



150 YEARS
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BREMER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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July 31, 2022

Iowa Utilities Board
1375 E. Court Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Board Members,

Re: Docket No. HLP-2021-0003, Navigator Heartland Greenway, LLC

The Bremer County Board of Supervisors submits this letter in opposition to the use of eminent domain by Navigator Heartland, LLC, Greenway Co2 pipeline project.


Bremer County strives to enhance the quality of life for the people in our county. The pipeline that is proposed to run through nearly the center of our county does not do that. The careful use of eminent domain may be appropriate in certain cases for public use, public purpose, or public improvement. However, the unrestricted and inappropriate use of eminent domain threatens and undermines private property rights.


The use of government's authority to take private property for public use should be limited to projects that serve the entire public. The Navigator project claims that carbon capture and storage serves the entire public by promoting efforts to achieve climate goals. However, unlike regulated utilities, the pipeline is not granted a franchise to provide a service that benefits the entire public in a service area. In fact, it seems the pipeline project will exclusively benefit private companies without providing a public service.

Bremer County also strives to protect our land use and its sustainability for agricultural purposes throughout the area. We are concerned about the proper and full restoration of agricultural land following pipeline construction, interference with proper drainage, the effects of pipeline construction on long-term soil health, and other possible negative environmental impacts. We are also concerned that the loss of economic value on residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural land used by the pipeline will be long-term, not just temporary.

We believe one of our most important responsibilities as public officials is to promote the general welfare and we strive to protect the rights of others. We believe we have a duty to protect private property rights, and our local environment, and respectfully request that you deny the use of eminent domain for Navigator Heartland Greenway, LLC CO2 pipeline project. We appreciate your attention and consideration of our positions.

Sincerely


Dewey L. Hildebrandt
Chair


Timothy Neil
Vice-Chair


Ken Kammeyer