

From: Rex Pommier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 2:42 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] PUC docket HP22-001m SCS carbon transport pipeline request

Attached is a note documenting some of our opposition to the CO2 pipeline being requested to cut across South Dakota.

Rex and Deb Pommier

[REDACTED]
Harrisburg, SD 57032

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PUC docket HP22-001m SCS carbon transport pipeline request

4/8/2022

Rex and Deb Pommier

[REDACTED]
Harrisburg, SD 57032

To the PUC in regards to the CO2 pipeline being proposed.

My wife and I want to register our strong opposition to this proposed pipeline. We attended the meeting in Sioux Falls and it was a deja-vu experience to the Dakota Access pipeline from several years ago. Like then, there were the smooth-talking salesmen from representing the pipeline, telling us how they wanted to work with us and the pipeline is safe and they have all these safety measures in place so that in the very unlikely event of a leak nobody would be harmed and they'd have everything taken care of before anybody even knew there was a problem. They further said the construction wouldn't cause any long-lasting harm to the environment, the farmers' land or anything else.

As we all know, the entire package they're trying to sell is a pack of lies. We know it, and you know it. Start with their contention that CO2 is harmless and natural. Sure it is, in the low concentrations we have in the atmosphere. However it becomes very toxic at the pressures and concentrations they're planning on running through this pipeline. CO2 is an asphyxiant at this concentration and when (not if) this pipeline ruptures, anybody and any livestock or pets or wildlife anywhere close to it is in mortal danger. Cars won't even start to try to outrun the deadly cloud of odorless, colorless gas. Being this gas is heavier than air, people in garden level or lower level dwellings or simply lowlands are even more susceptible to this. The pipeline reps wouldn't even place a value on human lives in that they wouldn't

guarantee this pipeline would stay a minimum distance from homes. Doesn't their dodging the questions about safety raise concerns with the PUC? In addition to the CO2 being an asphyxiant, we also need to be concerned about the temperatures. I don't know what temp the CO2 will be when passing through the pipeline but I can tell you it'll be significantly below freezing when it escapes. It's a quasi-liquid going through the pipeline but returning to its normal pressure it'll evaporate immediately, causing the deadly cloud. This evaporation will take heat out of the surrounding atmosphere, causing freezing temperatures immediately. Do we even know where they're planning on putting this thing? It was set to go right next to DAP which would give me double jeopardy, just south of Sioux Falls, but now they're talking about relocating it a mile south so we won't even know whether we need to be concerned with this until it'll be too late.

Their contention of "do no harm to the land" was also a lie. I am assuming they will hire Michel's like DAP did. Even if they don't, the result will be the same. The ground around the pipeline will be compacted through their driving heavy equipment as well as simply from disturbing so much of the cropland. They won't be careful about putting the subsoil back first and separating the topsoil from the subsoil. At township meetings we have had farmers telling us that the DAP installation damaged their tiles, causing drainage issues as well as the compaction problems. The pipeline installers' solution to cutting through a drainage tile? Run the tile over the pipeline after they have it dropped in the ground. That doesn't work! The drain tile needs to be level for it to work properly. The farmers who have damaged drain tile have no recourse against the pipeline. Land owners can't even get insurance on their land where these pipelines run.

This brings up another issue – that of liability. Who's liable for when something breaks? I can guarantee they have a staff of well-paid lawyers whose sole purpose is to make sure land owners are left on the hook for any problems. Even if a lawsuit were to go to trial and a jury find in the land owners' favor, then what? The pipeline is a LLC that, like DAP, will have no assets after this is done other than the pipe in the ground. This in effect will absolve them from ever having to pay any claims.

They will damage township and other lighter-weight designated roads just like we saw with DAP. Our township suffered significant damage from the DAP pipeline of which we saw 0 dollars to fix the roads and infrastructure back after they were done.

Their contention of pumping millions of dollars into the local economy was also a lie. When DAP came in, they brought everything they could with them, right down to even bringing their own health care people with them. So much for helping the local economy. Their lie about procuring everything local they could was just that. They'll bring in everything with them they possibly can think of because it'll be cheaper for them than sourcing items locally.

Finally let me give you our own personal experience. Like with the DAP, this pipeline will not be traversing our property. The DAP pipeline runs parallel right next to our acreage where we have lived for over 20 years. Since the DAP pipeline isn't directly on our property we had no say in its installation. The pipeline runs less than 50 feet from our property. Our home value plummeted by at least 2/3 from this pipeline. We've had multiple people tell us we couldn't pay them to live in our home. Others who have property abutting the DAP have voiced the same thing. When we brought our concerns to the DAP people we were told that it isn't their problem and there's nothing we can do about it. One went so far as to tell me to lie to a potential buyer about the pipeline. We have to look at a gaudy access point directly across the road from our front door. I would say a 67% drop in property value is a substantial, direct negative result of these pipelines and you're supposed to take this kind of issues in account when deciding whether to approve or deny the application.

In conclusion, please use what you learned from the DAP fiasco and do the right thing. Place South Dakota families, farms, and our way of life above the ill-gotten billions in taxpayer money going into these out-of-staters' pockets. Deny them their request.