

From: Joyce Hartsoch [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 11:36 AM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] comment on HP24-001

Attached letter

Joyce Hartsoch

2024 Hydrocarbon and Carbon Dioxide Pipeline Docket

HP24-001 – In the Matter of the Application by **SCS Carbon Transport LLC** for a Permit to Construct a Carbon Dioxide Transmission Pipeline

Date Filed: 11/19/24 ♦ Pending

January 23, 2025

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission,
My name is Joyce Hartsoch, [REDACTED], Milbank, SD 57252
Email is: [REDACTED]; Phone number is: [REDACTED]

My husband, Tim and I are the fourth generation caretakers of this land; our adult children are the fifth generation. My great grandfather homesteaded this land in the Eighteen Hundreds. I state these facts to establish my connection to the land that Summit Carbon Solutions wants to use for their own enrichment.

An agent of SCS showed us a map of their proposed pipeline as it crosses our land. Almost all their pipeline route involves highly erodible land, as designated by the soil conservation office. We have spent years building up the soil which would be undone by disturbing it up to place a pipeline.

SCS has no interest, financial or otherwise, in South Dakota or its people. They are a private company looking to make money by charging ethanol plants to move a waste product through South Dakota. This pipeline is moving CO₂, designated as a hazardous waste product, not a commodity to be used by the people. This project will have no long-term benefit for the people whose land it uses.

There are numerous homes within a half mile or less of this proposed pipeline route, and in our area active granite quarries. The following statement was taken from the March 30, 2022, report issued by Pipeline Safety Trust, Kenneth Clarkson, Communications and Outreach Director.

“The Pipeline Safety Trust believes existing federal regulations do not allow for the safe transport of CO₂ via pipelines and calls on the Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration (PHMSA) to update its regulation of CO₂ pipelines as quickly as possible.

Carbon dioxide has different physical properties from products typically moved in hazardous hydrocarbon liquid or natural gas pipelines. Those differences pose unique safety hazards and greatly increase the possible affected area or potential impact radius upon a pipeline release that would endanger the public. CO₂ pipeline ruptures can impact areas measured in miles, not feet. The way regulations currently consider and mitigate for the risks posed by hydrocarbon pipelines in communities are neither appropriate nor sufficient for CO₂ pipelines.”

There is a great safety issue with this pipeline being built by a company that has never built this type of pipeline, especially in a populated area without proper setbacks. One break would be enough for SCS to declare bankruptcy and leave the landowner liable for damages that his insurance company will not cover including physical injury or death.

CO₂ in its natural state is not a waste product. It is necessary for the environment to grow plants, for farmers' crops to grow and thrive. Compressing it for transport through a pipeline makes it a hazardous waste. It will take valuable resources from our people to compress it for transport. How much water and electricity will South Dakotans have to give up to make this project a possibility. Many people are citing the possible positive financial impact of the project, but neglect to calculate what it will cost South Dakota in land, water, electricity, and neighbors.

I respectfully request that the PUC would reject SCS permit.

Joyce Hartsoch