



Gary Hanson, Chairperson
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South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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January 8, 2015

The Honorable Dennis Daugaard
Governor of South Dakota
Office of the Governor
500 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Governor Daugaard:

Currently pending before the Public Utilities Commission is Docket HP14-002, In the Matter of the Application of Dakota Access, LLC for an Energy Facility Permit to Construct the Dakota Access Pipeline. In this docket, Dakota Access, LLC has applied for a facility permit to construct and operate the Dakota Access Pipeline Project, which is a proposed 1,134 mile, 12-inch to 30-inch diameter pipeline that will connect the Bakken and Three Forks crude oil production areas in North Dakota to existing pipeline infrastructure in Illinois. According to the application, approximately 271.6 miles of the proposed pipeline would be constructed within South Dakota, crossing 13 counties in the eastern half of the state.

I have recently been informed that the proposed pipeline would cross land owned by my sister-in-law (my husband's sister) and her husband in the counties of McCook and Minnehaha. Pursuant to SDCL 49-1-9, a Public Utilities Commissioner may not participate in a proceeding in which the Commissioner has a conflict of interest. Given this familial relationship, I am regretfully disqualifying myself from participating in this proceeding.

As required by SDCL 49-1-9, I hereby certify that I am disqualifying myself from participating in this docket and request that you appoint an elected constitutional officer, other than the attorney general, as a member of the Commission in my place. In order to give notice of my disqualification, I am filing this letter in Docket HP 14-002.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kristie Fiegen
Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission