



Brian Schweitzer, Governor
Richard H. Opper, Director

P.O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • www.deq.mt.gov

December 7, 2010

Dear Reader;

Enclosed you will find a copy of a rate impact study completed by the Montana Office of Consumer Counsel for the portion of the Keystone XL Pipeline proposed to be located in Montana. Section 69-2-216, MCA, requires completion of a rate impact study for any project, such as the Keystone XL Pipeline, that requires the issuance of a certificate of compliance under Montana's Major Facility Siting Act .

Under Section 69-2-216, MCA, the rate impact study is supposed to be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) prepared by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The rate impact study for the Keystone XL Pipeline was inadvertently not included in the Draft EIS.

The rate impact study is being made available at this time for a 30-day public review and comment period. DEQ will forward any comments received to the Office of Consumer Counsel. Following the close of the comment period, the Consumer Counsel will respond to the comments. DEQ will include the responses in its final environmental review of the project.

Comments on the enclosed rate impact study may be sent to:

Greg Hallsten
Montana Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901

Or emailed to: DEQKeystone@mt.gov

Questions may be directed to either Greg Hallsten at (406) 444-3276 or Tom Ring at (406) 444-6785. Your comments are due to DEQ no later than January 5, 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Warren McCullough".

Warren McCullough
Chief
Environmental Management Bureau