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IOWA UTILITIES BOARD

Iowa Utilities Board
1375 E. Court Ave.
Des Moines IA 50319-0869

To the Iowa Utilities Board:

This is our letter to you regarding our opposition to all three proposed CO2 pipelines in Iowa. We are opposed to all three pipelines but it is the Summit Carbon Solutions pipeline that is crossing Hancock County. We would like this letter to get filed under all of these if they have separate filings as far as objections.

Hancock County Republican Central Committee

hancockcountygop41@gmail.com

Hancock County Republican Central Committee
Including the towns of Garner, Britt, Woden, Crystal Lake, Kanawha,
Klemme, Goodell

December 19, 2022

Iowa Utilities Board
1375 E. Court Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50319-0069

To whom it may concern:

We, the Hancock County Republican Central Committee oppose the proposed CO2 pipeline for the following reasons:

What Is Eminent Domain?

Eminent domain is the power of the United States government, states, and municipalities to take private property for public use, following the payment of just compensation.

Nowhere in this description does it say for **private** use. The proposed CO2 pipeline is not a government project. It is a **private** company trying to install this **privately** owned pipeline through our county. Will it benefit the general public of our county or for that matter any Iowa county? The answer is no. It will only benefit the bank accounts of a few individuals. It clearly does not meet the standards defined in the Fifth Amendment. Therefore, it must not be used to move this project forward. Approval granted by the IUB to allow this project to use eminent domain expressly violates the law. We ask that you carefully consider the ramifications of your vote should you choose to not follow it.

Strain On EMS Services

Our area communities are already experiencing a shortage of EMS staff. Some of our towns are having to direct their calls to other towns due to staffing shortages. With the increased burden of the additional hazardous material training that will be required, recruiting and retaining volunteer

personnel will be difficult. We cannot afford to lose these vital services to our communities. Are these private companies willing to pay the cost of fulltime staff to meet the needs? Are they willing to pay for all the necessary equipment needed to protect the volunteers in the event of a leak? We highly doubt it. They need to demonstrate that they will support it on a yearly basis based on actual cost to these agencies. A token investment to buy influence to get the project passed will not suffice.

This is not just an ordinary pipeline. This is a colorless, odorless gas pressurized. There is extreme risk involved here. A similar CO2 pipeline experienced a rupture in Satartia, Mississippi on February 22, 2020 and nearly killed people when it found its way to this small town nearby. Many people were sickened by it and they had no warning. If it had happened overnight when people were sleeping, many lives would have been lost. The response in reporting the leak was two hours. How will one know there is a leak before it's too late? Death occurs roughly 4 minutes after exposure. A \$1 Billion dollar bond at minimum should be required. If these conditions cannot be met, the answer for approval for this project must be no.

CO2 Is Already A Marketable Product

CO2 is already a product that is used for our daily lives. It is used to make soda pop and other beverages. Recent shortages of it have caused area establishments to post "not available due to CO2 shortage" on their machines. Why take a product already in short supply and dump it in a big underground cavern in a state miles away? This will only further fuel inflation of any product which uses it. We cannot afford further inflation. The economy is already struggling with skyrocketing costs making many things unaffordable for fixed income or welfare dependent people. Why add products that use CO2 to the list?

In addition, the new EPA guidelines allow for ethanol facilities to capture their CO2 and convert it to other marketable products onsite. This makes far more sense with far less risk to the general public. This is where our tax dollars should be directed, not into an unnecessary dangerous pipeline.

Drainage Issues

Hancock County is blessed to have some of the most productive soils in the state. To achieve maximum productivity, most of our farms require farm tile. We have several drainage districts in our county. A tile collapse of one of these county tile lines could affect several other neighboring farms. People who got nothing in return for this project could lose crops. How will they be compensated? Will the CO2 pipeline company be there with their checkbook then? We seriously doubt it.

The danger involved in digging near this pipeline while installing or repairing tile will be of great concern. When this project was first proposed, these people representing the pipeline company didn't even know what tile or pattern tiling meant. It would be dangerous for a company who clearly doesn't understand Iowa agriculture to place a pipeline all the way across our county. We cannot let people like this force their way onto farms they are not welcome on. We again remind you, this is a **privately** owned pipeline benefiting only a few people's bank accounts. It is of no benefit to the general public.

We, as a committee, ask that you take these four very important considerations into account when and if you are asked to grant approval for this proposed CO2 pipeline. Can you in good conscience say that it is in the public's best interest? Will you set a precedent of allowing eminent domain to be used for a private project only benefiting a few? Will you further fuel inflation? After carefully considering these reasons, it should be clear that a resounding no is the correct answer.

Hancock County Republican Central Committee Members