Testimony in support of HB 1414

Ann Bernhardt Linton ND January 28, 2025

Using Eminent Domain for private gain is WRONG! Never have I seen such an abuse of power. This fight has gone on way too long. Our state has spent so much money on a CO2 fight when all we had to do from the beginning is admit that sequestering CO2 is not for the public – it is a money laundering project where a few big dogs make money by stealing land.

Personally I don't believe that Eminent Domain is ever necessary. If a project is good and benefits the public as a whole then landowners will gladly sign easements and in many cases without compensation. My family farm is a good example. We have electrical poles, buried fiber cables for phone and internet and water lines running through our property – why because years ago we wanted everyone to have a phone, we believed everyone should have electricity. Now we have wind towers, we use to believe that this was a good thing – a clean source of energy but like the CO2 project – it's just another wealth building tool for the big dogs.

<u>Please Pass HB 1414</u>, you just never know when your son, daughter, or grandchild owns lands and is subject to a project they don't believe in.