

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Special Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB5

Chairperson: Senator Chris Langemeier

Committee: Natural Resources

Date of Hearing: November 09, 2011

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 5 creates the Oil Pipeline Certificate of Authorization Act. The bill requires oil pipelines larger than eight inches in diameter to acquire a certificate of authorization from the Nebraska Public Service Commission prior to construction.

For a pipeline company to receive a certificate it must show to the PSC that a proposed pipeline does not transverse any exclusion zone. Exclusion zones are the following: (a) the Sandhills region as defined by the EPA; (b) any part of a watershed that feeds into a Class A coldwater stream as defined by 54-2421; or (c) an area in which groundwater's depth to the service is ten feet or less for longer than ten miles.

The PSC will confirm that a proposed pipeline does not transverse an exclusion zone within 30 days of an application.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Ken Haar