

***Statement from Commissioner Russell McMurry on Palmetto Pipe Line LLC
Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
5/19/15***

On February 13, 2015, the Georgia DOT received an application from Palmetto Products Pipe Line LLC (Palmetto) requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for a proposed petroleum pipeline that is expected to run from the Augusta, Georgia-South Carolina border to the Brunswick, Georgia-Florida border. The pipeline project would involve the following counties in Georgia: approximately 2 miles in Richmond; 25 miles in Burke; 34 miles in Screven; 39 miles in Effingham; 12 miles in Chatham; 7 miles in Bryan; 18 miles in Liberty; 2 miles in Long; 17 miles in McIntosh; 24 miles in Glynn; 18 miles in Camden; and 12 miles in Charlton.

O.C.G.A. 22-3-83 dictates that “Before exercising the right of eminent domain as authorized in this article, a pipeline company shall first obtain from the commissioner of transportation or the commissioner's designee a certificate of public convenience and necessity that such action by the pipeline company is authorized.”

After careful consideration of information in the application submitted by Kinder Morgan on behalf of Palmetto; numerous public comments submitted at seven (7) public meetings held by Palmetto; two (2) public hearings hosted by the Georgia DOT; and approximately 3000 public comments submitted online and by mail to myself and the Utilities staff, the Department has determined that it will not issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. The basis for the decision is outlined in our correspondence to Palmetto Products Pipe Line LLC.