



My land is our families home place which was purchased by my father in 1950 and has been passed down to me so that the farming operation could continue. This land will be affected by the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline.

**Please describe your current farming operations.**

I grow corn, soybeans and livestock. We use conventional and no till operations.

**To the best your knowledge, what area(s) of your property will the Dakota Access Pipeline cross?**

It will cross through the east side of my quarter along the section line affecting crop ground and also my pasture which is contains my buffalo herd.

**How close is the pipeline to any building, bin or pen, water source, or farming facilities (i.e., storage area, feedlot, grazing area, etc.)?**

It will run right on top of my water source which I have three wells that I draw from.

**Please describe any special characteristics of your property and farmland, and/or whether you plan to build any houses, outbuildings, shelter belts, or other structures on your property.**

I have plans for planting a shelter belt where the proposed pipeline will run through.

**Please describe which of your farming operations or other land uses will be impaired by the Dakota Access Pipeline and how they will be impaired.**

The highly productive land used for raising our crops will be greatly impaired by the pipeline. If the pipeline is built, our crops will never be the same. Disturbed soil from pipeline installation and the heat produced from the pipeline after installation will both have detrimental effects on crop land. It will never return to it's highly productive state. In addition, when an oil spill occurs, it will leave our farmland and crops saturated. That land can no longer be farmed and is considered worthless. That was proven by the oil spills in both Benton, Mich. on Sept. 16, 2014 and in Bismarck, ND on Sept. 29, 2013. We are also greatly concerned with stray voltage that may come from this pipeline. The soil, mineral and moisture content of the land in addition to steel posts are all conductors of electricity. There are 3 wells on that section of land that our family runs livestock through. If stray voltage were to occur, it could be hazardous and possibly deadly to our livestock.

**Has your farmland been improved with drain tile? If so, please describe whether you are concerned that pipeline construction may damage and impair the drain tile performance and investment.**

I am waiting approval from the NRCS for drain tile installation in the fall of 2015.

Pipeline construction will greatly impair the drain tile performance and investment.

**Do you believe that the Dakota Access Pipeline will pose a threat of serious injury to the environment or the inhabitants within the siting area? If so, why?**

Yes! I am very concerned about an oil leak which would get into our water supply. In addition, the pipeline is proposed to run ¼ mile to the west of Wall Lake, which is approximately 2 ¼ miles from our land. Wall Lake is part of the aquifer system to the city of Sioux Falls. It is the backup reservoir to our highest populated city. An oil leak will have devastating effects!

**Do you believe that the Dakota Access Pipeline will substantially impair the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the siting area? If so, why?**

Yes!! This proposed pipeline will be carrying **HAZARDOUS MATERIAL!** It is extremely flammable. Bakken crude oil has a low flashpoint and may be more explosive than conventional crude oil. It is also toxic!! The cancer-causing agent, benzene, is detected in the oil. Breathing benzene can cause drowsiness, dizziness, tachycardia (rapid heart rate), headache, tremors, confusion, unconsciousness, and death. I am very concerned for all the inhabitants in the siting area.

**Have you been sued by Dakota Access Pipeline to compel court ordered access to your land? If so, (1) Has Dakota Access Pipeline provided you any legal authority (i.e., state statute) supporting its claim that you have no right to exclude Dakota Access from your land at the time of said lawsuit? and (2) Have you incurred legal fees in defending against said lawsuit?**

Yes, I have been served with a Summons and Complaint for Preliminary Injunction to Provide Survey Access. No, Dakota Access has not provided me with any legal authority supporting its claim. Yes, I have and continue to incur legal fees.

**Has any representative of Dakota Access Pipeline made any statements to you or others that you believe are not true? If so, please explain.**

At the January 22, 2015 public meeting in Sioux Falls, I had asked the Dakota Access representatives numerous questions regarding the pipeline project. After I asked these questions and gave my concerns, Joey Mahmoud, Vice President - Engineering, stated that we have "already talked about most of these issues". That statement was simply not true. None of the questions that I asked have ever been personally addressed to me or to my family ~ not that night and not to this day.

**Please state any other concerns you have regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline.**

I am concerned with all of the proposed project "benefits" that Dakota Access is proposing. The estimated monetary benefits that the state receives in the **short term** does not compare to the **long term** monetary benefits that Dakota Access and the 'big oil' companies will be filling their pockets with 'indefinitely'. Alaska does not have income tax due to revenues that they receive off the pipelines. **Do not approve a pipeline that will not benefit our state for the life of that pipeline.**

**If the pipeline permit is approved, I am also greatly concerned with how that will effect our property value.**

When an oil spill happens, who will pay for the clean up? When our farmland is left saturated and worthless, what kind of financial compensation will be offered? Will it be to the landowners satisfaction or will things wind up in long protracted legal battles in court?

Pipeline spills are inevitable whether it be from material, welding and equipment failure, corrosion or the environment. Pipelines require constant monitoring and accidents may result from undetected failures due to insufficient or delayed monitoring, deficient integrity management procedures or inadequate training of control center personnel. I am very concerned about the quality and installation of the pipeline as well as the monitoring of this line.

Another GREAT concern is that there is no state agency/inspectors/etc that will enforce permit conditions, easement agreements or "police" the pipeline. That is very FRIGHTENING to my family and to myself. They are just given a free pass to do as they please on the land that we have worked so hard to take care of!!

**Would you be available to present testimony and respond to questions during the formal hearing scheduled for September 29 through October 8, 2015?**

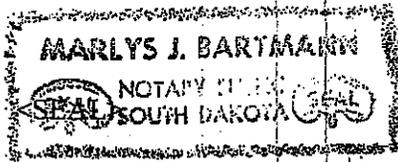
Yes

**Does that conclude your testimony?**

Yes.

Omni Beider

Subscribed and sworn before me this 2 day of July, 2015.



Marlys J. Bartmann  
Notary Public - South Dakota  
My Commission Expires: 9-30-2019