

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:08 PM

To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>

Subject: [EXT] When Lawyers Believe their God? When they are GOP Rhino Treasurer's working For SCS

To the South Dakota PUC

Comments for Dockets HP22-001 and Docket HP22-002

August 22, 2023

Having just read the fifteen page Summits Lawyer, Brett Koenecke, pleadings to the PUC and basically threatening them to do their job or they will be taken to court. Please except my comments.

I can believe Mr. Koenecke wrote this because he is one of those adversarial attorneys that threaten private landowners, doesn't respect their private property rights and will do anything for money. This may work in litigation but does not work well when governing our state. Trying to win at any costs creates the polarization and hatred that now fills our country and leaves no room for common sense or legitimate debate.

Mr. Koenecke, is listed as a Republican GOP Treasurer. I believe he is a RHINO and should recuse himself. Every Democrat presidential nominee since 1984 went to law school. Not all made the grade. All democratic vice presidential nominees since 1976, except Loyd Bentsen went to law school. Republican are made up of business minded candidates during the same time periods

Too many laws are formulated by lawyers in the states legislatures, South Dakotan's can think for themselves, and hopefully don't need an attorney to tell us what is right and what is wrong.

These carbon dioxide pipelines are wrong for many reasons, and the majority of our citizens haven't even heard about these dangerous pipeline by design. As for a economic boom to South Dakota they only mention this to promote their lies about why they really want to take the private land and never answer how long their influx of boom cash will last. As for the ethanol plants, to get them on board they work Congress to offer a subsidy of one dollar per gallon of ethanol produced for a limit time. Now the ethanol plants are throwing some of their biggest corn suppliers and supporters under the bus for the free money.

The land values to all properties close to these dangerous pipelines will be affected, especially in the counties of Lincoln, Minnehaha, Brown, Codington and Beadle. Already some no-sales have occur because of the pipeline know path. The increase costs to communities to provide them water and electricity for pumping CO2 will drive up local cost for consumers. These pipelines are more likely to be a real cost to human and animal life, loss of prime and usable ag property and private ownership to mention a few when they rupture and they will.

It is not our problem if Summit spent millions trying to force a dangerous and not needed pipeline down the throats of South Dakotans who don't want their money or project on their land. Carbon dioxide pipelines are not a utility and never was what the PUC was originally created for when electricity and gas were owned by a monopoly.

I never heard mention all the economic value created over the last hundred and fifty years by the farm families who sweat to make a living on the land these pipelines now want to take. Farmers have been the bread and butter for all the small communities that have made South Dakota what it is today. (Banks, Retail Stores, Implement Dealers, Lumber Yards, Grocery Stores, Car Dealers, Churches, Etc) This is real economic development done with their own money, but there are no guarantees these pipelines will do what they say. Don't let this smooth talker threaten any elected official. US Ag Report, this last Saturday reported that Brazil now leads the US in Corn and Bean Exports. Our elected officials need to be aware of who is important to this state and it is all citizens and that includes the loud minority.

Our County's elected officials really have a responsibility to protect their citizens. The evidence and danger to lives is real, people should not be hemmed in or required to live next to these dangerous pipelines just so the rich can make billions. South Dakota State Legislature turned a deaf ear to the cry of hundreds of farmers and others in Pierre, so did the governor. This won't be forgotten.

Is anyone to believe our elected officials anymore if a corporation with a ton of expensive lawyers can threaten to get whatever they want by suing. I believe our PUC is still made up of good people with roots in this state and feel their main reason to have a PUC is to keep utilities reasonable and safe for the consumers. Read SDCL 49-41B-4.2. This is required Criteria and cannot be overlooked when it comes to the health and safety or welfare of all our citizens. The PUC must protect us from out-of-state big corporations wanting to take advantage of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 free money. This includes the PUC not over riding our biggest counties that decide where or if these pipelines are built.

Do not let this attorney tell the PUC they can supersede the counties.

Thank You,

Dennis M. Jones
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

