



IUB Docket HLP-2021-0003

Comments of the College Community School District

Navigator Ventures CO2 LLC

Heartland Greenway carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) system

College Community School District thru its Board of Education takes this opportunity to express its concerns regarding the proposed Heartland Greenway carbon capture and sequestration pipeline proposed by Navigator CO2 Ventures, LLC to the Iowa Utilities Board (Board). College Community School District is a public school district that serves the communities of Ely, Fairfax, Shueyville, Swisher, Walford and parts of southwest Cedar Rapids. The district is on an approximate 600-acre central campus in southwest Cedar Rapids.

Based on route maps supplied by Navigator, the pipeline would cross land owned by the district. College Community currently has a 5-6 school building under construction that falls within the pipeline corridor proposed by Navigator. The building is scheduled to be occupied in the fall of 2023 with an initial population of 800-900 students with a capacity when fully occupied of 1,300 students. Also, within the corridor proposed by Navigator and south of the building under construction, is additional undeveloped land owned by College Community. In College Community's long range plan another school building, with an estimated capacity of 500 students, will be built on that undeveloped land. The exact date will be dependent upon future student growth. For the Board's reference a map is attached showing the plan for the College Community owned property within the proposed pipeline corridor.

College Community's residents have affirmed many times the commitment to a central campus in lieu of neighborhood schools. College Community has been one of the fastest growing school districts in Iowa and as such has made substantial additional land purchases over the past twenty years to accommodate future growth and maintain the central campus concept supported by our school community. Navigator's proposed route runs the risk that a portion of land owned by College Community for future development could be rendered useless, thus adversely impacting future expansion opportunities for College Community and our central campus concept.

Each day about 5,800 students attend school on College Community's central campus. In addition to students College Community has a staff of around 800-900 employees. If the College Community campus were a city in Iowa, it would be about Iowa's 60th largest city or roughly the size of Adel, in terms of population and would have a population density greater than that of Des Moines. All of this is within about one-half of one mile of the proposed pipeline corridor.

While College Community has had some conversations with Navigator which has verbally expressed some willingness to reevaluate the line route across school property, for which College Community is appreciative, the new route is unknown. What College Community does know is that if the line remains within the proposed corridor, the proximity of the line to our campus continues to be of great concern and subjects our students and staff to the dangers of CO2. As concentration of CO2 in the air rises it can

cause headaches, dizziness, confusion, and loss of consciousness. Additionally, this pipeline may challenge our local emergency management groups. Training and additional equipment may be required to deal with a hazardous pipeline. While Navigator in public meetings has expressed a willingness to work with these groups, this is an additional burden on those groups. While Cedar Rapids, where our campus is located has a full-time fire department, the other communities within College Community rely on volunteer fire departments. Many times, in the event of a major event in our area, the volunteer fire departments provide mutual aid. Navigator runs the risk of burdening those emergency responders.

College Community questions the public benefit this pipeline provides. According to information provided by Navigator at public information meetings, Navigator is funded by Valero, a publicly traded company. As presented in public meetings it appears this pipeline is only profitable to Navigator and the ethanol plants served by this line. The route as proposed by Navigator is not in the public interest of the College Community School District. The public interest is not served by subjecting the staff and students at the College Community School District to the potential hazard of a CO2 pipeline leak.

College Community School District urges the board to reject the application of Navigator to build this pipeline as proposed.

Date of Board Action 1/17/22

Signed / Board Vice President 