

MICHAEL R. PENCE
SIXTH DISTRICT, INDIANA

CHAIRMAN
REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

16-1142-GA-BIN

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October 5, 2006

The Honorable Joseph T. Kelliher
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426-0002

ORIGINAL

Dear Chairman Kelliher:

I am writing to express my concerns and those of my constituents about the proposed route of the Rockies Express East natural gas pipeline in Indiana, and to urge the Commission to work with landowners to identify and resolve issues in the early stages of the project. As the Commission considers the proposal of Rockies Express LLC ("REX") in Docket No. PF06-30, I urge you to pay particular attention to how your decision could affect private property rights and carefully consider the impact on property values along the route of the proposed pipeline.

Reasonable settlements should be negotiated with affected property owners rather than invoking eminent domain. Wherever possible, the pipeline route should avoid populated areas and utilize existing utility corridors, reducing the need to purchase additional right-of-ways and minimizing disruptions. Existing highway, county road, and railroad right-of-ways should also be considered.

I fully expect that during the certificate application process, the Commission will carefully evaluate all aspects of REX's proposal and ensure that the rights of citizens are fully protected; that environmental factors are carefully considered; and, that a thorough, fair, open process will determine the final disposition of the proposed pipeline extension.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Mike Pence
Member of Congress

MRP:nam

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Technician DB Date Processed 12-7-06

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