

September 2, 2007

P. O. Box 701046
Tulsa, OK 74170

Mr. Dusty Johnson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

RECEIVED
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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This letter is written to notify you of a letter dated August 24, 2007 which I received on August 28, 2007 from TransCanada, a Canadian company, in which they gave me until August 31, 2007 to accept their offer to acquire the easement across property I own in Day County, South Dakota.

As a taxpayer in South Dakota who was born, raised, and educated in South Dakota public schools, earned the Bachelor's degree in the state, has other real estate in South Dakota, and has family members living in the state, I am deeply concerned about this action by TransCanada. The potential negative impact of this pipeline on valuable farmland is particularly disconcerting. I am sure that you are well aware that pipelines can leak; farmland and water could potentially be contaminated and/or ruined for decades. Additionally, air quality can be severely impacted if leakages and spills occur from this pipeline.

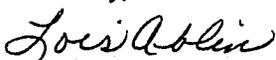
It seems to me that if a pipeline must be constructed, it would be much more environmentally prudent for construction to be along the Interstate 29 corridor instead of invading farmland. Furthermore, if there were a spill, Trans-Canada would be more likely to assume responsibility for a leak if it occurred along this corridor where the state has right of way. The fact is that oil spills do occur; the recent spill in Coffeyville, Kansas, is a prime example and provides ample evidence for the potential of toxic wastes being released onto private property. This obviously results in damage to health, and requires massive cleanup and attempted remediation of land and other property. The environmental impact can be felt for many years.

It is my understanding that hearings have not been held and that the permit application has not been approved by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. Furthermore, if hearings are to be held in December, 2007, how can this Canadian company threaten landowners with eminent domain and condemnation? Finally, under Federal Environmental Law, is this company required to obtain permission from the United States Government?

The letter from TransCanada says, "Should you reject or fail to respond to this offer by August 31, 2007, Keystone will conclude that we are unable to come to agreement on a voluntarily negotiated easement for this project. We will then commence preparations for a condemnation action to acquire the easements under the laws of the State of South Dakota."

It is extremely concerning that a foreign company intimidates landowners with threats of condemnation before a permit has been secured from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. In the strongest possible terms, I urge that you deny permit application to this company. South Dakota deserves better.

Sincerely,



Lois Ablin

Cc: Gary Hanson
Steve Kolbeck
Larry Long, J.D.