

**Upper Sheyenne River Joint
Water Resource Board**

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*Providing a coordinated and cooperative approach to planning and
implementing a comprehensive water management program in the
Upper Sheyenne Watershed*

Nov 2007
September 20, 2007

Elizabeth Orlando
OES/ENV Room 2657
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

RE: Keystone Oil Pipeline Project

The Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board represents 12 counties in North Dakota. This Board is concerned with the proposed Keystone Pipeline in regard to water quality issues within the watershed.

The proposed route from the Luverne Pumping Station in Steele County and south comes very close to the Sheyenne River and Lake Ashtabula. The Board suggests moving the line to a ridge approximately 3 to 5 miles east. This would give some protection to the river, in the event there is a leak, by detecting it before it would reach the river or Lake Ashtabula.

The Board is also concerned with comments that the pipe thickness would fluctuate in rural areas. The Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board strongly requests that the standard thickness is maintained with no variances allowed.

Respectfully,

Ben Varnson, Chairman

Copy: North Dakota Public Service Commission
North Dakota Department of Health
Senator Kent Conrad
Senator Byron Dorgan
Representative Earl Pomeroy
Mary Lee Nielson, Mayor, Valley City, ND

BAV:ckv

County Members
Barnes County WRD Benson County WRD Eddy County WRD
McHenry County WRD Nelson County WRD Pierce Co
Steele County WRD Stutsman County WRI

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Letter to State Dept re Water Quality Concerns

Public Service Commission
Upper Sheyenne River Water Resource Bd