

Hamre, John G.

From: Fahn, Patrick J.
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Hamre, John G.
Subject: FW: TransCanada Keystone - Fr Ransom noise concern- Bruce Pantzke
Attachments: Excerpt of ATCO Report on Fort Ransom 081212.pdf; RE Feedback on TransCanada Keystone Fort Ransom Pump Station Operations - 092812 (Fri. am).htm; FERC Citizens Guide 2012.pdf; Patrick Fahn.vcf

John, please docket in 06-421

Patrick Fahn

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From: Todd Kranda [mailto:kranda@kelschlaw.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:47 AM
To: Fahn, Patrick J.
Cc: Gruman, Mark E.; Nitschke, Darrell D.
Subject: TransCanada Keystone - Fr Ransom noise concern- Bruce Pantzke

Pat –

In follow-up to our brief telephone conversation from yesterday about the TransCanada Keystone Ft Ransom noise study and mitigation activity I was able to obtain some additional information from Robert Latimer from TransCanada regarding your questions that were mentioned in our conversation. Please see the following summary of the questions and responses as well as the attachments.

Todd

1. **QUESTION:** Was TransCanada (TC) able to replicate similar circumstances for noise issue surveys / monitoring and reports per Mr. Pantzke's concerns? Namely:
 - a. Wind coming out of the northwest, cool temps, maximum number of units on, throttling via station control valve, etc.

RESPONSE FOR NO 1:

TC conducted specific noise monitoring via set standards via an external contractor (ATCO Structures & Logistics) (ATCO). Monitoring was conducted at two separate intervals near Mr. Pantzke's property for compliance against the recommendations outlined in US EPA Office of Noise Abatement and Control publication and by noise criteria specified by FERC. **It is a challenge to monitor over a longer term (days / weeks) to hit just the right situation described by Mr. Pantzke, so some degree of baseline measurements and noise modeling / correction is necessary.** ATCO completed the necessary work to produce result that demonstrate we are well under required levels in both cases even with factoring in wind direction / speed, temperature, etc. (It should be noted that at some wind speed level, noise monitoring cannot be completed due to poor results). Our consultant came at TC cost, 3 distinct times and dates to gather noise data.

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Additional information regarding Ft Ransom noise study and mitigation activity

All Measurements were taken in accordance with ANSI Standard S12.9R 1993 Quantities and Procedures for Descriptions and Measurement of Environmental Sound.

FERC Noise Criterion = dBA 55 (Day / Night Average) This information was shared electronically (FERC Citizens Guideline Book)

Noise Measurements at Fort Ransom P.S. (2 distinct time periods with same consultant – ATCO)

- July 31 (12 pm) – Aug. 1 (9:28 am). 0 – 3 Pumping units online through the test time period (See Attached exert from Report)
 - Calculated Ldn of Max. Load Operation (4 Units on) = **41 dBA**
- Nov. 29 – Nov. 30. (during a specific period of time between 11 am – 1 pm on Nov. 30th all 4 units ran)
 - Calculated Ldn of Max. Load Operation (4 Units on) = **42 dBA** (Report has been previously shared with ND PSC)

2. **QUESTION:** What is the actual source of the noise issue at Fort Ransom P.S.?

RESPONSE FOR NO 2.

TC believes and our consultant ATCO provided evidence of same that the source of the intermittent noise issue is the operation (throttling) of the station pressure control valve (PCV) under varied operational conditions. As a result of additional near source noise monitoring of this valve and the pump units, (March 1, 2012) this finding was confirmed.

In consultation with ATCO we devised a plan to isolate acoustically this valve and associated piping related to it with acoustical lagging (insulation).

This work was completed in late August, 2012.

3. **QUESTION:** Did TC show ATCO noise studies to landowners?

RESPONSE FOR NO 3:

TC summarized results in written communication and **did not reproduce actual reports for the public we corresponded with.** The reporting was personally reviewed with Mr. Pantzke on several occasions as we met in person to address his concerns (approx. 3 separate times this past year) At no time did anyone request any additional feedback or questions as to our report contents or finding.

4. **QUESTION:** Will TC complete additional mitigation for this noise issue?

RESPONSE FOR NO 4:

TC has committed verbally and in writing (email communication to Mr. Pantzke) our intention to plant trees (variety and type that he has suggested from his local source) in the spring of 2013. As this work needs to occur on another property owners land we will be making appropriate arrangements for this work prior to then. It is our intention to pay for the physical transplanting of these trees supplied by Mr. Pantzke and acquire land rights around our P.S. for this purpose.

5. **QUESTION:** When was TC last communication on this issue to landowners / Mr. Pantzke?

RESPONSE FOR NO 5:

TC communicated broadly to all affected parties via letter (**copy of same to ND PSC**) on August 13th, 2012. Mr. Pantzke received a personal visit ahead of this communication on Aug. 3rd to review details and scope of ongoing work. Email correspondence took place with Mr. Pantzke in Sept. and Oct. on numerous issues / points of discussion with the last communication being Oct. 5th. **See attached.**

KELSCH KELSCH RUFF & KRANDA

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