April 26, 2022

Iowa Utilities Board
1375 East Court Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50310-0069

RE: Official comment and objection to the use of eminent domain for carbon capture pipelines in Iowa and Webster County, Iowa

Dear Members of the Iowa Utilities Board:

On April 26, 2022, the Webster County Board of Supervisors in Fort Dodge, Iowa voted to make of record their official comment and objection to the use of eminent domain for carbon capture pipeline projects. Specifically, the Webster County Board of Supervisors on behalf of Webster County, Iowa, do object to the use of eminent domain to facilitate the installation of the planned pipelines by Summit Carbon Solutions, LLC, and Midwest Carbon Express that would transport hazardous chemicals though lands in Webster County, Iowa and elsewhere in the State of Iowa. Webster County similar objects to any other and future projects for carbon capture pipelines that may be submitted on behalf of any other entity.

The Webster County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of agriculture and land preservation in our State and County and the negative impact that these proposed projects can have on agricultural and other lands. Further, the Webster County Board of Supervisors does not believe the taking of lands by eminent domain is appropriate for projects that are not necessary for the public benefit. It is the opinion of this Board that these projects are for the enrichment of private entities, rather than the public benefit and are therefore an inappropriate use of eminent domain. The Board further asserts that it should be the individual right of each landowner to determine if granting an easement or the sale of lands for such a project is in their best interest.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Campbell
Chairperson
Webster County Board of Supervisors

Keith Denckla
District 1

Mark Campbell
District 2

Bob Thode
District 3

Niki Conrad
District 4

Nick Carlson
District 5