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Public Utilities Commission Capitol Building 1st Floor 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre SD 57501-5070 SICUCIVEL

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: TransCanada – Keystone Pipeline Project

Case No: HP07-001

Dear Commissioners:

We want to take this opportunity to express our support for the TransCanada Keystone Pipeline Project. We strongly urge the PUC to approve this project.

We are aware that the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has reviewed the design for the Keystone Pipeline and concluded that additional precautions and conditions will make the Keystone Pipeline "as safe or safer" than other pipelines. We are also aware that the Keystone Draft Environmental Impact Statement prepared by federal regulators in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act indicates the project will have "limited adverse environmental impacts during both construction and operation, and would be an environmentally acceptable action."

We are aware of the significant benefits the pipeline stands to bring to the State of South Dakota. On a personal level, the project has already resulted in a contract for this firm for surveying services. While providing these services, we were impressed with TransCanada's concern and respect for the landowners. We were not allowed to survey any easement without TransCanada notifying and receiving the landowners' permission to survey their property. Not once did we receive any negative comments from the landowners. The willingness of the managers of the Keystone Pipeline to use local firms during the preliminary phases leads us to believe that this practice will continue and result in numerous economic benefits for the State of South Dakota during the construction period. Our past involvement with communities in the State of South Dakota also leads us to believe the project will provide ongoing tax benefits to the school districts and counties through which the project passes. From a national perspective, the project seeks to deliver into the Midwest a stable and secure source of oil from a domestic source in North America.

Therefore, as a matter of public record and with respect, we express our strong support for the Keystone Pipeline Project. We urge you to move forward expeditiously to approve this project.

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Sincerely, HELMS AND ASSOCIATES

Terry D. Helms

President

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