

Rafferty, Tom D.

From: Wefald, Susan E.
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 4:20 PM
To: 'Mark Erickson'
Cc: Rafferty, Tom D.
Subject: RE: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline

Mark – thanks for your thoughtful comments. Your letter will be placed in our public input file on this case.
Sincerely, Commissioner Susan Wefald
North Dakota Public Service Commission

From: Mark Erickson [mailto:mwerickson58@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 1:11 PM
To: Wefald, Susan E.; Clark, Tony T.; Cramer, Kevin
Subject: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline

To: Susan Wefald; Tony Clark; Kevin
Cramer;

10/24/07

I have been following the story on the TransCanada Keystone Pipeline. I have a strong opinion against this as our ranch is downstream from the proposed pipeline route. I know that I am just one person. But, I keep myself abreast on foreign policy and in particular issues concerning Canada. I think, before you act and sign an agreement, you need to pay attention to what is *really* happening in Canada.

As someone who has traveled extensively in Canada, I can tell you that Canada is not at all friendly to Americans. I have many friends in the Canadian tourism industry and have heard and watched the deterioration of relationships. I am not saying that Americans treat Canadians any better as I have heard similar stories from my Canadian friends. But I do think it needs to be stated that Canada is not the friendly country it is perceived to be. It seems our foreign policy and beef import restrictions have turned Canadians against us.

Canadians have been flooding out U.S. farmers at the northern border and complain about a minimal amount of water pumped from Devils Lake. So, how is it that a business from this same country now expects to come to North Dakota and pump their sludge through our state endangering our water supply?

How is it that TransCanada Keystone Pipeline has a right to use eminent domain in North Dakota? If this is a result of NAFTA then I think our NAFTA policies need to be rethought. Would it be allowed in reverse? More importantly what foreign entity would be allowed to use eminent domain next? It is a question that needs to be asked. About a year ago we in North Dakota voted strongly against the use of eminent domain by private enterprise. Yet a private, foreign firm, wants to use eminent domain on North Dakota citizens to run a pipeline through our state. Doesn't this concern you?

My questions are many. What do the citizens of North Dakota have to gain? We most certainly have a lot to lose. Why doesn't TransCanada use the more direct route through Minnesota? What I'd really like to know is why wouldn't TransCanada build a refinery in Alberta and keep jobs up there? There has to be an answer to this. It seems that it is not an option and I want to know, why not? When the pipeline breaks and leaks we will have contamination to our water supply. Who then will fix the problem and who then will pay? This is of great concern to me and I ask one more question, "What are you thinking?"

Concerned Citizen,

Mark Erickson