

TO: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Docket # HP24-001

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2025

FROM: Jerry Mundt [REDACTED], Canton, SD 57013

Ph.# [REDACTED]

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Commissioners:

I attended the meeting in Sioux Falls on January 15th. There was a capacity crowd and did not stay after the Summit presentation. I have some comments and questions for the commission to take into consideration.

The percentage of CO2 concentration in the earth's atmosphere, will be reduced by 0%, or close to it, with the completion of the Summit project. With the opening of one coal plant per week in China and India, plus the possibility of a volcanic eruption occurring among the 1200-1300 active volcanoes in the world, this project will have no effect on global warming due to increased CO2 concentrations. Point being, mankind is so arrogant, we think we can make a substantial difference in the climate of the earth. Not true. Worship the creator, not the creation.

"Actual reduction in CO2 is questionable due to the process of capturing, storage of CO2, as well as constructing the infrastructure required to run a system, all produce carbon emissions. These emissions seriously offset the carbon captured." This was submitted by Dr. Mark Jacobsen, director of the atmosphere energy program and professor of civil and environmental engineering at Stanford University.

Summit advised that the CO2, injected almost 3000 feet into the earth, should change to rock "eventually". Experiments have been done by injecting CO2 into deep lava flows in Washington state and in Greenland. Eventually (2 years or more) the CO2 acidic properties dissolve the rock and form a type of limestone. Obviously, heat is involved in this process. The natural process takes about 1000 years, according to scientific sources. The process remains very expensive and creates its own carbon imprint by heating the mined volcanic rock and injecting it into the underground CO2 holding area.

My Number ONE reason for submitting this letter is one that should require the commission to deny this application. **Safety of the Public.** This is one reason the commission can deny and application. Just because the application is based on false science, or is simply stupid, does not appear to be a reason.

CO2 lines are pressurized to up to 1200 PSI, 2 to 3 times the pressure of a natural gas line. A rupture of a natural gas line would result in gas dissipating upward. Methane is lighter than air, and unless exposed to a spark within upper and lower explosive limits, it will harmlessly dissipate into the atmosphere. A rupture in a CO2 line would result in the release of CO2, an asphyxiant, that would travel along the ground and accumulate in low areas to include basements and other low-lying areas within the rupture zone. There are about 14 or more residences and families within my immediate effected area (about a square mile from my residence) should a rupture occur. Summit made a point that they have promised training to local fire/rescue people. Should a rupture occur in a populated area like ours, especially during nighttime, training may assist in the body recovery but nothing else.

Citing again the explosion in Sartartia, Mississippi in February 2020, plume studies indicated dead wildlife miles away from where the rupture occurred because of asphyxiation due to CO2 exposure. Luckily, I guess, that explosion occurred during the day and the wind was away from the town. People were described as zombies walking around the area, @250 injured, @ 40 or so people hospitalized, no one was killed. Emergency vehicles failed due to the lack of oxygen within the plume. Summit said that "There have been no fatalities reported due to a pipeline rupture". They said the pipeline would be buried a foot lower than required (4 ft. as opposed to 3 ft.) This is little comfort to the 14 or so families in my neighborhood or anyone near the proposed pipeline. I've seen photos, and you can too, of the Sartartia, Mississippi rupture. Would an extra foot of dirt have made a difference? I think not.

Resounding defeat of referred measure 21 (a CO2 pipeline bill if there ever was one), and the SD courts ruling that a CO2 pipeline is not a common carrier like natural gas, should cause the commission to deny this application.

I pray that the Lord grants the commission the wisdom and common sense to deny this application. I wish the best for the Summit folks who appeared to pitch their company's project and hope they can find a new job that doesn't involve selling federally funded snake oil to the public.

Sincerely:

Jerry Mundt