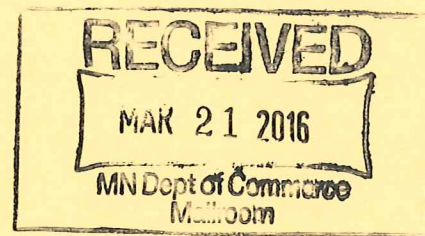


Mark A. Darnell
4252/4300 42nd St. SW
Rochester, MN. 55902



Larry Hartman
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East STE 500
St. Paul, MN. 55101

Mr. Hartman,

Thank you for the opportunity to have input/comment on the location of the proposed Natural Gas Pipeline in Olmsted County.

I am writing this for myself (Mark A. Darnell, 4252/4300 42nd St. SW) as well as my neighbor to the immediate west of my property (Stanley Dee, 4525 42nd St. SW). Our properties are located in Section 29 of Rochester Township. Mr. Dee and I stand united on our input and request. In general we do not oppose the natural gas line and understand the need for it to serve the growth of Rochester and Olmsted County. However, we do oppose the "**Proposed**" placement of the pipeline. Between the two of us we own approximately 200 acres. The "**Proposed**" gas line route will sever out properties in the middle. This would create hardship to Mr. Dee's farming and cattle operation and to my ranching operation.

We are in favor of the "Alternate" route as indicated on the map. If this route is selected then the rest of this letter is moot.

The most notable hardships for me would include, (depending the time of year the pipe is laid out and trenched), the inability to reach my hay field and grazing pasture, and the inability to contain my horses without significant additional work. The pipeline would sever two pastures in an East/West direction and my fence lines run in a North/South direction. Between the two pastures of I have twenty six (26) head of horses. Also located in the East pasture is a horse arena. During the months of May through October we host several sanctioned saddle club horse shows and clinics. The line, as proposed, would disrupt those shows. As for Mr. Dee the proposed route would sever his hay field and corn field. Mr. Dee is dependent on his hay and crops to feed his cattle. The proposed route would also sever his drainage tile line as well as other incidental hardships. Additionally the route of the line crosses the wettest portion of my property, crossing three water ways and as it rises to Mr. Dee's property rock, shell rock and limestone is encounter making trenching a challenge.

In lieu of accepting the proposed "**Alternate**" route as indicated on the map we would suggest yet another possible route that would not disrupt our operations. If the route were moved approximately 300 yards to the south (see the attached map) it would follow the natural property lines and limit disruption to our properties. By following the natural property lines you would also gain the benefit of better ground for digging. The ground on our south fence lines is predominately dirt.

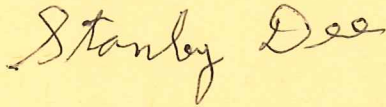
Once again let me assure you that we do not oppose the gas line, only the "Proposed" route. We are most supportive of the proposed "Alternate" route.

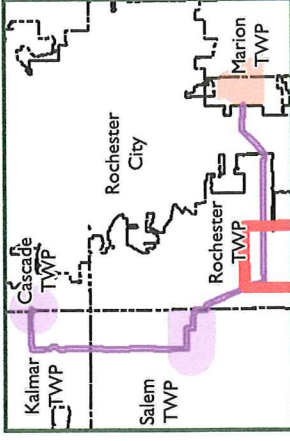
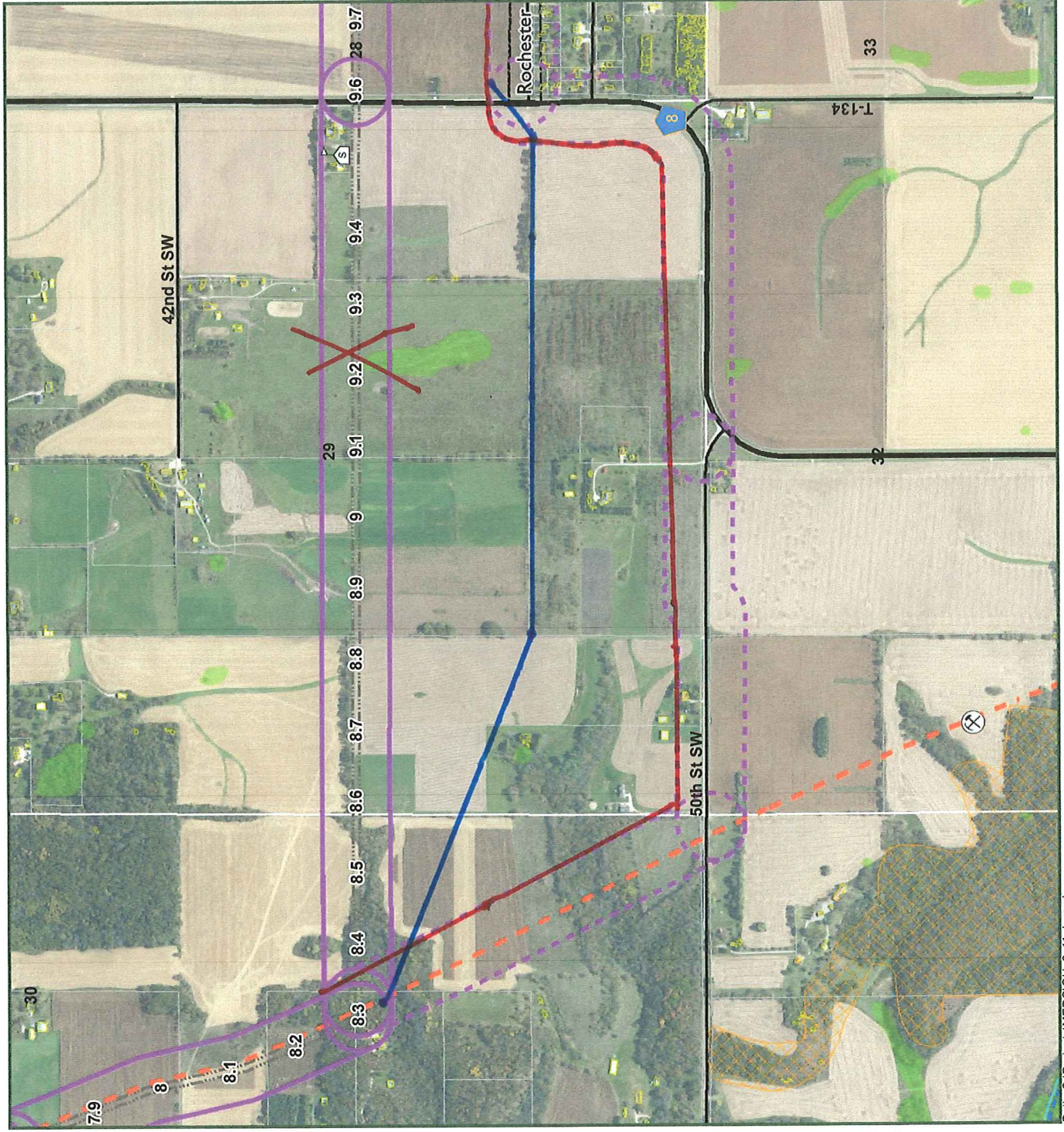
Professionally,

Mark A. Darnell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark A. Darnell". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop at the end of the name.

Stanley Dee

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stanley Dee". The signature is written in a clear, flowing cursive style.



 Preferred Route
 Alternate Route
 ROW Preferred
 Mine
 School
 Building (LIDAR)
 Liquid Pipeline
 City / Township Boundary
 PWI Stream
 River / Stream
 NWI Wetland
 MBS Biodiversity
 Moderate

— *option 1*
— *option 2*

Feet
 550
H2R