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Dakota Access Pipeline

I am a landowner in Lincoln County, South Dakota. Our family property through which the Dakota Access Pipeline is proposed to run is legally described as: Dayton Township SW ¼ Section 32, Township 99W, Range 48 W. As I have discussed with the contact person from Dakota Access, one of our several concerns are the underground springs that exist at and near where they wish to put the pipeline. There are many underground springs as well as above ground waterways. The pipeline crosses one of these surface drainages on our property as well. These springs and drainages also run into the nearby slough and creek which are within a matter of yards of the proposed pipeline. The creek runs into the river within about one mile. These springs do make this somewhat of a cool water and clear water creek and slough. I have seined and trapped fish in this creek and slough that I do not see in other waterways. In addition the area is well populated with waterfowl, furbearers and reptilians. I don't pretend to be an expert on fish and have not attempted to catalog all species I have netted, but they do include red bellied dace and sticklebacks. I have many pictures of river otters in this creek-slough system as well. This is most definitely an environmentally sensitive area. The disruption from installing and operating and potential leaks of this very large pipeline concern us.

The recent leak of a much small pipeline into the Yellowstone was noted in the local paper. I think a leak in this much larger pipeline would be devastating. It is in reality located within this waterway. Dakota Access noted that they document these concerns and make sure an open discussion is had concerning such concerns. They also indicated that they have an environmental team check these things out. I doubt that can be done very well in the winter. Dakota Access has commented that this property is in a flood plain and they deal with that on many projects. I am visiting with them concerning a preliminary survey.