

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

PAUL CASPER, KINGSBURY 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. Paul Casper, 44095 212th St, Lake Preston, SD 57249

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

4 A. I am a Kingsbury County farmer.

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

6 A. I have one year of college experience and 55 years of farming experience. Our operation
7 includes farm ground. We grow and sell corn every year to Prairie Ag Partners and local ethanol
8 plants.

9 **Q. Please describe your affiliation with Summit, Prairie Ag Partners, and other ethanol
10 plants.**

11 A. Regarding my relationship with the ethanol industry, I sell corn to Prairie Ag Partners and
12 other local ethanol plants.

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

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

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

17 A. We had no local market for corn until ethanol plants were established. If we lose those
18 markets, we have to ship all of our corn away, opening the doors to unlimited markets.

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

20 A. We grow and sell corn in order to protect, evolve, and maintain our way of life.

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

22 A. Ethanol buys and uses a tremendous amount of corn and has done great to keep our local
23 basis intact.

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

2 A. My biggest fear is that we would not be competitive in the energy market.

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

4 A. No.

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

7 A. The only way to function as a county is to raise taxes or be fortunate enough to get new
8 businesses or homes built.

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

10 A. No.

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

12 A. No.

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

14 A. My ground is not part of the Summit project. Therefore, I have not had any experience
15 with the easements.

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

17 A. Yes. My ground has easements with natural gas, rural water, and fiber optics.

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

19 A. My experience with easements has been generally good.

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

21 A. Yes.

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23 Dated this 14th day of October, 2024.

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3 */s/ Paul Casper*

4 Paul Casper

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