MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Public Comment Sheet

North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC Sandpiper Pipeline Project

PUC Docket No. PL-6668/PPL-07-13-474

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: Thelma VanValkenburgh

Representing:

Email:

Address: 132 Center St.
Naytahwaush, Mn 56566

Tel: 218 935-2972

COMMENTS

I am opposed to the pipeline because it will hurt our people. It will kill our rice and our water. We don't need it here.

Thelma Van Valkenburgh

Please submit comments at meeting to EERA staff or send to:

Larry B. Hartman
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis
Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: larry.hartman@state.mn.us
Toll Free: 800-657-3794
Voice: 651-538-1839
Fax: 651-539-0109

Electronic Submittal: http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/publicComments.html?projectId=33599

»»If mailing, fold along dotted line in sequence noted and tape closed ««

13-474

Laura Vavrosky
140 E. Buffalo St.
Duluth, MN 55718

RECEIVED
MAR 19 2014
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

March 16, 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 writing with regard to the placement of the proposed Enbridge Sandpiper pipeline. The route for this pipeline should follow existing pipeline routes in order to protect natural resources, the agricultural economy of northern Minnesota (particularly organic farms), and the recreational use of land in the region.

Protection of natural resources is a vital part of new development in any area, and the woodlands and wetlands of northern Minnesota require this defense as well. The Criteria for Pipeline Route Selection posted on the website for the Office of the Revisor of Statutes (Chapter 7852.1900 of the Minnesota Administrative Rules) indicate that the impact of the pipeline on the natural environment must be considered when choosing a route. In this case, the health of the ecosystems, critical wildlife habitats, and rivers in the Lake Superior Watershed can be best preserved by a policy of nonproliferation of pipelines. Since the consequences of a pipeline route are negative for the natural environment under any circumstances, and reach catastrophic levels when pipeline spills occur, it makes sense to keep pipelines together and avoid exposing additional lands to the hazards of a pipeline.

The agricultural economy of the region is another factor that must be taken into account. Farms, especially organic ones, and pipelines need to be kept far away from each other, in order to reduce the dangers of loss of certification and soil destruction. Having eaten produce from my family's organic farm and from other locally-owned farms in northern Minnesota, I am strongly in support of the local, organic food movement, a movement that is endangered by the proliferation of pipelines. Nothing tastes as good as the fruit, vegetables, dairy products, and meat harvested from these small farms. The farmers who have invested decades of their time, energy, and love in their operations don't deserve to have their labor put to waste by a pipeline running through or near their land, destroying fields, maple tree stands, and more. Moreover, the future of sustainable agriculture in this region depends on having access to fertile, unpolluted farmland. A new pipeline route would diminish the availability of this precious, limited resource.

Additionally, recreation plays a huge role in the lives of those who choose to live in northern Minnesota, and it is difficult to enjoy land that has a pipeline running through it. My family moved north from the Twin Cities in part because of the beauty of this area, and we frequently enjoy the beauty of our land and that of neighbors and friends through walks in the woods, hunting, berry-picking, and other activities. Losing any of this natural splendor to a new crude oil pipeline would be injurious to our health and well-being. It would also be an affront to our choice nearly two decades ago to move here so we could participate in the glories of this natural world. The best way to prevent this is to co-locate the proposed Enbridge pipeline with other pipelines, thus minimizing the amount of natural beauty to be destroyed.

The natural environment, the agricultural economy, and the recreational use of land are all critical aspects of northern Minnesota. Preserving these elements is fundamental to the continued success of this area. To accomplish this, the proposed Enbridge pipeline should follow existing pipeline routes and avoid further proliferation.

Sincerely,

Laura Vavrosky

Ronald and Marjorie Vegemast
1227 Sunset Hill Road NE
Outing, MN 56662
rvegemast@gmail.com

April 3, 2014

PUC-13-474 Sandpiper Pipeline Routing

Mr. Larry Hartman, EERA Staff
Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Hartman:

I previously submitted a Position Paper and an amendment to that paper to the PUC staff that expressed concerns related to the NDPC proposed Sandpiper pipeline route across water sheds of some of the most beautiful lakes in the state. The amendment provided detail on a suggested alternate route for the pipeline.

A little over four weeks ago, I discovered that there were a significant number of other persons that were also concerned with the same issues and who hoped that the PUC would give serious consideration to an alternate route.

As a result, I started a petition asking for that consideration. As of the afternoon of April 2, there were 217 signatures on that petition. If this had been summer I have little doubt that there might have been at least a thousand signatures.

Included with this cover letter is a list of the 217 signatures and a list of comments that some of those persons added.

Sincerely,

Ronald Vegemast

Ronald Vegemast, PE

RECEIVED

APR 0 4 2014

MAILROOM

change.org

Recipient: Minnesota PUC Sandpiper Pipeline

Letter: Greetings,

Consider an alternate route for the Sandpiper Pipeline.

Name	City	State	Zip Code	Country	Signed On
Ronald Vegemast	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/16/2014
Cindy Miller	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/21/2014
Roger Laurence	Outing	Minnesota	55346	United Stat	2/21/2014
Leslie R Raisch	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/22/2014
Ellen Thielen	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/22/2014
Steve Hall	Nevis	Minnesota	56467	United Stat	2/22/2014
sue sch.	Florida	Florida	89077	United Stat	2/23/2014
Timothy Whitmore	Cornelius	North Caro	28031	United Stat	2/23/2014
John and Maureen E	Emily	Minnesota	56447	United Stat	2/23/2014
brian hallock	edina	Minnesota	55439	United Stat	2/24/2014
Concerned Citizen	New City	New York	10956-240	United Stat	2/24/2014
Elizabeth Heck	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/24/2014
Paul Heck	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/24/2014
Chris Mely	Blaine	Minnesota	55449	United Stat	2/24/2014
D. Singer	Oakland	California	94607	United Stat	2/25/2014
Elanne Palcich	Chisholm	Minnesota	55719	United Stat	2/25/2014
Ashley Tanski	Random La	Wisconsin	53075	United Stat	2/25/2014
Thomas Kram	New Bright	Minnesota	55112	United Stat	2/26/2014
EUGENE A. WILLIA	OUTING	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	2/26/2014
Robert Vegemast	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55401	United Stat	2/26/2014
Mary Servis	outing	Minnesota	56662-011	United Stat	2/26/2014
Jan Heinig Mosman	Emily	Minnesota	56447	United Stat	2/26/2014
william hardcastle	mobridge	South Dak	57601	United Stat	2/26/2014
Dane Mosman	Winona	Minnesota	55987	United Stat	2/26/2014
Alison Pickford	St Paul	Minnesota	55106	United Stat	2/26/2014
Shaylee Larson	Eden Prairi	Minnesota	55346	United Stat	2/27/2014
Dennis Kaplan	Mayfield H	Ohio	44124	United Stat	2/27/2014
Mike Singh	Sartell	Minnesota	56377	United Stat	2/27/2014
Julie Myers	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55404	United Stat	2/27/2014
Mark Freeborn	Austin	Texas	78704	United Stat	2/27/2014
Marilyn Dodd	Inver Grov	Minnesota	55077	United Stat	2/28/2014
Kristi Murphy	Miles City	Montana	59215	United Stat	3/1/2014
Keith Nissen	fifty lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/1/2014
David Schaumburg	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/3/2014
Sue Ann Kyner	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/3/2014
Edward Laurson	Denver	Colorado	80235	United Stat	3/5/2014
Lauren Mosman	Newport	Oregon	97365	United Stat	3/5/2014
Adam Weber	Hood Rive	Oregon	97031	United Stat	3/5/2014
Robert Holman	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/5/2014
Judy Schlink	Arden Hills	Minnesota	55112	United Stat	3/6/2014
Michael Heck	Chisholm	Minnesota	55719	United Stat	3/7/2014
Richard Nelles	Remer	Minnesota	56672	United Stat	3/8/2014
Margaret Tolle	Richfield	Minnesota	55423	United Stat	3/8/2014
Jennifer Wollenberg	Saint Paul	Minnesota	55105	United Stat	3/9/2014
Thomas Wollenberg	Saint Paul	Minnesota	55106	United Stat	3/9/2014
Karla Stewart	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55419	United Stat	3/9/2014
Lisa Tesch	Richfield	Minnesota	55423	United Stat	3/10/2014
Craig Weierke	Chaska	Minnesota	55318	United Stat	3/10/2014
Jan Skjolsvik	Fifty Lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/12/2014
Lloyd Thyen	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/12/2014
Ron Reich	Bloomingtc	Minnesota	55420	United Stat	3/12/2014

Craig Floen	Riemer	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/12/2014
Stephen Gulbrandse	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/12/2014
Kevin Arf	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/12/2014
Susan Henken-Thiel	Plymouth	Minnesota	55442	United Stat	3/12/2014
Paul Anderson	Ankeny	Iowa	50023	United Stat	3/12/2014
Marv Hildreth	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/12/2014
Donald Van Vorst	Pine River	Minnesota	56474	United Stat	3/12/2014
Ralph Lindblad	Edina	Minnesota	55435	United Stat	3/12/2014
Stacia Anderson	Santa Mon	California	90403	United Stat	3/12/2014
David Law	Stillwater	Minnesota	55082	United Stat	3/13/2014
Jean Regal	Duluth	Minnesota	55803	United Stat	3/13/2014
Randy McCloud	Eden Prairi	Minnesota	55346	United Stat	3/13/2014
Gregory Johnson	Backus	Minnesota	56435	United Stat	3/13/2014
Diane DuBay	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/13/2014
Janet Rayman	Outing	Minnesota	55441	United Stat	3/13/2014
Sherry Anderson	Ankeny	Iowa	50023	United Stat	3/13/2014
Kevin Jungles	Outing	Minnesota	56672	United Stat	3/13/2014
Lisa Jungles	Outing	Minnesota	56672	United Stat	3/13/2014
Jenny Olson	Iowa City	Iowa	52240	United Stat	3/13/2014
Margaret LIndorfer	Keswick	Virginia	22947	United Stat	3/13/2014
Rachel Ree	Columbus	Iowa	52738	United Stat	3/13/2014
Diane Sullivan	Oak Harbo	Washingto	98277	United Stat	3/13/2014
Jared Howe	Seattle	Washingto	98108	United Stat	3/13/2014
shedy berrios	Jacksonvill	North Caro	28540	United Stat	3/13/2014
Annie Crain	Memphis	Tennessee	38117	United Stat	3/13/2014
Kayla Martin	BROOKLY	New York	11208-136	United Stat	3/13/2014
Kaye Bashe	Metuchen	New Jerse	8840	United Stat	3/13/2014
David Spry	Fernley	Nevada	89408	United Stat	3/13/2014
lois shoeman	altoona	Pennsylvar	16601	United Stat	3/13/2014
Cindy Regal	Boulder	Colorado	80305	United Stat	3/13/2014
Elizabeth Pendleton	Kingman	Arizona	86401	United Stat	3/13/2014
MARITZA GARZA	cleburne	Texas	76033	United Stat	3/13/2014
Chad Townsend	Albuquerqu	New Mexic	87109	United Stat	3/13/2014
David` Holmes	Sonoma	California	95476	United Stat	3/13/2014
William Peace	Paradise	California	95969	United Stat	3/13/2014
parker mccallum	dallas	Texas	75228	United Stat	3/13/2014
Belinda Delgado	Peekskill	New York	10566	United Stat	3/13/2014
Luis Rosado	Staten Isla	New York	10306	United Stat	3/13/2014
zieglinde griffith	norwalk	Connecticu	6854	United Stat	3/13/2014
Daniel Maldonado	Surprise	Arizona	85374	United Stat	3/13/2014
Alan Jenner	Bristol UK	Armed For	BS16 1JY	United Stat	3/13/2014
chad glerum	sodus	New York	14551	United Stat	3/13/2014
Lauren Martinez	San bernar	California	92404	United Stat	3/13/2014
Rosa Caldwell	Hardin	Kentucky	42048	United Stat	3/13/2014
Grace Southern	Stockton	California	95202	United Stat	3/13/2014
charles shoeman	altoona	Pennsylvar	16601	United Stat	3/13/2014
Elizabeth Campbell	Omaha	Nebraska	68164	United Stat	3/13/2014
Alexandra Algiere	Worcester	Massachus	1610	United Stat	3/13/2014
Lynette Ridder	Concord	California	94521	United Stat	3/13/2014
Josh Scheuerman	Lehi	Utah	84043	United Stat	3/13/2014
Katie Rosendahl	Des Moine	Iowa	50320	United Stat	3/13/2014
Kristen Deville	Covington	Louisiana	70435	United Stat	3/13/2014

Tamera Vaughan	Newhall	California	91321	United Stat	3/13/2014
Fred Sokolow	Santa MOr	California	90405	United Stat	3/13/2014
Agnes Faulds	West Mifflii	Pennsylvar	15122	United Stat	3/13/2014
Barbara Millar	Sacrament	California	95834	United Stat	3/13/2014
tegwin moye	inver grove	Minnesota	55076	United Stat	3/13/2014
turner LaCas	Parsippany	New Jerse	7054	United Stat	3/13/2014
Elizabeth Hale	Washingto	District Of	20007-493	United Stat	3/13/2014
Edward Guffey	Pawlet	Vermont	5761	United Stat	3/13/2014
Rebecca Nurse	Beverly Hill	California	90210	United Stat	3/13/2014
curtis savenko	ST LOUIS	Minnesota	5.54E+08	United Stat	3/13/2014
Javier Rivera	Brooklyn	New York	11211	United Stat	3/13/2014
ordell vee	madelia	Minnesota	56062	United Stat	3/13/2014
meredith bland	Louisville	Kentucky	40204	United Stat	3/13/2014
Kelly Moore	bay shore	New York	11706	United Stat	3/13/2014
Dan Bartsch	Thief River	Minnesota	56701	United Stat	3/13/2014
SUng Kim	Champaigr	Illinois	61822	United Stat	3/13/2014
Sharon Dymowski	Alexandria	Virginia	22304	United Stat	3/13/2014
JENNIFER VETTER	LAC DU FI	Wisconsin	54538	United Stat	3/13/2014
bessie gipson	highlandvill	Missouri	65669	United Stat	3/13/2014
Michael Brown	Garden Cit	Michigan	48135	United Stat	3/13/2014
Patrick M. Donovan	Brooklyn	New York	11238	United Stat	3/13/2014
Jennifer Martin	Auburn	Maine	4210	United Stat	3/13/2014
Rebecca Farmer	Superior	Wisconsin	54880	United Stat	3/13/2014
Megan Flynn	New York	New York	10029	United Stat	3/13/2014
Denise ballnik	Los angele	California	90019	United Stat	3/13/2014
Desiree Whitney	columbus	Ohio	43205	United Stat	3/13/2014
Sherryl Devitt	San Leand	California	94577	United Stat	3/13/2014
Dominic Orlando	Lisle	Illinois	60532	United Stat	3/13/2014
Evelyne Ogol	Houston	Texas	77075	United Stat	3/13/2014
Gail Peters	Greenfield	Vermont	5362	United Stat	3/13/2014
Edward Jacobus	Hackettsto	New Jerse	7840	United Stat	3/13/2014
Garret Fritts	San Franci	California	94121	United Stat	3/13/2014
Dorene Schutz	Wilkes-Bar	Pennsylvar	18702	United Stat	3/13/2014
kim-giam huynh	Sacrament	California	95826	United Stat	3/13/2014
Patricia Hootman	Ashland	Ohio	44805	United Stat	3/13/2014
K.C.S. Sinha	Allen	Texas	75002	United Stat	3/13/2014
Sandra Jaffe	Los Angele	California	90036	United Stat	3/13/2014
Monica Chambers	St. Louis	Missouri	63138	United Stat	3/13/2014
STUART THORNLL	FREEPOR	Illinois	61032	United Stat	3/13/2014
sally blaser	lafayette	Colorado	80026	United Stat	3/13/2014
Judy Kramer	Santa Fe	New Mexic	87508	United Stat	3/13/2014
Brad Jungles	Outing	Minnesota	56672	United Stat	3/13/2014
Harry Schlieff	New Bright	Minnesota	55112	United Stat	3/13/2014
Charles Lindorfer	Madison	Wisconsin	53703	United Stat	3/13/2014
Matt Lindorfer	Shorewooc	Wisconsin	53211	United Stat	3/13/2014
Bryan Jungles	Rogers	Minnesota	55374	United Stat	3/13/2014
Lynn Lindorfer	Sheboygar	Wisconsin	53083	United Stat	3/13/2014
alex hartmann	lino lakes	Minnesota	55014	United Stat	3/13/2014
Kenton Doyle	Stillwater	Minnesota	55082	United Stat	3/13/2014
Patrick Reiter	Plymouth	Minnesota	55446	United Stat	3/13/2014
Roland Hirman	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/13/2014
Tom Drompp	Stillwater	Minnesota	55082	United Stat	3/13/2014

Kevin Switala	Remer	Minnesota	56672	United Stat	3/14/2014
Mark Liebrenz	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/14/2014
Emily Maas	Brooklyn P	Minnesota	55445	United Stat	3/14/2014
Judith Matherne	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/15/2014
Robert Matherne	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/15/2014
Richard Lindorfer	White Bear	Minnesota	55110	United Stat	3/15/2014
tom and mary jo fisc	maplewooc	Minnesota	55119	United Stat	3/15/2014
Joy Davis	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55405	United Stat	3/16/2014
Gerald (Jerry) Abts	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/17/2014
Judy Abts	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/17/2014
Sheldon Erdman	Remer	Minnesota	56672	United Stat	3/17/2014
Dianne Bell	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55416	United Stat	3/17/2014
Laura Budde	Waterville		B0P 1V0	Canada	3/17/2014
Paul & Joan Kroehn	Plymouth	Minnesota	55442	United Stat	3/22/2014
Paul Goupil	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55406	United Stat	3/22/2014
David Vegemast	Plymouth	Minnesota	55446	United Stat	3/22/2014
Parker Vegemast	Plymouth	Minnesota	55446	United Stat	3/22/2014
Tia Vegemast	Plymouth	Minnesota	55446	United Stat	3/22/2014
David Judd	Shakopee	Minnesota	55379	United Stat	3/24/2014
Pat Hoglund	Blaine	Minnesota	55449	United Stat	3/24/2014
Janis Judd	Shakopee	Minnesota	55379	United Stat	3/24/2014
Sandy Newton	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/24/2014
Carrie Bell	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55409	United Stat	3/26/2014
KarlEdwin Bell	Fifty Lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/26/2014
ann ahlquist	fifty Lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/26/2014
Barbara Graham	Fifty Lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/26/2014
kent swedberg	Andover	Minnesota	55304	United Stat	3/26/2014
Stephanie Schleude	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55414	United Stat	3/27/2014
Dana Cossette	Plymouth	Minnesota	55446	United Stat	3/27/2014
Rene Demel	Jordan	Minnesota	55352	United Stat	3/27/2014
Jason Vetsch	Fifty lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/27/2014
Stacy Creamers	Maple grov	Minnesota	55369	United Stat	3/27/2014
Jody Geiselhart	West St. P	Minnesota	55118	United Stat	3/27/2014
Mark Neubauer	Inver Grov	Minnesota	55076	United Stat	3/27/2014
Lisa Greeney	Bloomingtc	Minnesota	55438	United Stat	3/27/2014
Renee DeSchane	South St P	Minnesota	55075	United Stat	3/27/2014
JILL HOFFMEYER	EAGAN	Minnesota	55123	United Stat	3/27/2014
Gail Rosati	Eagan	Minnesota	55123	United Stat	3/27/2014
Nancy Manderfeld	Eden Prairi	Minnesota	55347	United Stat	3/27/2014
John Sylvester	St. Peter	Minnesota	56082	United Stat	3/27/2014
loren neubauer	South St. F	Minnesota	55075	United Stat	3/27/2014
robert wojack	minneapoli	Minnesota	55418	United Stat	3/27/2014
Jeffrey Geiselhart	Saint Paul	Minnesota	55118	United Stat	3/27/2014
Barbara Hanson	West St Pa	Minnesota	55118	United Stat	3/28/2014
Lynn Degenaar	Cottage Gr	Minnesota	55016	United Stat	3/28/2014
Elsa Bengtson	Fifty Lakes	Minnesota	56448	United Stat	3/28/2014
Richard Yore	Fifty Lakes	Minnesota	33706	United Stat	3/28/2014
Elizabeth Knop	Chanhasse	Minnesota	55317	United Stat	3/28/2014
Jill Radman	Rochester	Minnesota	55902	United Stat	3/28/2014
Linda W. Hebert	St. Paul	Minnesota	55102	United Stat	3/29/2014
Jack Hebert	Fifty Lakes	Minnesota	55102	United Stat	3/29/2014
Jenny Ketcham	Hopkins	Minnesota	55343	United Stat	3/29/2014

Doug Tull	Outing	Minnesota	56662	United Stat	3/29/2014
Janet Aldrich	Cedar Rap	Iowa	52404	United Stat	3/30/2014
Susan and Ed Sisol	Pequot Lak	Minnesota	56472-367	United Stat	3/31/2014
Kenneth Neihart	Shoreview	Minnesota	55126	United Stat	3/31/2014
Darrel Olson	Anoka	Minnesota	55303	United Stat	4/1/2014
jerry andersen	emily	Minnesota	56447	United Stat	4/1/2014
Jacque Sheldon	Backus	Minnesota	56435	United Stat	4/1/2014
Shirleen Sylvester	St. Peter	Minnesota	56082	United Stat	4/1/2014
Jacquelynn Goesslir	Minneapoli	Minnesota	55409	United Stat	4/2/2014
Jeff Vakoc	Brooklyn P	Minnesota	55443	United Stat	4/2/2014

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Cindy Miller	Outing, MN	2014-02-23	Please consider an alternate route to this project to protect our waters and land.
Leslie R Raisch	Outing, MN	2014-02-23	Our lake is clear and undamaged. A leak of this pipeline close to the numerous lakes in our proposed region will be a disaster.
John and Maureen Bohmbach	Emily, MN	2014-02-23	The pipeline should pass through less populated areas away from priceless recreational lakes. The cost incurred to route this in a more remote area should not be a deciding factor considering the potential environmental impact to lake country.
Elanne Palcich	Chisholm, MN	2014-02-25	This pipeline has too many possibilities for leaks and spills. It would be foolish to proceed without analyzing an alternative route.
Thomas Kram	New Brighton, MN	2014-02-26	I visit this area on a regular basis. A spill would have a devastating affect on the area economy.
Mary Servis	outing, MN	2014-02-26	This affects the property owners and the watershed in our area.
Jan Heinig Mosman	Eden Prairie, MN	2014-02-26	The tourism industry is vital to this area of Minnesota. Risk to water quality is foolish where residents and business depend on clean water, air, woods, fish.
Mike Singh	Sartell, MN	2014-02-27	Please consider the environmental and economically effect that this will have. This is a risk is to great, when looking at the benefit.
Julie Myers	Minneapolis, MN	2014-02-27	The importance of preserving the rights of the property owners and the watershed area that has been so loving cultivated and preserved over many years. It's not right to destroy that culture when there are perfectly acceptable alternatives.
Kristi Murphy	Miles City, MT	2014-03-01	Watersheds need to be protected for our wild life habatats, and health of the residents in the area. Our planet has become so over whelmed with polution. We all must take measures to protect our planet from faurter harm. Every small measure adds up.
Sue Ann Kyner	Outing, MN	2014-03-03	To protect the existing habitat from harm. Not worth the risk of harming water and wildlife that inhabit this area!
Lauren Mosman	Newport, OR	2014-03-05	Water is the most basic element for human and ecological survival and success, and it is only logical to treat it with the utmost consideration. Plus the tourist-heavy economy depends on high quality natural resources.
Robert Holman	Outing, MN	2014-03-05	Potential damage to water and wildlife. More discussion is required as is teh plan to accommodate any accidental spills, leaks and follow-up damage control.
Judy Schlink	Arden Hills, MN	2014-03-06	Please explore an alternate route that does not effect sensitive areas.
Jennifer Wollenberg	Saint Paul, MN	2014-03-09	I think it is important to consider all possible routes in order to reduce the risk of damaging area of wildlife and protecting natural wildlife habitats
Thomas Wollenberg	Saint Paul, MN	2014-03-09	I love that area, and visit it regularly with my wife. I want all possible routes of this pipeline considered in order to protect the area as much as possible
Lisa Tesch	Richfield, MN	2014-03-10	I have spent time on Roosevelt Lake over the years and would hope to not have this area negatively impacted by the planned routing. Please consider an alternative.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Craig Weierke	South St Paul, MN	2014-03-10	Please consider an alternate route for the Sandpiper pipeline. My family and other family members own cabins and property near the proposed route of the pipeline. We are very concerned of the possible environmental hazards of this pipeline.
Lloyd Thyen	Outing, MN	2014-03-12	I don't want the lake I live on to look like an oil patch if there is a catastrophic pipeline spill.
Susan Henken	Minneapolis, MN	2014-03-12	I am concerned with the Enbridge Corporation's history of spills. What guarantees are there that there would be sufficient funds to address a spill that could enter the watershed and ruin Lakes from Roosevelt to the White Fish Chain? Why not another route with less risk of extreme economic damage if a leak occurs?
Paul Anderson	Ankeny, IA	2014-03-12	As Ronald Vegemast has stated, the need to review the total economic loss of a potential spill against Sandpiper Pipeline's potential for covering those losses needs to be fully investigated. Is the proposed route the cheapest from an installation standpoint? How deep are Sandpiper Pipelines pockets when it comes to clean-up? I believe first, the protection of the environment should be paramount followed by the protection of the current owners investments. I agree that this proposal should be diligently reviewed and not rubber stamped. Plus, if the current route is approved, that additional safeguards should be imposed on the pipeline to protect the environment and current investments.
David Law	Stillwater, MN	2014-03-13	i disagree with the pipeline running through cass county near lake Washburn
Jean Regal	Duluth, MN	2014-03-13	I am a property owner on Washburn Lake and a proud citizen of Minnesota. Our natural resources with clean water and healthy wildlife are essential to continued quality of life. No economic gain is worth losing this.
Randy McCloud	Eden Prairie, MN	2014-03-13	It is located too close to too many lakes.
Gregory Johnson	Backus, MN	2014-03-13	Routing should be with minimal impact on populated areas and I am very concerned about the Pine River Watershed
Janet Rayman	Outing, MN	2014-03-13	The environment in this area is too fragile to take on this kind of risk.
Sherry Anderson	Ankeny, IA	2014-03-13	My family has owned lake property in the proposed area for five generations. It has been an important part of our lives and should remain free of the environmental costs that a pipeline could present,
Jenny Olson	Iowa City, IA	2014-03-13	Our family has spent many summers and created many memories at Washburn Lake. Please consider alternative pipeline routing so future generations, including my sons, will also be able to create good memories in this beautiful part of Minnesota.
Margaret LIndorfer	Keswick, VA	2014-03-13	Preservation of the Northern MN watershed is invaluable not only to citizens Of MN but to the whole country.
Harry Schlieff	New Brighton, MN	2014-03-13	I'm a property owner on Washburn Lake
Lynn Lindorfer	Sheboygan, WI	2014-03-13	This will run right by family property. We've seen and heard what happens to pipelines, and how they fail. We don't need that, Minnesota doesn't need that.
alex hartmann	lino lakes, MN	2014-03-13	For reasons stated by Ronald Vegemast, there is an alternative that would be less environmentally catastrophic in the event of a spill
Kevin Switala	Remer, MN	2014-03-14	I believe there are better ways to provide a solution to this, without risking our natural resources, property values and populations.
Mark Liebrenz	Outing, MN	2014-03-14	HomeOwner in the area.
Emily Maas	Brooklyn Park, MN	2014-03-14	I am a property owner on Lake Washburn
tom and mary jo fisch	maplewood, MN	2014-03-15	we have a cabin on washburn lake and we don't want a pipeline just south of our lake

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lynn Lindorfer	Sheboygan, WI	2014-03-16	Bob Lindorfer - My family has vacationed and owned property in the Lake Washburn area for nearly 60 years. Any increased risk of environmental impact on this watershed must be avoided as long as there are alternatives which can be considered.
Joy Davis	Minneapolis, MN	2014-03-16	We have owned property on Mule Lake for 30 years. We have real concerns about pipeline ruptures along its route. The pipeline is proposed to run under the power lines less than a mile south of us. Water from Washburn flows through Mule Lake on its way to Mitchell Lake. Not only are there many lakes that could be impacted but also acres of wetlands along the way.
Gerald (Jerry) Abts	Outing, MN	2014-03-17	A pipe line rupture in this area of lakes would be far reaching and devastating to streams, lakes and watershed south of the pipeline.
Dianne Bell	Minneapolis, MN	2014-03-17	Our family has had lakeshore property in Fifty Lakes township for over 70 years. The track record of oil companies is less than stellar, and the consequences of an oil rupture would be devastating to the environment. The comment period to the PUC doesn't give seasonal owners a chance to realize what's proposed and to thus comment against it.
Paul & Joan Kroehnert	Plymouth, MN	2014-03-22	The environmental and economic risks as pointed out by Ronald Vegemast are severe, in the event of a spill which is uncomfortably likely, which could result in severe damage over a long period. We have lakeshore property on Washburn lake, and are concerned mainly on the possible effect on waters downstream of us, or on our Roosevelt Lake neighbors. Please give serious consideration to the alternate route suggested in Mr. Vegemast's Position Paper.
Paul Goupil	Minneapolis, MN	2014-03-22	My family cabin is too close to this proposed pipeline. I am concerned that it will damage the land and the lakes if and when it were to leak.
David Judd	Shakopee, MN	2014-03-24	I own lake property very near the proposed site and am not satisfied that Embridge won't be polluting our aquifer, watershed and lakes. I am not impressed with their business model and their track record of destruction of the ecosystem in Michigan.
Janis Judd	Shakopee, MN	2014-03-24	Our lake and the surrounding water shed is in harms way with this proposed route. I want to go on record stating I favor a route that does not pass through all the wetlands, watersheds, rivers and lakes this proposed route uses. Embridge - be environmentally aware and choose another route.
Sandy Newton	Outing, MN	2014-03-24	We live on Lake Washburn. An alternative route needs to be seriously considered to preserve this pristine area to be enjoyed in the future. We are not comfortable with the risk involved with the proposed route.
Carrie Bell	Minneapolis, MN	2014-03-26	Environmental safety reasons.
ann ahlquist	Minneapolis, MN	2014-03-26	I have lived at the above address at least part time for 46 years. i value most the wilderness and wildlife of the northern Minnesota area. Please consider an alternatie route for th Sandpiper Pipeline. It's proposed proximity to my property and Dagget CReek s threatening.
kent swedberg	Andover, MN	2014-03-26	cabin owner on Eagle lake
Stephanie Schleuder	St. Paul, MN	2014-03-27	I have relatives who have lake property near the proposed route and I have spent lots of time enjoying their cabin and their beautiful lake. It is not right to put these pipelines anywhere in this gorgeous wilderness, but I am especially alarmed about the possibility of destroying the pristine nature of this area. These pipelines have proven over and over again to be dangerous to our environment.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Dana Cossette	Plymouth, MN	2014-03-27	I have a seasonal cabin on Eagle Lake, which is just south of the crossing point on Daggett Brook where this pipeline will cross. The environmental impact of this pipeline could be devastating to Eagle Lake, as well as risk the central lakes area region we all love so much.
Jason Vetsch	Fifty lakes, MN	2014-03-27	Oil spill pollution risk over time is just too great.
Jody Geiselhart	West St. Paul, MN	2014-03-27	Lake home in Aitkin County, Fifty Lakes, MN
Mark Neubauer	Inver Grove Hts, MN	2014-03-27	Eagle Lake property owner. This pipeline will destroy Daggett Creek watershed area and put the entire 50 Lakes wilderness area in peril
Lisa Greeney	Bloomington, MN	2014-03-27	We have a cabin in Crow Wing County. We need to protect northern Minnesota not just for us, but our children and our children's children. No part of this pipeline should ever go thru Minnesota and particularily, northern Minnesota. We need to protect our wilderness and wildlife because once it's gone or damaged, we will never get it back in our lifetime. Figure something else out but leave northern Minnesota out of the route!!!
Renee DeSchane	South St Paul, MN	2014-03-27	For my friends with lake cabins in the line of the pipeline.
JILL HOFFMEYER	EAGAN, MN	2014-03-27	We have a cabin in this area
Nancy Manderfeld	Eden Prairie, MN	2014-03-27	Don't believe pipeline should be built through this area
John Sylvester	St. Peter, MN	2014-03-27	Considering Enbridge energy's less than stellar safety record, I'm concerned that, at a minimum, an environmental impact study is not required.
robert wojack	minneapolis, MN	2014-03-27	Save the pristine environment
Richard Yore	Fifty Lakes, MN	2014-03-28	I have owned property in Fifty Lakes since 1981, and I spend summers in residence there. This appears to be being rushed through and I believe that alternatives must be considered before a final route is selected.
Elizabeth Knop	Chanhassen, MN	2014-03-28	I have a cabin on Mitchell lake and plan on selling it this year-I do not want this to affect the value of my property.
Linda W. Hebert	St. Paul, MN	2014-03-29	I own a year round home on Mitchell Lake which is fed by Daggett Brook and would be a mile from the new pipeline proposed to go under Daggett Brook. This will damage the current value of the property as well as the ecology of the watershed for this very popular lakes area of Minnesota.
Jenny Ketcham	Hopkins, MN	2014-03-29	We own property in Outing, MN. The safety record of the company in charge of the pipeline project is no where near satisfactory. We need to deal with our country's energy issues. However, more care needs to be taken on these projects. Make sure there is a true study on economic and environmental impact. We need to make sure any work like this follows the very strictest and highest of quality and safety standards. And make sure there is true oversight to ensure compliance.
Doug Tull	Outing, MN	2014-03-29	I live on Andrus Lake, just a few hundred yards south of the pipeline route. The pipeline route will cross hundreds of water features in Crooked Lake Township, including Daggett Brook. Everybody should make themselves aware of the impact this type of major construction will have on the environment. I believe they have chosen this route because it is easier dealing with country bumpkins than commercial interests along their existing right-of-ways on alternate routes.
Kenneth Neihart	Shoreview, MN	2014-03-31	I have concerns with the proposed route and the impact on the environment if a spill should occur. Alternate routes need to be considered.
Darrel Olson	Anoka, MN	2014-04-01	I am a property owner in Crow Wing county---there are so many rules what we can do or not---why can BIG business do what ever they want to do.
jerry andersen	emily, MN	2014-04-01	30+ yr. resident outing/Emily

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Shirleen Sylvester	St. Peter, MN	2014-04-01	I own property in this area and am concerned about the lack of a required environmental impact study, and the less than stellar safety record of Enbridge Engery. It has huge implications for the lakes, rivers, and streams.
Jacquelynn Goessling	Minneapolis, MN	2014-04-02	Because MN's pristine lake country cannot be risked or replaced. Keep MN beautiful.
Jeff Vakoc	Brooklyn Park, MN	2014-04-02	I have serious concerns for the enviorment. I own lake property that could be directly affected by a crude oil spill. Once that happens it is never the same.

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PUC-13-474

Chang.org Petition- Consider an Alternate Route for the Sandpiper Pipeline. #PPL-13-474

http://www.change.org/petitions/minnesota-puc-sandpiper-pipeline-consider-an-alternate-route-for-the-sandpiper-pipeline-ppl-13-474#supporters

POSITION PAPER – SANDPIPER PIPELINE PROJECT

Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Docket Number: PL-6668/PPL-13-474

February 8, 2014

Prepared by: Ronald Vegemast, P.E.
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Outing, Minnesota 56662
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Our home is on 800 front feet of lakeshore on the north end of Roosevelt Lake. The north end of Roosevelt Lake is just over one-half mile downstream from the proposed crossing of the Spire Valley by the Sandpiper Pipeline.

This document is intended to be a public document that will hopefully stimulate open discussion. Any wording herein may be used by anyone for any purpose favorable or unfavorable to the positions expressed.

NEED FOR A PIPELINE ACROSS MINNESOTA

In the recent past, there was an indication that approximately 4.8 million barrels of crude oil used in the United States every day comes from outside North America with much (or most) from Venezuela and Nigeria. Most of the remainder comes from within North America including the United States, Canada and Mexico. We strongly believe that it is essential that North America become energy independent. The Venezuelan government leaders are supporting unfriendly leaders to the United States in Cuba, Nicaragua, Peru, Ecuador, and Uruguay; and militant groups in Columbia that hamper efforts to reduce cocaine production. The leadership in Nigeria does nothing to hamper the criminal elements in that country that carry on fraudulent activities aimed at American citizens especially our more vulnerable elderly.

North American energy independence must include moving large quantities of petroleum from the western US and Canada to refineries in the US Midwest, eastern states and eastern Canada. The proposed Sandpiper Pipeline is intended to move some of that petroleum to refineries in the US Midwest and eastern Canada. Even though some of the oil transported from wells in North Dakota across Minnesota will be exported to Canada, it probably is good public policy to cross trade petroleum between the US and Canada.

Moving large quantities of petroleum from west to east cannot be accomplished by truck, railroad and/or water barge. In addition, it is safer and much cheaper to move petroleum through pipelines than by any other method. The petroleum must be transported by pipeline, and a route must be found for that pipeline.

For practical reasons, it makes sense to transport that petroleum through a pipeline across Minnesota. We should keep in mind; however, that transporting petroleum across Minnesota is good US national policy for the benefit of all Americans (and Canadian citizens in the east) while having no other direct benefit to the citizens of

Minnesota. The three refineries in Minnesota already have an adequate supply of crude oil from within North America. The citizens of Minnesota should not have to take on unnecessary risks or costs for the benefit of all of the citizens of the United States.

RISK ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED SANDPIPER PIPELINE PROJECT

Is there a reasonably high probability that there will be a Sandpiper pipeline rupture that will result in catastrophic damage to private property owners in Minnesota? If yes, is there another route that might be used as an alternative to the proposed route for the Sandpiper Pipeline? If there is no other reasonable route, can the potential damages of a rupture be mitigated through specific engineering and other requirements as part of the permit issued to North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC (NDPC) for this pipeline? This section of this position paper addresses the risk probability issue.

Pipeline ruptures occur and they are not rare. There was a major rupture of a natural gas pipeline in Canada during the last week of January 2014 resulting in shortages of gas in much of the US Midwest.

Everyone wants to prevent spilling any petroleum anywhere and that includes NDPC. An NDPC letter to Cass County, City and Township Officials, dated December 11, 2013, states that "Enbridge designs, constructs, operates and maintains its facilities to comply with or exceed all appropriate regulations, federal laws and national standards." Note that on December 16, 2013, the name of the permit applicant was changed from Enbridge to NDPC. The company has the goal of zero releases. Even with these major efforts there have been a significant number of spills from NDPC facilities and some of those had major negative impacts. There was a major NDPC petroleum spill in Cohasset, Minnesota several years ago and the Minnesota DNR had to burn the petroleum on the river to prevent it from reaching the Mississippi River. Another major NDPC petroleum spill went into the Kalamazoo River in Michigan and that is still being cleaned up ten years later. By one calculation, on average, NDPC has experienced one spill for each 21 miles of pipeline used by that company over an eleven year period.

Pipeline ruptures must be expected. The Sandpiper project will require tens of thousands of sections of 30 inch diameter pipe and somewhere around 100,000 welds performed outdoors some in difficult weather conditions. Each weld will be nearly 100 inches in length performed in a vertical circle to connect pipes extending outward away from the welding area for many feet. The petroleum in the pipes is under pressure and the pipes are subject to occasional rapid up/down pressure fluctuations, expansion and contraction with changes in temperature and earth shifts due to such things as frost heaves. Steel pipe cannot be manufactured without some undetectable defects. The pipeline may pass a high pressure leak test prior to use to transport petroleum; however, a

defect in the steel of a section of pipe or a less than perfect weld can give way due to metal fatigue after a period of time being subject to those types of factors. It is a fact of life that spills cannot be prevented and sometimes they can occur where the damage is catastrophic.

The impacts of any pipeline spill depend on the amount of petroleum spilled and the location of the spill. Approximately six million barrels of crude oil are refined and used in the eastern third of the United States every day. NDPC plans to initially transport up to 375,000 barrels of petroleum over this proposed pipeline each day. It is reasonable to assume that NDPC will add one or more pipes in the future to increase the amount transported over time to at least 500,000 barrels and perhaps even as much as 1,000,000 barrels each day as there is added development of the oil deposits in North Dakota and surrounding areas. The remainder of the six million barrels per day will come from sources in eastern states, other pipelines from the western US and Canada, and large tanker ships from Mexico, the Gulf of Mexico and the gulf states of the US.

NDPC has demonstrated that company employees at monitoring and control centers have had difficulty determining that a spill has occurred. Many (maybe most) spills of petroleum from pipeline facilities are discovered by local residents and they may not be discovered for many hours (maybe over night) after the spill begins if the spill is in a remote area like those through which the NDPC preferred route passes and/or the spill is at a time when many recreational property owners are not in residence.

NDPC proposes that the initial pipe in this route be 30 inches in diameter. A quick calculation shows that there would be approximately 132,000 tons of petroleum moving through the 300 mile length of this pipe continuously. The mass of moving oil in that pipe is the equivalent of six 100 tank car trains fully loaded with petroleum. A high school course in physics includes study of Newton's laws of motion that shows that there is an enormous amount of kinetic energy in all of that moving petroleum. One way of putting it is things that are in motion tend to stay in motion. The point is that it is not possible to simply close a valve to instantly shut down the flow of the petroleum just as it is not possible to instantly stop a moving freight train by simply applying the train brakes. To do so would cause enormous pressure in the pipe that would most likely cause many ruptures. This all means that it takes a long time (hours) to shut down the flow of petroleum in a pipeline after a spill is detected and verified.

It is possible, therefore, that up to 250,000 barrels or 11 million gallons or approximately 30 acre-feet of petroleum or more could spill in a remote area before it is discovered and the pumps can be shut down one at a time in an orderly fashion and pipeline pressure reduced.

Thirty acre-feet of petroleum spilled into Daggett Creek just above Mitchell Lake or the Pine River just north of Norway Lake might quickly spread across the

Whitefish Chain of lakes to an average depth of 1/16 to 3/32 inches. That is enough to change the value of all lakeshore, off lake and business real property; boats and marine apparatus on and near the entire Whitefish Chain to worthless in one day. Aquatic birds, and in some seasons migratory birds, would suffer and die. The entire fish population along with other marine life including crayfish, fresh water clams and snails, and aquatic vegetation would all die. There would be no swimming, fishing or any form of boating on the entire Whitefish Chain. The odor of the petroleum would keep most people well away from the lake. It could take ten years or longer to recover significant value to this area and some marine life might never return.

A similar size rupture in the Spire Valley watershed would result in petroleum levels of about one inch on the north part of Roosevelt Lake if the spill is contained north of the Highway 6 Bridge in Outing or about 3/16 inch if the entire lake is covered.

This discussion of impacts after a spill is not limited to Daggett Brook, the Pine River and the creek in the Spire Valley. It should be understood that the impacts discussed herein can result from a spill anywhere in the watersheds of Daggett Brook, the Pine River, the creek in the Spire Valley, the Washburn Lake watershed south and east of that lake, or the Roosevelt Lake watershed northeast of Lewis and Leavitt Lakes, a distance of approximately 26 miles along the proposed pipeline route. In Aiken County the Sandy River could carry spilled petroleum into Big Sandy Lake. In fact there are side-by-side similar watersheds all the way along most of the proposed route across all of and more than Hubbard, Cass and Aiken Counties and spills there can impact areas in surrounding counties like Crow Wing, Wadena, Clearwater and Becker Counties. The NDPC Sandpiper Project preferred route also crosses the Mississippi River twice, once southwest of Bemidji and once northeast of Aiken.

Minnesota has 10,000 or so lakes, however, they are not distributed evenly over the state and most people would not consider all lakes of even value. Most of the lakes in Minnesota are located in two groups one west of the Twin Cities out to Willmar and the other from the general area of Alexandria and Fergus Falls to Grand Rapids and Aiken. Most Minnesotans consider the northern group to be the best lakes. There are approximately 320,000 Minnesota families with recreational lake property so that when all members of those families are included there are many hundreds of thousands (probably more than a million) of citizens of this state that more or less consider the lakes in the north central area of the state to be Minnesota's crown jewels. Lakeshore property in this area is among the highest price real property in the entire state of Minnesota and the NDPC preferred Sandpiper route closely passes some of the very best lakes with all things considered including the driving distance from the Twin Cities. A 100 foot wide, undeveloped lot on the Whitefish Chain of lakes will be priced at from $250,000 to $500,000.

The value of real property on the Whitefish Chain lakeshore and the immediate surrounding areas is approximately one billion dollars. One billion dollars of loss in real property values will mean an instant reduction of approximately ten million dollars each year in property taxes paid to Crow Wing County, other subdivisions of the state in Crow Wing County including Crosslake and Manhattan Beach, the school districts, and other special taxing districts. Government officials need to understand that this result is not a loss of tax revenue for one year but loss of that revenue every year for many years. The total dollar loss of tax revenue would be less but have a similar impact on the budgets of Crooked Lake Township and Cass County, and possibly of the City of Emily, if all of Roosevelt Lake is covered with Petroleum, as the budgets of those entities is smaller than those around the Whitefish Chain in Crow Wing County. There will be other tax dollar losses as well including sales tax receipts payable to the state of Minnesota and to other entities including cities like Emily.

I have no idea who the owners and controlling parties are of the legal entity North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC and I have no idea what net assets they control. In the past, however, there have been too many situations in which after the fact it is discovered that an entity that is responsible for a disastrous event simply walks away and it is found that there are almost no net assets available to pay those parties that were damaged. The responsible entity's assets are pledged as collateral for huge loans and the liability shielded parent owner entity drained earnings from the responsible entity for years in management fees. Often most if not all of the small net assets of the responsible entity are used to pay legal and accounting fees and expenses. In any event, it is normally the fact that it takes years for damaged parties to receive any compensation. I could not help but observe that Freedom Industries in Charleston West Virginia filed for bankruptcy without hiring a single defense attorney after the first law suit was filed against the company for the chemical spill that entered the drinking water supply for the Charleston Metropolitan Area in December 2013.

Private property owners will be unable to claim loss in value of their lake front property on their home owners insurance policy. Those policies are written to compensate the insured against damages to structures and the contents of structures along with some small coverage for some consequential losses only. Petroleum spilled and spread across the lake in front of their structures does not cause any damage to the structures or the contents.

In addition to tax dollar losses to governments, there may be widespread failures of most businesses in the Crosslake and surrounding areas if the spill impacts the Whitefish chain or in the Outing/Emily areas if the spill impacts Roosevelt Lake. Banks that have made mortgage loans on business, home and lakeshore recreational properties may fail as property owners walk away from worthless properties for which they have not been compensated at anywhere near an amount equal to the remaining principal amount of the mortgage. Crosslake or

Outing or other towns might become ghost towns like those in Nevada, Colorado and other western states.

CONCEPTUAL VISION FOR AN ALTERNATE ROUTE

At some past time there was brief consideration of adding pipeline facilities to an existing pipeline route generally along US Highway 2. There was no significant analysis of that route as consideration of it was dropped quickly as sufficient right-of-way space was not reasonably available even with the right of eminent domain. As a result, only one route across Hubbard and Cass Counties has received any serious analysis attention and that seems to be limited to NDPC deciding whether or not that company can get what it needs along that single route. NDPC did analyze three routes across Aiken County. Maybe it exists, however, I have seen no analysis to determine if the NDPC preferred route across Hubbard, Cass and Aiken Counties can be designed and constructed in a manner that will reasonably protect the greater public interest.

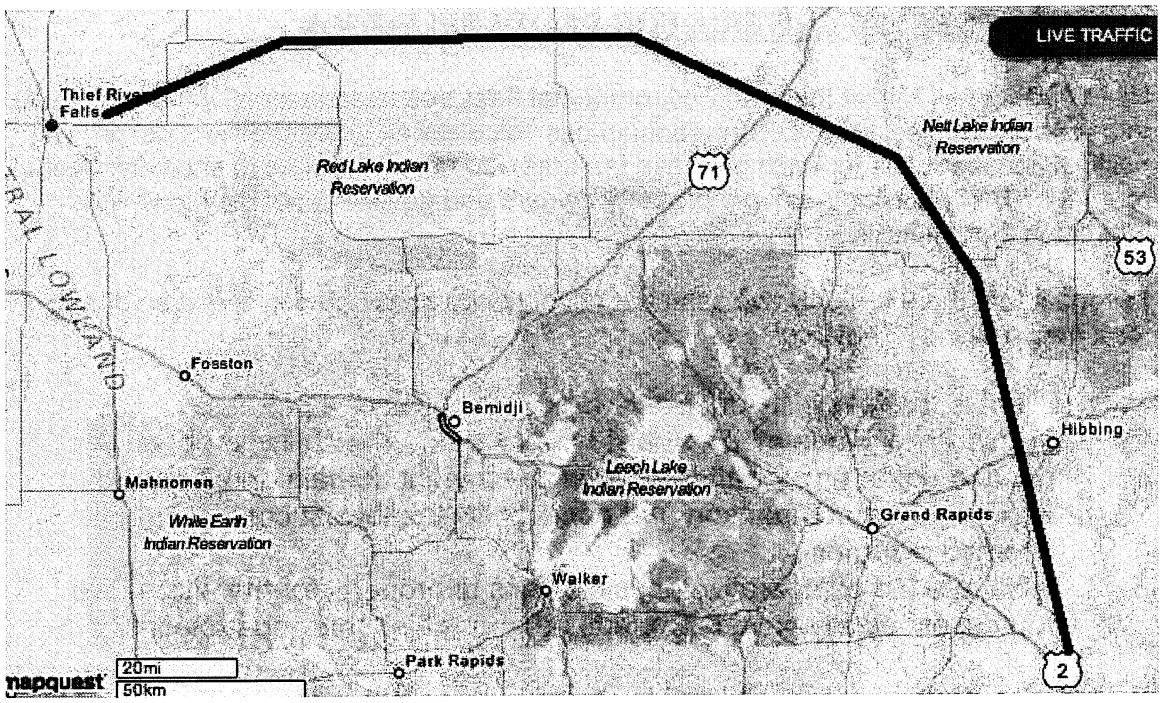
Much of the NDPC selected route follows existing electrical power transmission lines. Quite often that makes sense as those lines are often away from most public view, there are access roads in-place, and they already have wide openings through the wilderness for long distances. Locating petroleum pipelines next to electric power lines is not always the best choice; however, as electric power does not spill into watersheds when a tower blows over in a storm.

Might there be an alternate route that should receive analysis that would show that route to be far less damaging to private property owners and governments in the event of a major spill?

Might that second route begin somewhere around Thief River Falls and be routed north of the Red Lake Indian Reservation, then southeast across Koochiching County to somewhere around Togo, then south to the continental divide, past Hibbing, and continuing south past a point east of Floodwood or continuing south of Hibbing along railroad right-of-way? This route may require some north/south juggling to avoid some scattered parcels of the Red Lake Indian Reservation north of Upper Red Lake. I know of no impediment to obtaining the needed route right-of way for this route as the state will grant NDPC the right of eminent domain.

It should be noted that this conceptual route does not cross the Mississippi River.

The concept of this route is shown in this map.


LIVE TRAFFIC
Thief River Falls
Red Lake Indian Reservation
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Nett Lake Indian Reservation
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Fosston
Bemidji
Hibbing
Leech Lake Indian Reservation
Mahnomen
White Earth Indian Reservation
Grand Rapids
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Park Rapids
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SOME SUGGESTED CRITERIA FOR ROUTE SELECTION

NDPC refers to 17 what they call Environmental Features used to identify the best route for a petroleum pipeline. NDPC personnel can calculate an internal dollar cost or political consequence for each of those features and use the results to show the best route for NDPC, however, private property owners and governments may have little interest in that analysis.

I suggest that there are only two criteria that should be considered in selection of a route for a new pipeline. They are:

1. What is the feasibility of a route for construction of a petroleum transporting pipeline? Feasibility must include the ability to obtain the needed right-of-way with the power of eminent domain and it should include a cost comparison (not necessarily the lowest cost) between alternative routes.
2. What are the comparative possible risks to property for the alternative routes, especially private property, after a major spill of petroleum?

In regard to the first criteria, NDPC personnel may point to two factors that might increase the cost to construct the Sandpiper Pipeline along the conceptual route described herein. Those two factors are a general lack of access roads across much of Beltrami and Koochiching Counties and the need for many more miles of winter construction. NDPC may be able to take some advantage of existing township roads in those two counties even if they will need improving at NDPC expense. Access road improvement and construction, and winter construction will likely make the conceptual alternative route more expensive over no more than 150 miles of pipeline.

Assuming that the extra cost will be $2,000,000 per mile (unlikely that much) for 150 miles, the conceptual alternative route may cost $300,000,000 more to construct than the NDPC selected preferred route. This pipeline may have a useful life of 50 years or more but for purposes of this discussion assume that the life of the pipeline to abandonment will be 20 years and assume that NDPC borrows all of the money needed to construct Sandpiper at 6% interest with the loan plus interest on the remaining principle paid in equal annual payments over 20 years. If these assumptions are realistic, the annual extra cost to NDPC for the conceptual alternative route will be a little more than $26,000,000 per year or about $71,300 per day. $71,300 per day is only 19 cents per 42 gallon barrel of petroleum when the pipeline carries 375,000 barrels a day.

An extra 19 cents of transport cost per barrel is insignificant especially when by NDPC's own statements the Sandpiper Pipeline is not planned for advantage to the company in a competitive environment but is an absolute need for the oil well drillers in North Dakota. An additional cost of 19 cents per barrel will add less than ½ cent to the cost of a gallon of refined gasoline and diesel fuel, lubricants, and propane; and petroleum used in fertilizers, plastics and pharmaceuticals.

Should not the citizens of Minnesota be able to ask the users of products manufactured from petroleum in the eastern third of the United States to anti-up ½ cents per gallon to provide an enormous reduction in risk to some of the world's greatest attributes, our premium lakes, streams and woodlands? The cost per gallon will be less if NDPC adds more capacity in barrels per day transported over this route in the future. A ½ cent increase in cost for petroleum may be even less of concern as refined petroleum products increase in price due to inflationary pressures and a general decrease in the reserves of petroleum in the ground over time.

Therefore, the route selection criteria is really searching for the balance between extra cost and reduction in risk. I believe that a far greater risk far outweighs the added construction costs.

SUGGESTED PERMIT REQUIREMENTS IF THE EXISTING NDPC PREFERRED ROUTE IS SELECTED FOR THE SANDPIPER PIPELINE PROJECT BY THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

This part of this position paper includes discussion of some conceptual ideas that might be considered for inclusion in any permit granted for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project if the NDPC preferred route across Hubbard and Cass Counties is finally selected for approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. These conceptual ideas are mine alone and I know nothing about the design and construction of petroleum pipelines. Therefore, these ideas may have little or no value for engineering design but may at least stimulate further discussion of ways to mitigate the risks for a major disaster in the future.

Included with this discussion is a sketch of a concept idea that might protect Roosevelt Lake from damage from a rupture/spill in the Spire Valley. That sketch envisions two berms across the valley, one on either side of the pipeline right-of-way with a large (perhaps eight or ten foot diameter) conduit to carry the creek water past the pipeline right-of-way. A large conduit may be needed to keep water from spilling over the northern berm during a 50 year flood event. The culvert will keep petroleum from a spill from reaching the creek water until the petroleum level exceeds the height of the lower berm. The berms may need to extend at a relatively low elevation out to the edges of the watershed area that drains into the Spire Valley. A detector/alarm between the berms could detect the presence of petroleum before the level builds to the height of the lower berm. The alarm signal can be sent over a fiber link to a pumping monitoring station, or better to an automatic pump shut down device. A means to drain off water that may collect between the berms may need to be included.

Another conceptual idea is can double piping be used at least through the areas of greatest risk? By double piping I mean an inner pipe transporting the petroleum with an outer pipe to contain at least some oil if a spill occurs. There

should also be oil detectors at low spots along the inside of the outer pipe to be used to alarm of a spill at a monitoring/control center.

Pipeline companies have been in business for a long time and they hopefully have one or more better ways to protect against spills in geographic situations like those suggested here. Also, the double berm concept shown in the sketch will not provide any protection for wide area watersheds like that feeding Daggett Brook north of Mitchell Lake or the area north and east of Lewis and Leavett Lakes that drain into Roosevelt Lake unless low elevation berms extend all across the watershed.

How can Roosevelt Lake, the Whitefish Chain of Lakes and many others near the NDPC preferred route be protected if there is a spill in one of these drainage basins? Should the cost to provide those protective elements in the design and construction of the pipeline be considered the cost of an insurance policy to protect against very large possible losses caused by a major pipeline spill in a sensitive location?

NDPC should also be required to provide hydrologic studies by qualified, properly educated and experienced engineers of the surface and subsurface water drainage where the Sandpiper proposed pipeline passes approximately one-half mile from the east edge of Itasca State Park. The area of Itasca Park, Lake Itasca and the beginning of the Mississippi River is the number one international tourist attraction in the state of Minnesota. There should be no risk of damage to this area by an oil spill from the pipeline.

With or without design elements to protect against risks along and near the preferred route, can NDPC be required to maintain a liability insurance policy of as much as $1.5 billion to pay the lawyers and accountants and to protect the private property owners that may suffer loss of all or most of the value of their property after a spill from the Sandpiper Pipeline?

March 28, 2014

From: Raymond L. Vlasak
46522 Wildwood Trail
Ponsford, MN 56575

To: Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA)
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Enbridge and North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC Sandpiper Pipeline Route, Docket Number PL-668/PPL/PPL-13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

I am opposed to Enbridge Pipeline's (North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC) proposed southern route for the Sandpiper Pipeline.

Common sense dictates keeping all the pipelines together to reduce the risk. Why put more land at risk? Monitor all of them simultaneously. Use a drone 24/7. There are many ways to reduce current failures. Enbridge is not a responsible corporation. They certainly don't understand industry standardized corrective action procedures.

I am a retired Chemical Engineer. My job was scaling up chemical reaction processes to production equipment at 3M. I was responsible for handling hazardous materials at high pressure. I know what it takes to be safe and it is obvious that Enbridge simply writes off the risk rather than reduce it. Lives and pollution are nothing more than a cost of doing business to them.

The control equipment and monitoring processes that Enbridge uses are technically obsolete. Apparently the federal regulations are obsolete. If these pipelines meet federal standards, then the standards are unsatisfactory.

Minnesota needs to put a moratorium on new pipelines until they develop more rigorous regulations that supersede federal standards and protect Minnesota lands and people.

For these reasons Enbridge (NDPC) should be required to route the pipeline following the existing northern corridor and not be allowed to build any new pipelines until Minnesota standards are put in place.

Sincerely, Raymond L. Vlasak

Raymond L. Vlasak