

January 30, 2015

Public Utilities Commission
Attn: Chairman Chris Nelson
Capitol Building 1st Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Dakota Access Pipeline-Case No: HP14-002

Dear Commissioners:

I want to thank you for your time and expertise shared at the January 22nd public meeting in Sioux Falls in regards to the Dakota Access Pipeline. I appreciated your willingness to listen to every comment. Questions directed to the PUC were answered and procedures involved with the whole process of the permit application were explained very well by your office.

I was discouraged that many of the questions directed to the Dakota Access Pipeline representatives were not actually answered. Also, when we were told that there would be funds to cover future liability costs, we were not told what was listed in the 2013 annual report of the Energy Transfer Partners that "we cannot assure you that our current reserves are adequate to cover all future liabilities, even for currently known contamination". This should be a concern of every taxpayer in South Dakota.

WE CAN HOPE THERE IS NO OIL SPILL, BUT HOPE IS NOT A PLAN!

To brush off the latest oil spill in Yellowstone by stating the pipes were 40 or 50 years old, did not give me peace of mind. I believe that southeastern South Dakota will be heavily populated in 40, 50 or 100 years. What about the safety of the next generations? I ask that you, the commissioners, please review the hazards of crude oil. Will the state and counties be prepared?

I am concerned about the safety of our state's water. In reference to the "Agricultural Mitigation Measures" (Exhibit D) listed in the application for the Dakota Access Pipeline, it states: "Trench and/or pit dewatering is necessary due to accumulation of precipitation and/or groundwater in open trenches; the Contractor will pump the water in a manner that will avoid damaging adjacent agricultural land, crops, and/or pasture." Any South Dakota pipe layer will agree that water will always be drawn to that area and the water will flow along those pipes as gravity directs it. That means some sloughs will become dry and some areas will be wet even though they were not before. What will happen in the areas where the water table is high? Will the water be contaminated by chemicals and other pollutants from soils along the pipeline because of this water flow from above properties? I would ask that you direct this question to the correct department.

I have never lived in western South Dakota. I have lived in eastern South Dakota all of my life. I have watched farm families that have made plans for their future and the future generations-it is called a transition process. Many times those farm families have invested every extra penny they had to improve the land. They are stewards of the land. They have considered changes will come because of death, illness or even undesirable weather conditions. One change they did not expect was their plans would be stopped because of an out-of-state business wanting to do business through or near their

land. How can Dakota Access throw money at the issues and honestly say that they fairly reimburse the farmers for the inconvenience?

I am also watching families building homes in the country and in a fast developing area of South Dakota with dreams of their future smashed by a possible pipeline near their home. The future worth of their home and the safety of their family are at stake. In addition, neighbors will not receive compensation for their loss of land value and safety.

I am concerned for the land and property owners who have yet to find out that they are on or near a pipeline route because of yet another revised map for the Dakota Access Pipeline.

I believe that the installation of the Dakota Access Pipeline will, in fact, deter the progress that generations of South Dakotans have accomplished.


Once again, I will say that I do not approve of the Dakota Access Pipeline moving a dangerous product for profit across the highly populated eastern South Dakota. I believe the pipeline is an environmental and economical threat to the state of South Dakota and its citizens. I ask that the South Dakota PUC deny the permit to build the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and questions.

Sincerely,

Peggy A. Hoogestraat

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Chancellor, SD 57015-5712