

July 24, 2023

To: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

From: Wayne Miller

[REDACTED]
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Re: HP22-001 and HP22-002

Dear South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Commissioners, Kristie Fiegen, Gary Hanson and Chris Nelson,

This comment is to express my opposition to CO2 pipeline construction and transmission of said material in the state of South Dakota. While there are several variables pertaining to safety, property rights and a lack of public support for this project; each outweighing the purpose and vain benefits of a "sequestration" initiative, there is a foundational principal at the forefront of this type of project that needs to lead a red or green light decision before any initial due diligence and is the purpose of my outreach. This should be considered in advance of the aforementioned variables and takes an approach that is necessary of this unique project. It begins and ends with the need to evaluate the impact on our citizens, resources and importantly an assessment of both a logical and reasonable determination of this projects purpose. The decisions made now will affect not only us but future generations. This project jeopardizes an established infrastructure built on strong values, generations of family heritage and converts more freedoms from the people. Common sense should have stopped this project before now but you have an opportunity to help restore public confidence in elected officials by demonstrating decisions are being made based upon ethics and values.

Any logical and reasonable assessment of CO2 capture, transmission and burial is an absurd concept from the most elementary to the most sophisticated mind. A formulated thought process cannot be dismissed when considering the implications of this project both now and into the future. Not only does this affect our generation and the future of a still virgin soil but it also permanently scars and destroy's with irreparable damage what is left for future generations by converting valuable land into a useless superhighway for transmitting and burying this environmentally necessary gas. This is one of multiple ideas that are leading our county in the wrong direction and have no basis for benefit.

This project is vain! The question we should be asking ourselves is what is the risk/reward and who is the beneficiary? The risk is being assumed by the citizens of South Dakota with the reward to suppliers

and contractors of the pipeline. The end game? Removal and storage of CO2 for a fabricated and unfounded ideology labeled to improve the environment.

You have a responsibility to assess this projects reasonableness with sound ethics in addition to the utility correlation of the project's nature. The citizens of this state stand behind you when questioning and challenging the big picture purpose behind this project. Questions like, what does burial of CO2 benefit? Who is initiating these projects and why? How does anyone benefit by reducing this environmentally sustainable gas? While one might argue this is not in the scope of a PUC. The PUC has a duty to ensure projects are in the best interest of the state and its citizens, not to solely maneuver through project compliance. This approach to evaluating this project is likely different from most but needs to be the basis for this distinctive request.

Each of you were selected by the citizens of this state to serve and make thoughtful decisions on matters which enhance or improve and bring continuity to a legacy of proud living in South Dakota. I pray for each of you to exercise wisdom and discernment as you fulfil your duties. You have widespread support to help STOP this project. With a broader understanding from our citizens, where disclosure has been tempered, I am confident that a majority of our population support ceasing this project immediately, which is largely based upon my interaction with others who feel similar. We are counting on you to do your part and will not abandon you with an appropriate ruling.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Wayne Miller