

From: Melissa Granum [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 9:30 AM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: Re: [EXT] HP24-001--Comment

Thank you!

I have included the missing information on the attached document.

Hello,

I would like to submit a public comment for:

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

Attached is my comment, please distribute accordingly.

Thank you,

Melissa Granum

[REDACTED]
Volga, SD 57071
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

Submission of Public Comment

Hello,

My name is Melissa Granum, and my husband, Corey, and I are landowners in Brookings County who are within approximately ½ mile from the proposed carbon capture pipeline. We attended one of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) informational meetings this week in Watertown, SD, and we are deeply concerned about Summit Carbon Solutions current application and them being able to fulfill the responsibilities of the application based on South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Information Guide to Siting Pipelines. According to the guide, it states that:

“The applicant that seeks the PUC’s approval must show it’s proposed project:

(1) -will comply with all applicable laws and rules;

(2) -will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social or economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area;

(3) -will not substantially impair the health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants; and

(4) -will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the view of the governing bodies or affected local units of government.”

This is the second application that has been submitted to the (PUC) by Summit Carbon Solutions, with the first being denied because the applicant was unable to fulfil the responsibilities stated, especially the first one, of complying with all applicable laws and rules. Upon listening to the presentation in Watertown by Summit Carbon Solutions on January 16th, the applicant did little to prove or address that they have made significant changes to their application to show that they are fulfilling the responsibilities required by the PUC, and I urge the board of commissioners to vote “no” and deny the application to protect the citizens South Dakota and their private landowner rights and not allow this dangerous pipeline.

From what was presented at the PUC meeting, I do not feel confident that they will take every precaution to ensure that they will meet all of their responsibilities for the PUC guidelines. I strongly support prohibiting the use of eminent domain for private gain. At the PUC meeting in Watertown, Summit Carbon Solutions verified that it was a private company, and there is no reason why private companies should be able to take away private landowner rights for financial gain.

I am also concerned that Summit Carbon Solutions will be able to fulfil their responsibilities for not posing a threat of serious injury to the environment in the second point listed above. At the meeting, the applicant had copies of the proposed pipeline map, which detailed the route, as well as where the shut-off valves were going to be. Attached, are pictures of the maps of Brookings and Lake counties that were available at the PUC meeting. As you can see by the proposed maps, there are significantly more shut-off valves (shown in red along the maps), along the areas where it is either a lake region or a flood plain. One can interpret that as Summit Carbon Solutions understanding that those areas have a higher likelihood of having a leak, and with the likelihood of a leak, it would also contaminate the environment. This would have an impact on the groundwater, animals, and aquatic life, as well as any individuals who are in close proximity to the pipeline. Summit Carbon Solutions has not released any plume studies, so the extent of the danger and impact of a leak is unknown. It is known that this pipeline is under extreme pressure, and when a rupture occurs, it opens up like a zipper and all of the contents between shut-off valves are released and affects area life. Without a plume study, we do not know the impact of the health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants, so being able to fulfil that responsibility stated above is impossible to prove.

With the last responsibility listed, about not interfering with the development of a specific region, that is also not able to be met. There are developments that are happening all along the proposed pipeline that are going to be impacted. Allowing this pipeline in our state will decrease property values around the

pipeline. It will also decrease productivity of area crops by taking the CO2 out of the atmosphere that is necessary for plant growth, and increase the threat of a dangerous, pressurized product being released into the atmosphere and affecting people, animals, and surrounding areas. When released, this carbon dioxide reduces that amount of oxygen in the air and also shuts down combustion engines in our emergency vehicles, thus paralyzing a proper emergency response within an area of a leak, and our emergency response agencies are not equipped to attend to a CO2 emergency in South Dakota.

With this information, I urge the board of commissioners to vote “no” and deny the application of Summit Carbon Solutions proposed CO2 pipeline.

Thank you.

Melissa Granum

[REDACTED]

Volga, SD 57071

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]