

## Pipeline Opponents To Continue Push

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska opponents of the Keystone XL pipeline say they're thrilled that President Barack Obama mentioned the project during his speech on climate change, but they aren't backing off their campaign.

Obama said Tuesday that the Canada-to-Texas pipeline project should only be approved if it doesn't worsen carbon pollution.

Bold Nebraska executive director Jane Kleeb says the president's remarks could shift the debate toward two federal reviews.

One study by the U.S. State Department found the pipeline would have a negligible impact on greenhouse emissions. Another by the Environmental Protection Agency said emissions could be higher than the State Department predicts.

Pipeline supporters say the project has undergone exhaustive reviews at the federal level and in Nebraska. Opponents say the State Department report relies on information from the oil pipeline industry.

## Flight Makes Emergency Landing In S.D.

ABERDEEN (AP) — A Delta flight flying from Montana to Minnesota made an emergency landing in northeast South Dakota after a passenger had a heart attack on board.

*The American News* in Aberdeen reports that the flight was en route from Montana to Minneapolis Tuesday morning when it made an unscheduled landing at Aberdeen Regional Airport.

Randy Meister with Aberdeen Fire and Rescue says a passenger on board had a heart attack but appeared to be conscious and talking as he was loaded into an ambulance.

## Man Gets Prison In Prostitution Case

KEARNEY, Neb. (AP) — An Omaha man has been given two to 12 years in prison for sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl who was being prostituted by her mother.

*The Kearney Hub* said 30-year-old Alex Rahe was sentenced on Monday. He'd pleaded no contest. Prosecutors said Rahe had sex with the girl in April last year in Kearney.

Rahe's lawyer, Charles Brewster, asked the judge to give Rahe probation, saying he had made a "stupid choice" and "engaged in horrible behavior."

But prosecutor Shawn Eatherton said Rahe could have walked away from the situation but didn't.

"I don't think we, as a society, (can) send the message that this kind of behavior can be tolerated," Eatherton said. "Otherwise, it's just a roll of the dice."

Judge John Icenogle told Rahe he wouldn't be considered for parole until he completes the state Department of Correctional Services' sex offender program.

## OBITUARIES

### Irene Yaggie

Irene G. Yaggie, 95, of Mission Hill, passed away on Sunday, June 23, 2013.

Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be 10 a.m., Thursday, June 27, 2013 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Rev. John Rutten officiating. Inurnment will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Visitations will be from 5-7 p.m., Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton with a 7 p.m. rosary followed by a 7:30 p.m. Scripture service. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Urn bearers are her grandsons: Jason Yaggie, Joey Yaggie, Jim Yaggie, Matt Yaggie, Mike Yaggie and Mitch Yaggie. Honorary urn bearers are her granddaughters: Janelle Brenden and Jennifer DeJong.

Irene G. (Vlasak) Yaggie was born December 6, 1917 to Albert and Christina (Merkwan) Vlasak at Tabor, and passed away on June 23, 2013 at home surrounded by her family.

Irene grew up in Tabor, living above the general store that was owned by her family. She graduated from Tabor High School and then attended Business School in Sioux City. After graduation, Irene worked at Gurney Seed and Nursery where she scripted dictation. It was at that time that the bank owner in Tabor offered her a job. She became the first female teller in the area. Later, she moved to Yankton and worked at American State Bank. She met her future husband, Joseph while attending Sacred Heart



Yaggie

Church. They were married on April 30, 1952 and she moved to the dairy farm west of Mission Hill. She loved helping out on

the farm as well as tending to her large vegetable and flower gardens. She was well known to all those who visited that she loved to cook. She could often be found clipping recipes out of newspapers and magazines. You could always find a slice of homemade bread or fresh pie when you visited. Everything had to be neat and tidy including the milkbarn. When the boys were growing up, they kept her busy mending their clothes.

She was a volunteer for the Yankton 4-H Club as well as Sacred Heart Church office and was also a member of the Altar Society.

She is survived by 2 sons: Tom (Alecia) and John (Sandy) both of Mission Hill, sister-in-law Grace (Albert) Dutcher of Yankton, 8 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years Joseph on January 14, 2013, parents, brother, Emil Vlasak and sisters: Lillian Janiga, Helen Jardine, and Kay VanOsdel.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
June 26, 2013

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Online condolences at:  
[www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com](http://www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com)

### Thomas Bainbridge

Funeral service for Thomas M. Bainbridge, 49, of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2013 at the United Church of Christ in Scotland with Rev. Ron Shifley officiating. Interment will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. until a 7:00 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland.

Tom died on Saturday, June 22, 2013 at his residence near Scotland. Online condolences may be sent at [www.goglinfh.com](http://www.goglinfh.com).

**Goglin Funeral Home**  
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## Wayne Pibal Jr.

Wayne Pibal Jr., 52, of Yankton died Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at St. Mary's Hospital,

Rochester, Minn.

Arrangements are pending under the care of the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

# S.D. Hopes Changes Will Boost Wind Industry

BY DIRK LAMMERS

Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota's new economic development incentives are making the state more competitive with neighbors on large wind projects, but other industry challenges are keeping South Dakota from tapping its potential.

Though it's the nation's fifth-windiest state, South Dakota produces just 784 megawatts in wind energy — a number more than doubled by North Dakota, nearly quadrupled by Minnesota and surpassed more than six-fold by Iowa. But officials hope a change in the state's tax structure will boost the state's wind industry.

A bipartisan bill passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Dennis Daugaard earlier this year gave the state's economic board the ability to refund part or all of the sales tax to developers on projects over \$20 million, said Pat Costello, commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

Previously, large wind farm projects in the state had been subject to sales tax, a contractor's excise tax and a production tax.

"With the tax structure that we had on wind we were adding millions of dollars to the cost of their projects," Costello said. "This gets us a lot closer to where they're at in their opportunities with other states."

The law change at least has put South Dakota back on the map for wind development, said Ron Rebenitsch, executive director of the South Dakota Wind Energy Association.

"It removed one of the major barriers," he said. "There are others that remain, but we're working on those and there's still great potential."

Wind farm developers still need to find customers for the energy they'll produce, and they need to make sure they have access to transmission lines to get the power to their customers, Rebenitsch said.

"Our big markets are to the east — Minneapolis, Chicago — and we've got to get to the markets," he said. "It's a little like having grain to sell and no farm-to-market road."

The transmission system out of South Dakota is being updated, but it's a slow process.

Costello said four major transmission line projects are in the works, but three of them aren't slated to go online until at least

2017. And South Dakota, which produces more than 20 percent of its electricity from wind, doesn't have sufficient demand to tap its potential.

"We've got tremendous resources but not a lot of load, not a lot of demand," Costello said. "Ideally, in the wind industry you'd like to have your resources right next to your demand to cut down on transmission costs."

Another factor hampering wind development, advocates say, is uncertainty each year about the production tax credit, a federal incentive that helps offset the cost of electricity production during a wind farm's first 10 years of operation.

The credit, which provides a 2.2-cent tax break for every kilowatt-hour of electricity produced from large-scale wind farms, traditionally is given a one-year extension by Congress as it's set to expire. A three- to five-year commitment to the program would give wind developers confidence to move forward on projects, Rebenitsch said.

"You need it long term so you can plan it," he said. "It takes two to three years to develop a wind project."

## Ruling

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crimination have had to get federal approval before changing the way they hold elections. South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley said the decision leaves intact a section of federal law that effectively prevents discrimination against the voting rights of minorities.

"The nationwide law that protects against discrimination, that was never challenged. That remains good law," Jackley said.

Jackley said lawsuits that have resulted in changes in South Dakota election laws have been based on the federal law that prevents voter discrimination, not on the law requiring advance federal approval of election law changes. The Rosebud and Pine Ridge reservations were designated as areas requiring federal approval for law changes in 1972 because more than 5 percent of the population spoke a language other than English, not because of violations of voting rights, he said.

But the ACLU said federal approval of election laws has helped protect voters' rights in the two reservations. Charles Mix County, home of the Yankton Sioux Tribe, and part of Bennett County, which sits between the Rosebud and Pine Ridge reservations, have been added to the list of areas where changes in election laws need federal approval, the organization said.

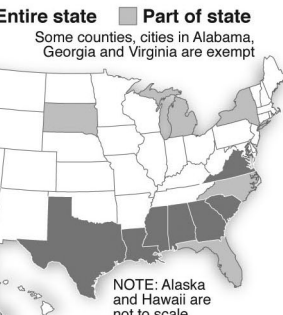
Shannon and Todd counties

## Gutting the Voting Rights Act

The U.S. Supreme Court has struck down a key part of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, namely the formula used by the federal government to see which states need Justice Dept. approval for changes in voting procedures. (See map at right for states currently subject to the law.)

### Key dates in the law's history

- 1965** Law passed to redress racial discrimination in voting, particularly in Southern states; Section 5, set to expire in five years, creates the clearance requirement; Section 4 establishes the formula
- 1970** Congress extends Section 5 for five years
- 1975** Extends Section 5 for seven years
- 1982** Extends Section 5 for 25 years



- 2006** Congress renews law after holding hearings on continuance of racial discrimination in voting; extends Section 5 again for 25 years; formula uses 1972 election data
- 2009** Supreme Court sidesteps ruling on 2006 extension
- 2013** Court strikes down Section 4, saying formula is outdated; law cannot be enforced until Congress creates a more current formula

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, New York Times, AP

Graphics: Pat Carr, Judy Treible

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for many years were in the same legislative district. But a federal judge in 2004 ruled that district violated the federal Voting Rights Act because it packed too many Indian voters into just one district. The judge then redrew the boundaries of three legislative districts, putting the Rosebud and Pine Ridge reservations in separate districts, to give American Indian voters in the area a chance to elect more Native American legislators.

In another case, federal officials blocked Charles Mix County from changing county commission districts in a way the department alleged would have harmed Native American voters' rights.

Secretary of State Jason Gant said federal officials had not yet weighed in on some laws passed during this year's legislative session, including one that changed the deadline for requesting absentee ballots.

## Nebraska

# Sec. Of State: Expand Mail-In Voting

BY GRANT SCHULTE

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale called Tuesday for a statewide expansion of all-mail voting in small precincts, saying the practice has increased turnout in rural areas where it's already in place.

Gale said he would support a change in state law that would allow counties to get rid of polling places in small, rural precincts, and conduct elections by mail. Current law lets counties do so only if their populations are less than 10,000.

"I think the time has come to allow that to become a statewide program, so that any county of any size can designate smaller, rural precincts for mail-in ballots," Gale said. "In every instance where we've had that choice, the people have been very, very supportive and turnout has significantly increased."

Gale, a Republican, made the comments as he kicked off a nine-city re-election tour at the Capitol.

Nebraska has 58 all-mail precincts out of 1,400 statewide. Registered voters in those precincts are sent ballots by first-class mail, along with stamped return envelopes. Gale said the state should also explore the use of mail-in ballots for special candidate elections and recall votes. Current state law limits the practice to issue votes, such as bond referendums.

Lancaster County Election Commissioner Dave Shively said all-mail elections could improve efficiency in some of the county's smallest precincts. New state legislative districts approved in 2011 have led to the formation of some precincts with fewer than 50 registered voters.

Last year, Shively said the county opened four rural polling stations for a Lincoln school board election with a candidate who was unopposed. Some rural poll workers sat for an entire day, but no one showed up to vote.

"In that case, it would be easier for us to mail those ballots than to create a polling location," Shively said. "That's a long time for poll workers to sit there, but we have to give people the right to vote."

Shively said mail-in voting lowers the cost per ballot in small elections, but the price increases with the number of registered voters. The cost between mail-only and regular elections become virtually identical once the number of registered voters reaches 3,000 to 5,000, he said.

Gale said he also wants to expand online services for businesses that are required to file paperwork with the office and attract more foreign diplomats to Nebraska to promote the state.

Gale is scheduled to visit Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, Scottsbluff, Ogallala, Sidney, Lexington, Kearney and Hastings for his 2014 re-election

kickoff. The 72-year-old Gale served as Nebraska's Secretary of State since 2000, when he was appointed by then-Gov. Mike Johanns. He was elected to three additional terms.

He practiced law in North Platte for 29 years before he was appointed to office. Gale also worked as a legislative assistant to former U.S. Sen. Roman Hruska of Nebraska, and as an assistant U.S. attorney in Omaha and Lincoln.

Gale and his wife, Carol, have three children.

## Fireworks

From Page 1

anywhere," he added. "It just burned the spot where the item was thrown. That kind of tells us where we're sitting."

Nickles reminds residents of Yankton that a city ordinance makes storing and discharging fireworks illegal.

The only option for those who want to shoot fireworks is to find landowners outside city limits who will allow such activities on their properties.

It is also illegal to shoot fireworks from roads.

In a media release, Merriam urged South Dakotans to be safe and sensible as they celebrate Independence Day.

"Fireworks have long been a traditional part of the Fourth of July celebration in South Dakota, but every year we have a few injuries and some unintentional fires," he said. "While much of the state has experienced much-needed moisture in recent months, we still caution anyone using fireworks to cooperate in keeping us all safe and fire-free. Common sense goes a long way."

He added that staff with the state fire marshal's office will be out during the legal sales period inspecting retail fireworks stands to make sure the products being offered for sale in South Dakota are legal consumer fireworks.

"We aren't trying to take the fun out of the holiday, but we do want to make sure the fireworks being sold meet legal requirements," Merriam said.

In 2010, the National Fire Protection Association reports that fireworks caused an estimated 1,100 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires and 14,100 outside and other fires with eight civilian deaths and \$36 million in property damage. The risk of fireworks injury was highest for children age 5-14.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [Twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](https://twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage)

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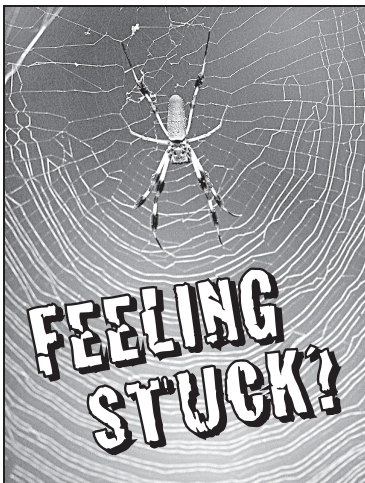
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