

Valley County

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Glasgow, MT 59230

John Fahlgren, Member



Paul Tweten, Chairman

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Mary Armstrong, Member

September 16, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing on behalf of the citizens of Valley County, Montana, the vast majority of whom are strongly in support of construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline. It is a significant benefit to Valley County for its positive socioeconomic impact, and its environmental footprint and risk reduction associated with oil transportation. Valley County has the largest pipeline footprint on the proposed route. The Northern Border gas pipeline has operated in Valley County, with a similar size footprint, since 1982 with no negative environmental impact.

Increased property tax revenues from the XL Pipeline will have a major economic boost to Valley County. Property tax revenues will increase about 50% (over \$7 million) in Valley County with construction of the XL pipeline. The majority of the tax revenues will provide critical support to the impacted school districts. About \$1 million will come to Valley County directly to support County services; this represents 20% of our current tax revenues.

TC Energy is using enhanced standards, state of the art technology and independent reviews to operate the pipeline to the highest safety standards:

Incorporates 36" diameter, corrosion-resistant pipe and construction welds reviewed by third parties and audited by the federal government.

State of the art technology will be built into the pipeline to monitor flow with automatic shut off capability.

Includes a higher number of remotely controlled shutoff valves, increased pipeline inspections and buries the pipe deeper in the ground.

Monitor the pipeline system 24 hours a day, 365 days a year through a centralized high-tech center. Satellite technology sends data every five seconds from thousands of data points to the monitoring center and if a reduction in pressure is ever detected, isolates the affected section of the pipeline by remotely closing the valves on the system within minutes.

Regular aerial and land inspections to supplement digital monitoring.

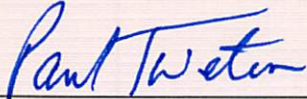
Specifically, for the Missouri River crossing, the location with the highest concern for our citizens, a horizontal directional drill crossing method will be used. The minimum distance between the pipeline and the bottom of the river will be 43 feet. Remote controlled shut off valves will be positioned on either side of the river to minimize pipeline oil loss. The 2017 risk analysis done by Stantec Consulting Services calculated that a worst-case discharge (highest volume) has an estimated occurrence interval of once in 2.23 million years at the Missouri River crossing.

TC Energy has an oil spill record that is three times lower than the US average with no catastrophic spills in the 2010 to 2017 timeframe. The most recent pipeline spill was contained immediately, as a result of the advanced pipeline technology that is in place. It is in the process of being remediated, and TC Energy is living up to its commitment.

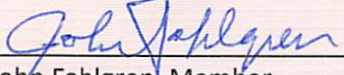
TC Energy has been an active and extremely positive community partner, contributing over \$100,000 in the last few years to community programs for first responders, educational programs, community needs and environmental stewardship. We are confident that they will continue to be an outstanding community member.

We urge you to move forward with this important infrastructure project for Valley County, the State of Montana, and for our nation.

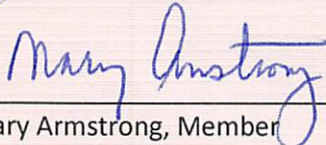
Sincerely,



Paul Tweten, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners



John Fahlgren, Member



Mary Armstrong, Member