

Hi, my name is Steven Vieter and I farm with my brother Doug and sister David. Upon graduation from SDSU I come back to the farm in 1986. We farm about 5,000 acres and custom feed cattle. We maintain about 3,000 head in our feed yards throughout the year with a few more during the winter months.

We haven't been too active for or against the trans-Canada line but have some real concerns about the route it takes west of Britton. The sandy soil and high H_2O table in the area makes us very concerned since the most valuable thing this area has is the Middle James Aquifer. I served on the BDM board for 9 yrs and came to realize just how valuable it is to so many area towns and farms. I believe that this pipeline is gambling with this area's resource to much. After farming + living in this area my entire life it seems logical to have the route on the soils just a few miles East where the soil types are so very different. Now is the time to use caution and common sense before the pipe is laid. The pressure on the pipe of 1400 lbs makes me believe at some point there will be a leak and we could avert a much more serious problem by moving the line next to the base of the hills where the soil type is much different and the H_2O table much much deeper.

I must be fair to you by telling you we have 2 quarters of land we rent that the line will go over, but we aren't too concerned with the loss of the crop in that small of a area. The benefits of more oil in the US is worth a little crop loss but not worth ~~the~~ risk of contaminating a aquifer or surface water. Protecting the areas environment and resources should be the top priority with a line of this magnitude and we hope you will reconsider this proposed route and have them move it East just a few miles to a more logical and safe route.

Thank-you,



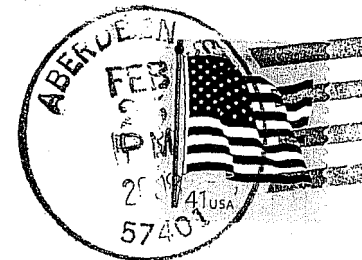
Vieter Farms.

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