

**HB 1159 – Testimony by Dustin Gawrylow (Lobbyist #266) North Dakota Watchdog Network**

HB 1159 has the appearance of being a very substantial subsidy to the natural gas industry.

It is the long-standing position of the North Dakota Watchdog Network that the role of the state should be in financing not funding such projects.

We support using the Bank of North Dakota to provide loans for such projects, which are deemed worthy through a Due Diligence process.

We oppose straight-out grants for such projects.

We also encourage the legislature to ease the regulatory climate, up to and including lobbying the federal government, to make such projects more viable.