STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCANADA KEYSTONE PIPELINE, LP **CASE NO. PU-06-421**

30-INCH CRUDE OIL PIPELINE/CAVALIER TO SARGENT COUNTIES

SITING APPLICATION **OAH CASE NO. 20070181**

TESTIMONY OF MEERA KOTHARI

IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATIONS

FOR A CORRIDOR CERTIFICATE AND ROUTE PERMIT

MEERA KOTHARI, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, ON OATH, DEPOSES AND STATES AS FOLLOWS:

1. My name is Meera Kothari. I am employed a professional engineer with TransCanada Pipelines. In my position I am responsible for the pipeline design and pipeline integrity for TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. (Keystone) with respect to the Keystone Pipeline project.

2. I am filing this testimony on behalf of Keystone, in support of its applications for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and a Route Permit for the proposed Keystone project.

3. I am attaching a copy of my resume and professional qualifications.

4. On April 10, 2007, Keystone filed an application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and an application for a Route Permit, pursuant to the North Dakota Energy Conversion and Transmission Facility Siting Act, North Dakota Century Code, Chapter 49-22.

5. By its applications, Keystone seeks authorization to site and construct a 30-inch crude oil pipeline and appurtenant facilities, which will deliver

crude oil from an oil supply hub near Hardisty, Alberta, Canada to Wood River and Patoka, Illinois and Cushing Oklahoma.

6. The pipeline will enter North Dakota at the North Dakota/Canada border in Cavalier County and will extend in a southerly direction, exiting the State at the South Dakota border in Sargent County. The length of the pipeline in North Dakota will be approximately 218 miles.

7. Keystone's applications address the elements required by the North Dakota Century Code. The Corridor Certificate application is organized pursuant to the North Dakota Public Service Commission's (Commission) "Application Guidelines for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility."

8. I am responsible for the following portion of Keystone's application for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility:

    a. Section D.2.d.i. – Location and Design. I am responsible for the last three paragraphs of this section that address pipeline design elements which reduce the risk of adverse environmental impacts.

9. I am responsible for the following portion of Keystone's Route Permit application:

    a. Section B.2. – The Effects of New Energy Conversion and Transmission Technologies and Systems Designed to Minimize Adverse Environmental Impacts. With Keystone witness Brian Thomas, I am responsible for the portion of this section that addresses the use of technologies, construction techniques, materials, and methods to minimize environmental impacts.

Dated this 19th day of July, 2007.

Meera Kothari, P.Eng.

County of Canada	)
City of Calgary	) ss.
Province of Alberta	)

On the 19th day of July, 2007, before me personally appeared Meera Kothari, known to me to be the same person described in and who executed the within and foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same.

Notary Public, Province of Alberta

PETER A. PILIOUNIS
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR

(SEAL)

Meera Kothari P.Eng.
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Employment History

Project Engineer, Keystone Pipeline Project

Project Engineer ~3000 km pipeline project

October 2, 2005 – Present, TransCanada PipeLines Ltd, Calgary, Alberta

Technical Responsibilities

- Plan, review and ensure timely completion of regulatory baseline technical data, engineering design, permit application preparation and submittal in Canada and the US Federal and State level
- Develop and review specifications, standards, procedures & DBM for new construction, pipeline conversion and above ground facilities
- Pipeline route planning, facilities siting, development of emergency response plan, pipeline risk and integrity assessments and oil spill analysis
- Manage engineering service contractors
- Prepare and analyze project budgets & expansion cases
- Develop scope of work, bid analysis and award of project RFP
- Technical spokesperson at public consultation project open houses

Project Engineer, Cogeneration Power Plan Project

Project Engineer ~500 MW combined cycle power plant

May 1, 2005 – October 1, 2005 Energie TransCanada, Trois Rivières, Québec

Technical Responsibilities

- Developed & implemented inside battery limit plant construction quality plan
- Conducted witness point inspections and audit of equipment fabrication & equipment installation
- Conducted plant hazard assessment recommendation close out
- Validated work package estimates for outside battery limit pipeline system project bid award
- Developed hazardous material philosophy
- Prepared RFP scope for gas and chemical supply contracts
- Developed community investment risk matrix
- Provided French guided plant tours for various stakeholders

Project Controls Responsibilities

- Prepared monthly project status report, management presentations and HS&E statistics
- Analyzed and validated cost and schedule for various work packages
- Developed management operating system compliance tracking report

Operations & Engineering Technical Support & Technology Manager, Asset Reliability

Pipeline Integrity & Operations Engineer for rehabilitation programs, management of small projects

July 1, 2003 – April 30, 2005 TransCanada PipeLines Ltd, Calgary, Alberta

Technical Responsibilities

- Conducted engineering critical assessment for pipeline defect assessment, maintenance repair, pipeline pressure derating, unsupported pipe lengths, blasting/explosives, coating systems
- Managed urban development encroachments, foreign utility, road and vehicle crossing application review focused in the areas of integrity verification, stress analysis, population growth tracking for the purpose of code compliance and conflicts with facilities that may impact the ability to maintain integrity, access for maintenance, emergency response accessibility and compatible land uses
- Conducted failure analysis of in service pipe body leaks, pipeline ruptures and hydrostatic test failures

EXHIBIT
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- Conducted R&D in the areas of SCC & MFL In-Line Inspection, NDT techniques, pipeline repair techniques, mainline and joint coating systems, welding of new materials
- Conducted risk analysis for new pipeline construction projects
- Developed engineering & integrity budget and programs for due diligence and acquisitions
- Developed commercial agreements with Provincial Governments, private developers and construction contracts for pipeline upgrade/rehabilitation project
- Coordinated Facilities Integrity R&D Program reviews and budgeting cycles
- Liaised with Regulators (National Energy Board, Transportation Safety Board and Alberta Energy and Utilities Board) with respect to integrity management issues and incidents
- Provided direction during emergency maintenance activities to various groups within the organization

Pipeline Integrity Program Developer, Asset Reliability

Pipeline Integrity Engineer In Training developing risk based maintenance programs

July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2003 TransCanada PipeLines Ltd, Calgary, Alberta

Technical Responsibilities

- Developed annual integrity maintenance program using quantitative risk modeling software
- Coordinated research & development projects for risk management, corrosion and SCC threats
- Coordinated peer review team for evaluation of projects feasibility and cost management
- Performed value/benefit analysis for integrity projects
- Directed contractors & field technicians to perform technical tasks

Engineering Support Information Services Analyst

Full Summers & Part Time (20 hrs/week) during University

June 1, 1998- June 30, 2001, Petro-Canada Oil & Gas Ltd, Calgary, Alberta

Technical Responsibilities

- Developed data and Technology architecture for Bitumen Recovery Scheme, De-sulferization Upgrade Facility, Transportation Developments and Natural Gas Liquids (NGL) facilities

Education

Industry Courses

- Pipeline Pump Fundamentals
- Design of Gas Turbine Combined Cycle & Cogeneration Systems
- Pipeline Design & Construction, Pipeline Defect Assessment & Repair Methods
- Tools & Techniques of Project Management
- ASM Fundamentals of Non Destructive Testing, Principles of Failure Analysis

Post Secondary

- University of Calgary Bachelor of Science – Engineering Mechanical/Manufacturing
  09/97 – 06/01

Publications & Industry

- Member of the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta
- Chair Person: In-Line Inspection Session, Banff Pipeline Integrity Workshop, Banff, 2005
- M. Kothari, S. Tappert, U. Strohmeier, J. Larios and D. Ronsky, "Validation of EMAT In-Line Inspection Technology for SCC Management," Proceedings of the International Pipeline Conference, Calgary, 2004.
- R. Worthingham, M. Cetiner, M. Kothari, "Field Trial of Coating Systems for Artic Pipelines," Proceedings of the International Pipeline Conference, Calgary, 2004.
- Oil & Gas Journal "Two coating systems pass tests for arctic use" November 15, 2004
- Pipeline and Gas Technology Magazine "Using Emat for Crack Detection" June 2005