Exhibit B

RULINGS ON PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT

Rulings on Applicants' Proposed Findings of Fact

As Applicant is the prevailing party, most of Applicant's Proposed Findings of Fact have been accepted in their general substance and incorporated in the Findings of Fact, with additions and modifications to reflect the Commission's understanding of the record.

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| | The Project | · · |
| 14 | The purpose of the Project is to transport incremental crude oil production from the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin (WCSB') to meet growing demand by refineries and markets in the United States ("U.S."). This supply will serve to replace U.S. reliance on less stable and less reliable sources of offshore crude oil. Ex TC-1, 1.1, p. 1; Ex TC-1, 3.0 p. 23; Ex TC-1, 3.4 p. 24. | The purpose of the Project is to transport incremental crude oil production from the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin (WCSB') and domestic production from the Williston Basin area to meet demand by refineries and markets in the United States ("U.S."). This supply will serve to replace U.S. reliance on less stable and less reliable sources of offshore crude oil and support the growth of crude oil production in the U.S. (See updated Findings 24-29). |
| 15 | The Project will consist of three segments: the Steele City Segment, the Gulf Coast Segment, and the Houston Lateral. From north to south, the Steele City Segment extends from Hardisty. Alberta, Canada, southeast to Steele City, Nebraska. The Gulf Coast Segment extends from Cushing, Oklahoma south to Nederland, in Jefferson County, Texas. The Houston Lateral extends from the Gulf Coast Segment in Liberty County, Texas southwest to Moore Junction, Harris County, Texas. It will interconnect with the northern and southern termini of the previously approved 298-mile-long, 38-inch-diameter Keystone Cushing Extension segment of the Keystone Pipeline Project. Ex TC-1,1.2, p. 1. Initially, the pipeline would have a nominal capacity to transport 700,000 barrels per day ("bpd"). Keystone could add additional pumping capacity to expand the nominal capacity to 900,000 bpd. Ex TC-1, 2, 1.2, p. 8. | The Project will consist of the Steele City Segment. From north to south, the Steele City Segment extends from Hardisty. Alberta, Canada, southeast to Steele City, Nebraska. It will interconnect with the previously approved and constructed 298-mile-long, 38-inch-diameter Keystone Cushing Extension segment of the Keystone Pipeline System allowing crude oil to be delivered to Gulf Coast Refineries. The pipeline would have a maximum capacity to transport 830,000 barrels per day. |
| 16 | The Project is an approximately 1,707 mile pipeline with about 1,380, miles in the United States. The South Dakota portion of the pipeline will be approximately 314 miles in length and will extend from the Montana border in Harding County to the Nebraska border in Tripp County. The Project is proposed to cross the South Dakota counties of Harding, Butte, Perkins, Meade, Pennington, Haakon, Jones, Lyman and Tripp. Ex TC-1, 1.2 and 2.1.1, pp. 1 and 8. Detailed route maps are presented in Ex TC-1, Exhibits A and C, as updated in Ex TC-1. | The Project is an approximately 1202 mile pipeline with about 876 miles in the United States. The South Dakota portion of the pipeline will be approximately 315 miles in length and will extend from the Montana border in Harding County to the Netraska border in Tripp County. The Project is proposed to cross the South Dakota counties of Harding, Butte, Perkins, Meade, Pennington, Haakon, Jones, Lyman and Tripp. |
| 17 | Construction of the Project is proposed to commence in May of 2011 and be completed in 2012. Construction in South Dakota will be conducted in five spreads, generally proceeding in a north to south direction. The Applicant expects to place the Project in service in 2012. This in-service date is consistent with the requirements of the Applicant's shippers who have made the contractual commitments that underpin the viability and need for the project. Ex TC-1, 1.4, pp. 1 and 4; TR 26. | Construction of the Project is proposed to commence when all necessary permits are obtained. Construction in South Dakota will be conducted in three or four spreads, generally proceeding in a north to south direction. The Applicant expects to place the Project in service when construction is completed. |
| 18 | The pipeline in South Dakota will extend from milepost 282.5 to milepost 597, approximately 314 miles. The pipeline will have a 36-inch nominal diameter and be constructed using API 5L X70 or X80 high- strength steel. An external fusion bonded epxy ("FBE") coating will be applied to the pipeline and all buried facilities to protect against corrosion. Cathodic protection will be provided by impressed current The pipeline will have batching capabilities and will be able to transport products ranging from light crude oil to heavy crude oil. EX TC-1, 22, 22, 16, 52, pp. 89, 97–98, EX TC-8, ¶ 26. | The pipeline in South Dakota will extend from milepost 285.6 to milepost 600.9, approximately 315 miles. The pipeline will have a 36-inch nominal diameter and be constructed using API 5L X70M high-strength steel. An external fusion bonded epoxy ("FBE") coating will be applied to the pipeline and all buried facilities to protect against corrosion. Cathodic protection will be provided by impressed current. The pipeline will have batching capabilities and will be able to transport products ranging from light crude oil to heavy crude oil. |
| 19 | The pipeline will operate at a maximum operating pressure of 1,440 psig. For location specific low elevation segments close to the discharge of pump stations, the maximum operating pressure will be 1,600 psig. (Pp e associated with these segments of 1,600 psig. MOP are excluded from the Special Permit application and will have a design factor of 0.72 and pipe wall thickness of 0.572 inch (X-70) or 0.500 inch (X-80). All other segments in South Dakota will have a MOP of 1,440 psig. Ex TC-1, 2.2.1, p. 9. | At most locations, the pipeline will operate at a maximum operating pressure of 1,307 psig. For location specific low elevation segments close to the discharge of pump stations, the maximum operating pressure will be 1,600 psig. Pipe associated with these segments of 1,600 psig MOP will have a design factor of 0.72 and a nominal pipe wall thickness of 0.572 inch (X-70M). All other segments in South Dakota will have a MOP of 1,307 psig. |

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| 20 | The Project will have seven pump stations in South Dakota, located in Harding (2), Meade, Haakon, Jones and Tripp (2) Counties. TC-1, 2.2.2, p. 10. The pump stations will be electrically driven. Power lines required for providing power to pump stations will be permitted and constructed by local power providers, not by Keystone. Initially, three pumps will be installed at each station to meet the nominal design flow rate of 700,000 bpd. If future demand warrants, pumps may be added to the proposed pump stations wire total of up to five pumps per station, wire reasing nominal throughput to 900,000 bpd. No additional pump stations will be required to be constructed for this additional throughput. No tank facilities will be constructed in South Dakota. Ext TC-1, 2.1.2, p. 8. Shateen mainline valves will be located in South Dakota. Seven of these valves will be remotely controlled, in order to have the capability to isolate sections of line rapidly in the event of an emergency to minimize impacts or for operational or maintenance reasons. Ext TC-1, 2.2.3, p. 10-11. | The Project will have seven pump stations in South Dakota, located in Harding (2), Meade, Haakon, Jones and Tripp (2) Counties. TC-1, 2.2.2, p. 10. The pump stations will be electrically driven. Power lines required for providing power to pump stations will be permitted and constructed by local power providers, not by Keystone. Three to five pumps will be installed at each station to meet the maximum design flow rate of 830,000 bpd. No tank facilities will be constructed in South Dakota. Twenty mainline valves will be located in South Dakota. All of these valves will be remotely controlled, in order to have the capability to isolate sections of line rapidly in the event of an emergency to minimize impacts or for operational or maintenance reasons. |
| 22 | The Project will be designed, constructed, tested, and operated in accordance with all applicable requirements, including the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulations set forth at 49 CFR Part 195, as modified by the Special Permit requested for the Project from PHMSA (see Finding 71). These federal regulations are intended to ensure adequate protection for the public and the environment and to prevent crude oil pipeline accidents and failures. Ex TC-1, 22, p. 8. | The Project will be designed, constructed, tested, and operated in accordance with all applicable requirements, including the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulations set forth at 49 CFF Part 195, and the special conditions developed by PHMSA and set forth in Appendix Z to the Department of State ("DOS") January 2014 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement ("Final SEIS"). These federal regulations and additional conditions are intended to ensure adequate protection for the public and the environment and to prevent crude oil pipeline accidents and failures. |
| 23 | The current estimated cost of the Keystone Project in South Dakota is \$921.4 million. Ex TC-1, 1.3, p. 1. | The current estimated cost of the Keystone XL Project in South Dakota is \$1.974 billion. The estimated cost of the South Dakota portion of the project has primarily increased due to the new technical requirements (for example, the 59 additional conditions set forth in the DOS Final SEIS), and inflation and additional costs (for example, increased project management; regulatory; and material storage and preservation costs) due to the projected six-year delay in starting construction. |
| | Demand for the Facility | |
| 24 | The transport of additional crude oil production from the WCSB is necessary to meet growing demand by refineries and markets in the U.S. The need for the project is dictated by a number of factors, including increasing WCSB crude oil supply combined with insufficient export pipeline capacity; increasing crude oil demand in the U.S. and decreasing domestic crude supply; the opportunity to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign off-shore oil through increased access to stable, secure Canadian crude oil supplies; and binding shipper commitments to utilize the Keystone Pipeline Project. Ex TC-1, 3.0, p. 23. | The June 29, 2010 order recites Findings of Fact demonstrating the strong demand for the Project. Given the dynamic nature of the crude oil market, there have been changes in the nature of this demand since 2010. As demonstrated below, however market demand for the Project remains strong today. The transport of additional crude oil production from the WCSB continues to be necessary to meet demand by refineries and markets in the U.S. The need for the project is driven by a number of factors, including increasing domestic U.S. and Canadian, crude oil production combined with insufficient pipeline capacity; an energy efficient and safe method to transport this growing production; the opportunity to reduce U.S dependence on foreign offshore crude oil through increased access to North American supplies; and binding shipper commitments to utilize the Keystone Pipeline System. |
| 25 | According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration ("EIA"), U.S. demand for petroleum products has increased by over 11 percent or 2,000,000 bpd over the past 10 years and is expected to increase further. The EIA estimates that total U.S. petroleum consumption will increase by approximately 10 million bpd over the next 10 years, representing average demand growth of about 100,000 bpd per year (EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2008). EX TC-1, 3.2, pp. 23-24. | United States production of crude oil has increased significantly, from approximately 6.5 million barrels per day (bpd) in 2012, and is expected to peak at 9.6 million bpd by 2019. However, even with the domestic production growth, the U.S. is expected to remain a net importer of crude oil. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration ("EA"), U.S. demand for crude oil has held steady at approximately 15 million bpd and is expected to remain relatively stable into the future. ¹ |
| 26 | At the same time, domestic U.S. crude oil supplies continue to decline. For example, over the past 10 years, domestic crude production in the United States has declined at an average rate of about 135,000 bpd per year, or 2% per year. Ex TC-1, 3.3, p. 24. Crude and refined petroleum product imports into the U.S. have increased by over 3.3 million bpd over the past 10 years. In 2007, the U.S. proted over 13.4 million bpd of crude oil and petroleum products or over 60 percent of total U.S. petroleum product | The rise in U.S. crude oil production, predominantly light crude, has replaced most foreign imports of light crude. However the demand persists for imported heavy crude oil by U.S. refineries that are optimally configured to process heavy crude slates. ² The U.S. Gulf Coast continues to import approximately 3.5 million bpd of heavy and medium sour crude oil. ³ |

¹ Energy Information Administration (EIA) Annual Energy Outlook 2014 ² Id. ³ Energy Information Administration – Company Level Imports

Appendix C South Dakota PUC Amended Final Decision and Order Tracking Table of Changes 9/15/14

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| | consumption. Canada is currently the largest supplier of imported crude oil and refined products to the U.S., supplying over 2.4 million bpd in 2007, representing over 11 percent of total U.S. petroleum product consumption (EIA 2007). Ex TC-1, 3.4, p.24. | |
| 27 | The Project will provide an opportunity for U.S. refiners in Petroleum Administration for Defense District III, the Gulf Coast region, to further diversify supply away from traditional offshore foreign crude supply and to obtain direct access to secure and growing Canadian crude supplies. Access to additional Canadian crude supply will also provide an opportunity for the U.S. to offset annual declines in domestic crude production and, specifically, to decrease its dependence on other foreign crude oil suppliers, such as Mexico and Venezuela, the top two heavy crude oil exporters into the U.S. Gulf Coast. Ex TC-1, 3.4, p. 24. | Canadian production of heavy crude oil continues to grow, the vast majority of which is currently exported to the United States to be processed by U.S. refineries. North American crude oil production growth and logistics constraints have contributed to significant discounts on the price of landlocked crude and led to growing volumes of crude shipped by rail in the United States and, more recently Canada. As the DOS Final SEIS makes clear, in the absence of new pipelines, crude oil will continue to be transported via rail at an increasing rate. ⁴ The North Dakota Pipeline Authority estimates that rail export volumes from the U.S. Williston Basin have increased from approximately 40,000 bpd in 2010 to over 700,000 bpd in early 2014. Over 60% of crude oil transported from the Williston Basin is delivered by rail. ⁵ The industry has also been making significant investments in increasing rail transport of crude oil out of the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin (WCSB). ⁶ In recent years, rail transport of crude oil in Canada has grown from approximately 10,000 bpd by the end 2013. ⁷ The DOS Final SEIS indicates that transportation of crude oil by pipeline is safer and less greenhouse gas intensive than crude oil transportation by rail. ⁶ The Project will provide an opportunity for U.S. refiners in Petroleum Administration for Defense District III, the Guif Cocast region, to further diversify supply away from traditional offshore foreign crude supply and to obtain direct access to secure and arowing domestic crude supplies. |
| 28 | Reliable and safe transportation of crude oil will help ensure that U.S. energy needs are not subject to unstable political events. Established crude oil reserves in the WCSB are estimated at 179 billion barrels (CAPP 2008). Over 97 precent of WCSB crude oil supply is sourced from Canada's vast oil sands reserves located in northern Alberta. The Alberta Energy and Utilities Board estimates there are 175 billion barrels of established reserves recoverable from Canada's oil sands. Alberta has the second larreest crude oil reserves in the world second only to Saudi Arabia. Ex TC-1.31, p. 23. | Reliable and safe transportation of crude oil will help ensure that U.S. energy needs are not subject to unstable political events. Of Canada's 173 billion barrels of oil reserves, 97% or 167 billion, barrels are located in the oil sands. In terms of overall oil reserves, canada's 173 billion barrels is third only to Venezuela and Saudi Arabia. ⁹ Canada is the largest foreign supplier of crude oil to the U.S. and is likely to remain as such for the foreseeable future. ¹⁰ |
| 29 | Shippers have already committed to long-term binding contracts, enabling Keystone to proceed with regulatory applications and construction of the pipeline once all regulatory, environmental, and other approvals are received. These long-term binding shipper commitments demonstrate a material endorsement of support for the Project, its economics, proposed route, and target market, as well as the need for additional pipeline capacity and access to Canadian crude supplies. Ex TC-1, 3.5, p. 24. | Shippers have committed to long-term binding contracts, enabling Keystone to proceed with regulatory applications and construction of the pipeline once all regulatory, environmental, and other approvals are received. These long-term binding shipper commitments demonstrate a material endorsement of support for the Project, its economics, proposed route, and target market, as well as the need for additional pipeline capacity to access domestic and Canadian crude supplies. The DOS Final SEIS independently confirms the continuing strong market demand. ¹¹ |
| | Environmental | |
| 32 | Table 6 to the Application summarizes the environmental impacts that Keystone's analysis indicates could be expected to remain after its Construction Mitigation and Reclamation Plan (CMR Plan) are implemented. Ex TC-1, pp. 31-37. | Table 6 is still applicable. The latest version of the CMR Plan is Rev4, April 2012. Attachment A to this Tracking Table is a redline version showing changes to the CMR Plan from Rev1 to the current Rev4. Overall changes to the CMR Plan were made to clarify language, provide additional detail related to construction procedures and incorporate lessons learned from previous pipeline construction, current right-of-way conditions and project requirements |

⁴ Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Keystone XL Pipeline Project, January 2014 at 1.4.3.2 and 1.4.3.3.

⁵ North Dakota Pipeline Authority 2014 <u>https://ndpipelines.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/nd-rail-estimate-april-2014.jpg</u>

⁶ Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Keystone XL Pipeline Project, January 2014 at 1.4.1.3

⁷ Transportation Safety Board of Canada http://www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/recommandations-recommendations/rail/2014/rec-r1401-r1403.asp

^{*} Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Keystone X. Pipeline Project, January 2014, Chapter 5 and Errata Sheet at http://keystonepipeline-xl.state.gov/documents/organization/227464.pdf.

⁹ Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) Crude Oil Forecast, Markets & Transportation June 2014

¹⁰ EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2014

¹¹ Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Keystone XL Pipeline Project, January 2014 at 1.3.1 and 1.4.2.6

| Finding | | |
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| 33 | The pipeline will cross the Unglaciated Missouri Plateau. This physiographic province is characterized by a dissected plateau where river channels have incised into the landscape. Elevations range from just over 3,000 feet above mean sea level in the northwestern part of the state to around 1,800 feet above mean sea level in the White River valley. The major river valleys traversed include the Little Missouri River, Cheyenne River, and White River. Ex TC-1, 5.3.1, p. 30; Ex TC-4, ¶ 15. Exhibit A to the Application includes soil type maps and aerial photograph maps of the Keystone pipeline route in South Dakota that indicate topography. Jand uses, project mileposts and Section, Township. Range location descriptors. Ex TC-1, Exhibit A. Updated versions of these maps were received in evidence as Exhibit TC-14. | The soil type maps and aerial photograph maps of the Keystone pipeline route in South Dakota that indicate topography. Iand uses, project mileposts and Section. Township, Range location descriptors that were submitted in evidence as Exhibit TC-14 are still generally consistent in the description of the current Project route through South Dakota. Keystone will submit updated maps prior to the initiation of construction as required by Condition No. 6 of the Amended Final Decision and Order. |
| 41 | Fifteen perennial streams and rivers, 129 intermittent streams, 206 ephemeral streams and seven man- made ponds will be crossed during construction of the Project in South Dakota. Keystone will utilize horizontal directional difiling ("HDD") to cross the Little Missouri, Cheyenne and White River crossings. Keystone intends to use open-cut trenching at the other perennial streams and intermittent water bodies. The open cut wet method can cause the following impacts: loss of in-stream habitat through direct disturbance, loss of bank cover, disruption of fish movement, direct disturbance to spawning, water quality effects and sedimentation effects. Alternative techniques include open cut dry flume, open cut dam-and-pump and horizontal directional drilling. Exhibit C to the Application contains a listing of all water body crossings and preliminary site-specific crossing plans for the HDD sites. Ex TC-14. Permitting of water body crossings, which is currently underway, will ultimately determine the construction method to be utilized. Keystone committed to mitigate water crossing impacts through implementation of procedures outlined in the CMR Plan. Ex TC-1, 5.4.1, pp. 45-46. | Fifteen perennial streams and rivers, 129 intermittent streams, and 206 ephemeral streams will be crossed during construction of the Project in South Dakota. No man-made ponds are crossed. Keystone will utilize horizontal directional drilling ("HDD") to cross the Little Missouri, Cheyenne, Bad, and White rivers, as well as Bridger Creek. Keystone intends to use open-cut trenching at other perennial streams and intermittent water bodies. The open cut wet method can cause the following impacts: loss of in-stream habitat through direct disturbance, loss of bank cover, disruption of fish movement, direct disturbance to spawning, water quality effects and sedimentation effects. Alternative techniques include open cut dry flume, open cut dam-and-pump and horizontal directional drilling. To supplement Exhibit C to the Application, Attachment B to this Tracking Table contains the preliminary site-specific crossing plans for the two newly identified HDD crossings; Bad River and Bridger Creek. |
| 50 | The total length of Project pipe with the potential to affect a High Consequence Area ("HCA") is 34.3 miles. A spill that could affect an HCA would occur no more than once in 250 years. TC-12, ¶ 24. | The total length of Project pipe with the potential to affect a High Consequence Area ("HCA") is 19.9 miles. A spill that could affect an HCA would occur no more than once in 250 years. |
| 54 | Of the approximately 314-mile route in South Dakota, all but 21.5 miles is privately owned. 21.5 miles is state-owned and managed. The list is found in Table 14. No tribal or federal lands are crossed by the proposed route. Ex TC-1, 5.7.1, p. 75. | Of the approximately 315-mile route in South Dakota, all but 27.9 miles are privately owned. 1.7 miles are local government owned, and 26.3 miles are state-owned and managed. No tribal or federal lands are crossed by the route. |
| | Design and Construction | |
| 60 | Keystone has applied for a special permit ("Special Permit") from PHMSA authorizing Keystone to design, construct, and operate the Project at up to 80% of the steel pipe specified minimum yield strength at most locations. TC-1, 2.2, p. 8; TR 62. In Condition 2, the Commission requires Keystone to comply with all of the conditions of the Special Permit, if issued. | Keystone withdrew its request to PHMSA for a special permit ("Special Permit") on August 5, 2010. Keystone will implement 59 additional safety measures as set forth in the DOS Final SEIS, Appendix Z. These measures provide an enhanced level of safety equivalent to or greater than those that would have applied under the previously requested Special Permit. |
| 61 | TransCanada operates approximately 11,000 miles of pipelines in Canada with a 0.8 design factor and requested the Special Permit to ensure consistency across its system and to reduce costs. PHMSA has previously granted similar waivers adopting this modified design factor for natural gas pipelines and for the Keystone Pipeline. Ex TC-8, ¶¶ 13, 17. | [Finding 61 is no longer relevant as Keystone has withdrawn its request for a Special Permit]. |
| 62 | The Special Permit is expected to exclude pipeline segments operating in (i) PHMSA defined HCAs described as high population areas and commercially navigable waterways in 49 CFR Section 195.450; (ii) pipeline segments operating at highway, railroad, and road crossings; (iii) piping located within pump stations, mainline valve assemblies, pigging facilities, and measurement facilities; and (iv) areas where the MOP is greater than 1.440 psig. Ext C-8. ¶ 16. | [Finding 62 is no longer relevant as Keystone has withdrawn its request for a Special Permit.] |
| 63 | Application of the 0.8 design factor and API 5L PSL2 X70 high-strength steel pipe results in use of pipe with a 0.463 inch wall thickness, as compared with the 0.512 inch wall thickness under the otherwise applicable 0.72 design factor, a reduction in thickness of .050 inches. TR 61. PHNSA previously found that the issuance of a waiver is not inconsistent with pipeline safety and that the waiver will provide a level of safety equal to or greater than that which would be provided if the pipeline were operated under the otherwise applicable regulations. Ex TC-8, \P 15. | The pipeline will operate at a maximum operating pressure of 1,307 psig. Use of API 5L X70 high-strength steel results in a 0.465 inch nominal pipe wall thickness. For location specific low elevation segments close to the discharge of pump stations, the maximum operating pressure will be 1,600 psig. Pipe associated with these segments of 1,600 psig MOP will have a design factor of 0.72 and a nominal pipe wall thickness of 0.572 inch (X- 70M). |

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| 68 | TransCanada has thousands of miles of this particular grade of pipeline steel installed and in operation. TransCanada pioneered the use of FBE, which has been in use on its system for over 29 years. There have been no leaks on this type of pipe installed by TransCanada with the FBE coating and cathodic protection system during that time. When TransCanada has excavated pipe to validate FBE coating performance, there has been no evidence of external corrosion. Ex TC-8, ¶ 27. | TransCanada has thousands of miles of this particular grade of pipeline steel installed and in operation. TransCanada pioneered the use of FBE, which has been in use on its system for over 33 years. There have been no leaks on this type of pipe installed by TransCanada with the FBE coating and cathodic protection system during that time. When TransCanada has excavated pipe to validate FBE coating performance, there has been no evidence of external corrosion except for one instance where an adjacent foreign utilitefred with the cathodic protection system. No similar situations exist on the Project in South Dakota. |
| 73 | The Applicant has prepared a detailed CMR Plan that describes procedures for crossing cultivated lands, grasslands, including native grasslands, wetlands, streams and the procedures for resoring or reclaiming and monitoring those features crossed by the Project. The CMR Plan is a summary of the commitments that Keystone has made for environmental mitigation, restoration and post-construction monitoring and compliance related to the construction phase of the Project. Among these, Keystone will utilize construction techniques that will retain the original characteristics of the lands crossed as detailed in the CMR Plan. Keystone's thorough implementation of these procedures will minimize the impacts associated with the Project. A copy of the CMR Plan was filed as Exhibit B to Keystone's permit application and introduced into evidence as TC-1, Exhibit B. | Keystone has updated its CMR Plan since the Amended Final Decision and Order. Overall changes to the CMR Plan were made to clarify language, provide additional detail related to construction procedures and incorporate lessons learned from previous pipeline construction, current right-of-way conditions and project requirements. A redlined version of the CMR Plan showing changes since the version considered in 2010 is attached as Attachment A to this Tracking Table. |
| 80 | Keystone is in the process of preparing, in consultation with the area National Resource Conservation Service, construction/reclamation unit ("Con/Rec Unit") mapping to address differing construction and reclamation techniques for different solits conditions, stopes, vegetation, and land use along the pipeline route. This analysis and mapping results in the identification of segments called Con/Rec Units. Ex. TC-5; TC-16, DR 3-25. | In consultation with the area National Resource Conservation Service, Keystone has completed construction/reclamation unit ("Con/Rec Unit") mapping to address differing construction and reclamation techniques for different soils conditions, slopes, vegetation, and land use along the pipeline route. |
| 83 | Keystone will utilize HDD for the Little Missouri, Cheyenne and White River crossings, which will aid in minimizing impacts to important game and commercial fish species and special status species. Open- cut trenching, which can affect fisheries, will be used at other perennial streams. Keystone will use best practices to reduce or eliminate the impact of crossings at the perennial streams other than the Cheyenne and White Rivers. Ex TC-1 5, 41, p. 46; 56.2, p. 72; TC-16, DR 3-9. | Keystone will utilize HDD for the Little Missouri, Cheyenne, Bad and White River crossings, as well as Bridger Creek, which will aid in minimizing impacts to important game and commercial fish species and special status species. Open-cut trenching, which can affect fisheries, will be used at other perennial streams. Keystone will use best practices to reduce or eliminate the impact of crossings at the perennial streams that are open cut. |
| | Operation and Maintenance | |
| 90 | The Keystone pipeline will be designed constructed, tested and operated in accordance with all applicable requirements, including the PHMSA regulations set forth at 49 CFR Parts 194 and 195, as modified by the Special Permit. These federal regulations are intended to ensure adequate protection for the public and the environment and to prevent crude oil pipeline accidents and failures. Ex TC-8, ¶ 2. | The Keystone pipeline will be designed constructed, tested and operated in accordance with all applicable requirements, including the PHMSA regulations set forth at 49 CFR Parts 194 and 195, and the 59 PHMSA Special Conditions as set forth in DOS Final SEIS, Appendix Z. These federal regulations and additional conditions are intended to ensure adequate protection for the public and the environment and to prevent crude oil pipeline accidents and failures. |
| | Socio-Economic Factors | |
| 107 | Socio-economic evidence offered by both Keystone and Staff demonstrates that the welfare of the citizens of South Dakota will not be impaired by the Project. Staff expert Dr. Michael Madden conducted a socio-economic analysis of the Keystone Pipeline, and concluded that the positive economic benefits of the project were unambiguous, while most if not all of the social impacts were positive or neutral. S-2, Madden Assessment at 21. The Project, subject to compliance with the Special Permit and the Conditions herein, would not, from a socioeconomic standpoint: (i) pose a threat of serious injury to the socioeconomic conditions in the project area; (ii) substantially impair the health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants in the project area; or (iii) unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region. | [Keystone has withdrawn its Special Permit application but will comply with the 59 additional conditions set forth in the DOS Final SEIS, Appendix Z, which provide an enhanced level of safety equivalent to or greater than those that would have applied under the requested Special Permit.] The increased cost of the Project reflected in updated Finding 23 is likely to result in increased tax revenue to the affected counties. |