Gene Tisher 41546 113<sup>th</sup> Street Amherst, South Dakota 57421

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

DEC 0 4 2007

RECEIVED

November 30, 2007

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear South Dakota Public Utilities Commission:

As owner of NE1/4-126-59 Weston township, Marshall county, South Dakota, property that lies on the projected route of the TransCanada pipeline, I have concerns regarding this route because of the close proximity of the major aquifer in the area to the ground surface. In addition, the proposed route not only crosses the Crow Creek drainage canal, it is also directly adjacent to the Crow Creek drainage canal for an entire 4.5 mile length. This Crow Creek drainage canal carries surface water north and west to a major waterfowl production area and on to the James River.

Because of the close proximity to these major ground water sources, combined with the HIGH PERMEABILITY of the soils in this area, even the smallest leak would contaminate the aquifer and enter the Crow Creek drainage canal within a matter of hours. If a major pipeline break or explosion should occur, such as the recent pipeline explosion in Minnesota-the attached table indicates that in the last decade Minnesota has had AS MANY AS 10 SIGNIFICANT PIPELINE INCIDENTS IN A SINGLE YEAR AND NEVER LESS THAN 3 SIGNIFICANT PIPELINE INCIDENTS IN ONE YEAR-the entire water supply in northeastern South Dakota could be adversely affected. The area could become a virtual wasteland.

TransCanada says they have chosen the best route. Because of the HIGH RISKS involved with our area's water system, I strongly disagree. This area has everything to lose and nothing to gain. My concern is how responsible does South Dakota want to be if a leak were to occur and contaminate the entire area's water system.

As a concerned citizen of South Dakota, I feel there are better routes and I urge you to vote NO on TransCanada's permit request.

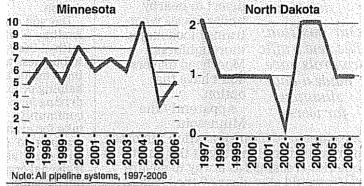
Sincerely,

Gene Tisher

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# Significant pipeline incidents in Minnesota, North Dakota

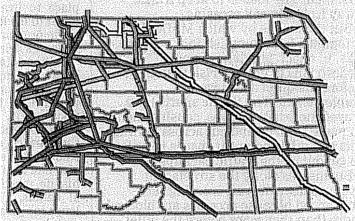
An incident is considered significant when: 1) There's a fatality or injury requiring hospitalization. 2) There's \$50,000 or more in total costs. 3) At least five barrels of highly volatile liquid or 50 barrels of other liquid is released. 4) Liquid is released causing an unintentional fire or explosion.



Source: Office of Pipeline Safety

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## **North Dakota pipelines**



### Oil pipelines

- Belle Fourche
- Enbridge 🎟
- Tesoro

#### Product pipelines

- Cenex Pipeline LLC
- Kinder Morgan Cochin
- Magellan Midstream Partners LP
- New Star Energy LP

  New Star Energy LP
- Valero Pipeline
- Western Terminal

### CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines

Dakota Gasification

#### Natural gas pipelines

- Alliance Pipeline
- Bear Paw Energy
- Dakota Gasification
- Great Plains Natural Gas
- MHess
- Northern Border/TransCanada
- Williston Basin/Interstate Pipeline Co.

Source: N.D.I.C. Oll and Gas Division

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