

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 9:12 PM  
**To:** PUC-PUC <[PUC@state.sd.us](mailto:PUC@state.sd.us)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Docket # HP 24-001 , Summit Carbon Solutions

Dear Public Utilities Commissioners,

I am writing to you with my opinions on the application for CO2 pipelines in SD by Summit Carbon Solutions.

My reasons to opposing this operation are many, and I wish to outline them here:

1. The entire premise is wrong. It is based on lies and false assumptions. There is no proof that atmospheric CO2 at any level can cause climate change, global warming, or any problems for plants or animals. It is like plant food in the air, plants take it in, grow from it, and give off the oxygen for us to breathe. Greenhouses even buy CO2 generators to increase its level since that encourages more plant growth. We can't survive without it. Some studies suggest it is a buffer gas which prevents temperature shifts.
2. To spend 100's of millions \$\$ on mining, pipes, construction, facilities, easement purchases, shipping, land restoration, etc. etc. is a huge waste of money, time, and manpower on a project with no known benefit to the public. Only the wealthy investors of the company and the landowners who are paid will benefit. We don't need any more jobs, we need more workers. Look at any want ads or job service posting.
3. SCS and their allies in the ethanol industry have been very bad actors. Their advertising during the 2024 SD Legislative session and during the election for RL 21 was very misleading and dishonest. Their army of lobbyists was very aggressive. Their land surveyors have repeatedly trespassed on private property without permission. They paid people to wear their t-shirts and sit in the audience during legislative hearings. They made threats against legislators that they better vote right or else ! I have a friend who was employed briefly by SCS as a land acquisition agent. (He wishes to remain anonymous). They demanded he play hardball and be aggressive with noncompliant landowners. He refused and quit, he would not be party to their dishonest ways. Their goal is money and control, plain and simple.
4. The people of SD have spoken loud and clear. Many legislators who voted for SB 201 (which gave special favors to streamline the construction of CO2 pipelines) were defeated in the primary or the general election. RL 21 was defeated overwhelmingly in Nov., which wiped out SB 201. RL 21 only passed in one SD county ! The ethanol industry has been very one-sided in scaring farmers into thinking that without the CO2 pipelines the ethanol industry and the corn-growing industry would be in grave jeopardy ! This is nothing but using fear to get their way, it is not based on history or reality, it is based on greed and a desire to be in control.

Please, please, please turn down these applications. They are not wanted, they are not needed, and they will do great harm to our land and way of life if allowed to proceed.

Sincerely, Tim Begalka, [REDACTED], Clear Lake, SD 57226

P.S. No, I am not an affected landowner. I live in Deuel County which has no proposed lines running through it. Thank You !