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**From:** Axthelm, Demaris on Behalf Of Johnson, Dustin (PUC)

**To:** "Sender"

**Sent:** Friday, February 26, 2010 12:36 PM

**Subject:** Reject the Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline

February 26, 2010

Greetings;

Thanks for taking the time to email me your personal thoughts on the Keystone XL project. State law (SDCL 49-41B-24) requires the Commission render a decision within one year of application filing, which for this docket would be March 12. We have spent more than eleven months studying this project and taking evidence. On Feb. 18, 2010, the Commission voted to approve the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline, with conditions. You can review a list of these draft conditions on our Web site at <http://puc.sd.gov/commission/dockets/hydrocarbonpipeline/2009/hp09-001/draftconditions.pdf> and read more about the decision at <http://puc.sd.gov/News/2010/021810.aspx>.

I can assure you we have conducted a fair and thorough examination of all areas under the Commission's jurisdiction. Since 2007 the Commission has reviewed thousands and thousands of pages of information and heard testimony from more than two dozen witnesses on the siting of interstate hydrocarbon pipelines. On the Keystone XL pipeline specifically, five Commission staffers, three Commissioners, and a number of outside expert consultants have spent months reviewing the project. Our environmental review has been conducted independently from any EIS and is not dependent upon the completion of an EIS. Our process reviewed hydrology, wildlife, plants and vegetation, erosion, soil types, noise, and many other areas of concern.

Many thanks,  
Dusty