

North Dakota's Pipeline Infrastructure and the Feasibility of Transporting Bakken Crude in the Keystone Pipelines

Justin J. Kringstad¹

The United States portion of the Williston Basin is currently producing more crude oil than it has pipeline capacity to transport. The North Dakota Pipeline Authority funded a study to determine whether the construction of a pipeline connecting to TransCanada's Keystone pipelines was feasible. The study, due for completion in mid-April 2009, covers many topics including route options, quality issues, economic analysis, and a project timeline. The information gathered by the study will be distributed to industry at the conclusion of the study. If the findings indicate such a project is feasible, it is the Pipeline Authority's goal to use the information to encourage private companies to move forward with construction. The presentation at the 2009 Williston Basin Petroleum Conference will also highlight additional pipeline projects that are helping to alleviate the current export constraints.

¹North Dakota Pipeline Authority

Justin J. Kringstad is a geological engineering graduate from the University of North Dakota. He has worked with the Plains CO₂ Reduction Partnership at the Energy and Environmental Research Center in Grand Forks, ND, the North Dakota Geological Survey, and the North Dakota Oil & Gas Division. Most recently, Justin was employed in sales at Challenger Industries and in geothermal energy consulting with Terra Utilities Co. On August 1, 2008, he was appointed by the North Dakota Industrial Commission to his current position as director of the North Dakota Pipeline Authority. Justin, wife Katie, and daughter Madelyn reside in Bismarck, ND.