

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.

HP24-001

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

JANICE PATTERSON, SPINK COUNTY, SD

ON BEHALF OF

SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS, LLC

EXHIBIT #

December 13, 2024

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address for the record.**

2 A. My name is Janice “Jan” Patterson.

3 **Q. What is your occupation?**

4 A. I am a Spink County landowner – grew up on family farm and now own farmland in
5 Spink County that is leased to our nephew.

6 **Q. Please briefly describe your operation.**

7 A. Our operation includes farm ground. We lease our land to our nephew who grows corn
8 and beans on the land. My sister and I are both retired nurses, and my husband is a psychologist.
9 Though we have not lived on the farm for many years, we have always been very supportive of
10 farming.

11 **Q. Please describe your affiliation with Summit and Glacial Lakes Energy?**

12 A. My son-in-law works for Glacial Lakes, and we have always been supportive of the
13 ethanol industry. I believe the ethanol plants have been very good for farmers and surrounding
14 communities. My nephew (who leases our land) sells corn.

15 **Q. What is the basis for your testimony?**

16 A. I seek to see agriculture, Summit, and ethanol succeed and to testify that the Summit
17 project is good for farmers, ethanol plants, and South Dakota in general.

18 **Q. Why is the Summit project necessary for you/your neighbors/South
19 Dakota/Ethanol?**

20 A. I believe this project will increase corn prices for farmers, thereby enhancing the
21 economy of South Dakota.

22 **Q. What does Summit mean to you in terms of opportunities to grow your operation?**

1 A. If corn prices increase, land values will continue to grow. As a landowner, this is a big
2 plus. We signed easements with Summit early on in the process.

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

4 A. Ethanol buys and uses a tremendous amount of corn and is looking to the future to sell
5 low-carbon gasoline to the airlines. This will certainly increase the need for corn and increase
6 the price for corn.

7 **Q. What fears do you have if the project is not completed?**

8 A. The price of corn has not risen (except for a couple of years – 2021-2023) over the past
9 10 plus years. If the project is not completed, I believe that corn prices will remain low, and
10 South Dakota will not reap the benefits economically from increased revenue for corn growers
11 and owners as well as taxes for South Dakota.

12 **Q. Has your county acted against the project?**

13 A. Several landowners in Spink County and Brown County, where I live, have acted against
14 the easements.

15 **Q. How do you feel about that? How do you feel about other counties which have tried
16 to stop the project?**

17 A. I am empathetic to the concerns of easements for farmers. However, I am also an
18 advocate for improving the economy for all in South Dakota. The land needed for the easement
19 will still be tillable, and Summit has addressed any potential loss in productivity of the land for
20 the first three years. I also know that some landowners are concerned about the safety of the
21 project. Most projects have some type of safety concerns. However, as I read over the
22 information regarding past safety incidents, there appears to be only one large incident that has
23 occurred, and that was several years ago. No one was killed. Summit has implemented new

1 safety steps to hopefully prevent a future occurrence. Compared to gas and oil pipelines, the
2 hazard potential is much less.

3 **Q. Do you have safety concerns about the Summit project?**

4 A. As I stated above, I empathize, but Summit has addressed the safety issues and is being
5 proactive in this project.

6 **Q. Is your ground part of the Summit project?**

7 A. Yes, it is.

8 **Q. How was your easement experience? Were you fairly treated and compensated?**

9 A. We signed easements with Summit in order to protect, evolve, and maintain our way of
10 life. Our interactions with Summit were positive, and we were treated with respect. Individuals
11 that we visited with were kind and helpful in answering any questions and making requested
12 changes as it concerned the depth of the pipe and the path of the pipe. They have always
13 contacted us regarding their need to enter the fields.

14 **Q. Does your ground currently have other easements?**

15 A. Not that I am aware.

16 **Q. What has been your overall experience with easements, both Summit and others?**

17 A. My experience with Summit has been positive. My husband's family had experience
18 with the Keystone pipeline several years ago. I do not believe there were any difficulties with
19 this. However, I do not believe that, at that time, landowners questioned the process. As we all
20 know the safety issues with gas and oil pipelines can be far more hazardous environmentally and
21 more deadly.

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

23 A. Yes.

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2 Dated this 2nd day of November, 2024.

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4

5 /s/ Janice Patterson

6 Janice Patterson