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819

Meeting between TransCanada and State Department personnel – April 11, 2011**Participants:**

TransCanada: Russell Girling, Paul Elliott

State Department: Robert Cekuta, Dan Clune, Alex Yuan, Keith Benes, John Schnitker, Vishal Patel, Nicole Gibson

Russell Girling opened the meeting by explaining that he was in town for the Council of Chief Executive Officers meeting and that he wanted to stop by to share with State personnel the impact that the delay occasioned by the decision to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) was having on TransCanada. He indicated that TransCanada was facing both “upstream” and “downstream” issues with respect to its efforts to obtain a permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. With respect to “downstream” issues, TransCanada was facing concerns by its shippers and their customers, the refiners, about whether the Keystone XL pipeline would be completed in a timely fashion and, if not, whether they would need to look elsewhere (mostly overseas) for alternative supplies of crude oil. With respect to “upstream” concerns, Mr. Girling explained that TransCanada was already taking delivery of pipe and had logistical problems in terms of storage of these materials in the interim. He indicated that he was interested in understanding the State Department’s view of the process at this point.

In response, State personnel indicated that the Department anticipated a decision by the end of the year and that this schedule was still achievable. They also indicated that this deadline was a serious one which had not been questioned during the course of interagency discussions on this matter and that State had made Herculean efforts to reach consensus within the interagency on a way forward. Mr. Girling then asked if there was anything else that TransCanada could provide and was told that TransCanada had provided everything that might be helpful in the process and that nothing further was needed at this point. Lastly, Mr. Girling was told that it was helpful for the Department to hear TransCanada’s views on these matters but, at this point, the Department was seeking to keep to its schedule and that he should let the process run its course.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior Reviewer