

INFORMATION REQUEST 10:

Yes I do intend to file written testimony and following is that Testimony:

My name is John M. Sieh and I presently live at 11 E 4th Ave, Groton, SD 57445. I was born November 26, 1925 on NE1/4 Section 20 Twp 124 Brown County South Dakota on the Sieh family Tree Claim farm. As a youth I was active in 4-H Club work representing South Dakota Crop Judging team at the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. As a member of FFA (Future Farmers of America) authored an essay on the value of tree shelterbelts on the Great Plains and was honored to present that subject and represent South Dakota in a National FFA Public Speaking Contest.

During my 20's I served and was honorably discharge d from the US Army and worked for the SD Farmers Union as Director of Youth Activities and traveled for the National Farmers Union as an organizer in Iowa, Kansas and Texas. Returned to the farm in 1955 and have been involved with grain and livestock production up to the present.

Because of the impossibility of maintaining shallow wells, quick sand would filter into sand points and tubular wells and obstruct water flow, the water quality was very poor, very saline and very hard. My father, as did many of his neighbors, put down an artesian well at about 1200 feet, a soft but saline water was found, we used this well until the 1950's until corrosion stopped the flow. We dug many test holes all over our property to determine if good potable water could be found in shallow or tubular wells to no avail. Because there was no other water source I was forced to put down the second artesian to the same level about 1200 feet--this lasted until two years ago and it also failed. The cost of an artesian well in the 1950 was \$2500. to \$3500. Now the cost would exceed \$10,000. Let me list the problems we had with this water quality. Yes it was soft for washing clothes etc, but was so saline that on a hot day if you drank too much it would cause diarrhea. If you could keep the water real cold, it would taste better. We had to be cautious when partime help would come to the farm to assist in harvesting or haying in hot weather and if you gave them ice cold water, those strapping healthy young men could become helpless with cramps and the worst kind of diarrhea. The water was very corrosive on pipes,

fixtures and sinks and tubs. Minerals would collect and color your wash and toilet bowls red. Our children's teeth would be discolored chalky and brown. In our livestock and poultry water dispensers, the iron deposits would support bacteria that if not cleaned and disinfected often. Enteritis problems particularly with our swine and poultry were serious concerns. I personally suffered with kidney stones. If you think you have suffered some severe pain in your life, wait until you pass a kidney stone! Mayo Clinic Doctors could not tell me exactly what causes kidney stones to develop, however they did tell me that North and South Dakota and Minnesota have a high incidence of stones as compared to other areas.

As evidence mounted that artesian water in our area was unhealthy—we purchased and used an electric distiller for our drinking water until BDM Rural Water arrived with good clean potable water.

In 1974 I was elected to represent Brown County rural areas on the Oahe Conservancy Sub-District Board. The second year I was on the board I was elected chairman and served six years as chairman. This governmental entity was authorized by the SD Legislature and petitioned and voted into existence by citizens in a 15 ½ County area. The District had some taxing authority over real estate and contracting authority. In general the districts' mission was to deal with water resource and conservation issues. The District held the contract with the US Bureau of Reclamation as the local governing body to plan and operate a vast irrigation scheme known as the Oahe Irrigation Project.

Because of a host of issues raised by many, concerning, cost, drainage problems, environmental hazards our board conducted a comprehensive series of public hearings at which all government agencies, both Federal and State were called on to testify along with citizens as to the feasibility of the Oahe Irrigation Project. After the hearing process was completed it was apparent the Irrigation Project as planned would be a disaster. It was determined that the highest priority of need was for potable, clean drinking water for the cities and towns, and farmers and ranchers through out the 15 ½ county area. All of whom were plagued with saline, inferior and limited water supplies for domestic use.

One of our first priorities was to contract with the Federal and State Geological Survey Agencies and we partially funded comprehensive underground water Surveys in the District area. Brown, Day, Marshal, Spink and Clark counties all of which contains property which TransCanada has commenced property condemnation. These surveys will show the aquifers and underground drainage systems.

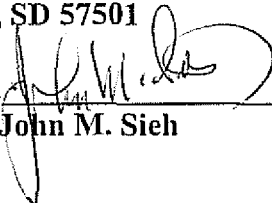
We hired a domestic water coordinator who was charged with assisting, the Web Water proposal of piping Missouri River Water east to Webster, a group of Marshal, Brown and Day people that located an aquifer in Marshal County large enough to service the area, and another group of farmers in Clark, Day and Beadle counties that found a suitable aquifer of good water to serve their area. The priorities for the Federal and Local government had changed from promoting vast Federal Irrigation to supporting rural water systems that piped the good water to the consumers.

With good water available our communities have developed. Projects like the Granary Rural Cultural Center would not be feasible without BDM. rural water—with the old Artesian wells soils in your garden would salt up and you couldn't successfully irrigate a flower bed or a tomato plant.

People have worked for years to build these rural water systems, it has cost the Federal and Local Governments and citizens vast sums of money to create this important infrastructure.

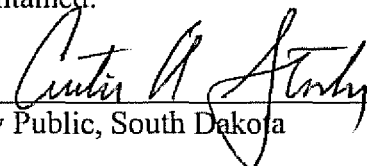
That is why we are asking the Public Utilities Commission to protect our drinking water from TransCanada's Crude Oil Pipelines, and require that Adequate Funds be set aside from TransCanada into independent accounts that will pay for damages to our water systems from the inevitable spills and leaks—or simply deny the permit to build.

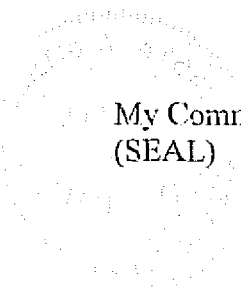
This is my testimony dated October 25, 2007. Mailed to Kara Semmler, Staff Attorney
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Signed 
John M. Sieh

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)
 : S.S.
COUNTY OF Brown)

On this 26th day of October, 2007, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for said County and State, personally appeared John M Sieh
Schumacher known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument and who executed the above and foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purposes therein contained.


Notary Public, South Dakota



My Commission Expires: June 29, 2012
(SEAL)

ADDENDUM -

I AM MAILING A PHOTO IN THE NEXT WEEK.

John Shea.