

L A K E A G A S S I Z

W A T E R A U T H O R I T Y

P. O. Box 140 Carrington, ND 58421

Phone 701-652-3194 Fax 701-652-3195

November 13, 2007

Commissioner Susan Wefald
Commissioner Tony Clark
Commissioner Kevin Kramer
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0408

Subject: Keystone Pipeline

The Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) was created by the North Dakota state legislature and given the responsibility of providing a reliable drinking water supply to the cities, businesses and residents of the Red River Valley. As a representative of water systems in the Red River Valley, LAWA is concerned about the proposed Keystone Pipeline Project and its potential effects on the Red River Valley's water sources.

The proposed route of the Keystone Pipeline Project is in close proximity to the Sheyenne River and Lake Ashtabula. This is of great concern to LAWA because these water sources serve as the primary or sole source of water for many water systems in the Red River Valley, including the cities of Fargo, Grand Forks, Grafton and Drayton. The risk of contamination of this important water supply has been overlooked in the Keystone Pipeline Project.

In addition, the water held in Lake Ashtabula below the flood control pool is currently permitted as a water supply for the cities of Valley City, Lisbon, West Fargo, Fargo and Grand Forks. The potential impact to this water supply has also been overlooked in this Project. During drought periods, the Sheyenne River and Lake Ashtabula become the sole source of water for Fargo. If a drought were to occur, the entire volume of water would be used to supply these cities with municipal water. A risk of contamination of this vital water supply needs to be addressed.

The proposed route runs parallel to and at one point even crosses the Sheyenne River. We have established that the Sheyenne River system is a crucial water supply in the Red River Valley. Possible contamination of the Sheyenne River from this Project is a critical issue that needs to be addressed before this Project is to move forward. We certainly are not opposed to this Project, but the water supplies in the Red River Valley are scarce and must be protected.

Public Service Commission
November 13, 2007
Page 2

Appropriate design features, pipeline routing and emergency response planning requirements should be considered for maximum safety and protection of both ground and surface waters. We apologize for not being more responsive during the public hearing period. However, we feel that our comments and concerns are valid and should result in sufficient changes to the design and route of the Project in order to protect the water resources of the Red River Valley.

Sincerely,

Bruce Furness, Chairman
City of Fargo

Board Members

Keith Burley, Vice Chairman
Cass Rural Water Association
Kindred, North Dakota

Kevin Burg, Director
City of Hillsboro

Kelli Poehls, Director
City of Moorhead

Clark Cronquist, Director
Agassiz Water Users District
Gilby, North Dakota

John Drees, Director
Grand Forks-Traill Water District
Thompson, North Dakota

Curt Kreun, Director
City of Grand Forks

Kenneth Evenson, Director
City of Valley City

LaVonne Althoff, Director
Southeast Water Users District
Mantador, North Dakota

Rick Bigwood, Director
North Valley Water District
Cavalier, North Dakota