
From: PUC
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 9:36 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE, HP14-002

Mr. Kroeger:

Thank you for relaying your perspective regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline docket that is currently open before the commission. I appreciate your candor and information.

I encourage you to follow along with the Dakota Access docket, <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/2014/hp14-002.aspx>, made possible in this internet age! You will be able to view the documents already filed, i.e. pipeline construction permit application, minutes of meetings, orders by the commission, correspondence, and other information regarding the Dakota Access docket. You will also be able to follow along as the docket is processed and new information is added.

The PUC's web site is www.puc.sd.gov and on the home page you will find a Dakota Access Frequently Asked Questions document, <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/2014/h14-002faq.aspx>, and a Pipeline Siting Information Guide, <http://www.puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/pipelinesiting.pdf>. From the home page you can navigate through every docket and all of the PUC public hearings' archives. The Dakota Access docket can be found by clicking on Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Hydrocarbon Pipeline Dockets, 2014 Hydrocarbon Pipeline Dockets, and HP14-002.

Again, thank you for writing to express your views. The entire commission values citizen input. Comments can be received throughout the proceeding. As explained at the public input hearings and relayed in online information, since this communication regards an open docket before the commission, your message and my reply will be posted in the docket. Your street and email address will be removed in the public version.

Gary Hanson, Commissioner
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.sd.gov

MERKLE

LAW FIRM, Prof.LLC

BRET C. MERKLE
Attorney at Law

Licensed Real Estate Broker

5032 S. Bur Oak Place, Suite 220
P.O. Box 90708
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57109-0708

www.merklelaw.com

Telephone 605.339.1420
Toll Free 888.760.7070
Fax 605.339.1423
Cellular 605.351.6375
E-mail bret@merklelaw.com

January 27, 2015

SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

RECEIVED
JAN 29 2015
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Re: Proposed Oil Pipeline – Reroute Request

Dear PUC Commission:

I own land between 274th Street and 275th Streets in Lincoln County, SD. The current route of the oil pipeline proposed by Dakota Access divides my land. I also represent other affected landowners in the area, which make up several miles along the proposed route south of Sioux Falls.

The current proposed pipeline travels eastward along the south edge of Sioux Falls between 274th Street and 275th Street, and cuts directly through an area that has been identified and protected by the Lincoln County Comprehensive Growth Plan. A copy of the growth map is enclosed for your review, and is marked with a blue line showing the current proposed pipeline route. There is already substantial commercial and residential development that has filled in between Tea and Harrisburg south of Sioux Falls near the current proposed route. This Comprehensive Growth Plan was adopted as the law of Lincoln County by its Commission in order to protect the orderly growth of the county, which in turn protects the rights and land values of its citizens as well as necessary tax base for the public. (The full Comprehensive Growth Plan can be found on the Lincoln County website under the Planning & Zoning Department.)

South Sioux Falls is well known to be one of the fastest growing and exciting areas of development in the nation. It is frankly unbelievable that Dakota Access is proposing to leave a 50 foot strip of land that cannot be developed through an area that is expected to be full of commercial businesses and residential homes in the near future. The result will be a major

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detriment to our economic growth and a huge loss of tax base. If Dakota Access has its way, it will control a 50 foot strip of land in the middle of dense development that will remain at the lowest tax base on the books when that land could otherwise have been fully developed and taxed at the highest rates. To reach their goal, this for-profit company argues that any loss of tax base will be made up by other taxes generated from this pipeline. However, the simple answer is to relocate the current proposed route further south where development growth is unlikely to occur.

Finally, I respectfully request this pipeline be rerouted further south. Since this pipeline is headed southeast through Iowa anyway, there is no reason it cannot be rerouted further south to protect these important private and public interests.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Bret C. Merkle

BCM:lsj

encl

Future Land Use

Map 10

