

Olson, SuAnn

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Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 8:33 AM
To: Olson, SuAnn
Subject: Letter

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Hello SuAnn,

That last letter I copied and pasted, pasted 2x. Sorry about that. Here is the one I wanted to get to you. I would love to watch the meeting. We are short of help at work on that day unfortunately. Thanks for you help. I greatly appreciate you going to bat for us. Thanks so very much.

SuAnn Olson,

Hello, my name is Melissa Friesz. I live at 3463 County Rd 87 New Salem ND. We are about 1.75 miles from the proposed site. As a kid I have always wanted to live back home, and we didn't come back by it easily. Many times, that land was almost lost due to illness in the family. My uncle saved the place, and we bought it 16 years ago and have been working our butts off to make this a beautiful place and our home. New barns, new fences, lots and lots of tearing down and putting up. We have added water lines. Started a herd of cattle with 4 head and now 70 head. Raising 1 kiddo and about 10 horses. We love where we live and not one time did, we ask for handouts but did it on our own. We have worked hard for what we love. Not one person gave us free money to get rich. We busted our butts and still are to make ends meet.

Having these Retract guys in our backyard makes me sick. We bought land out of town and build our lives around this peaceful area. I can only imagine the amount of chaos this will cause, and our peace destroyed and our safety compromised. Just too many unknowns that could cause a great deal of destruction or death if something were to happen with this plant.

I say this because I worked in the oil field in Beulah for 7 yrs. There was a beautiful farmstead across the road from the oil plant. Trucks and people were lined up 24 hours a day and it ran 365 days a year. The farmer across the road had a lot of problems in the time I was there. He had stuff stolen and people trespassing on his land several times. I believe a lot of these out of state guys were good, but it brought in a bunch of riff raff in too. He and his family eventually moved due to the constant noise and disruption of their safety and peace. I believe the oil company bought them out due to a lawsuit against the oil company. So, I have seen this firsthand.

I do not believe or feel this is the place for this project to go. We are an agricultural community. People live here. There is a wildlife area within this community. This sort of project should go next to a power plant, not in the middle of our livestock, farming and family.

There is really no land code that could be used in this area. Carbon capture is absolutely not the same as wind towers because they have fans. Where do fans have a leak that could kill animals or ppl. The 2 aren't even comparable. Am I crazy about the wind towers...no not really but I pick them over this crazy idea any day.

This is agricultural land also. People live here, agriculture is our living. How would anyone feel if stuff or ppl started to die? This is something that is not fixable. Is it worth taking the chance even? How much time would I and my elderly parents that live down the hill from us have to get to safety. Depending on the wind and weather I don't think we would have a chance. Our family, cattle and pets all gone in second. No one is trained to even fight a fire or disaster that could come from this plant. I visited with a firefighter from New Salem, volunteers of course. He told me he wouldn't even attempt to go out there, too dangerous. We wouldn't have a chance. If the wind is blowing like it has been this could be a major catastrophe.

Retract has been nothing but sneaky about this whole process. They only told a few neighbors. They have told many lies. They even have gone and had people who don't live in our area sign their form letters. How the heck can they approve this plant when it has nothing to do with them? It won't affect them as they don't live in the area even. Trying to get support from people who have absolutely nothing to do with this is crazy.

How about the health & safety of our families and livestock in the area or safety of people who live there? Traffic safety during and after construction, air pollution from the construction, security of the residents from hundreds of construction workers from who knows where, during the 18-month expected construction period sure seems like a few things that could cause problems in our area. Will our drinking water remain safe? Will it contaminate wells? No one knows and how can this risk even be considered.

What about the noise? I don't believe their studies are legit at all. I can hear the interstate or wind towers and a train on a calm night. The train is the furthest away from us. About 5 miles. We don't live where there is a lot of noise. I don't believe for a second that this won't make noise we won't hear.

How will anyone handle the CO2 dangers or sequestration leaks, explosions, chemicals/solvents used by the facility being emitted in the air. The air, my animals, and my FAMILY will breathe this. How will anyone live with the fact that a decision made to put this plant in our area may hurt or cause some major destruction at some time?

What about the way this plant is going to devalue all I have worked so hard for. My land and property. I sure would not want to live next to this if I was looking for a house or real estate.

There are so many impacts to county/public resources/expenditures. Retract is not being fiscally responsible, allowing billions of taxpayer dollars to be used through government programs for Direct Air Capture and Sequestration of CO2, especially in an area where there is so little CO2. We depend on CO2 to feed our cattle, for our crops and pastures and make hay. We have had some of the best crops in our area in the last few years. Now some guys who have no experience in the agricultural realm want to change it. They don't care about the environment; they admitted it's all about the money. It's a transfer of wealth. This company has zero history of building a DAC or Sequestration Facility. Zero credibility. Zero ability to get REAL studies for overall impact to area. No other facility like it in the country or elsewhere in the world in a community like ours. It is absurd! Agriculturally zoned land should not be used for an 86-acre industrial complex.

What kind of farming disruption will there be. Their equipment using the road throughout planting/harvesting/haying seasons. My family trying to get to work and school with all this going on. What kind of danger will this all cause with all the facility truck traffic.

What about Danzig Dam and the pore space right up to it. Will wetlands be disturbed? Bird migration patterns disrupted. Wildlife will be disturbed and most likely will leave. Pollinators such as bees/bird/butterflies will most likely get sucked into the fans.

Utilities must be self-generated with new substation, water must be trucked in daily, all creating new additional pollution not there now. This is country life at its best. Please don't allow all this to happen where we live.

Will all this massive energy consumption to capture the CO2 lead to our rates going up? It has to come from somewhere. I know this all must be a broken record already. I appreciate all you do and your work on getting a moratorium for these projects. Just wanted to touch on a few things. Sorry to get so long but this is scary and as you would say, I have LOST sleep over it. We have been kicked out of our pastures we rented for years from Fabian Fitterer. I have even had some of the landowners stoop so low to call my boss and complain about me. Like what I do at work has anything to do with CO2 but they are trying to cause issues for me because I don't agree with them. Neighbors that have been neighbors for years fighting and not getting along anymore. This has been very disturbing and now going on 2 years. I know landowners have the right to do what they want with their land, but this project just doesn't work here. Next, we will be putting strip clubs in our churches! This is about how crazy I feel this is.

Please don't allow this in our area. We love where we live. This keeps me up at night worrying how unsafe my home could become. Put yourself in our shoes. We have worked hard for what we have. We don't want to leave or live where we fear for our lives. This was my grandpa's land, and we take great pride in living there and making it our beautiful home. We don't want this plant in the middle of our neighborhood. It's ridiculous. Of course, the people that are signed up for it, don't live anywhere near the plant. They just have land they rent out. Their homes are elsewhere. So no worries for them, unlike us who live with our kids and families. It scares me to death.

Again! Thanks so much. I appreciate all you do. Please put this project somewhere else it would fit better, not in our agricultural community, not by our cherished homes. Thanks for your time. I appreciate it.

Melissa Friesz

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