

April 2, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Director
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Docket number 13-473 and docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

I am purchasing land in Carlton County for the purpose of organic farming. It is next to the originally proposed Southern Route for Enbridge's proposed Sandpiper pipeline. You have both the responsibility and the ability to protect this land for organic farming as put forth in MN Rule 7852.1900, subp. 3 Criteria a) ...existing and planned future land use; b) ...natural environment, ...including but not limited to natural areas, wildlife habitat, water...; d) ...economies within route, including agricultural...; f) use of existing rights or ways...; i) ...cumulative potential effects of related or anticipated future pipeline construction (already Enbridge is proposing replacement of Pipeline 3 and the precedent set by having one pipeline pretty much promises expansion along side of it which would impact the land I am purchasing).

Minnesota State Supreme Court's precedent for non-proliferation is another way you can protect this farmland from pipeline intrusion. And while I would much prefer an existing pipeline corridor be used, the amended Southern Route submitted by Enbridge is a better choice than the originally submitted Southern Route.

Sincerely,

s/s Patricia Clure

326 N 7th Ave W
Duluth, MN 55806

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Dorie Reisenweber <dorierduluth@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 2:51 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Sandpiper April four routing comments PPL 13-474
Attachments: Sandpiper April four routing comments.doc

Honorable Commissioners:

Attached are comments urging you to choose to co-locate the proposed Sandpiper pipeline, rather than disrupt more farmed and forested land and more lives. Co-locating should also save on monitoring and testing, because the pipes would be in one place. We no longer can say, "First, do no harm," but we must not do certain further harm. We all owe that to future generations. Again, I urge co-location of the pipelines, because it seems the lesser of the two evils.

Thank you for your every effort to preserve and protect our land, our water and our people.

Sincerely,

Doretta Reisenweber
111 Garden Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Doretta Reisenweber
111 Garden Street
Duluth, Mn 55812-1142

March 29, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

The proposed pipeline through organic farmlands means loss of agricultural land, loss of organic certification and losses to the ecosystem. Routes through farmland should be avoided. In this case, I refer to organic farmlands which supply food to the greater Duluth area. Those farms are vulnerable to loss of certification, soil destruction and ecosystem damage.

The area through which the Sandpiper passes is a natural resource vital to wildlife, as well as the already impaired flowage in the Lake Superior Watershed. While this area provides a base for organic and other sustainable farming, this routing issue is not just about profit. It is a matter of keeping that farming alive and sustainable and about the very health of ecosystems surrounding Lake Superior.

Whether or not the public wanted this "new" and dirtier oil, was never asked. I oppose the very idea of fracking & tar sands, because those fuels are known to be rapidly destroying the earth's atmosphere. Supporting one route or another is like choosing which arm you want the poison injected. Now the public is told we may only comment on routing. The new pipeline route for the crude oil means not only disrupting forested and farmed land, it greatly affects people's lives, both producers and consumers, and people's livelihoods. Given the long history of pipeline accidents, it makes better sense to run new lines parallel with existing lines---co-locating, I believe, it is called.

While the commission is being tasked with deciding between the lesser of two evils (the routes), please consider the less disruptive route and decide on co-location of the new pipeline route along the old one. Further, if the commission has the authority to demand higher safety and monitoring standards, please do so. Then let the people know how to ensure that these regulations are enforced. Preserving a healthy environment is everyone's responsibility to present and future generations.

Sincerely,

Doretta Reisenweber
(218-728-1508)

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Cynthia Johnson <cjohnson55802@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 2:24 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket number 13-474
Attachments: Pipeline letter.docx

Please accept and post the attached comments.

Thank you.

Cynthia Johnson

Mahtowa, Carlton County, MN

Cynthia Johnson
3228 Boundary Road
Mahtowa MN 55707
March 14, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147
Re: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

I am opposed to Enbridge/North Dakota Company/Sandpiper Pipeline which will be going through my land in Carlton County. I am opposed for the following reasons:

I own a small acreage of wild and natural forest bordering the Moose Horn/Kettle River watershed. I have recently hired a forester to help me with a management plan to keep my acreage as wild and natural as possible.

In addition to preserving my little corner of the natural world, I am concerned about the wetlands and Moose Horn River that grace my land. The Moose Horn flows into the Kettle River, which flows into the St. Croix and on to the Mississippi rivers. That watershed needs to be protected for future of our land, our children and grandchildren. The damage to our natural resources caused by the disruption of the land during the laying of the pipeline is economically and sustainably unacceptable, not even considering the damage that would occur if (or when) there is a rupture and/or spill.

If there is indeed a need for yet another pipeline traversing Carlton County, I am imploring Enbridge to co-locate their pipelines – especially the Sandpiper line - with the lines they already have as it is most consistent with the principle of non-proliferation and minimizes damage to farms, forests, wetlands, wildlife habitat and landowner rights.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns.

Sincerely,
s/s Cynthia Johnson
Cynthia Johnson
Concerned Landowner in Carlton County

Edward Schulstrom
2631 County Road 4
Carlton, MN. 55718

4/1/14

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

I am a ten year old resident of Spectrum Farm.

On our farm I milk cows, gather eggs from our chickens, help collect and boil sap, and help with the hay harvest. Putting an oil pipeline through our farm would be immoral because we value our land the way it is. In fact, it would be bad to put an oil pipeline through any pieces of farm land. I think that it is essential to keep pipelines away any farms.

Sincerely,

Ed Schulstrom

Ονλψ ωηεν τηε λαστ τρεε ηασ διεδ

Ανδ τηε λαστ ριπερ ηασ βεεν ποισονεδ

Ανδ τηε λαστ φιση ηασ βεεν χαυγητ

Ωιλλ ωε ρεαλιζε τηατ ωε χαν□τ εατ μονεψ.

-Χρεε προπερβ

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: R Vavrosky <use.wear.make.do@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 10:46 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket 13-474
Attachments: Samuel Schulstrom.docx

Please accept and post the attached comment.

Thank you.

Samuel Schulstrom
2631 County Rd. 4
Carlton, MN 55718

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket Number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

I am a fifteen year old who loves to farm, to make hay, boil sap, cut and split wood, milk cows, pick apples, haul feed, plant and harvest the garden, shovel snow, and butcher chickens. I like some better and some worse than others, of course, but all of these activities are vital to the personal balance of our farm.

Incompatible is the word I would use to describe this pipeline, completely and utterly incompatible; with our way of life, with our animals, our trees, our land, and with our morals. I love to run through the woods with our dogs, chasing them, looking for wildlife, or another pristine place of natural glory to remember to come back and find again sometime. I've found so many of these places, all different, all perfect in their own right, too numerous to count, but always memorable.

I go out there to immerse myself in the magic of outdoors. I go out to be alone- from people if not from nature. I've come to know this land like- nay, better than the back of my hand, every tree, every rock, every hill and rise, every deer trail, every mystical circle of mushrooms. I am a druid of this land, and I love it. I cherish it.

That is why a pipeline is incompatible. It would ruin or take away most of these things, and certainly upset the delicate balance that we strive to preserve. Oh yes, we could still make hay, but part of our back field would be defiled. The sap would still run, but not in the part of our maple groves that would be in ruins. Part of our land would have a swath of destruction and havoc plowed straight through it. So what are we left with? Parts. Parts of what used to be perfection. All the natural eloquency of our land would be chopped into parts that might still be salvageable.

There are two perspectives to this issue for me, the perspective of the boy who helps his family with the farm, and the boy who runs wild with the dogs, and deer, and natural beauty of everything in the woods. The points of view are much different, but the outcomes of their thoughts clearly resolve into the common fact that you cannot allow a pipeline to destructively bisect our small bit of the Earth.

So, honorable commissioners, I ask you, on behalf of Spectrum farm, my family, our animals, the wild animals, the trees, the fields, the water, and me, please do not put this "Sandpiper" pipeline, if in fact it must be built at all, on the proposed southern route. Thank you.

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Jody Padgham <jody@mosesorganic.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 10:27 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Cc: Faye Jones; foodfarm@usfamily.net
Subject: Comment letter re Docket: Routing Permit #13-474 and Cert of Need #13-473
Attachments: MOSES Letter to Minn PUC .pdf

April 2, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Docket Number: Routing Permit #13-474
Certificate of Need: #13-473

Dear Dr. Haar,

The Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) requests that the Min. Public Utilities Commission support the amended route for the Sandpiper pipeline, following the existing pipeline through eastern Carlton County.

The revision of the pipeline route to follow the existing pipeline is critical to lessening the environmental impact of the line and preserving invaluable farmland and forested areas in northern Minnesota.

MOSES is honored to have a long and engaged relationship with farmers Janaki, Jane and John Fisher-Merritt of Food Farm, a certified organic farm in Wrenshall, Minn. The farm is on the original pipeline route filed with the PUC. This multi-generation farm is a showcase of commitment and caring for environmental conservation and sustainable, organic farming practices. Care for the landscape, the soil, natural vegetation and the animals and insects that inhabit the area are key to the farm's mission and success.

The Fisher-Merritts do such a good job that they have been formally recognized numerous times for their commitment to these values. MOSES honored them with its prestigious "Organic Farmer of the Year" award in 2010. We have held popular field days on the farm so that others can learn from their careful, successful practices. The family has shown further commitment by participating for several years as mentors to new farmers in our organic Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring program.

It would be criminal for this cherished model farm to be severely impacted by the construction of a pipeline across its fields. Especially so, since the very viable option of an alternate, lower impact route is available. The farm's organic certification would be jeopardized by the construction process. The destruction of the soil, after years of careful attention to fertility and organic matter, would be a huge loss. The ecosystem surrounding Lake Superior would be negatively impacted by reduction of habitat and the loss of this important organic farmland.

MOSES feels your action on the acceptance of the alternate route for the Sandpiper pipeline is critical to maintaining rare and valuable farmland that is of great importance to the state of Minnesota and the region. Farmland in the hands of such skilled caretakers must be preserved.

MOSES is a non-profit educational institution that has been educating farmers about successful organic practices for over 15 years. Working out of an office in Spring Valley, Wisconsin, we are best known for our annual Organic Farming Conference, which drew over 3,400 farmers and supporters in Feb. 2014 to La Crosse, Wis.

We can't stress enough how important we feel the change in pipeline route is to the state of Minnesota and the region. We have worked hard to expand the use of organic and sustainable farming practices in the region, with the ultimate goal of environmental conservation. The construction of a pipeline across one of the showcase farms of our industry would be a devastating loss. We ask you to please support the revised route that follows the existing pipeline.

Thank you for your attention,



Faye Jones
Executive Director
715-778-5775
faye@mosesorganic.org

April 2, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

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Thank you for your attention,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Faye Jones".

Faye Jones
Executive Director
715-778-5775
faye@mosesorganic.org

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Dana Bergstrom <dana.bergstrom@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 8:42 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC (NDPC), Docket PL-6668/PPL-13-474
Attachments: PUC letter April 2.docx

In case there are issues opening the attached document, the letter is copied below as well.

Thank you,
Paul & Dana Bergstrom

April 2, 2014

Paul & Dana Bergstrom

5403 Glendale St

Duluth, MN 55804

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 – 7th Place East, Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC (NDPC), Docket PL-6668/PPL-13-474

Dear Dr. Haar:

We are opposed to the preferred Southern route for the proposed Sandpiper pipeline. If you decide this proposal is necessary, NDPC should be required to place this new pipeline in their existing Northern Mainline corridor that already has 180 miles of impacts rather than proliferating another 180 miles plus 44+ more miles on human settlement and the environment across Minnesota. New impacts are not equal. Building a new pipeline corridor (even when placed adjacent to a electrical power utility corridor) has much greater impact to the environment and human settlement than already existing impacts on the Northern Mainline pipeline corridor.

In eastern Carlton County, the original proposed route east of Interstate 35W was proposed through pristine lands with wetlands directly feeding into the Blackhoof River and Nemadji watershed into Lake Superior. This proposed pipeline corridor would cut through mature trees and diverse plant life through creeks and fragile wetlands that support soils from erosion. This would negate the active management plan of the Nemadji watershed by the Carlton County Soil and Water Conservation District paid for by tax dollars. Also, the Carlton County Board has recognized this area as an important resource for organic farming because of the highly productive soils and weather moderation from Lake Superior. This original route through eastern Carlton County should be dropped.

The proposed Southern route runs through many farms. It takes years of careful tending of the soil to prepare for organic farming. Organic farms are particularly vulnerable to loss of certification from soil destruction and ecosystem damage from pipeline construction and spills. Healthy soils, forest ecosystems and wildlife are key ingredients necessary to producing organic food. These farms produce food for our local economy. Northern Minnesota cannot afford to lose scarce organic farmland to pipeline construction. As the climate heats up, we need to preserve farmlands with available clean water and our moderate climate conducive to food production.

The Southern route as proposed is over 76 percent on private lands. Unfortunately, this gives NDPC the leverage of eminent domain to force landowners to sign contracts with little negotiation and afterward without the authority to enforce these agreements without expensive litigation. All these families are especially vulnerable since there are few lawyers in these communities with the experience of the PUC process and pipeline contracts. Is this in the best interest of Minnesota?

Especially in cases where the land was previously untouched by any utility corridor, the route often is proposed through the center of people's property, which would destroy the existing plant ecosystem and locate it nearer to their homes. This would negatively affect private landowner's ability to insure, manage, and resell their property. And, what about adjacent neighbors? Especially in lake communities, which depend on tourism, maintaining a pristine natural environment is key to their economic health. Many people's home and property are their single largest financial investment in their lifetime. This pipeline would greatly reduce the value of these families investment and force them to bear the stress and risks associated with loss of control over who is on their property, invasive species, herbicide spraying, oil spills, polluted groundwater, and to their health. In other words, this turns residential, resort and farming communities into a continuous industrial site for miles across Minnesota.

New oil pipelines need to be located with existing crude oil pipelines to be consistent with the principle of non-proliferation in order to minimize the damage to: families investments in their homes; local tourist businesses; farms; and to diverse forest ecosystem, wetlands and watersheds. We are at a critical time in our state where we need to minimize our impact on the climate by continuing to conserve non-renewable energy rather than enable expansion of the oil pipeline industry with a new corridor opening the way for many more pipelines to ship oil to the gulf. Instead, we need to protect and encourage organic agriculture for local food production. And, we need to maintain the health of our ecosystems along with protecting our wetlands, rivers and lakes from the effects of deforestation and erosion. By allowing another crude oil pipeline corridor across Minnesota, it takes us further away from these goals.

If the PUC decides this proposed pipeline is necessary, please reject the proposed Southern Route and require NDPC to use their existing Northern Mainline corridor where these impacts already exist. The impact of constructing a new oil pipeline corridor on human settlement and the environment is much greater than impacts on the existing corridor.

Sincerely,

Paul & Dana Bergstrom

April 2, 2014

Paul & Dana Bergstrom
5403 Glendale St
Duluth, MN 55804

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 - 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

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Sincerely,

Paul & Dana Bergstrom

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Craig Fautsch <Craig.Fautsch@so.mnscu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 8:47 AM
To: staff, cao (PUC)
Subject: Docket number PL-6668/PPL-13-474 - Alternative Route for the Willow River Area
Attachments: Alternative Pipeline Route for the Willow River Area in Aitkin County.pdf

I am a landowner in Aitkin County who has the "preferred" pipeline route running diagonally through my land close to the Willow River. A lot of the half mile route through my land is actually wetlands. While many government agencies are protecting wetlands, in this case, we are running an oil pipeline through them. Of course, this seems odd when there other routes available.

Attached is an alternative route that is acceptable to Enbridge. Please approve this alternative route.

Thank you.

Craig Fautsch, CFE

612.548.2016

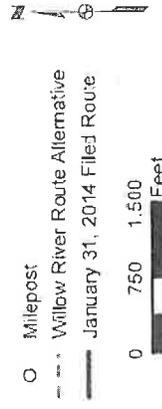


Figure 6
North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC
Sandpiper Pipeline Project
Willow River Route Alternative

ENBRIDGE