

[REDACTED]  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
February 3, 2015

Mr. Chris Nelson  
Public Utilities Commissioner  
500 East Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

**RECEIVED**  
**FEB 09 2015**  
**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC**  
**UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Dear Mr. Nelson,

My mother, Delores (Andreessen) Assid and I, Laurie (Assid) Kunzelman, attended the meeting about the Dakota Access Pipeline at the Ramkota in Sioux Falls. My mother owns a half section of farmland two miles west of Tea. Her grandparents homesteaded that land. The proposed pipeline will run diagonally across one-half of her land. We are both very much opposed to this pipeline for several reasons. At the meeting I came up to you and mentioned one reason. You suggested that I write you with my objection.

That pipeline will effectively stop the expansion of Tea and Sioux Falls to the west. Both are growing in that direction. People will not be able to build houses on the pipeline right-of-way, plus the fact that no one will want to build that close to an oil pipeline. Someone had approached my mother about purchasing an acreage to build a house in the southeast corner of her farm. That would not be possible with the pipeline running through there. My husband and I have also thought about building a house on an acre of land on the farm, but we would not do that with the pipeline there. In addition, the value of that farm would decrease tremendously. No one in the future would want to purchase that farm either for agricultural purposes or for a housing development with that pipeline running under it. This is true of all of the land near Tea and Sioux Falls that has the pipeline running under it.

My mother has several other concerns. One of which is the possibility of an oil leak or oil explosion. After all, there have been eleven pipeline incidents in South Dakota since 1998. With a thirty inch pipe, a lot of oil could leak out in just a few minutes. That would ruin the land forever. Not only that, but the oil could get into the water. My mother has drainage tile on that land. If the company breaks those tile, oil could get into them. Oil could seep into the little stream, into Skunk Creek, into the Sioux River, and even into the aquifer. That would contaminate the water, harm people, and even kill animals.

Another concern my mother has is that when they dig the dirt out, they won't really separate the topsoil and the dirt underneath, so when they replace it, it will be all mixed together. Then the crops won't produce as much in that area. That will hurt my eighty-eight year old mother's income. If she doesn't want to sell her land, they will take it anyway, by the process of eminent domain. That is not fair to the landowners.

The company is only willing to pay for crop loss the first three years: 100% the first year, 80% the second year, and 60% the third year, then nothing after that. Farmers could see a decrease in their crop production for much more than three years. The company will be making money from that pipeline year after year after year. If they build that pipeline, which we hope you won't allow, they should have

to pay royalties, production payments, and annual lease payments to the landowner every year for as long as that pipeline is operational. They should also be required to take care of that land, such as adding more topsoil as the land settles over the pipeline. If they have to go back and do anything to that pipeline, they should again have to pay the 100%, 80%, and 60% for crop loss on all parts of the land their machinery disturbs. The company should also be required to be bonded in case there is a leak anytime in the future.

If and when that pipeline is no longer in use, the company should be responsible for coming back and digging up and removing all of the pipe, making sure nothing is contaminated. Then they should again be required to pay the 100%, 80%, and 60% for crop loss.

Thank you very much for taking the time to become aware of our concerns, as well as the concerns of other citizens of South Dakota. We hope that you will not let this company build this pipeline.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Kunzelman".

Laurie Kunzelman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delores Assid".

Delores Assid