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C.D. DAVIDSMEYER STATE REPRESENTATIVE · 100TH DISTRICT ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

November 15, 2021

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

888 First Street, NE

Washington, DC 20426

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate you taking the time to hear the concerns of so many people in dealing with the Spire Pipeline that runs directly through the 100th Illinois House District, an area that I am proud to represent.

I have had the opportunity to work with many companies in my region on both pipelines and electric transmission lines. I am generally supportive of projects that have an overall public good or an overall benefit to those who are affected.

This Spire Pipeline project has made me extremely leery of projects that are approved for the "public good". It has made me further question the use of eminent domain.

Working with my constituents on this project has allowed me to see both sides. I have seen individuals who were treated exactly as they should have been, their land returned to the original state. I have met with people who were treated poorly, their good top soil mixed and lost, weeds throughout the right of way, went right through timber that was purchased for the sole purpose of hunting, and other concerns.

You may not be surprised that the prior group were individuals who signed contracts with Spire, while the latter were those who chose to continue to negotiate with the Corporation.

We truly have a tale of two cities. From my conversations, including direct evidence, it is my belief that those who went along with the project were treated more like kings, while those who chose not to sign the Spire contract were treated like paupers. The affects of the land not being put back as required will affect the growth on that land and surrounding land for years and years to come.

The gentleman who owns the hunting ground had talked with Spire about them going around his property, instead of right through his deer-hunting ground. This was something that they said they

could do. Unfortunately, when eminent domain was given to Spire, they instead went directly through the middle, removing trees and wildlife habitat that will never be replaced.

It is my understanding that the original certificate has been vacated by the D.C. Circuit Court. It is unjust to allow any company to continue to acquire this land. I have a very sincere concern about continuing to pursue the condemnation of lands for a project that is operating under an emergency certificate that expires the middle of next month. As you know, short-term certificates should not be used to further eminent domain or the condemnation of private land.

Again, I want to thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns and the concerns of my constituents who have been negatively affected by the Spire Pipeline.

Sincerely

Christopher "C.D." Davidsmeyer

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