

To the Editor:

This letter is in regard to the many misleading statements surrounding the proposed natural gas line from Portland to Hartsville. In several letters it has been expressed that Midwestern Gas Transmission Company will be taking private land.

Midwestern Gas is only buying an easement to cross the landowner's property with the pipeline. Landowners will be paid fair value for the use, but the landowners will still own the property and they will still have rights for normal agricultural use. After construction, the landowner will be fairly compensated if there is any damage done to the property or crops during course of normal operations and maintenance activities.

Another statement regards Midwestern Gas not respecting property owner's rights. Our survey crews will not and have not surveyed anyone's property without permission.

One statement suggests no benefit for Sumner County. The property tax to be assessed by Sumner County for this extension is estimated to be approximately \$380,000 per year. Everyone should see the benefit of extra money in the County treasury whether it is used for road improvements or county services (police, fire, etc.). This is up to the citizens of the county and their elected officials.

Please listen to the facts and not the half-truths spread by the few trying to create fear and confusion.

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