

Brad Bleichner, *Mayor*  
(319) 334-2780

Vacant, *City Manager*  
(319) 334-2780

Susi Lampe, *City Clerk/Treasurer*  
(319) 334-2780

Douglas Herman, *City Attorney*



[www.independenceia.org](http://www.independenceia.org)

**Council Members**

Brian Prusator, *At-large*

John Kurtz, *At-large*

Kathryn Jensen, *1<sup>st</sup> Ward*

Jen Callahan, *2<sup>nd</sup> Ward*

Michael O'Loughlin, *3<sup>rd</sup> Ward*

Debra Hanna, *4<sup>th</sup> Ward*

Tom Huston, *5<sup>th</sup> Ward*

September 12, 2022

**RE: Pipeline** *Docket #: HLP-2021-0003*

Dear Board Members,

The Independence, Iowa City Council is submitting this letter in opposition to the use of eminent domain by Navigator Heartland LLC, Greenway Co2 pipeline project.

Our city strives to enhance and protect the quality of life for the people who live in our city. The pipeline that is proposed to run through the Northern (1/3) 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 potentially threatens and undermines private property rights of some of our county residents.

It has been common practice that the use of Government 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 any noted service area. In fact, it seems the pipeline project will exclusively benefit private companies without providing any noted public services.

Buchanan county and the city of Independence strive to protect our land use and its preservation of agricultural purposes throughout the area. Agricultural sustainability is our country's number one priority. We are concerned about the proper and full restoration of agricultural land following pipeline construction. This includes, it's interference with proper drainage, tiling, 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 as your company claims.

We believe one of our most important responsibilities as public officials is to promote the general welfare and we continue to strive to protect the rights of our citizens. 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, LLC Co2 pipeline project. We appreciate your prompt attention and consideration of our positions in relationship to this matter.

The placement of a Co2 pipeline has a negative effect on Economic development as it will hinder construction, development of housing, agricultural buildings, commercial businesses, and places of gatherings in the proximity of the pipeline.

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Safety is and should be of top priority for personal life, medical injury, and damage to personal property, as the potential for large damaging quantities of Co2 will and does exist. Distance between safety shut off valves will be spaced to far apart to minimize/limit the quantity of Co2 release.

How emergency services personnel is trained and equipped is not well addressed to ensure safety for responders and evacuation of people and how agriculture livestock is protected.

Sincerely,

City of Independence, Council and Mayor

Brad Bleichner, Mayor

Kathryn Jensen, Ward 1

Jen Callahan, Ward 2

Mike O'Loughlin, Ward 3

Debra Hanna, Ward 4

Tom Huston, Ward 5

Brian Prusator, At-Large

John Kurtz, At- Large

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331 First Street East  
Independence, Iowa 50644-2814

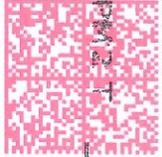
Iowa Utility Board  
1375 E Court Ave  
Des Moines, IA  
50319

5031989020



Docket #: HLP-2021-0003

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