

From: Scott Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 10:45 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] Summit Carbon Pipeline route

Dear commissioners,

I was unable to attend any of the recent public meetings due to a health issue, but I feel compelled to write to you with one primary concern.

By way of background, we live in Spink County southeast of Doland. My wife and I settled with Summit Carbon in 2023 after some rather protracted negotiations. The consensus among our neighbors was that the pipeline was going to force its way through regardless of our thoughts on the matter due to the sheer size of the financing and political influence behind it. We and our neighbors thought it prudent to negotiate the best deal we could get at the time and settle with them before we were sued.

We were eventually able to negotiate a specific path through our land in the SW ¼ of Section 33-115-60 that limits the damage to our tile drainage system. Shortly thereafter, Spink County enacted a half-mile setback requirement. Looking at the aerial view and estimating the distance using Google Earth, it looks as though the pipeline path through our land is just over one-half mile from our home and appears to comply with the setback requirement. The issue is not about us.

My concern is for our next door neighbors to the south of us. The proposed route takes a sharp turn once it exits our land and runs north of their building site in the NE ¼ of Section 4-114-60. This route is far less than a half-mile from their home and is not in compliance with the Spink County setback requirement. I have reviewed the proposed route shown in the new Summit application, and it does not appear that they are planning to deviate from their original route in that area. I doubt that our neighbors would have agreed to this route had the setback been in place. This is not a congested area, the topography is flat, and there is plenty of room to the south of our neighbors' building site to run the pipeline and stay a half mile from their home.

For the record, our neighbors have not asked us to comment on this matter. With that said, please require Summit to comply with the Spink County setback requirement. It is not an unduly burdensome requirement, particularly here in this rural area, and we are concerned for the safety and welfare of our friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Thompson

[REDACTED]
Doland, SD 57436