

## Testimony in favor of SB2313 Reclamation

January 30, 2025, Senate Energy and Natural Resources

Michael and Bonnie Haupt, Private Landowners, Mercer County ND.

Chairman Patten and members of the committee, my name is Michael Haupt. I am retired but was employed by the ND Department of Trust Lands for 30 years as a Land Management Professional. My educational background includes Wildlife, Botany, Soils, Rights of Way and Reclamation. I was assigned to the School Trust land located in the oil fields and cooperated with oil and pipeline companies, their engineering-surveyors and dirt contractors in locating sites and corridors for this development. These on-site meetings increased communication and the development of a relationship on how to plan for and where to place facilities on Trust Lands. An important item that was always discussed and documented during our meetings was the volume of Suitable Plant Growth Material (SPGM), which included both topsoil and some subsoil, that was to be determined by the survey group (disturbed area x depth = volume), stockpiled during construction, measured post construction, located on the site survey plat and monitored during the life of the facility. The SPGM reservation was determined prior to construction because *the final reclamation of a facility begins at construction*. The proper SPGM reservation volume and monitoring of the SPGM during construction and operation of the facility gives us the best potential for final reclamation and reusing the area for agriculture production and maintaining the value of the property.

My wife Bonnie and I are private landowners and our land is near the area Summit has been given permission by the NDIC to sequester carbon. Summit's Pore Space Lease says nothing about soil reservation and reclamation. And the current laws under which the DMR-Oil and Gas Division regulates these types of facilities is lacking these simple attainable and needed construction and reclamation requirements. We are willing, as private landowners, to participate in developing better methods to determine SPGM requirements for final reclamation that will benefit landowners and maintain the value of our property. I will answer any questions you may have. Thank you.