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## FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20426

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

August 16, 2007

The Honorable George V. Voinovich United States Senator 37 West Broad Street, Suite 300 Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Senator Voinovich:

I am writing in response to your July 26, 2007 letter on behalf of Mr. Roger Deal, regarding the Rockies Express Pipeline Project – East (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Docket No. CP07-208-000).

The proposed Rockies Express Pipeline Project is in the process of being extensively reviewed by the Commission staff and all cooperating agencies. The Commission staff is aware of the issues raised by Mr. Deal and the Village of Barnesville, Ohio, and will address their comments in the upcoming draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

In its environmental analysis, staff will examine construction techniques, mitigation, and alternative routes to avoid the Slope Creek Reservoir. All environmental and safety comments received during the pre-filing process and in the interim will be considered during the preparation of the draft EIS and will include our independent analysis of the identified issues. After the environmental analysis of the entire project is complete, the draft EIS will be issued. The draft EIS, which will be published and mailed to the stakeholders, residents, commenters, and landowners on our mailing list, will have a 45-day period for review and public comment. After the public comment period, a final EIS will be issued.

Please know that Commission staff will conduct several public meetings in the project area to receive comments on the draft EIS prior to publishing the final EIS. Input from you and your constituency during our proceeding is very important to our thorough analysis of the project issues. After our evaluation process has been completed and staff recommendations have been made, the Commission will issue its decision as to whether or not to approve the project.

 If I can be of further assistance in this or any other Commission matter, I trust you will let me know.

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