



Southside Community United For Change Inc.
Making a Difference Together

**Southside Community United for Change
Resolution to Protect Citizens
from the Dangers of High-Pressure Carbon Dioxide Pipelines**

Whereas, Southside Community United for Change (SCUC) was established in 2013 focusing on the 61605 zip code area of Peoria, with the purpose to enhance the livability of the Southside area by developing partnerships with community stakeholders to educate residents and implement sustainable activities and programs that address neighborhood problems and concerns;¹

Whereas until June, 2023, a high-pressure carbon dioxide pipeline was on publically available maps showing a CO2 pipeline coming into the Southside 61605 zip code area;²

Whereas, the Wolf Carbon Solutions US LLC, Mt. Simon Hub (MSH) high-pressure carbon dioxide pipeline 'Exhibit D MSH Pipeline Illinois Overview Map' filed June 16, 2023, with their application to the Illinois Commerce Commission for a state permit to build and operate a CO2 pipeline did not show a CO2 pipeline into the Southside of Peoria;³

Whereas, the Wolf Carbon Solutions US LLC, CO2 pipeline application proposes to construct a trunkline through nine counties in Illinois;⁴

Whereas on July 26th, 2023, at a public forum where SCUC Board Member Daurice Coaster was a keynote speaker and other SCUC members were in attendance at the George Washington Carver Center, Peoria, a representative from the BioUrja Renewables plant, 1 Edmund Street, Peoria, stated in public that the BioUrja company had not signed on with the Wolf CO2 pipeline but he gave positive comments about such pipelines,⁵ and he also added in his public comments that BioUrja could be expected to make a decision by the end of 2023;

Whereas, the U.S. Environmental Justice Agency defines Environmental Justice as, "Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this Nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work;"⁶

Whereas, an Environmental Justice Community of Concern (EJCOC) is defined as, "A neighborhood or community, composed predominantly of persons of color or a substantial proportion of persons below the poverty line, that is subjected to a disproportionate burden of environmental hazards and/or experiences a significantly reduced quality of life;"⁷

Whereas, the Southside area zip code 61605 includes 13,999 residents and is identified for existing critical service gaps affecting residents including housing, lack of health insurance, transportation access, and existing food desert;⁸



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Whereas, the 2022 Annual Report, City of Peoria and Peoria County Joint Commission on Racial Justice & Equity, specifically details existing inequities in multiple factors including air particulates and air toxins, proximity to hazardous wastes, predominantly minority residents, and lead paint concerns for the 61605 zip code on page 16 in its report;⁹

Whereas the very real concern exists that the BioUrja company may choose to sign on with a CO2 pipeline company meaning the risks of a CO2 pipeline accident; potential property values implications; restrictions in other types of development due to the CO2 pipeline corridor, and other concerns regarding carbon capture air quality and CO2 pipelines could be planned coming into the Southside;

Whereas, carbon dioxide gas in high concentrations can asphyxiate, or at lower concentrations can sicken humans and animals, thereby creating a risk of injury or even death;

Whereas, carbon dioxide gas is colorless and odorless and may not be detected by humans making exposure difficult to detect and avoid and danger zones challenging to define; and currently there are no state or federal regulations requiring a color or odor be added to CO2 in pipelines;

Whereas, a rupture of a CO2 pipeline has the potential to release a large quantity of carbon dioxide gas at high concentration levels that could travel depending on weather and geographic conditions; and that residential neighborhoods in Peoria's Environmental Justice U.S. EPA designated areas are within a potential danger zone from a CO2 pipeline release, and the area includes apartment buildings, parks, churches, schools, and other locations of concern, including with residents with disabilities and without independent transportation;

Whereas, the risks to residents in all of the nine counties listed by Wolf for their currently proposed CO2 pipeline are subject to the same risks and hazards, and SCUC stands in solidarity with all residents, neighborhoods, and property put at risk by the Wolf Carbon Solutions US LLC proposed pipeline in Illinois;

Now therefore, be it resolved:

That the Board of Southside Community United for Change opposes the construction of high-pressure carbon dioxide pipelines into the city of Peoria, the Southside, or any location in Peoria County and the State of Illinois, and urges the City of Peoria, the County of Peoria, and other agencies and governmental authorities to oppose any such CO2 pipeline proposed for the Southside of Peoria, Peoria City and County, and the State of Illinois.

Signed this Day of —October 5, 2023

Chairperson, SCUC

Secretary, SCUC