

Big Stone South to Ellendale

June 6, 2014

Lyle & Catherine Podoll
11957 390th Ave
Westport, SD 57481

Re: Alternative Route

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Podoll:

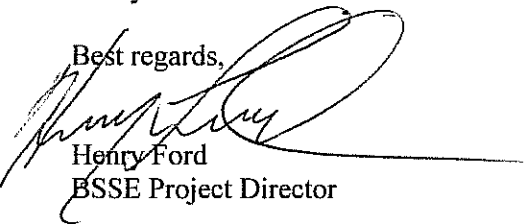
Thank you for your letter dated May 20, 2014. Based on your letter, I think that we can agree that the Project has made various attempts to address your concerns starting in the Fall of 2013 through our meeting on June 3, 2014. The Project values your input and appreciates your willingness to work toward finalization of the route.

Regarding your suggested route changes, the Project has reviewed such changes based on the same criteria utilized for the original route including the impact to other occupied homes, route alignment on the route corridor and the response of your neighbors. You were provided with a response to your initial request for a route change to the west and the south indicating the proposed route change was not acceptable based on impacts to other homes and the lack of support from other landowners.

In an effort to accommodate your concern that the line would be in the sight line of your new home and your son's home, the Project considered a route change to place the line behind your home and your son's home behind your tree belt in order to minimize visual impacts. At the May 22, 2014 hearing in Aberdeen you testified that the proposed tree belt route change was unacceptable and again suggested moving the line to the south across land owned by the Dennerts and Carol Ryberg and continuing to the south and then to the east. Once again, your proposed alternative places you at odds with landowners on the proposed southern route change who were opposed to your earlier proposed route change to the west and the south.

Based on the Project's original siting criteria and the lack of support for your proposed alternatives, the Project has submitted its original route to the PUC. This does not preclude further discussions on other route options, meeting our criteria, that may be identified. We look forward to continuing our discussions with you and look forward to a final resolution of this matter.

Best regards,



Henry Ford
BSSE Project Director