From: Jim Eschenbaum

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2025 12:45 PM

To: PUC-PUC < < PUC@state.sd.us > Subject: [EXT] Docket #HP24-001

Jim Eschenbaum

Miller, SD 57362

Hand County Commissioner Chairman of SDPRLCA

Greetings PUC Commissioners,

I will try to be brief, and very blunt, about the proposed route that the applicant is submitting for approval.

They absolutely DO NOT, I repeat, DO NOT have a complete route secured under easement from landowners. Several landowners and public officials will attest to this fact.

They are point blank trying to get a permit approved by the PUC that they can then use as leverage to attempt to use eminent domain for their private gain.

It has been said time and time again that the PUC doesn't deal with eminent domain. This is true, but I ask, please don't be enablers to the process. Make them provide a route that is fully documented by voluntary easements from every landowner on their route.

Approving their application in a speculative form is neither right or just, and must be denied.

Thank You all for serving the citizens of SD!

Respectfully, Jim Eschenbaum