#### Before the Nebraska Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application

of

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Route Approval of Keystone XL Pipeline Project, Pursuant to *Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act*  **Application No: OP-003** 

Direct Testimony of Randy Thompson in Support of Landowner Intervenors

State of Nebraska	)
	) ss.
Lancaster County	)

- 1 **Q:** Please state your name.
- 2 A: My name is Randy Thompson.
- 3 Q: Where do you live?

#### 4 A: I live in Martell, Nebraska.

5 Q: How are you familiar with the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline?

A: From 2004 until her death in May of 2011, I held the Power of Attorney for my
mother, Alta Frances Thompson, who owns property in Merrick County Nebraska
that was subject to a potential earlier route for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

- 9 I have had many dealings with TransCanada in person and in writing.
- 10Q:Please talk about your overall relationship with TransCanada throughout11this entire process?
- A: Our relationship with the land agents did not start out being a contentious one but
   quickly became that way when TransCanada discovered they couldn't force their
   will upon us.
- 15 Q: Please tell us about your initial meeting with TransCanada?

1 **A:** After several persistent phone calls from a young land agent we reluctantly agreed 2 to have a first meeting with him to discuss a potential project that would affect our 3 property. We politely listened to his proposal and after discovering it would 4 dissect one of our gravity irrigated corn fields and one of our pastures we told him 5 we were not interested. Upon his disclosure that it was a Canadian company 6 wanting to build the pipeline we felt secure in our position and thought that would 7 be the end of it, it turned out to just be the beginning.

#### 8 **Q**: What happened after your initial meeting with TransCanada?

9 A: The land agent continued to make unwanted phone calls to me in an attempt to 10 gain permission to survey our land, at one point I told him to go ahead but they 11 were wasting their time because we had no interest in having the pipeline on our property. 12

#### 13 **O**: What happened after you turned down the TransCanada land agent you 14 initially met with?

15 A: After a few months the first land agent was replaced by another agent named Dan 16 and that is when our relationship with them went downhill quickly. Dan was 17 arrogant and much more aggressive in his approach towards us, from the 18 beginning he tried to establish the idea that TransCanada was the one who was 19 going to be calling the shots on our property, not us.

#### 20 **Q**: What did you tell the new land agent when he contacted you?

21 **A:** I immediately informed Dan that we had no interest in the pipeline and we did not 22 want to have any further discussion with them until they had a permit to build the 23 project.

24

#### Did the land agent stop contacting you after that? **O**:

- 25 A: With a total disregard for my personal time and privacy Dan continued to call me 26 on a regular basis for a period that would extend over three or four years.
- 27 **Q**: Did TransCanada ever offer you an amount for an easement?

1	<b>A:</b>	At one point Dan presented us with an offer from TransCanada for an easement in
2		the amount of approximately \$9,000 to cross eighty acres of our land, he assured
3		us it was the final and best offer we would receive from the company;
4	Q:	Did you take the offer?
5	<b>A:</b>	No, we rejected the offer
6	Q:	Did TransCanada make any additional offers?
7	<b>A:</b>	Several months later they offered us \$18,000 with the same assurance that it was
8		their final and best offer.
9	Q:	Did you take offer?
10	<b>A:</b>	No, it was rejected as well.
11	Q:	Did TransCanada make any offers after that?
12	<b>A:</b>	On another occasion we received a letter from TransCanada stating they would
13		give us \$2,500.00 if we would give them an option for an easement.
14	Q:	Did you take that offer?
15	A:	No, I took that as an insult to my intelligence.
16	Q:	At any meetings did the land agent ever talk to you about their political
17		power and your rights?
18	<b>A:</b>	At one meeting with Dan we were told that because of TransCanada's political
19		power we were not in a position to stop the pipeline from crossing our property so
20		if we were smart we would fall in line with their demands or we would receive a
21		lot less money in the end. TransCanada and their agents seemed incapable of
22		grasping the idea that money was never the issue we were concerned about with
23		this project; it was the violation of our property rights by a foreign owned
24		company, the disruption of our farming operation, and the potential pollution of
25		our water supply that made us reject their proposals.
26	Q:	What happened after that?
27	<b>A:</b>	In July of 2010 TransCanada took their bullying tactics to a new level when they
20		mailed us a latter dated July 21, 2010 framing the "fasts" as if the KVI minaline

mailed us a letter dated July 21, 2010, framing the "facts" as if the KXL pipeline
 was totally approved and stating they were going to take use eminent domain to

- 1 take us to court. A true and accurate copy of that letter is here as **Attachment No.**
- 2
- 3 Q: Did you respond to the letter?
- 4 A: I thought their July 2010 claim to eminent domain powers was a fraudulent one so
  5 I responded on or about August 8, 2010, and told them to come on with it. A true
  6 and accurate copy of that letter is here as Attachment No. 2.
- 7 **O**:

Q: What was TransCanada's response?

8 A: They did nothing.

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9 Q: Did TransCanada send any additional letters?

10 A: Yes, in April of 2011 I received another almost identical letter from TransCanada.
11 A true and accurate copy of that letter is here as Attachment No. 3.

11

#### Q: What was TransCanada's response?

- 13 A: Once again they did nothing when we refused to be intimidated by their actions.
- 14 I would like to note that our experience with TransCanada was not a unique one 15 due to a "bad apple" land agent who was overly aggressive. After speaking with 16 other land owners who had similar experiences as mine with different agents 17 assigned to them it has become abundantly clear to me that the agents were 18 instructed to use the same harassing and bullying actions to secure easements from 19 Nebraska land owners who would not willingly accept the terms of TransCanada's 20 proposal. It is no wonder that Nebraska landowners scoff at TransCanada's 21 "friendly neighbor" slogan.
- Q: Do you have any other concerns you would like to reiterate or can think of at
  this time you would like the Commissioners to understand?
- A: Yes. I would like to say I find it impossible to describe to the full extent my
   experience with TransCanada as they were pursuing an easement across our land.
   The mental anguish, sleepless nights and uncertainty created by this project could
   never be conveyed in a few paragraphs written on a piece of paper.

- Q: Have you fully expressed each and every opinion, concern, or fact you would
   like the Public Service Commissioners to consider in their review of
   TransCanada's Application?
- A: No, I have not. I have shared that which I can think of as of the date I signed this
  document below but other things may come to me or my memory may be
  refreshed and I will add and address those things at the time of the Hearing in
  August and address any additional items at that time as is necessary.

#### 8 Q: Are all of your statements in your testimony provided above true and 9 accurate as of the date you signed this document to the best of your 10 knowledge?

11 A: Yes, they are.

12 Q: Thank you, I have no further questions at this time and reserve the right to
13 ask you additional questions at the August 2017 Hearing.

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Randy Thompson

Subscribed and Sworn to me before this  $1^{st}$  day of  $\underline{Junc}$ , 2017.

J Jah

Notary Public

State of Nebraska – General Notary SARAH L LAHR My Commission Expires December 3, 2019



July 21, 2010

ALTA FRANCES THOMPSON C/O RANDY THOMPSON 1860 W BENNETT RD. MARTELL, NE 68404

Re: ML-NE-MR-00390.000

Dear Owner:

You by now are aware that TransCanada Keystone Pipeline L.P. ('Keystone') is constructing and will operate a 1,833 mile crude oil pipeline, which will begin in Canada and will cross through approximately 1,073 miles of property in the United States, including Nebraska. As you know, the path of the pipeline will cross a portion of your property.

In order to construct the pipeline, Keystone must acquire a permanent and temporary easement over your property. It is Keystone's strong preference to negotiate a voluntary transfer with each property owner. However, in the event we cannot come to an agreement, Keystone will use eminent domain to acquire the easement, which is authorized pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute § 57-1101 et. seq.

The description of the proposed permanent and temporary easements is described in the enclosed form of easement and its attachments.

As consideration for granting Keystone these easements, TransCanada is offering you the total sum of \$17,860.50. This sum includes \$9,639.00 for the permanent easement, which represents 100% of the total fee value for the permanent easement, despite the fact the permanent easement encompasses significantly less property rights than the total fee. Additionally, the amount includes \$8,221.50 for the temporary easement which is based upon a rental value of 50% of the fee value per year. Finally, Keystone will provide compensation for any damages that occur during the course of the construction including crop loss and any damages to fences, trees or other improvements.

This letter is Keystone's final offer, and it will remain open for one month after the date of this letter or until you reject it. We believe the amount of the offer is a premium price for your property. Keystone's offer is high because the company prefers to acquire this property through negotiation and to avoid litigation and its associated delays and risks. In order to accept this offer, please have the authorized person(s) execute two original Easement and Right of Way forms before a notary public and return them to me in the enclosed postage pre-paid envelope before the expiration of the one month period. Also enclosed is a W-9 tax form that needs to be completely filled out, signed and returned along with the other forms. We will deliver the agreed upon amount of compensation to you immediately upon our receipt of the signed and notarized documents.

While we hope to acquire this property through negotiation, if we are unable to do so, we will be forced to invoke the power of eminent domain and will initiate condemnation proceedings against this property promptly after the expiration of this one month period. In the event that we are forced to invoke the power of eminent domain, this letter and its contents are subject to Nebraska Revised Statute § 27-408 and are not admissible to prove the existence or amount of liability.

Please contact me in the event you have any questions or concerns at (832) 320-5294.

Sincerely,

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Tim M. Irons Senior Land Coordinator TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. 717 Texas Street Suite 24215 Houston, TX 7702-2761

Encl.

Dear Mr. Irons: This letter is in response to your easement proposal made to us in a letter dated July 21, 2010. Please be informed that our position on this matter remains the same as we have discussed with your local representative. We will be willing to negotiate an agreement with you when and if you receive final approval from the U.S. Dept. of State for a permit to construct this project. With the absence of such a permit , we can find no logical reason to advance an easement to you at this time. Whether or not you proceed with unwarranted condemnation proceedings will have to be your determination.

Sincerely,

Randy ThompsonCharles ThompsonRepresentatives with P.O.A. for Alta Frances ThompsonDated: August 8, 2010Subject property located in Merrick Co. Nebraska

#### ATTACHMENT #2



April 7, 2011

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ALTA FRANCES THOMPSON C/O RANDY THOMPSON 1860 W BENNETT RD MARTELL, NE 68404

Re: ML-NE-MR-00390.000

#### **Dear Owner:**

The proposed route of a crude oil pipeline, known as Keystone XL, crosses a portion of your property in Nebraska. The project, proposed by Delaware-based TransCanada Keystone Pipeline L.P., responds to U.S. demand for crude oil from refineries seeking a secure and stable supply. The project seeks to create a land-based link between this U.S. demand and growing oil supplies in Canada and in the northern Great Plains states. Oil delivered would reduce the need for imports from Venezuela or the Middle East, significantly improving U.S. energy security.

The federal regulatory review of this proposed project continues and we expect a decision from the federal government in the first half of 2011. To construct the project, we must acquire permanent and temporary easements, and possibly other pipeline and construction related land rights, through the area where this project will be constructed in Canada and in the U.S., including in Nebraska.

Permanent easements provide Keystone limited rights to construct, operate, and maintain the pipeline. Landowners retain all rights of ownership and productive use of the easement area with only those restrictions that ensure the continued integrity and safety of the pipeline. In addition, temporary easements, which are in place only until construction and reclamation are completed, support the construction activities on the permanent easement.

To construct the pipeline, we must acquire a permanent and temporary easement over your property. The proposed permanent easement and temporary easement is described in the enclosed form of easement and its attachments.

It is our strong preference to negotiate a voluntary easement acquisition with each property owner. We have been working with Nebraska landowners since 2008 to understand how best to minimize the impact of this project on individual properties and operations. This process can include multiple visits to the land to address specific routing issues as well as provisions to minimize impacts associated with the construction process. You are receiving this letter because our discussions and negotiations are not progressing to a voluntary settlement in a timely manner.

In such circumstances, property laws in Nebraska and most other jurisdictions allow proponents of projects that are in the broader public interest to use eminent domain to acquire the easement, which is authorized pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute § 57-1101 et. seq.

It is important to point out that in addition to the easement itself, Keystone's work on your land and the pipeline itself must be in compliance with applicable state and federal rules and regulations. In particular, throughout its route in the U.S., the safe operation of this pipeline is governed by the U.S. Department of Transportation. These requirements include measures required to ensure safety when the pipeline is operating and if it is shut down. Construction methods and techniques are spelled out in detail in the Construction Mitigation and Reclamation Plan, a copy of which you should have received as a part of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement issued by federal agencies reviewing this project (and available on the U.S. Department of State project web site at <u>www.keystonepipeline-xl.state.gov/clientsite/keystonexl.nsf?Open</u> under "Project Documents"). Additional requirements related to construction may be added as regulatory reviews continue to proceed.

As consideration for granting these easements, we are offering you the total sum of \$17,861. This sum includes \$9,639 for the permanent easement, which is based on 100 per cent of the current, unit fee value (i.e. dollars per acre as determined by an independent market assessment) of similar land in your region, despite the fact the permanent easement grants us significantly fewer property rights than outright ownership. Additionally, the amount includes \$8,222 for the temporary easement which is a rental value based on 50 per cent of the assessed unit fee value. Finally, we will provide compensation for any damages that occur during the course of the construction including crop loss and any damages to fences, trees or other improvements.

We prefer to acquire this property through negotiation and voluntary settlement. We will initiate eminent domain only as a last resort, where good faith efforts have not resulted in a voluntary agreement. Even after initiating this process, we will continue to work to reach a voluntary agreement.

This letter represents our final offer, and will remain open for one month after the date of this letter or until you reject it, whichever is earlier. After that period, we will initiate the eminent domain process. To avoid litigation, we are offering an amount for the easement that exceeds the value of the rights we seek.

To accept this offer, the authorized person(s) must execute two original Easement and Right of Way forms before a notary public and return them to the undersigned in the enclosed postage pre-paid envelope before the expiration of the one month period. Also, the enclosed W-9 tax form needs to be completely filled out, signed and returned along with the other forms. We will deliver the agreed upon amount of compensation to you immediately upon our receipt of the signed and notarized documents. This settlement remains in place regardless of whether Keystone receives its federal permit.

Our strong preference is to reach voluntary agreement and we will continue these efforts regardless of the initiation of legal processes. In the event that we must invoke the power of eminent domain, this letter and its contents are subject to Nebraska Revised Statute § 27-408 and are not admissible to prove the existence or amount of liability.

Please contact me in the event you have any questions or concerns at (832) 320-5294.

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Sincerely,

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Tim M. Irons Senior Land Coordinator TransCanada 717 Texas Street Suite 24215 Houston, TX 7702-2761

Encl.

cc: Lee H. Hamann, McGrath North Mullin & Kratz, PC LLO John Hunt, TransCanada

#### Before the Nebraska Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application

of

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Route Approval of Keystone XL Pipeline Project, Pursuant to *Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act*  **Application No: OP-003** 

Direct Testimony of Dave Troester in Support of Landowner Intervenors

State of Nebraska	)
	) ss.
Holt County	)

- 1 Q: Please state your name.
- 2 A: My name is Dave Troester.
- 3 Q: Are you an intervener in the Public Service Commission's proceedings
  4 regarding TransCanada's application for approval of its proposed Keystone
  5 XL tar sands pipeline across Nebraska?

6 A: Yes, I am.

Q: Do you own land in Nebraska, either directly or through an entity of which
you are an owner that could be affected by the proposed TransCanada
Keystone XL pipeline?

- 10 A: Yes, I do and it is located in Holt County.
- Q: Is Attachment No. 1 to this sworn statement copies of true and accurate aerial
   photo(s) of your land in question here with the area of the proposed KXL
   pipeline depicted?
- 14 A: Yes.
- 15 Q: What do you do for a living?
- 16 A: Farmer.

1	Q:	If you are you married tell us your spouse's name please?
2	A:	Sharyn Troester
3	Q:	If you have children how many do you have?
4	A:	2.
5	Q:	If you have grandchildren how many do you have?
6	A:	5.
7	Q:	Is Attachment No. 2 to this sworn statement a copy(ies) of picture(s) of you
8		and or your family?
9	A.	Yes.
10	Q:	How long the land has been in your family?
11	A:	Our family farm has been in our stewardship for many decades. There are corner
12		machines on the land involved, underground tiling, underground cable for the
13		corner machines, and three phase underground wiring for power lines. There is a
14		quonset building used for storage of seed, farm machinery and work areas.
15		Currently, two families reside on land that is on the proposed route that have
16		drinking wells being used.
17	Q:	Do you earn any income from this land?
18	A:	Yes.
19	Q:	Have you depended on the income from your land to support your livelihood
20		or the livelihood of your family?
21	A:	Yes.
22	Q:	Have you ever in the past or have you thought about in the future leasing all
23		or a portion of your land in question here?
24	A:	Yes, I have thought of it and that concerns me. I am concerned that a prospective
25		tenant may try to negotiate a lower price for my land if it had the pipeline on it and
26		all the restrictions and risks and potential negative impacts to farming or ranching
27		operations as opposed to land that did not have those same risks. If I was looking
28		to lease or rent ground I would pay more for comparable non-pipeline land than I
29		would for comparable pipeline land and I think most folks would think the same

way. This is another negative economic impact that affects the landowner and the
county and the state and will forever and ever should TransCanada's preferred or
mainline alternative routes be approved. If they were to twin or closely parallel to
Keystone I the vast majority of landowners would be those that already have a
pipeline so there would be considerable less new incremental negative impacts.

6

#### **Q:** Do you have similar concerns about selling the land?

A: Well I hope not to have to sell the land in my lifetime but times change and you
never know what is around the corner and yes I am concerned that if another piece
of ground similar to mine were for sale and it did not have the pipeline and mine
did that I would have a lower selling price. I think this would be true for pipeline
ground on both the preferred and mainline alternative routes.

#### 12 Q: What is your intent with your land after you die?

- A: Like I said I hope not to have to sell and I hope that it stays in the family for years
  to come but I have thought about getting out if this pipeline were to come through.
- Q: Are you aware that the preferred route of TransCanada's Keystone XL
   Pipeline would cross the land described above and owned by you?
- 17 A: Yes.

## 18 Q: Were you or an entity for which you are a member, shareholder, or director 19 previously sued by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP?

A: Yes, we were in 2015. TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP sued us by filing a
 petition for condemnation against our land so it could place its proposed pipeline
 within an easement that it wanted to take from us on our land.

#### 23 Q: Did you defend yourself and your land in that condemnation action?

A: Yes, we did. We hired lawyers to defend and protect us and we incurred legal fees
and expenses in our resistance of TransCanada's lawsuit against us.

### 26 Q: Has TransCanada reimbursed you for any of your expenses or costs for fees 27 incurred?

28 A: No, they have not.

1 **Q**: In its lawsuit against you, did TransCanada identify the amount of your 2 property that it wanted to take for its proposed pipeline? 3 A: The lawsuit against us stated they would take the amount of property that is 4 reasonably necessary to lay, relay, operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant 5 and equipment reasonably necessary to operate the pipeline. 6 **Q**: Did TransCanada define what they meant by "property that is reasonably 7 necessary"? 8 A: No, they did not. 9 **O**: Did TransCanada in its lawsuit against you, identify the eminent domain 10 property portion of your land? 11 A: Yes, they did. 12 **O**: Did TransCanada describe what rights it proposed to take related to the 13 eminent domain property on your land? 14 Yes, they did. A: 15 **Q**: What rights that they proposed to take did they describe? 16 A: TransCanada stated that the eminent domain property will be used to "lay, relay, 17 operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant and equipment reasonably 18 necessary to operate the pipeline, specifically including surveying, laying, 19 constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, 20 reconstructing, removing and abandoning one pipeline, together with all fittings, 21 cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all their equipment and 22 appurtenances thereto, for the transportation of oil, natural gas, hydrocarbon, 23 petroleum products, and all by-products thereof." Prior to filing an eminent domain lawsuit to take your land that 24 **Q**: 25 TransCanada identified, do you believe they attempted to negotiate in good 26 faith with you? 27 A: No, I do not. 28 Did TransCanada at any time approach you with or deliver to you their 0: 29 proposed easement and right-of-way agreement?

1 A: Yes, they did.

- Q: At the time you reviewed TransCanada's easement and right-of-way
  agreement, did you understand that they would be purchasing a fee title
  interest in your property or that they were taking something else?
- 5 A: I understood that they proposed to have the power to take both a temporary 6 construction easement that could last for a certain period of time and then also a 7 permanent easement which they described to be 50 feet across or in width, and 8 that would run the entire portion of my property from where a proposed pipeline 9 would enter my property until where it would exit the property.
- 10Q:Is the document included with your testimony here as Attachment No. 3, a11true and accurate copy of TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-12Way agreement that they included with their condemnation lawsuit against13you?

14 A: Yes, it is.

Q: Have you had an opportunity to review TransCanada's proposed Easement
 and Right-of-Way agreement?

17 A: Yes, I have.

18 Q: What is your understanding of the significance of the Easement and Right-of19 Way agreement as proposed by TransCanada?

A: My understanding is that this is the document that will govern all of the rights and obligations and duties as well as the limitations of what I can and cannot do and how I and any future landowner and any person I invite to come onto my property must behave as well as what TransCanada is and is not responsible for and how they can use my land.

# Q: After reviewing TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way agreement do you have any concerns about any portions of it or any of the language either included in the document or missing from the proposed document?

A: Yes, I have a number of significant concerns and worries about the document and
 how the language included and the language not included potentially negatively
 impacts my land and thereby potentially negatively impacts my community and
 my state.

5 Q: I would like you to walk the Commissioners through each and every one of 6 your concerns about TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way 7 agreement so they can develop an understanding of how that language and 8 the terms of that contract, in your opinion, potentially negatively impacts you 9 and your land. So, if you can start at the beginning of that document and 10 let's work our way through it, okay?

A: Yes, I'll be happy to express my concerns about TransCanada's proposed
Easement and Right-of-Way agreement and how it negatively could affect my
property rights and my economic interests.

14 Q. Okay, let's start with your first concern please.

- A: The very first sentence talks about consideration or how much money they will pay to compensate me for all of the known and unknown affects and all of the rights I am giving up and for all the things they get to do to my land and for what they will prevent me from doing on my land and they only will pay me one time at the signing of the easement agreement. That is a huge problem.
- 20 Q: Explain to the Commissioners why that is a problem.

21 A: It is not fair to the landowner, the county, or the State. It is not fair to the 22 landowner because they want to have my land forever for use as they see fit so 23 they can make a daily profit from their customers. If I was to lease ground from 24 my neighbor I would typically pay twice a year every year as long as they granted 25 me the rights to use their land. That only makes sense – that is fair. If I was going 26 to rent a house in town I would typically pay monthly, every month until I gave up 27 my right to use that house. By TransCanada getting out on the cheap and paying 28 once in today's dollars that is monthly, bi-annual, or at least an annual loss in tax 29 revenue collection on the money I would be paid and then pay taxes on and

contribute to this state and this country. It is money I would be putting back into
 my local community both spending and stimulating the local economy and
 generating more economic activity right here. Instead TransCanada's shareholders
 keep all that money and it never finds its way to Nebraska.

5

#### Q: What is your next concern?

6 A: The first paragraph goes on to say Grantor, which is me the landowner, "does 7 hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a 8 limited partnership..." and I have no idea who that really is. I have no idea who is 9 forcing this pipeline on us or who the owners of the entities are, or what are the 10 assets backing this limited partnership, or who the general partner is, or who all 11 the limited partners are, and who makes up the ownership of the these partners or the structure or any of the basic things you would want to know and understand if 12 13 you would want to do business with such an outfit. According to TransCanada's 14 answer to our Interrogatory No. 28, as of the date I signed this testimony, a limited 15 liability company called TransCanada Keystone Pipeline GP, LLC is the general partner and it only owns 0.02 percent of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP so 16 17 basically nothing. That is really scary since the general partner has the liability but 18 virtually none of the ownership and who knows if it has any other assets.

## 19 Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred 20 percent clear on exactly who could become the owner of over 275 miles of 21 Nebraska land?

22 A: No.

# Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred percent clear on exactly who will be operating and responsible for approximately 275 miles of tar sands pipeline underneath and through Nebraska land?

27 A: No.

Q: Okay, let's continue please with your concerns of the impacts upon your land
and the State of Nebraska of TransCanada's easement terms.

1 A: Yes, so the next sentence talks about "...its successors and assigns (hereinafter 2 called "Grantee")..." and this concerns me because it would allow their easement 3 to be transferred or sold to someone or some company or country or who knows 4 what that I don't know and who we may not want to do business with. This 5 pipeline would be a huge asset for TransCanada and if they can sell to the highest 6 bidder that could have terrible impacts upon all of Nebraska depending upon who 7 may buy it and I don't know of any safeguards in place for us or the State to veto 8 or have any say so in who may own, operate, or be responsible for this pipeline in 9 the future.

10 Q: Do you think that type of uncertainty and lack of control over a major piece
11 of infrastructure crossing our State is in the public interest?

- 12 A: No, certainly not, in fact, just the opposite.
- 13 Q: What's next?
- A: Then it says "...a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way..." and this
  really concerns me. Why does the easement and right-of-way have to be perpetual
  and permanent? That is the question myself and my family want an answer to.
  Perpetual to me is like forever and that doesn't make sense.

18 Q: Why doesn't a perpetual Easement and Right-of-Way make sense to you?

- 19 A: For many reasons but mostly because the tar sands are finite. I am unaware of any 20 data proving there is a perpetual supply of tar sands. I am not aware in 21 TransCanada's application where it proves there is a perpetual necessity for this 22 pipeline. My understanding of energy infrastructure like wind towers is they have 23 a decommission plan and actually take the towers down when they become 24 obsolete or no longer needed. Nothing manmade lasts forever. My land however 25 will, and I want my family or future Nebraska families to have that land as 26 undisturbed as possible and it is not in my interest or the public interest of 27 Nebraska to be forced to give up perpetual and permanent rights in the land for 28 this specific kind of pipeline project.
- 29 Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

A: The easement language includes all these things TransCanada can do and it says
"...abandoning in place..." so they can just leave this pipeline under my ground
until the end of time just sitting there while they are not using it, but I am still
prevented from doing on my land and using my land what I would like. If I owned
a gas station I couldn't just leave my underground oil or fuel storage tanks sitting
there. It doesn't make sense and it scares me and it is not in my interest or the
public interest of Nebraska to allow this.

### 8 Q: Now it looks like we are ready to go to the second page of the Easement is that 9 right?

10 A: Yes.

#### 11 Q: So now on the second page of the Easement what are your concerns?

12 Here the Easement identifies a 24-month deadline to complete construction of the A: 13 pipeline but has caveats that are undefined and ambiguous. The 24-month period starts to run from the moment "actual pipeline installation activities" begin on 14 15 Landowners property. It appears that TransCanada would define this phrase as needed. It would be wise to explain what types of TransCanada action constitutes 16 17 "installation activity" For instance, would the placement and storage of an excavator or other equipment on or near the Easement property be an activity or 18 19 would earth have to be moved before the activity requirement is triggered. This 20 vague phrase is likely to lead to future disputes and litigation that is not in the best 21 interest of the welfare of Nebraska and would not protect property interests. The 22 24-months can also be extended in the case of "force majeure." My understanding 23 is that force majeure is often used to insulate a party to a contract when events 24 occur that are completely out of their control. In TransCanada's easement this is 25 expanded to include "without limitation...availability of labor and materials." 26 Extending this language to labor and materials is problematic because these are 27 two variables that TransCanada does have some or significant control over and to 28 allow extension of the 24-month period over events not truly out of the control of TransCanada and without further provision for compensation for the Landowner is
 not conducive to protection of property rights.

2

#### Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

Paragraphs 1.A. and 1.B. deal with the liabilities and responsibilities of 4 A: TransCanada and Landowner. In 1.A., the first sentence discusses "commercially 5 reasonable costs and expenses" will pay for damages caused but then limits 6 7 TransCanada's liability to certain circumstances. There is no definition of "commercially reasonable" and no stated right that the Landowner would get to 8 determine the amounts of cost or expense that is "commercially reasonable." 9 10 TransCanada excepts out from their liability any damages that are caused by 11 Landowner's negligence or the negligence of anyone ever acting on the behalf of Landowner. It is understandable that if the Landowner were to willfully and 12 13 intentionally cause damages to the pipeline that Landowner should be liable. However, anything short of willful misconduct should be the lability of 14 15 TransCanada who is subjecting the pipeline on the Landowner and who is making a daily profit from that pipeline. When evaluating the impact on property rights of 16 17 this provision, you must consider the potentially extremely expensive fight a 18 Landowner would have over this question of whether or not damage was an act of 19 negligence. Putting this kind of potential liability upon the Landowner is 20 incredibly problematic and is detrimental to the protection of property rights. I 21 don't think this unilateral power which I can't do anything about as the landowner 22 is in the best economic interest of the land in question or the State of Nebraska for 23 landowners to be treated that way.

## Q: Is there any specific event or example you are aware of that makes this concern more real for you?

A: Yes, one need not look further than a November 3, 2015 lawsuit filed against
Nemaha County, Nebraska landowner farmers who accidently struck two
Magellan Midstream Partners, LP pipelines, one used to transport a mixture of
gasoline and jet fuel and a second used to transport diesel fuel. Magellan alleged

1 2 negligence and sued the Nebraska farmer for \$4,151,148.69. A true and accurate copy of the Federal Court Complaint is here as **Attachment No. 4**.

-

#### 3 Q: What is your next concern with the Easement language?

4 A: Paragraph 3 states that Landowner can farm on and otherwise use their property as 5 they choose unless 1) any Landowner use interferes in any way with 6 TransCanada's exercise of any of its rights within the Easement, or 2) 7 TransCanada decides to take any action on the property it deems necessary to 8 prevent injury, endangerment or interference with anything TransCanada deems 9 necessary to do on the property. Landowner is also forbidden from excavating 10 without prior authorization by TransCanada. So my understanding is that 11 TransCanada will unilaterally determine what Landowner can and can't do based 12 upon how TransCanada chooses to define the terms in paragraph 3. TransCanada 13 could also completely deny my request to excavate. Further, TransCanada retains all "privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights" granted to 14 them in the Easement. Again, TransCanada unilaterally can decide to the 15 detriment of the property rights of Landowner what TransCanada believes is 16 17 necessary or convenient for it. And there is no option for any additional compensation to landowner for any right exercised by TransCanada that leads to 18 19 the removal of trees or plants or vegetation or buildings or structures or facilities 20 owned by Landowner of any kind. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions and 21 rights without having to compensate Landowner for such further destruction or 22 losses are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

23

#### Q: What is the next concern you have?

A: The Easement also allows some rights for Landowner but restricts them at the
same time and again at the sole and unilateral decision making of TransCanada.
TransCanada will determine if the actions of Landowner might in anyway
endanger or obstruct or interfere with TransCanada's full use of the Easement or
any appurtenances thereon to the pipeline itself or to their access to the Easement
or within the Easement and TransCanada retains the right at any time, whether

during growing season or not, to travel "within and along Easement Area on foot
or in vehicle or machinery..." Further at TransCanada's sole discretion it will
retain the rights to prevent any landowner activity that it thinks may "unreasonably
impair[ed] or interfe[ed] with" TransCanada's use of the Easement Area. Such
undefined and unilateral restrictions are not conducive to the protection of
property rights or economic interest.

7

#### **Q:** What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

8 A: The Easement allows TransCanada sole discretion to burn or chip or bury under 9 Landowner's land any debris of any kind without any input or power of 10 Landowner to demand an alternative method or location of debris disposal. Such 11 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 12 to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 13 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

14 Again, undefined terms leave a lot of room for confusion. What does the phrase A: "where rock is encountered" mean and why does TransCanada solely get to 15 determine whether or not this phrase is triggered. This phrase could be used to 16 17 justify installing the pipeline 24 inches beneath the surface. The ability to use this provision to minimal locate the pipeline at a depth of 24 inches could negatively 18 19 affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights. 20 A shallow pipeline is much more likely to become a danger and liability in the 21 future given farming operations and buried irrigation lines and other factors 22 common to the current typical agricultural uses of the land in question impacted 23 by TransCanada's preferred pipeline route.

24

#### Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: There are more vague concepts solely at the determination of TransCanada such as "as nearly as practicable" and "pre-construction position" and "extent reasonably possible." There is nothing here that defines this or provides a mechanism for documenting or memorializing "pre-construction position" so as to minimize costly legal battles or wasted Landowner time attempting to recreate the soil condition on their fields or pasture. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect
 Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or
 economic interest.

4

#### Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

5 A: TransCanada maintains the unilateral right to abandon the pipeline and all 6 appurtenances thereto in place on, under, across, or through Nebraska land at any 7 time it chooses. There is no provision for Landowner compensation for such 8 abandonment nor any right for the Landowner to demand removal. Such unilateral 9 powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive to the 10 protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 11 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

12 A: TransCanada has the power to unilaterally move or modify the location of any 13 Easement area whether permanent or temporary at their sole discretion. Regardless, if Landowner has taken prior steps relative to their property in 14 15 preparation or planning of TransCanada's taking of the initial easement area(s), the language here does not require TransCanada to compensate the Landowner if 16 17 they decide to move the easement anywhere on Landowners property. Such 18 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 19 to the protection of property rights or economic interests.

#### 20 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement requires that all of the burdens and restrictions upon Landowner to
transfer and be applicable to any future owner of the Land in question without the
ability of the future Landowner to modify or negotiate any of the language in
question to which it will be held to comply.

#### 25 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement allows TransCanada to assign, transfer, or sell any part of the Easement to any person, company, country, etc. at their sole discretion at anytime to anyone. This also means that any buyer of the easement could do the same to a third buyer and so on forever. There is no change of control or sale provision in place to protect the Landowner or Nebraska or to provide compensation for such change of control or ownership. It is not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interests to allow unilateral unrestricted sale of the Easement thereby forcing upon the Landowner and our State a new unknown Easement owner.

6 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

- A: There are many terms in the Easement that are either confusing or undefined terms
  that are without context as to whether or not the Landowner would have any say
  so in determining what these terms mean or if the evaluation is solely in
  TransCanada's control. Some of these vague undefined terms are as follows:
- 11 i. "pipeline installation activities"
  - ii. "availability of labor and materials"
- 13 iii. "commercially reasonable costs and expenses"
- 14 iv. "reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses"
- 15 v. "yield loss damages"
- 16 vi. "diminution in the value of the property"
- 17 vii. "substantially same condition"
- 18 viii. "an actual or potential hazard"
- 19 ix. "efficient"

12

- 20 x. "convenient"
- 21 xi. "endangered"
- 22 xii. "obstructed"
- 23 xiii. "injured"
- 24 xiv. "interfered with"
- 25 xv. "impaired"
- 26 xvi. "suitable crossings"
- 27 xvii. "where rock is encountered"
- 28 xviii. "as nearly as practicable"
- 29 xix. "pre-construction position"

1 2

- xx. "pre-construction grade"
- xxi. "various engineering factors"

3 Each one of these above terms and phrases as read in the context of the Easement 4 could be problematic in many ways. Notably, undefined terms tend to only get 5 definition in further legal proceedings after a dispute arises and the way the 6 Easement is drafted, TransCanada has sole power to determine when and if a 7 particular situation conforms with or triggers rights affected by these terms. For instance, "yield loss damages" should be specifically defined and spelled out 8 9 exactly how the landowner is to be compensated and in what events on the front 10 end. I can't afford to fight over this after the damage has occurred. Unfortunately, 11 the Landowner is without contractual rights to define these terms or determine 12 when rights related to them trigger and what the affects may be.

- 13 Q: Do you have any other concerns about the Easement language that you can
  14 think of at this time?
- A: I reserve the right to discuss any additional concerns that I think of at the time ofmy live testimony in August.

Q: Based upon what you have shared with the Commission above regarding
TransCanada's proposed Easement terms and agreement, do you believe
those to be reasonable or just, under the circumstances of the pipeline's
impact upon you and your land?

A: No, I do not believe those terms to be reasonable or just for the reasons that wediscussed previously.

Q: Did TransCanada ever offer you financial compensation for the rights that
they sought to obtain in your land, and for what they sought to prevent you
and any future land owner of your property from doing in the future?

26 A: Yes, we received an offer from them.

Q: As the owner of the land in question and as the person who knows it better
than anyone else, do you believe that TransCanada offered you just, or fair,

1 compensation for all of what they proposed to take from you so that their tar 2 sands pipeline could be located across your property? 3 A: No, I do not. Not at any time has TransCanada, in my opinion, made a fair or just 4 offer for all the potential impacts and effects and the rights that I'm giving up, and 5 what we will be prevented from doing in the future and how their pipeline would 6 impact my property for ever and ever. 7 **Q**: Has TransCanada at any time offered to compensate you annually, such as 8 wind farm projects do, for the existence of their potential tar sands pipeline 9 across your property. 10 A: No, never. 11 **O**: At any time did TransCanada present you with or request that you, as the 12 owner of the land in question, sign and execute a document called, "Advanced 13 **Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?**" Yes, they did and it was included in the County Court lawsuit against us. 14 A: 15 **Q**: Is Attachment No. 5, to your testimony here, a true and accurate copy of the 16 "Advanced Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement? 17 A: Yes, it is. 18 **Q**: What was your understanding of that document? 19 A: When I read that document in the plain language of that document, it was my 20 understanding that TransCanada was attempting to pay me a very small amount at 21 that time in order for me to agree to give up my rights to be compensated from 22 them in the future related to any damage or impact they may have upon my 23 property "arising out of, in connection with, or alleged to resulted from 24 construction or surveying over, under or on" my land. 25 Did you ever sign that document? **Q**: 26 No, I did not. A: 27 Why not? **Q**: 28 Because I do not believe that it is fair or just to try to get me to agree to a small A; 29 sum of money when I have no idea how bad the impacts or damages that they, or their contractors, or subcontractors, or other agents or employees, may cause on
 my land at any time in the future that resulted from the construction or surveying
 or their activities upon my land.

4 Q: When you reviewed this document, what did it make you feel?

5 A: I felt like it was simply another attempt for TransCanada to try to pay very little to 6 shield themselves against known and foreseeable impacts that their pipeline, and 7 the construction of it, would have upon my land. It made me feel that they knew it 8 was in their financial interest to pay me as little as possible to prevent me from 9 ever having the opportunity to seek fair compensation again, and that this must be 10 based upon their experience of unhappy landowners and situations in other places 11 where they have built pipelines.

## Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land was in your best interest?

15 A: No, they have not.

Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you
 thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land
 was in the public interest of the State of Nebraska?

19 A: No, they have not.

20 Q: Are you familiar with the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the
21 Takings Clause?

22 A: Yes, I am.

Q: What is your understanding of the Fifth Amendment as it relates to taking of
an American citizens property?

A: My understanding is that, according to the United States Constitution, that if the government is going to take land for public use, then in that case, or by taking for public use, it can only occur if the private land owner is compensated justly, or fairly. Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you specially to explain the way in which
 the public could use its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline?

3 A: No, they have not.

4 Q: Can you think of any way in which the public, that is the citizens of the State
5 of Nebraska, can directly use the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL
6 Pipeline, as it dissects the State of Nebraska?

- A: No, I cannot. I cannot think of any way to use this pipeline. I do not see how the
  public benefits from this pipeline in any way, how they can use it any way, or how
  it's in the public interest in any way. By looking at the map, it is quite clear to me
  that the only reason it's proposed to come through Nebraska, is that because we
  are geographically in the way from between where the privately-owned Tar Sands
  are located to where TransCanada wants to ship the Tar Sands to refineries in
  Houston, Texas.
- Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and asked you if you had any tar sands,
   crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by-products that you would like to
   ship in its pipeline?

17 A: No, it has not.

Q: Do you have any tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products that you, at this time or any time in the future, would desire to place
 for transport within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

A: No, I do not.

- Q: Do you know anyone in the state of Nebraska who would be able to ship any
   Nebraska-based tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?
- 25 A: No, I do not. I've never heard of such a person or company like that.
- 26 Q: Do you pay property taxes for the land that would be affected and impacted
  27 at the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

28 A: Yes, I do.

29 Q: Why do you pay property taxes on that land?

- A: Because that is the law. The law requires us to pay the property taxes as the owner
   of that property.
- 3 Q: Because you follow the law and pay property taxes, do you believe you
  4 deserve any special consideration or treatment apart from any other person
  5 or company that pays property taxes?
- 6 A: Well no, of course not. It's the law to pay property taxes if you own property. It's
  7 just what you do.
- 8 Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes entitles you to special
  9 treatment of any kind, or special rights of any kind?

10 A: No, of course not.

11 Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes on your land would be 12 enough to qualify you to have the power of eminent domain to take land of 13 your neighbors or other people in your county, or other people across the 14 state of Nebraska?

A: Well, of course not. Like I said, paying property taxes is the law, it's nothing that
I expect an award for or any type of special consideration.

17 Q: Have you at any time ever employed any person other than yourself?

18 A: Well, yes I have.

Q: Do you believe that the fact that you have, at some point in your life,
 employed one or more other persons entitle you to any special treatment or
 consideration above and beyond any other Nebraskan that has also employed
 one or more persons?

23 A: No, of course not.

## Q: Do you believe that the fact that you, as a Nebraska land owner and taxpayer have at one point employed another person within this state, entitles you to preferential treatment or consideration of any kind?

A: No, of course not. If I choose to employ someone that decision is up to me. I
don't deserve any special treatment or consideration for that fact.

1Q:At the beginning of your statement, you briefly described your property that2would be impacted by the potential Keystone XL Pipeline. I would like you to3give the Commissioners a sense of specifically how you believe the proposed4Keystone XL Pipeline and its preferred route, which proposes to go across5your land, how it would in your opinion based on your knowledge,6experience, and background of your land, affect it.

A: Our land is very sandy and porous. So the installation of the pipeline from
TransCanada could threaten our productive land and our valuable water resources.
We should not take for granted our valuable asset, and that is water, water for
people, animals, crops and recreational use. We cannot magically make water.
Water is vital to life.

## Q: Do you have any concerns TransCanada's fitness as an applicant for a major crude oil pipeline in its preferred location, or ultimate location across the state of Nebraska?

15 A: Yes, I have significant concerns. I am aware of landowners being treated unfairly 16 or even bullied around and being made to feel scared that they did not have any 17 options but to sign whatever papers TransCanada told them they had to. I am aware of folks being threatened that their land would be taken if they didn't follow 18 19 what TransCanada was saying. I am aware of tactics to get people to sign 20 easements that I don't believe have any place in Nebraska or anywhere such as 21 TransCanada or some outfit associated with it hiring a pastor or priest to pray with 22 landowners and convince them they should sign TransCanada's easement 23 agreements. I am aware of older folks and widows or widowers feeling they had 24 no choice but to sign TransCanada's Easement and they didn't know they could 25 fight or stand up for themselves. From a more practical standpoint, I am worried 26 that according to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 211, TransCanada only 27 owns and operates one (1) major oil pipeline. They simply do not have the 28 experience with this type of pipeline and that scares me. There are others but that is what I can recollect at this time and if I remember more or my recollection is
 refreshed I will share those with the Commissioners at the Hearing in August.

## 3 Q: Do you believe TransCanada's proposed method of compensation to you as a 4 landowner is reasonable or just?

5 A: No, I do not.

# 6 Q: Do you have any concern about limitations that the construction of this 7 proposed pipeline across your affected land would prevent construction of 8 future structures upon the portion of your land affected by the proposed 9 easement and immediately surrounding areas?

10 A: Well yes, of course I do. We would not be able to build many, if any, types of 11 structures directly across or touching the easement, and it would be unwise and I 12 would be uncomfortable to build anything near the easement for fear of being 13 blamed in the future should any damage or difficulty result on my property in 14 regards to the pipeline.

15 Q: Do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

16 A: Well yes, of course.

#### 17 Q: How do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

18 A: The future of this land may not be exactly how it's being used as of this moment, 19 and having the restrictions and limiting my ability to develop my land in certain 20 ways presents a huge negative economic impact on myself, my family, and any 21 potential future owner of the property. You have no idea how I or the future owner 22 may want to use this land in the future or the other land across Nebraska 23 potentially affected by the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Fifty years 24 ago it would have been hard to imagine all the advances that we have now or how 25 things change. Because the Easement is forever and TransCanada gets the rights in 26 my land forever we have to think with a very long term view. By placing their 27 pipeline on under across and through my land that prevents future development 28 which greatly negatively impacts future taxes and tax revenue that could have 29 been generated by the County and State but now will not. When you look at the

- short blip of economic activity that the two years of temporary construction efforts
   may bring, that is far outweighed by the perpetual and forever loss of opportunity
   and restrictions TransCanada is forcing upon us and Nebraska.
- 4 Q: Do you have any concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed
  5 pipeline?

6 A: Yes, I do.

- 7 Q: What are some of those concerns?
- A: As an affected land owner and Nebraskan, I am concerned that any construction,
  operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have
  a detrimental impact upon the environment of my land specifically, as well as the
  lands near my land and surrounding the proposed pipeline route.

12

#### Q: Do you have any other environmental concerns?

A: Yes, of course I am concerned about potential breaches of the pipeline, failures in
 construction and/or maintenance and operation. I am concerned about spills and
 leaks that TransCanada has had in the past and will have in the future. This could
 be catastrophic to my operations or others and to my county and the State.

17 Q: Do you have any thoughts regarding if there would be an impact upon the
18 natural resources on or near your property due to the proposed pipeline?

- A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the
   proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental impacts upon the natural
   resources of my land, and the lands near and surrounding the proposed pipeline
   route.
- Q: Do you have any worries about potential impacts from the proposed pipeline
  to the soil of your land, or land near you?
- A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the soil of land, as well as land along and surrounding the proposed pipeline route. This includes, but is not limited to, the reasons that we discussed above of disturbing the soil composition and makeup as it has naturally existed for thousands and

1 millions of years during the construction process, and any future maintenance or 2 removal process. I'm gravely concerned about the fertility and the loss of 3 economic ability of my property to grow the crops, or grow the grasses, or grow 4 whatever it is at that time they exist on my property or that I may want to grow in 5 the future, or that a future owner may want to grow. The land will never be the 6 same from as it exists now undisturbed to after it is trenched up for the proposed 7 pipeline.

#### 8 9

**O**:

#### Do you have any concerns about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline upon the groundwater over your land, or surrounding lands?

10 A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of 11 the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the 12 groundwater of not only under my land, but also near and surrounding the pipeline 13 route, and in fact, potentially the entire State of Nebraska. Water is life plain and 14 simple and it is simply too valuable to our State and the country to put at 15 unreasonable risk.

### 16 Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline 17 upon the surface water on, or near or around your land?

A: Yes, I have significant concerns that any construction, operation, and/or
 maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental
 impact upon the surface water of not only within my property boundary, but along
 and near and surrounding the pipeline route, and in fact, across the state of
 Nebraska.

## Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impacts of the proposed pipeline upon the wildlife and plants, other than your growing crops on or near your land?

A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of
the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the
wildlife and the plants, not only that are located on or can be found upon my land,
but also near and along the proposed pipeline route.

Q: Do you have any concerns about the effects of the proposed pipeline upon the
 fair market value of your land?

3 A: Yes, I do. I am significantly concerned about how the existence of the proposed 4 pipeline underneath and across and through my property will negatively affect the 5 fair market value at any point in the future, especially at that point in which I 6 would need to sell the property, or someone in my family would need to sell the 7 property. I do not believe, and certainly would not be willing to pay, the same 8 price for land that had the pipeline located on it, versus land that did not. I hope 9 there is never a point where I'm in a position where I have to sell and have to 10 realize as much value as I can out of my land. But because it is my single largest 11 asset, I'm gravely concerned that the existence of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline upon my land will affect a buyer's willingness to pay as much as they 12 13 would've paid and as much as I could've received, if the pipeline were not upon 14 my property. There are just too many risks, unknowns, impacts and uncertainties, 15 not to mention all of the rights you give up by the nature of having the pipeline 16 due to having the easement that we have previously discussed, for any reasonable 17 person to think that the existence of the pipeline would not negatively affect my 18 property's value.

### 19 Q: Have you ever seen the document that's marked as Attachment No. 6, to your 20 testimony?

21 A: Yes, I have.

22 Q: Where have you seen that before?

A: That is a map I think I first saw a couple years ago that shows the Keystone XL
 I-90 corridor alternate route of its proposed pipeline through Nebraska and I
 believe the portion of the alternative route in Nebraska essentially twins or
 parallels Keystone I.

Q: Do you believe that TransCanada's preferred route as found on page 5 of its
Application, and as found on Attachment No. 7, here to your testimony, is in
the public interest of Nebraska?

- 1 A: No, I do not.
- Q: Do you believe that the Keystone mainline alternative route as shown on
  Attachment No. 7 included with your testimony here is a major oil pipeline
  route that is in the public interest of Nebraska?

5 A: No, I do not.

6 Q: Do you believe the portion of the proposed pipeline within Nebraska as found
7 in Attachment No. 6 to your testimony, is in the public interest of Nebraska?

8 A: No, I do not.

9 Q: Do you believe there is any potential route for the proposed Keystone XL
10 Pipeline across, within, under, or through the State of Nebraska that is in the
11 public interest of the citizens of Nebraska?

12 A: No, I do not.

13 Q: Why do you hold that belief?

14 A: Because there simply is no public interest based on all of the factors that I am 15 aware and that I have read and that I have studied that this Commission is to 16 consider that would establish that a for-profit foreign-owned pipeline that simply 17 crosses Nebraska because we are geographically in the way between where tar 18 sands are in Canada to where it wants to ship it to in Texas could ever be in the 19 public interest of Nebraskans. We derive no benefit from this project. It is not for 20 public use. Nebraska is simply in the way and when all considerations are taken in 21 there is no net benefit of any kind for Nebraska should this project be placed in our 22 state. Even if there was some arguable "benefit" it is not enough to outweigh all 23 the negative impacts and concerns.

# Q: What do you think about the applicant, TransCanada's argument that it's preferred route for its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline is in the public interest of Nebraska because it may bring temporary jobs during the construction phase to Nebraska?

A: First of all, not all jobs are created equally. Most jobs that are created, whether
 temporary or on a permanent basis, don't come with a project that has all the

1 potential and foreseeable negative impacts, many of which we have discussed here 2 and other witnesses throughout the course of this hearing have and will discuss. If 3 I decide to hire and employ someone to help me out in my farming or ranching 4 business, I've created a job but I haven't done so at the risk or detrimental impact 5 to my land or my town or my county or my state. And I've hired someone who is 6 working directly for me, a Nebraska landowner, citizen, taxpayer, to help produce 7 and grow a Nebraska product to be sold so that I can pay Nebraska taxes. So, all 8 jobs are not created equal. Additionally, I understand from what I'm familiar with 9 from TransCanada's own statements that the jobs numbers they originally touted 10 were determined to be a minute fraction of the permanent jobs that had been 11 projected. According to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 191, TransCanada 12 has created only thirty-four (34) jobs within Nebraska working specifically on 13 behalf of TransCanada and according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 196, as of May 5, 2017 they only employ one (1) temporary working within Nebraska. 14 15 Further, according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 199, TransCanada would 16 only employ six to ten (6 to 10) new individuals if the proposed Keystone XL was 17 constructed on its Preferred Route or its Mainline Alternative Route.

### 18 Q: Are you opposed to the preferred route of the proposed KXL Pipeline simply 19 because it would cross your land?

A: No, absolutely not. I am opposed to this project because it is not in the public
interest, neither within my community nor within our state.

### Q: Would you be happier if instead of crossing your land, this proposed pipeline was to cross someone else's land?

A: No, absolutely not. I would get no joy in having a fellow citizen of my state have
the fear and anxiety and potential foreseeable risks and negative impacts that this
type of a project carrying this type of product brings foisted upon anyone in this
state or any other state.

### Q: Do you think there is any intelligent route for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline to cross the state of Nebraska?

A: I don't believe there is an intelligent route because as I have stated I don't believe
this project anywhere within Nebraska is within the public interest. However, if
you are presenting a hypothetical that if this proposed KXL Pipeline absolutely
had to go somewhere in the state of Nebraska, the only intelligent route I believe
would be to twin or closely parallel the existing Keystone I Pipeline. Both the
preferred route and the mainline alternative routes are economic liabilities our
state cannot risk.

### 8

### Q: What do you rely upon to make that statement?

9 A: Well, the fact that a pipeline owned and operated by TransCanada, Keystone I, 10 already exists in that area is reason enough as it is not in our best interest or the 11 public interests to have more major oil pipelines crisscrossing our state. Second, 12 they have all the infrastructure already there in terms of relationships with the 13 counties and local officials and first responders along that route. Third, they have already obtained easements from all the landowners along that route and have 14 15 relationships with them. Fourth, that route avoids our most sensitive soils, the 16 sandier lighter soils. Fifth, that route for all practical purposes avoids the Ogallala 17 Aquifer. Sixth, they have already studied that route and previously offered it as an alternative. Seventh, it just makes the most sense that as a state we would have 18 19 some intelligent policy of energy corridors and co-locating this type of 20 infrastructure near each other.

## Q: Do you have any other concerns you would like to reiterate or can think of at this time you would like the Commissioners to understand?

A: Yes. We worry about the tar sands that need strong and damaging chemicals (solvents) that are used to push this dirty liquid through the underground pipeline which will be close to home and drinking wells. Solvents, which are unlike oil, will permeate immediately into water and the only way to remove solvents is to distill it which means the water would be permanently destroyed. We are instructed to be concerned about nitrates in water, shouldn't we worry about the tar sands mixture leaking into the drinking wells people and animals use? When 1 the sandy, porous and permeable land is dug up and disturbed as the pipeline 2 construction would be certainly do, there is little, if any healing process to return 3 the land to its natural productive state. It will be forever changed. Our constitution 4 grants us landowners property rights. Rights that were reserved for the 5 government for the taking of property for specified purpose of "public use" do not 6 apply to this Application or project. The proposed routes should not be approved. 7 The constitution does not say a private company can use eminent domain for its 8 own use and then profit from it. There are strict laws for the government to use 9 eminent domain.

10 Q: Have you fully expressed each and every opinion, concern, or fact you would
11 like the Public Service Commissioners to consider in their review of
12 TransCanada's Application?

13 A: No, I have not. I have shared that which I can think of as of the date I signed this 14 document below but other things may come to me or my memory may be 15 refreshed and I will add and address those things at the time of the Hearing in 16 August and address any additional items at that time as is necessary. Additionally, 17 I have not had an adequate amount of time to receive and review all of TransCanada's answers to our discovery and the discovery of others so it was 18 19 impossible to competently and completely react to that in my testimony here and I 20 reserve the right to also address anything related to discovery that has not yet 21 concluded as of the date I signed this document below. Lastly, certain documents 22 requested have not vet been produced by TransCanada and therefore I may have 23 additional thoughts on those I will also share at the hearing as needed.

## Q: Does Attachment No. 8 here contain other documents you are competent to speak about that you wish to be part of your testimony and to discuss in more detail as needed at the August 2017 Hearing?

27 A: Yes.

## Q: What is it that you are requesting the Public Service Commissioners do in regards to TransCanada's application for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline across Nebraska?

4 A: I am respectfully and humbly requesting that the Commissioners think far beyond 5 a temporary job spike that this project may bring to a few counties and beyond the 6 relatively small amount of taxes this proposed foreign pipeline would possibly 7 generate. And, instead think about the perpetual and forever impacts of this 8 pipeline as it would have on the landowners specifically, first and foremost, but 9 also thereby upon the entire state of Nebraska, and to determine that neither the 10 preferred route nor the Keystone mainline alternative route are in the public interest of the citizens of the state of Nebraska. And if the Commissioners were 11 inclined to modify TransCanada's proposed routes and were to be inclined to grant 12 13 an application for a route in Nebraska, that the only potential route that would make any intelligent sense whatsoever would be twinning or near paralleling of 14 the proposed KXL with the existing Keystone I pipeline. It simply does not make 15 sense to add yet another major oil pipeline crisscrossing our state creating new 16 17 pumping stations, creating new impacts on additional counties and communities 18 and going through all of the court processes with myself and other landowners like 19 me when this applicant already has relationships with the landowners, the towns 20 and the communities along Keystone I, and that Keystone I is firmly outside of the 21 sand hills and a significantly further portion away from the heart of the Ogallala 22 Aguifer than the preferred route or the Keystone mainline alternative route.

## Q: Are all of your statements in your testimony provided above true and accurate as of the date you signed this document to the best of your knowledge?

A: Yes, they are.

Q: Thank you, I have no further questions at this time and reserve the right to
ask you additional questions at the August 2017 Hearing.

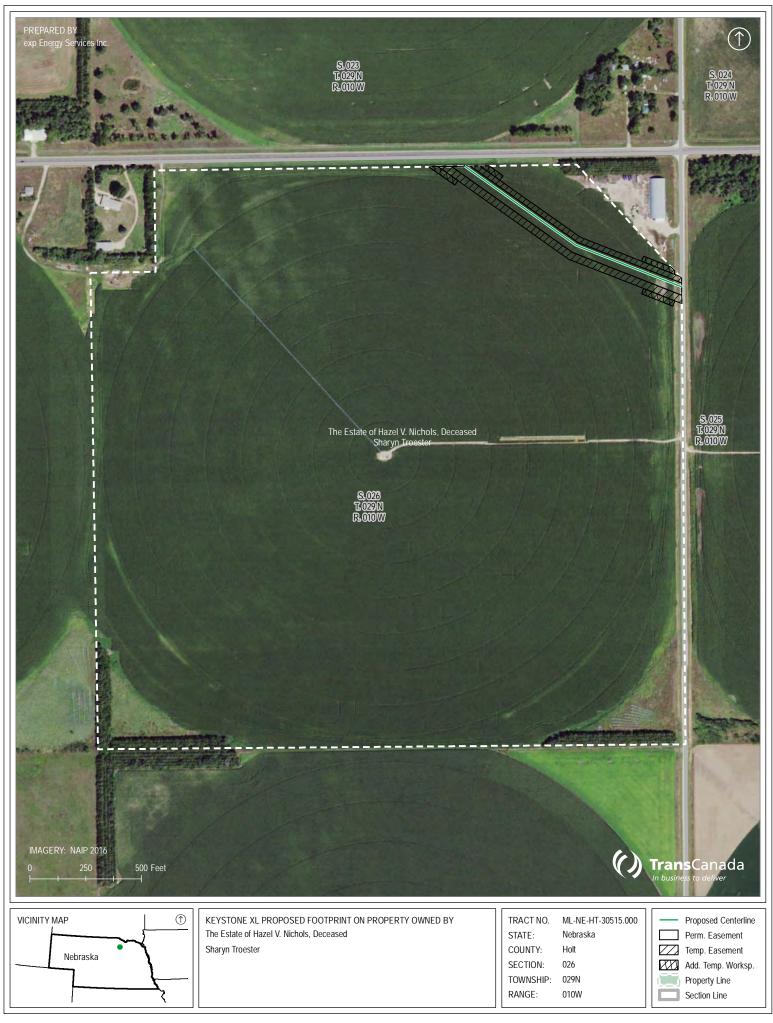
A Dave Troester

Subscribed and Sworn to me before this  $30^{\text{th}}$  day of Macy, 2017. ternor

Notary Public

GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska AMY HARMON My Comm. Exp. February 14, 2020

Attachment No. 1



May 2017 - X:\Drawings\50388X KEYSTONE XL\9000\_9999\9368

### KXL019146



May 2017 - XADrawingsl50388X KEYSTONE XL\9000\_99 99/9358

### KXL019147

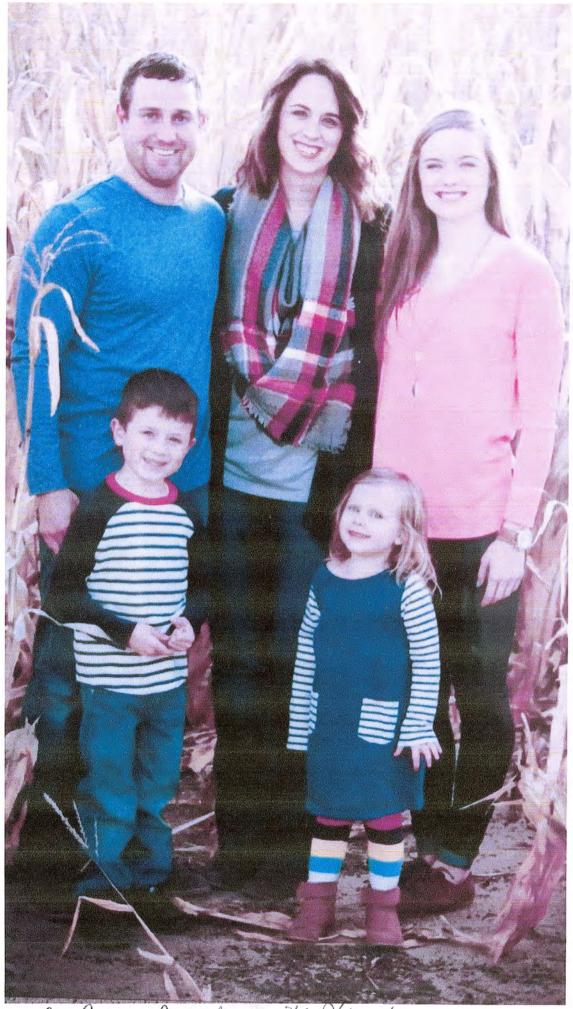


KXL019148

Attachment No. 2

pardson Shart dity, Mason Ling Bot I derive Loty, son in law and daughter





son aaron Irdester, wife gennefer standchildren

Attachment No. 3

Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

(Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-HT-30495.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") Nichols Family Limited Partnership, a Nebraska limited partnership, whose mailing address is 119 E. Adams Street, O'Neill, NE 68763 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and

Grantor's Initials\_\_\_\_\_

petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 160 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as the NE1/4 of Section 22, T29N, R10W of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 195, Page 118A in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the

negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

13. Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

4

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

Nichols Family Limited Partnership, a Nebraska limited partnership

By:

its:

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

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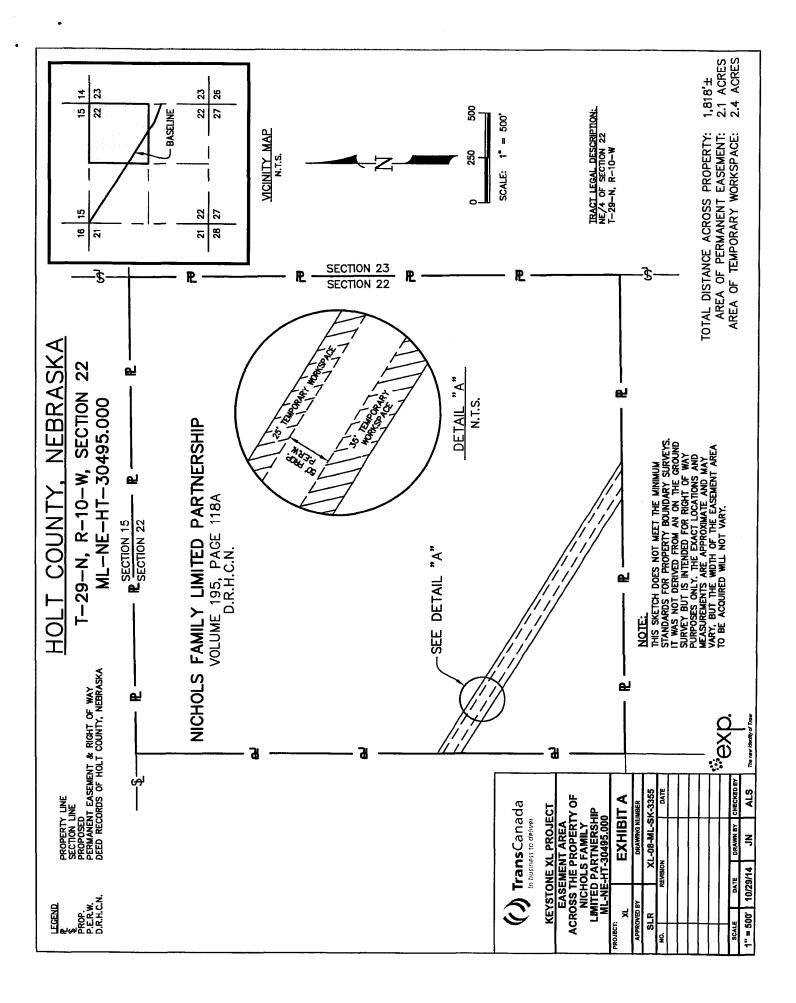
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COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
Ву		of

Nichols Family Limited Partnership, a Nebraska limited partnership, on behalf of the corporation.

Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here



Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

### (Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-HT-30515.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") Sharyn L. Troester, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Hazel V. Nichols, Deceased, whose mailing address is 119 E. Adams Street, O'Neill, NE 68763 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the

Grantor's Initials\_

transportation of crude petroleum, oil and petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 153.66 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as a part of the NE1/4 of Section 26, Township 29 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 171, Page 432 in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

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B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee

harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

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Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

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5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

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11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, 13. without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

Estate of Hazel V. Nichols, Deceased

Sharyn L. Troester, as Personal Representative

### [ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

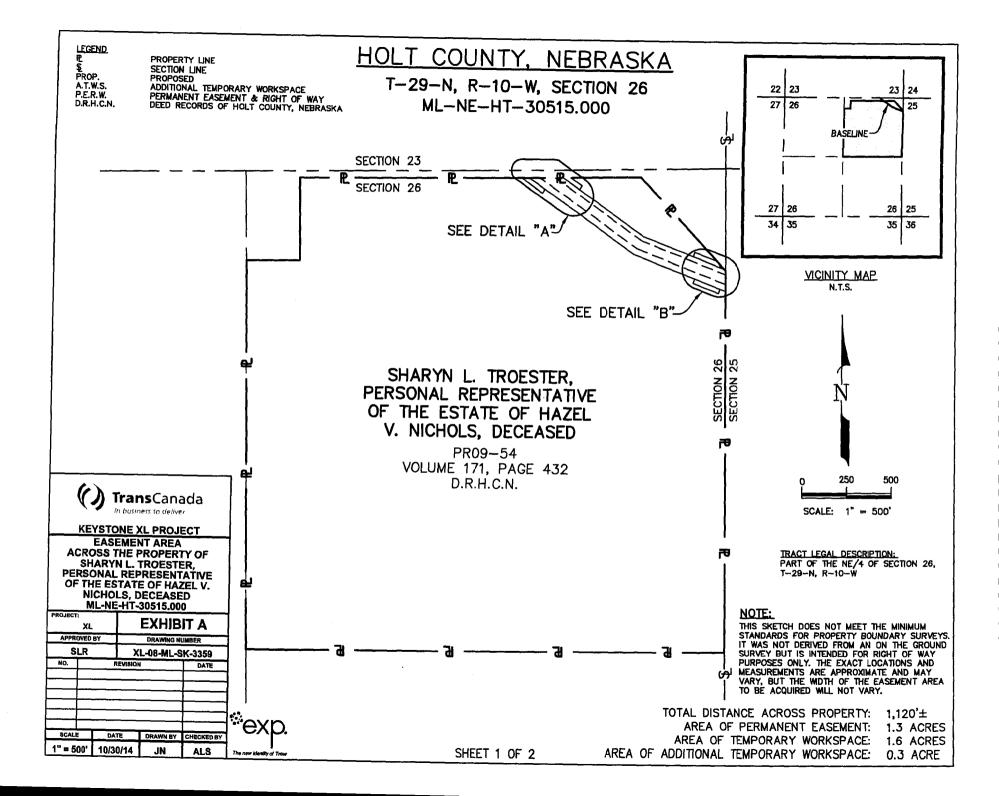
STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20_
By Sharyn L. Troester, as Personal Representative of the Estate	e of Hazel V. Nichols	, Deceased

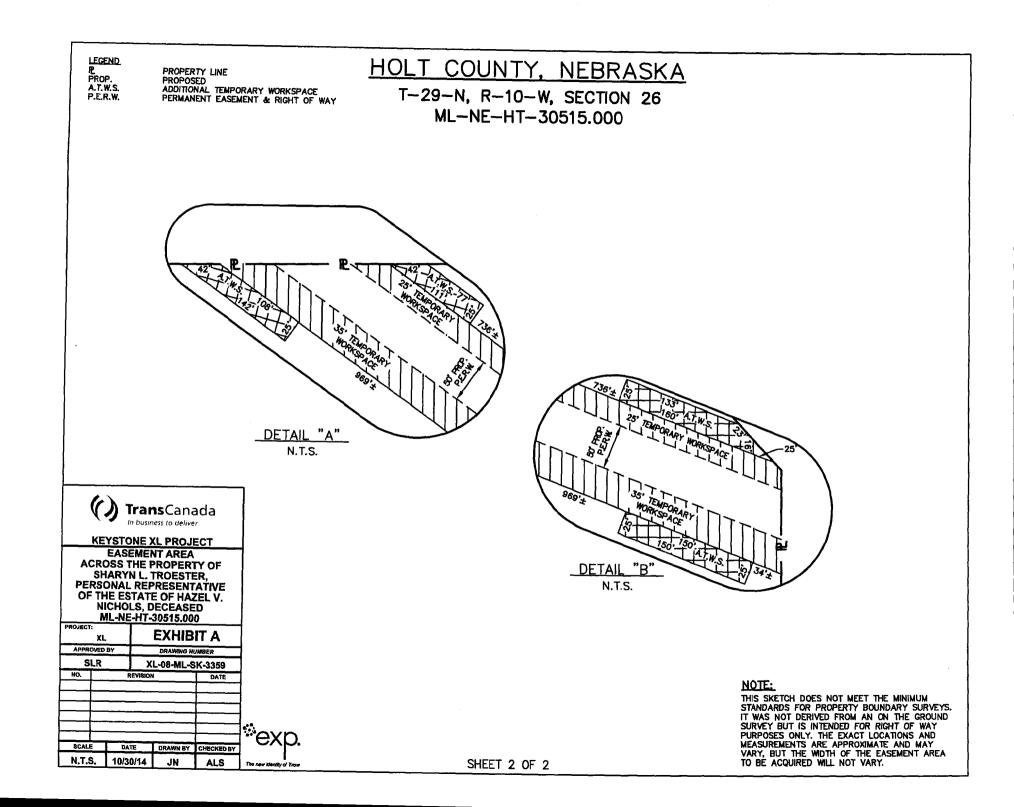
Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here

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Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

(Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-HT-30517.000 ML-NE-HT-30520.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") David W. Troester and Sharyn L. Troester, husband and wife, whose mailing address is 119 E. Adams Street, O'Neill, NE 68763 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection

1

equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate aboveground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 3.27 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as a part of the NE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 26, Township 29 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 190, Page 433 in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

A tract of land containing 313.57 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as a part of the N1/2 of Section 25, T29N, R10W of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 174, Page 560 in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

13. Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location

of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

Grantor's Initials

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

David W. Troester

Sharyn L. Troester

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

Grantor's Initials\_\_\_\_\_

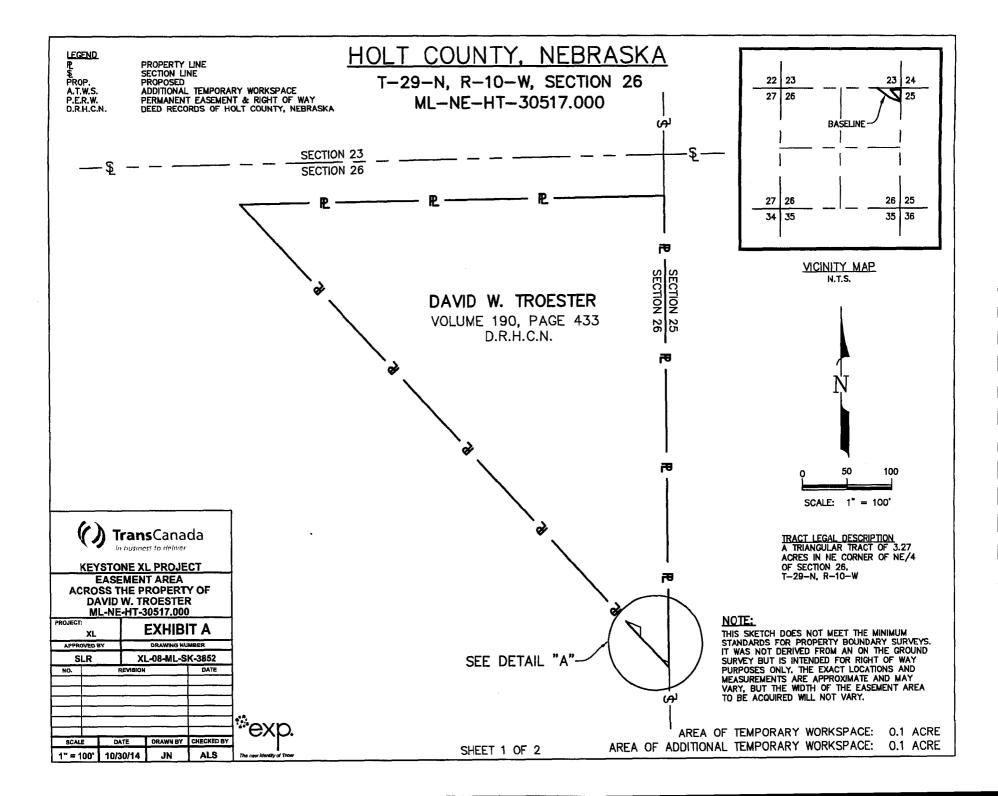
STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
By David W. Troester		
Not	ary Public Signature	
Affix Seal Here		
OTATE OF		
STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
By Sharyn L. Troester		

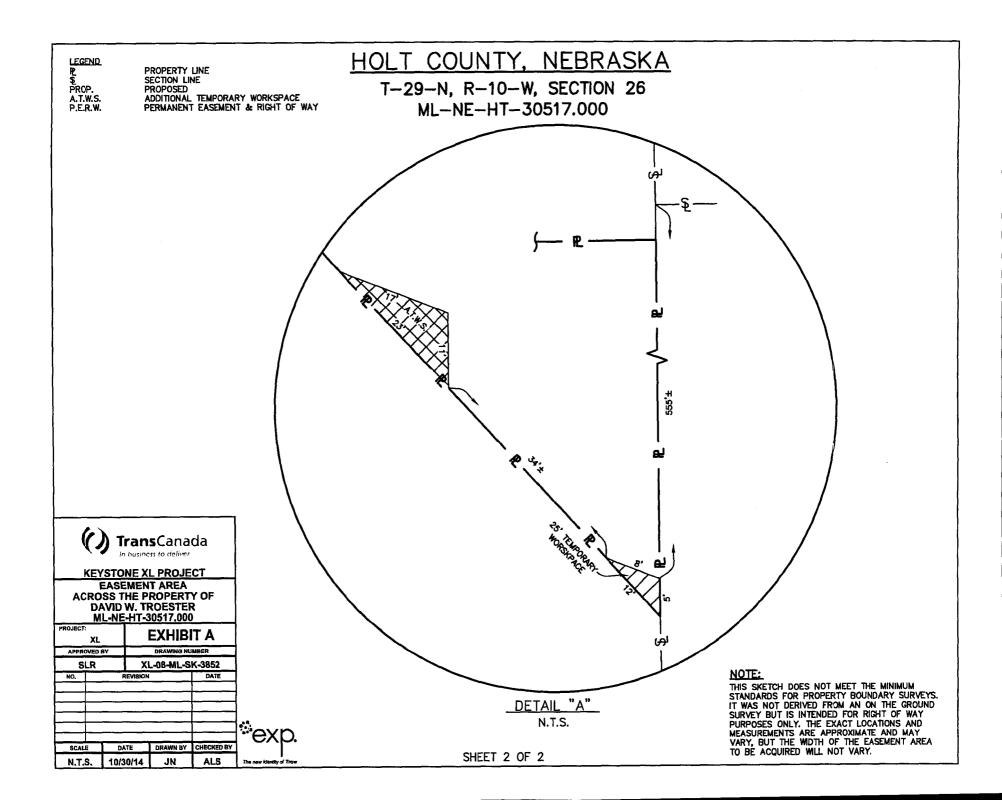
Notary Public Signature

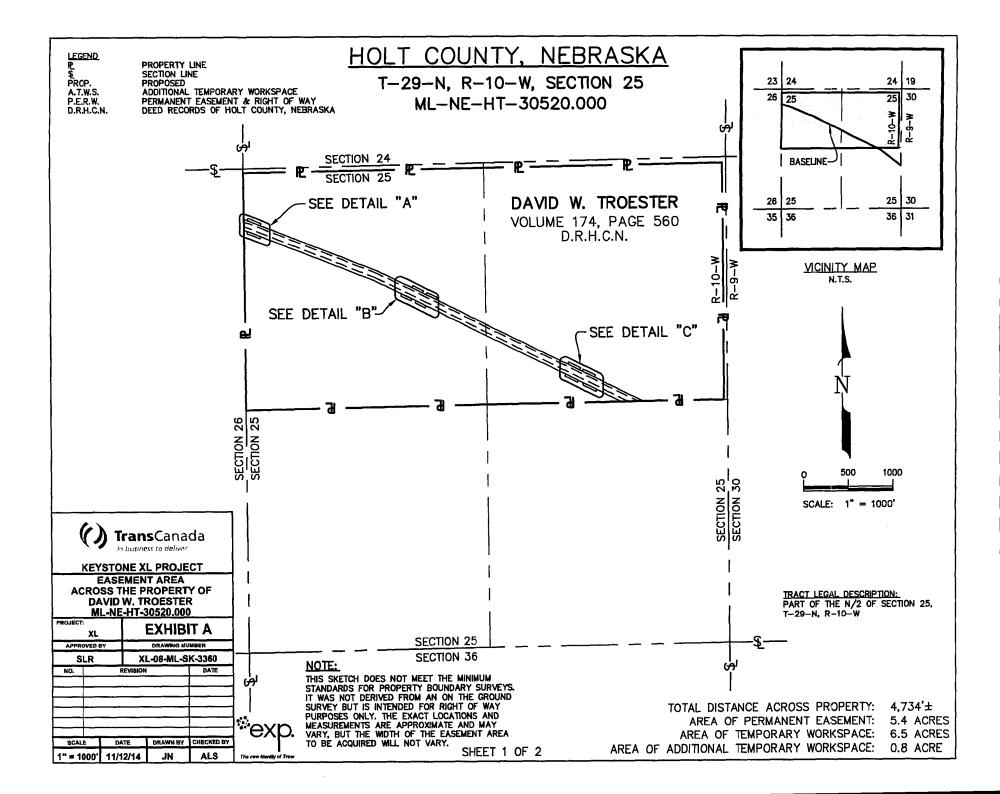
Affix Seal Here

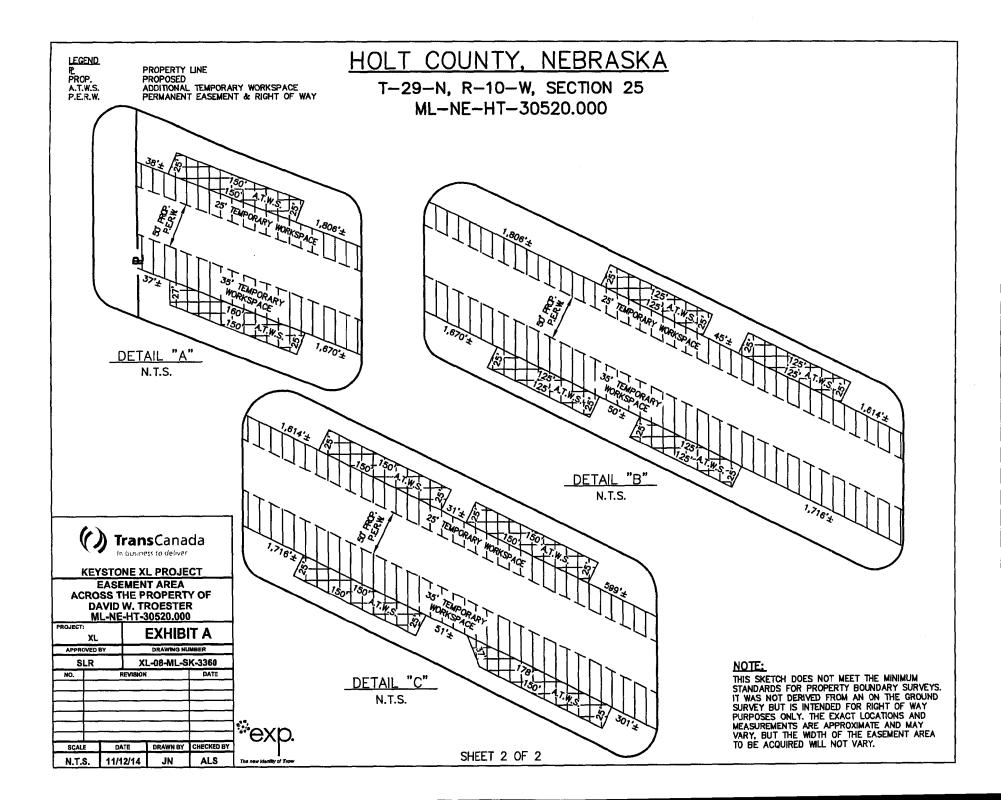
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Attachment No. 4

#### 8:15-cv-00403 Doc # 1 Filed: 11/03/15 Page 1 of 5 - Page ID # 1

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE	)	CASE NO
COMPANY, a New York Corporation,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT
V.	)	
	)	
RICHARD ANDREW, JANE ANDREW,	)	
LUKE ANDREW, and BRYCE ANDREW,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**COMES NOW** Plaintiff, Zurich American Insurance Company ("Plaintiff"), a New York Corporation, and for its causes of action against Defendants, states and alleges as follows:

#### PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principle place of business located at 1400 American Lane, Schaumburg, Illinois.

- 2. Defendant, Richard Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 3. Defendant, Jane Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 4. Defendant, Luke Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 5. Defendant, Bryce Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because Defendants reside in this district, and a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this district.

7. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and because diversity of citizenship exists with respect to Plaintiff and all Defendants.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

8. At all times material to this action, Defendants were agents of each other and were acting within the course and scope of their agency relationships, and the negligence of any Defendant is imputed to all Defendants.

9. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a joint venture and were acting within the course and scope of the joint venture at the time of the event described below.

10. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a partnership, were carrying on a business for profit, shared profits of the business, and were acting within the course and scope of the partnership at the time of the event described below.

11. At all relevant times, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were the lessees of property located in the East ½ of the Southwest ¼, Section 15, Township 4, Range 15 (the "Property"), Nemaha County, Nebraska, and were engaged in commercial farming operations for the benefit of all named Defendants in this action.

12. On or about December 10, 2011, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were engaged in excavation activities on the Property, including the clearing of various vegetation near the northernmost property line of the Property.

13. The excavation was in the area of two pipelines owned and operated by Magellan Midstream Partners, LP ("Magellan"), including a 12" pipeline used to transport a mixture of gasoline and jet fuel as well as an 8" pipeline ("the Pipelines") used to transport diesel fuel.

14. At all times relevant to this action, Magellan owned a right-of-way and easement on the Property in the areas where the pipelines ran and Defendants had actual and constructive knowledge of the right-of-way and easement.

15. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants had actual and constructive notice of the pipelines on the Property and had notice that Magellan owned and operated such pipelines.

16. On or about December 10, 2011, while engaged in excavation activities, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew struck the pipeline, causing the release of approximately 2,167 barrels of mixed gasoline and jet fuel from the 12" pipeline and approximately 643 barrels of diesel fuel from the 8" pipeline onto the Property (The line strikes will hereinafter be referred to as "the Release").

17. As a result of the line strikes and release, Magellan was required by state and federal

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#### 8:15-cv-00403 Doc # 1 Filed: 11/03/15 Page 3 of 5 - Page ID # 3

law to engage in cleanup and remediation activities related to the Release.

18. At the time of the Release, Magellan was the named insured on a policy of insurance, Policy No. EPC 669256201 ("the Policy"), issued by Plaintiff.

19. Plaintiff has made payment on behalf of Magellan under the Policy and has a contractual and equitable right of subrogation and is subrogated to Magellan's rights of recovery against Defendants for amounts paid on its behalf.

#### FIRST CLAIM: NEGLIGENCE

20. Paragraphs 1-20 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

21. Defendants owed a duty to perform their work on the Property and within the rightof-way and easement owned and operated by Magellan in a reasonable manner, to use reasonable care in constructing improvements on the Property, to comply with the statutory requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 76-2301 et seq., the One Call Notification System ("OCNS"), and to protect the Pipelines on the Property from damage during Defendants' work on the Property.

22. Defendants negligently struck the Pipelines while performing excavation work on the Property.

- 23. Defendants were negligent in the following particulars:
  - a. Defendants failed to perform their work on the Property within the right-of-way and easement in a reasonable manner;
  - b. Defendants failed to use reasonable care in their work on the Property and the Pipelines' right-of-way and easement;
  - c. Defendants failed to comply with the statutory requirements of the OCNS;
  - d. Defendants failed to notify Magellan of Defendants' intent to excavate on December 10, 2011 in and over the right-of-way and easement on the Property;
  - e. Defendants failed to give Magellan the opportunity to exercise its rights under the OCNS.

24. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

25. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

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#### 8:15-cv-00403 Doc # 1 Filed: 11/03/15 Page 4 of 5 - Page ID # 4

26. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its first claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69 for Defendants' negligent strike of the Pipelines.

#### SECOND CLAIM: TRESPASS

27. Paragraphs 1-29 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

28. Magellan owned and occupied a valid right-of-way and easement in and to the area of the Property where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

29. Defendants physically invaded Magellan's rights within and to the right-of-way and easement where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

30. Defendants had no right, lawful authority, or express or implied invitation, permission, or license to enter upon and disturb Magellan's rights and interests in and to the right-of-way and easement where Magellan's pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

31. Magellan's interest in and to the right-of-way and easement of the Pipelines were injured during the course of Defendants' trespass.

32. As a result of Defendants' trespass, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

33. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

34. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its second claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff hereby prays for a judgment of this Court in its favor and against Defendants for its damages in an amount to be proven at trial, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, its costs incurred in prosecuting this action, and such other reasonable sums as this Court deems just and equitable.

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38 and Local Rule 40.1(b) demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable in Omaha, Nebraska.

4

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

By: /s/ Albert M. Engles ENGLES, KETCHAM, OLSON, & KEITH, P.C. 1350 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102 (402) 348-0900 (402) 348-0904 (Facsimile) Albert M. Engles, #11194 Dan H. Ketcham, #18930 Michael L. Moran, #24042 James C. Boesen, #24862 Attachment No. 5

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : <u>ML-NE-HT-30515.000</u>

I/we <u>Sharyn L. Troester</u>, <u>Personal Representative of the Estate of Hazel V. Nichols</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of Nebraska, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Two thousand five hundred sixty and no/100</u> (\$2,560.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### Part of NE/4

#### Section 26, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

**Owner** Signature

**Owner Signature** 

Owner/Owner Representative Name

Owner/Owner Representative Name

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : ML-NE-HT-30495.000

I/we <u>Nichols Family Limited Partnership</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of <u>Nebraska</u>, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and No Cents</u> (\$3,600.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### NE/4

#### Section 22, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.
Owner Signature
Owner Representative Name
Owner/Owner Representative Name

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : ML-NE-HT-30517.000

I/we <u>David W. Troester and Sharyn L. Troester</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of Nebraska, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Fifty Two Dollars and No Cents</u> (\$52.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### Part of NE/4

#### Section 26, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Owner Signature

Owner Signature

Owner/Owner Representative Name

Owner/Owner Representative Name

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : ML-NE-HT-30520.000

I/we <u>David W. Troester and Sharyn L. Troester</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of Nebraska, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

Ten Thousand One Hundred Sixty Dollars and No Cents (\$10,160.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### Part of N/2

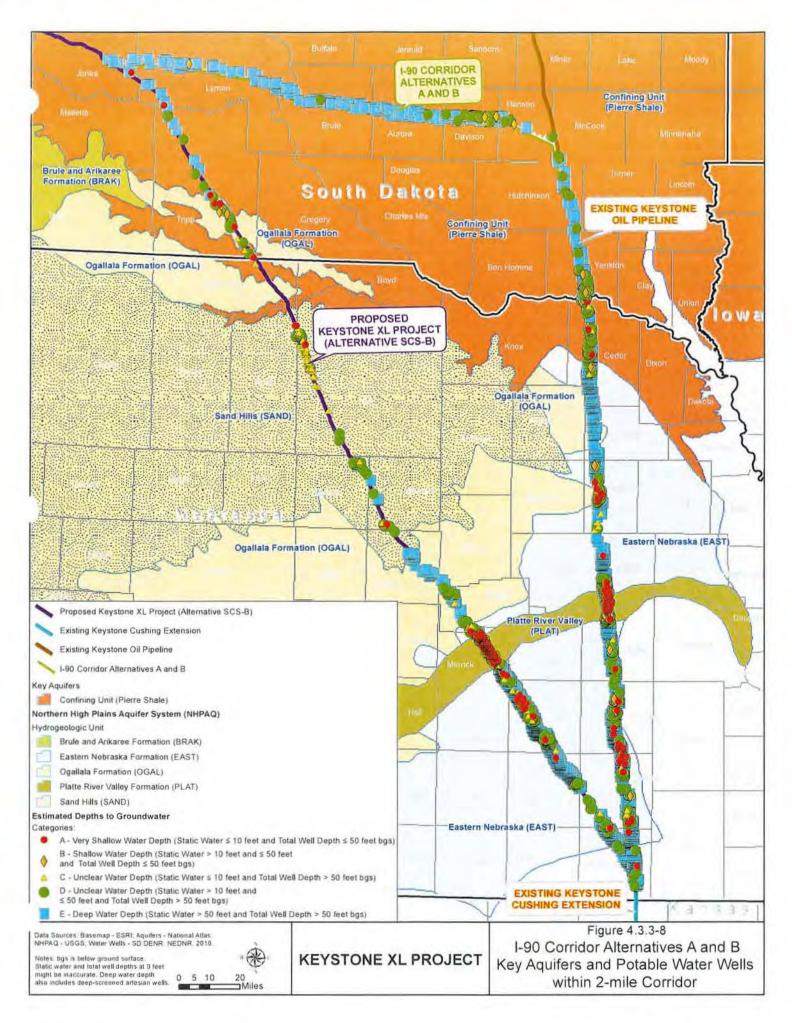
#### Section 25, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

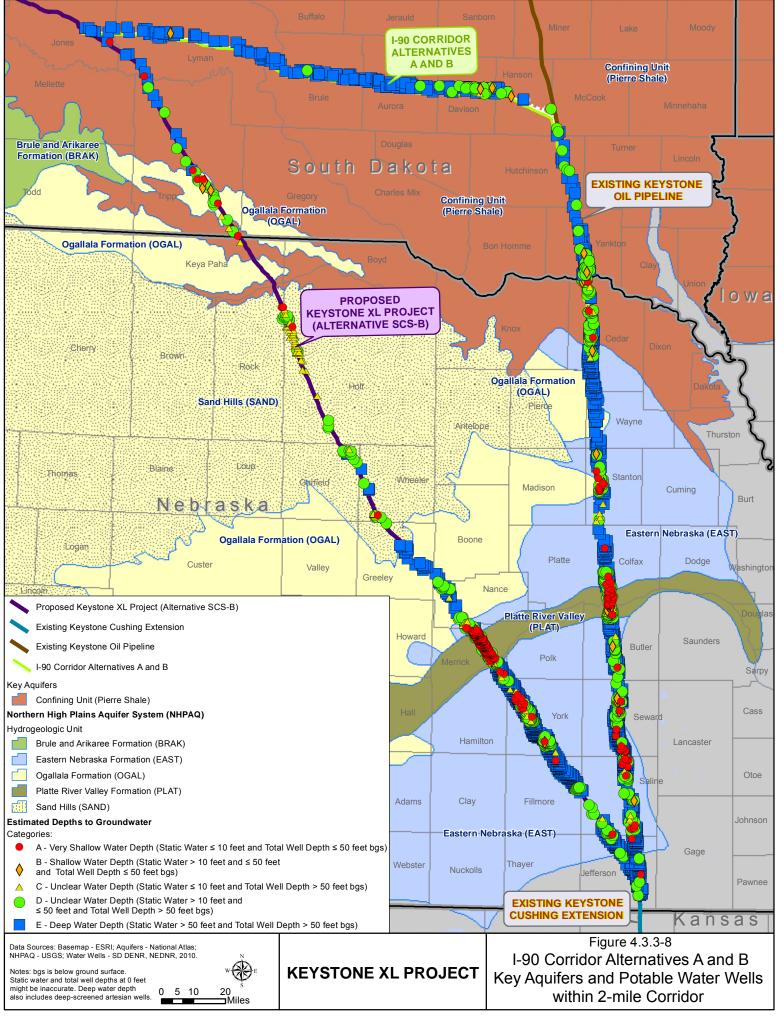
Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

	, 20
Owner Signature	Owner Signature
Owner/Owner Representative Name	Owner/Owner Representative Name

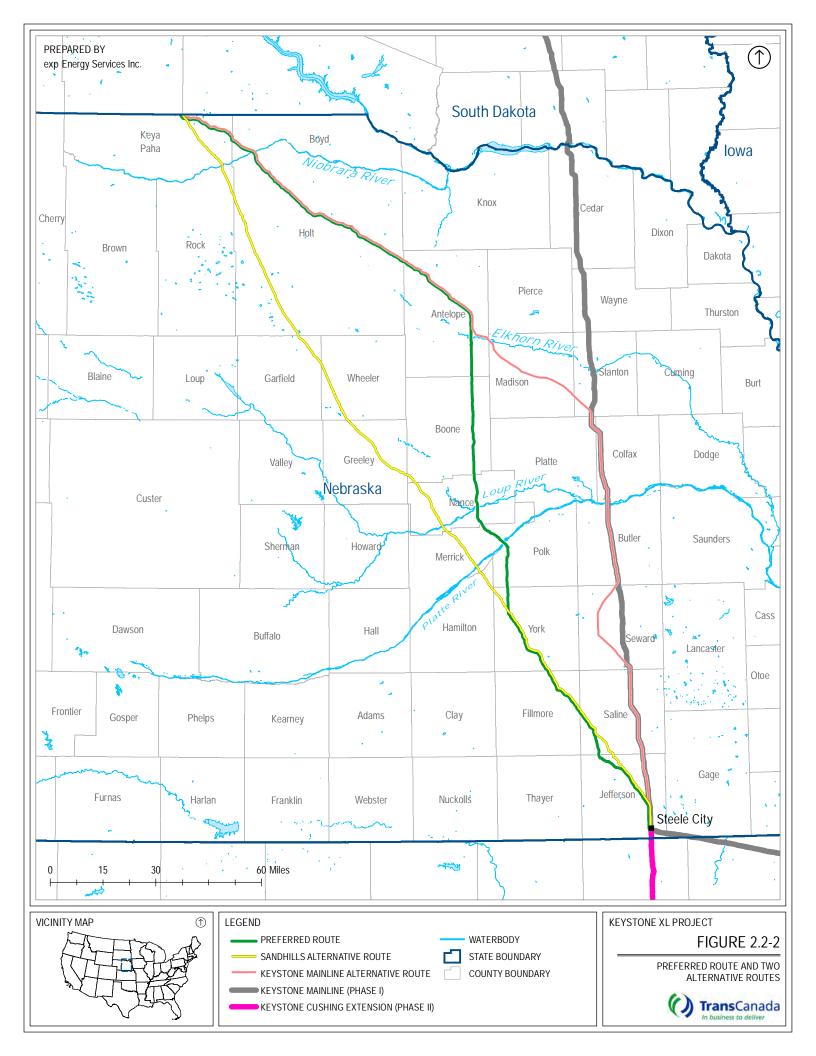
Attachment No. 6



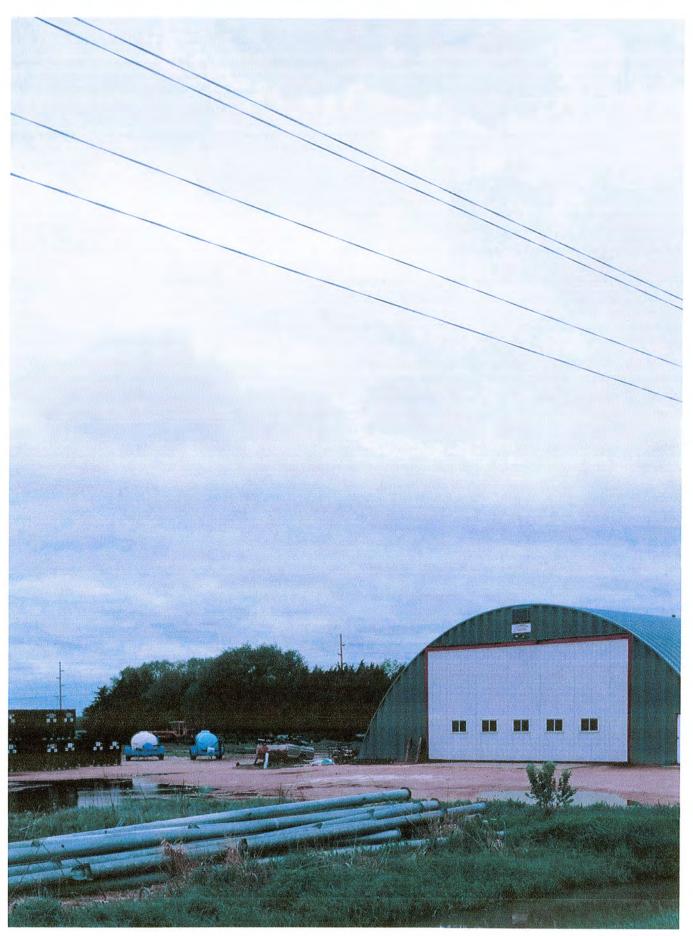


KXL002000

Attachment No. 7

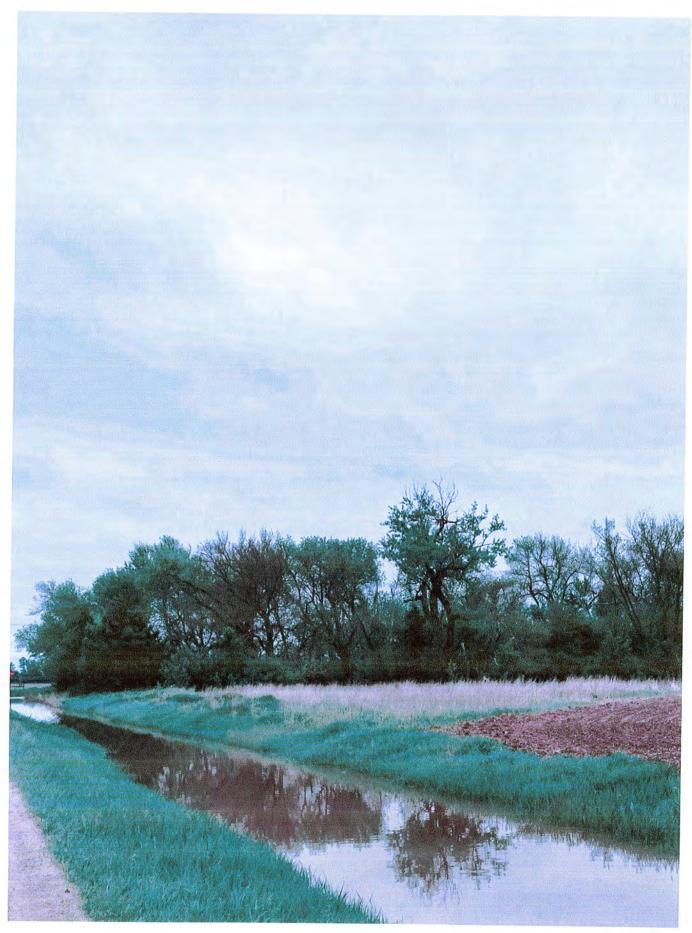


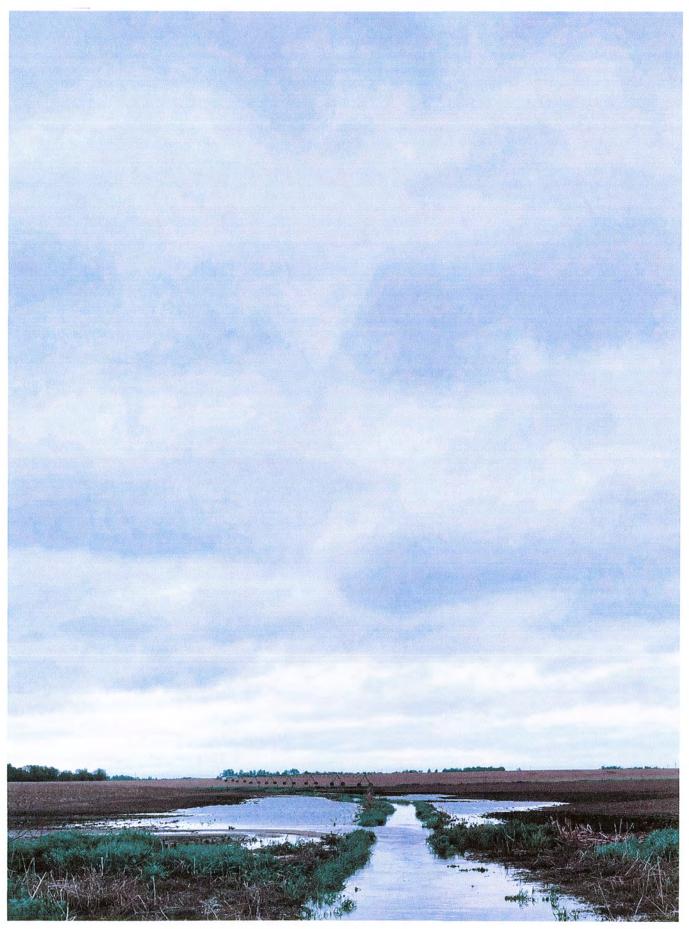
Attachment No. 8



ı

5/21/2017





5/21/2017

#### Before the Nebraska Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application

of

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Route Approval of Keystone XL Pipeline Project, Pursuant to *Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act*  **Application No: OP-003** 

Direct Testimony of Sharyn L. Troester in Support of Landowner Intervenors

State of Nebraska	)
	) ss.
Holt County	)

- 1 **Q:** Please state your name.
- A: My name is Sharyn L. Troester. I am the sole partner of Nichols Family Limited
  Partnership and Trustee of Nichols Family 1992 Irrevocable Trust.
- 4 Q: Are you an intervener in the Public Service Commission's proceedings
  5 regarding TransCanada's application for approval of its proposed Keystone
  6 XL tar sands pipeline across Nebraska?

7 A: Yes, I am.

8 Q: Do you own land in Nebraska, either directly or through an entity of which
9 you are an owner that could be affected by the proposed TransCanada
10 Keystone XL pipeline?

- 11 A: Yes, I do and it is located in Holt County.
- Q: Is Attachment No. 1 to this sworn statement copies of true and accurate aerial
   photo(s) of your land in question here with the area of the proposed KXL
   pipeline depicted?

15 A: Yes.

16 **Q: What do you do for a living?** 

1	A:	Farmer.
2	Q:	If you are you married tell us your spouse's name please?
3	A:	Dave Troester
4	Q:	If you have children how many do you have?
5	A:	2.
6	Q:	If you have grandchildren how many do you have?
7	A:	5.
8	Q:	Is Attachment No. 2 to this sworn statement a copy(ies) of picture(s) of you
9		and or your family?
10	A.	Yes.
11	Q:	How long the land has been in your family?
12	A:	Our family farm has been in our stewardship for many decades. There are corner
13		machines on the land involved, underground tiling, underground cable for the
14		corner machines, and three phase underground wiring for power lines. There is a
15		quonset building used for storage of seed, farm machinery and work areas.
16		Currently, two families reside on land that is on the proposed route that have
17		drinking wells being used.
18	Q:	Do you earn any income from this land?
19	A:	Yes.
20	Q:	Have you depended on the income from your land to support your livelihood
21		or the livelihood of your family?
22	A:	Yes.
23	Q:	Have you ever in the past or have you thought about in the future leasing all
24		or a portion of your land in question here?
25	A:	Yes, I have thought of it and that concerns me. I am concerned that a prospective
26		tenant may try to negotiate a lower price for my land if it had the pipeline on it and
27		all the restrictions and risks and potential negative impacts to farming or ranching
28		operations as opposed to land that did not have those same risks. If I was looking
29		to lease or rent ground I would pay more for comparable non-pipeline land than I

would for comparable pipeline land and I think most folks would think the same 1 2 way. This is another negative economic impact that affects the landowner and the 3 county and the state and will forever and ever should TransCanada's preferred or 4 mainline alternative routes be approved. If they were to twin or closely parallel to 5 Keystone I the vast majority of landowners would be those that already have a 6 pipeline so there would be considerable less new incremental negative impacts.

7

#### **Q**: Do you have similar concerns about selling the land?

- 8 A: Well I hope not to have to sell the land in my lifetime but times change and you 9 never know what is around the corner and yes I am concerned that if another piece 10 of ground similar to mine were for sale and it did not have the pipeline and mine 11 did that I would have a lower selling price. I think this would be true for pipeline 12 ground on both the preferred and mainline alternative routes.
- 13

#### **O**: What is your intent with your land after you die?

14 A: Like I said I hope not to have to sell and I hope that it stays in the family for years 15 to come but I have thought about getting out if this pipeline were to come through.

#### 16 **Q**: Are you aware that the preferred route of TransCanada's Keystone XL 17 Pipeline would cross the land described above and owned by you?

18 A: Yes.

#### 19 **Q**: Were you or an entity for which you are a member, shareholder, or director previously sued by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP? 20

21 A: Yes, we were in 2015. TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP sued us by filing a 22 petition for condemnation against our land so it could place its proposed pipeline 23 within an easement that it wanted to take from us on our land.

#### 24 Did you defend yourself and your land in that condemnation action? **O**:

25 A: Yes, we did. We hired lawyers to defend and protect us and we incurred legal fees 26 and expenses in our resistance of TransCanada's lawsuit against us.

#### 27 **Q**: Has TransCanada reimbursed you for any of your expenses or costs for fees incurred? 28

29 A: No, they have not.

1 In its lawsuit against you, did TransCanada identify the amount of your **O**: 2 property that it wanted to take for its proposed pipeline? 3 A: The lawsuit against us stated they would take the amount of property that is 4 reasonably necessary to lay, relay, operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant 5 and equipment reasonably necessary to operate the pipeline. 6 **Q**: Did TransCanada define what they meant by "property that is reasonably 7 necessary"? 8 A: No, they did not. 9 **O**: Did TransCanada in its lawsuit against you, identify the eminent domain 10 property portion of your land? 11 A: Yes, they did. 12 **O**: Did TransCanada describe what rights it proposed to take related to the 13 eminent domain property on your land? Yes, they did. 14 A: 15 **Q**: What rights that they proposed to take did they describe? 16 A: TransCanada stated that the eminent domain property will be used to "lay, relay, 17 operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant and equipment reasonably necessary to operate the pipeline, specifically including surveying, laying, 18 constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, 19 20 reconstructing, removing and abandoning one pipeline, together with all fittings, 21 cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all their equipment and 22 appurtenances thereto, for the transportation of oil, natural gas, hydrocarbon, 23 petroleum products, and all by-products thereof." 24 Prior to filing an eminent domain lawsuit to take your land that **Q**: 25 TransCanada identified, do you believe they attempted to negotiate in good faith with you? 26 27 A: No, I do not. 28 Did TransCanada at any time approach you with or deliver to you their **Q**: 29 proposed easement and right-of-way agreement?

1 A: Yes, they did.

- Q: At the time you reviewed TransCanada's easement and right-of-way
  agreement, did you understand that they would be purchasing a fee title
  interest in your property or that they were taking something else?
- 5 A: I understood that they proposed to have the power to take both a temporary 6 construction easement that could last for a certain period of time and then also a 7 permanent easement which they described to be 50 feet across or in width, and 8 that would run the entire portion of my property from where a proposed pipeline 9 would enter my property until where it would exit the property.
- 10Q:Is the document included with your testimony here as Attachment No. 3, a11true and accurate copy of TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-12Way agreement that they included with their condemnation lawsuit against13you?

14 A: Yes, it is.

Q: Have you had an opportunity to review TransCanada's proposed Easement
 and Right-of-Way agreement?

17 A: Yes, I have.

18 Q: What is your understanding of the significance of the Easement and Right-of19 Way agreement as proposed by TransCanada?

A: My understanding is that this is the document that will govern all of the rights and obligations and duties as well as the limitations of what I can and cannot do and how I and any future landowner and any person I invite to come onto my property must behave as well as what TransCanada is and is not responsible for and how they can use my land.

# Q: After reviewing TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way agreement do you have any concerns about any portions of it or any of the language either included in the document or missing from the proposed document?

A: Yes, I have a number of significant concerns and worries about the document and
 how the language included and the language not included potentially negatively
 impacts my land and thereby potentially negatively impacts my community and
 my state.

5 Q: I would like you to walk the Commissioners through each and every one of 6 your concerns about TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way 7 agreement so they can develop an understanding of how that language and 8 the terms of that contract, in your opinion, potentially negatively impacts you 9 and your land. So, if you can start at the beginning of that document and 10 let's work our way through it, okay?

A: Yes, I'll be happy to express my concerns about TransCanada's proposed
Easement and Right-of-Way agreement and how it negatively could affect my
property rights and my economic interests.

14 Q. Okay, let's start with your first concern please.

- A: The very first sentence talks about consideration or how much money they will pay to compensate me for all of the known and unknown affects and all of the rights I am giving up and for all the things they get to do to my land and for what they will prevent me from doing on my land and they only will pay me one time at the signing of the easement agreement. That is a huge problem.
- 20 Q: Explain to the Commissioners why that is a problem.

21 A: It is not fair to the landowner, the county, or the State. It is not fair to the 22 landowner because they want to have my land forever for use as they see fit so 23 they can make a daily profit from their customers. If I was to lease ground from 24 my neighbor I would typically pay twice a year every year as long as they granted 25 me the rights to use their land. That only makes sense – that is fair. If I was going 26 to rent a house in town I would typically pay monthly, every month until I gave up 27 my right to use that house. By TransCanada getting out on the cheap and paying 28 once in today's dollars that is monthly, bi-annual, or at least an annual loss in tax 29 revenue collection on the money I would be paid and then pay taxes on and contribute to this state and this country. It is money I would be putting back into
 my local community both spending and stimulating the local economy and
 generating more economic activity right here. Instead TransCanada's shareholders
 keep all that money and it never finds its way to Nebraska.

5

#### Q: What is your next concern?

6 A: The first paragraph goes on to say Grantor, which is me the landowner, "does 7 hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a 8 limited partnership..." and I have no idea who that really is. I have no idea who is 9 forcing this pipeline on us or who the owners of the entities are, or what are the 10 assets backing this limited partnership, or who the general partner is, or who all 11 the limited partners are, and who makes up the ownership of the these partners or 12 the structure or any of the basic things you would want to know and understand if 13 you would want to do business with such an outfit. According to TransCanada's 14 answer to our Interrogatory No. 28, as of the date I signed this testimony, a limited 15 liability company called TransCanada Keystone Pipeline GP, LLC is the general 16 partner and it only owns 0.02 percent of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP so 17 basically nothing. That is really scary since the general partner has the liability but 18 virtually none of the ownership and who knows if it has any other assets.

## Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred percent clear on exactly who could become the owner of over 275 miles of Nebraska land?

22 A: No.

## Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred percent clear on exactly who will be operating and responsible for approximately 275 miles of tar sands pipeline underneath and through Nebraska land?

27 A: No.

Q: Okay, let's continue please with your concerns of the impacts upon your land
and the State of Nebraska of TransCanada's easement terms.

1 Yes, so the next sentence talks about "...its successors and assigns (hereinafter A: 2 called "Grantee")..." and this concerns me because it would allow their easement 3 to be transferred or sold to someone or some company or country or who knows 4 what that I don't know and who we may not want to do business with. This 5 pipeline would be a huge asset for TransCanada and if they can sell to the highest 6 bidder that could have terrible impacts upon all of Nebraska depending upon who 7 may buy it and I don't know of any safeguards in place for us or the State to veto 8 or have any say so in who may own, operate, or be responsible for this pipeline in 9 the future.

### 10 Q: Do you think that type of uncertainty and lack of control over a major piece 11 of infrastructure crossing our State is in the public interest?

12 A: No, certainly not, in fact, just the opposite.

13 Q: What's next?

A: Then it says "...a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way..." and this
really concerns me. Why does the easement and right-of-way have to be perpetual
and permanent? That is the question myself and my family want an answer to.
Perpetual to me is like forever and that doesn't make sense.

18 Q: Why doesn't a perpetual Easement and Right-of-Way make sense to you?

19 A: For many reasons but mostly because the tar sands are finite. I am unaware of any 20 data proving there is a perpetual supply of tar sands. I am not aware in 21 TransCanada's application where it proves there is a perpetual necessity for this 22 pipeline. My understanding of energy infrastructure like wind towers is they have 23 a decommission plan and actually take the towers down when they become 24 obsolete or no longer needed. Nothing manmade lasts forever. My land however 25 will, and I want my family or future Nebraska families to have that land as 26 undisturbed as possible and it is not in my interest or the public interest of 27 Nebraska to be forced to give up perpetual and permanent rights in the land for 28 this specific kind of pipeline project.

29 Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

A: The easement language includes all these things TransCanada can do and it says
"...abandoning in place..." so they can just leave this pipeline under my ground
until the end of time just sitting there while they are not using it, but I am still
prevented from doing on my land and using my land what I would like. If I owned
a gas station I couldn't just leave my underground oil or fuel storage tanks sitting
there. It doesn't make sense and it scares me and it is not in my interest or the
public interest of Nebraska to allow this.

## 8 Q: Now it looks like we are ready to go to the second page of the Easement is that 9 right?

10 A: Yes.

#### 11 Q: So now on the second page of the Easement what are your concerns?

12 A: Here the Easement identifies a 24-month deadline to complete construction of the 13 pipeline but has caveats that are undefined and ambiguous. The 24-month period 14 starts to run from the moment "actual pipeline installation activities" begin on 15 Landowners property. It appears that TransCanada would define this phrase as 16 needed. It would be wise to explain what types of TransCanada action constitutes 17 "installation activity" For instance, would the placement and storage of an 18 excavator or other equipment on or near the Easement property be an activity or 19 would earth have to be moved before the activity requirement is triggered. This 20 vague phrase is likely to lead to future disputes and litigation that is not in the best 21 interest of the welfare of Nebraska and would not protect property interests. The 22 24-months can also be extended in the case of "force majeure." My understanding 23 is that force majeure is often used to insulate a party to a contract when events 24 occur that are completely out of their control. In TransCanada's easement this is 25 expanded to include "without limitation...availability of labor and materials." Extending this language to labor and materials is problematic because these are 26 27 two variables that TransCanada does have some or significant control over and to 28 allow extension of the 24-month period over events not truly out of the control of TransCanada and without further provision for compensation for the Landowner is
 not conducive to protection of property rights.

2

#### Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

4 A: Paragraphs 1.A. and 1.B. deal with the liabilities and responsibilities of 5 TransCanada and Landowner. In 1.A., the first sentence discusses "commercially 6 reasonable costs and expenses" will pay for damages caused but then limits 7 TransCanada's liability to certain circumstances. There is no definition of 8 "commercially reasonable" and no stated right that the Landowner would get to 9 determine the amounts of cost or expense that is "commercially reasonable." 10 TransCanada excepts out from their liability any damages that are caused by 11 Landowner's negligence or the negligence of anyone ever acting on the behalf of 12 Landowner. It is understandable that if Landowner were to willfully and 13 intentionally cause damages to the pipeline that Landowner should be liable. 14 However, anything short of willful misconduct should be the lability of 15 TransCanada who is subjecting the pipeline on the Landowner and who is making 16 a daily profit from that pipeline. When evaluating the impact on property rights of 17 this provision, you must consider the potentially extremely expensive fight a 18 Landowner would have over this question of whether or not damage was an act of negligence. Putting this kind of potential liability upon the Landowner is 19 20 incredibly problematic and is detrimental to the protection of property rights. I 21 don't think this unilateral power which I can't do anything about as the landowner 22 is in the best economic interest of the land in question or the State of Nebraska for 23 landowners to be treated that way.

## Q: Is there any specific event or example you are aware of that makes this concern more real for you?

A: Yes, one need not look further than a November 3, 2015 lawsuit filed against
Nemaha County, Nebraska landowner farmers who accidently struck two
Magellan Midstream Partners, LP pipelines, one used to transport a mixture of
gasoline and jet fuel and a second used to transport diesel fuel. Magellan alleged

1 2 negligence and sued the Nebraska farmer for \$4,151,148.69. A true and accurate copy of the Federal Court Complaint is here as **Attachment No. 4**.

3

#### **Q:** What is your next concern with the Easement language?

4 A: Paragraph 3 states that Landowner can farm on and otherwise use their property as 5 they choose unless 1) any Landowner use interferes in any way with 6 TransCanada's exercise of any of its rights within the Easement, or 2) 7 TransCanada decides to take any action on the property it deems necessary to 8 prevent injury, endangerment or interference with anything TransCanada deems 9 necessary to do on the property. Landowner is also forbidden from excavating 10 without prior authorization by TransCanada. So my understanding is that 11 TransCanada will unilaterally determine what Landowner can and can't do based 12 upon how TransCanada chooses to define the terms in paragraph 3. TransCanada 13 could also completely deny my request to excavate. Further, TransCanada retains 14 all "privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights" granted to 15 them in the Easement. Again, TransCanada unilaterally can decide to the 16 detriment of the property rights of Landowner what TransCanada believes is 17 necessary or convenient for it. And there is no option for any additional 18 compensation to landowner for any right exercised by TransCanada that leads to 19 the removal of trees or plants or vegetation or buildings or structures or facilities 20 owned by Landowner of any kind. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions and 21 rights without having to compensate Landowner for such further destruction or 22 losses are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

23

#### **Q:** What is the next concern you have?

A: The Easement also allows some rights for Landowner but restricts them at the
same time and again at the sole and unilateral decision making of TransCanada.
TransCanada will determine if the actions of Landowner might in anyway
endanger or obstruct or interfere with TransCanada's full use of the Easement or
any appurtenances thereon to the pipeline itself or to their access to the Easement
or within the Easement and TransCanada retains the right at any time, whether

during growing season or not, to travel "within and along Easement Area on foot or in vehicle or machinery..." Further at TransCanada's sole discretion it will retain the rights to prevent any landowner activity that it thinks may "unreasonably impair[ed] or interfe[ed] with" TransCanada's use of the Easement Area. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

7

#### **Q:** What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

8 A: The Easement allows TransCanada sole discretion to burn or chip or bury under 9 Landowner's land any debris of any kind without any input or power of 10 Landowner to demand an alternative method or location of debris disposal. Such 11 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 12 to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 13 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

- 14 A: Again, undefined terms leave a lot of room for confusion. What does the phrase "where rock is encountered" mean and why does TransCanada solely get to 15 16 determine whether or not this phrase is triggered. This phrase could be used to 17 justify installing the pipeline 24 inches beneath the surface. The ability to use this 18 provision to minimal locate the pipeline at a depth of 24 inches could negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights. 19 20 A shallow pipeline is much more likely to become a danger and liability in the 21 future given farming operations and buried irrigation lines and other factors 22 common to the current typical agricultural uses of the land in question impacted 23 by TransCanada's preferred pipeline route.
- 24

#### Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: There are more vague concepts solely at the determination of TransCanada such as "as nearly as practicable" and "pre-construction position" and "extent reasonably possible." There is nothing here that defines this or provides a mechanism for documenting or memorializing "pre-construction position" so as to minimize costly legal battles or wasted Landowner time attempting to recreate the soil condition on their fields or pasture. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect
 Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or
 economic interest.

4

#### Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

5 A: TransCanada maintains the unilateral right to abandon the pipeline and all 6 appurtenances thereto in place on, under, across, or through Nebraska land at any 7 time it chooses. There is no provision for Landowner compensation for such 8 abandonment nor any right for the Landowner to demand removal. Such unilateral 9 powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive to the 10 protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 11 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

12 A: TransCanada has the power to unilaterally move or modify the location of any 13 Easement area whether permanent or temporary at their sole discretion. 14 Regardless, if Landowner has taken prior steps relative to their property in 15 preparation or planning of TransCanada's taking of the initial easement area(s), 16 the language here does not require TransCanada to compensate the Landowner if 17 they decide to move the easement anywhere on Landowners property. Such 18 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 19 to the protection of property rights or economic interests.

#### 20 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement requires that all of the burdens and restrictions upon Landowner to
transfer and be applicable to any future owner of the Land in question without the
ability of the future Landowner to modify or negotiate any of the language in
question to which it will be held to comply.

#### 25 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement allows TransCanada to assign, transfer, or sell any part of the Easement to any person, company, country, etc. at their sole discretion at anytime to anyone. This also means that any buyer of the easement could do the same to a third buyer and so on forever. There is no change of control or sale provision in place to protect the Landowner or Nebraska or to provide compensation for such
 change of control or ownership. It is not conducive to the protection of property
 rights or economic interests to allow unilateral unrestricted sale of the Easement
 thereby forcing upon the Landowner and our State a new unknown Easement
 owner.

6 **Q:** 

12

### : What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: There are many terms in the Easement that are either confusing or undefined terms
that are without context as to whether or not the Landowner would have any say
so in determining what these terms mean or if the evaluation is solely in
TransCanada's control. Some of these vague undefined terms are as follows:

- 11 i. "pipeline installation activities"
  - ii. "availability of labor and materials"
- 13 iii. "commercially reasonable costs and expenses"
- 14 iv. "reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses"
- 15 v. "yield loss damages"
- 16 vi. "diminution in the value of the property"
- 17 vii. "substantially same condition"
- 18 viii. "an actual or potential hazard"
- 19 ix. "efficient"
- 20 x. "convenient"
- 21 xi. "endangered"
- 22 xii. "obstructed"
- 23 xiii. "injured"
- 24 xiv. "interfered with"
- 25 xv. "impaired"
- 26 xvi. "suitable crossings"
- 27 xvii. "where rock is encountered"
- 28 xviii. "as nearly as practicable"
- 29 xix. "pre-construction position"

1 2

- xx. "pre-construction grade"
- xxi. "various engineering factors"

3 Each one of these above terms and phrases as read in the context of the Easement 4 could be problematic in many ways. Notably, undefined terms tend to only get 5 definition in further legal proceedings after a dispute arises and the way the 6 Easement is drafted, TransCanada has sole power to determine when and if a 7 particular situation conforms with or triggers rights affected by these terms. For 8 instance, "yield loss damages" should be specifically defined and spelled out 9 exactly how the landowner is to be compensated and in what events on the front 10 end. I can't afford to fight over this after the damage has occurred. Unfortunately, 11 the Landowner is without contractual rights to define these terms or determine 12 when rights related to them trigger and what the affects may be.

- 13 Q: Do you have any other concerns about the Easement language that you can
  14 think of at this time?
- 15 A: I reserve the right to discuss any additional concerns that I think of at the time of16 my live testimony in August.

Q: Based upon what you have shared with the Commission above regarding
TransCanada's proposed Easement terms and agreement, do you believe
those to be reasonable or just, under the circumstances of the pipeline's
impact upon you and your land?

A: No, I do not believe those terms to be reasonable or just for the reasons that wediscussed previously.

Q: Did TransCanada ever offer you financial compensation for the rights that
they sought to obtain in your land, and for what they sought to prevent you
and any future land owner of your property from doing in the future?

A: Yes, we received an offer from them.

Q: As the owner of the land in question and as the person who knows it better
than anyone else, do you believe that TransCanada offered you just, or fair,

compensation for all of what they proposed to take from you so that their tar 1 2 sands pipeline could be located across your property? 3 A: No, I do not. Not at any time has TransCanada, in my opinion, made a fair or just 4 offer for all the potential impacts and effects and the rights that I'm giving up, and 5 what we will be prevented from doing in the future and how their pipeline would 6 impact my property for ever and ever. 7 **Q**: Has TransCanada at any time offered to compensate you annually, such as 8 wind farm projects do, for the existence of their potential tar sands pipeline 9 across your property. 10 A: No, never. 11 **O**: At any time did TransCanada present you with or request that you, as the 12 owner of the land in question, sign and execute a document called, "Advanced 13 **Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?"** 14 A: Yes, they did and it was included in the County Court lawsuit against us. 15 **Q**: Is Attachment No. 5, to your testimony here, a true and accurate copy of the "Advanced Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement? 16 17 A: Yes, it is. 18 **Q**: What was your understanding of that document? 19 A: When I read that document in the plain language of that document, it was my 20 understanding that TransCanada was attempting to pay me a very small amount at 21 that time in order for me to agree to give up my rights to be compensated from 22 them in the future related to any damage or impact they may have upon my 23 property "arising out of, in connection with, or alleged to resulted from 24 construction or surveying over, under or on" my land. 25 Did you ever sign that document? **Q**: 26 No, I did not. A: 27 Why not? **Q**: 28 A: Because I do not believe that it is fair or just to try to get me to agree to a small 29 sum of money when I have no idea how bad the impacts or damages that they, or their contractors, or subcontractors, or other agents or employees, may cause on
 my land at any time in the future that resulted from the construction or surveying
 or their activities upon my land.

4 Q: When you reviewed this document, what did it make you feel?

5 A: I felt like it was simply another attempt for TransCanada to try to pay very little to 6 shield themselves against known and foreseeable impacts that their pipeline, and 7 the construction of it, would have upon my land. It made me feel that they knew it 8 was in their financial interest to pay me as little as possible to prevent me from 9 ever having the opportunity to seek fair compensation again, and that this must be 10 based upon their experience of unhappy landowners and situations in other places 11 where they have built pipelines.

## Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land was in your best interest?

15 A: No, they have not.

Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you
 thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land
 was in the public interest of the State of Nebraska?

19 A: No, they have not.

20 Q: Are you familiar with the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the
21 Takings Clause?

22 A: Yes, I am.

Q: What is your understanding of the Fifth Amendment as it relates to taking of
an American citizens property?

A: My understanding is that, according to the United States Constitution, that if the government is going to take land for public use, then in that case, or by taking for public use, it can only occur if the private land owner is compensated justly, or fairly. Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you specially to explain the way in which
 the public could use its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline?

3 A: No, they have not.

4 Q: Can you think of any way in which the public, that is the citizens of the State
5 of Nebraska, can directly use the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL
6 Pipeline, as it dissects the State of Nebraska?

- A: No, I cannot. I cannot think of any way to use this pipeline. I do not see how the
  public benefits from this pipeline in any way, how they can use it any way, or how
  it's in the public interest in any way. By looking at the map, it is quite clear to me
  that the only reason it's proposed to come through Nebraska, is that because we
  are geographically in the way from between where the privately-owned Tar Sands
  are located to where TransCanada wants to ship the Tar Sands to refineries in
  Houston, Texas.
- Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and asked you if you had any tar sands,
   crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by-products that you would like to
   ship in its pipeline?

17 A: No, it has not.

Q: Do you have any tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products that you, at this time or any time in the future, would desire to place
 for transport within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

A: No, I do not.

- Q: Do you know anyone in the state of Nebraska who would be able to ship any
   Nebraska-based tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?
- 25 A: No, I do not. I've never heard of such a person or company like that.
- Q: Do you pay property taxes for the land that would be affected and impacted
  at the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

28 A: Yes, I do.

29 Q: Why do you pay property taxes on that land?

- A: Because that is the law. The law requires us to pay the property taxes as the owner
   of that property.
- 3 Q: Because you follow the law and pay property taxes, do you believe you
  4 deserve any special consideration or treatment apart from any other person
  5 or company that pays property taxes?
- 6 A: Well no, of course not. It's the law to pay property taxes if you own property. It's
  7 just what you do.
- 8 Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes entitles you to special
  9 treatment of any kind, or special rights of any kind?

10 A: No, of course not.

- 11 Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes on your land would be 12 enough to qualify you to have the power of eminent domain to take land of 13 your neighbors or other people in your county, or other people across the 14 state of Nebraska?
- A: Well, of course not. Like I said, paying property taxes is the law, it's nothing that
  I expect an award for or any type of special consideration.
- 17 Q: Have you at any time ever employed any person other than yourself?
- 18 A: Well, yes I have.
- Q: Do you believe that the fact that you have, at some point in your life,
   employed one or more other persons entitle you to any special treatment or
   consideration above and beyond any other Nebraskan that has also employed
   one or more persons?

23 A: No, of course not.

- Q: Do you believe that the fact that you, as a Nebraska land owner and taxpayer
   have at one point employed another person within this state, entitles you to
   preferential treatment or consideration of any kind?
- A: No, of course not. If I choose to employ someone that decision is up to me. I
  don't deserve any special treatment or consideration for that fact.

1Q:At the beginning of your statement, you briefly described your property that2would be impacted by the potential Keystone XL Pipeline. I would like you to3give the Commissioners a sense of specifically how you believe the proposed4Keystone XL Pipeline and its preferred route, which proposes to go across5your land, how it would in your opinion based on your knowledge,6experience, and background of your land, affect it.

A: Our land is very sandy and porous. So the installation of the pipeline from
TransCanada could threaten our productive land and our valuable water resources.
We should not take for granted our valuable asset, and that is water, water for
people, animals, crops and recreational use. We cannot magically make water.
Water is vital to life.

## Q: Do you have any concerns TransCanada's fitness as an applicant for a major crude oil pipeline in its preferred location, or ultimate location across the state of Nebraska?

15 A: Yes, I have significant concerns. I am aware of landowners being treated unfairly 16 or even bullied around and being made to feel scared that they did not have any 17 options but to sign whatever papers TransCanada told them they had to. I am 18 aware of folks being threatened that their land would be taken if they didn't follow what TransCanada was saying. I am aware of tactics to get people to sign 19 20 easements that I don't believe have any place in Nebraska or anywhere such as 21 TransCanada or some outfit associated with it hiring a pastor or priest to pray with 22 landowners and convince them they should sign TransCanada's easement 23 agreements. I am aware of older folks and widows or widowers feeling they had 24 no choice but to sign TransCanada's Easement and they didn't know they could 25 fight or stand up for themselves. From a more practical standpoint, I am worried 26 that according to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 211, TransCanada only 27 owns and operates one (1) major oil pipeline. They simply do not have the 28 experience with this type of pipeline and that scares me. There are others but that is what I can recollect at this time and if I remember more or my recollection is
 refreshed I will share those with the Commissioners at the Hearing in August.

### 3 Q: Do you believe TransCanada's proposed method of compensation to you as a 4 landowner is reasonable or just?

5 A: No, I do not.

# 6 Q: Do you have any concern about limitations that the construction of this 7 proposed pipeline across your affected land would prevent construction of 8 future structures upon the portion of your land affected by the proposed 9 easement and immediately surrounding areas?

10 A: Well yes, of course I do. We would not be able to build many, if any, types of 11 structures directly across or touching the easement, and it would be unwise and I 12 would be uncomfortable to build anything near the easement for fear of being 13 blamed in the future should any damage or difficulty result on my property in 14 regards to the pipeline.

15 Q: Do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

16 A: Well yes, of course.

### 17 Q: How do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

18 A: The future of this land may not be exactly how it's being used as of this moment, 19 and having the restrictions and limiting my ability to develop my land in certain 20 ways presents a huge negative economic impact on myself, my family, and any 21 potential future owner of the property. You have no idea how I or the future owner 22 may want to use this land in the future or the other land across Nebraska 23 potentially affected by the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Fifty years 24 ago it would have been hard to imagine all the advances that we have now or how 25 things change. Because the Easement is forever and TransCanada gets the rights in 26 my land forever we have to think with a very long term view. By placing their 27 pipeline on under across and through my land that prevents future development 28 which greatly negatively impacts future taxes and tax revenue that could have 29 been generated by the County and State but now will not. When you look at the

- short blip of economic activity that the two years of temporary construction efforts
   may bring, that is far outweighed by the perpetual and forever loss of opportunity
   and restrictions TransCanada is forcing upon us and Nebraska.
- 4 Q: Do you have any concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed
  5 pipeline?

6 A: Yes, I do.

- 7 Q: What are some of those concerns?
- A: As an affected land owner and Nebraskan, I am concerned that any construction,
  operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have
  a detrimental impact upon the environment of my land specifically, as well as the
  lands near my land and surrounding the proposed pipeline route.

12

### **Q:** Do you have any other environmental concerns?

A: Yes, of course I am concerned about potential breaches of the pipeline, failures in
 construction and/or maintenance and operation. I am concerned about spills and
 leaks that TransCanada has had in the past and will have in the future. This could
 be catastrophic to my operations or others and to my county and the State.

Q: Do you have any thoughts regarding if there would be an impact upon the
natural resources on or near your property due to the proposed pipeline?

- A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the
   proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental impacts upon the natural
   resources of my land, and the lands near and surrounding the proposed pipeline
   route.
- Q: Do you have any worries about potential impacts from the proposed pipeline
  to the soil of your land, or land near you?
- A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the soil of land, as well as land along and surrounding the proposed pipeline route. This includes, but is not limited to, the reasons that we discussed above of disturbing the soil composition and makeup as it has naturally existed for thousands and

1 millions of years during the construction process, and any future maintenance or 2 removal process. I'm gravely concerned about the fertility and the loss of 3 economic ability of my property to grow the crops, or grow the grasses, or grow 4 whatever it is at that time they exist on my property or that I may want to grow in 5 the future, or that a future owner may want to grow. The land will never be the 6 same from as it exists now undisturbed to after it is trenched up for the proposed 7 pipeline.

### 8 Q: Do you have any concerns about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline 9 upon the groundwater over your land, or surrounding lands?

10 A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of 11 the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the 12 groundwater of not only under my land, but also near and surrounding the pipeline 13 route, and in fact, potentially the entire State of Nebraska. Water is life plain and 14 simple and it is simply too valuable to our State and the country to put at 15 unreasonable risk.

### 16 Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline 17 upon the surface water on, or near or around your land?

A: Yes, I have significant concerns that any construction, operation, and/or
maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental
impact upon the surface water of not only within my property boundary, but along
and near and surrounding the pipeline route, and in fact, across the state of
Nebraska.

## Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impacts of the proposed pipeline upon the wildlife and plants, other than your growing crops on or near your land?

A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of
the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the
wildlife and the plants, not only that are located on or can be found upon my land,
but also near and along the proposed pipeline route.

Q: Do you have any concerns about the effects of the proposed pipeline upon the
 fair market value of your land?

3 A: Yes, I do. I am significantly concerned about how the existence of the proposed 4 pipeline underneath and across and through my property will negatively affect the 5 fair market value at any point in the future, especially at that point in which I 6 would need to sell the property, or someone in my family would need to sell the 7 property. I do not believe, and certainly would not be willing to pay, the same 8 price for land that had the pipeline located on it, versus land that did not. I hope 9 there is never a point where I'm in a position where I have to sell and have to 10 realize as much value as I can out of my land. But because it is my single largest 11 asset, I'm gravely concerned that the existence of the proposed Keystone XL 12 Pipeline upon my land will affect a buyer's willingness to pay as much as they 13 would've paid and as much as I could've received, if the pipeline were not upon 14 my property. There are just too many risks, unknowns, impacts and uncertainties, 15 not to mention all of the rights you give up by the nature of having the pipeline 16 due to having the easement that we have previously discussed, for any reasonable 17 person to think that the existence of the pipeline would not negatively affect my 18 property's value.

### 19 Q: Have you ever seen the document that's marked as Attachment No. 6, to your 20 testimony?

21 A: Yes, I have.

22 Q: Where have you seen that before?

A: That is a map I think I first saw a couple years ago that shows the Keystone XL
 I-90 corridor alternate route of its proposed pipeline through Nebraska and I
 believe the portion of the alternative route in Nebraska essentially twins or
 parallels Keystone I.

Q: Do you believe that TransCanada's preferred route as found on page 5 of its
Application, and as found on Attachment No. 7, here to your testimony, is in
the public interest of Nebraska?

- 1 A: No, I do not.
- Q: Do you believe that the Keystone mainline alternative route as shown on
  Attachment No. 7 included with your testimony here is a major oil pipeline
  route that is in the public interest of Nebraska?

5 A: No, I do not.

6 Q: Do you believe the portion of the proposed pipeline within Nebraska as found
7 in Attachment No. 6 to your testimony, is in the public interest of Nebraska?

8 A: No, I do not.

9 Q: Do you believe there is any potential route for the proposed Keystone XL
10 Pipeline across, within, under, or through the State of Nebraska that is in the
11 public interest of the citizens of Nebraska?

12 A: No, I do not.

13 Q: Why do you hold that belief?

14 A: Because there simply is no public interest based on all of the factors that I am 15 aware and that I have read and that I have studied that this Commission is to 16 consider that would establish that a for-profit foreign-owned pipeline that simply 17 crosses Nebraska because we are geographically in the way between where tar 18 sands are in Canada to where it wants to ship it to in Texas could ever be in the 19 public interest of Nebraskans. We derive no benefit from this project. It is not for 20 public use. Nebraska is simply in the way and when all considerations are taken in 21 there is no net benefit of any kind for Nebraska should this project be placed in our 22 state. Even if there was some arguable "benefit" it is not enough to outweigh all 23 the negative impacts and concerns.

# Q: What do you think about the applicant, TransCanada's argument that it's preferred route for its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline is in the public interest of Nebraska because it may bring temporary jobs during the construction phase to Nebraska?

A: First of all, not all jobs are created equally. Most jobs that are created, whether temporary or on a permanent basis, don't come with a project that has all the

1 potential and foreseeable negative impacts, many of which we have discussed here 2 and other witnesses throughout the course of this hearing have and will discuss. If 3 I decide to hire and employ someone to help me out in my farming or ranching 4 business, I've created a job but I haven't done so at the risk or detrimental impact 5 to my land or my town or my county or my state. And I've hired someone who is 6 working directly for me, a Nebraska landowner, citizen, taxpayer, to help produce 7 and grow a Nebraska product to be sold so that I can pay Nebraska taxes. So, all 8 jobs are not created equal. Additionally, I understand from what I'm familiar with 9 from TransCanada's own statements that the jobs numbers they originally touted 10 were determined to be a minute fraction of the permanent jobs that had been 11 projected. According to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 191, TransCanada 12 has created only thirty-four (34) jobs within Nebraska working specifically on 13 behalf of TransCanada and according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 196, as 14 of May 5, 2017 they only employ one (1) temporary working within Nebraska. 15 Further, according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 199, TransCanada would 16 only employ six to ten (6 to 10) new individuals if the proposed Keystone XL was 17 constructed on its Preferred Route or its Mainline Alternative Route.

### 18 Q: Are you opposed to the preferred route of the proposed KXL Pipeline simply 19 because it would cross your land?

A: No, absolutely not. I am opposed to this project because it is not in the public
interest, neither within my community nor within our state.

### Q: Would you be happier if instead of crossing your land, this proposed pipeline was to cross someone else's land?

A: No, absolutely not. I would get no joy in having a fellow citizen of my state have
the fear and anxiety and potential foreseeable risks and negative impacts that this
type of a project carrying this type of product brings foisted upon anyone in this
state or any other state.

### Q: Do you think there is any intelligent route for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline to cross the state of Nebraska?

A: I don't believe there is an intelligent route because as I have stated I don't believe
this project anywhere within Nebraska is within the public interest. However, if
you are presenting a hypothetical that if this proposed KXL Pipeline absolutely
had to go somewhere in the state of Nebraska, the only intelligent route I believe
would be to twin or closely parallel the existing Keystone I Pipeline. Both the
preferred route and the mainline alternative routes are economic liabilities our
state cannot risk.

#### 8

#### Q: What do you rely upon to make that statement?

9 Well, the fact that a pipeline owned and operated by TransCanada, Keystone I, A: 10 already exists in that area is reason enough as it is not in our best interest or the 11 public interests to have more major oil pipelines crisscrossing our state. Second, 12 they have all the infrastructure already there in terms of relationships with the 13 counties and local officials and first responders along that route. Third, they have 14 already obtained easements from all the landowners along that route and have 15 relationships with them. Fourth, that route avoids our most sensitive soils, the 16 sandier lighter soils. Fifth, that route for all practical purposes avoids the Ogallala 17 Aquifer. Sixth, they have already studied that route and previously offered it as an 18 alternative. Seventh, it just makes the most sense that as a state we would have some intelligent policy of energy corridors and co-locating this type of 19 20 infrastructure near each other.

### Q: Do you have any other concerns you would like to reiterate or can think of at this time you would like the Commissioners to understand?

A: Yes. We worry about the tar sands that need strong and damaging chemicals (solvents) that are used to push this dirty liquid through the underground pipeline which will be close to home and drinking wells. Solvents, which are unlike oil, will permeate immediately into water and the only way to remove solvents is to distill it which means the water would be permanently destroyed. We are instructed to be concerned about nitrates in water, shouldn't we worry about the tar sands mixture leaking into the drinking wells people and animals use? When 1 the sandy, porous and permeable land is dug up and disturbed as the pipeline 2 construction would be certainly do, there is little, if any healing process to return 3 the land to its natural productive state. It will be forever changed. Our constitution 4 Rights that were reserved for the grants us landowners property rights. 5 government for the taking of property for specified purpose of "public use" do not 6 apply to this Application or project. The proposed routes should not be approved. 7 The constitution does not say a private company can use eminent domain for its 8 own use and then profit from it. There are strict laws for the government to use 9 eminent domain.

10 Q: Have you fully expressed each and every opinion, concern, or fact you would
 11 like the Public Service Commissioners to consider in their review of
 12 TransCanada's Application?

No, I have not. I have shared that which I can think of as of the date I signed this 13 **A**: 14 document below but other things may come to me or my memory may be 15 refreshed and I will add and address those things at the time of the Hearing in 16 August and address any additional items at that time as is necessary. Additionally, 17 I have not had an adequate amount of time to receive and review all of 18 TransCanada's answers to our discovery and the discovery of others so it was 19 impossible to competently and completely react to that in my testimony here and I 20 reserve the right to also address anything related to discovery that has not yet 21 concluded as of the date I signed this document below. Lastly, certain documents 22 requested have not yet been produced by TransCanada and therefore I may have 23 additional thoughts on those I will also share at the hearing as needed.

## Q: Does Attachment No. 8 here contain other documents you are competent to speak about that you wish to be part of your testimony and to discuss in more detail as needed at the August 2017 Hearing?

27 A: Yes.

## Q: What is it that you are requesting the Public Service Commissioners do in regards to TransCanada's application for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline across Nebraska?

4 A: I am respectfully and humbly requesting that the Commissioners think far beyond 5 a temporary job spike that this project may bring to a few counties and beyond the 6 relatively small amount of taxes this proposed foreign pipeline would possibly 7 generate. And, instead think about the perpetual and forever impacts of this 8 pipeline as it would have on the landowners specifically, first and foremost, but 9 also thereby upon the entire state of Nebraska, and to determine that neither the 10 preferred route nor the Keystone mainline alternative route are in the public 11 interest of the citizens of the state of Nebraska. And if the Commissioners were 12 inclined to modify TransCanada's proposed routes and were to be inclined to grant 13 an application for a route in Nebraska, that the only potential route that would 14 make any intelligent sense whatsoever would be twinning or near paralleling of 15 the proposed KXL with the existing Keystone I pipeline. It simply does not make 16 sense to add yet another major oil pipeline crisscrossing our state creating new 17 pumping stations, creating new impacts on additional counties and communities 18 and going through all of the court processes with myself and other landowners like 19 me when this applicant already has relationships with the landowners, the towns 20 and the communities along Keystone I, and that Keystone I is firmly outside of the 21 sand hills and a significantly further portion away from the heart of the Ogallala 22 Aguifer than the preferred route or the Keystone mainline alternative route.

## Q: Are all of your statements in your testimony provided above true and accurate as of the date you signed this document to the best of your knowledge?

A: Yes, they are.

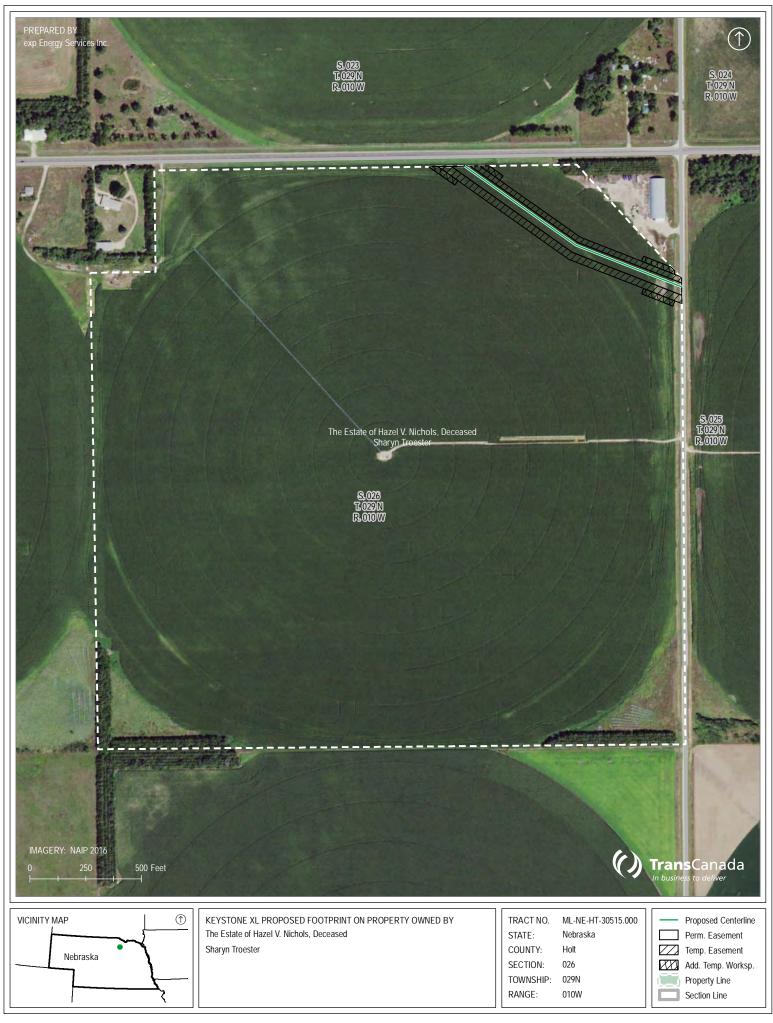
Q: Thank you, I have no further questions at this time and reserve the right to
ask you additional questions at the August 2017 Hearing.

Sharyn L. Moester Sharyn J. Troester

Subscribed and Sworn to me before this <u>30<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>May</u>, 2017. <u>Amy Harmon</u> Notary Public
<u>Beneral NOTARY - State of Nebraska</u> <u>AMY HARMON</u> <u>My Comm. Exp. February 14, 2020</u>



Attachment No. 1



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### KXL019146



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### KXL019147

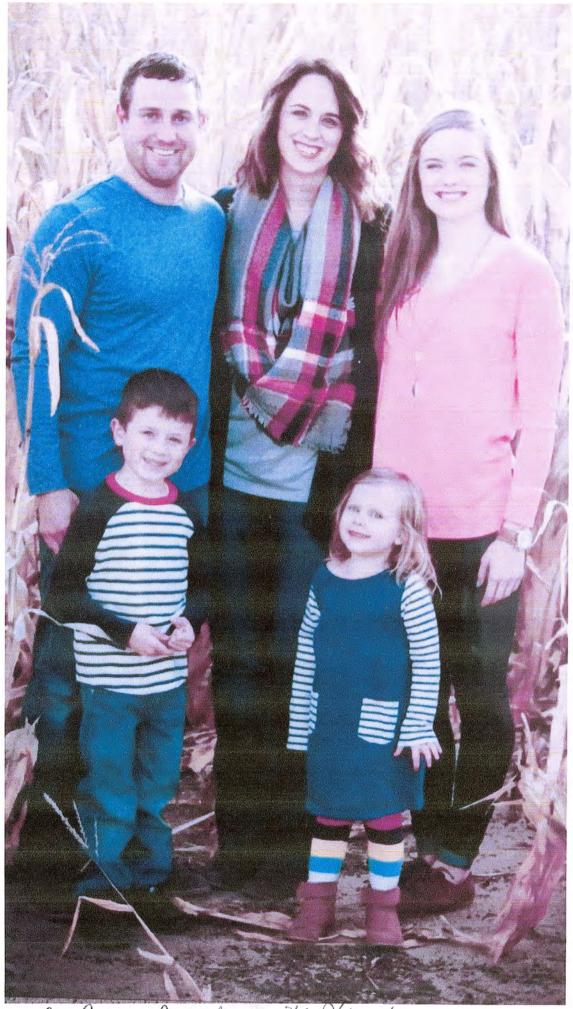


KXL019148

Attachment No. 2

pardson Shart dity, Mason Ling Bot I derive Loty, son in law and daughter





son aaron Irdester, wife gennefer standchildren

Attachment No. 3

Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

(Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-HT-30495.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") Nichols Family Limited Partnership, a Nebraska limited partnership, whose mailing address is 119 E. Adams Street, O'Neill, NE 68763 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and

Grantor's Initials\_\_\_\_\_

petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 160 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as the NE1/4 of Section 22, T29N, R10W of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 195, Page 118A in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the

negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

13. Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

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15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

Nichols Family Limited Partnership, a Nebraska limited partnership

By:

its:

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

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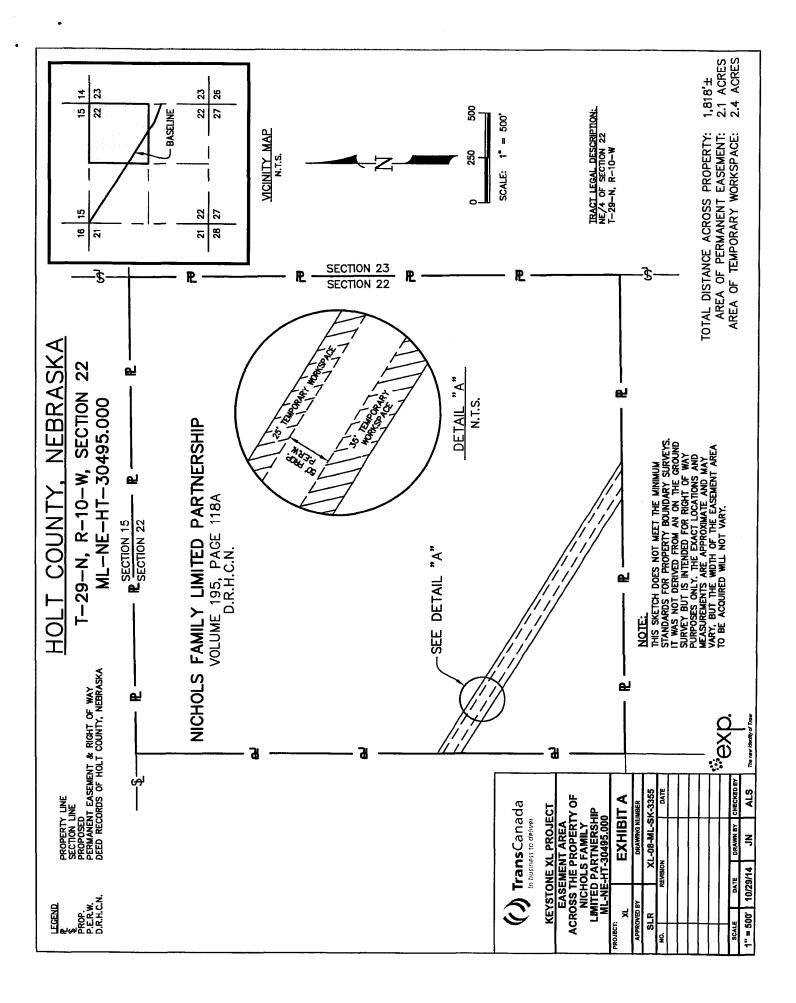
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COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
Ву		of

Nichols Family Limited Partnership, a Nebraska limited partnership, on behalf of the corporation.

Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here



Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

### (Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-HT-30515.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") Sharyn L. Troester, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Hazel V. Nichols, Deceased, whose mailing address is 119 E. Adams Street, O'Neill, NE 68763 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the

Grantor's Initials\_

transportation of crude petroleum, oil and petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 153.66 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as a part of the NE1/4 of Section 26, Township 29 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 171, Page 432 in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee

harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, 13. without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

Estate of Hazel V. Nichols, Deceased

Sharyn L. Troester, as Personal Representative

# [ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

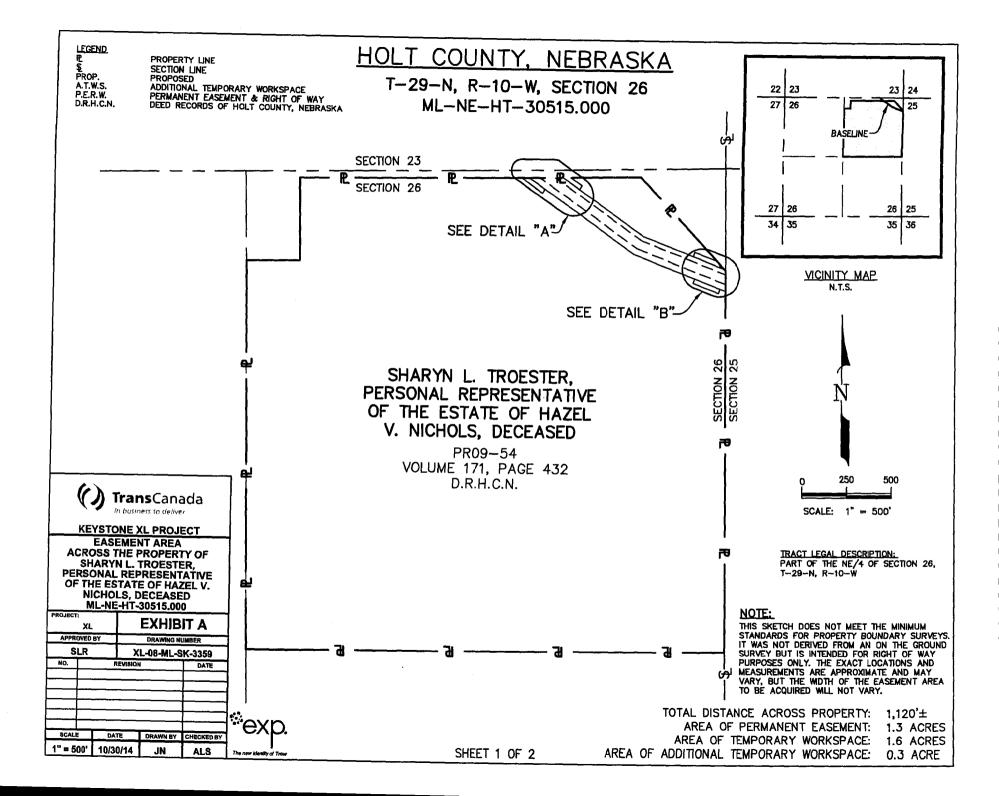
STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20_
By Sharyn L. Troester, as Personal Representative of the Estate	e of Hazel V. Nichols	, Deceased

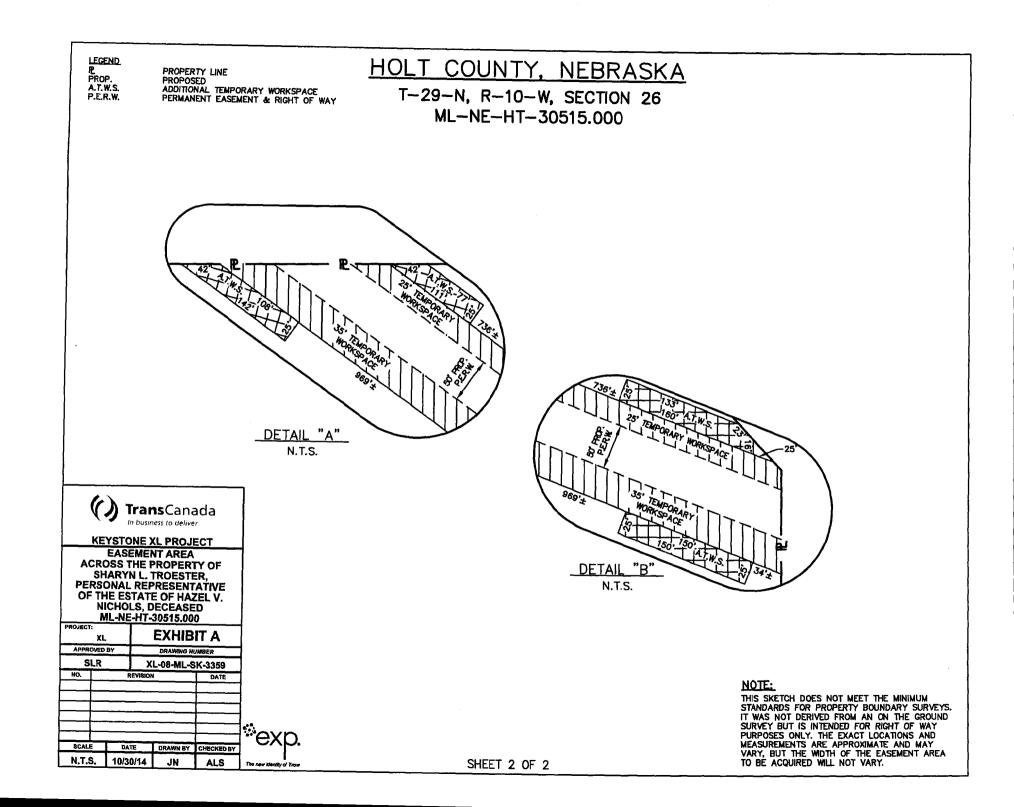
Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here

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Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

(Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-HT-30517.000 ML-NE-HT-30520.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") David W. Troester and Sharyn L. Troester, husband and wife, whose mailing address is 119 E. Adams Street, O'Neill, NE 68763 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection

equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate aboveground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 3.27 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as a part of the NE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 26, Township 29 North, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 190, Page 433 in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

A tract of land containing 313.57 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Holt, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as a part of the N1/2 of Section 25, T29N, R10W of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 174, Page 560 in the Deed Records of Holt County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

13. Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location

of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

Grantor's Initials

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

David W. Troester

Sharyn L. Troester

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

Grantor's Initials\_\_\_\_\_

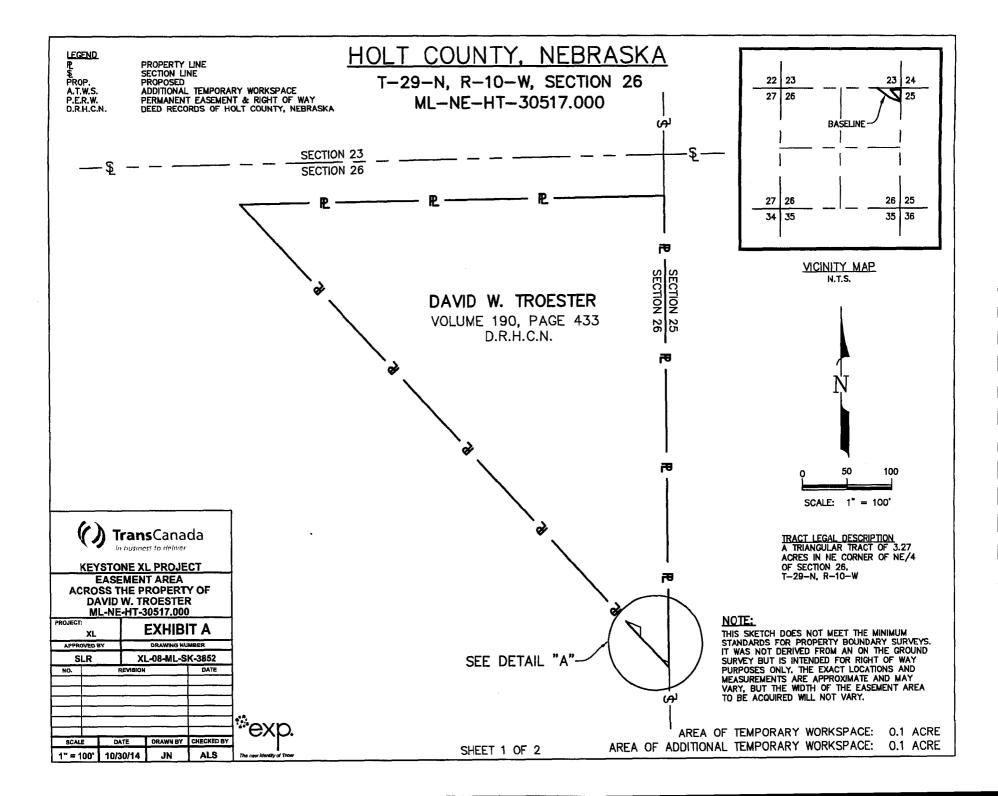
STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
By David W. Troester		
Not	ary Public Signature	
Affix Seal Here		
OTATE OF		
STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
By Sharyn L. Troester		

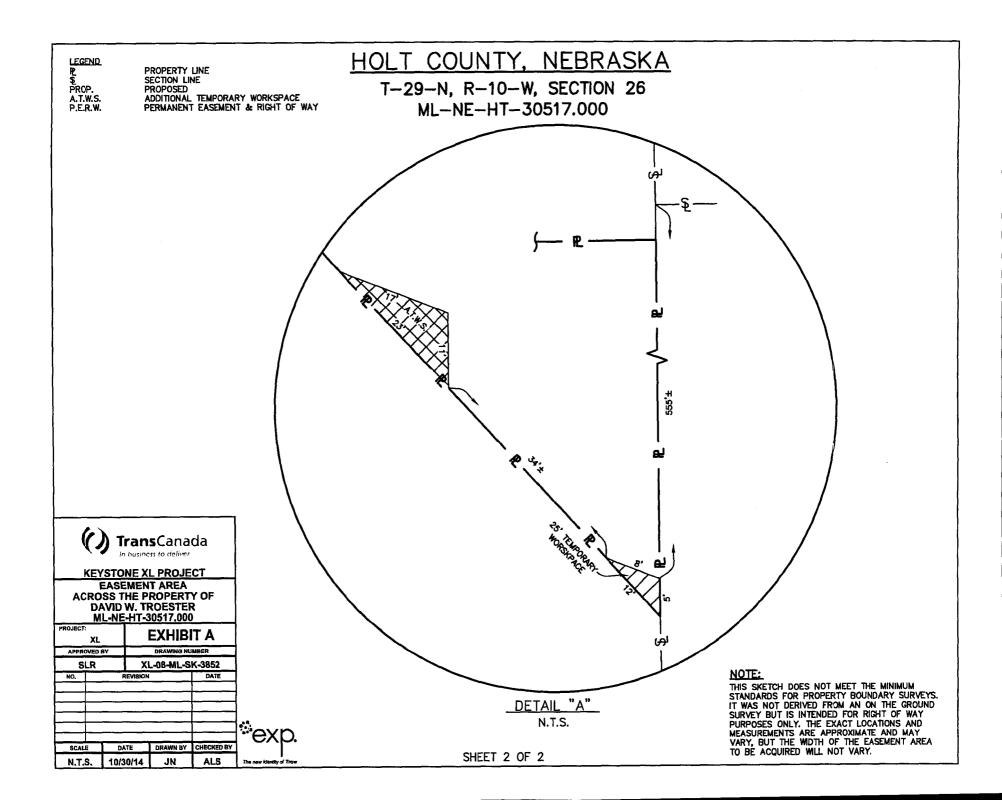
Notary Public Signature

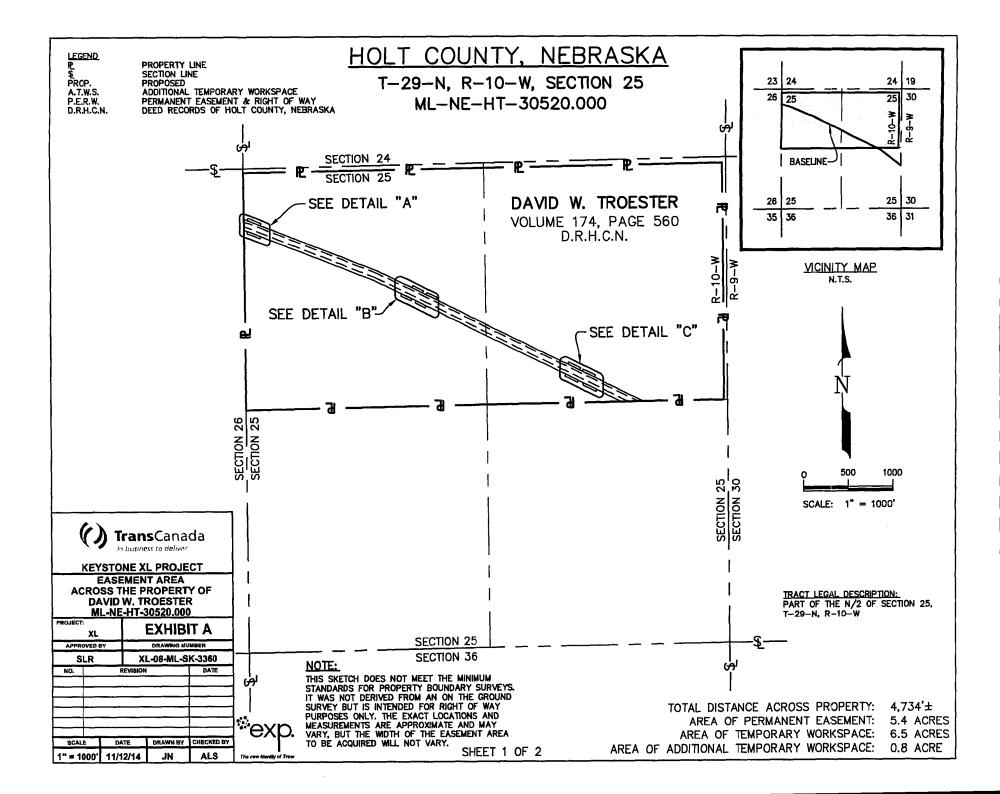
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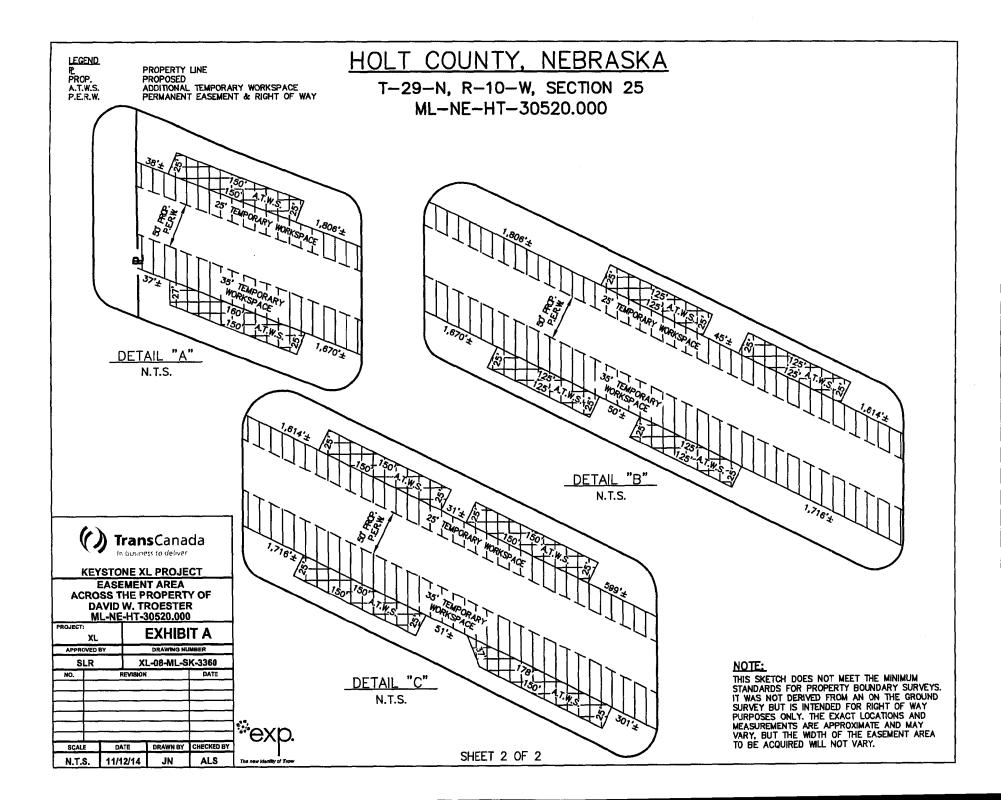
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Attachment No. 4

#### 8:15-cv-00403 Doc # 1 Filed: 11/03/15 Page 1 of 5 - Page ID # 1

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE	)	CASE NO
COMPANY, a New York Corporation,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT
V.	)	
	)	
RICHARD ANDREW, JANE ANDREW,	)	
LUKE ANDREW, and BRYCE ANDREW,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**COMES NOW** Plaintiff, Zurich American Insurance Company ("Plaintiff"), a New York Corporation, and for its causes of action against Defendants, states and alleges as follows:

# PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principle place of business located at 1400 American Lane, Schaumburg, Illinois.

- 2. Defendant, Richard Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 3. Defendant, Jane Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 4. Defendant, Luke Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 5. Defendant, Bryce Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because Defendants reside in this district, and a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this district.

7. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and because diversity of citizenship exists with respect to Plaintiff and all Defendants.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

8. At all times material to this action, Defendants were agents of each other and were acting within the course and scope of their agency relationships, and the negligence of any Defendant is imputed to all Defendants.

9. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a joint venture and were acting within the course and scope of the joint venture at the time of the event described below.

10. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a partnership, were carrying on a business for profit, shared profits of the business, and were acting within the course and scope of the partnership at the time of the event described below.

11. At all relevant times, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were the lessees of property located in the East ½ of the Southwest ¼, Section 15, Township 4, Range 15 (the "Property"), Nemaha County, Nebraska, and were engaged in commercial farming operations for the benefit of all named Defendants in this action.

12. On or about December 10, 2011, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were engaged in excavation activities on the Property, including the clearing of various vegetation near the northernmost property line of the Property.

13. The excavation was in the area of two pipelines owned and operated by Magellan Midstream Partners, LP ("Magellan"), including a 12" pipeline used to transport a mixture of gasoline and jet fuel as well as an 8" pipeline ("the Pipelines") used to transport diesel fuel.

14. At all times relevant to this action, Magellan owned a right-of-way and easement on the Property in the areas where the pipelines ran and Defendants had actual and constructive knowledge of the right-of-way and easement.

15. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants had actual and constructive notice of the pipelines on the Property and had notice that Magellan owned and operated such pipelines.

16. On or about December 10, 2011, while engaged in excavation activities, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew struck the pipeline, causing the release of approximately 2,167 barrels of mixed gasoline and jet fuel from the 12" pipeline and approximately 643 barrels of diesel fuel from the 8" pipeline onto the Property (The line strikes will hereinafter be referred to as "the Release").

17. As a result of the line strikes and release, Magellan was required by state and federal

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law to engage in cleanup and remediation activities related to the Release.

18. At the time of the Release, Magellan was the named insured on a policy of insurance, Policy No. EPC 669256201 ("the Policy"), issued by Plaintiff.

19. Plaintiff has made payment on behalf of Magellan under the Policy and has a contractual and equitable right of subrogation and is subrogated to Magellan's rights of recovery against Defendants for amounts paid on its behalf.

#### FIRST CLAIM: NEGLIGENCE

20. Paragraphs 1-20 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

21. Defendants owed a duty to perform their work on the Property and within the rightof-way and easement owned and operated by Magellan in a reasonable manner, to use reasonable care in constructing improvements on the Property, to comply with the statutory requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 76-2301 et seq., the One Call Notification System ("OCNS"), and to protect the Pipelines on the Property from damage during Defendants' work on the Property.

22. Defendants negligently struck the Pipelines while performing excavation work on the Property.

- 23. Defendants were negligent in the following particulars:
  - a. Defendants failed to perform their work on the Property within the right-of-way and easement in a reasonable manner;
  - b. Defendants failed to use reasonable care in their work on the Property and the Pipelines' right-of-way and easement;
  - c. Defendants failed to comply with the statutory requirements of the OCNS;
  - d. Defendants failed to notify Magellan of Defendants' intent to excavate on December 10, 2011 in and over the right-of-way and easement on the Property;
  - e. Defendants failed to give Magellan the opportunity to exercise its rights under the OCNS.

24. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

25. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

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26. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its first claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69 for Defendants' negligent strike of the Pipelines.

#### SECOND CLAIM: TRESPASS

27. Paragraphs 1-29 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

28. Magellan owned and occupied a valid right-of-way and easement in and to the area of the Property where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

29. Defendants physically invaded Magellan's rights within and to the right-of-way and easement where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

30. Defendants had no right, lawful authority, or express or implied invitation, permission, or license to enter upon and disturb Magellan's rights and interests in and to the right-of-way and easement where Magellan's pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

31. Magellan's interest in and to the right-of-way and easement of the Pipelines were injured during the course of Defendants' trespass.

32. As a result of Defendants' trespass, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

33. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

34. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its second claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff hereby prays for a judgment of this Court in its favor and against Defendants for its damages in an amount to be proven at trial, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, its costs incurred in prosecuting this action, and such other reasonable sums as this Court deems just and equitable.

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38 and Local Rule 40.1(b) demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable in Omaha, Nebraska.

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

By: /s/ Albert M. Engles ENGLES, KETCHAM, OLSON, & KEITH, P.C. 1350 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102 (402) 348-0900 (402) 348-0904 (Facsimile) Albert M. Engles, #11194 Dan H. Ketcham, #18930 Michael L. Moran, #24042 James C. Boesen, #24862 Attachment No. 5

# ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

# Tract No. : <u>ML-NE-HT-30515.000</u>

I/we <u>Sharyn L. Troester</u>, <u>Personal Representative of the Estate of Hazel V. Nichols</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of Nebraska, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Two thousand five hundred sixty and no/100</u> (\$2,560.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### Part of NE/4

# Section 26, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

**Owner** Signature

**Owner Signature** 

Owner/Owner Representative Name

Owner/Owner Representative Name

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : ML-NE-HT-30495.000

I/we <u>Nichols Family Limited Partnership</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of <u>Nebraska</u>, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and No Cents</u> (\$3,600.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### NE/4

#### Section 22, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.
Owner Signature
Owner Representative Name
Owner/Owner Representative Name

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : ML-NE-HT-30517.000

I/we <u>David W. Troester and Sharyn L. Troester</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of Nebraska, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Fifty Two Dollars and No Cents</u> (\$52.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

# Part of NE/4

#### Section 26, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Owner Signature

Owner Signature

Owner/Owner Representative Name

Owner/Owner Representative Name

# ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : ML-NE-HT-30520.000

I/we <u>David W. Troester and Sharyn L. Troester</u>, of <u>Holt</u> County, in the State of Nebraska, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

Ten Thousand One Hundred Sixty Dollars and No Cents (\$10,160.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Holt, State of Nebraska:

#### Part of N/2

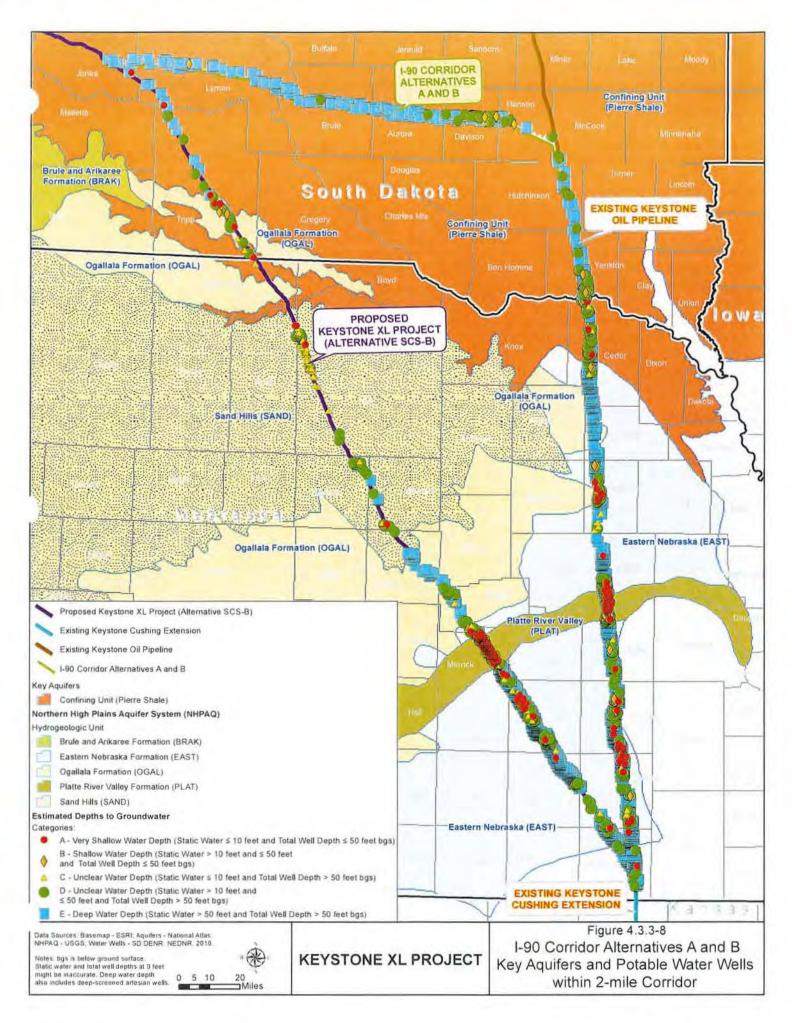
# Section 25, Township 29-N, Range 10-W

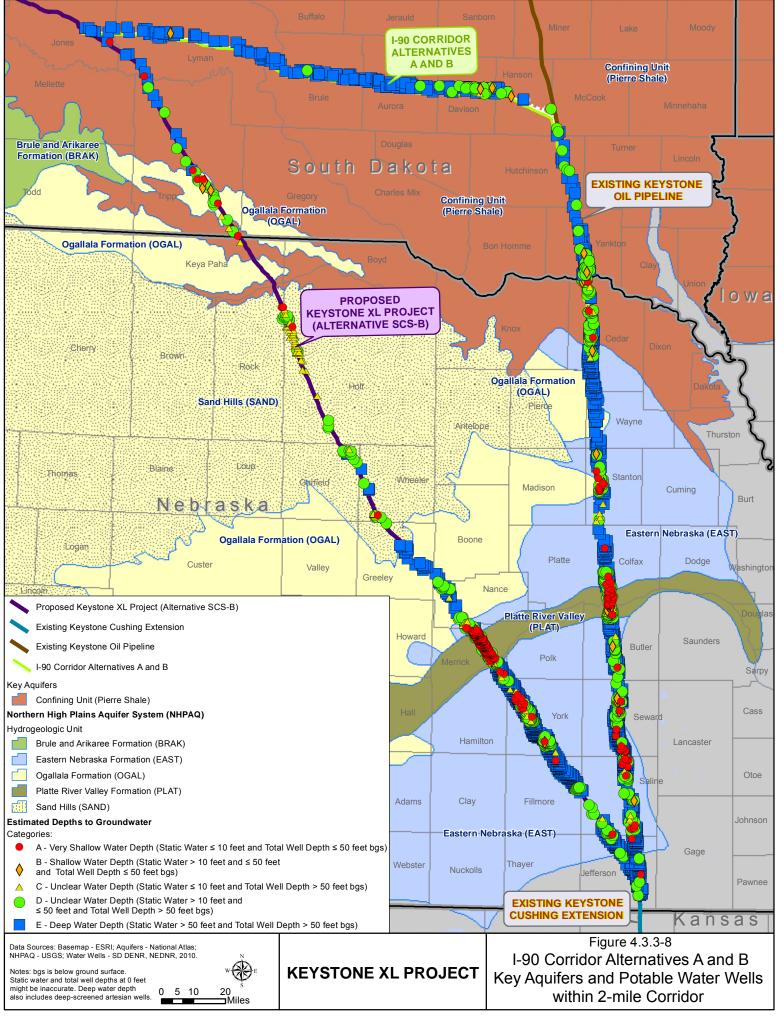
Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

, 20		
Owner Signature	Owner Signature	
Owner/Owner Representative Name	Owner/Owner Representative Name	

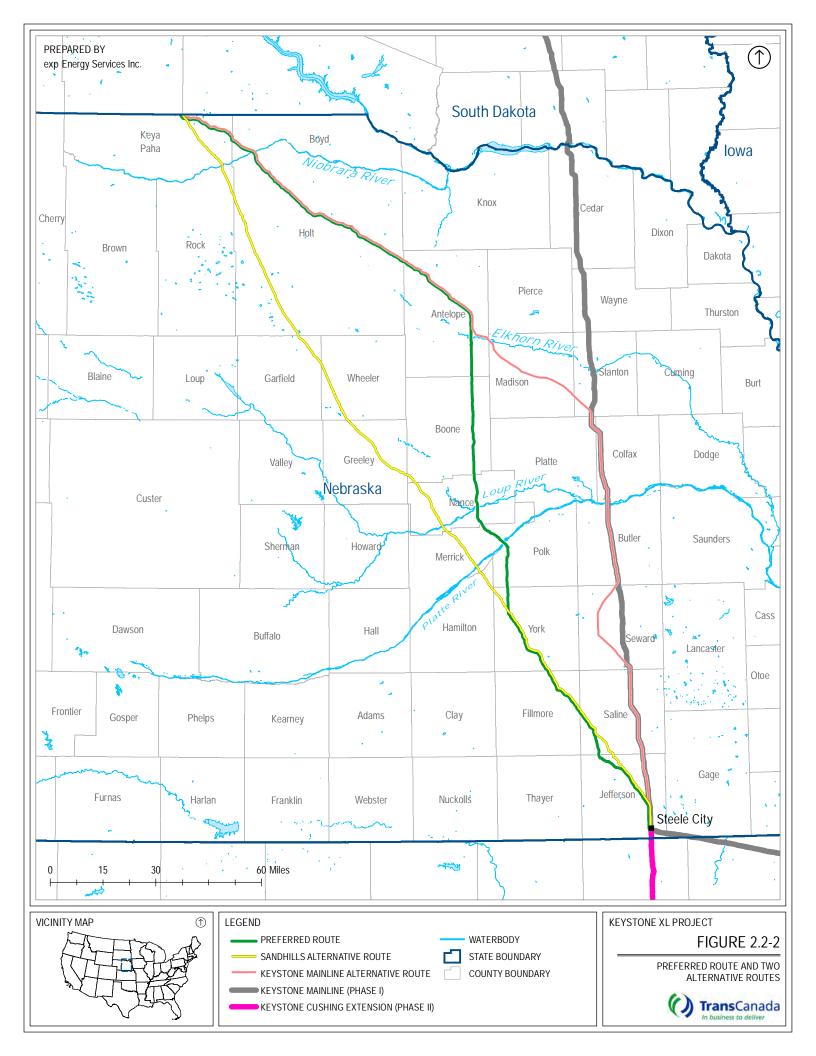
Attachment No. 6



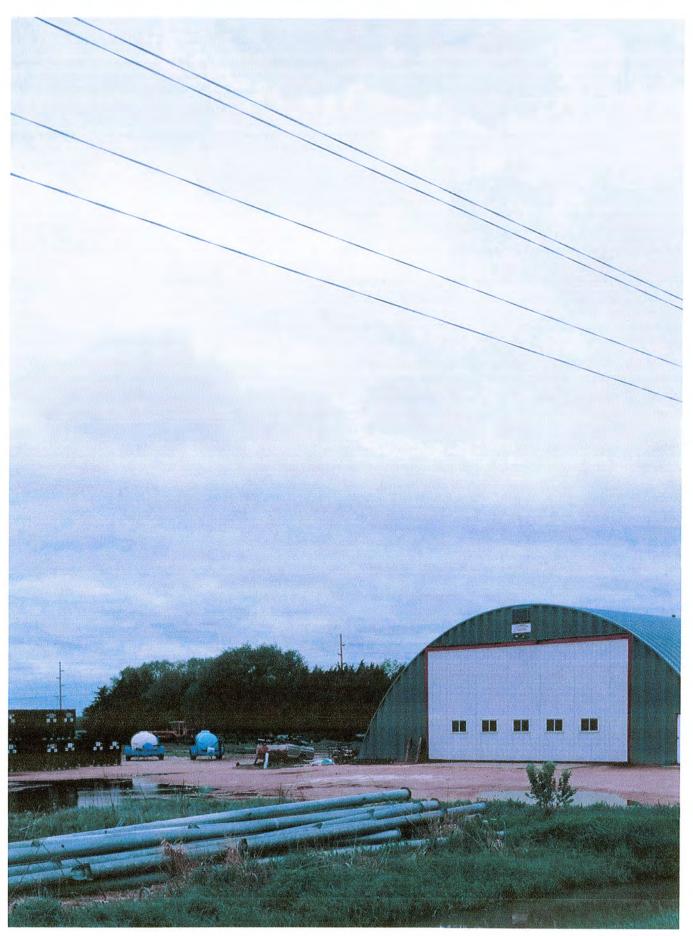


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Attachment No. 7

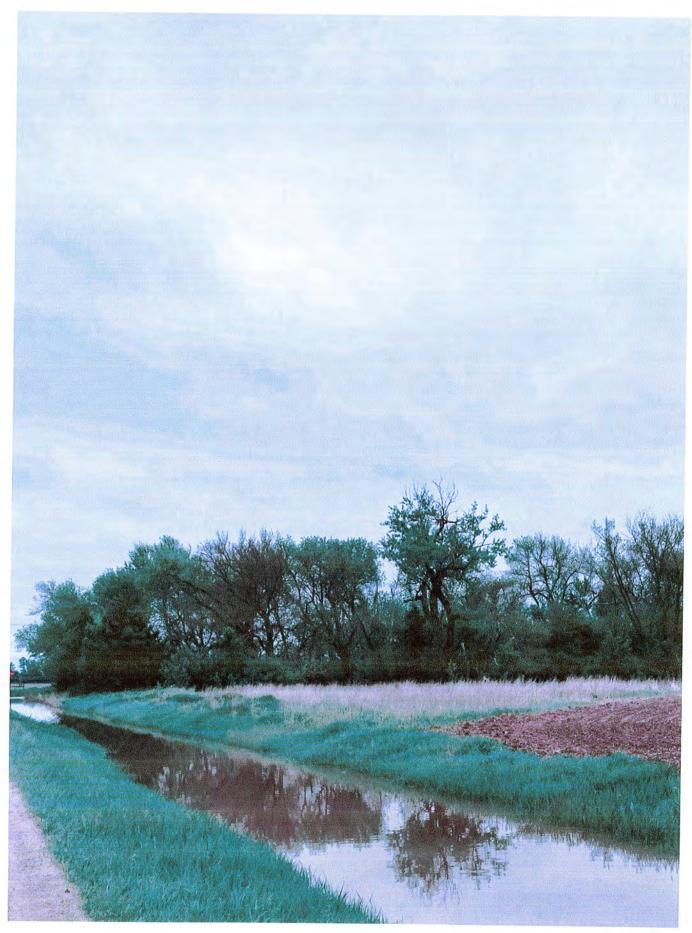


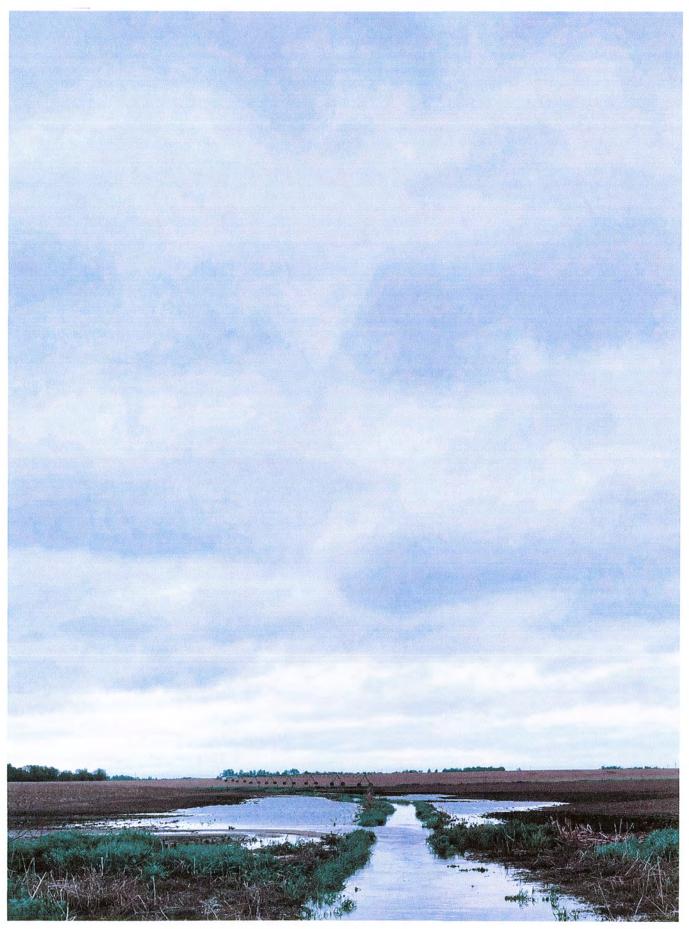
Attachment No. 8



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5/21/2017





5/21/2017

#### Before the Nebraska Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application

of

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Route Approval of Keystone XL Pipeline Project, Pursuant to *Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act*  **Application No: OP-003** 

Direct Testimony of Terry Van Housen in Support of Landowner Intervenors

State of Nebraska	)
	) ss.
Polk County	)

1	Q:	Please state your name.
2	A:	My name is Terry Van Housen.
3	Q:	Are you an intervener in the Public Service Commission's proceedings
4		regarding TransCanada's application for approval of its proposed Keystone
5		XL tar sands pipeline across Nebraska?
6	A:	Yes, I am.
7	Q:	Do you own land in Nebraska, either directly or through an entity of which
8		you are an owner that could be affected by the proposed TransCanada
9		Keystone XL pipeline?
10	A:	Yes, I do and it is located in Polk County.
11	Q:	Is Attachment No. 1 to this sworn statement copies of true and accurate aerial
12		photo(s) of your land in question here with the area of the proposed KXL
13		pipeline depicted?
14	A:	Yes.
15	Q:	What do you do for a living?
16	A:	Operate a 10,000 head cattle feeding operation.

1	Q:	If you are you married tell us your spouse's name please?
2	A:	Yes, Rebecca she goes by Becky.
3	Q:	If you have children how many do you have?
4	A:	Two, a son and a daughter.
5	Q:	Is Attachment No. 2 to this sworn statement a copy(ies) of picture(s) of you
6		and or your family?
7	А.	Yes.
8	Q:	How long the land has been in your family?
9	A:	We started farming this ground in 1985 for an older couple from Polk County. In
10		1991 we bought the ground.
11	Q:	Do you earn any income from this land?
12	A:	Yes.
13	Q:	Have you depended on the income from your land to support your livelihood
14		or the livelihood of your family?
15	A:	Yes.
16	Q:	Have you ever in the past or have you thought about in the future leasing all
17		or a portion of your land in question here?
18	A:	Yes, I have thought of it and that concerns me. I am concerned that a prospective
19		tenant may try to negotiate a lower price for my land if it had the pipeline on it and
20		all the restrictions and risks and potential negative impacts to farming or ranching
21		operations as opposed to land that did not have those same risks. If I was looking
22		to lease or rent ground I would pay more for comparable non-pipeline land than I
23		would for comparable pipeline land and I think most folks would think the same
24		way. This is another negative economic impact that affects the landowner and the
25		county and the state and will forever and ever should TransCanada's preferred or
26		mainline alternative routes be approved. If they were to twin or closely parallel to
27		Keystone I the vast majority of landowners would be those that already have a
28		pipeline so there would be considerable less new incremental negative impacts.
29	Q:	Do you have similar concerns about selling the land?

1	A:	Well I hope not to have to sell the land in my lifetime but times change and you
2		never know what is around the corner and yes I am concerned that if another piece
3		of ground similar to mine were for sale and it did not have the pipeline and mine
4		did that I would have a lower selling price.
5	Q:	What is your intent with your land after you die?
6	A:	Like I said I hope not to have to sell and I hope that it stays in the family for years
7		to come but I have thought about getting out if this pipeline were to come through.
8	Q:	Are you aware that the preferred route of TransCanada's Keystone XL
9		Pipeline would cross the land described above and owned by you?
10	A:	Yes.
11	Q:	Were you or an entity for which you are a member, shareholder, or director
12		previously sued by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP?
13	A:	Yes, we were in 2015. TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP sued us by filing a
14		petition for condemnation against our land so it could place its proposed pipeline
15		within an easement that it wanted to take from us on our land.
16	Q:	Did you defend yourself and your land in that condemnation action?
17	A:	Yes, we did. We hired lawyers to defend and protect us and we incurred legal fees
18		and expenses in our resistance of TransCanada's lawsuit against us.
19	Q:	Has TransCanada reimbursed you for any of your expenses or costs for fees
20		incurred?
21	A:	No, they have not.
22	Q:	In its lawsuit against you, did TransCanada identify the amount of your
23		property that it wanted to take for its proposed pipeline?
24	A:	The lawsuit against us stated they would take the amount of property that is
25		reasonably necessary to lay, relay, operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant
26		and equipment reasonably necessary to operate the pipeline.
27	Q:	Did TransCanada define what they meant by "property that is reasonably
28		necessary"?
29	A:	No, they did not.

3

Q: Did TransCanada in its lawsuit against you, identify the eminent domain
 property portion of your land?

3 A: Yes, they did.

4 Q: Did TransCanada describe what rights it proposed to take related to the
5 eminent domain property on your land?

6 A: Yes, they did.

7 Q: What rights that they proposed to take did they describe?

8 A: TransCanada stated that the eminent domain property will be used to "lay, relay, 9 operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant and equipment reasonably 10 necessary to operate the pipeline, specifically including surveying, laying, 11 constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning one pipeline, together with all fittings, 12 13 cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all their equipment and appurtenances thereto, for the transportation of oil, natural gas, hydrocarbon, 14 petroleum products, and all by-products thereof." 15

## 16 Q: Prior to filing an eminent domain lawsuit to take your land that 17 TransCanada identified, do you believe they attempted to negotiate in good 18 faith with you?

19 A: No, I do not.

Q: Did TransCanada at any time approach you with or deliver to you their
 proposed easement and right-of-way agreement?

22 A: Yes, they did.

Q: At the time you reviewed TransCanada's easement and right-of-way
agreement, did you understand that they would be purchasing a fee title
interest in your property or that they were taking something else?

A: I understood that they proposed to have the power to take both a temporary construction easement that could last for a certain period of time and then also a permanent easement which they described to be 50 feet across or in width, and

1		that would run the entire portion of my property from where a proposed pipeline
2		would enter my property until where it would exit the property.
3	Q:	Is the document included with your testimony here as Attachment No. 3, a
4		true and accurate copy of TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-
5		Way agreement that they included with their condemnation lawsuit against
6		you?
7	A:	Yes, it is.
8	Q:	Have you had an opportunity to review TransCanada's proposed Easement
9		and Right-of-Way agreement?
10	A:	Yes, I have.
11	Q:	What is your understanding of the significance of the Easement and Right-of-
12		Way agreement as proposed by TransCanada?
13	A:	My understanding is that this is the document that will govern all of the rights and
14		obligations and duties as well as the limitations of what I can and cannot do and
15		how I and any future landowner and any person I invite to come onto my property
16		must behave as well as what TransCanada is and is not responsible for and how
17		they can use my land.
18	Q:	After reviewing TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way
19		agreement do you have any concerns about any portions of it or any of the
20		language either included in the document or missing from the proposed
21		document?
22	A:	Yes, I have a number of significant concerns and worries about the document and
23		how the language included and the language not included potentially negatively
24		impacts my land and thereby potentially negatively impacts my community and
25		my state.
26	Q:	I would like you to walk the Commissioners through each and every one of
27		your concerns about TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way
28		agreement so they can develop an understanding of how that language and
29		the terms of that contract, in your opinion, potentially negatively impacts you

and your land. So, if you can start at the beginning of that document and
 let's work our way through it, okay?

A: Yes, I'll be happy to express my concerns about TransCanada's proposed
Easement and Right-of-Way agreement and how it negatively could affect my
property rights and my economic interests.

6 **O** 

#### Q. Okay, let's start with your first concern please.

A: The very first sentence talks about consideration or how much money they will
pay to compensate me for all of the known and unknown affects and all of the
rights I am giving up and for all the things they get to do to my land and for what
they will prevent me from doing on my land and they only will pay me one time at
the signing of the easement agreement. That is a huge problem.

#### 12 **Q:** Explain to the Commissioners why that is a problem.

- 13 A: It is not fair to the landowner, the county, or the State. It is not fair to the 14 landowner because they want to have my land forever for use as they see fit so 15 they can make a daily profit from their customers. If I was to lease ground from 16 my neighbor I would typically pay twice a year every year as long as they granted 17 me the rights to use their land. That only makes sense – that is fair. If I was going 18 to rent a house in town I would typically pay monthly, every month until I gave up 19 my right to use that house. By TransCanada getting out on the cheap and paying 20 once in today's dollars that is monthly, bi-annual, or at least an annual loss in tax 21 revenue collection on the money I would be paid and then pay taxes on and 22 contribute to this state and this country. It is money I would be putting back into 23 my local community both spending and stimulating the local economy and 24 generating more economic activity right here. Instead TransCanada's shareholders 25 keep all that money and it never finds its way to Nebraska.
- 25 26

#### **Q:** What is your next concern?

A: The first paragraph goes on to say Grantor, which is me the landowner, "does
hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a
limited partnership..." and I have no idea who that really is. I have no idea who is

1 forcing this pipeline on us or who the owners of the entities are, or what are the 2 assets backing this limited partnership, or who the general partner is, or who all 3 the limited partners are, and who makes up the ownership of the these partners or 4 the structure or any of the basic things you would want to know and understand if 5 you would want to do business with such an outfit. According to TransCanada's 6 answer to our Interrogatory No. 28, as of the date I signed this testimony, a limited 7 liability company called TransCanada Keystone Pipeline GP, LLC is the general 8 partner and it only owns 0.02 percent of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP so 9 basically nothing. That is really scary since the general partner has the liability but 10 virtually none of the ownership and who knows if it has any other assets.

## Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred percent clear on exactly who could become the owner of over 275 miles of Nebraska land?

14 A: No.

# Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred percent clear on exactly who will be operating and responsible for approximately 275 miles of tar sands pipeline underneath and through Nebraska land?

19 A: No.

### Q: Okay, let's continue please with your concerns of the impacts upon your land and the State of Nebraska of TransCanada's easement terms.

A: Yes, so the next sentence talks about "...its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee")..." and this concerns me because it would allow their easement to be transferred or sold to someone or some company or country or who knows what that I don't know and who we may not want to do business with. This pipeline would be a huge asset for TransCanada and if they can sell to the highest bidder that could have terrible impacts upon all of Nebraska depending upon who may buy it and I don't know of any safeguards in place for us or the State to veto or have any say so in who may own, operate, or be responsible for this pipeline in
 the future.

### 3 Q: Do you think that type of uncertainty and lack of control over a major piece 4 of infrastructure crossing our State is in the public interest?

5 A: No, certainly not, in fact, just the opposite.

6 Q: What's next?

A: Then it says "...a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way..." and this
really concerns me. Why does the easement and right-of-way have to be perpetual
and permanent? That is the question myself and my family want an answer to.
Perpetual to me is like forever and that doesn't make sense.

11 Q: Why doesn't a perpetual Easement and Right-of-Way make sense to you?

- 12 A: For many reasons but mostly because the tar sands are finite. I am unaware of any 13 data proving there is a perpetual supply of tar sands. I am not aware in TransCanada's application where it proves there is a perpetual necessity for this 14 15 pipeline. My understanding of energy infrastructure like wind towers is they have 16 a decommission plan and actually take the towers down when they become 17 obsolete or no longer needed. Nothing manmade lasts forever. My land however will, and I want my family or future Nebraska families to have that land as 18 undisturbed as possible and it is not in my interest or the public interest of 19 20 Nebraska to be forced to give up perpetual and permanent rights in the land for 21 this specific kind of pipeline project.
- 22

#### Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

A: The easement language includes all these things TransCanada can do and it says "...abandoning in place..." so they can just leave this pipeline under my ground until the end of time just sitting there while they are not using it, but I am still prevented from doing on my land and using my land what I would like. If I owned a gas station I couldn't just leave my underground oil or fuel storage tanks sitting there. It doesn't make sense and it scares me and it is not in my interest or the public interest of Nebraska to allow this.

### Q: Now it looks like we are ready to go to the second page of the Easement is that right?

3 A: Yes.

#### 4 Q: So now on the second page of the Easement what are your concerns?

5 Here the Easement identifies a 24-month deadline to complete construction of the A: 6 pipeline but has caveats that are undefined and ambiguous. The 24-month period 7 starts to run from the moment "actual pipeline installation activities" begin on 8 Landowners property. It appears that TransCanada would define this phrase as 9 needed. It would be wise to explain what types of TransCanada action constitutes "installation activity" For instance, would the placement and storage of an 10 11 excavator or other equipment on or near the Easement property be an activity or 12 would earth have to be moved before the activity requirement is triggered. This 13 vague phrase is likely to lead to future disputes and litigation that is not in the best 14 interest of the welfare of Nebraska and would not protect property interests. The 15 24-months can also be extended in the case of "force majeure." My understanding 16 is that force majeure is often used to insulate a party to a contract when events 17 occur that are completely out of their control. In TransCanada's easement this is expanded to include "without limitation...availability of labor and materials." 18 19 Extending this language to labor and materials is problematic because these are 20 two variables that TransCanada does have some or significant control over and to 21 allow extension of the 24-month period over events not truly out of the control of 22 TransCanada and without further provision for compensation for the Landowner is 23 not conducive to protection of property rights.

23

#### 24 Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

A: Paragraphs 1.A. and 1.B. deal with the liabilities and responsibilities of TransCanada and Landowner. In 1.A., the first sentence discusses "commercially reasonable costs and expenses" will pay for damages caused but then limits TransCanada's liability to certain circumstances. There is no definition of "commercially reasonable" and no stated right that the Landowner would get to

determine the amounts of cost or expense that is "commercially reasonable." 1 2 TransCanada excepts out from their liability any damages that are caused by 3 Landowner's negligence or the negligence of anyone ever acting on the behalf of 4 Landowner. It is understandable that if the Landowner were to willfully and 5 intentionally cause damages to the pipeline that Landowner should be liable. 6 However, anything short of willful misconduct should be the lability of 7 TransCanada who is subjecting the pipeline on the Landowner and who is making 8 a daily profit from that pipeline. When evaluating the impact on property rights of 9 this provision, you must consider the potentially extremely expensive fight a 10 Landowner would have over this question of whether or not damage was an act of 11 negligence. Putting this kind of potential liability upon the Landowner is 12 incredibly problematic and is detrimental to the protection of property rights. I 13 don't think this unilateral power which I can't do anything about as the landowner 14 is in the best economic interest of the land in question or the State of Nebraska for 15 landowners to be treated that way.

#### 16 **Q**: Is there any specific event or example you are aware of that makes this 17 concern more real for you?

18 Yes, one need not look further than a November 3, 2015 lawsuit filed against A: 19 Nemaha County, Nebraska landowner farmers who accidently struck two 20 Magellan Midstream Partners, LP pipelines, one used to transport a mixture of 21 gasoline and jet fuel and a second used to transport diesel fuel. Magellan alleged 22 negligence and sued the Nebraska farmer for \$4,151,148.69. A true and accurate 23 copy of the Federal Court Complaint is here as Attachment No. 4.

#### 24

#### What is your next concern with the Easement language? **O**:

25 Paragraph 3 states that Landowner can farm on and otherwise use their property as A: they choose unless 1) any Landowner use interferes in any way with 26 TransCanada's exercise of any of its rights within the Easement, or 2) 27 28 TransCanada decides to take any action on the property it deems necessary to 29 prevent injury, endangerment or interference with anything TransCanada deems

necessary to do on the property. Landowner is also forbidden from excavating 1 2 without prior authorization by TransCanada. So my understanding is that 3 TransCanada will unilaterally determine what Landowner can and can't do based 4 upon how TransCanada chooses to define the terms in paragraph 3. TransCanada 5 could also completely deny my request to excavate. Further, TransCanada retains 6 all "privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights" granted to 7 them in the Easement. Again, TransCanada unilaterally can decide to the 8 detriment of the property rights of Landowner what TransCanada believes is 9 necessary or convenient for it. And there is no option for any additional 10 compensation to landowner for any right exercised by TransCanada that leads to 11 the removal of trees or plants or vegetation or buildings or structures or facilities 12 owned by Landowner of any kind. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions and 13 rights without having to compensate Landowner for such further destruction or 14 losses are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

15

#### **Q:** What is the next concern you have?

16 A: The Easement also allows some rights for Landowner but restricts them at the 17 same time and again at the sole and unilateral decision making of TransCanada. TransCanada will determine if the actions of Landowner might in anyway 18 19 endanger or obstruct or interfere with TransCanada's full use of the Easement or 20 any appurtenances thereon to the pipeline itself or to their access to the Easement 21 or within the Easement and TransCanada retains the right at any time, whether 22 during growing season or not, to travel "within and along Easement Area on foot 23 or in vehicle or machinery..." Further at TransCanada's sole discretion it will 24 retain the rights to prevent any landowner activity that it thinks may "unreasonably 25 impair[ed] or interfe[ed] with" TransCanada's use of the Easement Area. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions are not conducive to the protection of 26 27 property rights or economic interest.

#### 28 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement allows TransCanada sole discretion to burn or chip or bury under
Landowner's land any debris of any kind without any input or power of
Landowner to demand an alternative method or location of debris disposal. Such
unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive
to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 6 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

Again, undefined terms leave a lot of room for confusion. What does the phrase 7 A: "where rock is encountered" mean and why does TransCanada solely get to 8 9 determine whether or not this phrase is triggered. This phrase could be used to 10 justify installing the pipeline 24 inches beneath the surface. The ability to use this 11 provision to minimal locate the pipeline at a depth of 24 inches could negatively 12 affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights. 13 A shallow pipeline is much more likely to become a danger and liability in the 14 future given farming operations and buried irrigation lines and other factors 15 common to the current typical agricultural uses of the land in question impacted 16 by TransCanada's preferred pipeline route.

#### 17 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

18 A: There are more vague concepts solely at the determination of TransCanada such as 19 "as nearly as practicable" and "pre-construction position" and "extent reasonably 20 possible." There is nothing here that defines this or provides a mechanism for 21 documenting or memorializing "pre-construction position" so as to minimize 22 costly legal battles or wasted Landowner time attempting to recreate the soil 23 condition on their fields or pasture. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect 24 Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest. 25

26

#### **Q:** What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: TransCanada maintains the unilateral right to abandon the pipeline and all
 appurtenances thereto in place on, under, across, or through Nebraska land at any
 time it chooses. There is no provision for Landowner compensation for such

1 abandonment nor any right for the Landowner to demand removal. Such unilateral 2 powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive to the 3 protection of property rights or economic interest.

4

#### **Q**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

5 TransCanada has the power to unilaterally move or modify the location of any A: 6 Easement area whether permanent or temporary at their sole discretion. 7 Regardless, if Landowner has taken prior steps relative to their property in 8 preparation or planning of TransCanada's taking of the initial easement area(s), 9 the language here does not require TransCanada to compensate the Landowner if 10 they decide to move the easement anywhere on Landowners property. Such 11 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 12 to the protection of property rights or economic interests.

#### 13 **O**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

14 A: The Easement requires that all of the burdens and restrictions upon Landowner to 15 transfer and be applicable to any future owner of the Land in question without the 16 ability of the future Landowner to modify or negotiate any of the language in 17 question to which it will be held to comply.

18

#### **Q**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

19 A: The Easement allows TransCanada to assign, transfer, or sell any part of the 20 Easement to any person, company, country, etc. at their sole discretion at anytime 21 to anyone. This also means that any buyer of the easement could do the same to a 22 third buyer and so on forever. There is no change of control or sale provision in 23 place to protect the Landowner or Nebraska or to provide compensation for such 24 change of control or ownership. It is not conducive to the protection of property 25 rights or economic interests to allow unilateral unrestricted sale of the Easement 26 thereby forcing upon the Landowner and our State a new unknown Easement 27 owner.

#### 28 **Q**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

- A: There are many terms in the Easement that are either confusing or undefined terms that are without context as to whether or not the Landowner would have any say so in determining what these terms mean or if the evaluation is solely in TransCanada's control. Some of these vague undefined and ambiguous terms are as follows:
- i. "pipeline installation activities" 6 7 ii. "availability of labor and materials" 8 iii. "commercially reasonable costs and expenses" iv. "reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses" 9 v. "vield loss damages" 10 11 vi. "diminution in the value of the property" vii. "substantially same condition" 12 viii. "an actual or potential hazard" 13 ix. "efficient" 14 x. "convenient" 15 16 xi. "endangered" 17 xii. "obstructed" 18 xiii. "injured" xiv. "interfered with" 19 20 xv. "impaired" 21 xvi. "suitable crossings" 22 xvii. "where rock is encountered" 23 xviii. "as nearly as practicable" 24 xix. "pre-construction position" 25 xx. "pre-construction grade" xxi. "various engineering factors" 26 27 Each one of these above terms and phrases as read in the context of the Easement 28 could be problematic in many ways. Notably, undefined terms tend to only get
- 29 definition in further legal proceedings after a dispute arises and the way the

Easement is drafted, TransCanada has sole power to determine when and if a particular situation conforms with or triggers rights affected by these terms. For instance, "yield loss damages" should be specifically defined and spelled out exactly how the landowner is to be compensated and in what events on the front end. I can't afford to fight over this after the damage has occurred. Unfortunately, the Landowner is without contractual rights to define these terms or determine when rights related to them trigger and what the affects may be.

- 8 Q: Do you have any other concerns about the Easement language that you can
  9 think of at this time?
- 10 A: I reserve the right to discuss any additional concerns that I think of at the time of11 my live testimony in August.
- Q: Based upon what you have shared with the Commission above regarding
  TransCanada's proposed Easement terms and agreement, do you believe
  those to be reasonable or just, under the circumstances of the pipeline's
  impact upon you and your land?
- 16 A: No, I do not believe those terms to be reasonable or just for the reasons that we17 discussed previously.
- Q: Did TransCanada ever offer you financial compensation for the rights that
   they sought to obtain in your land, and for what they sought to prevent you
   and any future land owner of your property from doing in the future?
- 21 A: Yes, we received an offer from them.
- Q: As the owner of the land in question and as the person who knows it better
  than anyone else, do you believe that TransCanada offered you just, or fair,
  compensation for all of what they proposed to take from you so that their tar
  sands pipeline could be located across your property?
- A: No, I do not. Not at any time has TransCanada, in my opinion, made a fair or just offer for all the potential impacts and effects and the rights that I'm giving up, and what we will be prevented from doing in the future and how their pipeline would impact my property for ever and ever.

1	Q:	Has TransCanada at any time offered to compensate you annually, such as
2		wind farm projects do, for the existence of their potential tar sands pipeline
3		across your property.

4 A: No, never.

Q: At any time did TransCanada present you with or request that you, as the
owner of the land in question, sign and execute a document called, "Advanced
Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?"

8 A: Yes, they did and it was included in the County Court lawsuit against us.

9 Q: Is Attachment No. 5, to your testimony here, a true and accurate copy of the
10 "Advanced Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?]

11 A: Yes, it is.

#### 12 Q: What was your understanding of that document?

- A: When I read that document in the plain language of that document, it was my
  understanding that TransCanada was attempting to pay me a very small amount at
  that time in order for me to agree to give up my rights to be compensated from
  them in the future related to any damage or impact they may have upon my
  property "arising out of, in connection with, or alleged to resulted from
  construction or surveying over, under or on" my land.
- 19 **Q:** Did you ever sign that document?

20 A: No, I did not.

21 **Q: Why not?** 

A; Because I do not believe that it is fair or just to try to get me to agree to a small sum of money when I have no idea how bad the impacts or damages that they, or their contractors, or subcontractors, or other agents or employees, may cause on my land at any time in the future that resulted from the construction or surveying or their activities upon my land.

#### 27 Q: When you reviewed this document, what did it make you feel?

A: I felt like it was simply another attempt for TransCanada to try to pay very little to
shield themselves against known and foreseeable impacts that their pipeline, and

the construction of it, would have upon my land. It made me feel that they knew it was in their financial interest to pay me as little as possible to prevent me from ever having the opportunity to seek fair compensation again, and that this must be based upon their experience of unhappy landowners and situations in other places where they have built pipelines.

## Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land was in your best interest?

9 A: No, they have not.

Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you
 thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land
 was in the public interest of the State of Nebraska?

13 A: No, they have not.

14 Q: Are you familiar with the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the
15 Takings Clause?

16 A: Yes, I am.

Q: What is your understanding of the Fifth Amendment as it relates to taking of
an American citizens property?

A: My understanding is that, according to the United States Constitution, that if the
 government is going to take land for public use, then in that case, or by taking for
 public use, it can only occur if the private land owner is compensated justly, or
 fairly.

Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you specially to explain the way in which
the public could use its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline?

25 A: No, they have not.

Q: Can you think of any way in which the public, that is the citizens of the State
of Nebraska, can directly use the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL
Pipeline, as it dissects the State of Nebraska?

A: No, I cannot. I cannot think of any way to use this pipeline. I do not see how the
public benefits from this pipeline in any way, how they can use it any way, or how
it's in the public interest in any way. By looking at the map, it is quite clear to me
that the only reason it's proposed to come through Nebraska, is that because we
are geographically in the way from between where the privately-owned Tar Sands
are located to where TransCanada wants to ship the Tar Sands to refineries in
Houston, Texas.

8 Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and asked you if you had any tar sands,
9 crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by-products that you would like to
10 ship in its pipeline?

11 A: No, it has not.

Q: Do you have any tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products that you, at this time or any time in the future, would desire to place
 for transport within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

15 A: No, I do not.

- Q: Do you know anyone in the state of Nebraska who would be able to ship any
   Nebraska-based tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?
- 19 A: No, I do not. I've never heard of such a person or company like that.
- 20 Q: Do you pay property taxes for the land that would be affected and impacted
  21 at the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

22 A: Yes, I do.

- 23 Q: Why do you pay property taxes on that land?
- A: Because that is the law. The law requires us to pay the property taxes as the ownerof that property.
- Q: Because you follow the law and pay property taxes, do you believe you
  deserve any special consideration or treatment apart from any other person
  or company that pays property taxes?

- A: Well no, of course not. It's the law to pay property taxes if you own property. It's
   just what you do.
- 3 Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes entitles you to special
  4 treatment of any kind, or special rights of any kind?
- 5 A: No, of course not.
- 6 Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes on your land would be 7 enough to qualify you to have the power of eminent domain to take land of 8 your neighbors or other people in your county, or other people across the 9 state of Nebraska?
- A: Well, of course not. Like I said, paying property taxes is the law, it's nothing that
  I expect an award for or any type of special consideration.
- 12 Q: Have you at any time ever employed any person other than yourself?
- 13 A: Well, yes I have.
- Q: Do you believe that the fact that you have, at some point in your life,
  employed one or more other persons entitle you to any special treatment or
  consideration above and beyond any other Nebraskan that has also employed
  one or more persons?
- 18 A: No, of course not.
- Q: Do you believe that the fact that you, as a Nebraska land owner and taxpayer
  have at one point employed another person within this state, entitles you to
  preferential treatment or consideration of any kind?
- A: No, of course not. If I choose to employ someone that decision is up to me. I
  don't deserve any special treatment or consideration for that fact.
- Q: At the beginning of your statement, you briefly described your property that
  would be impacted by the potential Keystone XL Pipeline. I would like you to
  give the Commissioners a sense of specifically how you believe the proposed
  Keystone XL Pipeline and its preferred route, which proposes to go across
  your land, how it would in your opinion based on your knowledge,
  experience, and background of your land, affect it.

1 Our water comes for our feed yard comes from the Ogallala Aquifer. Not only do A: 2 we, as humans, need clean drinking water, those animals need clean drinking 3 water. I built this feed yard from the ground up over the past 40 years with the 4 help of my family. Any chance of a leak in that pipeline, (that's proposed to go 5 over the Ogallala Aquifer; one of the nation's largest fresh water supplies) would 6 contaminate the water my cattle drink and contaminate the water that waters my 7 corn to feed my cattle. We have worked far too hard to get our business where it 8 is today. Please don't let this pipeline come through our land! We cannot 9 jeopardize our clean water supply. We also farm parcels of ground with 6 10 irrigation wells being affected by this pipeline.

#### 11 Q: I 12 c 13 s

#### Do you have any concerns TransCanada's fitness as an applicant for a major crude oil pipeline in its preferred location, or ultimate location across the state of Nebraska?

14 A: Yes, I have significant concerns. I am aware of landowners being treated unfairly 15 or even bullied around and being made to feel scared that they did not have any 16 options but to sign whatever papers TransCanada told them they had to. I am 17 aware of folks being threatened that their land would be taken if they didn't follow 18 what TransCanada was saying. I am aware of tactics to get people to sign 19 easements that I don't believe have any place in Nebraska or anywhere such as 20 TransCanada or some outfit associated with it hiring a pastor or priest to pray with 21 landowners and convince them they should sign TransCanada's easement 22 agreements. I am aware of older folks and widows or widowers feeling they had 23 no choice but to sign TransCanada's Easement and they didn't know they could 24 fight or stand up for themselves. From a more practical standpoint, I am worried 25 that according to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 211, TransCanada only 26 owns and operates one (1) major oil pipeline. They simply do not have the 27 experience with this type of pipeline and that scares me. There are others but that 28 is what I can recollect at this time and if I remember more or my recollection is 29 refreshed I will share those with the Commissioners at the Hearing in August.

Q: Do you believe TransCanada's proposed method of compensation to you as a
 landowner is reasonable or just?

3 A: No, I do not.

4 Q: Do you have any concern about limitations that the construction of this
5 proposed pipeline across your affected land would prevent construction of
6 future structures upon the portion of your land affected by the proposed
7 easement and immediately surrounding areas?

- 8 A: Well yes, of course I do. We would not be able to build many, if any, types of 9 structures directly across or touching the easement, and it would be unwise and I 10 would be uncomfortable to build anything near the easement for fear of being 11 blamed in the future should any damage or difficulty result on my property in 12 regards to the pipeline.
- 13 Q: Do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?
- 14 A: Well yes, of course.

#### 15 Q: How do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

16 A: The future of this land may not be exactly how it's being used as of this moment, 17 and having the restrictions and limiting my ability to develop my land in certain ways presents a huge negative economic impact on myself, my family, and any 18 potential future owner of the property. You have no idea how I or the future owner 19 20 may want to use this land in the future or the other land across Nebraska 21 potentially affected by the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Fifty years 22 ago it would have been hard to imagine all the advances that we have now or how 23 things change. Because the Easement is forever and TransCanada gets the rights in 24 my land forever we have to think with a very long term view. By placing their 25 pipeline on under across and through my land that prevents future development 26 which greatly negatively impacts future taxes and tax revenue that could have 27 been generated by the County and State but now will not. When you look at the 28 short blip of economic activity that the two years of temporary construction efforts 29 may bring, that is far outweighed by the perpetual and forever loss of opportunity

and restrictions TransCanada is forcing upon us and Nebraska. The terms of the
 easement must be addressed in order for the Commission to truly consider
 property rights, economic interests, the welfare of Nebraska, and the balancing of
 the proposed routes against all they will affect and impact.

### 5 Q: Do you have any concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed 6 pipeline?

7 A: Yes, I do.

8 Q: What are some of those concerns?

9 A: As an affected land owner and Nebraskan, I am concerned that any construction,
10 operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have
11 a detrimental impact upon the environment of my land specifically, as well as the
12 lands near my land and surrounding the proposed pipeline route.

13 Q: Do you have any other environmental concerns?

A: Yes, of course I am concerned about potential breaches of the pipeline, failures in
construction and/or maintenance and operation. I am concerned about spills and
leaks that TransCanada has had in the past and will have in the future. This could
be catastrophic to my operations or others and to my county and the State.

18 Q: Do you have any thoughts regarding if there would be an impact upon the
 19 natural resources on or near your property due to the proposed pipeline?

A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the
 proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental impacts upon the natural
 resources of my land, and the lands near and surrounding the proposed pipeline
 route.

### Q: Do you have any worries about potential impacts from the proposed pipeline to the soil of your land, or land near you?

A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the soil of land, as well as land along and surrounding the proposed pipeline route. This includes, but is not limited to, the reasons that we discussed above of disturbing 1 the soil composition and makeup as it has naturally existed for thousands and 2 millions of years during the construction process, and any future maintenance or 3 I'm gravely concerned about the fertility and the loss of removal process. 4 economic ability of my property to grow the crops, or grow the grasses, or grow 5 whatever it is at that time they exist on my property or that I may want to grow in 6 the future, or that a future owner may want to grow. The land will never be the 7 same from as it exists now undisturbed to after it is trenched up for the proposed pipeline. 8

9

10

#### Q: Do you have any concerns about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline upon the groundwater over your land, or surrounding lands?

11 A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of 12 the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the 13 groundwater of not only under my land, but also near and surrounding the pipeline 14 route, and in fact, potentially the entire State of Nebraska. Water is life plain and 15 simple and it is simply too valuable to our State and the country to put at 16 unreasonable risk.

### 17 Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline 18 upon the surface water on, or near or around your land?

A: Yes, I have significant concerns that any construction, operation, and/or
maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental
impact upon the surface water of not only within my property boundary, but along
and near and surrounding the pipeline route, and in fact, across the state of
Nebraska.

## Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impacts of the proposed pipeline upon the wildlife and plants, other than your growing crops on or near your land?

A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of
the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the

wildlife and the plants, not only that are located on or can be found upon my land,
 but also near and along the proposed pipeline route.

### 3 Q: Do you have any concerns about the effects of the proposed pipeline upon the 4 fair market value of your land?

5 A: Yes, I do. I am significantly concerned about how the existence of the proposed 6 pipeline underneath and across and through my property will negatively affect the 7 fair market value at any point in the future, especially at that point in which I 8 would need to sell the property, or someone in my family would need to sell the 9 property. I do not believe, and certainly would not be willing to pay, the same 10 price for land that had the pipeline located on it, versus land that did not. I hope 11 there is never a point where I'm in a position where I have to sell and have to realize as much value as I can out of my land. But because it is my single largest 12 13 asset, I'm gravely concerned that the existence of the proposed Keystone XL 14 Pipeline upon my land will affect a buyer's willingness to pay as much as they 15 would've paid and as much as I could've received, if the pipeline were not upon 16 my property. There are just too many risks, unknowns, impacts and uncertainties, 17 not to mention all of the rights you give up by the nature of having the pipeline 18 due to having the easement that we have previously discussed, for any reasonable 19 person to think that the existence of the pipeline would not negatively affect my 20 property's value.

### Q: Have you ever seen the document that's marked as Attachment No. 6, to your testimony?

A: Yes, I have.

- 24 Q: Where have you seen that before?
- A: That is a map I think I first saw a couple years ago that shows the Keystone XL
   I-90 corridor alternate route of its proposed pipeline through Nebraska and I
   believe the portion of the alternative route in Nebraska essentially twins or
   parallels Keystone I.

Q: Do you believe that TransCanada's preferred route as found on page 5 of its
 Application, and as found on Attachment No. 7, here to your testimony, is in
 the public interest of Nebraska?

4 A: No, I do not.

5 Q: Do you believe that the Keystone mainline alternative route as shown on
6 Attachment No. 7 included with your testimony here is a major oil pipeline
7 route that is in the public interest of Nebraska?

8 A: No, I do not.

9Q:Do you believe the portion of the proposed pipeline within Nebraska as found10in Attachment No. 6 to your testimony, is in the public interest of Nebraska?

- 11 A: No, I do not.
- Q: Do you believe there is any potential route for the proposed Keystone XL
  Pipeline across, within, under, or through the State of Nebraska that is in the
  public interest of the citizens of Nebraska?

15 A: No, I do not.

16 Q: Why do you hold that belief?

17 A: Because there simply is no public interest based on all of the factors that I am 18 aware and that I have read and that I have studied that this Commission is to consider that would establish that a for-profit foreign-owned pipeline that simply 19 20 crosses Nebraska because we are geographically in the way between where tar 21 sands are in Canada to where it wants to ship it to in Texas could ever be in the 22 public interest of Nebraskans. We derive no benefit from this project. It is not for 23 public use. Nebraska is simply in the way and when all considerations are taken in 24 there is no net benefit of any kind for Nebraska should this project be placed in our 25 state. Even if there was some arguable "benefit" it is not enough to outweigh all 26 the negative impacts and concerns.

### Q: What do you think about the applicant, TransCanada's argument that it's preferred route for its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline is in the public interest

1 2

### of Nebraska because it may bring temporary jobs during the construction phase to Nebraska?

3 A: First of all, not all jobs are created equally. Most jobs that are created, whether 4 temporary or on a permanent basis, don't come with a project that has all the 5 potential and foreseeable negative impacts, many of which we have discussed here 6 and other witnesses throughout the course of this hearing have and will discuss. If 7 I decide to hire and employ someone to help me out in my farming or ranching 8 business, I've created a job but I haven't done so at the risk or detrimental impact 9 to my land or my town or my county or my state. And I've hired someone who is 10 working directly for me, a Nebraska landowner, citizen, taxpayer, to help produce 11 and grow a Nebraska product to be sold so that I can pay Nebraska taxes. So, all 12 jobs are not created equal. Additionally, I understand from what I'm familiar with 13 from TransCanada's own statements that the jobs numbers they originally touted 14 were determined to be a minute fraction of the permanent jobs that had been 15 projected. According to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 191, TransCanada 16 has created only thirty-four (34) jobs within Nebraska working specifically on 17 behalf of TransCanada and according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 196, as of May 5, 2017 they only employ one (1) temporary working within Nebraska. 18 19 Further, according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 199, TransCanada would 20 only employ six to ten (6 to 10) new individuals if the proposed Keystone XL was 21 constructed on its Preferred Route or its Mainline Alternative Route.

### Q: Are you opposed to the preferred route of the proposed KXL Pipeline simply because it would cross your land?

A: No, absolutely not. I am opposed to this project because it is not in the public
interest, neither within my community nor within our state.

### 26 Q: Would you be happier if instead of crossing your land, this proposed pipeline 27 was to cross someone else's land?

A: No, absolutely not. I would get no joy in having a fellow citizen of my state have
the fear and anxiety and potential foreseeable risks and negative impacts that this

type of a project carrying this type of product brings foisted upon anyone in this
 state or any other state.

### 3 Q: Do you think there is any intelligent route for the proposed Keystone XL 4 Pipeline to cross the state of Nebraska?

5 A: I don't believe there is an intelligent route because as I have stated I don't believe 6 this project anywhere within Nebraska is within the public interest. However, if 7 you are presenting a hypothetical that if this proposed KXL Pipeline absolutely 8 had to go somewhere in the state of Nebraska, the only intelligent route I believe 9 would be to twin or closely parallel the existing Keystone I Pipeline. Both the 10 preferred route and the mainline alternative routes are economic liabilities our 11 state cannot risk.

#### 12 Q: What do you rely upon to make that statement?

13 A: Well, the fact that a pipeline owned and operated by TransCanada, Keystone I, 14 already exists in that area is reason enough as it is not in our best interest or the 15 public interests to have more major oil pipelines crisscrossing our state. Second, 16 they have all the infrastructure already there in terms of relationships with the 17 counties and local officials and first responders along that route. Third, they have 18 already obtained easements from all the landowners along that route and have relationships with them. Fourth, that route avoids our most sensitive soils, the 19 20 sandier lighter soils. Fifth, that route for all practical purposes avoids the Ogallala 21 Aquifer. Sixth, they have already studied that route and previously offered it as an 22 alternative. Seventh, it just makes the most sense that as a state we would have 23 some intelligent policy of energy corridors and co-locating this type of 24 infrastructure near each other.

## Q: Have you fully expressed each and every opinion, concern, or fact you would like the Public Service Commissioners to consider in their review of TransCanada's Application?

A: No, I have not. I have shared that which I can think of as of the date I signed this
document below but other things may come to me or my memory may be

1 refreshed and I will add and address those things at the time of the Hearing in 2 August and address any additional items at that time as is necessary. Additionally, 3 I have not had an adequate amount of time to receive and review all of 4 TransCanada's answers to our discovery and the discovery of others so it was 5 impossible to competently and completely react to that in my testimony here and I 6 reserve the right to also address anything related to discovery that has not yet 7 concluded as of the date I signed this document below. Lastly, certain documents 8 requested have not yet been produced by TransCanada and therefore I may have 9 additional thoughts on those I will also share at the hearing as needed.

## 10Q:What is it that you are requesting the Public Service Commissioners do in11regards to TransCanada's application for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline12across Nebraska?

13 A: I am respectfully and humbly requesting that the Commissioners think far beyond 14 a temporary job spike that this project may bring to a few counties and beyond the 15 relatively small amount of taxes this proposed foreign pipeline would possibly 16 generate. And, instead think about the perpetual and forever impacts of this 17 pipeline as it would have on the landowners specifically, first and foremost, but 18 also thereby upon the entire state of Nebraska, and to determine that neither the 19 preferred route nor the Keystone mainline alternative route are in the public 20 interest of the citizens of the state of Nebraska. And if the Commissioners were 21 inclined to modify TransCanada's proposed routes and were to be inclined to grant 22 an application for a route in Nebraska, that the only potential route that would 23 make any intelligent sense whatsoever would be twinning or near paralleling of 24 the proposed KXL with the existing Keystone I pipeline. The point of including 25 Attachment No. 6 is to show that twinning Keystone I within Nebraska has been 26 considered by TransCanada before. It simply does not make sense to add yet 27 another major oil pipeline crisscrossing our state creating new pumping stations, 28 creating new impacts on additional counties and communities and going through 29 all of the court processes with myself and other landowners like me when this

applicant already has relationships with the landowners, the towns and the
 communities along Keystone I, and that Keystone I is firmly outside of the sand
 hills and a significantly further portion away from the heart of the Ogallala
 Aquifer than the preferred route or the Keystone mainline alternative route.

- 5 Q: Does Attachment No. 8 here contain other documents you are competent to 6 speak about that you wish to be part of your testimony and to discuss in more 7 detail as needed at the August 2017 Hearing?
- 8 A: Yes.

## 9 Q: Are all of your statements in your testimony provided above true and 10 accurate as of the date you signed this document to the best of your 11 knowledge?

12 A: Yes, they are.

13 Q: Thank you, I have no further questions at this time and reserve the right to
14 ask you additional questions at the August 2017 Hearing.

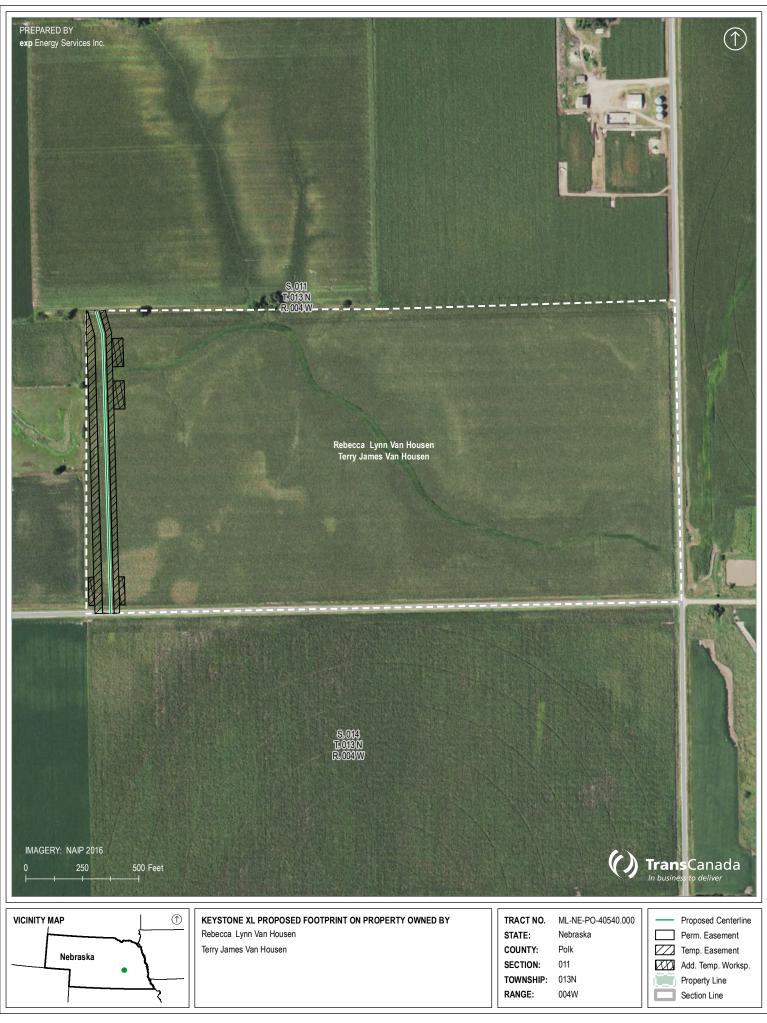
Terry J. Van Housen Type Landowner Name Here

Subscribed and Sworn to me before this \_\_\_\_\_ day of <u>June</u>, 2017.

andra Blase Notary Public

GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska CHANDRA BLASE My Comm. Exp. June 19, 2019

Attachment No. 1



#### KXL019191

Attachment No. 2



Attachment No. 3

Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

(Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-PO-40540.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration"), Terry James Van Housen and Rebecca Lynn Van Housen, husband and wife, as joint tenants, whose mailing address is 777 123rd Road, Stromsburg, Nebraska 68666 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip

of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Polk, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 80 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Polk, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as the S1/2 of the SE1/4 of Section 11, Township 13 North, Range 4 West of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 94, Page 590 in the Deed Records of Polk County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee

harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by 3. Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee shall not be prevented from traveling within and along Easement Area on foot or in vehicle or machinery; (iv) Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

13. Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

GRANTOR(S):

Terry James Van Housen

Rebecca Lynn Van Housen

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_

By Terry James Van Housen

.

Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

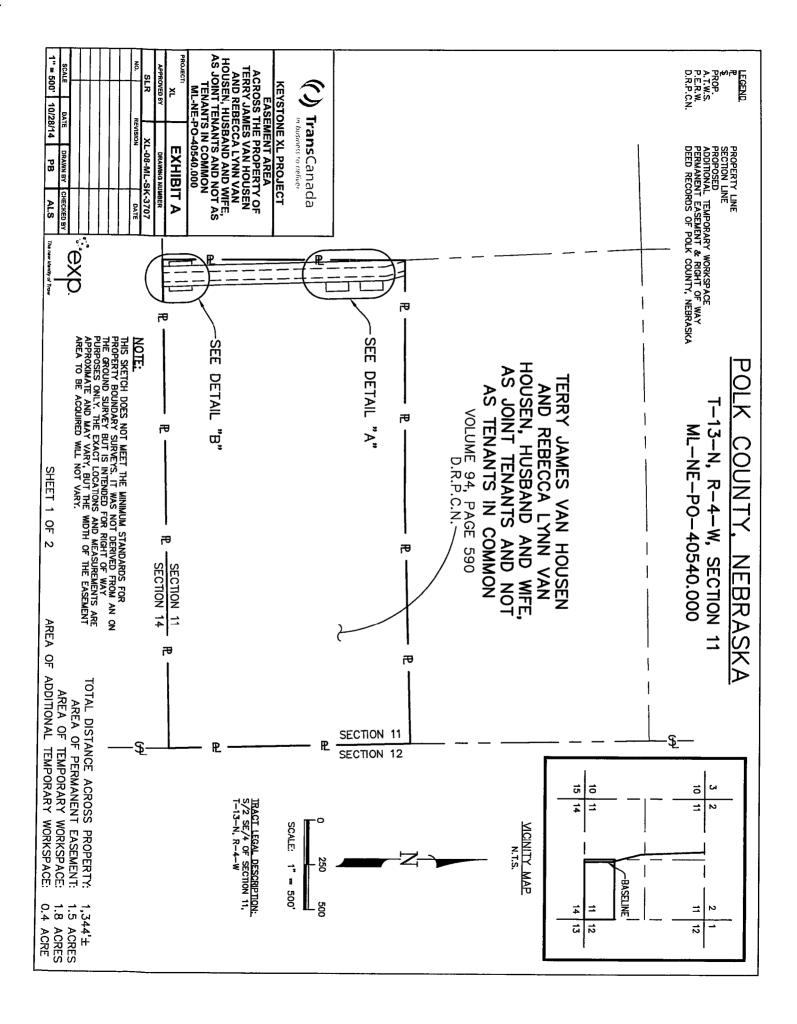
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_

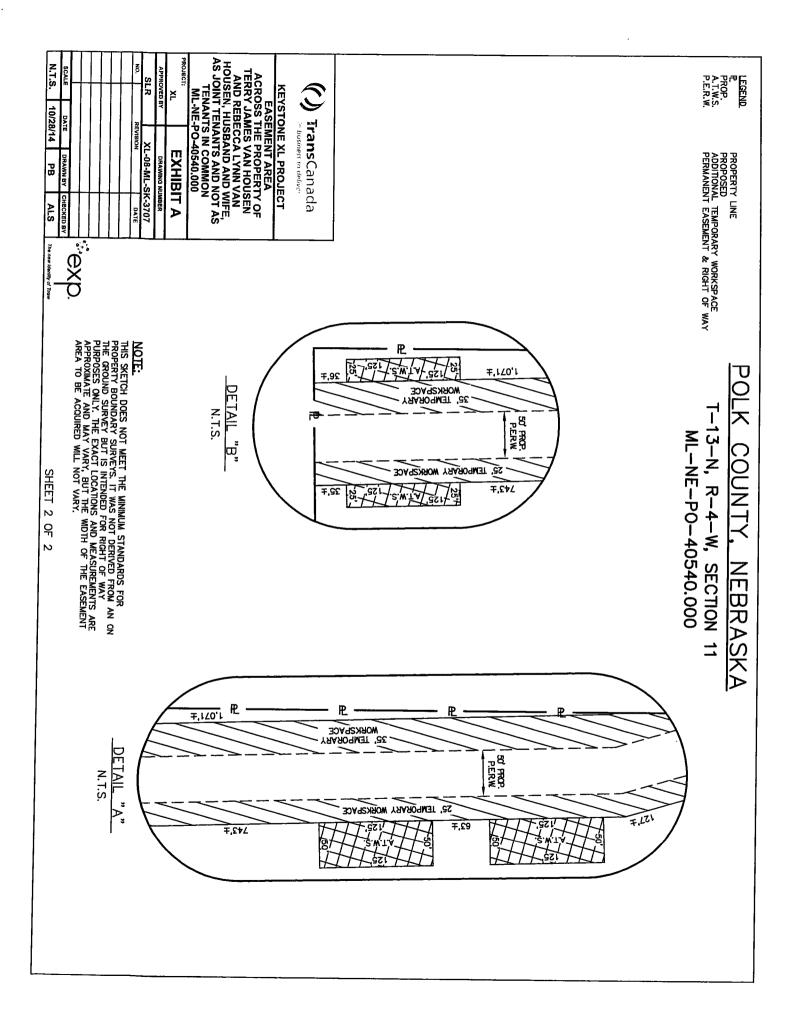
By Rebecca Lynn Van Housen

Notary Public Signature

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Affix Seal Here





Attachment No. 4

#### 8:15-cv-00403 Doc # 1 Filed: 11/03/15 Page 1 of 5 - Page ID # 1

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE	)	CASE NO
COMPANY, a New York Corporation,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT
V.	)	
	)	
RICHARD ANDREW, JANE ANDREW,	)	
LUKE ANDREW, and BRYCE ANDREW,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**COMES NOW** Plaintiff, Zurich American Insurance Company ("Plaintiff"), a New York Corporation, and for its causes of action against Defendants, states and alleges as follows:

#### PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principle place of business located at 1400 American Lane, Schaumburg, Illinois.

- 2. Defendant, Richard Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 3. Defendant, Jane Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 4. Defendant, Luke Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 5. Defendant, Bryce Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because Defendants reside in this district, and a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this district.

7. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and because diversity of citizenship exists with respect to Plaintiff and all Defendants.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

8. At all times material to this action, Defendants were agents of each other and were acting within the course and scope of their agency relationships, and the negligence of any Defendant is imputed to all Defendants.

9. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a joint venture and were acting within the course and scope of the joint venture at the time of the event described below.

10. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a partnership, were carrying on a business for profit, shared profits of the business, and were acting within the course and scope of the partnership at the time of the event described below.

11. At all relevant times, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were the lessees of property located in the East ½ of the Southwest ¼, Section 15, Township 4, Range 15 (the "Property"), Nemaha County, Nebraska, and were engaged in commercial farming operations for the benefit of all named Defendants in this action.

12. On or about December 10, 2011, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were engaged in excavation activities on the Property, including the clearing of various vegetation near the northernmost property line of the Property.

13. The excavation was in the area of two pipelines owned and operated by Magellan Midstream Partners, LP ("Magellan"), including a 12" pipeline used to transport a mixture of gasoline and jet fuel as well as an 8" pipeline ("the Pipelines") used to transport diesel fuel.

14. At all times relevant to this action, Magellan owned a right-of-way and easement on the Property in the areas where the pipelines ran and Defendants had actual and constructive knowledge of the right-of-way and easement.

15. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants had actual and constructive notice of the pipelines on the Property and had notice that Magellan owned and operated such pipelines.

16. On or about December 10, 2011, while engaged in excavation activities, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew struck the pipeline, causing the release of approximately 2,167 barrels of mixed gasoline and jet fuel from the 12" pipeline and approximately 643 barrels of diesel fuel from the 8" pipeline onto the Property (The line strikes will hereinafter be referred to as "the Release").

17. As a result of the line strikes and release, Magellan was required by state and federal

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law to engage in cleanup and remediation activities related to the Release.

18. At the time of the Release, Magellan was the named insured on a policy of insurance, Policy No. EPC 669256201 ("the Policy"), issued by Plaintiff.

19. Plaintiff has made payment on behalf of Magellan under the Policy and has a contractual and equitable right of subrogation and is subrogated to Magellan's rights of recovery against Defendants for amounts paid on its behalf.

#### FIRST CLAIM: NEGLIGENCE

20. Paragraphs 1-20 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

21. Defendants owed a duty to perform their work on the Property and within the rightof-way and easement owned and operated by Magellan in a reasonable manner, to use reasonable care in constructing improvements on the Property, to comply with the statutory requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 76-2301 et seq., the One Call Notification System ("OCNS"), and to protect the Pipelines on the Property from damage during Defendants' work on the Property.

22. Defendants negligently struck the Pipelines while performing excavation work on the Property.

- 23. Defendants were negligent in the following particulars:
  - a. Defendants failed to perform their work on the Property within the right-of-way and easement in a reasonable manner;
  - b. Defendants failed to use reasonable care in their work on the Property and the Pipelines' right-of-way and easement;
  - c. Defendants failed to comply with the statutory requirements of the OCNS;
  - d. Defendants failed to notify Magellan of Defendants' intent to excavate on December 10, 2011 in and over the right-of-way and easement on the Property;
  - e. Defendants failed to give Magellan the opportunity to exercise its rights under the OCNS.

24. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

25. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

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26. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its first claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69 for Defendants' negligent strike of the Pipelines.

#### SECOND CLAIM: TRESPASS

27. Paragraphs 1-29 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

28. Magellan owned and occupied a valid right-of-way and easement in and to the area of the Property where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

29. Defendants physically invaded Magellan's rights within and to the right-of-way and easement where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

30. Defendants had no right, lawful authority, or express or implied invitation, permission, or license to enter upon and disturb Magellan's rights and interests in and to the right-of-way and easement where Magellan's pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

31. Magellan's interest in and to the right-of-way and easement of the Pipelines were injured during the course of Defendants' trespass.

32. As a result of Defendants' trespass, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

33. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

34. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its second claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff hereby prays for a judgment of this Court in its favor and against Defendants for its damages in an amount to be proven at trial, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, its costs incurred in prosecuting this action, and such other reasonable sums as this Court deems just and equitable.

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38 and Local Rule 40.1(b) demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable in Omaha, Nebraska.

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

By: /s/ Albert M. Engles ENGLES, KETCHAM, OLSON, & KEITH, P.C. 1350 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102 (402) 348-0900 (402) 348-0904 (Facsimile) Albert M. Engles, #11194 Dan H. Ketcham, #18930 Michael L. Moran, #24042 James C. Boesen, #24862 Attachment No. 5

#### TRANSCANADA KEYSTONE PIPELINE, LP

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : <u>ML-NE-PO-40540.000</u>

We, <u>Terry James Van Housen and Rebecca Lynn Van Housen</u>, of <u>Polk</u> County, in the State of <u>Nebraska</u>, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Two Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Dollars and No Cents</u> (\$2,960.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Polk, State of Nebraska:

#### S/2 SE/4

#### Section 11, Township 13N, Range 4W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands on this day of

......, 20\_\_\_\_.

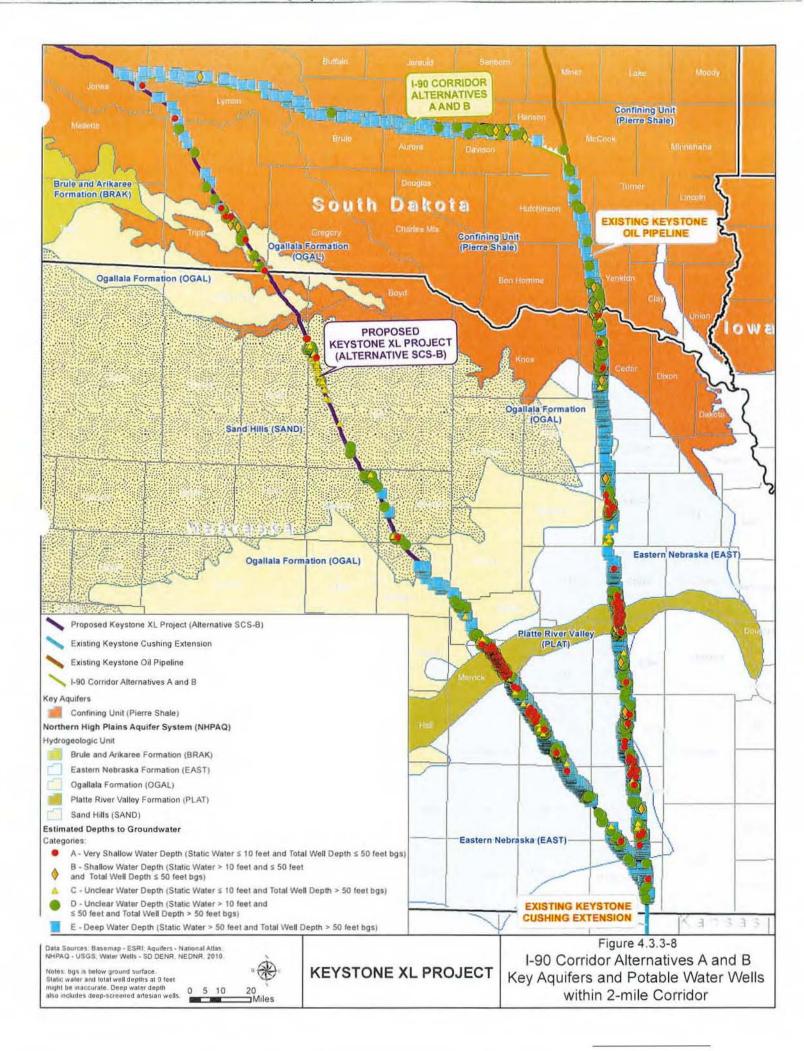
**Owner** Signature

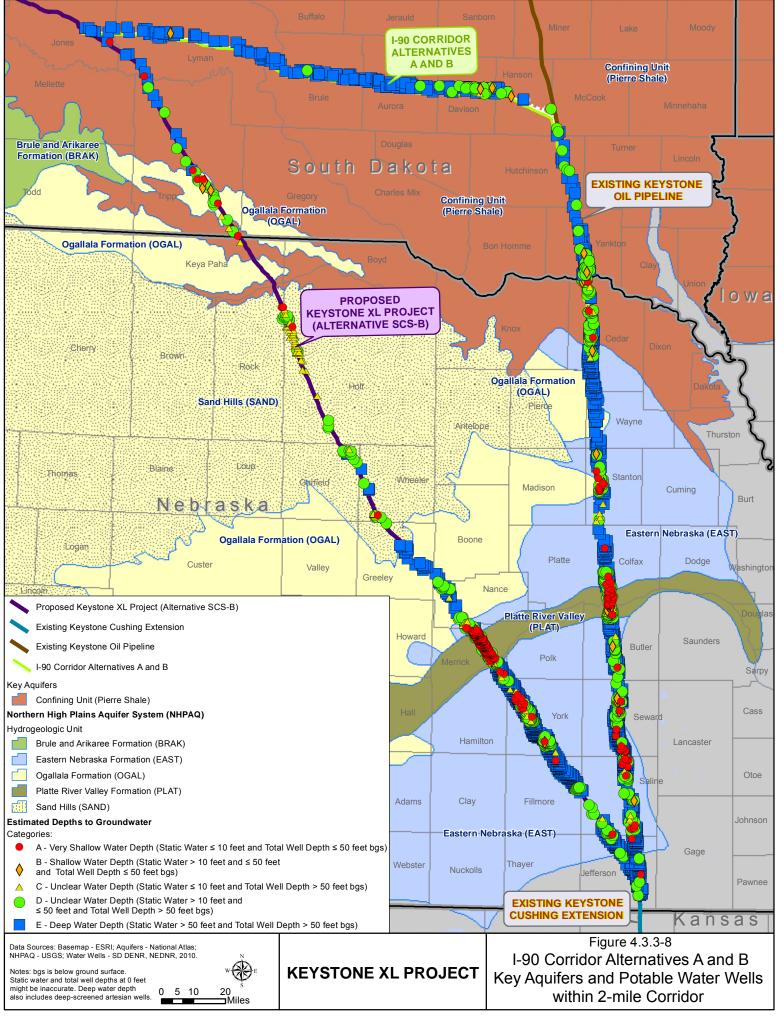
Owner Signature

Owner/Owner Representative Name

Owner/Owner Representative Name

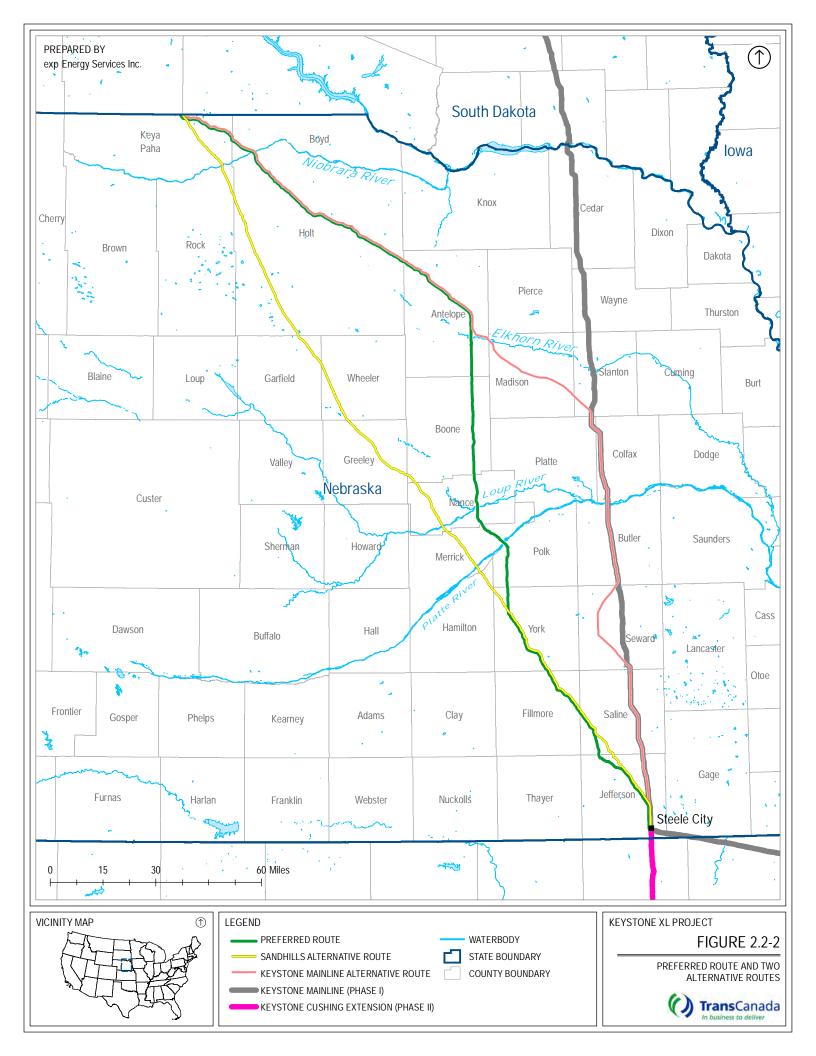
Attachment No. 6





KXL002000

Attachment No. 7



#### Before the Nebraska Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application

of

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Route Approval of Keystone XL Pipeline Project, Pursuant to *Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act*  **Application No: OP-003** 

Direct Testimony of Gregory Walmer in Support of Landowner Intervenors

State of Nebraska)) ss.Antelope County)

- 1 Q: Please state your name.
- 2 A: My name is Gregory Walmer.
- Q: Are you an intervener in the Public Service Commission's proceedings
   regarding TransCanada's application for approval of its proposed Keystone
   XL tar sands pipeline across Nebraska?

6 A: Yes, I am.

Q: Do you own land in Nebraska, either directly or through an entity of which
you are an owner that could be affected by the proposed TransCanada
Keystone XL pipeline?

- 10 A: Yes, I do and it is located in Section 8, Township 27N, Range 7W Antelope11 County.
- Q: Is Attachment No. 1 to this sworn statement copies of true and accurate aerial
   photo(s) of your land in question here with the area of the proposed KXL
   pipeline depicted?

15 A: Yes.

16 **Q:** What do you do for a living?

1	A:	I raise corn and soybeans, feed cattle and I'm a commodity broker.
2	Q:	If you are you married tell us your spouse's name please?
3	A:	Suzanne Walmer.
4	Q:	Do you have children?
5	A:	Yes.
6	Q:	Do you have grandchildren?
7	A:	Yes.
8	Q:	Is Attachment No. 2 to this sworn statement a copy(ies) of picture(s) of you
9		and or your family?
10	A.	Yes.
11	Q:	For the land that would be affected and impacted by the proposed KXL tar
12		sands pipeline give the Commissioners a sense how long the land has been in
13		your family and a little history of the land.
14	<b>A:</b>	This land has been in my family over 100 years. The land was homesteaded in the
15		1880's by my great grandfather and great grandmother Charles and Mary Johnston.
16		The farmhouse where I currently live was built by my grandparents Jim and Edna
17		Johnston in the early 1900's. They farmed the land until the death of my
18		grandfather Jim in 1949. Shortly after that my parents Wayne and Joanne
19		(Johnston) Walmer moved to the farm and they farmed the land until the death of
20		my father Wayne in 1981. I moved to the farm in 1982 and have lived here ever
21		since. My mother was honored to receive the Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award in
22		1989. She received a plaque inscribed as follows: "The Knights of AK-SAR-BEN
23		are honored to recognize the Johnston Homestead for long and meritorious service
24		to agriculture, as exemplified by continued ownership within the family of the
25		same Nebraska farm for 100 years or more. Nebraska has been enriched by the
26		courageous pioneer spirit and loyalty to the land exhibited by members of this
27		family, down through the years." I am filled with a sense of pride and
28		accomplishment when I think of the perseverance required by my ancestors to

- keep the land in the family all these years. I am grateful to them for that legacy
   and hope to continue that legacy for my children and grandchildren.
- 3 Q: Do you earn any income from this land?
- 4 A: Yes.
- 5 Q: Have you depended on the income from your land to support your livelihood
  6 or the livelihood of your family?
- 7 A: Yes.

### 8 Q: Have you ever in the past or have you thought about in the future leasing all 9 or a portion of your land in question here?

- 10 A: Yes, I have thought of it and that concerns me. I am concerned that a prospective 11 tenant may try to negotiate a lower price for my land if it had the pipeline on it and all the restrictions and risks and potential negative impacts to farming or ranching 12 13 operations as opposed to land that did not have those same risks. If I was looking 14 to lease or rent ground I would pay more for comparable non-pipeline land than I 15 would for comparable pipeline land and I think most folks would think the same 16 way. This is another negative economic impact that affects the landowner and the 17 county and the state and will forever and ever should TransCanada's preferred or 18 mainline alternative routes be approved. If they were to twin or closely parallel to Keystone I the vast majority of landowners would be those that already have a 19 20 pipeline so there would be considerable less new incremental negative impacts.
- 21 Q: Do you have similar concerns about selling the land?
- A: Well I hope not to have to sell the land in my lifetime but times change and you
  never know what is around the corner and yes I am concerned that if another piece
  of ground similar to mine was for sale and it did not have the pipeline and mine
  did that I would have a lower selling price. I think this would be true for pipeline
  ground on both the preferred and mainline alternative routes.
- 27 Q: What is your intent with your land after you die?
- A: Like I said I hope not to have to sell and I hope that it stay in the family for years
  to come but I have thought about getting out if this pipeline were to come through.

1	Q:	Are you aware that the preferred route of TransCanada's Keystone XL		
2		Pipeline would cross the land described above and owned by you?		
3	A:	Yes.		
4	Q:	Were you or an entity for which you are a member, shareholder, or director		
5		previously sued by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP?		
6	A:	Yes, we were in 2015. TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP sued us by filing a		
7		petition for condemnation against our land so it could place its proposed pipeline		
8		within an easement that it wanted to take from us on our land.		
9	Q:	Did you defend yourself and your land in that condemnation action?		
10	A:	Yes, we did. We hired lawyers to defend and protect us and we incurred legal fees		
11		and expenses in our resistance of TransCanada's lawsuit against us.		
12	Q:	Has TransCanada reimbursed you for any of your expenses or costs for fees		
13		incurred?		
14	A:	No, they have not.		
15	Q:	In its lawsuit against you, did TransCanada identify the amount of your		
16		property that it wanted to take for its proposed pipeline?		
17	A:	The lawsuit against us stated they would take the amount of property that is		
18		reasonably necessary to lay, relay, operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant		
19		and equipment reasonably necessary to operate the pipeline.		
20	Q:	Did TransCanada define what they meant by "property that is reasonably		
21		necessary"?		
22	A:	No, they did not.		
23	Q:	Did TransCanada in its lawsuit against you, identify the eminent domain		
24		property portion of your land?		
25	A:	Yes, they did.		
26	Q:	Did TransCanada describe what rights it proposed to take related to the		
27		eminent domain property on your land?		
28	A:	Yes, they did.		
29	Q:	What rights that they proposed to take did they describe?		

1 TransCanada stated that the eminent domain property will be used to "lay, relay, A: 2 operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant and equipment reasonably 3 necessary to operate the pipeline, specifically including surveying, laying, 4 constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, 5 reconstructing, removing and abandoning one pipeline, together with all fittings, 6 cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all their equipment and 7 appurtenances thereto, for the transportation of oil, natural gas, hydrocarbon, 8 petroleum products, and all by-products thereof."

## 9 Q: Prior to filing an eminent domain lawsuit to take your land that 10 TransCanada identified, do you believe they attempted to negotiate in good 11 faith with you?

12 A: No, I do not.

Q: Did TransCanada at any time approach you with or deliver to you their
 proposed easement and right-of-way agreement?

15 A: Yes, they did.

16Q: At the time you reviewed TransCanada's easement and right-of-way17agreement, did you understand that they would be purchasing a fee title18interest in your property or that they were taking something else?

A: I understood that they proposed to have the power to take both a temporary
 construction easement that could last for a certain period of time and then also a
 permanent easement which they described to be 50 feet across or in width, and
 that would run the entire portion of my property from where a proposed pipeline
 would enter my property until where it would exit the property.

# Q: Is the document included with your testimony here as Attachment No. 3, a true and accurate copy of TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-ofWay agreement that they included with their condemnation lawsuit against you?

A: Yes, it is.

Q: Have you had an opportunity to review TransCanada's proposed Easement
 and Right-of-Way agreement?

3 A: Yes, I have.

4 Q: What is your understanding of the significance of the Easement and Right-of5 Way agreement as proposed by TransCanada?

A: My understanding is that this is the document that will govern all of the rights and
obligations and duties as well as the limitations of what I can and cannot do and
how I and any future landowner and any person I invite to come onto my property
must behave as well as what TransCanada is and is not responsible for and how
they can use my land.

## Q: After reviewing TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way agreement do you have any concerns about any portions of it or any of the language either included in the document or missing from the proposed document?

# A: Yes, I have a number of significant concerns and worries about the document and how the language included and the language not included potentially negatively impacts my land and thereby potentially negatively impacts my community and my state.

19Q:I would like you to walk the Commissioners through each and every one of20your concerns about TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way21agreement so they can develop an understanding of how that language and22the terms of that contract, in your opinion, potentially negatively impacts you23and your land. So, if you can start at the beginning of that document and24let's work our way through it, okay?

- A: Yes, I'll be happy to express my concerns about TransCanada's proposed
  Easement and Right-of-Way agreement and how it negatively could affect my
  property rights and my economic interests.
- 28 Q. Okay, let's start with your first concern please.

- A: The very first sentence talks about consideration or how much money they will pay to compensate me for all of the known and unknown affects and all of the rights I am giving up and for all the things they get to do to my land and for what they will prevent me from doing on my land and they only will pay me one time at the signing of the easement agreement. That is a huge problem.
- 6
- 6

#### **Q:** Explain to the Commissioners why that is a problem.

- 7 A: It is not fair to the landowner, the county, or the State. It is not fair to the 8 landowner because they want to have my land forever for use as they see fit so 9 they can make a daily profit from their customers. If I was to lease ground from 10 my neighbor I would typically pay twice a year every year as long as they granted 11 me the rights to use their land. That only makes sense – that is fair. If I was going 12 to rent a house in town I would typically pay monthly, every month until I gave up 13 my right to use that house. By TransCanada getting out on the cheap and paying 14 once in today's dollars that is monthly, bi-annual, or at least an annual loss in tax 15 revenue collection on the money I would be paid and then pay taxes on and 16 contribute to this state and this country. It is money I would be putting back into 17 my local community both spending and stimulating the local economy and 18 generating more economic activity right here. Instead TransCanada's shareholders 19 keep all that money and it never finds its way to Nebraska.
- 20

#### **Q:** What is your next concern?

21 A: The first paragraph goes on to say Grantor, which is me the landowner, "does 22 hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a 23 limited partnership..." and I have no idea who that really is. I have no idea who is 24 forcing this pipeline on us or who the owners of the entities are, or what are the 25 assets backing this limited partnership, or who the general partner is, or who all 26 the limited partners are, and who makes up the ownership of the these partners or 27 the structure or any of the basic things you would want to know and understand if 28 you would want to do business with such an outfit. According to TransCanada's 29 answer to our Interrogatory No. 28, as of the date I signed this testimony, a limited liability company called TransCanada Keystone Pipeline GP, LLC is the general
 partner and it only owns 0.02 percent of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP so
 basically nothing. That is really scary since the general partner has the liability but
 virtually none of the ownership and who knows if it has any other assets.

- 5 Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred 6 percent clear on exactly who could become the owner of about 275 miles of 7 Nebraska land?
- 8 A: No.

# 9 Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred 10 percent clear on exactly who will be operating and responsible for 11 approximately 275 miles of tar sands pipeline underneath and through 12 Nebraska land?

13 A: No.

### Q: Okay, let's continue please with your concerns of the impacts upon your land and the State of Nebraska of TransCanada's easement terms.

Yes, so the next sentence talks about "...its successors and assigns (hereinafter 16 A: 17 called "Grantee")..." and this concerns me because it would allow my easement to be transferred or sold to someone or some company or country or who knows what 18 19 that I don't know and who we may not want to do business with. This pipeline 20 would be a huge asset for TransCanada and if they can sell to the highest bidder 21 that could have terrible impacts upon all of Nebraska depending upon who may 22 buy it and I don't know of any safeguards in place for us or the State to veto or 23 have any say so in who may own, operate, or be responsible for this pipeline in the 24 future.

### Q: Do you think that type of uncertainty and lack of control over a major piece of infrastructure crossing our State is in the public interest?

27 A: No, certainly not, in fact, just the opposite.

28 Q: What's next?

A: Then it says "...a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way..." and this
really concerns me. Why does the easement and right-of-way have to be perpetual
and permanent? That is the question myself and my family want an answer to.
Perpetual to me is like forever and that doesn't make sense.

5 Q: Why doesn't a perpetual Easement and Right-of-Way make sense to you?

6 A: For many reasons but mostly because the tar sands are finite. I am unaware of any 7 data proving there is a perpetual supply of tar sands. I am not aware in 8 TransCanada's application where it proves there is a perpetual necessity for this 9 pipeline. My understanding of energy infrastructure like wind towers is they have 10 a decommission plan and actually take the towers down when they become 11 obsolete or no longer needed. Nothing manmade lasts forever. My land however 12 will, and I want my family or future Nebraska families to have that land as 13 undisturbed as possible and it is not in my interest or the public interest of 14 Nebraska to be forced to give up perpetual and permanent rights in the land for 15 this specific kind of pipeline project.

16

#### Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

A: The easement language includes all these things TransCanada can do and it says
"...abandoning in place..." so they can just leave this pipeline under my ground
until the end of time just sitting there while they are not using it, but I am still
prevented from doing on my land and using my land what I would like. If I owned
a gas station I couldn't just leave my underground oil or fuel storage tanks sitting
there. It doesn't make sense and it scares me and it is not in my interest or the
public interest of Nebraska to allow this.

### Q: Now it looks like we are ready to go to the second page of the Easement is that right?

26 A: Yes.

#### 27 Q: So now on the second page of the Easement what are your concerns?

A: Here the Easement identifies a 24-month deadline to complete construction of the
pipeline but has caveats that are undefined and ambiguous. The 24-month period

starts to run from the moment "actual pipeline installation activities" begin on 1 2 Landowners property. It appears that TransCanada would define this phrase as 3 needed. It would be wise to explain what types of TransCanada action constitutes 4 "installation activity" For instance, would the placement and storage of an 5 excavator or other equipment on or near the Easement property be an activity or 6 would earth have to be moved before the activity requirement is triggered. This 7 vague phrase is likely to lead to future disputes and litigation that is not in the best 8 interest of the welfare of Nebraska and would not protect property interests. The 9 24-months can also be extended in the case of "force majeure." My understanding 10 is that force majeure is often used to insulate a party to a contract when events 11 occur that are completely out of their control. In TransCanada's easement this is expanded to include "without limitation...availability of labor and materials." 12 13 Extending this language to labor and materials is problematic because these are 14 two variables that TransCanada does have some or significant control over and to 15 allow extension of the 24-month period over events not truly out of the control of 16 TransCanada and without further provision for compensation for the Landowner is 17 not conducive to protection of property rights.

18

#### Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

19 A: Paragraphs 1.A. and 1.B. deal with the liabilities and responsibilities of 20 TransCanada and Landowner. In 1.A., the first sentence discusses "commercially 21 reasonable costs and expenses" will pay for damages caused but then limits 22 TransCanada's liability to certain circumstances. There is no definition of 23 "commercially reasonable" and no stated right that the Landowner would get to 24 determine the amounts of cost or expense that is "commercially reasonable." 25 TransCanada excepts out from their liability any damages that are caused by 26 Landowner's negligence or the negligence of anyone ever acting on the behalf of 27 Landowner. It is understandable that if the Landowner were to willfully and 28 intentionally cause damages to the pipeline that Landowner should be liable. 29 However, anything short of willful misconduct should be the lability of 1 TransCanada who is subjecting the pipeline on the Landowner and who is making 2 a daily profit from that pipeline. When evaluating the impact on property rights of 3 this provision, you must consider the potentially extremely expensive fight a 4 Landowner would have over this question of whether or not damage was an act of 5 negligence. Putting this kind of potential liability upon the Landowner is 6 incredibly problematic and is detrimental to the protection of property rights. I 7 don't think this unilateral power which I can't do anything about as the landowner 8 is in the best economic interest of the land in question or the State of Nebraska for 9 landowners to be treated that way.

#### 10 **O**: 11

#### Is there any specific event or example you are aware of that makes this concern more real for you?

12 A: Yes, one need not look further than a November 3, 2015 lawsuit filed against 13 Nemaha County, Nebraska landowner farmers who accidently struck two 14 Magellan Midstream Partners, LP pipelines, one used to transport a mixture of 15 gasoline and jet fuel and a second used to transport diesel fuel. Magellan alleged 16 negligence and sued the Nebraska farmer for \$4,151,148.69. A true and accurate 17 copy of the Federal Court Complaint is here as **Attachment No. 4**.

18

#### **Q**: What is your next concern with the Easement language?

19 A: Paragraph 3 states that Landowner can farm on and otherwise use their property as they choose unless 1) any Landowner use interferes in any way with 20 21 TransCanada's exercise of any of its rights within the Easement, or 2) 22 TransCanada decides to take any action on the property it deems necessary to 23 prevent injury, endangerment or interference with anything TransCanada deems 24 necessary to do on the property. Landowner is also forbidden from excavating 25 without prior authorization by TransCanada. So my understanding is that 26 TransCanada will unilaterally determine what Landowner can and can't do based 27 upon how TransCanada chooses to define the terms in paragraph 3. TransCanada 28 could also completely deny my request to excavate. Further, TransCanada retains 29 all "privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights" granted to

them in the Easement. Again, TransCanada unilaterally can decide to the 1 2 detriment of the property rights of Landowner what TransCanada believes is 3 necessary or convenient for it. And there is no option for any additional 4 compensation to landowner for any right exercised by TransCanada that leads to 5 the removal of trees or plants or vegetation or buildings or structures or facilities 6 owned by Landowner of any kind. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions and 7 rights without having to compensate Landowner for such further destruction or 8 losses are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

8 9

#### Q: What is the next concern you have?

10 A: The Easement also allows some rights for Landowner but restricts them at the 11 same time and again at the sole and unilateral decision making of TransCanada. 12 TransCanada will determine if the actions of Landowner might in anyway 13 endanger or obstruct or interfere with TransCanada's full use of the Easement or 14 any appurtenances thereon to the pipeline itself or to their access to the Easement 15 or within the Easement and TransCanada retains the right at any time, whether 16 during growing season or not, to travel "within and along Easement Area on foot 17 or in vehicle or machinery..." Further at TransCanada's sole discretion it will 18 retain the rights to prevent any landowner activity that it thinks may "unreasonably 19 impair[ed] or interfe[ed] with" TransCanada's use of the Easement Area. Such 20 undefined and unilateral restrictions are not conducive to the protection of 21 property rights or economic interest.

#### 22 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement allows TransCanada sole discretion to burn or chip or bury under
 Landowner's land any debris of any kind without any input or power of
 Landowner to demand an alternative method or location of debris disposal. Such
 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive
 to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

28 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

1 Again, undefined terms leave a lot of room for confusion. What does the phrase A: 2 "where rock is encountered" mean and why does TransCanada solely get to 3 determine whether or not this phrase is triggered. This phrase could be used to 4 justify installing the pipeline 24 inches beneath the surface. The ability to use this 5 provision to minimal locate the pipeline at a depth of 24 inches could negatively 6 affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights. 7 A shallow pipeline is much more likely to become a danger and liability in the 8 future given farming operations and buried irrigation lines and other factors 9 common to the current typical agricultural uses of the land in question impacted 10 by TransCanada's preferred pipeline route.

#### 11 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

12 A: There are more vague concepts solely at the determination of TransCanada such as 13 "as nearly as practicable" and "pre-construction position" and "extent reasonably 14 possible." There is nothing here that defines this or provides a mechanism for 15 documenting or memorializing "pre-construction position" so as to minimize 16 costly legal battles or wasted Landowner time attempting to recreate the soil 17 condition on their fields or pasture. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect 18 Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or 19 economic interest.

#### 20 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: TransCanada maintains the unilateral right to abandon the pipeline and all appurtenances thereto in place on, under, across, or through Nebraska land at any time it chooses. There is no provision for Landowner compensation for such abandonment nor any right for the Landowner to demand removal. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 27 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: TransCanada has the power to unilaterally move or modify the location of any
 Easement area whether permanent or temporary at their sole discretion.

1 Regardless, if Landowner has taken prior steps relative the their property in 2 preparation or planning of TransCanada's taking of the initial easement area(s), 3 the language here does not require TransCanada to compensate the Landowner if 4 they decide to move the easement anywhere on Landowners property. Such 5 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 6 to the protection of property rights or economic interests.

7

#### Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

8 A: The Easement requires that all of the burdens and restrictions upon Landowner to 9 transfer and be applicable to any future owner of the Land in question without the 10 ability of the future Landowner to modify or negotiation any of the language in 11 question to which it will be held to comply.

#### 12 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

13 A: The Easement allows TransCanada to assign, transfer, or sell any part of the 14 Easement to any person, company, country, etc. at their sole discretion at anytime 15 to anyone. This also means that any buyer of the easement could do the same to a 16 third buyer and so on forever. There is no change of control or sale provision in 17 place to protect the Landowner or Nebraska or to provide compensation for such 18 change of control or ownership. It is not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interests to allow unilateral unrestricted sale of the Easement 19 20 thereby forcing upon the Landowner and our State a new unknown Easement 21 owner.

#### 22 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

- A: There are many terms in the Easement that are either confusing or undefined terms
  that are without context as to whether or not the Landowner would have any say
  so in determining what these terms mean or if the evaluation is solely in
  TransCanada's control. Some of these vague undefined terms are as follows:
- 27

- i. "pipeline installation activities"
- ii. "availability of labor and materials"
- 29 iii. "commercially reasonable costs and expenses"

1	iv.	"reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses"		
2	v.	"yield loss damages"		
3	vi.	"diminution in the value of the property"		
4	vii.	"substantially same condition"		
5	viii.	"an actual or potential hazard"		
6	ix.	"efficient"		
7	х.	"convenient"		
8	xi.	"endangered"		
9	xii.	"obstructed"		
10	xiii.	"injured"		
11	xiv.	"interfered with"		
12	XV.	"impaired"		
13	xvi.	"suitable crossings"		
14	xvii.	"where rock is encountered"		
15	xviii.	"as nearly as practicable"		
16	xix.	"pre-construction position"		
17	XX.	"pre-construction grade"		
18	xxi.	"various engineering factors"		
19	Each one of	these above terms and phrases as read in the context of the Easement		
20	could be pro-	oblematic in many ways. Notably, undefined terms tend to only get		
21	definition in	n further legal proceedings after a dispute arises and the way the		
22	Easement is	s drafted, TransCanada has sole power to determine when and if a		
23	particular si	particular situation conforms with or triggers rights affected by these terms. For		
24	instance, "y	instance, "yield loss damages" should be specifically defined and spelled out		
25	exactly how	exactly how the landowner is to be compensated and in what events on the front		
26	end. I can't	end. I can't afford to fight over this after the damage has occurred. Unfortunately,		
27	the Landow	the Landowner is without contractual rights to define these terms or determine		
28	when rights	related to them trigger and what the affects may be.		

- Q: Do you have any other concerns about the Easement language that you can
   think of at this time?
- A: I reserve the right to discuss any additional concerns that I think of at the time of
  my live testimony in August.

5 Q: Based upon what you have shared with the Commission above regarding 6 TransCanada's proposed Easement terms and agreement, do you believe 7 those to be reasonable or just, under the circumstances of the pipeline's 8 impact upon you and your land?

9 A: No, I do not believe those terms to be reasonable or just for the reasons that we10 discussed previously.

Q: Did TransCanada ever offer you financial compensation for the rights that
 they sought to obtain in your land, and for what they sought to prevent you
 and any future land owner of your property from doing in the future?

14 A: Yes, we received an offer from them.

Q: As the owner of the land in question and as the person who knows it better
 than anyone else, do you believe that TransCanada offered you just, or fair,
 compensation for all of what they proposed to take from you so that their tar
 sands pipeline could be located across your property?

- A: No, I do not. Not at any time has TransCanada, in my opinion, made a fair or just
  offer for all the potential impacts and effects and the rights that I'm giving up, and
  what I will be prevented from doing in the future and how their pipeline would
  impact my property for ever and ever.
- Q: Has TransCanada at any time offered to compensate you annually, such as
   wind farm projects do, for the existence of their potential tar sands pipeline
   across your property.
- 26 A: No, never.

Q: At any time did TransCanada present you with or request that you, as the
 owner of the land in question, sign and execute a document called, "Advanced
 Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?"

1 A: Yes, they did.

### Q: Is Attachment No. 5, to your testimony here, a true and accurate copy of the "Advanced Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?

4 A: Yes, it is.

#### 5 Q: What was your understanding of that document?

Did you ever sign that document?

A: When I read that document in the plain language of that document, it was my
understanding that TransCanada was attempting to pay me a very small amount at
that time in order for me to agree to give up my rights to be compensated from
them in the future related to any damage or impact they may have upon my
property "arising out of, in connection with, or alleged to resulted from
construction or surveying over, under or on" my land.

12 **Q:** 

13

A: No, I did not.

14 **Q:** Why not?

A; Because I do not believe that it is fair or just to try to get me to agree to a small
sum of money when I have no idea how bad the impacts or damages that they, or
their contractors, or subcontractors, or other agents or employees, may cause on
my land at any time in the future that resulted from the construction or surveying
or their activities upon my land.

#### 20 Q: When you reviewed this document, what did it make you feel?

A: I felt like it was simply another attempt for TransCanada to try to pay very little to shield themselves against known and foreseeable impacts that their pipeline, and the construction of it, would have upon my land. It made me feel that they knew it was in their financial interest to pay me as little as possible to prevent me from ever having the opportunity to seek fair compensation again, and that this must be based upon their experience of unhappy landowners and situations in other places where they have built pipelines.

1	Q:	Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you	
2		thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land	
3		was in your best interest?	
4	A:	No, they have not.	
5	Q:	Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you	
6		thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land	
7		was in the public interest of the State of Nebraska?	
8	A:	No, they have not.	
9	Q:	Are you familiar with the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the	
10		Takings Clause?	
11	A:	Yes, I am.	
12	Q:	What is your understanding of the Fifth Amendment as it relates to taking of	
13		an American citizens property?	
14	A:	My understanding is that, according to the United States Constitution, that if the	
15		government is going to take land for public use, then in that case, or by taking for	
16		public use, it can only occur if the private land owner is compensated justly, or	
17		fairly.	
18	Q:	Has TransCanada ever contacted you specially to explain the way in which	
19		the public could use its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline?	
20	A:	No, they have not.	
21	Q:	Can you think of any way in which the public, that is the citizens of the State	
22		of Nebraska, can directly use the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL	
23		Pipeline, as it dissects the State of Nebraska?	
24	A:	No, I cannot. I cannot think of any way to use this pipeline. I do not see how the	
25		public benefits from this pipeline in any way, how they can use it any way, or how	
26		it's in the public interest in any way. By looking at the map, it is quite clear to me	
27		that the only reason it's proposed to come through Nebraska, is that because we	
28		are geographically in the way from between where the privately-owned Tar Sands	

1	are located to where TransCanada wants to ship the Tar Sands to refineries in
2	Houston, Texas.

3 Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and asked you if you had any tar sands,
4 crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by-products that you would like to
5 ship in its pipeline?

6 A: No, it has not.

Q: Do you have any tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum byproducts that you, at this time or any time in the future, would desire to place
for transport within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

10 A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you know anyone in the state of Nebraska who would be able to ship any
 Nebraska-based tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

14 A: No, I do not. I've never heard of such a person or company like that.

Q: Do you pay property taxes for the land that would be affected and impacted
 at the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

17 A: Yes, I do.

18 Q: Why do you pay property taxes on that land?

- A: Because that is the law. The law requires us to pay the property taxes as the ownerof that property.
- Q: Because you follow the law and pay property taxes, do you believe you
  deserve any special consideration or treatment apart from any other person
  or company that pays property taxes?
- A: Well no, of course not. It's the law to pay property taxes if you own property. It's
  just what you do.
- Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes entitles you to special
  treatment of any kind, or special rights of any kind?

28 A: No, of course not.

1	Q:	Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes on your land would be		
2		enough to qualify you to have the power of eminent domain to take land of		
3		your neighbors or other people in your county, or other people across the		
4		state of Nebraska?		
5	A:	Well, of course not. Like I said, paying property taxes is the law, it's nothing that		
6		I expect an award for or any type of special consideration.		
7	Q:	Have you at any time ever employed any person other than yourself?		
8	A:	Well, yes I have.		
9	Q:	Do you believe that the fact that you have, at some point in your life,		
10		employed one or more other persons entitle you to any special treatment or		
11		consideration above and beyond any other Nebraskan that has also employed		
12		one or more persons?		
13	A:	No, of course not.		
14	Q:	Do you believe that the fact that you, as a Nebraska land owner and taxpayer		
15		have at one point employed another person within this state, entitles you to		
16		preferential treatment or consideration of any kind?		
17	A:	No, of course not. If I choose to employ someone that decision is up to me. I		
18		don't deserve any special treatment or consideration for that fact.		
19	Q:	At the beginning of your statement, you briefly described your property that		
20		would be impacted by the potential Keystone XL Pipeline. I would like you to		
21		give the Commissioners a sense of specifically how you believe the proposed		
22		Keystone XL Pipeline and its preferred route, which proposes to go across		
23		your land, how it would in your opinion based on your knowledge,		
24		experience, and background of your land, affect it. So please share with the		
25		Commissioners the characteristics of your land that you believe is important		
26		for them to understand, while they evaluate TransCanada's application for a		
27		route for its proposed pipeline to cross Nebraska and across your land,		
28		specifically.		

1 A: Part of the land is center pivot irrigated cropland. The predominant soil types are 2 Thurman loamy fine sand and Boelus loamy fine sand. The cropland is rotated 3 between corn and soybeans. Usually two years corn and then one year beans. We 4 are fortunate to have excellent water in the area. Drawing from the Ogallala 5 Aquifer irrigation wells on the farm are capable of pumping 850-1000 g/p/m. This 6 is very important on our sandy soils as water holding capacity is low and the crop 7 can become stressed quickly with hot, dry and windy conditions. Timing of 8 irrigation is critical. However with proper irrigation the land is very productive 9 200+ bushel/acre corn and 60+ bushel/acre soybeans are not uncommon. The other 10 portion of the land impacted by the pipeline is in CRP. The pipeline would also go 11 through a shelterbelt on the property which was planted in the 1930's and two 12 cedar tree rows that my father planted in the 1960's.

# Q: Do you have any concerns TransCanada's fitness as an applicant for a major crude oil pipeline in its preferred location, or ultimate location across the state of Nebraska?

16 A: Yes, I have significant concerns. I am aware of landowners being treated unfairly 17 or even bullied around and being made to feel scared that they did not have any 18 options but to sign whatever papers TransCanada told them they had to. I am 19 aware of older folks and widows or widowers feeling they had no choice but to 20 sign TransCanada's Easement and they didn't know they could fight or stand up 21 for themselves. From a more practical standpoint, I am worried that according to 22 their answer to our Interrogatory No. 211, TransCanada only owns and operates 23 one (1) major oil pipeline. They simply do not have the experience with this type 24 of pipeline and that scares me. There are others but that is what I can recollect at 25 this time and if I remember more or my recollection is refreshed I will share those 26 with the Commissioners at the Hearing in August.

### Q: Do you believe TransCanada's proposed method of compensation to you as a landowner is reasonable or just?

A: No, I do not.

- 1Q:Do you have any concern about limitations that the construction of this2proposed pipeline across your affected land would prevent construction of3future structures upon the portion of your land affected by the proposed4easement and immediately surrounding areas?
- A: Well yes, of course I do. We would not be able to build many, if any, types of
  structures directly across or touching the easement, and it would be unwise and I
  would be uncomfortable to build anything near the easement for fear of being
  blamed in the future should any damage or difficulty result on my property in
  regards to the pipeline.

10 Q: Do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

11 A: Well yes, of course.

12 Q: How do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

13 A: The future of this land may not be exactly how it's being used as of this moment, 14 and having the restrictions and limiting my ability to develop my land in certain 15 ways presents a huge negative economic impact on myself, my family, and any 16 potential future owner of the property. You have no idea how I or the future owner 17 may want to use this land in the future or the other land across Nebraska 18 potentially affected by the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Fifty years 19 ago it would have been hard to imagine all the advances that we have now or how 20 things change. Because the Easement is forever and TransCanada gets the rights in 21 my land forever we have to think with a very long term view. By placing their 22 pipeline on under across and through my land that prevents future development 23 which greatly negatively impacts future taxes and tax revenue that could have 24 been generated by the County and State but now will not. When you look at the 25 short blip of economic activity that the two years of temporary construction efforts 26 may bring, that is far outweighed by the perpetual and forever loss of opportunity 27 and restrictions TransCanada is forcing upon us and Nebraska.

### Q: Do you have any concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed pipeline?

1 A: Yes, I do.

- 2 Q: What are some of those concerns?
- A: As an affected land owner and Nebraskan, I am concerned that any construction,
  operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have
  a detrimental impact upon the environment of my land specifically, as well as the
  lands near my land and surrounding the proposed pipeline route.

7

#### **Q:** Do you have any other environmental concerns?

8 A: Yes, of course I am concerned about potential breaches or the pipeline, failures in 9 construction and/or maintenance and operation. I am concerned about spills and 10 leaks that TransCanada has had in the past and will have in the future. This could 11 be catastrophic to my operations or others and to my county and the State.

### 12 Q: Do you have any thoughts regarding if there would be an impact upon the 13 natural resources on or near your property due to the proposed pipeline?

A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the
 proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental impacts upon the natural
 resources of my land, and the lands near and surrounding the proposed pipeline
 route.

### 18 Q: Do you have any worries about potential impacts from the proposed pipeline 19 to the soil of your land, or land near you?

20 A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the 21 proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the soil of 22 land, as well as land along and surrounding the proposed pipeline route. This 23 includes, but is not limited to, the reasons that we discussed above of disturbing 24 the soil composition and makeup as it has naturally existed for thousands of years 25 during the construction process, and any future maintenance or removal process. 26 I'm gravely concerned about the fertility and the loss of economic ability of my 27 property to grow the crops, or grow the grasses, or grow whatever it is at that time 28 they exist on my property or that I may want to grow in the future, or that a future

owner may want to grow. The land will never be the same from as it exists now
 undisturbed to after it is trenched up for the proposed pipeline.

### 3 Q: Do you have any concerns about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline 4 upon the groundwater over your land, or surrounding lands?

5 A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of 6 the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the 7 groundwater of not only under my land, but also near and surrounding the pipeline 8 route, and in fact, potentially the entire State of Nebraska. Water is life plain and 9 simple and it is simply too valuable to our State and the country to put at 10 unreasonable risk.

11 Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline
12 upon the surface water on, or near or around your land?

A: Yes, I have significant concerns that any construction, operation, and/or
maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental
impact upon the surface water of not only within my property boundary, but along
and near and surrounding the pipeline route, and in fact, across the state of
Nebraska.

# Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impacts of the proposed pipeline upon the wildlife and plants, other than your growing crops on or near your land?

A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of
the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the
wildlife and the plants, not only that are located on or can be found upon my land,
but also near and along the proposed pipeline route.

### Q: Do you have any concerns about the effects of the proposed pipeline upon the fair market value of your land?

A: Yes, I do. I am significantly concerned about how the existence of the proposed
pipeline underneath and across and through my property will negatively affect the
fair market value at any point in the future, especially at that point in which I

1 would need to sell the property, or someone in my family would need to sell the 2 property. I do not believe, and certainly would not be willing to pay, the same 3 price for land that had the pipeline located on it, versus land that did not. I hope 4 there is never a point where I'm in a position where I have to sell and have to 5 realize as much value as I can out of my land. But because it is my single largest 6 asset, I'm gravely concerned that the existence of the proposed Keystone XL 7 Pipeline upon my land will affect a buyer's willingness to pay as much as they 8 would've paid and as much as I could've received, if the pipeline were not upon 9 my property. There are just too many risks, unknowns, impacts and uncertainties, 10 not to mention all of the rights you give up by the nature of having the pipeline 11 due to having the easement that we have previously discussed, for any reasonable 12 person to think that the existence of the pipeline would not negatively affect my 13 property's value.

### 14 Q: Have you ever seen the document that's marked as Attachment No. 6, to your 15 testimony?

16 A: Yes, I have.

17 Q: Where have you seen that before?

A: That is a map I think I first saw a couple years ago that shows the Keystone XL
 I-90 corridor alternate route of its proposed pipeline through Nebraska and I
 believe the portion of the alternative route in Nebraska essentially twins or
 parallels Keystone I.

Q: Do you believe that TransCanada's preferred route as found on page 5 of its
Application, and as found on Attachment No. 7, here to your testimony, is in
the public interest of Nebraska?

25 A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you believe that the Keystone mainline alternative route as shown on
Attachment No. 7 included with your testimony here is a major oil pipeline
route that is in the public interest of Nebraska?

29 A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you believe the I-90 corridor alternative route, specifically for the portion
 of the proposed pipeline within Nebraska as found in Attachment No. 6 to
 your testimony, is in the public interest of Nebraska?

4 A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you believe there is any potential route for the proposed Keystone XL
Pipeline across, within, under, or through the State of Nebraska that is in the
public interest of the citizens of Nebraska?

8 A: No, I do not.

9 Q: Why do you hold that belief?

10 A: Because there simply is no public interest based on all of the factors that I am 11 aware and that I have read and that I have studied that this Commission is to 12 consider that would establish that a for-profit foreign-owned pipeline that simply 13 crosses Nebraska because we are geographically in the way between where tar 14 sands are in Canada to where it wants to ship it to in Texas could ever be in the 15 public interest of Nebraskans. We derive no benefit from this project. It is not for 16 public use. Nebraska is simply in the way and when all considerations are taken in 17 there is no net benefit of any kind for Nebraska should this project be placed in our state. Even if there was some arguable "benefit" it is not enough to outweigh all 18 19 the negative impacts and concerns.

# Q: What do you think about the applicant, TransCanada's argument that it's preferred route for its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline is in the public interest of Nebraska because it may bring temporary jobs during the construction phase to Nebraska?

A: First of all, not all jobs are created equally. Most jobs that are created, whether
temporary or on a permanent basis, don't come with a project that has all the
potential and foreseeable negative impacts, many of which we have discussed here
and other witnesses throughout the course of this hearing have and will discuss. If
I decide to hire and employ someone to help me out in my farming or ranching
business, I've created a job but I haven't done so at the risk or detrimental impact

1 to my land or my town or my county or my state. And I've hired someone who is 2 working directly for me, a Nebraska landowner, citizen, taxpayer, to help produce 3 and grow a Nebraska product to be sold so that I can pay Nebraska taxes. So, all 4 jobs are not created equal. Additionally, I understand from what I'm familiar with 5 from TransCanada's own statements that the jobs numbers they originally touted 6 were determined to be a minute fraction of the permanent jobs that had been 7 projected. According to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 191, TransCanada 8 has created only thirty-four (34) jobs within Nebraska working specifically on 9 behalf of TransCanada and according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 196, as 10 of May 5, 2017 they only employ one (1) temporary working within Nebraska. 11 Further, according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 199, TransCanada would 12 only employ six to ten (6 to 10) new individuals if the proposed Keystone XL was 13 constructed on its Preferred Route or its Mainline Alternative Route.

### 14 Q: Are you opposed to the preferred route of the proposed KXL Pipeline simply 15 because it would cross your land?

A: No, absolutely not. I am opposed to this project because it is not in the public
interest, neither within my community nor within our state.

### 18 Q: Would you be happier if instead of crossing your land, this proposed pipeline 19 was to cross someone else's land?

A: No, absolutely not. I would get no joy in having a fellow citizen of my state have
the fear and anxiety and potential foreseeable risks and negative impacts that this
type of a project carrying this type of product brings foisted upon anyone in this
state or any other state.

### Q: Do you think there is any intelligent route for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline to cross the state of Nebraska?

A: I don't believe there is an intelligent route because as I have stated I don't believe
this project anywhere within Nebraska is within the public interest. However, if
you are presenting a hypothetical that if this proposed KXL Pipeline absolutely
had to go somewhere in the state of Nebraska, the only intelligent route I believe

would be to twin or closely parallel the existing Keystone I Pipeline. Both the
 preferred route and the mainline alternative routes are economic liabilities our
 state cannot risk.

4

#### Q: What do you rely upon to make that statement?

5 A: Well, the fact that a pipeline owned and operated by TransCanada, Keystone I, 6 already exists in that area is reason enough as it is not in our best interest or the 7 public interests to have more major oil pipelines crisscrossing our state. Second, 8 they have all the infrastructure already there in terms of relationships with the 9 counties and local officials and first responders along that route. Third, they have 10 already obtained easements from all the landowners along that route and have 11 relationships with them. Fourth, that route avoids our most sensitive soils, the 12 sandier lighter soils. Fifth, that route for all practical purposes avoids the Ogallala 13 Aquifer. Sixth, they have already studied that route and previously offered it as an 14 alternative. Seventh, it just makes the most sense that as a state we would have 15 some intelligent policy of energy corridors and co-locating this type of 16 infrastructure near each other.

### 17 Q: Do you have any other concerns you would like to reiterate or can think of at 18 this time you would like the Commissioners to understand?

19 A: Yes. I'm very concerned about farming over the pipeline. Language in the 20 Easement states "Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground 21 elevation." Does this include normal tillage practices? What about irrigation 22 systems crossing the pipeline? It seems to me that this is language that could be 23 used against the landowner in the future if an accident occurs. I receive a one-time 24 payment yet my heirs could be held responsible for an accident that occurs 50 25 years from now. The easement gives TransCanada the right to abandon the pipeline in place. This creates a tremendous liability for my children and 26 27 grandchildren and I urge the Commissioners to think long and hard if this is in 28 Nebraska's interest. I am also concerned about the severance damages that would 29 impact my land. Severance decreases the value of the land. Examples: railroad

1 right of way and electrical transmission poles through property devalue the land 2 because it is impossible or more costly to develop for irrigation. Although the 3 pipeline is underground I can see it being an obstacle of a future technology no 4 one has even thought of yet. The railroad that runs through my property was 5 constructed in the 1890's. I doubt anyone at that time had envisioned a center 6 pivot. On my property TransCanada plans to install a mainline valve. This is an 7 above ground structure which would surely devalue the land because it is a 8 physical barrier to any future irrigation development. This above ground structure 9 would also increase the possibility of an accident which according to the terms of 10 the easement I could be held liable for. The threat the proposed preferred route and 11 first half of the mainline alternative route pose to the Ogallala Aquifer is 12 significant. There are 2398 Nebraska wells within one mile of the proposed 13 preferred route. Compare that to other states Montana 523 wells and South Dakota 14 only 105. If the proposed preferred route of the KXL pipeline is approved, it 15 would go through one of the most densely irrigated areas of Nebraska. Three out 16 of every four quarters in Antelope County are irrigated. The relevant Map is in 17 Attachment No. 8. Each purple circle is an irrigated quarter. As you can see 18 Antelope County is mostly purple. Similar to Antelope County, Holt County is 19 also heavily irrigated and the local economy dependent on dependable clean water 20 from the Ogallala Aquifer. Moving this pipeline, if it is to be approved, out of Holt 21 and Antelope counties is crucial for the long-term welfare of Nebraska.

# Q: Have you fully expressed each and every opinion, concern, or fact you would like the Public Service Commissioners to consider in their review of TransCanada's Application?

A: No, I have not. I have shared that which I can think of as of the date I signed this
document below but other things may come to me or my memory may be
refreshed and I will add and address those things at the time of the Hearing in
August and address any additional items at that time as is necessary. Additionally,
I have not had an adequate amount of time to receive and review all of

1 TransCanada's answers to our discovery and the discovery of others so it was 2 impossible to competently and completely react to that in my testimony here and I 3 reserve the right to also address anything related to discovery that has not yet 4 concluded as of the date I signed this document below. Lastly, certain documents 5 requested have not yet been produced by TransCanada and therefore I may have 6 additional thoughts on those I will also share at the hearing as needed.

# Q: What is it that you are requesting the Public Service Commissioners do in regards to TransCanada's application for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline across Nebraska?

10 A: I am respectfully and humbly requesting that the Commissioners think far beyond 11 a temporary job spike that this project may bring to a few counties and beyond the 12 relatively small amount of taxes this proposed foreign pipeline would possibly 13 generate. And, instead think about the perpetual and forever impacts of this 14 pipeline as it would have on the landowners specifically, first and foremost, but 15 also thereby upon the entire state of Nebraska, and to determine that neither the 16 preferred route nor the Keystone mainline alternative route are in the public 17 interest of the citizens of the state of Nebraska. And if the Commissioners were 18 inclined to modify TransCanada's proposed routes and were to be inclined to grant 19 an application for a route in Nebraska, that the only potential route that would 20 make any intelligent sense whatsoever would be twinning or near paralleling of 21 the proposed KXL with the existing Keystone I pipeline. It simply does not make 22 sense to add yet another major oil pipeline crisscrossing our state creating new 23 pumping stations, creating new impacts on additional counties and communities 24 and going through all of the court processes with myself and other landowners like 25 me when this applicant already has relationships with the landowners, the towns 26 and the communities along Keystone I, and that Keystone I is firmly outside of the 27 sand hills and a significantly further portion away from the heart of the Ogallala 28 Aquifer than the preferred route or the Keystone mainline alternative route.

Q: Does Attachment No. 8 here contain other documents you are competent to
 speak about that you wish to be part of your testimony and to discuss in more
 detail as needed at the August 2017 Hearing?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Are all of your statements in your testimony provided above true and 6 accurate as of the date you signed this document to the best of your 7 knowledge?

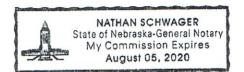
8 A: Yes, they are.

9 Q: Thank you, I have no further questions at this time and reserve the right to
10 ask you additional questions at the August 2017 Hearing.

Gregory Walmer

Subscribed and Sworn to me before this  $25^{th}$  day of May, 2017.

Notary Public



Attachment No. 1



#### KXL019162

Attachment No. 2



Attachment No. 3

Prepared by and after recording please return to: TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP 1106 Benjamin Avenue, Suite 600 Norfolk, NE 68701

(Above Space for Recorder's Use Only)

Tract No.: ML-NE-AT-30155.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration") Cottonwood Ridge LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, whose mailing address is 51756 Highway 20, Royal, NE 68773 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and

Grantor's Initials

petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u>, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "**Easement Area**") located on real property situated in the County of Antelope, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 120 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Antelope, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as the North 120 acres of the NW1/4 of Section 17, Township 27 North, Range 7 West of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 126, Page 45 in the Deed Records of Antelope County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "**Property**"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto (the "**Temporary Work Space**"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee

harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

3. Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space. Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee shall not be prevented from traveling within and along Easement Area on foot or in vehicle or machinery; (iv) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

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8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including, 13. without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation. inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid. Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

Cottonwood Ridge LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company

By:

Its:

#### [ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

STATE OF		
COUNTY OF		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this	day of	20
Ву		of

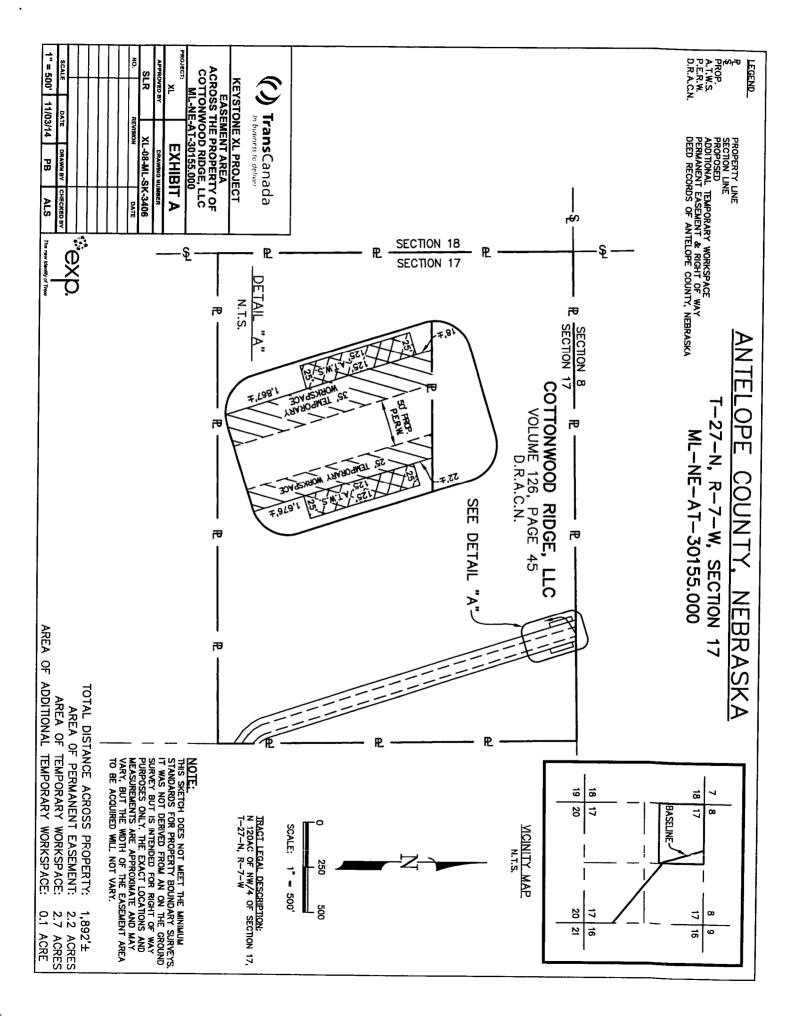
Cottonwood Ridge LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company on behalf of the corporation.

Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here

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Attachment No. 4

#### 8:15-cv-00403 Doc # 1 Filed: 11/03/15 Page 1 of 5 - Page ID # 1

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE	)	CASE NO
COMPANY, a New York Corporation,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT
V.	)	
	)	
RICHARD ANDREW, JANE ANDREW,	)	
LUKE ANDREW, and BRYCE ANDREW,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**COMES NOW** Plaintiff, Zurich American Insurance Company ("Plaintiff"), a New York Corporation, and for its causes of action against Defendants, states and alleges as follows:

#### PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principle place of business located at 1400 American Lane, Schaumburg, Illinois.

- 2. Defendant, Richard Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 3. Defendant, Jane Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 4. Defendant, Luke Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 5. Defendant, Bryce Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because Defendants reside in this district, and a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this district.

7. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and because diversity of citizenship exists with respect to Plaintiff and all Defendants.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

8. At all times material to this action, Defendants were agents of each other and were acting within the course and scope of their agency relationships, and the negligence of any Defendant is imputed to all Defendants.

9. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a joint venture and were acting within the course and scope of the joint venture at the time of the event described below.

10. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a partnership, were carrying on a business for profit, shared profits of the business, and were acting within the course and scope of the partnership at the time of the event described below.

11. At all relevant times, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were the lessees of property located in the East ½ of the Southwest ¼, Section 15, Township 4, Range 15 (the "Property"), Nemaha County, Nebraska, and were engaged in commercial farming operations for the benefit of all named Defendants in this action.

12. On or about December 10, 2011, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were engaged in excavation activities on the Property, including the clearing of various vegetation near the northernmost property line of the Property.

13. The excavation was in the area of two pipelines owned and operated by Magellan Midstream Partners, LP ("Magellan"), including a 12" pipeline used to transport a mixture of gasoline and jet fuel as well as an 8" pipeline ("the Pipelines") used to transport diesel fuel.

14. At all times relevant to this action, Magellan owned a right-of-way and easement on the Property in the areas where the pipelines ran and Defendants had actual and constructive knowledge of the right-of-way and easement.

15. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants had actual and constructive notice of the pipelines on the Property and had notice that Magellan owned and operated such pipelines.

16. On or about December 10, 2011, while engaged in excavation activities, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew struck the pipeline, causing the release of approximately 2,167 barrels of mixed gasoline and jet fuel from the 12" pipeline and approximately 643 barrels of diesel fuel from the 8" pipeline onto the Property (The line strikes will hereinafter be referred to as "the Release").

17. As a result of the line strikes and release, Magellan was required by state and federal

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law to engage in cleanup and remediation activities related to the Release.

18. At the time of the Release, Magellan was the named insured on a policy of insurance, Policy No. EPC 669256201 ("the Policy"), issued by Plaintiff.

19. Plaintiff has made payment on behalf of Magellan under the Policy and has a contractual and equitable right of subrogation and is subrogated to Magellan's rights of recovery against Defendants for amounts paid on its behalf.

#### FIRST CLAIM: NEGLIGENCE

20. Paragraphs 1-20 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

21. Defendants owed a duty to perform their work on the Property and within the rightof-way and easement owned and operated by Magellan in a reasonable manner, to use reasonable care in constructing improvements on the Property, to comply with the statutory requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 76-2301 et seq., the One Call Notification System ("OCNS"), and to protect the Pipelines on the Property from damage during Defendants' work on the Property.

22. Defendants negligently struck the Pipelines while performing excavation work on the Property.

- 23. Defendants were negligent in the following particulars:
  - a. Defendants failed to perform their work on the Property within the right-of-way and easement in a reasonable manner;
  - b. Defendants failed to use reasonable care in their work on the Property and the Pipelines' right-of-way and easement;
  - c. Defendants failed to comply with the statutory requirements of the OCNS;
  - d. Defendants failed to notify Magellan of Defendants' intent to excavate on December 10, 2011 in and over the right-of-way and easement on the Property;
  - e. Defendants failed to give Magellan the opportunity to exercise its rights under the OCNS.

24. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

25. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

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26. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its first claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69 for Defendants' negligent strike of the Pipelines.

#### SECOND CLAIM: TRESPASS

27. Paragraphs 1-29 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

28. Magellan owned and occupied a valid right-of-way and easement in and to the area of the Property where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

29. Defendants physically invaded Magellan's rights within and to the right-of-way and easement where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

30. Defendants had no right, lawful authority, or express or implied invitation, permission, or license to enter upon and disturb Magellan's rights and interests in and to the right-of-way and easement where Magellan's pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

31. Magellan's interest in and to the right-of-way and easement of the Pipelines were injured during the course of Defendants' trespass.

32. As a result of Defendants' trespass, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

33. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

34. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its second claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff hereby prays for a judgment of this Court in its favor and against Defendants for its damages in an amount to be proven at trial, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, its costs incurred in prosecuting this action, and such other reasonable sums as this Court deems just and equitable.

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38 and Local Rule 40.1(b) demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable in Omaha, Nebraska.

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

By: /s/ Albert M. Engles ENGLES, KETCHAM, OLSON, & KEITH, P.C. 1350 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102 (402) 348-0900 (402) 348-0904 (Facsimile) Albert M. Engles, #11194 Dan H. Ketcham, #18930 Michael L. Moran, #24042 James C. Boesen, #24862 Attachment No. 5

#### TRANSCANADA KEYSTONE PIPELINE, LP

#### ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

#### Tract No. : <u>ML-NE-AT-30145.000</u>

We, <u>Joanne Walmer, Life Estate and Gregory Walmer, Remainderman</u>, of <u>Antelope</u> County, in the State of <u>Nebraska</u>, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and No Cents (\$3,834.00), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Antelope, State of Nebraska:

#### Part of the NE/4, SW/4, and Part of the E/2 NW/4

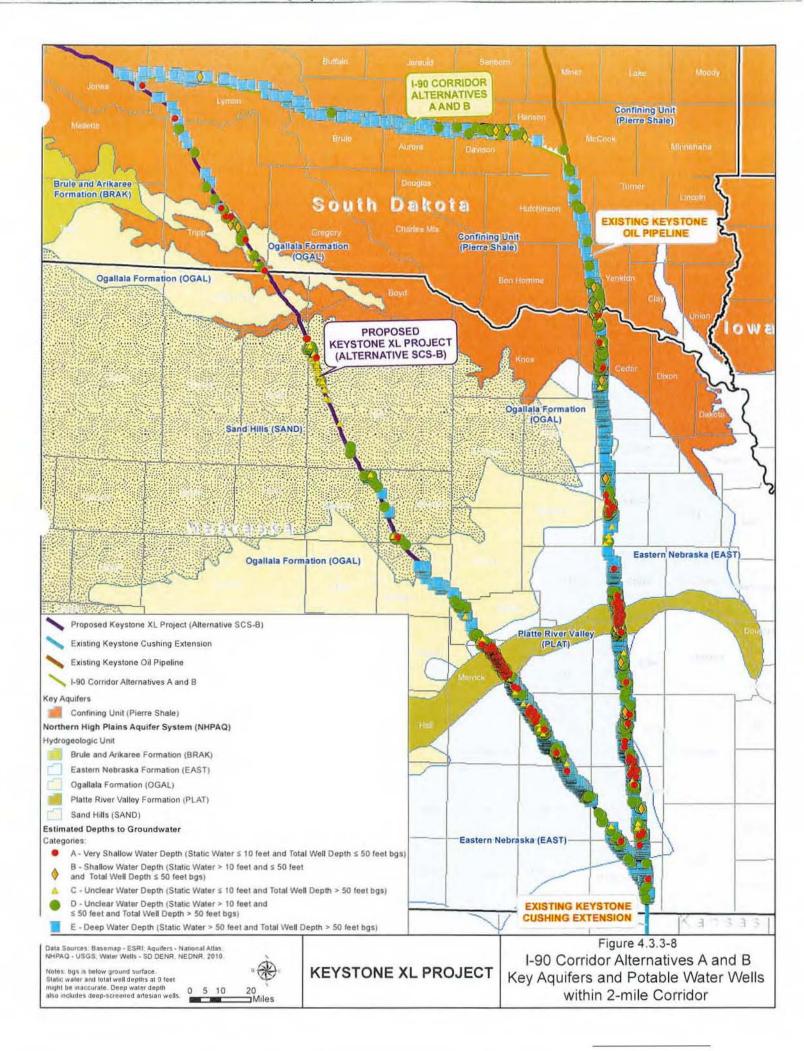
#### Section 8, Township 27N, Range 7W

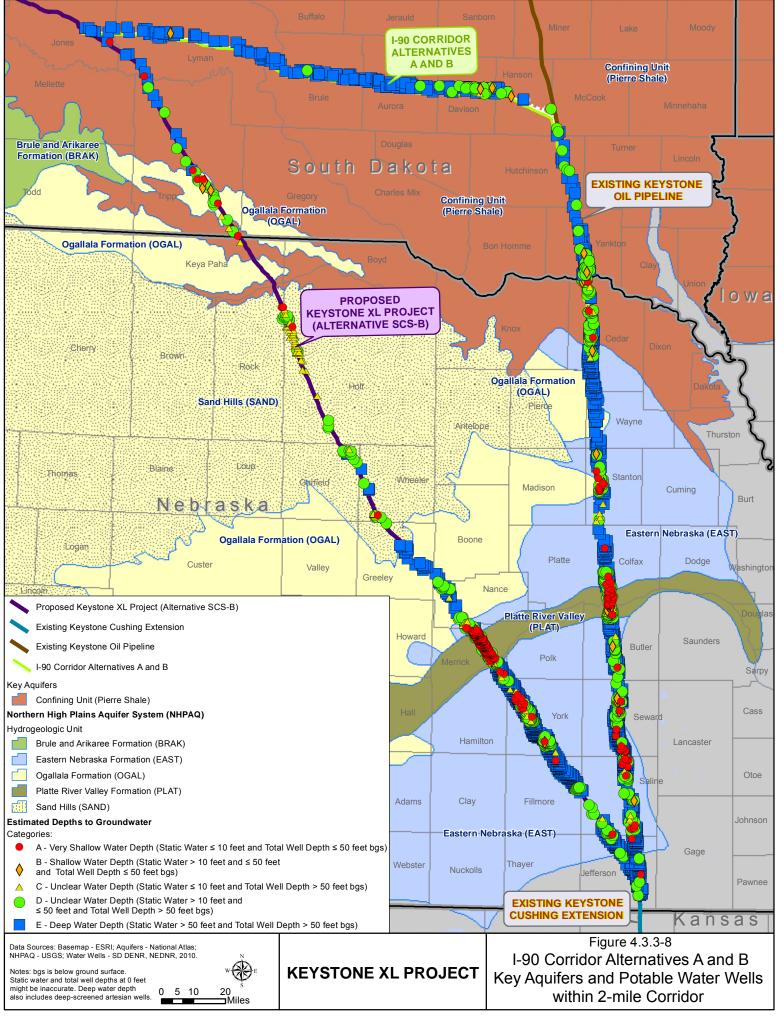
Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.
Owner Signature
Owner/Owner Representative Name
Owner/Owner Representative Name

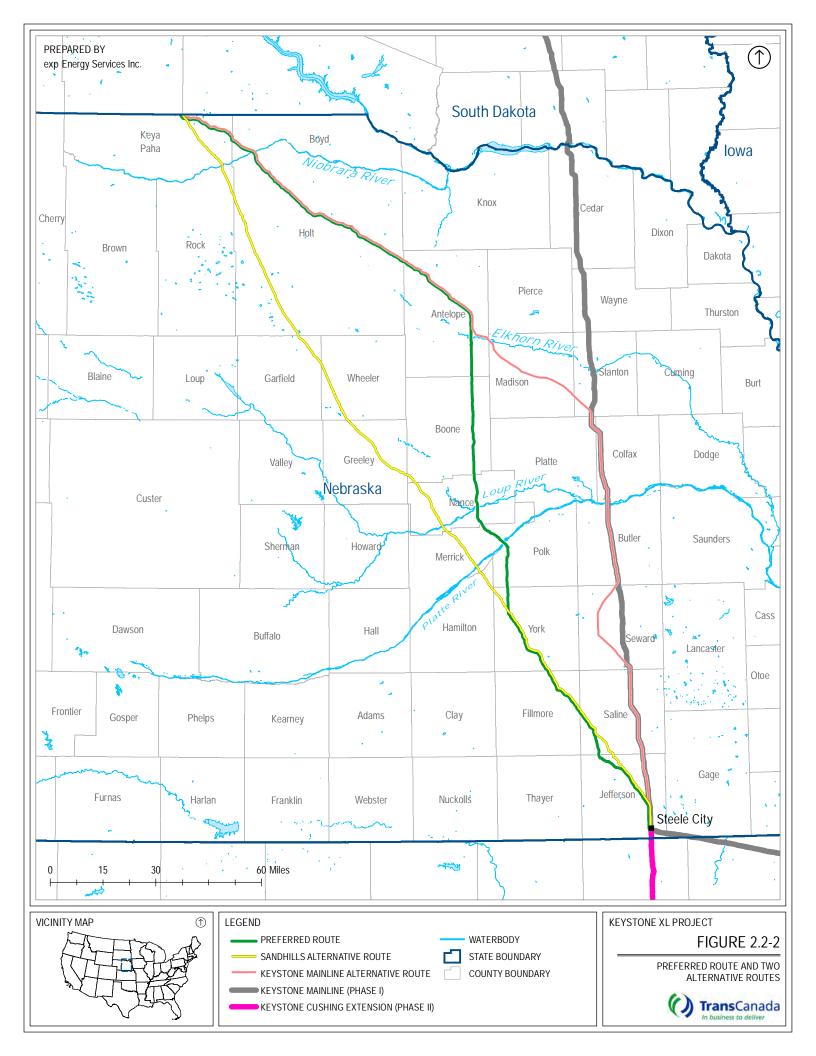
Attachment No. 6





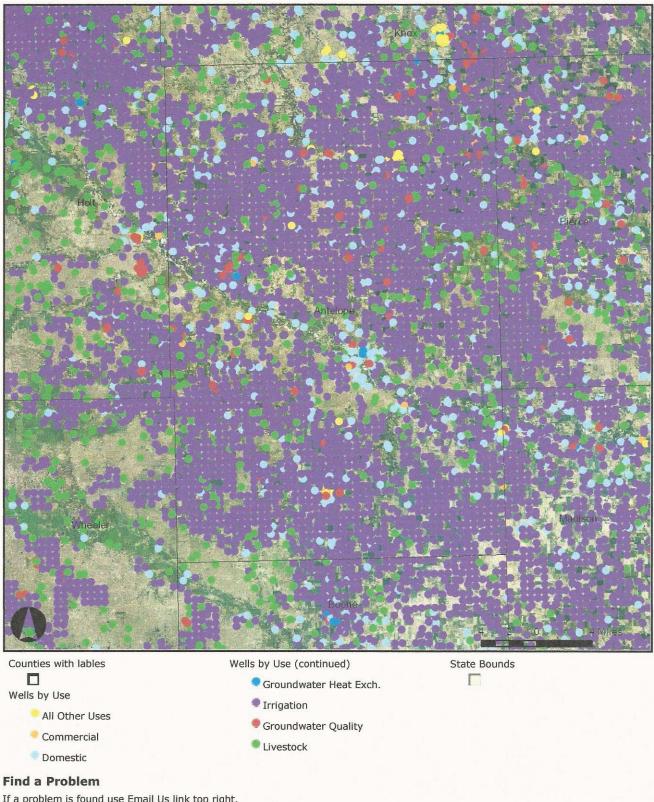
KXL002000

Attachment No. 7



Attachment No. 8

### Мар



If a problem is found use Email Us link top right. If the problem is with a specific well, please include information about the well.

#### Before the Nebraska Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application

of

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Route Approval of Keystone XL Pipeline Project, Pursuant to *Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act*  **Application No: OP-003** 

Direct Testimony of Diana Widga in Support of Landowner Intervenors

State of Nebraska	)
	) ss.
Polk County	)

- 1 Q: Please state your name.
- 2 A: My name is Diana Widga.
- Q: Are you an intervener in the Public Service Commission's proceedings
   regarding TransCanada's application for approval of its proposed Keystone
   XL tar sands pipeline across Nebraska?

6 A: I am the wife of Donald Widga, affected landowner, and his Power of Attorney.

Q: Do you own land in Nebraska, either directly or through an entity of which
you are an owner that could be affected by the proposed TransCanada
Keystone XL pipeline?

- 10 A: Our land is located in Polk County.
- Q: Is Attachment No. 1 to this sworn statement copies of true and accurate aerial
   photo(s) of the land in question here with the area of the proposed KXL
   pipeline depicted?
- 14 A: Yes.
- 15 Q: What do you do for a living?
- 16 A: Farmer.

How long the land has been in your family? 1 **O**: 2 A: This farm was homesteaded by Don's great-grandfather in 1880 and has always 3 been a Widga farm. I am hoping we can pass it on to our children and 4 grandchildren. Except for Don's service time in the Navy, he has lived on this 5 farm all his life and his ancestors and he has cared for the soil and its crops. 6 **Q**: Do you earn any income from this land? 7 A: Yes. Our living comes from the farming of this ground - growing corn and 8 soybeans 9 **Q**: Have you depended on the income from your land to support your livelihood 10 or the livelihood of your family? 11 A: Yes. 12 **O**: Have you ever in the past or have you thought about in the future leasing all 13 or a portion of your land in question here? 14 A: Yes, I have thought of it and that concerns me. I am concerned that a prospective 15 tenant may try to negotiate a lower price for my land if it had the pipeline on it and 16 all the restrictions and risks and potential negative impacts to farming or ranching 17 operations as opposed to land that did not have those same risks. If I was looking 18 to lease or rent ground I would pay more for comparable non-pipeline land than I 19 would for comparable pipeline land and I think most folks would think the same 20 way. This is another negative economic impact that affects the landowner and the 21 county and the state and will forever and ever should TransCanada's preferred or 22 mainline alternative routes be approved. If they were to twin or closely parallel to 23 Keystone I the vast majority of landowners would be those that already have a 24 pipeline so there would be considerable less new incremental negative impacts. 25 Do you have similar concerns about selling the land? **Q**: 26 A: We hope not to have to sell the land in my lifetime but times change and you 27

27 never know what is around the corner and yes I am concerned that if another piece28 of ground similar to mine were for sale and it did not have the pipeline and mine

2		did that I would have a lower selling price. I think this would be true for pipeline
-		ground on both the preferred and mainline alternative routes.
3	Q:	What is your intent with your land after you die?
4	A:	Like I said I hope not to have to sell and I hope that it stays in the family for years
5		to come but I have thought about getting out if this pipeline were to come through.
6	Q:	Are you aware that the preferred route of TransCanada's Keystone XL
7		Pipeline would cross the land described above and owned by you?
8	A:	Yes.
9	Q:	Were you or an entity for which you are a member, shareholder, or director
10		previously sued by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP?
11	A:	Yes, we were in 2015. TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP sued Don by filing a
12		petition for condemnation against our land so it could place its proposed pipeline
13		within an easement that it wanted to take from us on our land.
14	Q:	Did you defend yourself and your land in that condemnation action?
15	A:	Yes, we did. We hired lawyers to defend and protect us and we incurred legal fees
16		and expenses in our resistance of TransCanada's lawsuit against us.
17	Q:	Has TransCanada reimbursed you for any of your expenses or costs for fees
18		incurred?
19	A:	No, they have not.
20	Q:	In its lawsuit against you, did TransCanada identify the amount of your
21		property that it wanted to take for its proposed pipeline?
22	A:	The lawsuit against us stated they would take the amount of property that is
23		reasonably necessary to lay, relay, operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant
24		and equipment reasonably necessary to operate the pipeline.
25	Q:	Did TransCanada define what they meant by "property that is reasonably
26		necessary"?
	۸.	No, they did not.
27	A:	
27 28	A: <b>Q:</b>	Did TransCanada in its lawsuit against you, identify the eminent domain

- 1 A: Yes, they did.
- 2 Q: Did TransCanada describe what rights it proposed to take related to the
  3 eminent domain property on your land?

4 A: Yes, they did.

#### 5 Q: What rights that they proposed to take did they describe?

6 A: TransCanada stated that the eminent domain property will be used to "lay, relay, 7 operate, and maintain the pipeline and the plant and equipment reasonably 8 necessary to operate the pipeline, specifically including surveying, laying, 9 constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, 10 reconstructing, removing and abandoning one pipeline, together with all fittings, 11 cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all their equipment and appurtenances thereto, for the transportation of oil, natural gas, hydrocarbon, 12 13 petroleum products, and all by-products thereof."

## 14 Q: Prior to filing an eminent domain lawsuit to take your land that 15 TransCanada identified, do you believe they attempted to negotiate in good 16 faith with you?

17 A: No, I do not.

### 18 Q: Did TransCanada at any time approach you with or deliver to you their 19 proposed easement and right-of-way agreement?

20 A: Yes, they did.

Q: At the time you reviewed TransCanada's easement and right-of-way
agreement, did you understand that they would be purchasing a fee title
interest in your property or that they were taking something else?

A: I understood that they proposed to have the power to take both a temporary construction easement that could last for a certain period of time and also a permanent easement which they described to be 50 feet across or in width, and that would run the entire portion of my property from where a proposed pipeline would enter my property until where it would exit the property. 1Q:Is the document included with your testimony here as Attachment No. 2, a2true and accurate copy of TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-3Way agreement that they included with their condemnation lawsuit against4you?

5 A: Yes, it is.

6 7 Q: Have you had an opportunity to review TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way agreement?

8 A: Yes, I have.

9 Q: What is your understanding of the significance of the Easement and Right-of10 Way agreement as proposed by TransCanada?

11 A: My understanding is that this is the document that will govern all of the rights and 12 obligations and duties as well as the limitations of what I can and cannot do and 13 how I and any future landowner and any person I invite to come onto my property 14 must behave as well as what TransCanada is and is not responsible for and how 15 they can use my land.

## Q: After reviewing TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way agreement do you have any concerns about any portions of it or any of the language either included in the document or missing from the proposed document?

A: Yes, I have a number of significant concerns and worries about the document and how the language included and the language not included potentially negatively impacts my land and thereby potentially negatively impacts my community and my state.

# Q: I would like you to walk the Commissioners through each and every one of your concerns about TransCanada's proposed Easement and Right-of-Way agreement so they can develop an understanding of how that language and the terms of that contract, in your opinion, potentially negatively impacts you and your land. So, if you can start at the beginning of that document and let's work our way through it, okay?

A: Yes, I'll be happy to express my concerns about TransCanada's proposed
 Easement and Right-of-Way agreement and how it negatively could affect my
 property rights and my economic interests.

4 Q. Okay, let's start with your first concern please.

#### 5 A: The very first sentence talks about consideration or how much money they will 6 pay to compensate me for all of the known and unknown affects and all of the 7 rights I am giving up and for all the things they get to do to my land and for what 8 they will prevent me from doing on my land and they only will pay me one time at 9 the signing of the easement agreement. That is a huge problem.

#### 10 **Q:** Explain to the Commissioners why that is a problem.

11 A: It is not fair to the landowner, the county, or the State. It is not fair to the 12 landowner because they want to have my land forever for use as they see fit so 13 they can make a daily profit from their customers. If I was to lease ground from 14 my neighbor I would typically pay twice a year every year as long as they granted 15 me the rights to use their land. That only makes sense – that is fair. If I was going 16 to rent a house in town I would typically pay monthly, every month until I gave up 17 my right to use that house. By TransCanada getting out on the cheap and paying 18 once in today's dollars that is monthly, bi-annual, or at least an annual loss in tax 19 revenue collection on the money I would be paid and then pay taxes on and 20 contribute to this state and this country. It is money I would be putting back into 21 my local community both spending and stimulating the local economy and 22 generating more economic activity right here. Instead TransCanada's shareholders 23 keep all that money and it never finds its way to Nebraska.

24 **Q:** What

#### What is your next concern?

A: The first paragraph goes on to say Grantor, which is me the landowner, "does
hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a
limited partnership..." and I have no idea who that really is. I have no idea who is
forcing this pipeline on us or who the owners of the entities are, or what are the
assets backing this limited partnership, or who the general partner is, or who all

1 the limited partners are, and who makes up the ownership of the these partners or 2 the structure or any of the basic things you would want to know and understand if 3 you would want to do business with such an outfit. According to TransCanada's 4 answer to our Interrogatory No. 28, as of the date I signed this testimony, a limited 5 liability company called TransCanada Keystone Pipeline GP, LLC is the general 6 partner and it only owns 0.02 percent of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP so 7 basically nothing. That is really scary since the general partner has the liability but 8 virtually none of the ownership and who knows if it has any other assets.

9 Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred
10 percent clear on exactly who could become the owner of about 275 miles of
11 Nebraska land?

12 A: No.

Q: Do you think it is in the public interest of Nebraska to not be one-hundred
 percent clear on exactly who will be operating and responsible for
 approximately 275 miles of tar sands pipeline underneath and through
 Nebraska land?

17 A: No.

### 18 Q: Okay, let's continue please with your concerns of the impacts upon your land 19 and the State of Nebraska of TransCanada's easement terms.

Yes, so the next sentence talks about "...its successors and assigns (hereinafter 20 A: 21 called "Grantee")..." and this concerns me because it would allow their easement 22 to be transferred or sold to someone or some company or country or who knows 23 what that I don't know and who we may not want to do business with. This 24 pipeline would be a huge asset for TransCanada and if they can sell to the highest 25 bidder that could have terrible impacts upon all of Nebraska depending upon who 26 may buy it and I don't know of any safeguards in place for us or the State to veto 27 or have any say so in who may own, operate, or be responsible for this pipeline in 28 the future.

1 2

## Q: Do you think that type of uncertainty and lack of control over a major piece of infrastructure crossing our State is in the public interest?

3 A: No, certainly not, in fact, just the opposite.

#### 4 Q: What's next?

A: Then it says "...a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way..." and this
really concerns me. Why does the easement and right-of-way have to be perpetual
and permanent? That is the question myself and my family want an answer to.
Perpetual to me is like forever and that doesn't make sense.

#### 9 Q: Why doesn't a perpetual Easement and Right-of-Way make sense to you?

10 A: For many reasons but mostly because the tar sands are finite. I am unaware of any 11 data proving there is a perpetual supply of tar sands. I am not aware in 12 TransCanada's application where it proves there is a perpetual necessity for this 13 pipeline. My understanding of energy infrastructure like wind towers is they have 14 a decommission plan and actually take the towers down when they become 15 obsolete or no longer needed. Nothing manmade lasts forever. My land however 16 will, and I want my family or future Nebraska families to have that land as 17 undisturbed as possible and it is not in my interest or the public interest of 18 Nebraska to be forced to give up perpetual and permanent rights in the land for 19 this specific kind of pipeline project.

20

#### Q: Okay, what is your next concern?

A: The easement language includes all these things TransCanada can do and it says "...abandoning in place..." so they can just leave this pipeline under my ground until the end of time just sitting there while they are not using it, but I am still prevented from doing on my land and using my land what I would like. If I owned a gas station I couldn't just leave my underground oil or fuel storage tanks sitting there. It doesn't make sense and it scares me and it is not in my interest or the public interest of Nebraska to allow this.

## Q: Now it looks like we are ready to go to the second page of the Easement is that right?

1 A: Yes.

#### 2 Q: So now on the second page of the Easement what are your concerns?

3 A: Here the Easement identifies a 24-month deadline to complete construction of the 4 pipeline but has caveats that are undefined and ambiguous. The 24-month period 5 starts to run from the moment "actual pipeline installation activities" begin on 6 Landowners property. It appears that TransCanada would define this phrase as 7 needed. It would be wise to explain what types of TransCanada action constitutes 8 "installation activity" For instance, would the placement and storage of an 9 excavator or other equipment on or near the Easement property be an activity or 10 would earth have to be moved before the activity requirement is triggered. This 11 vague phrase is likely to lead to future disputes and litigation that is not in the best 12 interest of the welfare of Nebraska and would not protect property interests. The 13 24-months can also be extended in the case of "force majeure." My understanding 14 is that force majeure is often used to insulate a party to a contract when events 15 occur that are completely out of their control. In TransCanada's easement this is 16 expanded to include "without limitation...availability of labor and materials." 17 Extending this language to labor and materials is problematic because these are 18 two variables that TransCanada does have some or significant control over and to 19 allow extension of the 24-month period over events not truly out of the control of 20 TransCanada and without further provision for compensation for the Landowner is 21 not conducive to protection of property rights.

22

#### **Q:** Okay, what is your next concern?

A: Paragraphs 1.A. and 1.B. deal with the liabilities and responsibilities of
TransCanada and Landowner. In 1.A., the first sentence discusses "commercially
reasonable costs and expenses" will pay for damages caused but then limits
TransCanada's liability to certain circumstances. There is no definition of
"commercially reasonable" and no stated right that the Landowner would get to
determine the amounts of cost or expense that is "commercially reasonable."
TransCanada excepts out from their liability any damages that are caused by

Landowner's negligence or the negligence of anyone ever acting on the behalf of 1 2 Landowner. It is understandable that if the Landowner were to willfully and 3 intentionally cause damages to the pipeline that Landowner should be liable. 4 However, anything short of willful misconduct should be the lability of 5 TransCanada who is subjecting the pipeline on the Landowner and who is making 6 a daily profit from that pipeline. When evaluating the impact on property rights of 7 this provision, you must consider the potentially extremely expensive fight a 8 Landowner would have over this question of whether or not damage was an act of 9 negligence. Putting this kind of potential liability upon the Landowner is 10 incredibly problematic and is detrimental to the protection of property rights. I 11 don't think this unilateral power which I can't do anything about as the landowner 12 is in the best economic interest of the land in question or the State of Nebraska for 13 landowners to be treated that way.

#### 14 **Q**: 15

#### Is there any specific event or example you are aware of that makes this concern more real for you?

16 A: Yes, one need not look further than a November 3, 2015 lawsuit filed against 17 Nemaha County, Nebraska landowner farmers who accidently struck two 18 Magellan Midstream Partners, LP pipelines, one used to transport a mixture of gasoline and jet fuel and a second used to transport diesel fuel. Magellan alleged 19 20 negligence and sued the Nebraska farmer for \$4,151,148.69. A true and accurate 21 copy of the Federal Court Complaint is here as Attachment No. 3.

#### 22 What is your next concern with the Easement language? **O**:

23 A: Paragraph 3 states that Landowner can farm on and otherwise use their property as 24 they choose unless 1) any Landowner use interferes in any way with 25 TransCanada's exercise of any of its rights within the Easement, or 2) 26 TransCanada decides to take any action on the property it deems necessary to 27 prevent injury, endangerment or interference with anything TransCanada deems 28 necessary to do on the property. Landowner is also forbidden from excavating 29 without prior authorization by TransCanada. So my understanding is that

1 TransCanada will unilaterally determine what Landowner can and can't do based 2 upon how TransCanada chooses to define the terms in paragraph 3. TransCanada 3 could also completely deny my request to excavate. Further, TransCanada retains 4 all "privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights" granted to 5 them in the Easement. Again, TransCanada unilaterally can decide to the 6 detriment of the property rights of Landowner what TransCanada believes is 7 necessary or convenient for it. And there is no option for any additional 8 compensation to landowner for any right exercised by TransCanada that leads to 9 the removal of trees or plants or vegetation or buildings or structures or facilities 10 owned by Landowner of any kind. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions and 11 rights without having to compensate Landowner for such further destruction or 12 losses are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

13

#### Q: What is the next concern you have?

14 A: The Easement also allows some rights for Landowner but restricts them at the 15 same time and again gives the sole and unilateral decision making to 16 TransCanada. TransCanada will determine if the actions of Landowner might in 17 anyway endanger or obstruct or interfere with TransCanada's full use of the 18 Easement or any appurtenances thereon to the pipeline itself or to their access to 19 the Easement or within the Easement and TransCanada retains the right at any 20 time, whether during growing season or not, to travel "within and along Easement Area on foot or in vehicle or machinery..." Further at TransCanada's sole 21 22 discretion it will retain the rights to prevent any landowner activity that it thinks 23 may "unreasonably impair[ed] or interfe[ed] with" TransCanada's use of the 24 Easement Area. Such undefined and unilateral restrictions are not conducive to the 25 protection of property rights or economic interest.

26

#### **Q:** What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: The Easement allows TransCanada sole discretion to burn or chip or bury under
Landowner's land any debris of any kind without any input or power of
Landowner to demand an alternative method or location of debris disposal. Such

unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive
 to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

#### 3 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

4 A: Again, undefined terms leave a lot of room for confusion. What does the phrase 5 "where rock is encountered" mean and why does TransCanada solely get to 6 determine whether or not this phrase is triggered. This phrase could be used to 7 justify installing the pipeline 24 inches beneath the surface. The ability to use this 8 provision to minimal locate the pipeline at a depth of 24 inches could negatively 9 affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights. 10 A shallow pipeline is much more likely to become a danger and liability in the 11 future given farming operations and buried irrigation lines and other factors 12 common to the current typical agricultural uses of the land in question impacted 13 by TransCanada's preferred pipeline route.

#### 14 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

15 A: There are more vague concepts solely at the determination of TransCanada such as 16 "as nearly as practicable" and "pre-construction position" and "extent reasonably 17 possible." There is nothing here that defines this or provides a mechanism for 18 documenting or memorializing "pre-construction position" so as to minimize 19 costly legal battles or wasted Landowner time attempting to recreate the soil 20 condition on their fields or pasture. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect 21 Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or 22 economic interest.

#### 23 Q: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

A: TransCanada maintains the unilateral right to abandon the pipeline and all appurtenances thereto in place on, under, across, or through Nebraska land at any time it chooses. There is no provision for Landowner compensation for such abandonment nor any right for the Landowner to demand removal. Such unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive to the protection of property rights or economic interest.

1 **O**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

2 A: TransCanada has the power to unilaterally move or modify the location of any 3 Easement area whether permanent or temporary at their sole discretion. 4 Regardless, if Landowner has taken prior steps relative to their property in 5 preparation or planning of TransCanada's taking of the initial easement area(s), 6 the language here does not require TransCanada to compensate the Landowner if 7 they decide to move the easement anywhere on Landowners property. Such 8 unilateral powers would negatively affect Landowners property are not conducive 9 to the protection of property rights or economic interests.

10

#### **O**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

11 A: The Easement requires that all of the burdens and restrictions upon Landowner to 12 transfer and be applicable to any future owner of the Land in question without the 13 ability of the future Landowner to modify or negotiate any of the language in 14 question to which it will be held to comply.

15 **Q**: What is the next concern you have with the Easement language?

- 16 A: The Easement allows TransCanada to assign, transfer, or sell any part of the 17 Easement to any person, company, country, etc. at their sole discretion at anytime 18 to anyone. This also means that any buyer of the easement could do the same to a 19 third buyer and so on forever. There is no change of control or sale provision in 20 place to protect the Landowner or Nebraska or to provide compensation for such 21 change of control or ownership. It is not conducive to the protection of property 22 rights or economic interests to allow unilateral unrestricted sale of the Easement 23 thereby forcing upon the Landowner and our State a new unknown Easement 24 owner.
- 25

#### What is the next concern you have with the Easement language? **Q**:

26 A: There are many terms in the Easement that are either confusing or undefined terms 27 that are without context as to whether or not the Landowner would have any say 28 so in determining what these terms mean or if the evaluation is solely in

1	TransCanada's control. Some of these vague undefined and ambiguous terms are
2	as follows:
3	i. "pipeline installation activities"
4	ii. "availability of labor and materials"
5	iii. "commercially reasonable costs and expenses"
6	iv. "reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses"
7	v. "yield loss damages"
8	vi. "diminution in the value of the property"
9	vii. "substantially same condition"
10	viii. "an actual or potential hazard"
11	ix. "efficient"
12	x. "convenient"
13	xi. "endangered"
14	xii. "obstructed"
15	xiii. "injured"
16	xiv. "interfered with"
17	xv. "impaired"
18	xvi. "suitable crossings"
19	xvii. "where rock is encountered"
20	xviii. "as nearly as practicable"
21	xix. "pre-construction position"
22	xx. "pre-construction grade"
23	xxi. "various engineering factors"
24	Each one of these above terms and phrases as read in the context of the Easement
25	could be problematic in many ways. Notably, undefined terms tend to only get
26	definition in further legal proceedings after a dispute arises and the way the
27	Easement is drafted, TransCanada has sole power to determine when and if a
28	particular situation conforms with or triggers rights affected by these terms. For
29	instance, "yield loss damages" should be specifically defined and spelled out

1 exactly how the landowner is to be compensated and in what events on the front 2 end. I can't afford to fight over this after the damage has occurred. Unfortunately, 3 the Landowner is without contractual rights to define these terms or determine 4 when rights related to them trigger and what the affects may be. 5 Do you have any other concerns about the Easement language that you can **Q**: 6 think of at this time? 7 A: I reserve the right to discuss any additional concerns that I think of at the time of 8 my live testimony in August. 9 **O**: Based upon what you have shared with the Commission above regarding 10 TransCanada's proposed Easement terms and agreement, do you believe 11 those to be reasonable or just, under the circumstances of the pipeline's 12 impact upon you and your land? 13 A: No, I do not believe those terms to be reasonable or just for the reasons that we 14 discussed previously. 15 **Q**: Did TransCanada ever offer you financial compensation for the rights that 16 they sought to obtain in your land, and for what they sought to prevent you 17 and any future land owner of your property from doing in the future? 18 A: Yes, we received an offer from them. As the owner of the land in question and as the person who knows it better 19 **Q**: 20 than anyone else, do you believe that TransCanada offered you just, or fair, 21 compensation for all of what they proposed to take from you so that their tar 22 sands pipeline could be located across your property? 23 No, I do not. Not at any time has TransCanada, in my opinion, made a fair or just A: 24 offer for all the potential impacts and effects and the rights that I'm giving up, and 25 what we will be prevented from doing in the future and how their pipeline would 26 impact my property for ever and ever. 27 **Q**: Has TransCanada at any time offered to compensate you annually, such as 28 wind farm projects do, for the existence of their potential tar sands pipeline 29 across your property.

- 1 A: No, never.
- 2 **O**: At any time did TransCanada present you with or request that you, as the 3 owner of the land in question, sign and execute a document called, "Advanced 4 **Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?"**
- 5 Yes, they did and it was included in the County Court lawsuit against us. A:
- 6 **Q**: Is Attachment No. 4, to your testimony here, a true and accurate copy of the 7 "Advanced Release of Damage Claims and Indemnity Agreement?

8 A: Yes, it is.

#### 9 0: What was your understanding of that document?

- 10 A: When I read that document in the plain language of that document, it was my 11 understanding that TransCanada was attempting to pay me a very small amount at 12 that time in order for me to agree to give up my rights to be compensated from 13 them in the future related to any damage or impact they may have upon my 14 property "arising out of, in connection with, or alleged to resulted from 15 construction or surveying over, under or on" my land.
- 16 **Q**: Did you ever sign that document?

No, I did not. 17 A:

18 **Q**: Why not?

19 A; Because I do not believe that it is fair or just to try to get me to agree to a small 20 sum of money when I have no idea how bad the impacts or damages that they, or 21 their contractors, or subcontractors, or other agents or employees, may cause on 22 my land at any time in the future that resulted from the construction or surveying 23 or their activities upon my land.

#### 24

#### When you reviewed this document, what did it make you feel? **O**:

25 I felt like it was simply another attempt for TransCanada to try to pay very little to A: 26 shield themselves against known and foreseeable impacts that their pipeline, and 27 the construction of it, would have upon my land. It made me feel that they knew it 28 was in their financial interest to pay me as little as possible to prevent me from 29 ever having the opportunity to seek fair compensation again, and that this must be

1		based upon their experience of unhappy landowners and situations in other places
2		where they have built pipelines.
3	Q:	Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you
4		thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land
5		was in your best interest?
6	A:	No, they have not.
7	Q:	Has TransCanada ever contacted you and specifically asked you if you
8		thought their proposed location of their proposed pipeline across your land
9		was in the public interest of the State of Nebraska?
10	A:	No, they have not.
11	Q:	Are you familiar with the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the
12		Takings Clause?
13	A:	Yes, I am.
14	Q:	What is your understanding of the Fifth Amendment as it relates to taking of
15		an American citizens property?
16	A:	My understanding is that, according to the United States Constitution, that if the
17		government is going to take land for public use, then in that case, or by taking for
18		public use, it can only occur if the private land owner is compensated justly, or
19		fairly.
20	Q:	Has TransCanada ever contacted you specially to explain the way in which
21		the public could use its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline?
22	A:	No, they have not.
23	Q:	Can you think of any way in which the public, that is the citizens of the State
24		of Nebraska, can directly use the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL
25		Pipeline, as it dissects the State of Nebraska?
26	A:	No, I cannot. I cannot think of any way to use this pipeline. I do not see how the
27		public benefits from this pipeline in any way, how they can use it any way, or how
28		it's in the public interest in any way. By looking at the map, it is quite clear to me
29		that the only reason it's proposed to come through Nebraska, is that because we

are geographically in the way from between where the privately-owned Tar Sands
 are located to where TransCanada wants to ship the Tar Sands to refineries in
 Houston, Texas.

4 Q: Has TransCanada ever contacted you and asked you if you had any tar sands,
5 crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by-products that you would like to
6 ship in its pipeline?

7 A: No, it has not.

Q: Do you have any tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products that you, at this time or any time in the future, would desire to place
 for transport within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

- 11 A: No, I do not.
- Q: Do you know anyone in the state of Nebraska who would be able to ship any
   Nebraska-based tar sands, crude petroleum, or oil and petroleum by products within the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?

15 A: No, I do not. I've never heard of such a person or company like that.

- 16 Q: Do you pay property taxes for the land that would be affected and impacted
   17 at the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline?
- 18 A: Yes, I do.
- 19 Q: Why do you pay property taxes on that land?
- A: Because that is the law. The law requires us to pay the property taxes as the ownerof that property.
- Q: Because you follow the law and pay property taxes, do you believe you
   deserve any special consideration or treatment apart from any other person
   or company that pays property taxes?
- A: Well no, of course not. It's the law to pay property taxes if you own property. It's
  just what you do.
- Q: Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes entitles you to special
  treatment of any kind, or special rights of any kind?

29 A: No, of course not.

1	Q:	Do you believe the fact that you pay property taxes on your land would be
2		enough to qualify you to have the power of eminent domain to take land of
3		your neighbors or other people in your county, or other people across the
4		state of Nebraska?
5	A:	Well, of course not. Like I said, paying property taxes is the law, it's nothing that
6		I expect an award for or any type of special consideration.
7	Q:	Have you at any time ever employed any person other than yourself?
8	A:	Well, yes I have.
9	Q:	Do you believe that the fact that you have, at some point in your life,
10		employed one or more other persons entitle you to any special treatment or
11		consideration above and beyond any other Nebraskan that has also employed
12		one or more persons?
13	A:	No, of course not.
14	Q:	Do you believe that the fact that you, as a Nebraska land owner and taxpayer
15		have at one point employed another person within this state, entitles you to
16		preferential treatment or consideration of any kind?
17	A:	No, of course not. If I choose to employ someone that decision is up to me. I
18		don't deserve any special treatment or consideration for that fact.
19	Q:	At the beginning of your statement, you briefly described your property that
20		would be impacted by the potential Keystone XL Pipeline. I would like you to
21		give the Commissioners a sense of specifically how you believe the proposed
22		Keystone XL Pipeline and its preferred route, which proposes to go across
23		your land, how it would in your opinion based on your knowledge,
24		experience, and background of your land, affect it.
25	A:	The original path for the Keystone pipeline was changed because it crossed the
26		Ogallala Aquifer. The current proposed route, however, also crosses the Ogallala
27		Aquifer, plus it crosses the Platte River and would go through very densely
28		irrigated areas of Nebraska. The proposed pipeline would go within a few feet of

the irrigation well on my farm. It is important for the safety of our water that a
 better choice be made for a pipeline route.

## Q: Do you have any concerns TransCanada's fitness as an applicant for a major crude oil pipeline in its preferred location, or ultimate location across the state of Nebraska?

6 A: Yes, I have significant concerns. I am aware of landowners being treated unfairly 7 or even bullied around and being made to feel scared that they did not have any 8 options but to sign whatever papers TransCanada told them they had to. I am 9 aware of folks being threatened that their land would be taken if they didn't follow 10 what TransCanada was saying. I am aware of tactics to get people to sign 11 easements that I don't believe have any place in Nebraska or anywhere such as 12 TransCanada or some outfit associated with it hiring a pastor or priest to pray with 13 landowners and convince them they should sign TransCanada's easement 14 agreements. I am aware of older folks and widows or widowers feeling they had 15 no choice but to sign TransCanada's Easement and they didn't know they could 16 fight or stand up for themselves. From a more practical standpoint, I am worried 17 that according to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 211, TransCanada only 18 owns and operates one (1) major oil pipeline. They simply do not have the experience with this type of pipeline and that scares me. There are others but that 19 20 is what I can recollect at this time and if I remember more or my recollection is 21 refreshed I will share those with the Commissioners at the Hearing in August.

## Q: Do you believe TransCanada's proposed method of compensation to you as a landowner is reasonable or just?

A: No, I do not.

25 Q: Do you have any concern about limitations that the construction of this 26 proposed pipeline across your affected land would prevent construction of 27 future structures upon the portion of your land affected by the proposed 28 easement and immediately surrounding areas?

1 A: Well yes, of course I do. We would not be able to build many, if any, types of 2 structures directly across or touching the easement, and it would be unwise and I 3 would be uncomfortable to build anything near the easement for fear of being 4 blamed in the future should any damage or difficulty result on my property in 5 regards to the pipeline.

6

**Q**: Do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

7 A: Well yes, of course.

#### 8 **Q**: How do you think such a restriction would impact you economically?

9 A: The future of this land may not be exactly how it's being used as of this moment, 10 and having the restrictions and limiting my ability to develop my land in certain 11 ways presents a huge negative economic impact on myself, my family, and any 12 potential future owner of the property. You have no idea how I or the future owner 13 may want to use this land in the future or the other land across Nebraska 14 potentially affected by the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Fifty years 15 ago it would have been hard to imagine all the advances that we have now or how 16 things change. Because the Easement is forever and TransCanada gets the rights in 17 my land forever we have to think with a very long term view. By placing their 18 pipeline on under across and through my land that prevents future development 19 which greatly negatively impacts future taxes and tax revenue that could have 20 been generated by the County and State but now will not. When you look at the 21 short blip of economic activity that the two years of temporary construction efforts 22 may bring, that is far outweighed by the perpetual and forever loss of opportunity 23 and restrictions TransCanada is forcing upon us and Nebraska. The terms of the 24 easement must be addressed in order for the Commission to truly consider 25 property rights, economic interests, the welfare of Nebraska, and the balancing of 26 the proposed routes against all they will affect and impact.

#### 27 **Q**: Do you have any concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed pipeline? 28

29 Yes, I do. A:

1

#### **Q:** What are some of those concerns?

A: As an affected land owner and Nebraskan, I am concerned that any construction,
operation, and/or maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have
a detrimental impact upon the environment of my land specifically, as well as the
lands near my land and surrounding the proposed pipeline route.

#### 6 Q: Do you have any other environmental concerns?

A: Yes, of course I am concerned about potential breaches of the pipeline, failures in
construction and/or maintenance and operation. I am concerned about spills and
leaks that TransCanada has had in the past and will have in the future. This could
be catastrophic to my operations or others and to my county and the State.

11 Q: Do you have any thoughts regarding if there would be an impact upon the
12 natural resources on or near your property due to the proposed pipeline?

A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the
 proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental impacts upon the natural
 resources of my land, and the lands near and surrounding the proposed pipeline
 route.

## 17 Q: Do you have any worries about potential impacts from the proposed pipeline 18 to the soil of your land, or land near you?

19 A: Yes, I believe that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the 20 proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the soil of 21 land, as well as land along and surrounding the proposed pipeline route. This 22 includes, but is not limited to, the reasons that we discussed above of disturbing 23 the soil composition and makeup as it has naturally existed for thousands and 24 millions of years during the construction process, and any future maintenance or 25 removal process. I'm gravely concerned about the fertility and the loss of 26 economic ability of my property to grow the crops, or grow the grasses, or grow 27 whatever it is at that time they exist on my property or that I may want to grow in 28 the future, or that a future owner may want to grow. The land will never be the

same from as it exists now undisturbed to after it is trenched up for the proposed
 pipeline.

## 3 Q: Do you have any concerns about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline 4 upon the groundwater over your land, or surrounding lands?

5 A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of 6 the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the 7 groundwater of not only under my land, but also near and surrounding the pipeline 8 route, and in fact, potentially the entire State of Nebraska. Water is life plain and 9 simple and it is simply too valuable to our State and the country to put at 10 unreasonable risk.

11 Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impact of the proposed pipeline
12 upon the surface water on, or near or around your land?

A: Yes, I have significant concerns that any construction, operation, and/or
maintenance of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have detrimental
impact upon the surface water of not only within my property boundary, but along
and near and surrounding the pipeline route, and in fact, across the state of
Nebraska.

## Q: Do you have any concern about the potential impacts of the proposed pipeline upon the wildlife and plants, other than your growing crops on or near your land?

A: Yes, I'm very concerned that any construction, operation, and/or maintenance of
the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would have a detrimental impact upon the
wildlife and the plants, not only that are located on or can be found upon my land,
but also near and along the proposed pipeline route.

## Q: Do you have any concerns about the effects of the proposed pipeline upon the fair market value of your land?

A: Yes, I do. I am significantly concerned about how the existence of the proposed
pipeline underneath and across and through my property will negatively affect the
fair market value at any point in the future, especially at that point in which I

1 would need to sell the property, or someone in my family would need to sell the 2 property. I do not believe, and certainly would not be willing to pay, the same 3 price for land that had the pipeline located on it, versus land that did not. I hope 4 there is never a point where I'm in a position where I have to sell and have to 5 realize as much value as I can out of my land. But because it is my single largest 6 asset, I'm gravely concerned that the existence of the proposed Keystone XL 7 Pipeline upon my land will affect a buyer's willingness to pay as much as they 8 would've paid and as much as I could've received, if the pipeline were not upon 9 my property. There are just too many risks, unknowns, impacts and uncertainties, 10 not to mention all of the rights you give up by the nature of having the pipeline 11 due to having the easement that we have previously discussed, for any reasonable 12 person to think that the existence of the pipeline would not negatively affect my 13 property's value.

### 14 Q: Have you ever seen the document that's marked as Attachment No. 5, to your 15 testimony?

16 A: Yes, I have.

17 Q: Where have you seen that before?

A: That is a map I think I first saw a couple years ago that shows the Keystone XL
 I-90 corridor alternate route of its proposed pipeline through Nebraska and I
 believe the portion of the alternative route in Nebraska essentially twins or
 parallels Keystone I.

Q: Do you believe the portion of the proposed pipeline route within Nebraska as
found in Attachment No. 5 to your testimony, is in the public interest of
Nebraska?

25 A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you believe that TransCanada's preferred route as found on page 5 of its
 Application, and as found on Attachment No. 6, here to your testimony, is in
 the public interest of Nebraska?

A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you believe that the Keystone mainline alternative route as shown on
 Attachment No. 6 included with your testimony here is a major oil pipeline
 route that is in the public interest of Nebraska?

4 A: No, I do not.

Q: Do you believe there is any potential route for the proposed Keystone XL
Pipeline across, within, under, or through the State of Nebraska that is in the
public interest of the citizens of Nebraska?

8 A: No, I do not.

9 Q: Why do you hold that belief?

10 A: Because there simply is no public interest based on all of the factors that I am 11 aware and that I have read and that I have studied that this Commission is to 12 consider that would establish that a for-profit foreign-owned pipeline that simply 13 crosses Nebraska because we are geographically in the way between where tar 14 sands are in Canada to where it wants to ship it to in Texas could ever be in the 15 public interest of Nebraskans. We derive no benefit from this project. It is not for 16 public use. Nebraska is simply in the way and when all considerations are taken in 17 there is no net benefit of any kind for Nebraska should this project be placed in our state. Even if there was some arguable "benefit" it is not enough to outweigh all 18 19 the negative impacts and concerns.

## Q: What do you think about the applicant, TransCanada's argument that it's preferred route for its proposed Keystone XL Pipeline is in the public interest of Nebraska because it may bring temporary jobs during the construction phase to Nebraska?

A: First of all, not all jobs are created equally. Most jobs that are created, whether
temporary or on a permanent basis, don't come with a project that has all the
potential and foreseeable negative impacts, many of which we have discussed here
and other witnesses throughout the course of this hearing have and will discuss. If
I decide to hire and employ someone to help me out in my farming or ranching
business, I've created a job but I haven't done so at the risk or detrimental impact

1 to my land or my town or my county or my state. And I've hired someone who is 2 working directly for me, a Nebraska landowner, citizen, taxpayer, to help produce 3 and grow a Nebraska product to be sold so that I can pay Nebraska taxes. So, all 4 jobs are not created equal. Additionally, I understand from what I'm familiar with 5 from TransCanada's own statements that the jobs numbers they originally touted 6 were determined to be a minute fraction of the permanent jobs that had been 7 projected. According to their answer to our Interrogatory No. 191, TransCanada 8 has created only thirty-four (34) jobs within Nebraska working specifically on 9 behalf of TransCanada and according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 196, as 10 of May 5, 2017 they only employ one (1) temporary working within Nebraska. 11 Further, according to their answer to Interrogatory No. 199, TransCanada would 12 only employ six to ten (6 to 10) new individuals if the proposed Keystone XL was 13 constructed on its Preferred Route or its Mainline Alternative Route.

### 14 Q: Are you opposed to the preferred route of the proposed KXL Pipeline simply 15 because it would cross your land?

A: No, absolutely not. I am opposed to this project because it is not in the public
interest, neither within my community nor within our state.

## 18 Q: Would you be happier if instead of crossing your land, this proposed pipeline 19 was to cross someone else's land?

A: No, absolutely not. I would get no joy in having a fellow citizen of my state have
the fear and anxiety and potential foreseeable risks and negative impacts that this
type of a project carrying this type of product brings foisted upon anyone in this
state or any other state.

### Q: Do you think there is any intelligent route for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline to cross the state of Nebraska?

A: I don't believe there is an intelligent route because as I have stated I don't believe
this project anywhere within Nebraska is within the public interest. However, if
you are presenting a hypothetical that if this proposed KXL Pipeline absolutely
had to go somewhere in the state of Nebraska, the only intelligent route I believe

would be to twin or closely parallel the existing Keystone I Pipeline. Both the
 preferred route and the mainline alternative routes are economic liabilities our
 state cannot risk.

4

#### Q: What do you rely upon to make that statement?

5 Well, the fact that a pipeline owned and operated by TransCanada, Keystone I, A: 6 already exists in that area is reason enough as it is not in our best interest or the 7 public interests to have more major oil pipelines crisscrossing our state. Second, 8 they have all the infrastructure already there in terms of relationships with the 9 counties and local officials and first responders along that route. Third, they have 10 already obtained easements from all the landowners along that route and have 11 relationships with them. Fourth, that route avoids our most sensitive soils, the 12 sandier lighter soils. Fifth, that route for all practical purposes avoids the Ogallala 13 Aquifer. Sixth, they have already studied that route and previously offered it as an 14 alternative. Seventh, it just makes the most sense that as a state we would have 15 some intelligent policy of energy corridors and co-locating this type of 16 infrastructure near each other.

### 17 Q: Do you have any other concerns you would like to reiterate or can think of at 18 this time you would like the Commissioners to understand?

19 Yes. Land valuation will undoubtedly be decreased. The chance of a leak and **A:** 20 contamination to the soil and water supply is a threat to this generation and future 21 generations. The responsibility to the landowner regarding accidents/leaks/major 22 spills puts a great deal of liability on the landowner. The fact that I would receive 23 a one-time payment and yet I or my heirs could be held responsible for an 24 accident, leak or major spill that could occur at any time is a real concern. Crop 25 insurance, as any insurance, is costly. Would an insurance company that offers 26 crop insurance be willing to take the risk on pipeline ground? Would I be able to 27 afford it or would it be at too high a premium? This is a real concern. My entire 28 crop could be destroyed by hail but, if I couldn't get the crop insured my entire 29 income for that year would be lost. The easement as written gives TransCanada the right to abandon the pipeline in place. This creates a huge liability for me or my heirs. Should the Ogallala Aquifer water supply and the soil be contaminated it could keep the affected farm ground unusable for many years. If crop and livestock are affected then, also, the people of Nebraska would be affected – not only for their drinking water and products produced on Nebraska farms but, it would in turn affect the State's economy. It is important to the economy of our State that a better choice be made for a pipeline route.

## 8 Q: Have you fully expressed each and every opinion, concern, or fact you would 9 like the Public Service Commissioners to consider in their review of 10 TransCanada's Application?

11 **A**: No, I have not. I have shared that which I can think of as of the date I signed this 12 document below but other things may come to me or my memory may be refreshed and I will add and address those things at the time of the Hearing in 13 14 August and address any additional items at that time as is necessary. Additionally, 15 I have not had an adequate amount of time to receive and review all of 16 TransCanada's answers to our discovery and the discovery of others so it was 17 impossible to competently and completely react to that in my testimony here and I 18 reserve the right to also address anything related to discovery that has not yet concluded as of the date I signed this document below. Lastly, certain documents 19 20 requested have not yet been produced by TransCanada and therefore I may have 21 additional thoughts on those I will also share at the hearing as needed.

## Q: What is it that you are requesting the Public Service Commissioners do in regards to TransCanada's application for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline across Nebraska?

A: I am respectfully and humbly requesting that the Commissioners think far beyond a temporary job spike that this project may bring to a few counties and beyond the relatively small amount of taxes this proposed foreign pipeline would possibly generate. And, instead think about the perpetual and forever impacts of this pipeline as it would have on the landowners specifically, first and foremost, but

1 also thereby upon the entire state of Nebraska, and to determine that neither the 2 preferred route nor the Keystone mainline alternative route are in the public 3 interest of the citizens of the state of Nebraska. And if the Commissioners were 4 inclined to modify TransCanada's proposed routes and were to be inclined to grant an application for a route in Nebraska, that the only potential route that would 5 6 make any intelligent sense whatsoever would be twinning or near paralleling of the proposed KXL with the existing Keystone I pipeline. The point of including 7 8 Attachment No. 5 is to show that twinning Keystone I within Nebraska has been 9 considered by TransCanada before. It simply does not make sense to add yet 10 another major oil pipeline crisscrossing our state creating new pumping stations, 11 creating new impacts on additional counties and communities and going through 12 all of the court processes with myself and other landowners like me when this 13 applicant already has relationships with the landowners, the towns and the 14 communities along Keystone I, and that Keystone I is firmly outside of the sand 15 hills and a significantly further portion away from the heart of the Ogallala 16 Aquifer than the preferred route or the Keystone mainline alternative route.

## Q: Does Attachment No. 7 here contain other documents you are competent to speak about that you wish to be part of your testimony and to discuss in more detail as needed at the August 2017 Hearing?

20 A: Yes.

## Q: Are all of your statements in your testimony provided above true and accurate as of the date you signed this document to the best of your knowledge?

A: Yes, they are.

Q: Thank you, I have no further questions at this time and reserve the right to
 ask you additional questions at the August 2017 Hearing.

d Widge, by Acara Widge, PDA Donald Widga

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_

26th day of May, 2017

July Q. Burger Notary Public

GENERAL NOTARY - Stalo or Incordance JUDY A. BUZEK My Comm. Exp. January 25, 2018 GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska JUDY A. BUZEK My Comm. Exp. January 26, 2018

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Tract No.: ML-NE-PO-40440.000

#### EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) paid in accordance with this Easement and Right-of-Way Agreement (this "Agreement"), the mutual promises of the parties herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged (collectively, the "Consideration"), Donald D. Widga, also known as Donald Widga, whose mailing address is 12632 F. Road, Polk, Nebraska 68654 (hereinafter called "Grantor") does hereby grant, sell, convey and warrant unto TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP, a limited partnership having its principal place of business at 13710 FNB Parkway, Suite 300, Omaha, Nebraska 68154, its successors and assigns (hereinafter called "Grantee"), a perpetual permanent easement and right-of-way (the "Easement") for the purposes of surveying, laying, constructing, inspecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, replacing, altering, reconstructing, removing and abandoning in place one (1) pipeline, not to exceed thirty-six inches (36") in nominal pipe diameter, together with all fittings, cathodic protection equipment, pipeline markers, and all other equipment and appurtenances thereto (it being expressly understood, however, that this Easement shall not give Grantee the right to construct or operate above-ground high voltage electrical transmission lines), for the transportation of crude petroleum, oil and petroleum by-products, on, under, across and/or through a strip of land 50 feet in width, as more particularly described in Exhibit A,

which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "Easement Area") located on real property situated in the County of Polk, State of Nebraska owned by Grantor and described as follows:

A tract of land containing 160 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Polk, in the State of Nebraska, being further described as the N1/2 of the SE1/4 and the E1/2 of the SW1/4 of Section 2, T13N, R4W of the 6th P.M., as recorded in Book 91, Page 456, Book 88, Page 192, and Book 73, Page 307 in the Deed Records of Polk County, Nebraska; less and except any conveyances heretofore made.

(the "Property"). In addition, during the original construction of the pipeline (including, without limitation, Grantee's reclamation, mitigation and/or restoration activities), but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) months from the date Grantee commences actual pipeline installation activities on the Property (the "Initial Construction Period"), the easement and right-of-way granted hereunder shall also include the area described under the headings "Temporary Work Space," "Temporary Access Easement" and "Additional Temporary Work Space" and are more particularly described in <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto (the "Temporary Work Space"), provided, however, such time shall be extended for such period of time that Grantee is unable to exercise its rights hereunder due to force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, "force majeure" shall mean any event beyond the reasonable control of Grantee, including, without limitation, weather, soil conditions, government approvals, and availability of labor and materials.

The aforesaid Easement is granted subject to the following terms, stipulations and conditions which are hereby covenanted and agreed to by Grantor. By acceptance of any of the benefits hereunder, Grantee shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by the covenants applicable to Grantee hereunder.

1. The liabilities and responsibilities of the Grantor and Grantee for claims for damages and losses relating to the Easement, the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space are described in the paragraphs below:

A. Grantee will pay all commercially reasonable costs and expenses that result from the Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, including but not limited to damages caused by petroleum leaks and spills and damages to Grantor's crops, pastures, drainage systems, produce, water wells, livestock, bridges, lanes, improvements, equipment, fences, structures or timber, except to the extent the damages are caused by the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor acknowledges and agrees that Grantee has compensated Grantor, in advance, for the reasonably anticipated and foreseeable costs and expenses which may arise out of, are connected with, or relate in any way to Grantor's conveyance of the Easement and the proper installation, presence or operation of the pipeline upon the Property, including but not limited to, any and all tree, crop, plant, timber, harvest or yield loss damages, diminution in value of the Property, or any other reasonably foreseeable damages attributable to or arising from Grantee's proper execution of the initial construction, mitigation, and restoration activities within the Easement.

B. If claims or legal actions for damages arise from Grantee's, or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf, use of this Easement, Grantee will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantor harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

C. If claims or legal actions arise from the Grantor's, or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf, entry into, or use of the Easement Area or Temporary Work Space, Grantor will be responsible for those claims or legal actions, and will defend, indemnify and hold the Grantee harmless in this regard, except to the extent that those claims or legal actions result from the

Grantor's Initials\_\_\_\_\_

negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Grantee or anyone acting on the Grantee's behalf.

2. Grantee shall have the right to remove all fences from the Easement Area and the Temporary Work Space, as required for purposes of construction or repairs of Grantee's pipeline, and Grantee shall repair all such fences promptly upon completion of construction or repairs on Grantor's Property to substantially the same condition as such fences were in prior to removal by Grantee. Grantee further shall have the right to install access gates in any fences which cross the Easement Area. Grantee and its designated contractors, employees and invitees hereby agree to keep all access gates closed at all times when not in use to prevent the cattle, horses and/or other livestock located on the Property from straying.

3. Provided its use of the Property does not in any manner interfere with or prevent the exercise by Grantee of its rights hereunder, or create an actual or potential hazard to the pipeline or its appurtenances, the undersigned Grantor, its successors, heirs or assigns, reserve all oil, gas and minerals on and under the Property and the right to farm, graze and otherwise fully use and enjoy the Property; provided, however, that Grantee shall have the right hereafter to cut, keep clear and remove all trees, brush, shrubbery, undergrowth, buildings, engineering works, structures and other obstructions or facilities, without additional compensation, in the Easement Area being conveyed that are deemed by Grantee to injure, endanger or interfere in any manner with the proper and efficient construction, operation, use, inspection, maintenance or repair of said pipeline, or fittings, cathodic protection equipment and other appurtenances thereto; and, provided, further, that Grantor shall not excavate or otherwise alter the ground elevation from such ground elevation that existed at the time construction is completed, construct any dam or otherwise create a water impoundment within or over the Easement Area without prior authorization of Grantee. Grantee shall have all privileges necessary or convenient for the full use of the rights herein granted, together with reasonable ingress and egress over and across that part of the Property located adjacent to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, provided, however, except in case of emergency, Grantee agrees that to the extent existing public roads, public rights-of-way, the Temporary Access Easements (if any) or other easements in favor of Grantee provide reasonable access to the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space, Grantee shall use such existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements for ingress and egress.

4. Grantor shall, upon thirty (30) days prior notice to Grantee, further have the right to construct, maintain, repair, and operate above ground fences, roads, streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage pipes across the Easement Area at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees to the Grantee's pipeline; provided, however, Grantor shall exercise said rights in such a manner so that (i) the Grantee's pipeline or its appurtenances located within the Easement Area shall not be endangered, obstructed, injured or interfered with; (ii) Grantee's access to the Easement Area, the Grantee's pipeline and its other appurtenances located thereon are not interfered with; (iii) Grantee shall not be prevented from traveling within and along Easement Area on foot or in vehicle or machinery; (iv) Grantee's pipeline is left with the amount of cover originally installed to allow safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline; (v) the Grantee's pipeline is left with proper and sufficient and permanent lateral support; and (vi) Grantee's use of the Easement Area for the purposes set forth herein is not unreasonably impaired or interfered with.

5. During the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall also provide suitable crossings on, over and across the Easement Area so as to afford Grantor reasonable access over and across and the Easement Area in accordance with Grantor's customary use of the Property.

6. Grantee shall dispose of all brush and debris, if any, cleared from the Easement Area by burning, chipping, and/or burying, which method of disposal shall be selected by Grantee in Grantee's sole discretion.

7. Grantee shall install the Grantee's pipeline to a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48") below current grade level and any then existing drainage ditches, creeks and roads, except at those locations where rock is encountered, the pipeline may be installed with a minimum depth of twenty-four inches (24"). Such depth shall be measured from the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground.

8. In areas of cropland, Grantee agrees to cause the topsoil to be removed from the trench to a depth of twelve inches (12") or the topsoil depth, whichever is less, and return, as nearly as practicable, said topsoil to its original, pre-construction position relative to the subsoil.

9. Prior to the conclusion of the Initial Construction Period, Grantee shall grade and slope the Easement Area and Temporary Work Space in order to restore the same to its pre-construction grade to the extent reasonably possible and to the extent such grade does not interfere with the maintenance and/or safe operation of the Grantee's pipeline.

10. Grantee shall maintain the Easement Area (and the Temporary Work Space during the Initial Construction Period) by keeping it clear of all litter and trash during periods when Grantee and its employees, agents, or contractors are on the Property.

11. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, except as otherwise required by applicable laws, regulations or industry standards, Grantee shall not install or maintain any permanent above-ground structures of any kind on or within the Easement Area other than pipeline markers (which markers may be required to be placed along the Easement Area by applicable Department of Transportation Code regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations of governmental authorities) and cathodic protection equipment. After the Initial Construction Period expires, no pipelines, above-ground structures, installations, equipment or apparatus of any kind will be on or within the Temporary Work Space.

12. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the Easement Area in whole or in part, Grantee may, at its sole election, either leave the improvements in place or remove them. In the event Grantee elects to remove the improvements, Grantee shall restore the Easement Area, as nearly as is practicable, to its condition prior to removal. In the event Grantee elects to abandon the improvements in place, Grantee shall comply with all then applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations relating to such abandonment.

Grantor acknowledges and agrees that the information set forth at Exhibit A hereto, including. 13. without limitation, the location and area of the proposed Easement Area depicted, is approximate and preliminary and is based upon publicly available information, calculations, measurements and estimates without the benefit of site-specific on the ground investigation, inspection or survey; Grantor further acknowledges and agrees that Grantee shall have the right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space within the Property as a result of, among other things, site investigation, inspections or surveys, various engineering factors or to correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. In the event such a modification is required by Grantee, Grantee may modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" referring to this instrument and setting forth the modified legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space, which description may be set forth by map attached to said Notice. A copy of the Notice shall be delivered to the Grantor. Without limiting Grantee's right to modify the location of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space by recording a "Notice of Location" as aforesaid, Grantor agrees to execute and deliver to Grantee any additional documents Grantee may request to modify or correct the legal description of the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space to conform with the actual location of the required Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space. If such documents are required, they will be prepared by Grantee at its expense. Grantor shall receive additional reasonable compensation only if the acreage within the Easement Area and/or Temporary Work Space increases as a result of the changed location.

14. Grantee shall comply in all material respects, at Grantee's sole cost, with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to Grantee's activities hereunder, including, without limitation, the construction, use, operation, maintenance, repair and service of the Grantee's pipeline. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee shall not be responsible for any costs that are necessitated, caused by, or are the result of any act or omission of negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct by the Grantor or anyone acting on the Grantor's behalf.

15. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed to the addresses first set forth above and be delivered by certified mail, postage prepaid, and return receipt requested, next business day delivery via a reputable national courier service, regular United States mail, facsimile, e-mail or hand delivery. A party may change its address for notice by giving notice of such change to the other party.

16. The undersigned hereby bind themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to this Agreement unto Grantee, its successors and assigns. The Easement granted hereby shall create a covenant and burden upon the Property and running therewith.

17. It is agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and that no other agreements have been made modifying, adding to or changing the terms of the same. This Agreement shall not be abrogated, modified, rescinded or amended in whole or in part without the consent of Grantor and Grantee, in writing and executed by each of them, and duly recorded in the appropriate real property records.

18. The rights granted hereby to Grantee may be assigned by Grantee in whole or in part, in Grantee's sole discretion.

19. The terms, stipulations, and conditions of this Easement are subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and permit conditions.

20. This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State in which the Easement Area is situated.

21. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes; provided, however, that all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTOR(S):

Donald D. Widga

#### [ACKNOWLEDGMENTS APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

.

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COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

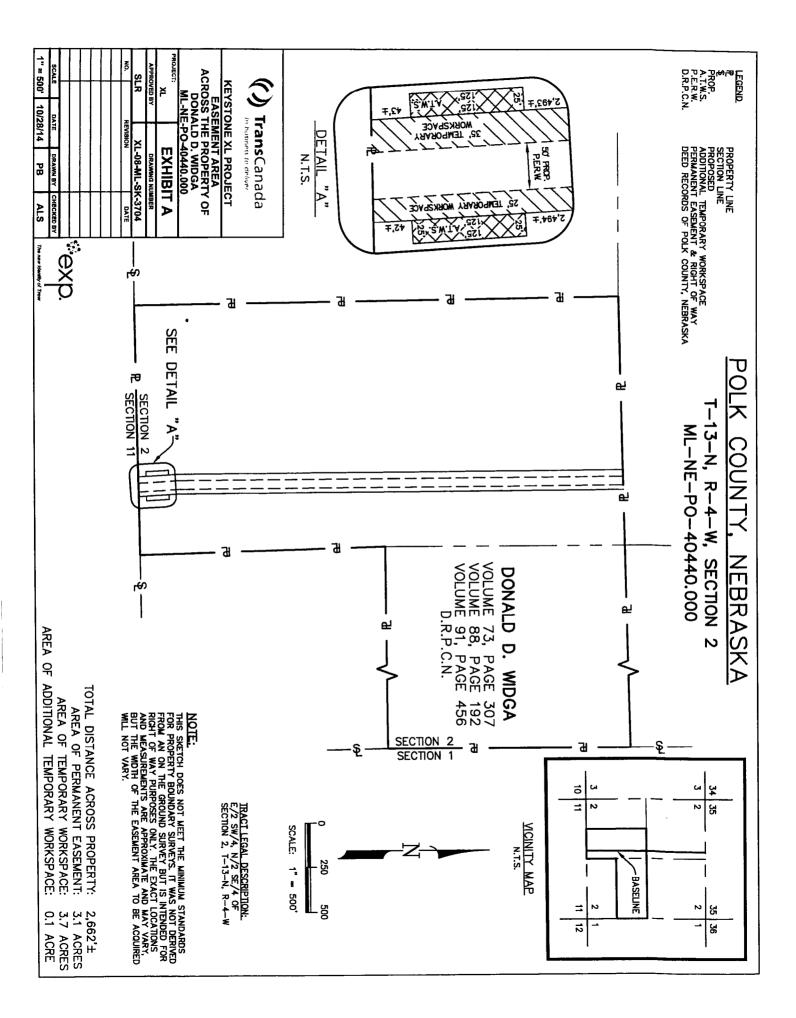
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_

By Donald D. Widga, also known as Donald Widga

Notary Public Signature

Affix Seal Here

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# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE	)	CASE NO
COMPANY, a New York Corporation,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT
V.	)	
	)	
RICHARD ANDREW, JANE ANDREW,	)	
LUKE ANDREW, and BRYCE ANDREW,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**COMES NOW** Plaintiff, Zurich American Insurance Company ("Plaintiff"), a New York Corporation, and for its causes of action against Defendants, states and alleges as follows:

# PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principle place of business located at 1400 American Lane, Schaumburg, Illinois.

- 2. Defendant, Richard Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 3. Defendant, Jane Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 4. Defendant, Luke Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.
- 5. Defendant, Bryce Andrew, is a citizen of the State of Nebraska.

# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because Defendants reside in this district, and a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this district.

7. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and because diversity of citizenship exists with respect to Plaintiff and all Defendants.

### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

8. At all times material to this action, Defendants were agents of each other and were acting within the course and scope of their agency relationships, and the negligence of any Defendant is imputed to all Defendants.

9. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a joint venture and were acting within the course and scope of the joint venture at the time of the event described below.

10. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in a partnership, were carrying on a business for profit, shared profits of the business, and were acting within the course and scope of the partnership at the time of the event described below.

11. At all relevant times, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were the lessees of property located in the East ½ of the Southwest ¼, Section 15, Township 4, Range 15 (the "Property"), Nemaha County, Nebraska, and were engaged in commercial farming operations for the benefit of all named Defendants in this action.

12. On or about December 10, 2011, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew were engaged in excavation activities on the Property, including the clearing of various vegetation near the northernmost property line of the Property.

13. The excavation was in the area of two pipelines owned and operated by Magellan Midstream Partners, LP ("Magellan"), including a 12" pipeline used to transport a mixture of gasoline and jet fuel as well as an 8" pipeline ("the Pipelines") used to transport diesel fuel.

14. At all times relevant to this action, Magellan owned a right-of-way and easement on the Property in the areas where the pipelines ran and Defendants had actual and constructive knowledge of the right-of-way and easement.

15. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants had actual and constructive notice of the pipelines on the Property and had notice that Magellan owned and operated such pipelines.

16. On or about December 10, 2011, while engaged in excavation activities, Defendants Luke Andrew and Bryce Andrew struck the pipeline, causing the release of approximately 2,167 barrels of mixed gasoline and jet fuel from the 12" pipeline and approximately 643 barrels of diesel fuel from the 8" pipeline onto the Property (The line strikes will hereinafter be referred to as "the Release").

17. As a result of the line strikes and release, Magellan was required by state and federal

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law to engage in cleanup and remediation activities related to the Release.

18. At the time of the Release, Magellan was the named insured on a policy of insurance, Policy No. EPC 669256201 ("the Policy"), issued by Plaintiff.

19. Plaintiff has made payment on behalf of Magellan under the Policy and has a contractual and equitable right of subrogation and is subrogated to Magellan's rights of recovery against Defendants for amounts paid on its behalf.

#### FIRST CLAIM: NEGLIGENCE

20. Paragraphs 1-20 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

21. Defendants owed a duty to perform their work on the Property and within the rightof-way and easement owned and operated by Magellan in a reasonable manner, to use reasonable care in constructing improvements on the Property, to comply with the statutory requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 76-2301 et seq., the One Call Notification System ("OCNS"), and to protect the Pipelines on the Property from damage during Defendants' work on the Property.

22. Defendants negligently struck the Pipelines while performing excavation work on the Property.

- 23. Defendants were negligent in the following particulars:
  - a. Defendants failed to perform their work on the Property within the right-of-way and easement in a reasonable manner;
  - b. Defendants failed to use reasonable care in their work on the Property and the Pipelines' right-of-way and easement;
  - c. Defendants failed to comply with the statutory requirements of the OCNS;
  - d. Defendants failed to notify Magellan of Defendants' intent to excavate on December 10, 2011 in and over the right-of-way and easement on the Property;
  - e. Defendants failed to give Magellan the opportunity to exercise its rights under the OCNS.

24. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

25. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

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26. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its first claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69 for Defendants' negligent strike of the Pipelines.

### SECOND CLAIM: TRESPASS

27. Paragraphs 1-29 of this Complaint are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

28. Magellan owned and occupied a valid right-of-way and easement in and to the area of the Property where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

29. Defendants physically invaded Magellan's rights within and to the right-of-way and easement where the Pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

30. Defendants had no right, lawful authority, or express or implied invitation, permission, or license to enter upon and disturb Magellan's rights and interests in and to the right-of-way and easement where Magellan's pipelines were located at the time of the Release.

31. Magellan's interest in and to the right-of-way and easement of the Pipelines were injured during the course of Defendants' trespass.

32. As a result of Defendants' trespass, Plaintiff has paid \$3,044,255.19 on behalf of Magellan related to clean up, remediation, and other damages caused by the Release.

33. Clean up, remediation, and other damages are ongoing and Plaintiff continues to incur costs related to the same, with estimated future damages totaling \$1,106,893.50.

34. Plaintiff prays that the Court enter judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff's damages on its second claim in an amount in excess of \$4,151,148.69.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff hereby prays for a judgment of this Court in its favor and against Defendants for its damages in an amount to be proven at trial, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, its costs incurred in prosecuting this action, and such other reasonable sums as this Court deems just and equitable.

### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38 and Local Rule 40.1(b) demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable in Omaha, Nebraska.

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ZURICH AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

By: /s/ Albert M. Engles ENGLES, KETCHAM, OLSON, & KEITH, P.C. 1350 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102 (402) 348-0900 (402) 348-0904 (Facsimile) Albert M. Engles, #11194 Dan H. Ketcham, #18930 Michael L. Moran, #24042 James C. Boesen, #24862

# TRANSCANADA KEYSTONE PIPELINE, LP

# ADVANCE RELEASE OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

# Tract No. : <u>ML-NE-PO-40440.000</u>

I, <u>Donald D. Widga</u>, of <u>Polk</u> County, in the State of <u>Nebraska</u>, (hereinafter "Grantor") acknowledge receipt of:

<u>Five Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Dollars and No Cents</u> (\$<u>5,520,00</u>), now paid to Grantor by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (hereinafter "Company"), in full payment and settlement, in advance, for all damages listed on the Advance Damages Computation Form attached hereto as Appendix A. In consideration of said advance payment, Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge Company from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, claims, expenses, general damages, interest, costs and demands whatsoever, at law and in equity, against Company, which Grantor ever had, has now, or which Grantor's insurers, heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns hereafter can, shall or may have in the future, relating to all damage items listed on Appendix A, arising out of, in connection with, or resulting or alleged to have resulted from construction or surveying over, under or on the following lands (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Lands"):

Situated in the County of Polk, State of Nebraska:

# N/2 SE/4, E/2 SW/4

# Section 2, Township 13N, Range 4W

Grantor understands and agrees that payment of such consideration is not deemed to be an admission of liability on the part of Company. Grantor agrees to accept said advance payment on behalf of Grantor and Grantor's tenants, if any, and to take full responsibility for compensating any and all of Grantor's tenants for any damage or loss that is owed to said tenants as a result of Company's use of any pipeline easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands. Grantor will indemnify, defend, and hold Company and the Company's officers, agents, and employees harmless from any claim asserted by Grantor's tenants, tenants' successors-in-interest, or tenants' heirs for compensation, restitution, crop loss, consideration, or damage of any kind that Grantor's tenants may be lawfully entitled to as a result of Company's construction or surveying activity within any easement acquired by Company from Grantor on the Lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set our hands on this\_\_\_ day of

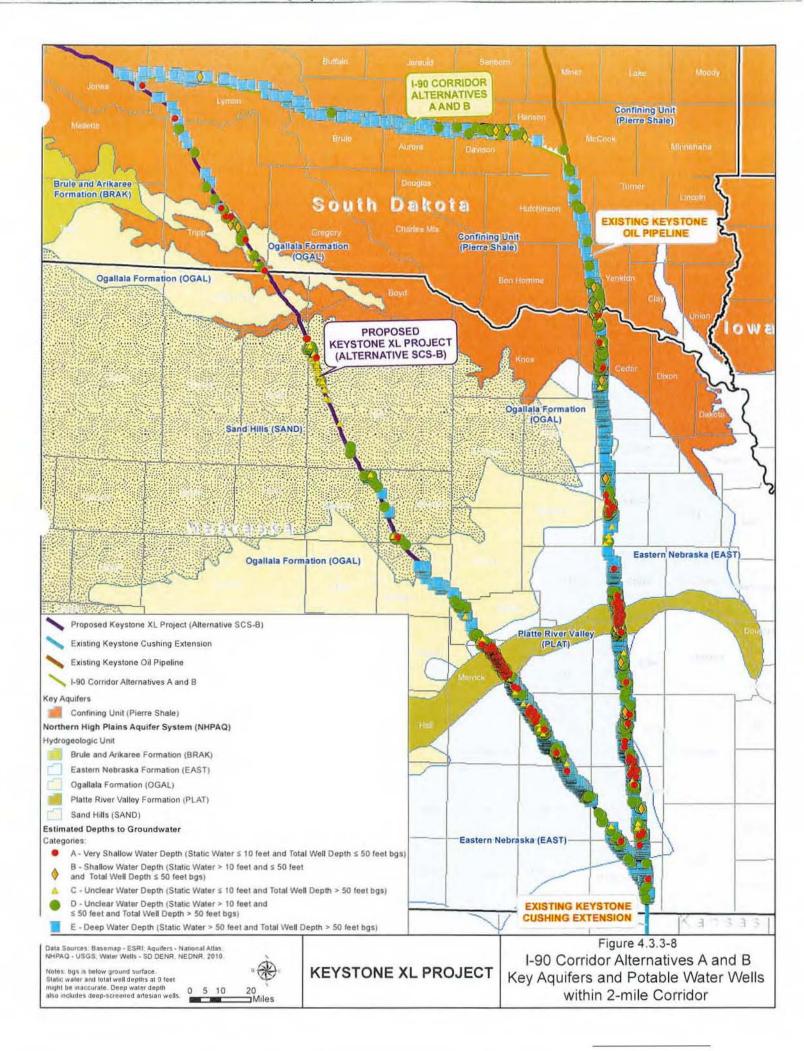
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

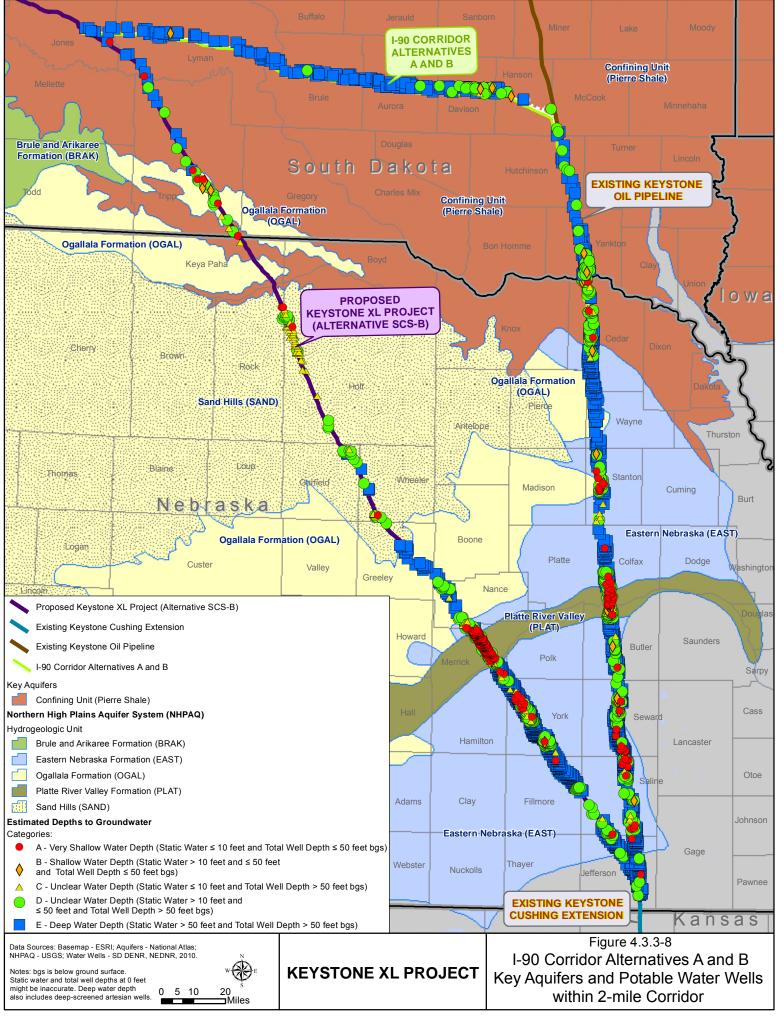
Owner Signature

Owner Signature

Owner/Owner Representative Name

Owner/Owner Representative Name





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