Sheila Blomster 37055 128th Street Wetonka, South Dakota 57481

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

June 7, 2007

<u>VIA CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capital Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

Re:

In the Matter of the Application of Transcanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for permit under the South Dakota Energy Conversion and Transmissions Facility Act to construct a Keystone Pipeline Project, Docket HP07-001

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

I would appreciate it if you would make this letter available to the commissioners regarding the application.

My mother, Luella Wagner, is the owner of the East Half of Section 32 and the Southwest Quarter of Section 28, all in Township 124 North, Range 59 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Day County, South Dakota. Two quarters of the real estate is real estate upon which Transcanada proposes to bury its petroleum pipeline. My mother has in recent years been in an assisted living facility and I have managed her affairs under a power of attorney arrangement.

After giving thorough consideration to the application and upon review of the proposed easement from Transcanada, I would respectfully urge the commission to reject the application. Transcanada is a foreign entity seeking to place a pipeline across hundreds of miles of South Dakota farmland. I now understand that it is not merely a risk, but a foregone conclusion that there will be environmental degradation as a result of this proposed pipeline. Spills and leaks will occur. All of the land utilized for the pipeline will be at risk of those mishaps. Oil spills will create permanent damage to any affected real estate.

The easement proposed by Transcanada to various landowners is one in which Transcanada attempts to avoid responsibility and liability for such transgressions. The easement proposed by Transcanada would compensate landowners only at the inception of the creation of

the pipeline. Landowners would not be paid on an annual basis for the continued risk to their land and livelihood. The easements do not bind Transcanada to remedy all damages for such mishaps and attempt in many respects to shield this foreign entity from responsibility and liability.

In my mother's situation, the land upon which Transcanada seeks to place its pipeline has been in our family for generations. It constitutes my mother's major source of financial support. Neither she nor the rest of our family wish to see the land disturbed in this manner. In the event this pipeline needs to be located in South Dakota, it certainly makes greater sense to locate the pipeline along the I-29 corridor so that any spills or leeks can be more readily remedied and so that spills or leeks will not adversely affect productive farmland, land as in this case which is crucial to the livelihood of South Dakota citizens.

Again, I would respectfully urge the commission to reject the pending application.

Very truly yours,

SHEILA BLOMSTER

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