

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF SCS CARBON TRANSPORT LLC FOR
A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A CARBON
DIOXIDE PIPELINE.

HP22-001

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF

Kirk Yackley

ON BEHALF OF

Ringneck Energy, LLC

EXHIBIT #

August 31, 2023

- 1 **Q. Please state your name and business address for the record.**
- 2 A. Kirk Yackley, 30191 182nd St, Onida SD 57564
- 3 **Q. What is your occupation?**
- 4 A. I am a Sully County farmer. Our operation is called C.H. Yackley, Inc.
- 5 **Q. Please briefly describe your operation.**
- 6 A. I have a bachelor's degree from the South Dakota School of Mines and have 45 years of
- 7 experience in various facets of agriculture. Our operation includes a cash grain farm raising
- 8 millet, wheat, sunflowers, soybeans and corn. Over 80% of our corn is sold every year to
- 9 Ringneck Energy, LLC.
- 10 **Q. Please describe your affiliation with Ringneck Energy, LLC?**
- 11 A. I was on the board but am off now. I retained some ownership, I'm a minority
- 12 shareholder.
- 13 **Q. Have you previously submitted direct testimony and exhibits in this proceeding?**
- 14 A. No
- 15 **Q. What is the basis for your surrebuttal testimony?**
- 16 A. I seek to rebut the anticipated rebuttal testimony of others who claim the Summit project
- 17 isn't good for farmers, ethanol plants and the economy of South Dakota in general. I will also
- 18 seek to rebut the anticipated rebuttal testimony regarding farming during and after the
- 19 construction of this project on farm ground.
- 20 **Q. To which anticipated witnesses are you responding in your surrebuttal testimony?**
- 21 A. A number of them, landowners included.
- 22 **Q. How do you respond to the concerns stated by others?**

23 A. We signed easements with Summit because the money was ok and we believe it will help
24 keep our ethanol plant competitive. That is good for our whole area. We did not sign the
25 easements blindly. Our counsel looked over the offering, made suggestions. We researched
26 liabilities with our insurance companies and looked at effects the pipeline might have on
27 property values. Summit negotiators were respectful and professional during our interactions. We
28 tweaked the contract until we were comfortable and then signed.

29 **Q. What context is missing from the concerns stated by others?**

30 A. There is no question about the positive impact ethanol has had on our economy in this
31 state. Some must have either forgotten or never experienced what the 80's were like in this state.
32 My research shows that the average annual effect of ethanol in Sully County is \$.63 a bushel.
33 Plus they buy wet corn and we don't have to dry it. Roughly 25 million bushels of corn a year
34 grown in this county means a 15 million dollar annual increase for us. This pipeline and the
35 sequestration of CO2 will keep the industry competitive. This is vital to rural America. By
36 keeping grain prices strong, land prices remain strong and that will enable us to maintain our
37 operations into the future. One person shouldn't be allowed to stop a project. At some level, a
38 minority of participants can't be allowed to have a veto. This project needs to go forward.

39 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

40 A. Yes.

41

42 Dated this 31st day of August, 2023.

43

44 /s/ Kirk Yackley