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Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 1:10 PM

To: Staff, CAO (PUC) <consumer.puc@state.mn.us>

Subject: Docket #21-836

Consumer Affairs Office

MN Public Utilities Commission

RE: Docket #21-836

We wish to register our comments regarding the classification of liquid CO₂ and opening the rulemaking process to classify CO₂ as hazardous. **As landowners adjacent to the pathway of a newly proposed carbon pipeline project coming to Minnesota, we are concerned about the risks to public safety and health as well as the impacts to our land, water and animal life. We want transparency, accountability to ensure decisions are being made for all Minnesotans benefit and that our rural communities and those who live where these projects are proposed are safe from risk and harm.**

As landowners living a half mile from the proposed route, we did not receive an invitation to the so-called “public meetings” because the pipeline was not slated to go through our property, but we are definitely in the risk zone should there be a problem with the line. Many people living near these infrastructure projects know little to nothing about them.

We ask the Commission to understand that this is new technology for the carbon capture process, while pipelines have been around for decades, not pipelines transporting CO₂ that has been compressed, distilled, chilled and liquified. These pipelines will be pressurized at more than twice that of a natural gas pipeline. Summit Carbon Solutions argued at the Granite Falls meeting that CO₂ is harmless, and we breathe it every day – well, that may be true but being exposed to these levels of CO₂ and in a “supercritical state”, at these levels and for this period of time can be lethal. The pipeline companies have said that this will be carrying “pure” CO₂ – from what we know about **CO₂ is that in its most basic form, it is colorless and odorless thus presenting greater risk and longer exposure further impressing upon you that oversight is needed.**

We ask you to consider all the promises made by pipeline companies to Minnesotans about their safety and low risks – and look at the Enbridge Line 3 mess we are currently dealing with in Northern Minnesota. That is a technology that we had been working with for decades and was supposedly safe. If this type of pipeline infrastructure has a rupture, leak or spill and the CO₂ enters a water body, aquifer or well – the water will turn to **carbonic acid** and the impacts to water and our natural heritage will be immense. Because this is new technology – we do not truly know the fallout from this type of incident and the long-term impacts of human health, water or the land.

Again, as landowners and farmers with children, we believe CO₂ must be defined as a hazardous liquid and the PUC should strictly regulate this material in Minnesota.

We appreciate your consideration –

Steve Petrich & Peg Furshong
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