

**From:** Chris Nelson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 12, 2022 1:15 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Van Gerpen, Patty  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Carbon pipeline.

Randal,

Thanks for sharing your thoughts with me. I appreciate the opportunity to clear up misinformation.

I'm not sure who told you that I "support" the carbon pipeline but whoever did was not telling you the truth. By law PUC commissioners must remain unbiased on issues to be voted on by the commission until all of the facts and evidence have been gathered and arguments have been made by all the parties involved. Conflicts of interest or preexisting bias would be a legal basis for recusal of the commissioner from voting on that case. We are a LONG way from me determining how I will vote on either of the two proposed carbon pipeline projects. Let me explain why.

I'm not sure if you are referring to the proposed Summit project or the proposed Navigator project, but the PUC is in the early stages of the evidence and testimony gathering process. Summit is farther along in our process than Navigator but both proceedings will have a time for evidence discovery between the parties involved (those for and against), the submission of prefiled testimony by those who will testify in the hearing, the actual hearing where all sides will be able to present their evidence and witness testimony and have that cross examined by the opponents, and the filing of post-hearing briefs. Then and ONLY then will each commissioner determine how they will vote and then come together in a public meeting and vote.

To learn more about the pipeline siting process I would encourage you to listen to this Dakota News Now interview beginning at the 6:40 minute mark. [\[REDACTED\]dakotane.ws.com/\[REDACTED\]2022/09/12/matters-state-sd-puc-chair-talks-pipeline-process/](#)

Because state ex parte law requires that any communication with a commissioner regarding details of an open docket must be publicly disclosed to all parties involved in docket, this communication will be posted in both the Summit and Navigator docket comments section.

Again, I really appreciate your taking the time to reach out to me for a better understanding of this process.

Sincerely,

*Chris Nelson*