

January 27, 2023

Testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2212 – Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

My name is Pamela Trhlik – Director of Governmental Affairs and New Business Development for the Laborers International Union of North America, Local 563. Within the state we have approximately 400 current members and have worked in energy for more than 60 years.

I stand here representing those men and women supporting North Dakota's vast carbon capture and sequestration initiatives. LiUNA wants to help the state become nationally and internationally known for another area of innovative technology that will enhance and extend our existing energy production sources.

We are opposed to Senate Bill 2212, and cannot support any current Senate Bill aimed at completely squashing the carbon capture industry by going after every aspect and angle of proposed projects. Effectively, if this bill plus the seven others are passed, economic growth in North Dakota in the agriculture and energy sectors will remain stagnant or worse, decline.

LiUNA – throughout the United States and Canada – is respectably known for large-scale pipeline construction and our advocacy for a safe, reliable and quality work. Since the large-scale CO2 pipeline project announcement, we actively have pursued this project and various other smaller capture/sequestration projects that were already in development in North Dakota.

You may already know that our state has the No. 1 recognized geological formation to sequester carbon emissions and very quickly power companies, ethanol production facilities, oil production organizations interested in enhanced oil recovery, are taking note and turning to North Dakota for

solutions. We can become a world leader in projects, technology for advanced capture, storage, and usage of carbon emissions. A multitude of additional industries, such as steel manufacturing and cement production, could once again grow in the United States if CCS technology is refined in our state.

Currently, a few facilities in the U.S. already captured 25 million metric tons of CO₂ per year and this is with infancy-stage technologies. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the U.S. produced and emitted *5130 million metric tons* of energy-related carbon dioxide in 2019, *5,981 million metric tons* of greenhouse gases in 2020 and 4.9 billion metric tons in 2021. North Dakota ranks low on its overall CO₂ emissions, but per capita we are No. 2 behind Wyoming with 76.24 metric tons produced per resident. North Dakota's geology formations could store simply North Dakota's CO₂ emissions for 5000 years and overall we stand to store 150-250 billion metric tons throughout the lifespan of North Dakota's storage capacity.

Industry forecasts show enormous economic benefits for the state and region – especially states positioned to have the Summit Ag's CO₂ network of pipelines. According to information gathered from Great Plains Institute (GPI) and Rhodium Group concluded that North Dakota has the opportunity to create an annual average of 1,300 construction jobs annually over a 15-year period and 650 ongoing operations jobs through the deployment of carbon capture at eight industrial and power facilities.

Since LiUNA prides itself on skilled pipeline workers, carbon capture, transportation and storage technologies will keep our pipeliners from all across the nation working steady for potentially decades to come. We have actively been involved in with state agencies regulating pipelines, overseeing growth and development in all aspects of energy production, plus continually engage with oil, coal and natural gas production companies to help the state remain a powerhouse in the energy sector.

Senate Bill 2212 is just one piece of the puzzle targeting what can be North Dakota's next immense energy-related boom, which will also kill opportunities for hundreds of skilled North Dakotans looking to be part of an national solution.