

**From:** PUC  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 9:04 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** HP22-002

Mr. and Ms. VanDeRostyne,

This is in response to your message to a South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioner regarding the Navigator Heartland Greenway LLC application for a siting permit, docket [HP22-002](#).

This [Pipeline Siting Information Guide](#) explains the commission's processing of such dockets and why communication directly with a commissioner outside of a public, noticed meeting or hearing is not appropriate. See excerpts below.

**Submit comments.** *Members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments about an active siting case to the PUC. These informal public comments are reviewed and considered by the PUC commissioners and staff. Comments should include the docket number or siting project name, commenter's full name, mailing address, e-mail address and phone number. **These comments should be emailed to [puc@state.sd.us](mailto:puc@state.sd.us)...***

**Communicate on record.** ***Verbal communication between a commissioner and a person with an interest in a matter before the commission that does not occur in a public forum or as part of the official record should be avoided. Those who communicate in writing with a commissioner about an open or imminent docket matter should understand that their comments will become part of the official record and subject to review by all parties and the public.** Likewise, comments made at a PUC public proceeding or submitted to the commission relative to a docket matter become part of the record, open to review by all parties and the public. Because commissioners have a decision-making role in docket matters, any discussion with a commissioner about an open or imminent docket must take place in an open forum, such as a public meeting, with notice given to all parties.*

As such, your message and this response will be posted under Comments and Responses in the dockets. Note that any messages regarding open dockets should be emailed to [PUC@state.sd.us](mailto:PUC@state.sd.us).

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff