
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

HP22-001

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

LOREN STAROBA

**INITIAL PRE-FILED
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
LANDOWNER INTERVENORS**

Q: Please state your name and relation to these proceedings.

A: My name is Loren Staroba. I am a Richland County North Dakota landowner affected by the proposed Summit pipeline but provide this testimony for perspective on how long pipeline construction can negatively affect your land.

Q: Please tell the Commission your perspectives and how you believe that can assist them in decision making regarding the South Dakota proposed Summit hazardous CO2 pipeline (hereafter “proposed hazardous pipeline”)?

A: I have two existing parallel pipelines on my land with the proposed Summit pipeline potentially being the third. Attachment No. 1 is an aerial and a red rectangle is used to show the existing pipeline corridor. The yellow rectangle is my land. You can see the scar that comes across from the southeast and going to the northwest and there are two pipelines there. One is the Dome Pipeline, and it was installed in 1975 so it's 45 years ago. The second one, and it's a 12 inch pipe and reportedly carries LP, adjoining side by side to the Dome Pipeline is the Alliance Pipeline which was built in 1998, 25 years ago, and we purchased the land the year before Alliance was built so basically the Dome Pipeline was there and then because a corridor was basically established, another pipeline came along and it was much easier to get approval. I included these maps just because it's been 25 to 45 years, and you can see on the map of that came with your permit

that they submitted that you can see the pipeline, it's the difference in the soil the difference in the greenery and then you can look at the yield maps it shows up on the yield Maps every year it has since the beginning and it shows up on the vegetative map that one really shows up, so you can tell the crop does not grow like it should, and we've had problems with it since the beginning, it was compaction settling drainage and of course the crops it will decrease in crop yields, so it's really pronounced when you look at the maps and you can follow it even further, it follows along to the neighbors too, and there have been spots that have been just low um that have never been corrected there were many promises made but not kept.

Q: Do you have other evidence that yield loss and soil fertility problems persist years and decades after pipeline construction?

A: Yes, I have a vegetation health map shown in Attachment No. 2. It shows the different the healthy vegetation and the different colors that are showing and I included this one just to show where two existing pipelines cross my land.

Q: Would you agree that studies and hypothesis are one thing but when someone like you - the owner of land can clearly show the scar of those existing pipelines some 20 and 45 years later, is firsthand un-refutable knowledge of pipeline negative effects?

A: That's right and we can see it as far as you can see it when you're coming across those areas and it was soft and everything for years so we've had those problems and we see it from the very beginning, we have two already we aren't interested in another one, um well that was the thought and that was one of our reasons.

Q: Have you come across any peer reviewed literature that supports what you observe on a daily basis when looking at your land?

A: Yes, there's an Ohio State University study, included as Attachment No. 3, authored by soil scientist published in the Society of America Journal. The findings are that yield disturbance persisted greater than five years following the pipeline installation and they're saying even with the current best management

practice is a pipeline installation and remediation employed by the three companies that they work with research it was insufficient to combat crop yield loss and they say this can go on for many more years. Again, mine has persisted for over 40 years.

Q: Are you concerned about liability and insurability of your land, and if so have you do anything to become more informed about those risks?

A: Yes, I contacted my insurance company and Attachment No. 4 is a true and accurate copy of that letter. I can't obtain liability insurance to protect me from damages caused by escaped CO2 – that is very scary and I hope the Commission takes that into account when considering the current and future inhabitants and the social and economic impacts of these hazardous pipelines.

Dated June 14, 2023

/s/ Loren Staroba

Loren Staroba