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JAN 07 2022

IOWA UTILITIES BOARD



The Senate

State of Iowa
Eighty-Ninth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, IA 50319

COMMITTEES

Education, *Vice Chair*
Judiciary
Labor and Business Relations
Natural Resources and Environment

Justice Systems
Appropriations Subcommittee

January 1, 2022

Dear Iowa Utilities Board:

I am writing in regard to two IUB open dockets: Summit Carbon Solutions petition for a hazardous liquid pipeline permit (HLP-2021-0001) and Navigator Heartland Greenway petition for a hazardous liquid pipeline permit (HLP-2021-003). A significant number of my constituents and neighbors in Sioux, O'Brien, Cherokee, Plymouth, and Lyon counties have expressed serious concerns about these pipeline projects and I share their concerns.

While there may be some environmental and economic benefits from a carbon capture pipeline running through Iowa, there are some risks and downsides, as well. Financial and political pressures should not be allowed to obscure, or override, possible harmful effects of pipeline construction and use.

If a permit is granted by IUB for a carbon pipeline, I am strongly opposed to the use of eminent domain by state or local government to force private landowners to cede portions of their property to a private company for a multi-billion-dollar project. Profit for the few should not outweigh the rights of the many. Despite the incorrect *Kelo v. City of New London* decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, there is neither constitutional nor ethical justification for government to use its coercive power to seize private land or force an easement primarily for the benefit of wealthy, well-connected business owners.

I hope the Board will listen carefully to all voices, including those of farm families and rural residents, when weighing the risks and benefits of the proposed carbon pipelines, and I hope it will send a clear message of opposition to the possible use of eminent domain in this context. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

State Senator Jeff Taylor

Senator Jeff Taylor
348 4th Ave SE
Sioux Center, IA 51250

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