

RESOLUTION 23-28

WHEREAS the elected officials of Stark County, Toulon, Illinois do hereby oppose the construction of any CO2 Pipeline in our county because CO2 Pipelines are a threat to the health and safety of all residents of Stark County Illinois, and

WHEREAS residents of Stark County Illinois, would be negatively impacted by living under the constant threat of a CO2 Pipeline leak and explosion, as was seen in Satartia, Mississippi, and

WHEREAS residents of Stark County Illinois would need to pay increased taxes to allow our fire and EMS department to buy electric vehicles that would be able to run during a CO2 leak, since CO2 crowds out oxygen and disables gas combustion engines, which is a burden to both taxpayers and emergency planners, and

WHEREAS The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) announced on May 26, 2022, the agency's plan to initiate a new rulemaking process with a goal of strengthening its safety oversight of carbon dioxide (CO2) pipelines, as well as enforcing actions against Denbury Gulf Coast Pipelines for its CO2 pipeline failures in Satartia, Mississippi that caused the evacuation of 300 people and resulted in the hospitalization of nearly 50, thus confirming that existing regulations for such pipelines are inadequate to protect communities from dangerous pipeline failures and potential loss of life, and

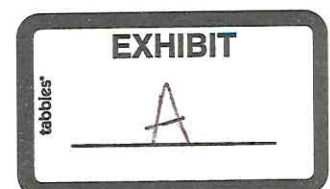
WHEREAS, at a minimum, in light of the PHMSA creating new measures for CO2 Pipeline Safety, the Illinois Commerce Commission should not grant any CO2 Pipeline the right to build in Illinois until the new safety measures are finalized, and

WHEREAS, we as elected officials of Stark County Illinois need to review these new PHMSA measures and enact ordinances to protect our residents and ensure CO2 Pipelines must adhere to both the PHMSA measures and any addition measures we find to be in the best interest of our residents' safety and general welfare, and

WHEREAS we the elected officials of Stark County Illinois are responsible for the upkeep of all Township Roads, CO2 pipelines threaten drainage of farm fields which can cause standing water on our roads, and

WHEREAS our residents would likely experience reduced property values if they are forced to have a CO2 Pipeline through their property, as any reasonable person would choose to buy property without a CO2 Pipeline or near a CO2 Pipeline, all other factors being equal, and

WHEREAS this reduction in property values and the hope of alternative retail, commercial, or other productive, tax-paying development along a CO2 Pipeline route will diminish the fiscal health of our Township tax base, and



WHEREAS as stewards of tax dollars and the public trust we oppose this entire CO2 Pipeline scheme as a false and unproven method of helping the environment, and

WHEREAS the Federal tax dollars subsidizing this CO2 Pipeline could be much better spent on more proven methods of reducing carbon dioxide emissions without the need to use Eminent Domain and put our county residents at permanent risk of CO2 pipeline leaks.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the elected officials of Stark County Illinois that we hereby oppose the construction and use of eminent domain for any CO2 Pipeline in Stark County Illinois and urge the Illinois Commerce Commission to join us in opposing CO2 pipelines to protect the health and safety of our residents.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kari Bush', written over a horizontal line.

Date 10/16/2023

Kari Bush  
Stark County Board Chair