

FEB 09 2015

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Sirs

I attended the public meeting on 1-23-15 at the Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls for the Dakota access Pipeline.

The one thing that I noticed about the people that were representing Dakota access is that they were either unprepared to answer questions or did not want to answer them, they did not even try to put on a good dog and pony show.

I live at [REDACTED] Hartford, at the start of the meeting Joey Menodue stated that they were going to route the pipeline to avoid developments, lakes, and environmentally sensitive areas.

As I understand it the current route takes the pipe line just to the west of wall lake which also has wet land on the west side and then south straight through the development on 267th st where I live. This would split the development in half. The route also goes within a mile of Tea and Harrisburg.

The map that I have shows the pipe line taking a direct line from the Bakken oil field to the pipeline hub near Patoka Ill. This makes great economic sense for the company to use the most direct route, but will ruin the lives of hundreds if not thousands of people along the route. The area around wall lake and south east South Dakota is heavily developed and the pipeline should be moved west approx 5 to 10 miles and south about the same distance to avoid the populations centers.

Dakota access seemed to be proud of the fact that the pipeline would create 10 to 12 permanent jobs in South Dakota and thousands of temporary jobs. South Dakota has an unemployment rate of 2<sup>9</sup> and a growing economy and the permanent jobs are not that big of deal and will probably be filled by people from out of state and the temporary ones are mostly going to be out of state workers that come in for the duration of the construction then leave. Very little of the money they make is going to stay in South Dakota. The company is going to pay for meals and lodging and their paychecks are going to go back home.

The land that the pipe line does eventually cross is going to be next to worthless and property on either side is going to go down in value. Dakota access should compensate the landowner for the loss of land value and should pay the landowner a yearly fee for the use of the land. Also property owners on either side should be compensated for the loss in property values by the company and should be able to get a lower tax rate.

This company should NOT have Eminent Domain that is a power that should be reserved for the state "only".

My wife has had cancer and is at a higher risk of recurrence of the cancer any ~~exposure~~ exposure to the chemicals in the crude could bring the cancer back.

I have lived in South Dakota all my life and intend to stay here. I like the life style and the people. It makes me very mad when an out of state company comes into South Dakota with a project like this (especially from Texas) and tries to railroad everyone.

I do NOT support this project in any form and want to see it stoped

Sincerely

Larry Johnson

[REDACTED]  
Hartford SD

Larry Johnson

# Pipeline Leak Taints River With Wastewater

By CHESTER DAWSON

Salty wastewater from oil wells has contaminated a creek and flowed into the Missouri River after a huge pipeline leak in North Dakota, state officials said Thursday.

The state said the leak of 3 million gallons is its biggest-ever spill of brine, which in addition to high concentrations of salt often contains trace amounts of heavy metals that can be radioactive.

Such spills, which can kill vegetation and ruin farmland, have been increasing in Western North Dakota as the state has become a leading oil producer,

pumping more than a million barrels of crude a day from the Bakken Shale.

After a shale well is drilled and hydraulically fractured, or fracked, briny wastewater is extracted from deep underground along with oil and gas and must be disposed of, usually by injecting it back into the ground at separate wells drilled specifically for that purpose.

The state is investigating the cause of the leak, which doesn't currently pose a threat to public health or drinking water, North Dakota officials said. The area where the spill occurred is sparsely populated and officials

in surrounding Williams County said they weren't concerned about the impact on water supplies, which are miles downstream from the area affected.

The Bakken region also is cleaning up from an unrelated oil spill over the weekend in the Yellowstone River, a tributary of the Missouri. An oil pipeline under the river burst, releasing about 960 barrels of crude near Glendive, Mont., and contaminating the local water-treatment plant.

In North Dakota, about 2.7 million gallons of wastewater have been collected from Blacktail Creek in a rural area about 15 miles north of Williston, N.D.

The cleanup effort has been complicated by winter weather that has made it more difficult to track the spread of the contamination and pump out the wastewater from the ice-covered creek, said Dave Glatt, chief of the state health department's environmental section.

The wastewater leak was first detected two weeks ago when the Texas-based pipeline operator, privately held Summit Midstream Partners LLC, said that an "undermined amount" of brine had spilled out of the line, which was installed in June.

The company's "full and undivided attention is focused on

minimizing and remediating any environmental impacts, ensuring cleanup efforts, and addressing the needs of impacted landowners, regulators and government officials," said Jonathan Morgan, a Summit spokesman.

The Summit Midstream pipeline collects water from 40 well pads and ships it to a disposal facility operated by a third party, the company said.

The state has faced a number of challenges handling the surge in wastewater, ranging from spills by tanker trucks and ruptured pipelines to storage tanks filled with the salty water that have been struck by lightning.