

Sent: Thursday, July 05, 2007 4:05 PM
To: 'Claudia Pullman'
Subject: RE: Keystone pipeline project

Claudia,

I appreciate your concerns, and will make sure that your email gets entered into the record of this proceeding. The Keystone pipeline is not a certainty, and I am quite certain that I have never spoken about it in those terms. The project has not received a permit from the PUC, and since we have not even entered into the evidentiary portion of this process, I can honestly say that I don't know what will happen. No evidence has been entered into the record yet, so I don't know what the facts are (or would be).

The PUC doesn't have authority over every aspect of this project, but we do have broad authority to examine a number of the issues you've raised, and we will be asking a lot of questions as a part of this process. Specific to noise, the Commission has dealt extensively with that issue in our experiences with the AC/DC/AC intertie near Rapid City, the Big Stone II power plant proposal, and the natural gas turbines near Groton. As for state support to biofuels, I am no expert in that area, but I haven't seen anything that indicates South Dakota support for ethanol and biodiesel has been put "on the backburner." The incentives that have been in place for a number of years are still in place, and SDSU is doing some truly impressive research in this area. In fact, the PUC will be touring their facilities later this month to learn more.

I understand your frustrations, and I can promise you that I am not "just seeing dollar bills like the rest of the big wigs." I believe that all three Commissioners sincerely care about South Dakota, her people, and their land, and that we will do what we can to make sure that this process is as open, fair, and fact-based as it can be. That is what the law (and the people of South Dakota, who are my bosses) demand, and that is what we will strive to deliver.

Most sincerely,
Dusty

Dustin "Dusty" Johnson
Public Utilities Commissioner
605-773-3201
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-----Original Message-----

From: Claudia Pullman
Sent: Thursday, July 05, 2007 3:02 PM
To: Johnson, Dustin (PUC)
Subject: Keystone pipeline project
My husband and I recently attended the Alexandria Meeting with the Keystone pipeline officials. My heart broke when I heard all evening long the words "will" and "are" and not "would" and "could".
It's the public's duty and right to elect officials to represent us and our needs, but yet when it comes to big bucks the whole idea of a democratic process is down the drain. Where are our rights as landowners and why are our officials, that are supposed to make sure our health and welfare is protected, protecting us from "Big Oil"?
Our so-called county commission has one member who also owns his own gas station chain of course will give the go ahead with this issue with no regards to the citizens that keep putting him into the position that he is in. Why do we even elect a commission that doesn't care one bit about us, the folks that have to live with the pipeline and pump stations in their backyard. What are the

pipeline people going to do about the noise that comes with the traffic and the pollution that we as citizens have to deal with. I am in the process of filing complaints and possibly even lawsuits to protect me and my family from noise stemming from trucks driven by drivers that don't give a hoot about us and our privacy. We are being harassed anywhere we turn even in our own backyards. I want to know what the PUC can do to make clear to these pipeline people that we would like to have some kind of peace and quiet while they are working on the pipeline. I hope they hire some reputable trucking firm that cares about the folks around here and aren't so rude and totally disregard the privacy in our homes. I want to make sure that even though we probably won't be able to stop the pipeline, while they are working on it I don't have to be on medications to help me deal with the noise. From what I understand the traffic is going to be insane and we live right by the intersection of a major highway and County road which more than likely will be the one used to truck these huge sections of pipe to their destination.

Do you folks have any idea what over exposure to noise can do to a person? I can tell you what it is doing to me and a lot of other people around the country that are dealing with noise pollution. I am fighting a battle with the city council and the county commission in regards to getting Jake brakes stopped in Hutchinson county because I can't deal with it anymore. I have high blood pressure and can't sleep at night and we all know what happens when someone doesn't get enough sleep, don't we? I want to make sure that the pipeline people understand that we still want our privacy and our quiet even though we have to deal with the traffic. I hope they can accommodate us to that extent. I think the project should be done with very little impact on the lives and lifestyles of the folks that live in the proximity of the project. It seems that some companies will do anything to save money and they will hire companies that don't care about us or our lives.

I also don't understand why everyone keeps talking about the jobs that are being created when the keystone people obviously have their own people to do the job. Just like all the other huge project (ethanol plants) they gave us a chance at bidding a job but conveniently forgot to tell us that the job was already handed to some company from the big city. Thanks so much. I feel like we don't even exist. All the major projects are being hired out to out of state contractors. Starting with the ethanol plants and down to the larger projects here in the Freeman area. So much for keeping business local. What a joke. no one cares about the small communities and the people that live in it. You should probably think about what is more important, the welfare and health of the citizens of South Dakota or all the money that you think that is coming rolling into the state. They bought this state up cheap because they know that the further east they move the more it's going to cost them. Doesn't the fact that the majority of people affected by the pipeline project don't want this thing mean anything at all? I feel it's a slap in the face for the South Dakota farmer to hear them make the statement that the need for oil will always be there and even increase. Whatever happened to the expansion of the biofuel industry? Our corn and soybeans don't mean anything because the expansion of ethanol is being put on the back burner once again. I feel sorry for the people that think their problems are solved as soon as they cashed the check from Trans Canada, because they have no idea what is going to happen in the future and they more than likely won't be around anyway to see the mess that an oil spill will create. It's not an "if" but "when" the pipeline will leak. God help us all when that happens. I believe the only reason there are confidential records not made public is the fact that there are endangered species and grasses and we are not allowed to know how they are affected by a spill. How is it going to affect the health of the people around here. Besides the traffic noise which is affecting my health and sleep, the roads will need to be repaired again, the air will be more dirty and the exhaust fumes from the diesel trucks driving through here 24/7. Where are my rights? I think it's coming down to one explanation for me and that is they are trying to run the small farmers out of here at whatever expense necessary. They have done it in the past under the pretense that it was good for the economy or for whatever.

I thought the eminent domain issue was something only the Government can implement, why is a private company threatening with eminent domain which is unconstitutional according to the 5th Amendment.

All for the sake of money. Get rid of the small family farmer one way or another. Big Oil is in charge and we are suppose to roll over and play dead? You, the PUC are the ones we elected into office by us to protect us and I hope that is what you are doing, because a lot of peoples

livelihoods are at stake here. I also want to know who the oil company is behind the scene that is pushing all the buttons and why do we have to have two pipelines coming through eastern South Dakota, one to supply the Illinois refinery and the other that is supposed to supply the crude for the project by Elk point.

Are you really working for us or are you just seeing dollar bills like the rest of the big wigs that forgot what it means to live a wholesome life without outside influence. What is economic development anyway? To me that means the decline of the local traditional industry for the sake of the big guys that just keep getting richer at our expense.

Thanks for reading my letter.

Claudia Pullman, Freeman, SD