

From: Jodie Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2016 12:47 PM
To: Nelson, Chris
Subject: Docket Number: HP14-002

Dear Commissioner
Docket Number: HP14-002

As a citizen of this state I find the way that the PUC has handled the permitting process of the Dakota Access Pipeline to be unprofessional and irresponsible. Construction should have never been allowed to begin without all of the permits in place, which are still not. Construction should have never been allowed to begin without proper tribal consultation, which it still has not. Construction should have never been allowed to begin without thorough review of the Oil Spill Response Plan, Integrity Management Plan and Facility Response Plan, and future impact reports should there be a leak in 5 , 10, 50 years. The law of entropy is that everything breaks down, these pipes WILL leak. They claim these pipes are good for 100 years – what happens then? Will this company even be around to clean that mess up or is that just a problem for our grandchildren to deal with? Three years is not enough time to hold them accountable or to compensate the land owners. Construction should have never been allowed to begin without a thorough independent environmental assessment. If you would have fact checked the environmental impact report provided by DAPL you would see that their sources DO NOT support their claims and the need for an independent report would have been clear. Endangered species will be impacted if not eradicated by this project. Cows can't even get to their water sources! Claiming there is not enough time for a proper independent environmental assessment is NOT acceptable. You need to stop fast tracking this and give proper time for gathering necessary information or flat out deny the project. Giving a private for-profit business the ability to use eminent domain is a crime and should NEVER be fast tracked. The is not a necessary and critical federal infrastructure project. Our President has said so himself. The landowners and citizens of this state are being negatively impacted by this project.

I oppose the construction of the proposed Dakota Access crude oil pipeline because it will pose a threat of serious injury to the environment and current or future inhabitants. The pipeline will substantially impair the health, safety and welfare of South Dakota communities. The pipeline will destroy natural resources that are needed to sustain South Dakota as a leader in agriculture and tourism. Also, South Dakota does not have state inspectors or funds to protect citizens from pipeline accidents. The Dakota Access Pipeline would not serve the good of the public. It is all risk and no reward for South Dakota and its residents. The pipeline would be a negative legacy for all South Dakotans. The potential impact of an oil spill or leak to water and land quality for both private and public lands would be devastating and costly to South Dakota's communities. The remedy that I seek is to outright deny a permit to construct the Dakota Access crude oil pipeline in South Dakota. The Dakota Access pipeline project is connected to so many issues. Environment, economy, public health, and much more. The tribes protesting the

pipeline project are fighting to protect their sacred land and their right to access clean water and their right to be consulted. The continued oppression of Native American people in this country is appalling. This project is something that everyone should care about. The threats that it poses to environmental and human health far outweigh the fleeting economic benefits that may be realized in the pipeline region and the country. We should be investing in renewable energy rather than pumping more resources into energy from fossil fuel. We should be pushing for innovation and technological advances that will improve our quality of life while not at the same time destroying our lands and our health. The protection of our natural resources and environment is something everyone should fight for, especially our elected leaders. Please consider the support of projects that will be more beneficial in the long-term, such as investment in renewable energy including wind, solar, and others. Fossil fuels of all kinds come with hefty threats to human and environmental health. The continued development of renewable energy will also foster innovation and increasing jobs in this growing sector. Please consider investing in a healthy future for everyone.

Sincerely,
Jodie Smith



Lead, SD 57754