



Hays County, Texas

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Hays County Residents Share Concerns about Natural Gas Pipeline at County's Public Meeting

County plans webpage to keep residents informed

Hays County Precinct 3 Office, Wimberley, TX – At a public meeting January 29 in Wimberley, Hays County residents voiced their many concerns about the Kinder Morgan Permian Highway Pipeline slated to cut through Hays County on its way from Cayanosa, Texas, to Gulf Coast locations west of Houston.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Lon Shell, who hosted the meeting that drew hundreds of people, said, “The pipeline route as proposed will travel through environmentally sensitive areas of the Hill Country and Hays County, potentially impacting our aquifers, springs, and livelihoods, and subjecting our land to environmental damage. Residents have concerns, rightly so, about their property values, water and air pollution, noise pollution, and disruption to their lives.”

Hays County hosted the meeting to hear public concerns and to allow an opportunity for other individuals and organizations to provide information to the public. Among the speakers were David Baker (Wimberley Valley Watershed Association), Lucy Johnson (former mayor of Kyle and area landowner), Chuck Lesniak (environmental and pipeline safety professional), Jeff Mundy (attorney), Matt Lara (Hill Country Alliance), Melissa Locke (Texas Real Estate Advocacy and Defense Coalition), and representatives of the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District.

“Right now we still have a lot of unanswered questions, but we are working on this issue every day,” Shell said. “Landowners who are approached by Kinder Morgan representatives have the right to negotiate rights of entry onto their land, engage a

lawyer, and negotiate monetary and non-monetary terms for any easement requested by Kinder Morgan.”

To help residents stay informed about the pipeline project, Hays County plans to set up a webpage with information from the January 29 meeting and updates.

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