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September 5, 2007

Senator Richard G. Lugar
1180 Market Tower
10 West Market Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Rockies Express Pipeline Pumping Station in Putnam County

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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY
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Dear Senator Lugar:

I recently received a letter from the Rockies Express Pipeline Company in which they informed me that there is a proposed pumping station to be built across the road from my home which is west of Bainbridge in Putnam County. It is to be the biggest pumping station in the pipeline. Rockies Express intends to have an underground storage facility/field that will initially hold two million cubic feet of natural gas. The station may be audible for miles and can periodically exhaust gas that can put forth an odor for miles.

The proposed site is currently a cornfield and approximately 400 yards from my front door. The surrounding area is a residential/agricultural mix of land that owners farm and raise some livestock. There are ten homes within a quarter of a mile of the proposed building site. One has recently completed construction, another is near completion and a third is beginning construction. These are upscale residences in the quarter million dollar and up range. There is an underground water supply that provides us with wonderful water. I even have a flowing well on my farm. All of this will be permanently disturbed by the proposed pumping station.

We moved here to be in the rural community and away from commerce. We are not opposed to progress or a pipeline coming through the neighborhood. We ARE OPPOSED to this new building site. The original proposed site for the pumping station was south of Bainbridge, IN approximately six miles to our South and East. To my knowledge, no one was opposed to that location except the landowner who didn't agree to sell. When I spoke to the company attorney John Zeiner on 8-28-07, he was unaware that a move of location had been made. When I spoke to Mr. Joe Pridgeon, the land manager for Rockies Express Right of Way on 8-27-07, he informed me that he didn't know why the change had been made. I pointed out that there were other sites that would affect fewer people and along their proposed route. He then told me that he would find out more and call me back that day.

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To recap:

There already was an accepted site that no one disagreed with.
The new site is in the middle of ten homes that are within a quarter of a mile of the proposed building site.

I live on 325 acres of farm land on the north side of U.S. 36, two miles west of Bainbridge. I consider the land that I own my heritage to my children and my retirement in six or seven years. The current proposed location will definitely affect my neighbors and me negatively.

Yesterday, 9-4-07, I spoke briefly with Mr. Lane Ralph. He advised me that I should check with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to see if the filing for the site opposite my property had been filed in the correct timely manner. It was his opinion that the filing time was complete and that this new site may not comply with the FERC's time guideline requirements. Therefore, making the new proposed site ineligible until a new filing was completed. I will follow up on that.

Finally, none of us want to stand in the way of progress. We understand that the pipeline is needed and that there needs to be pumping stations. However, we want those facilities to be necessary and with the least amount of negative effect on neighbors. We can see that the land site south of Bainbridge would have a less negative impact on neighbors than this new site next to my house.

I spoke with Mr. Basista, Mr. Pridgeon's assistant, yesterday evening, 9-4-07, who stated that according to Mr. Pridgeon the landowner of the original site south of Bainbridge did not want to sell. Therefore, Rockies Express shifted their site plans to my neighborhood. If that individual farmer had sold his land, he could move away from the area and no one else would be negatively affected. In my case, ten families still have to live here and would be affected forever. Enclosed please find copies of site maps and correspondence from Rockies Express Pipeline for your information.

Is there anything we can do to move this pumping station back to the less intrusive site south of Bainbridge?

Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,