

Docket HP14-002

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**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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Dear Commissioners,

I would like to start by thanking you for your time and thanking you for letting the landowners testify at the PUC/ Dakota Access Pipeline hearings. I was able to listen to much of the hearing LIVE online and wanted to touch on a few points.

I was disappointed in how the DAPL staff represented themselves. Their answers were very vague and many inappropriate for the situation. I also felt they were very ill-prepared when it came to documents. It seemed the hearing had to take many breaks to get the right information to continue. Had the landowners shown that amount of lack of preparation, their information would have had to have been thrown out. In a situation like this, it goes to show that they want this pipeline for the betterment of DAPL and NOT the betterment of our state. I also felt the PUC staff was a little disgruntled and ill-prepared at times, leaving me to think that their view of the pipeline is biased as they favored DAPL more than the state and landowners. Thus, very inappropriate for the position they are in. The landowners, however, had to abide by all the rules and be ready for their one and half days of testimony. Why wasn't this required of everyone involved? Will further recognition of this issue be addressed to your staff and as the decision is made?

During the hearing, one of you asked Ms. Howard from DAPL, about the hunting ground acres that will be destroyed and how it will be affected from the pipeline. She stated that "the pipeline will be done by then, and it won't be affected." As a SD citizen with hunting ground, I do not believe that is true at all. Yes, the pipeline will be installed and finished, but any type of animal needs a safe, well established habitat to feel comfortable living in. If the pipeline is approved, and the pipeline is installed, there is no way the grass lands will be established for anything to have a habitat in, regardless of the time line. That takes years to replace. Many of the animals will have moved on, and that means money lost for our state and those areas affected on the pipeline route.

I was highly offended by the comment made by DAPL regarding the Stofferahn land and business. The DAPL staff stated that "their business is not in the right place and that their plot land should be moved." How can they make that judgement call? The Stofferahn's are upstanding-citizens in our state and community that run a very successful business. They have had their land for over a century and know how to make it successful by utilizing the resources around them. Their investment in our state has been great and deserves more respect than it was given by DAPL. The statement made regarding their land was a classic example of how many of the landowners, including myself, have felt through this process. Very unappreciated, tossed aside, and undermined.

The route for this pipeline is very endangering to our state and the people who live near it. The in-home daycare we bring our child to is 1 ½ miles south of us. The pipeline route will go within ¾ miles east of their house. To this day, Mr. and Mrs. Kroeger have not been notified that the pipeline will be that close their home or business where kids reside all day.

I ask that you deny this proposed route as it is scheduled to go 743 FEET from our farm yard and on a hill none the less. When it leaks, it will run downhill to our home and pond that leads to Hartford and into Skunk Creek, which leads to the Big Sioux River. That in itself shows the route was not planned out in a humble way, but a selfish way.

This pipeline will not benefit South Dakota. As I listened to the hearing online, I was became very concerned that DAPL didn't even give a definite amount of money that SD would receive from taxes that would be depreciated in 3 years. They stated that they have a "formula" that 3 of DAPL staff members did some figuring on, but did not actually give you, the PUC members any of that information, or give you a concrete number. Shouldn't our state officials in charge of Tax Revenue be solidifying that number for our state?

The DAPL staff also stated that not many, if any rail cars will be freed up in this process, when at first, this was the big push they lobbied to convince people their pipeline was a good thing. This goes to prove that they want this pipeline to benefit their business, not the citizens or state of South Dakota. If it isn't going free up any rail cars for grain shipments, they lied to the citizens of SD.

There are so many concerns and issues left unanswered by DAPL and they didn't have decency or ability to provide the answers in a formal hearing. This raises many problems for me as a landowner because that means all of those concerns and issues will flow over into my community, my land and my family and how we will be treated if the pipeline route is approved.

PLEASE DENY the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline.

Thank you for your time,

Kristi Anderson

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