

**Summit Carbon Solutions Testimony on House Bill 1292
January 30, 2025, 2:30 P.M.
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Representative Todd Porter, Chairman**

**Dave Nehring – Manager of Ag & Stakeholder Relations
Summit Carbon Solutions**

Opposition to HB 1292

1 Good afternoon, Chairman Porter and members of the committee. For the record, my name is Dave
2 Nehring, and I am a Manager of Ag and Stakeholder Relations for Summit Carbon Solutions. I am here
3 today in opposition to House Bill 1292.

4 HB 1292 proposes to remove CO2 pipelines from the common carrier definition. This would effectively
5 stop all legally developing projects, and in turn, significantly impair if not eliminate the ability for industrial
6 facilities to access new markets. Consequently, slowing economic development by shutting down billions
7 in investments, and thousands of jobs.

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9 Summit Carbon Solutions is developing a carbon capture and storage project that proposes to capture
10 CO2 from ethanol plants and industrial facilities across five states, transport the CO2 to North Dakota
11 where it will be permanently geologically sequestered in Oliver and Mercer Counties. The project will
12 invest over \$900 million in North Dakota to bolster the energy and agricultural industries that are critical
13 to the North Dakota economy as well as the regional economy. The project recently received approval on
14 all permits and applications from the North Dakota Public Service Commission on November 15th and the
15 Industrial Commission on December 12th.

16

17 In recent decades we have seen the establishment and growth of a low-carbon economy that presents
18 both risk and tremendous opportunity to North Dakota. If we do nothing, these pressures threaten North
19 Dakota's traditional energy and modern agriculture that represent seventy percent of our economy. If we
20 take action and deploy solutions like carbon capture, transportation, storage and utilization, we can
21 preserve our industries and thrive in the low-carbon economy. For example, our CO2 laws as they exist

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1 currently, allow ethanol to be decarbonized to access low-carbon fuel markets, paying a premium to the
2 plants and the corn growers that supply the feedstock.

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4 Fortunately, North Dakota industry, research, and policy leaders had the foresight over three decades ago
5 to begin investing in research and developing the legal and regulatory frameworks to enable the
6 development and commercialization of carbon capture, transportation, and storage.

7

8 Linear infrastructure is critical to North Dakota’s economy. We produce massive amounts of energy and
9 agriculture commodities that all rely on linear infrastructure to transport them to markets including
10 pipelines, electric transmission, roadways, and rail lines. Our economy, jobs and state funding are heavily
11 dependent on our ability to move Ag and Energy Commodities to markets. Stopping linear infrastructure
12 development would be devastating to our economy and the livelihoods of North Dakotans.

13

14 Chairman Porter and members of the committee, CO2 pipelines are the conduits to the markets of the
15 future. We are at the doorstep of emerging markets for the agriculture and energy industries. Keeping
16 this door open is critical to the livelihoods of North Dakotans. I respectfully ask for the committee to
17 forward a DO NOT PASS recommendation on HB 1292. This concludes my testimony, and I’m happy to
18 answer any questions. Thank you.