

**From:** Pat McGee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 1, 2022 8:52 AM  
**To:** PUC <[PUCPF@state.sd.us](mailto:PUCPF@state.sd.us)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS-HP22-001

DOCKET: SCS Carbon Dioxide Pipeline. HP22-001

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Sioux Falls, SD 57106

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McGee Farms LLC  
Lincoln County, South Dakota  
Tract #: SD-LI-0019.000 & SD.LI.0020.000

PUC Commissioners:

Please deny the request for pipeline rights for Summit Carbon Solutions. Protect the landowners of South Dakota from a private, for profit organization taking our land. If you grant them the permits, they **WILL** use eminent domain to take our land.

My family farm, McGee Farms LLC, has been in our family since 1900. This is the third pipeline seeking access to our property in the last few years. First, Dakota Access, who bullied us and did not follow the plans we ultimately were forced to approve. When we tried to hold them to the plan, they told us the drawings were not to scale- placing a large above ground valve in a fenced area right in the middle of a field instead of along the fence. The reclamation was not at all as stated, and 6 years later, you can see exactly where the pipeline runs by looking at the significantly smaller, weaker plants.

Currently, Northern Natural Gas is installing a pipe and another above ground valve in a 110' by 150' fenced area. Natural gas is a public utility, and although it is taking more of our land, we support what is good for the public.

Summit Carbon Solutions is a private group, who, from what we are able to gather, plan to profit from tax credits- essentially, our money. They talk about 100% voluntary compliance, but their actions speak otherwise, and it is still early in the process. I am the President and managing officer of our family LLC. I politely told the Summit Carbon representative that they did not have permission to survey and we were not interested in their pipeline on our property. They have repeatedly called and emailed me. They have found phone numbers for my out of state brother, and a sister- in- law and have called them, even asking for my mother, who passed away 10 years ago. They have given the impression that we have no choice, as the pipeline will go through whether we want it or not. Finally, they send their offer letter via registered mail. Past behavior is a pretty good indicator of future behavior, and I believe they will be 100% self serving.

Our farm, in Lincoln County is less than 1/2 mile from residential development. Adding another easement, and potentially above ground valve, will further devalue our land for both farming and future development. Why must we bear the burden of being the pipeline corridor?

According to information provided at the public meeting, it seems that should this project be disbanded or at some point abandoned, Summit Carbon can sell the easement rights to anyone, without our consent. That seems like the ultimate slap in the face to land owners. Since this project and it's viability seem a bit shaky at best, this is a big concern.

The danger of a high pressure pipeline so close to homes is very concerning, as is the fact that should the pipe be damaged, landowners can be held liable for damages. This is simply ridiculous. We would have NO control over the pipe. When a pipe is run through farm land, much of which, like ours, had drain tile and will have large equipment on it, there is a risk to the pipeline owners that they are assuming by choosing that route. The 3-4 foot depth they discussed is clearly not safe.

The **ONLY** way to avoid putting land owners in a position of having to defend our ownership of our land from Summit Carbon's plan to take it is to **deny the permits**. If these permits are granted, none of us will have the financial where-with-all to fight them. Their multimillion dollar donors will see to it in court, just like Dakota Access, that they get access to our land. Please, with the South Dakota land owner's wellbeing at the heart of your decision, deny the Summit Carbon Solutions permit request.

Respectfully,

Pat McGee  
McGee Farms LLC  
Lincoln County

