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City of Emigration Canyon; Public Statement October 9, 2026

Information for Residents Contacted About Property Surveys

The City has heard from residents who have received letters and phone calls from HF Sinclair (“Sinclair”) and its representatives about surveying private property for a proposed oil pipeline, the “Westline Connect” project. Some residents have been told that surveyors, referencing state law Section 78B-6-506 will enter their land with or without their consent, and that law enforcement may accompany them.

The pipeline is still in the early planning stage. There is no approved route. Sinclair has not filed an application with the City, has not received any franchise to use public roads or rights-of-way, and has not obtained a conditional use permit.

The proposed pipeline has not been approved by the City. If Sinclair moves forward with the project, it would need to apply for the required City land-use approvals. Any application would be reviewed through the applicable public process, which includes notice and an opportunity for residents to be heard.

Your rights if a surveyor contacts you

You may decline to give consent. You are not required to sign anything or to agree to a survey. If a surveyor contacts you, you can decline consent and ask the company to put its legal basis for entry in writing.

Utah law gives a company that qualifies as a public-use pipeline a limited right to enter to survey, even without the owner’s consent, if certain conditions are met. That right is not unlimited, and it is not a license to do whatever the company wants:

- Whether Sinclair qualifies for *this* proposed line is open to challenge by property owners, and until it is established, an entry risks being an unlawful trespass.
- Even a company that qualifies may enter only at reasonable times, only after reasonable advance notice, and only to make examinations, surveys, and maps — not to do construction or anything beyond surveying.
- The company is responsible for any actual damage it causes to your land, your improvements, or other features like a well.
- The right does not allow the company to use force, break a lock, or physically push past a barrier. If you do not allow access, the company’s lawful path is to establish its authority by going to court, not self-help.

Law Enforcement Presence

Sinclair has indicated that local law enforcement, the Unified Police Department (UPD), may accompany surveyors to help keep the peace. The presence of law enforcement does not, by itself, establish Sinclair's legal authority to enter private property.

What you can do

1. **Ask for the legal basis in writing.** If a company claims a right to survey without your consent, ask it to state that basis in writing before anything happens. You can share it with your attorney or the City.
2. **Do not feel pressured to consent on the spot.** You can take time to review any letter and seek advice.
3. **Document every contact.** Save all letters, emails, and texts. Note the date, time, name, and company of anyone who calls or visits. Photographs of your property's current condition can be helpful.
4. **Do not sign anything you don't understand.** A survey consent or access agreement can affect your rights. Read it carefully and consider having an attorney review it first.
5. **If someone attempts to enter over your objection,** you may contact local law enforcement (the Unified Police Department) to report the situation, and you may consult an attorney about your options, including challenging the company's authority and preserving any claim for damage.
6. **Do not make threats or physically assault anyone.** These actions may result in enforcement by UPD and/or criminal charges. The dispute over entry is a civil matter and must be resolved between the property owner and Sinclair.
7. **Keep your notices and seek the right help.** Retain any letters, notices, and related materials you receive, and request written clarification from the company about the proposed survey. Residents with questions about their individual property rights may wish to consult their own legal counsel.

The City's Role

The City's role is to review applicable land-use applications and oversee the use of its public roads and rights-of-way. Sinclair has not submitted an application to the City for the proposed pipeline, and the City has not approved the project.

The City's land-use review process is separate from questions about Sinclair's legal authority to access private property for surveying. This statement is intended to clarify the City's role and provide general information to residents; it does not determine individual property rights.

Questions or Additional Information

For questions about individual property rights, residents may wish to consult their own legal counsel. Questions about state law or the statutory authority for the proposed project may be directed to state legislators and district representatives.