

Iowa State Capitol
1007 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Senate Majority Leader Whitver,

The undersigned County Supervisors urge you to take action to stop the abuse of eminent domain by private corporations.

As you know, multiple carbon capture ventures have been proposed in Iowa, requiring thousands of miles of hazardous carbon pipelines. Impacted landowners, renters, and community members have voiced very serious concerns in regards to the proposed carbon pipelines, many of which we share, including allowing pipeline corporations to seize land through the use of eminent domain. We believe it is our duty to our constituents to inform you of these matters and urge you to pass legislation banning the use of eminent domain for these projects.

The carbon pipelines currently proposed in Iowa represent a clear abuse of eminent domain. As the Constitution makes clear, eminent domain is to be awarded only when a project presents a clear public use. Given the risks forced upon Iowans who will not see any legitimate, long-lasting benefits from the proposed carbon pipelines, supporting a private company's right to eminent domain in this instance would further a harmful precedent. The use of eminent domain should not be awarded to corporations seeking private profits at the expense of our land and our tax dollars without providing any true benefit to the public.

To address the wide-ranging concerns surrounding hazardous liquid carbon pipelines, we believe the legislature needs to take decisive action. As the Iowa State Association of Counties put forth in their 2023 legislative priorities, our suggested solution is to amend Iowa Code Chapter 479B to prohibit the use of eminent domain by a carbon sequestration or other hazardous material pipeline company that is not a public utility and that is not serving a public use and/or purpose.

We respectfully ask that you consider the ramifications of the proposed carbon pipelines and utilize your position of leadership to protect the needs and interests of all Iowans by banning the use of eminent domain for carbon pipelines.

Sincerely,

Jodie Hoadley
Adair County Supervisor

Joshua Waechter
Kossuth County Supervisor

Tracy Seeman
Benton County Supervisor

Jack Plathe
Kossuth County Supervisor

Chris Schwartz
Black Hawk County Supervisor

Charles W Holmes
Lee County Supervisor

Corey Cerwinski
Bremer County Supervisor

Thomas K Schulz
Lee County Supervisor

Dawn M Vogel
Buchanan County Supervisor

Ron Fedler
Lee County Supervisor

Greg Barnett
Butler County Supervisor

Garry W. Seyb, Jr.
Lee County Supervisor

Wayne Dralle
Butler County Supervisor

Matt Pflug
Lee County Supervisor

Scott Becker
Calhoun County Supervisor

Jerry Birkey
Lyon County Supervisor

Bernard Pettinger
Cass County Supervisor

Heather Stancil
Madison County Supervisor

Chris Watts
Cerro Gordo County Supervisor

Chuck Webb
Mahaska County Supervisor

Randy Swanson
Clay County Supervisor

Mark Raymie
Marion County Supervisor

Alan Yahnke
Davis County Supervisor

Mike Schulte
Osceola County Supervisor

Lisa Hansen
Emmet County Supervisor

Todd Maher
Page County Supervisor

John Pluth
Emmet County Supervisor

Linus J Solberg
Palo Alto County Supervisor

Jeff Quastad
Emmet County Supervisor

Craig Anderson
Plymouth County Supervisor

Mark Kuhn
Floyd County Supervisor

Matt McCoy
Polk County Supervisor

Mark A Schildroth
Grundy County Supervisor

Bryce Schaben
Shelby County Supervisor

Heidi Nederhoff
Grundy County Supervisor

Steve Kenkel
Shelby County Supervisor

Florence Greiman
Hancock County Supervisor

Craig Hoftyzer
Sioux County Supervisor

Erik Underberg
Humboldt County Supervisor

Jerry Muilenburg
Sioux County Supervisor

Devlun Whiteing
Ida County Supervisor

Dan Anderson
Tama County Supervisor

Crystal McIntyre
Iowa County Supervisor

William Faircloth
Tama County Supervisor

Lee Dimmitt

Curt Hilmer

Jefferson County Supervisor

V Fixmer-Oraiz
Johnson County Supervisor

Jon Green
Johnson County Supervisor

Carter Nath
Kossuth County Supervisor

Tama County Supervisor

Richard Young
Washington County Supervisor

Shirley Vermace
Winneshiek County Supervisor