

Feb 3, 2015

Members of the SD PUC:

I am writing to tell you of my displeasure concerning the pipeline that is proposed to run through Minnehaha County. I heard of this particular pipeline by a neighbor not long ago. I was told it was to run on the property that is adjoining to mine. I had a hard time believing this but went around and asked several of the neighbors in my area. Imagine my surprise when they all had received a certified letter but me. I obtained a card from a Kyle Acord from Dakota Access. He told me he wanted to get on my property to do some surveying. I was angry by this time that this was all so secretive, especially when it was practically in my back yard. I told him in no uncertain terms that he was not allowed access in any way. I then asked why I was singled out as the only one not getting notice. He told me that the PUC sends out the notifications, and if I hadn't gotten one, you did not think it was worth sending me any information. I highly doubt you send out notices of this nature, if I am wrong please correct me.

I did some research on pipeline accidents and was not surprised to find 20 pages of incidents (small print) consisting of 340 separate events from 2000 until now. What surprised me was how the numbers jumped significantly in the past 3-4 years. Many of these had leaks for quite some time before they were discovered. Many were due to corrosion, and no matter what the representatives of the pipeline say, these pipes will not last forever. I am concerned by the shallow depth of the proposed pipeline, and the heavy equipment that will be traveling over it. In my particular case, the neighbor that I heard has approved the pipeline through his land put a large culvert in his yard next to my land. Any time there is any rainfall; this is the path for runoff. What he has done has created a large volume of water that rushes down to my small culvert and backs up. This has caused my basement to flood several times. There was no reason for him to construct this pathway; the water has never affected anyone but me. The county says they won't do anything about it unless he has changed the path of the water. I certainly don't have the money to tear out the road and put in a larger culvert and am plenty irritated he could be that inconsiderate and not even check who this disturbs downstream. As you can see, logic dictates if there is any kind of incident with oil, it is my house that will be filling up with this toxic substance. My house and property would be ruined for good. I understand since the pipeline is not on my property it would be my problem. No matter what the representatives say, taking into consideration the deceit and dishonesty they have displayed so far, I don't trust a thing they say about taking care of it. What would I do with a house full of crude oil??

This also leads me to the evidence that there is such runoff of water that the shallow burial of this pipeline would go to a matter of inches within a few heavy rainfalls. There is also a consistently wet area on the corner of my property that makes me think there is a spring of some sort under it. Even in dry years, it is always muddy there. Just these few facts should be enough to sway any support of this pipeline.

I also do not understand how or why anyone would ever think a pipeline running next to a heavily used lake close to Sioux Falls would be a good idea. If there is any spill, that lake would be unusable for years, probably decades. It would kill the fish and permanently ruin the habitat. I also know there are cancer

causing agents that would affect many people in the water supply. In the Montana oil spill, the oil sheen was spotted as far downstream as 25 miles.

In the 15 years I have lived in this area, there have been many new houses constructed. This is close to a bedroom community for Sioux Falls. You also have the fact that this runs through the Tea and Harrisburg areas, and it doesn't take a genius to know all directions around Sioux Falls are becoming more populated.

I know in the meeting they claimed to have never told any person that they would use eminent domain. My neighbor to the east, Penny Hannisch, said Kyle told her she may as well grant him access to her property because they would take it anyway in that manner. He told me there were so many pipelines running under my land another one wouldn't make a big difference. I again highly doubt their integrity. I feel they will use any such devious methods to get what they want, then will move on and leave us with the mess to clean up. It was very obvious at the meeting almost no one was in favor of this plan, and there were far too many "I don't know" answers from them. I don't trust them and want you to know how vehemently opposed I am to this venture.

If you refer to the Argus Leader, Sunday, Jan 18 article concerning this pipeline, it quotes "It is OK to be skeptical of what those proposing the pipeline claim. A 2011 Argus Leader story showed that the eastern South Dakota Keystone pipeline wasn't raising as much tax revenue for local governments as officials had originally stated."

Why would anyone choose to have this potential disaster here? As I told Mr. Acord, you have miles and miles of farmland that no one is living on and probably won't for many years. The population of SD is coming to Sioux Falls and surrounding communities and leaving rural areas. I DO NOT condone putting this pipeline in at all but if you consider it necessary, please keep it away from all the families here.

I have faith you will look out for the safety of all concerned citizens in the pathway of this venture. I implore you to deny the pipeline to this company and save the pristine nature of our beautiful land.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Fromm



Hartford SD 57033