The $3.8 billion Dakota Access pipeline would move up to 570,000 barrels of oil from North Dakota's Bakken fracked

oil fields to Patonka, Ill, north east of St Louis. From there it would be shipped by another pipeline or rail to a refinery on the gulf coast. This crude oil is extremely volatile. There is

no guarantee that it will be used domestically. The pipeline will most likely not replace truck or rail transport of Bakken crude, it will simply allow them to double their extraction.

Dakota Access, an affiliate of Energy Transfer Partners, a Texas Corporation, claims the pipeline will bring significant economic benefit to Iowa, but analysis by ISU economist David Swenson shows that their numbers of jobs, economic and tax benefits are grossly exaggerated. There would only be 15-25 permanent IA jobs.

This pipeline would cross 8 of Iowa’s major rivers, as well as the Missouri and Mississippi and a major aquifer. The company’s safety plan is: “We won’t have any leaks,” even though over the past 20 years there have been over 10,000 pipeline incidents resulting in 384 deaths, costing over $5 billion in property damages, and leaving spills of hazardous liquids of more than 100 million gallons. There is no possible way to clean up Bakken crude, and it is highly inflammable.

**How much does an oil spill cost?** (apart from permanent environmental destruction)

Mayflower, Arkansas (2013): $70+ million

Yellowstone River, Montana (2011): $135+ million

Kalamazoo River, Michigan (2010): $1.2 billion

**How much would Energy Transfer Partners be responsible for when their pipeline breaks/leaks in Iowa?** Iowa law currently requires pipeline operators to provide a surety bond of ONLY $250,000. (Iowa Code section 479B.13) In other states, such as Alaska, the statutory amount required is $50 million and even that would be peanuts in a disastrous spill. Iowans would foot the bill.

If the 3-person Iowa Utilities Board (appointed by Gov. Branstad) issues this permit, it must meet the statutory requirement of **“promoting the public convenience and necessity”** of Iowans. **Iowa has no requirement for an environmental impact statement.** The company will have the right to use ***eminent domain*** to gain access to private property. Many farmers report lies, harassment and even threats from Dakota Access representative to force them to voluntarily sign away the easement.

***Reasons to oppose******the building of the pipeline***

1. Pipelines are not safe, despite the claims of builders and oil companies. Many will eventually have leaks that are not detectable by pressure gauges or visual inspection.
2. Fossil fuel extraction is a huge contributor to climate change. We need to leave the oil and coal in the ground and expand our renewable energy sources.
3. Only 15-25 permanent jobs will be created. The potential cost in damages to land and water far outweighs any temporary jobs and short-term economic gains.
4. [Infrastructure repair](http://www.labor4sustainability.org/files/__kxl_main3_11052013.pdf) and promoting a green economy is a far better solution for the jobs crisis than a project that NASA scientist and climate expert [James Hanson](http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20110826/james-hansen-nasa-climate-change-scientist-keystone-xl-oil-sands-pipeline-protests-mckibben-white-house?page=show) famously calls "game over" on the climate front.

**TAKE ACTION NOW !**

**The IUB will make probably make its permit determination to Dakota Access’ application by the 3rd quarter of 2015. Please file your comments asap. You may file multiple times – they are tallied by the reason for your objection, so file with a simple statement. Thoughtful, lengthy letters are no more impactful than a short statement.**

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**The only statutory qualification that has to be met in Iowa prior to issuing this permit is that the project “promotes the public convenience and necessity,” Anything you say that indicates that it will not meet that requirement will be helpful.**

**To file comments with the Iowa Utilities Board (a 3-person board appointed by Governor Branstad):**

**Docket No. HLP-2014-0001 (Be sure to put this on the comment)**

**Electronic Filing: https://efs.iowa.gov/efs/ShowBasicSubmit.do**

**Mailing Address (regular mail):**

Executive Secretary

Iowa Utilities Board

1375 East Court Avenue Rm 69

Des Moines, IA 50319-0069