, and security of South Dakota's water, land, and people are unacceptable. The final Environmental Impact Statement submitted by the State Department shows the pipeline is **expected** to leak at least ten times over the course of its lifetime. We are not willing to sacrifice and risk the Missouri River, the Ogallala Aquifer, our rural water systems, and our livelihoods for dirty tarsands oil. Moreover the construction of the pipeline puts rural communities at risk with the drastic influx of people, equipment, and traffic.*

Further....I am from Kalamazoo, Michigan where the largest inland water spill in history occurred. To listen to those who were responsible for cleaning it up you would think it has been. To listen to those that work on the pipeline....they KNOW it hasn't been. Corexit, the same chemical used in the gulf spill was used on our river. This does not clean up the chemicals, it merely covers it up. The pipe liners know that is the case. Although they do not want to jeopardize their jobs, they make it VERY CLEAR this was a man made spill, not an accident and that it is NOT cleaned up. The wildlife and human lives will be impacted forever, and NO ONE is being held accountable. The same in the Gulf spill.

Pipe liners installing in other states have stated that the inspectors that are supposed to verify the integrity of the pipes being installed are NOT doing their jobs and turn a blind eye to inadequate pipelines being installed. Regardless of the reason why they are doing it, it is guaranteeing that we will see spills all along these routes at some point. All the land, the water and the homeowners will be left with issues that can not be rectified and the taxpayers will be the ones to suffer long term. The pipeline owners don't care about it. They are looking at the profits at the end of completion.

It's up to you to care! That is your job! You are in a position to right these wrongs. Stand with what is right and stop this pipeline. Show that you have the integrity that is needed to ensure that the safety of our land, our water, our communities and humanity is always first when these decisions are made.

*Thank you,
Ashley Yonker*

*[REDACTED]
Kalamazoo, Mi 49006*