

RESOLUTION # ____
**Township Board, Village Board, or City Council Resolution to Protect
Residents and First Responders from the Dangers of
High-Pressure Carbon Dioxide Pipelines and Carbon Sequestration**

WHEREAS, the elected officials of [*name of local government*] do hereby oppose the construction of any CO₂ pipeline in [*name of county*] because CO₂ pipelines are a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of our residents;

WHEREAS, no high-pressure carbon dioxide pipelines or carbon sequestration currently exist in either [*name of local government*] or elsewhere in Ford or McLean Counties;

WHEREAS, One Earth Sequestration, LLC (One Earth) is proposing to construct a CO₂ pipeline from its ethanol plant in Gibson City to properties in McLean County, where it will be injected, at high pressure, deep underground for storage;

WHEREAS, One Earth is proposing to place three injection wells in recharge areas of the Mahomet Aquifer, where a leak of CO₂ could pose a threat to fresh drinking water that serves nearly one million people;

WHEREAS, a rupture of a carbon-dioxide pipeline or a blowout of a sequestration well has the potential to release a large quantity of carbon dioxide gas, placing residents, their families, animals, and livestock in Ford and McLean Counties at risk of injury or even death;

WHEREAS, the February 2020 carbon-dioxide rupture in Yazoo County, Mississippi, released a plume of CO₂ that lasted for nearly four hours and traveled more than a mile, resulting in the evacuation of 200 people, the hospitalization of nearly 50, and placed first responders at risk because their vehicles would not run and because they did not have the specialized equipment needed to safely and successfully rescue residents;

WHEREAS, residents of [*name of local government*] would be negatively impacted by living under the constant threat of a CO₂ pipeline leak or rupture or sequestration well blowout, and there are no plans in place to ensure the safe and successful evacuation of residences, business or sensitive land uses such as schools, day care centers, hospitals, and nursing homes, in the event of a CO₂ pipeline leak, rupture, or sequestration well blowout;

WHEREAS, residents of [*name of local government*] would need to pay increased taxes to allow our fire and EMS department to buy alarm systems, self-contained breathing apparatus, electric vehicles and other equipment required to rescue people in the event of a CO₂ pipeline leak or rupture or a sequestration well blowout, which is a burden to both taxpayers and emergency planners;

WHEREAS, One Earth Energy, LLC, is proposing to construct its carbon-dioxide pipeline project through [*name of local government*] before the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration (PHMSA) has completed its rule-making to improve safety and oversight of carbon pipelines, initiated after a CO₂ pipeline ruptured in Yazoo County, Mississippi;

WHEREAS residents of *[name of local government]* would likely experience reduced property values that could affect the future sale of their property if they are forced to have a CO2 pipeline or sequestration well constructed through or in proximity to their land or have CO2 stored below it;

WHEREAS, this reduction in property values and the hope of alternative retail, commercial, or other productive, tax-paying development along a CO2 pipeline route or near a sequestration well will diminish the fiscal health of our *[name of local government]* tax base;

WHEREAS, we, the elected officials of *[name of local government]* are concerned that construction of CO2 pipelines and sequestration wells can damage our roadways and threaten drainage of farm fields which can cause standing water on our roads;

WHEREAS, the construction of CO2 pipelines across farms will result in reduced crop yield through soil erosion, mixing of prime agricultural soils with backfill, compaction of soil, and the severance of drainage tile systems, negatively affecting farmers in *[name of county]*; and

WHEREAS, the *[name of local government]* affirms a resident's ability to determine whether they want to sign a voluntary easement for CO2 pipelines or lease agreement for sequestration, but opposes the use of eminent domain for CO2 pipelines or forced acquisition of pore space for sequestration (similar to eminent domain).

Now therefore, be it resolved:

That we, the elected officials of *[name of local government]* urge the *[name of County]* to work with us to protect our property values, our tax base, our farmland, and the health and safety of our residents by:

1. Joining us in our opposition to CO2 pipelines until: (a) the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) completes its rulemaking to improve safety and oversight of CO2 pipelines, and (b) Funding is provided for emergency preparedness sufficient to include the training and equipment required for emergency responders in Ford and McLean counties to rescue residents in the event CO2 is released from a leak or rupture associated with a CO2 pipeline or a sequestration well blowout; and
2. Joining us in our opposition to carbon dioxide sequestration when injection wells are placed through the Mahomet Aquifer or its recharge areas; and
3. Adopting a temporary moratorium for CO2 pipelines and sequestration until: (a) PHMSA completes its rulemaking to improve safety and oversight of CO2 pipelines; and (b) the *[name of county board]* takes the time to investigate, draft, and adopt (or amend) special use criteria in order to regulate CO2 pipelines and sequestration that minimizes risks to county residents' health, land, and water; and
4. Actively intervening in the Illinois Commerce Commission proceedings initiated for One Earth Sequestration, LLC, to ensure that CO2 pipelines do not proceed until rulemaking by PHMSA is finalized and our concerns over safety, reduced property values, loss of tax base, mitigation of impacts to farmland, and funding for training and equipment for first responders have been addressed.

Signed this Day of _____, 2024