

**South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP  
Docket HP07-001  
Response to Staff's First Data Request**

**June 18, 2007  
Page 1 of 1**

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**1-3**

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**Data Request:**

Please provide information on the risk of subsidence potential per 20:10:22:14 (7).

**Response:**

Subsidence risk can be related to earthquake and slope stability risks, which are discussed in subsection 5.3.6 of the Application. Subsidence can also be caused by bedrock dissolution in karst terrain (areas with underlying limestone bedrock near the surface). The national karst maps (Davies et al. 1984, Tobin and Weary 2005) were reviewed to determine areas of karst terrain. These areas can be visualized in the attached Karst Geological Areas Map (Figure 1), based on Tobin and Weary 2005.

The overall subsidence hazard risk from sinkholes that form in karst terrain is considered low. Deep (generally 50 feet or more) glacial drift deposits overlie karst terrain in South Dakota. This deep and interbedded glacial material matrix limits the potential for sinkholes to cause fractures and soil displacement at the surface.

Reference:

Tobin, B. and D. Weary. 2005. National Atlas.

