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**SEP 28 2015**

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Hannah M. Hoelscher  
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, PA, 19144

September 21, 2015

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

Dear South Dakota Public Utilities Commission:

My name is Hannah Hoelscher. I was born in Sioux Falls, and spent the majority of my childhood in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Some of my most fond memories are those that take place at my grandparent's farm which is located near Tea. The farm dates back to the late 1800's and is a source of pride and countless memories for myself and my extended family. The land it sits on is beautiful, untouched South Dakota farm land. My family has worked hard to maintain and preserve the integrity of the farm and its surroundings.

My brother and I are the sole grandchildren, and will one day inherit this land. It is extremely important to me that I am able to preserve and enjoy the land in the way that my mother, her siblings, my grandparents, and their parents have done for so many years.

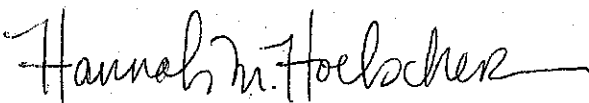
I am extremely upset by the recent revelations and series of events that is the Dakota Pipeline. It is shameful to think that such a project would even be considered, as the detrimental effects it will have on the land are not short term, but will impact this area for generations to come.

I am so proud of what my grandfather and our family have accomplished with this land. We are people of hardworking nature, and the farm is testimony to years of work put into the preservation of the land. It is wrong that the Dakota Pipeline think they can take advantage of all the hard working people of South Dakota, ruining what is rightfully ours, and has been for over a hundred years.

Please use your power to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline, preserve the beautiful land that makes up South Dakota, and save it so my children can one day have the same fond memories of the "farm" that I hold so very dear to my heart.

Thank You.

Sincerely a Proud South Dakotan,



Hannah M. Hoelscher

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FACTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dakota Access Pipeline is proposed to cross southeastern South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois. ADDITIONAL pipelines are already PLANNED. The pipeline will cross highly productive crop land as well as highly populated areas. Potential lost crops are needed to feed a growing world and fuel our cars. The pipeline will be built within FEET of existing homes. Further development of towns, homes, farmsteads, and acreages will be stopped as buildings and trees cannot be placed in the easement area.

A volatile crude oil will be transported to Illinois and on to the Gulf Coast. There is NO guarantee that this oil will remain in the United States.

The Public Utilities Commission has the authority to issue a permit for this pipeline. The PUC may grant the permit, deny the permit, or grant the permit with terms, conditions, or modifications. The PUC has no plans to police or enforce permit conditions or the easement agreements that are in place. There are NO STATE INSPECTORS. Basically, our state's resources will be handed over to a Texas company for their profit.

Easements are PERMANENT but compensation is a one-time, lump-sum payment. Not all landowners have signed easement agreements or allowed survey access.

Property values in the easement area, as well as neighboring property, will be greatly diminished.

Agricultural tiles will be altered across the state ending the effective management practices of erosion, water runoff, and quality water.

Major watersheds in South Dakota will be crossed. James River, Skunk Creek, Wall Lake, Beaver Creek, underground aquifers and the Sioux River are some of the water areas affected.

Inflated promises of income for South Dakota are not guaranteed. There is NO South Dakota funding in place for pipeline accidents.

Out-of-state workers will do the majority of the pipeline installation while only a portion of their wages will be spent in South Dakota for food and lodging. South Dakota businesses will not profit from the installation of the pipeline as many of the supplies are purchased from out-of-state.

In the future, the product transported through the pipeline can be changed as well as the size of the pipeline. Future products can include oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids, hydrocarbon liquids, and the product thereof. Additional pipelines may be added in the easement areas.

Because of liability issues, lending institutions could choose not to allow/continue loans connected with property on or near the pipeline route.

No transportation of oil is safe. Pipeline accidents are not rare. <http://projects.propublica.org/pipelines/>

Southeastern South Dakota has experienced an orderly development of this region. The proposed pipeline will interfere with that process and will pose a threat to our local environment, water safety, and future inhabitants.

To become more informed visit: <http://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/2014/hp-14-002.aspx>. South Dakota's PUC must make a decision in the permit process. Please send your comments to the South Dakota PUC.

Today's decisions could set a precedent for pipelines coming to additional locations in South Dakota. Let's keep South Dakota a safe place to live.

*For all of these reasons I would ask the PUC to deny permission to build the Dakota Access pipeline.*

*Jean Osthus*

*Harrisburg, SD 57032*



Docket number - HP14-002

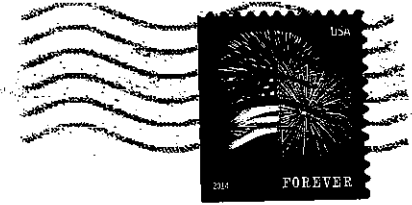
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Jean Osthus

Harrisburg, SD 57032

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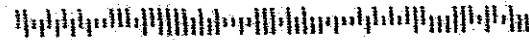


*Public Utilities Commission*

*500 E. Capitol Ave.*

*Pierre, SD 57501*

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Chris Nelson, Chairperson  
Kristie Fiegen, Vice Chairperson  
Gary Hanson, Commissioner

*South Dakota*

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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September 28, 2015

Hannah Hoelscher

[REDACTED]  
Philadelphia, PA 19144

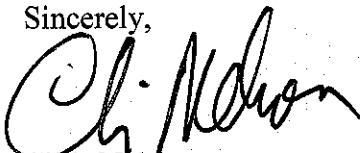
Dear Ms. Hoescher:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline. It is posted in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's formal pipeline siting docket, HP14-002, under Comments and Responses.

The docket may be found online at [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov) by clicking on Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Hydrocarbon Pipeline Dockets, 2014 Hydrocarbon Pipeline Dockets, and then HP14-002.

Since this is an open docket before the commission, correspondence is posted in the open, public docket so that the other commissioners and all parties to the case have access to it. I have enclosed a Pipeline Siting Guide and Dakota Access Frequently-Asked-Questions document which are linked to the commission's website home page which you may find of interest.

Sincerely,

  
Chris Nelson

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**From:** PUC

**Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2015 3:18 PM

**Subject:** HP14-002

Ms. Osthus:

Thank you for the document with your comments regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline. It will be posted in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's formal pipeline siting docket, HP14-002, under Comments and Responses. Here is a link to the docket: <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/2014/hp14-002.aspx> Since this is an open docket before the commission, correspondence is posted in the open, public docket so that the other commissioners and all parties to the case have access to it.

You may be interested in this Pipeline Siting Info Guide:

<http://puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/pipelinesiting.pdf> and Dakota Access Pipeline FAQ:

<http://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/HydrocarbonPipeline/2014/hp14-002faq.aspx>

Chairman Chris Nelson

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

[www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov)

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