

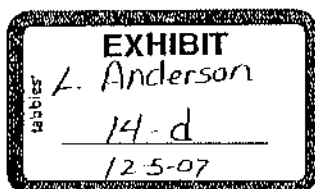
1 That's the only continuous piece of state land I'm aware of that
2 you'd be suggesting. And as I tried to explain during the
3 presentation, I hope I'm saying the same thing, the -- following
4 I-29 within the right of way is very difficult and certainly
5 something that is hard for us to do. There's not enough room
6 for us to maneuver in a way that we like to build pipelines. It
7 is also something that the South Dakota Department of
8 Transportation doesn't want us to do.

9 They don't allow pipelines in their reasons for
10 interstates or freeways. They certainly would allow it on a
11 state road but not -- potentially allow it on a state road, but
12 not on an Interstate.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Thanks, Mr. Koski. Right over
14 there on the middle of the bleachers.

15 MR. NORBERT TOWNSEND: My name is Norbert Townsend
16 (phonetic). I live in Parker (phonetic) Township, Section 128,
17 59 and I've lived there since 1941. My farm has been in the
18 family for 135 to 40 years. And my biggest question is why
19 can't we put that pipeline down at least 5 to 5 and a half feet
20 deep?

21 Now I'll tell you why. We have been farming out there
22 for many years. It's gone -- my son does the farming now. I'm
23 still in the operation. And we have gone across the fields, and
24 we hit -- I call them suction holes which happen once in awhile
25 when you get a lot of wet weather. And we drop tractors in over



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1 5 feet. Now what happens if that should happen right over the
2 pipeline? We've got a problem. The pipeline company's got a
3 problem, and how are they going to get the tractor out?

4 We've had to take the backhoe and dig them out just
5 because you go along and hit one of those sinkholes. You might
6 hit it with one wheel, you might hit it with two, and the other
7 one might be on dry ground. And with these big tractors, boy,
8 they get really deep when you've got tires as high as I am.
9 That's my biggest concern as far as if the pipeline is
10 constructed.

11 And another problem I have is their easements. I am
12 not feeling they're treating us fairly on the compensation on
13 the property that they're using to construct this pipe. They
14 say half price. Well, they're damaging our land a lot worse
15 there than they actually are on the pipeline. I feel we should
16 have full price of the value of the land straight across.
17 Because they're really using our property for little or nothing
18 when you sit down and figure the land price.

19 Thank you very much, and I hope you folks can get your
20 job done with good speed, and we wish you luck. Thank you.

21 MR. GRAY: Regarding the depth of the cover and the
22 issue you raise relative to the farm equipment and the depth is
23 that in our industry in our standards actually, and whether it's
24 right or wrong but actually our industry standard is 30 inches,
25 2 foot 6 inches of cover. We are, or our code and regulations,