

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

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

SD PUC DOCKET NO. _____

**PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ALEXANDER LANGE
ON BEHALF OF SCS CARBON TRANSPORT LLC**

November 19, 2024

1 **Q. Please state your name, employer, and business address.**

2 A. My name is Alexander Lange. I am the Director of Engineering for Summit Carbon
3 Solutions, LLC (“SCS”). My business address is 2321 N. Loop Dr., Suite 221, Ames, IA 2 50010

4 **Q. Briefly describe your educational and professional background.**

5 A. I have a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University. I
6 have more than eight years of experience in the oil & gas industry working for various pipeline
7 operators. Before working at SCS, I worked for Marathon Petroleum and as a seconded employee
8 to WhiteWater Midstream, directly overseeing large scale capital projects of varying product
9 types.

10 **Q. What is your role with respect to the Project?**

11 A. I am the Director of Engineering for the pipeline and pipeline facilities portion of the
12 Midwest Carbon Express (MCE) Project. My primary role is to confirm technical deliverables for
13 the Project are completed on schedule and meet quality and performance requirements under
14 applicable regulations, Design Basis, and engineering design and specifications. As a part of my
15 responsibilities, I also manage internal engineers and external engineering/technical contractors.

16 **Q. What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony?**

17 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide information on the Project’s engineering and
18 design.

19 **Q. What exhibits are attached to your Direct Testimony?**

20 A. The following exhibit is attached to my Direct Testimony:

21 Exhibit 1: Resume.

22 Exhibit 2: South Dakota Risk Assessment Summary

23 **Q. Please identify the sections of the Application that you are sponsoring for the**
24 **record.**

25 A. I am sponsoring the following portions of the Application:

- 26 • Section 1.8 – Other Required Permits and Approval
- 27 • Section 2.1.1 – Facility Description Overview
- 28 • Section 2.2 – Engineering Design

- 29 • Appendix 2 – PHMSA Compliance Table
- 30 • Appendix 3 – Typical Aboveground Facility Layouts
- 31 • Appendix 8 – Control Center Management and Leak Detection Overview
- 32 • Appendix 10 – High Consequence Area Mainline Valves - Confidential
- 33 • Appendix 13 – Soil Heat Transfer Study
- 34 • Appendix 24 – South Dakota Phase I Geohazards Assessment Report
- 35 • Appendix 25 – SD County Setback

36 **Q. Provide a general description of the Project.**

37 A. The Project will include approximately 698 miles of pipelines (mainline, trunklines, and
38 laterals) in South Dakota as well as 6 pump stations, 120 MLVs, 15 launcher and receiver sites,
39 and 15.9 miles of temporary and permanent access roads

40 **Q. What is the design and construction standard by which the Project will be built?**

41 A. The Project will be designed, constructed, inspected, tested, and operated in accordance
42 with applicable requirements and regulations, including the U.S. DOT regulations in 49 CFR Part
43 195 (Transportation of Hazardous Liquids by Pipeline), American Society of Mechanical
44 Engineers (ASME) Standard B31.4 (Pipeline Transportation Systems for Liquids and Slurries
45 Standard), as well as other applicable technical standards.

46 To comply with the regulations, standards, and SCS's internal quality standards, SCS will
47 implement a quality assurance and quality control plan (QA/QC Plan(s)). The QA/QC Plan(s) will
48 establish technical inspection policies and procedures during manufacturing and construction
49 activities, as well as delineate the duties and responsibilities of each QA/QC inspector assigned
50 to the Project.

51 **Q. Were the criteria set forth in SDCL § 49-41B-22 considered by SCS when designing
52 the Project?**

53 A. Yes.

54 **Q. Has SCS applied or does SCS intend to apply for any waivers from PHMSA?**

55 A. No. SCS does not currently anticipate applying for any waivers from PHMSA.

56 **Q. What is the design capacity and design pressure of the Project?**

57 a. The Project has been designed as follows:

- 58 • Design capacity: The mainline can transport up to approximately 18.5 million metric
59 tons per annum (MMTPA) of CO₂.
60 • Maximum Operating Pressure (MOP): 2,183 pounds per square inch gauge (psig).
61 • Maximum Operating Temperature: 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

62 The design of the pipeline system is based on a maximum discharge pressure of 2,160
63 psig at each pump station, with a 2,183 psig MOP of the pipeline. The maximum discharge
64 pressure of the pipeline is based on a steady state and transient analysis to identify pressure
65 requirements under normal and abnormal operating conditions.

66 **Q. Please describe the Project's pipeline.**

67 A. The Project's pipeline will be constructed of high-strength carbon steel pipe, meeting, and
68 in some instances exceeding, the American Petroleum Institute (API) 5L Pipe Specification and
69 will feature a series of laterals, trunk lines, and mainlines (see Figure 2 of the Application).
70 Mainlines are pipelines that carry CO₂ from trunk lines to the proposed sequestration facility.
71 Trunk lines are pipelines that carry CO₂ from ethanol plants to mainlines or from lateral pipelines
72 to the mainline. Laterals are pipelines that carry CO₂ from ethanol plants to trunklines.

73 Based upon volume requirements and pressure service, pipe segments will range in size
74 from 6- to 24-inches nominal diameter and have a wall thickness ranging from 0.203 inches to
75 0.750 inches. Pipe wall thicknesses vary based on the design factor, which is determined by
76 location and installation method; conventional pipeline installation (Design Factor 0.72), road
77 crossings (Design Factor 0.6), railroad crossings (Design Factor 0.5), and horizontal directional
78 drills (HDDs) (Design Factor 0.5 or 0.6 depending on site specific design). To protect against
79 corrosion, SCS will apply an external fusion bonded epoxy (FBE) coating to the pipeline and an
80 impressed current cathodic protection (ICCP) system will be used. Pipeline installed in HDDs and
81 road crossings will also have an Abrasion Resistant Overcoat (ARO) installed as a secondary
82 coating over the FBE. All material will be manufactured, constructed, and operated in accordance
83 with applicable regulations.

84 **Q. Please describe the FBE coating that will be applied and its purpose.**

85 A. FBE coating consists of resin and hardener components in a powder form. When the
86 powder is sprayed onto the heated pipe surface, the powder components combine to form a bond
87 to the steel surface and provide a coating barrier between the steel pipe and corrosive
88 environments.

89 **Q. Please describe the Project's use of an impressed current cathodic protection**
90 **(ICCP) and AC mitigation system.**

91 A. The Project's ICCP system will be installed along the buried pipelines to mitigate the threat
92 of external corrosion on the pipe. The ICCP system involves multiple sacrificial anodes installed
93 in deep well ground beds along the pipeline that are connected to external power. The power
94 provides the current needed to drive an electrochemical reaction whereby the anodes corrode
95 instead of the pipeline. Except for a junction box and small diameter vent pipe posted above deep
96 well ground beds, the ICCP system will be buried. The ICCP system components will be located
97 within the capture and pipeline facilities. The ICCP system will be continuously monitored and
98 maintained for the life of the pipeline system. The FBE coating coupled with the ICCP system
99 provides a level of redundancy to mitigate external corrosion of the steel pipe.

100 Depending on the final design, SCS may need to install AC mitigation where necessary to
101 protect the pipelines and the ICCP system from the corrosive electromagnetic voltage and stray
102 current from nearby electric powerlines. AC mitigation systems, if required, will be installed within
103 the permanent ROW with aboveground equipment at the MLV sites.

104 **Q. Please describe the Project's pump stations.**

105 A. The six pump stations in South Dakota (Mainline Pump Stations [MPS] -04, -05, -06, -07,
106 -08, and -09) will be located in Minnehaha, Lake, Beadle, Spink, and McPherson counties. Each
107 pump station will be fenced and contain up to four pumps driven by electric motors, an electrical
108 building, electrical substation, a pump shelter building, communications equipment, and parking
109 area for station personnel. Design and construction of the pump stations will meet the
110 requirements of the National Electric Code and Federal regulation 49 CFR Part 195. The Project
111 will purchase electricity for the pump stations from local providers. In the event the local providers
112 require upgrades or additional infrastructure to service the pump stations, SCS will cover those
113 costs. Pump stations will be fully automated for unmanned operation via the MCE Project's
114 Operations Control Center (OCC). SCS will maintain both a primary and secondary OCC. Remote
115 start/stop set point controls, unit monitoring equipment, and other data collection equipment will
116 be installed at each location. The pipe entering and exiting the pump station will be located
117 underground; however, some of the piping within the pump station yard will be above ground.

118 Pump stations will utilize electricity for all pumps, lights, and heating in the buildings. SCS
119 will also utilize a variety of direct detection methods at pump stations including CO₂ detectors as

120 well as thermal cameras that would capture the heat signature of CO₂ changing phases from
121 supercritical to gas.

122 **Q. Please describe the Project Mainline Valves (MLVs).**

123 A. SCS plans to construct a total of 120 MLVs, 48 of the MLVs will be located within the
124 operational footprint of pump stations, capture facilities, and launcher and receiver facilities, and
125 72 will be standalone intermediate mainline valves. The standalone intermediate MLVs will be
126 sectionalizing block valves constructed within a 50-foot-wide by 50-foot-long site located within
127 the 50-foot-wide, permanently maintained pipeline ROW. These intermediate valve sites will be
128 located within a permanent aboveground easement obtained from landowners. The spacing
129 intervals between the MLVs along the ROW will be in accordance with 49 CFR Part 195.260. This
130 includes, but is not limited to, valve requirements for waterbody crossings, pump stations, and to
131 minimize risks to High Consequence Areas (HCAs) from accidental CO₂ discharges. Appendix 10
132 of the Application identifies the location of the HCAs and the associated MLVs that were sited to
133 protect the HCAs.

134 All of these MLVs will be remotely activated valves. In the unlikely event of an emergency,
135 these valves can be remotely activated to isolate sections of the pipeline to minimize potential
136 discharge. The valves will also be designed to allow for local operation. All mainline valves will be
137 electrically actuated, have upstream and downstream pressure transmitters, redundant
138 communications, and a local Programmable Logic Controller (PLC). The pipeline will be controlled
139 via the OCC Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system which will operate 24/7,
140 365 days a year.

141 **Q. Can you further describe how do each of the MLVs work?**

142 A. Yes. All MLVs will be electrically actuated, have upstream and downstream pressure
143 transmitters, redundant communications, and a local PLC. During the commissioning process, all
144 remote devices on the system will be point to point checked from the end device to the control
145 center SCADA system screen. All associated alarm and shutdown set points are confirmed and
146 documented with the control room. The SCADA system polls data (such as pressures from the
147 pressure transmitters) at intervals from 3 to 9 seconds. The transmitters will have rate of change
148 alarm as well as low- or high-pressure alarms. In the event of a leak (and associated pressure
149 drop), an alarm will be sent to the pipeline controller which will notify the controller of an upset
150 condition, or in the event of a large pressure drop, will trigger the MLV to shut automatically. The

151 command could be sent in a matter of seconds, and then valves would shut according to their
152 closure times. MLVs are tested at least twice a calendar year to ensure functionality.

153 **Q. What are the estimated valve closure times?**

154 A. The Project will be controlled using our control center SCADA system which will operate
155 24/7, 365 days a year. The valve closure times range from approximately 15 to 120 seconds,
156 depending on pipe size. However, valve closure will consider operational conditions to ensure
157 safe closure without impacting pipeline integrity.

158 **Q. Please describe the Project's launcher-receiver facilities.**

159 A. All pipeline segments will allow the passage of internal or inline inspection devices
160 (commonly referred to as "smart pigs"), which are designed to travel through the pipeline to detect
161 internal and external anomalies in the pipe such as corrosion, dents, and other irregularities or to
162 clean the pipeline and remove liquids. Launcher and receivers are designed to launch and receive
163 these internal inspection devices. All launcher and receivers will be aboveground fabricated
164 settings which will have a design factor of 0.6 with an appropriate corresponding pipe wall
165 thickness. Typical drawings of the Project's aboveground facilities are provided in Appendix 3
166 (Typical Aboveground Facility Layouts) of the Application.

167 **Q. Please describe the access roads that will be constructed for the Project.**

168 A. The Project pipeline will require 70 temporary access roads for construction and 92
169 permanent access roads for operations. When possible, existing public or private access roads
170 will be used as temporary access roads to access the construction workspace. If new temporary
171 access roads need to be constructed, temporary access roads will be removed in their entirety
172 and the footprint restored to previous land uses post construction, unless otherwise agreed upon
173 with individual landowners. Permanent access roads will provide access to 72 MLVs and 15
174 launcher and receiver sites. Access roads will be 30 feet wide and will be constructed by grading
175 and applying gravel as required to provide a drivable surface and to prevent erosion. Any
176 permanent roads will be designed and constructed to county/township standards and state
177 requirements, where applicable.

178 **Q. Does the Project include compressor stations?**

179 A. No.

180 **Q. Does the Project include storage facilities?**

181 A. No.

182 **Q. What has the Project done to mitigate potential surges that could cause the pipeline**
183 **to overpressure?**

184 A. SCS completed a comprehensive surge analysis on the entire system to ensure
185 compliance with the PHMSA regulations, specifically 49 CFR Part 195.406(b), which requires
186 system pressures to not exceed 110% of the system's MOP during transient or other abnormal
187 activities. SCS took a conservative approach during this analysis in that only local system controls
188 were considered for system protection. In reality, the control center operators will be an extra
189 layer of protection in any upset condition. The surge analysis was conducted using actual
190 proposed operating conditions and design-flow rates, pipe sizes, elevation changes, pump and
191 compressor curves, product composition, valve closure times, and a variety of other factors. The
192 analysis determined that the pipeline system was adequately protected from overpressure in all
193 inadvertent valve closure scenarios meaning that the system cannot be over pressured by a
194 mainline valve shutting either normally or abnormally. Even though the surge analysis could not
195 identify any risk of overpressure, SCS is implementing surge mitigating automation such as
196 automatic pump station shut down with downstream valve closure. This analysis will be updated
197 and expanded as the pipeline system grows or additional volume is added.

198 **Q. Does SCS have a plan to avoid internal corrosion?**

199 A. Yes. There are a number of ways that SCS is addressing internal corrosion. The most
200 important factor defining the potential corrosivity of supercritical CO₂ is the possibility of a separate
201 water phase condensing out of the CO₂ stream resulting in a free water phase. To mitigate this,
202 SCS will install a triethylene glycol skid at every capture facility to dehydrate the CO₂ stream. SCS
203 will also install moisture analyzers at every capture facility to ensure the CO₂ stream meets system
204 specification before it enters the pipeline. If the CO₂ stream does not meet system specification,
205 an alarm would immediately notify the Control Room which would trigger the shutdown of the
206 capture facility, effectively isolating the capture facility and preventing elevated water content CO₂
207 from entering the pipeline. In addition, SCS will install corrosion monitors at every capture facility.
208 SCS will also install pig launchers and receivers which will be used to facilitate launching of
209 maintenance pigs (as required) as well as to conduct periodic in-line assessments with smart
210 tools to monitor pipe integrity.

211 **Q. What kind of data will be collected and transmitted to the Operations Control**
212 **Center?**

213 A. The SCADA system will be utilized to continuously monitor sensing devices located at
214 strategic points along the pipeline to collect data that will allow SCS to trend and monitor pressure,
215 temperature, and flow of CO₂ under transport. This data collection will be utilized to ensure the
216 pipeline operation is maintained within established operating parameters. OCC personnel have
217 the capability to remotely shut down the capture facility and isolate pipeline segments via the
218 Project's MLVs to isolate pipeline segments in the event abnormal operating conditions are
219 observed.

220 Additionally, a Real Time Transient Model ("RTTM") leak detection system will be
221 deployed. The RTTM is a real time hydraulic model of the pipeline that runs alongside the actual
222 pipeline. When the behavior of the pipeline does not match the hydraulic model, it indicates an
223 issue that must be addressed by OCC personnel. In the case of sudden changes in operating
224 pressure, alarms will sound to indicate that a variation in the leak profile has been detected.

225 **Q. Can you further describe the Project's current planned leak detection system?**

226 A. SCS plans to install Atmos Pipe, which meets API Recommended Practice 1175 –
227 Pipeline Leak Detection – Program Management. Each leak detection system's performance
228 (including the one SCS will install) must be tested before acceptance for deployment.
229 Performance testing includes a wide variation of potential operating conditions. Alarm tuning
230 needs a baseline and uses real time flows and temperatures and is impossible to test without a
231 phase one pipeline build. Atmos is one of the most experienced leak detection vendors in the
232 world. They have installed more than 1,700 systems in 65 countries with more than 900 in North
233 America. SCS's multi-layer leak mitigation/detection system approach employs:

- 234 • Atmos Pipe Computational Pipeline Monitoring;
- 235 • Custody transfer quality metering at all receipt and delivery sites;
- 236 • Twelve over/short segments, thus increasing the sensitivity of the system to more
237 quickly determining a loss of containment site;
- 238 • Space based geohazard analysis for determining landscape changes after
239 significant weather events;
- 240 • "Rate of Change," automatic valve closure capability (Both valve site pressure
241 transmitters capable of closing a valve at a programmed low-pressure set point
242 automatically);
- 243 • A line pack calculation that maintains a system inventory balance calculating the
244 receipts and deliveries displaying the loss or gain of CO₂ in the pipeline;

245 • Pipeline training simulator built using the SCS system diagram with site elevations.
246 This world class tool will safely expose our pipeline controllers to dozens of leak
247 scenarios before the system becomes operational.

248 **Q. Have you been involved with the Project’s analysis regarding Risk Assessment?**

249 A. Yes. Risk is commonly defined as the product of the probability of an event occurring and
250 the resulting consequence of that event. To create a thorough risk assessment, input from various
251 technical experts is required, many of whom I oversee in my role. The Project has engaged
252 various technical experts, including but not limited to, dispersion, environmental, toxicology,
253 geohazards, and surge analysis. Risk assessment results will be discussed further in future
254 testimony. SCS’s analysis shows that the proposed pipeline will have an extremely low likelihood
255 of failure and that the average consequence of such a failure is moderate.

256 The South Dakota Risk Assessment Summary is attached to this testimony as Exhibit 2.

257 **Q. Has the Project commissioned a Geohazard Analysis?**

258 A. Yes. SCS commissioned a Phase I Geohazard Assessment, which is attached to the
259 Application as Appendix 24.

260 **Q. Discuss the existing geological resources, seismic risks, and subsidence potential
261 along the proposed route.**

262 The geological and soil resources present within the Project footprint are compatible with
263 Project development. No sand or gravel mining sites, or oil and gas wells, are located within the
264 Project footprint. All areas within the Project have either no geohazard risk or a low geohazard
265 risk due to the presence of karst features. Additionally, all areas within the Project footprint are in
266 areas identified as having low susceptibility to landslides. There are no known areas crossed by
267 the Project that present significant geologic hazard risks due to seismic activity, ground
268 subsidence, or slope instability. For additional information regarding geologic resources within
269 the Project footprint, see Section 5.1.2 of the Application.

270 **Q. What measures will SCS take to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate potential impacts
271 to geologic resources?**

272 A. As discussed in Sections 5.1.5 of the Application, the geological conditions, including
273 geologic formations, seismic risk, and subsidence potential, within the Project footprint are not
274 anticipated to significantly impact construction or operation of the Project. Once the Project is

275 installed and the ROW restored, the operation of the Project will not contribute to seismic,
276 subsidence, or slope instability.

277 **Q. As proposed, does the Project meet or exceed all applicable federal and state**
278 **standards?**

279 A. Yes.

280 **Q. Have you been involved with the discussion regarding SCS's request to the**
281 **Commission to exercise its authority under SDCL 49-41B-28 to preempt and supersede**
282 **unreasonably restrictive county ordinances.**

283 A. Yes. There are six county ordinances that SCS is requesting the Commission exercise its
284 statutory authority to supersede and preempt to the extent that they are unreasonably restrictive.
285 At this time, those specific ordinances are from Brown, Edmunds, McPherson, Minnehaha,
286 Sanborn, and Spink counties.

287 **Q. You have testified to the engineering and design of the Project. Do any of the county**
288 **ordinances purport to regulate the engineering and design of the Project?**

289 A. It is unclear at this time. Some of the ordinances are written very broadly and lack clarity
290 around what information each county will seek or the intended purpose for requested information.
291 For example, McPherson County's ordinance requires the Project to "file all associated plans of
292 the proposed pipeline". McPherson County has indicated that it may hire a third-party engineering
293 firm to review deliverables. Sanborn's ordinance requires the Project to file "a set of plans and
294 specifications showing the dimensions and locations of the transmission pipeline, including plans
295 and specifications for all related facilities, and aboveground structures, including without limitation:
296 pumps, valve sites and shutoff valves." Other counties may also gain interest in the engineering
297 and design of the Project.

298 Ultimately, Sanborn, McPherson, or any other county, do not specifically regulate the
299 engineering and design of the Project per se, but it is apparent they have interest in the topics.
300 Because of that, the Project is left in a state of uncertainty regarding what each county is
301 requesting.

302 **Q. Can you describe to me why that is unreasonably restrictive?**

303 A. I personally met with the McPherson County Planning & Zoning board on November 29,
304 2023, with the goal of trying to better understand the request from the county. The county made

305 general statements around not being experts in pipeline engineering and design; they indicated
306 they wanted to contract a third-party engineering firm to review the required deliverables. If the
307 expectation of the various counties that have enacted ordinances, such as McPherson and
308 Sanborn, is to hire third-party engineers to review and provide feedback on these required
309 deliverables, this may create a potential conflict with state and federal requirements. In addition
310 to those conflicts, there is nothing to say that each county may have separate requirements that
311 are inconsistent. It is unreasonable and impractical for the Project to be subject to multiple county
312 ordinances regarding engineering and design of the Project that may conflict.

313 As structured today, it is my understanding that the Commission Staff hires third-party expert
314 witnesses to provide feedback on deliverables developed by SCS. If the counties hire a separate
315 third-party engineer to provide feedback on the deliverables, there is a chance their conclusions
316 or recommendations do not align with the Commission or federal regulatory bodies. This creates
317 uncertainty about which regulatory body, the Commission or the counties, makes the final
318 decision about possible permit conditions and the engineering and design of the Project. The
319 Commission's technical staff may deem SCS's deliverables satisfactory, but counties may impose
320 different, potentially conflicting requirements that must be met prior to receiving a conditional use
321 permit and create a conflict with the Commission's regulatory authority.

322 **Q. Have you been involved with discussions with any of the counties? If so, which**
323 **counties?**

324 Yes, I have been to county commission meetings in Brown, Spink, Edmunds, and
325 McPherson County since September of 2023.

326 **Q. In your opinion, how have those discussions gone?**

327 A. The conversations were cordial generally, but despite its best efforts, the Project has not
328 been able to find common ground. For example, I worked extensively with the Edmunds County
329 Commission; I attended nine county commission meetings from October 10, 2023, through April
330 9, 2024. We provided information regarding emergency management, detailed maps, and various
331 other data we have shared with the Commission through this Application. Throughout all of that,
332 the Edmunds County Commission's approach seemed to be that our Project should be regulated
333 similarly to a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). In my opinion, those type of
334 restrictions simply do not work for a linear Project.

335 SCS has made sustained and genuine attempts to work with the counties, listen to their
336 concerns, and share the impact of each county’s ordinance on the Project. SCS has carefully
337 considered the local ordinances when developing the Project and fully intends to comply with the
338 local ordinances where it can. However, as described in more detail in the direct testimony of Erik
339 Schovanec, there are numerous examples where it is not practical, or even possible, to comply
340 with every part requirement of each county’s ordinance. Therefore, where it cannot, SCS is asking
341 the Commission to supersede and preempt the ordinances.

342 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

343 A. Yes.

344

345 Dated this 19th day of November, 2024.

346

347

348 /s/ Alexander Lange

349 Alexander Lange

350

351