

RE: PUC Docket: HP22-001

To South Dakota PUC,

On March 21, 2022, the supervisors of Mellette Township in Spink County unanimously agreed to oppose the carbon dioxide pipeline proposed by Summit Carbon Solutions that would pass through our township disrupting property and infrastructure, and ask that you oppose it too, and deny any permits for its construction.

The main reasons in opposing the pipeline are:

Disruption and destruction of township roads, existing rural water lines, existing natural gas pipelines, and underground electrical utility lines. Townships have limited taxing authority and our land owners will have to bear the cost of this damage.

Carbon dioxide is a hazardous material that will jeopardize the safety of our residents and livestock if a leak occurs. Our local small town first responders are not equipped to handle a catastrophic event like this. Summit has proposed more than one route and all are too close to farmsteads, feed lots and houses.

A large majority of our township residents and landowners oppose this CO2 pipeline, and we respect their wishes. Most believe this project is not in the public interest and should not be allowed to use eminent domain to seize property. This pipeline exists to benefit private, individual investors and would set a terrible precedent if eminent domain is allowed to be used.

Summit Carbon Solutions has not been transparent or trustworthy in dealing with landowners in our township. There have been issues of trespassing on property by surveyors and dishonest communication with landowners involving easements and pipeline routes.

Therefore, we respectfully ask that you oppose Summit Carbon Solutions CO2 pipeline and reject their request for a permit to proceed.

Mellette Township Board
39061 148th St
Mellette, SD 57461

Mark Fischbach, Clerk, 605-228-3273
Doug Braun, Chairman
Bill Ford, Supervisor
Jerome Morgan, Supervisor
Roger Palmer, Treasurer