

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

MATTHEW STAUCH, BROWN & DAY COUNTIES, 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 Matthew Stauch. My address is 9784 Iron Horse Road, Woodbury,
3 Minnesota. The farm address is located in Day County, South Dakota.

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

5 A. I am a farm manager and landowner in Brown and Day Counties.

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

7 A. Our operation includes overseeing soybeans, corn, and hay farming operations.

8 **Q. Please describe your affiliation with Summit and POET?**

9 A. I sell corn to POET and have the pipeline to POET Groton crossing my ground, so I am
10 in discussions with Summit about a pipeline easement.

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

12 A. I see this project as an opportunity to keep the farmer viable in farming for decades to
13 come by opening up new markets for ethanol.

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

16 A. The project is necessary to ensure we have a market to sell our corn into and provides an
17 opportunity to increase corn prices by increasing the demand for corn through expansion of
18 ethanol facilities and sustainable aviation fuel.

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

20 A. Having the pipeline means that I will have a local market to sell my corn into and to
21 strengthen the long term outlook for ethanol production.

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

1 A. I think there is a lot of misinformation floating around and fear mongering. I think the
2 economic impacts that the project brings are being overlooked.

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

4 A. I fear that ethanol will not be viable in the future if this project is not completed. I also
5 fear that there will be zero opportunity for sustainable aviation fuel in South Dakota without a
6 CO₂ pipeline.

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

8 A. Yes. Brown County passed a pipeline ordinance that makes it impossible to get to the
9 plant in Aberdeen.

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

12 A. They seem misinformed and are not seeing the huge future benefit for the state, counties,
13 and ethanol industry.

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

15 A. I have no concerns about safety.

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

17 A. Yes.

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

19 A. So far, it has been a good experience. I have signed survey permission to date and look
20 forward to discussing an easement further. The offer for the easement seems fair to me as well.

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

22 A. Yes. I currently have electrical easements on my ground.

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

1 A. My overall experience with easements has been good. Summit has done what they said
2 they would do.

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

4 A. Yes.

5

6 Dated this ____ day of November, 2024.

7

8

9 /s/ Matthew Stauch

10 Matthew Stauch