

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2212
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, we are Larry and Cheryl Stockert, and live North of Bismarck in Burleigh County. We support Senate Bill 2212 because:

1. We do not believe a private corporation should have the right to steal our property utilizing eminent domain for private gain. Ensuring landowners have rights to their land is critical. Government officials have been presented information stating carbon capture is the next boom for North Dakota, we have to do it right. Doing it right doesn't mean citizen's land is taken without landowner consent for the private gain of the corporation.
2. Carbon dioxide pipeline technology, which transports deadly hazardous liquid material, is in its infancy with superficial safety regulations. Large diameter pipelines have not been independently and scientifically proven safe and as such should not be provided eminent domain authority.
3. Eminent domain, in this instance, would be equivalent to a private corporation playing Russian Roulette with our lives and the lives of anyone within the "Kill Zone". The U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is currently developing new safety regulations as existing regulations are not adequate. PHMSA states, "The safety of the American people is paramount and we're taking action to strengthen CO₂ pipeline safety standards to better protect communities, our first responders, and our environment."

Let's "do it right" for all, not just for corporations! We are asking for a YES vote on Senate Bill 2212.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Larry and Cheryl Stockert