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IAA Board of Directors:

I am writing to inform you that the Christian County Farm Bureau Board of Directors has decided to oppose the Heartland Greenway project that is currently proposed for Christian County. We are aware that this puts us in a grey area with current Illinois Farm Bureau policy in relation to CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines as a whole, but we are opposing this specific project and more specifically the actual injection and storage process. We have heard from countless members that are tired of Farm Bureau sitting on the sidelines and not engaging when an issue arises. We feel as a board that at this time we must stand and let our voice be heard for our membership.

Christian County has been the hotbed of recent "green" projects, and our board has stayed engaged and passionate to stay informed. We have opened our board meetings up to speakers from both the pipeline side as well as the injection well side and quite frankly, found their presentations very vague when asked specific questions that related to membership concerns. The answers that we received in our board room were often quite different from what was being presented as a whole. When asked for clarification, the leaders were not sure which was which. One question that was asked repeatedly and avoided was "if an adjoining landowner does not choose to participate, how will the plume be controlled to avoid their pore space?". The closest thing we received to an answer was "we will leave that up to the attorneys to work out." As an organization, our policy book is very clear on protecting landowner rights, and if the injection plume cannot be controlled, how are we protecting the non-participating landowner's rights? This is a whole new territory for Illinois landowners, and we feel that it is necessary for us to help protect our members and our number one resource, the fertile soils of Christian County.

Much like the letter from Cass-Morgan Farm Bureau, we are concerned about the safety of those near the project as well as the long-term effects of the CO<sub>2</sub> storage under our farmland. We would like to ask that the IAA board continue to monitor this project and look beyond the limited scope of current policy related to CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines in general. A movement of counties that are impacted by these types of projects is beginning, and we look forward to taking action during Annual Meeting to get a better gauge on where the IFB membership as a whole lies with the current, dated policy in relation to CO<sub>2</sub>.

Our decision to oppose was not made lightly. Our directors have had lengthy discussions, often playing devil's advocate to ensure that we were not overlooking the forest for the trees. We are a grassroots organization, and when our membership is reaching out and asking for us to take a stand, it is our responsibility as directors to listen and act with their intent.

I would be happy to discuss our position more in depth. I can be reached at (217)-827-9194.

Thank You,

Mathew Heberling

President, Christian County Farm Bureau

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