

Fwd: SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2209 to amend and reenact the ND Century Code relating to eminent domain and CO2 pipelines.

From: roberta klusmann (robertaklusmann@bellsouth.net)

To: lonklusmann@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 02:02 PM EST

My name is Roberta Klusmann, I am a landowner as well as a homeowner in Burleigh County, Bismarck, North Dakota. I, along with my brother, sister, three nephews, and niece, (my deceased brother's children) are partners in the 8N2E Properties LLP. We have been sued by Summit Carbon Solutions (SCS) because we have not given "voluntary" access to our crop and pastureland. Our partnership was never even notified that SCS planned to run a pipeline through our property, we only found out about it seeing it livestream on the Burleigh County Commission meeting, June 6, 2022. That was a shock to see this! Just so you know, we will never give SCS permission to access our breathtakingly beautiful land gifted to all of us from our loving parents/grandparents, Robert and Marian Morris. There are 29 descendants to this land, and we will do whatever we have to do to protect our private property rights.

I am writing this to you today because I want to protect this land for me and my partners, and as Bismarck grows, this land has unlimited potential for residential development that would result in income for me in my old age and this pipeline would end all of that, not to mention the peace and tranquility I have received for 71 years when I spend time walking every inch of this land. SCS is trying to steal that from me, it's been a living nightmare, it's evil, and SCS has no clue what they have done to my emotional health. I love this land and let me tell you why.

I grew up on this land and worked hard as a farmer's daughter to help preserve this land. My roots are as deep as the unbroken native prairie grass growing on this land, roots that can be up to 12 feet deep, and disturbing those roots would have a negative effect to the watershed and echo system. I've picked rocks in the fields with my cousins and have driven a tractor to mow hay for my dad. I drove dad's dump truck moving it windrow to windrow while he was combining and harvesting his grain. I rode the rake, tripping the mowed hay into a windrow every few seconds. I stomped plenty of haystacks with bees buzzing all around me. I cleaned the windmill tank every spring, helped dad herd cattle, and picked sweet corn to sell to Bismarck restaurants to earn income for myself. I picked chokecherries with my mom out in the pasture, and also helped mom make and take lunches out to dad every afternoon while he was working in the fields. I took brownies I baked, and with my dog, Lassie, I skipped rocks in the dam, and sometimes I just looked around with amazement and appreciation that my parents brought me up on this precious land, my home sweet home. It was a fantastic life for a kid! Some of the things I did back then I still do today, like listen and record the song of North Dakota's state bird, the Meadowlark, pick chokecherries, take pictures while walking the cow paths and the Old Black Trail, a wagon trail from years gone by, and I still have the bowl my parents

found on that trail that we always used for gravy. I remember my dad picking wild crocuses for mom every spring, and to this day I still pick them on the sunny hillsides where God has them tucked away for me in the native prairie grass. I enjoy walking up to the top of the sand rock hill, then over to dad's gravel pit, and over to the place where he sold virgin soil (black dirt) to the state for the governor's mansion lawn, and by the way, next time you are at the Heritage Center, check out the prairie breaker plow my folks donated that broke our existing crop land, the rest of the land is unbroken native prairie grass in the pasture. Another thing I just love is to listen to the rustling of the cottonwood trees, the only trees that were in the countryside years ago, where people would meet to picnic and were sheltered from the hot sun. To this day, I still picnic with my husband on this land and sometimes we bring my sister along when we picnic next to the rock foundation site of the historic country school, and if I'm not mistaken, I was told it was the first country school in Burleigh County. I dream of having a home there someday! Also, during one of our walks we have discovered another historic homesite, a small rock foundation, possibly the homestead of poet Florence Borner. Pioneer Linda Slaughter, the first teacher and superintendent of schools in Burleigh County as well as the first postmaster of Bismarck also lived on this section of land. I so enjoy the wildlife that inhabits this landscape, their homes are all over this land and they must be preserved! I'm amazed at the beauty of the cattails and how they have multiplied through the years. I don't want anyone disturbing this precious family land and I plan to continue to walk this land until I can't walk anymore! Nobody, but our family and our pasture and crop land renters are allowed on this land! Summit Carbon Solutions picked the wrong land and people to mess with, they need to find a new route for their pipeline, and I am suspicious that SCS is involved in Agenda 2030 and I'm here to put on the armor of God and protect our land against this war of good and evil.

It's upsetting to me that I am even having to have this conversation with you. No one should have to be going through this against their will and I will always be opposed to a 99-year pipeline being buried on our partnership's land. In my eyes, this land has been a God given gift. It has been a blessing to me all of my life and will continue to be for my kids and grandkids as well. This land gives me peace and tranquility and it's somewhere I go as often as I can. The thought of an experimental pipeline on this land is horrific, it is a danger to me and my family, the surrounding neighbors, the well and dam water, the wildlife within and the air I breathe. North Dakota should be ashamed to have a law that would ever use eminent domain against its landowners. It's just not right!

I tried to keep this short, but how can I when I'm a lover of the land. I'm definitely a girl of the prairie and this land breathes life into my heart, mind and soul.

Please vote YES, in favor of Senate Bill 2209.

Thank you in advance for your help in preserving my family's sacred land!

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