



South Dakota Petroleum and Propane Marketers Association

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September 29, 2008

Brian Gustafson, Administrator
Air Quality Program
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
523 East Capitol, Joe Foss Building
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

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AIR QUALITY
PROGRAM

Dear Mr. Gustafson:

My name is Dawna Leitzke and I am the Executive Director of South Dakota Petroleum and Propane Marketers Association, a non-profit association represent petroleum and propane wholesalers, retailers and bulk sales. My member consists of petroleum wholesalers, truck stops, convenience stores, bulk fuel haulers, and gas stations. Please accept this letter as our company's formal comment requesting SD DENR approve the Hyperion Energy Center air permit. I strongly believe that this project is a great opportunity for the State of South Dakota and our nation.

Hyperion is committed to building the most advanced and environmentally sound refinery in the United States. It is disturbing that a new refinery has not been built in this country in over thirty years. The Hyperion Energy Center will be built from the ground up using new and proven emissions control technologies. I am also comforted in knowing that Hyperion will conduct ongoing monitoring during operations to ensure compliance with the permit requirements.

The economic benefit the state, region, and nation will see from this project is tremendous. Thousands of new jobs, new tax revenue and tremendous growth as a result of this project will benefit all South Dakotans not to mention allowing South Dakota to take a leadership role in helping America to increase its energy security.

In addition, this refinery can help ease the burden of an already over stressed petroleum distribution system in the Midwest section of the United States. As you know, in 2007 South Dakota petroleum marketers struggle to find fuel (both gas and diesel) for almost 7 months. The supply shortage was critical and there were many days when marketers had to drive 500+ miles just to keep their customers tanks full of both types of fuel. The Hyperion can only help this situation. This is the most important project that South Dakota has seen in recent years and I urge your issuance of this air permit.

Thank you for your time and diligent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

CC: Board of Minerals and Environment

Representing

**Convenience Stores • Petroleum and Propane Marketers • Truckstops
Car Washes • Petroleum and Propane Bulk Dealers and Wholesalers**