

January 23, 2023

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Members:

I am writing to ask you to please support Landowners with respect to the Carbon Dioxide Pipeline. More specifically, I'm asking you to vote in favor of SB 2209. As you know, this Bill sets the eminent domain threshold to 85 percent of landowners as it relates to CO2 pipelines--- with the option for County Commissioners to set the threshold even higher. Your support gives North Dakota landowners a stronger voice and better negotiating power with Summit Carbon Solutions.

The safety of this pipeline remains in question, and I urge you to seek up-to-date, accurate and non-biased information regarding CO2 pipeline safety. The current route traverses very close to homes and is also in the direct path of Bismarck's northward development. A leak in the pipeline could be devastating and the current route will stifle Bismarck's northward growth. Even with these safety concerns in mind, I do not completely oppose the pipeline. I am in support of efforts to enhance the energy industry in North Dakota by utilizing technology such as carbon capture. My son works in the Energy Industry and this technology will provide job security and build a stronger economic picture for Energy in North Dakota. I just believe the process and route need to be more carefully scrutinized.

I do, however, oppose the tactics, inflexibility, and strategy of Summit Carbon Solutions. They have been very difficult to work with. I am a landowner in Burleigh County whose land is affected by Summit Carbon Solutions current pipeline route. I own 40 acres north of Bismarck. I purchased this land in 2001 with the intent of development. I initially signed an easement with Summit in March of 2022 and was proud to support the Energy Industry in North Dakota. The easement and route would have allowed me to proceed with development as I had planned. Since then, Summit has changed their route twice. These changes were not requested by me. The current route is unacceptable and completely bisects my 40-acre plot and makes it impossible to consider future development (see attached pipeline route picture). A route like their initial route would have allowed me to develop my land as I had intended. On numerous occasions, I have requested a change in the route, only to be denied. This calls into question their stated commitment to work with landowners to agree to a suitable route. That has not been my experience. If they have truly made "2800 route adjustments based on feedback from landowners", why can't they make 2801? I ask that you not be persuaded by their route adjustments statistics, as that has not been my experience.

I request that you please listen to landowners as our story is much different than the big corporation who stands to make billions of dollars. Please do not be misled by Summit's claim that it's working closely with landowners. That has not been my experience. I would be happy to support a pipeline route through my property that respects my plans for development of my land.

By voting yes on SB 2209, you will provide landowners in North Dakota with a strong voice. For people like me, this will level the playing field and support my efforts to find a compromise with Summit. I'm confident that with your legislative support of SB 2209, landowners and Summit Carbon Solutions will find an agreement that continues to support and foster a strong Energy Industry North Dakota

Thank you for your support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or for clarification.

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Proposed Summit Carbon Solutions Pipeline route on my 40-acre property

