Illinois County CCS Ordinances — Summary

As of November 14, 2026

Five central Illinois counties now address CO2 sequestration through zoning. DeWitt prohibits CO2 injection wells in every zoning district, and Champaign bars them over, through, or under the Mahomet Aquifer. McLean relies on a special use permit with modest standards, and Putnam adopted the weakest ordinance of the group, though its original draft was among the strongest, and Ford County's adopted ordinance is not publicly posted. Two drafts are also included: Christian County, IL (June 25, 2025, with companion capture and pipeline drafts), which would bar CO2 storage under the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer and Lake Taylorville, and Vermillion County, Indiana, which sets the most detailed standards of any of them.

Counties

Champaign County, IL — Go to summary

- Ordinance 2026-17, Zoning Case 212-AT-26 (adopted Oct 22, 2026), packet pp. 5–52
- ELUC summary of action, Oct 8, 2026
- ELUC packet with Aug 13 proposed amendment, pp. 63–113
- ZBA supplemental memo, Aug 13, 2026

Christian County, IL — Go to summary

- Draft Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Facility Ordinance, June 25, 2025 (Google Doc)
- Draft Carbon Dioxide Capture Facility Ordinance, 2025 (Google Doc)
- Draft Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Ordinance, 2025 (Google Doc)

DeWitt County, IL — Go to summary

- Zoning Code § 155.053(B)(2), Schedule of Permitted, Prohibited and Special Permit Uses (current)
- County Board minutes, Aug 24, 2023: Case A-35-2023 approved
- County Board minutes, Jul 20, 2023: Case A-35-2023 tabled

Ford County, IL — Go to summary

- CO2 Sequestration & Pipeline Ordinance (accepted Nov 27, 2024): not posted online
- County Board minutes, Nov 27, 2024
- County Board minutes, Jan 13, 2025
- Resolution 24-63, asking for a ban on sequestration under sole-source aquifers

McLean County, IL — Go to summary

- Zoning Code §350-43 Z, CO2 sequestration drilling standards (Article VI)
- Article VIII, Special Use Permits

Putnam County, IL — Go to summary

- Ordinance 2025-O-05, Carbon Capture and Sequestration Ordinance (final)
- Resolution 2025-29, adopting the ordinance
- Exhibit A, amended ordinance as voted by the ZBA, Nov 25, 2025
- Original proposed version, Text Amendment ZBA #25-002 (PCCAT)
- Resolution 2026-10, special use permit for Marquis Carbon Injection

Vermillion County, IN — Go to summary

- Draft CCS ordinance amending the Unified Development Ordinance, Oct 8, 2026
- Ordinance 2025-11, temporary moratorium on carbon sequestration applications
- Unified Development Ordinance

At a glance

Setbacks are measured from the injection well unless noted. Vermillion measures from any surface facility component containing CO2; Putnam from any part of the CCS facility or project. McLean's separate oil and gas standards (330 ft from dwellings, 50 ft from lot lines) do not apply to CO2 wells.

County	Ordinance & status	Districts allowed (as a special use)	Setbacks: buildings	Setbacks: roads & parcel lines	Other separations	Aquifer protection	Text
Champaign	Ord. 2026-17 (Case 212-AT-26), adopted Oct 22, 2026	All districts except R-5 Manufactured Home Park (§6.1.7); in AG-1 and AG-2 as a second principal use on a lot (§4.2.1 C.10)	Well at least 2,640 ft (½ mi) from any primary structure, no participating/non-participating distinction; Rural Residential Overlay barred within ½ mi of a well	Well at least 2,000 ft from any public street; fencing at least 300 ft from street right-of-way; equipment at least 250 ft from property lines of lots over 10 acres	2,000 ft from transmission lines and communication towers; 5,000 ft from airport or air strip runway ends; within 1.5 mi of a zoned municipality, waiver and notice required; no plume under a municipality	Yes: no facility over, through, or under the Mahomet Aquifer or mapped major sand and gravel aquifers	Oct 22 packet, pp. 5–52
Christian (sequestration draft)	Draft CDSF Ordinance, June 25, 2025; not adopted	Not specified; County Board special use permit	Well at least 2,640 ft (½ mi) from any primary structure; gathering spaces and livestock covered by a rescue standard (no fixed distance)	None specified	Within 1.5 mi of a municipality or county line, that jurisdiction must consent or lack zoning authority; not where faults or folds could fracture	Yes: no CDSF over, through, or under the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer or Lake Taylorville	Draft
Christian (capture facility draft)	Draft Carbon Dioxide Capture Facility Ordinance, 2025; not adopted	Not specified; County Board special use permit for each new or modified facility	No fixed distance; noise limit of 42 dBA (10-min Leq) or 3 dBA above background at any dwelling, with a study of homes within 1 mi	None specified	None specified	Water-use limits: no harm to existing users, including in drought; water use agreement protecting the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer and Lake Taylorville	Draft
Christian (pipeline draft)	Draft Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Ordinance, 2025; not adopted	Route-based special use permit; no districts specified; ICC certificate of authority required first	No fixed setback; route must keep every primary structure, livestock operation and large outdoor gathering space below 40,000 ppm CO2 in a modeled leak or rupture (not waivable)	None specified	Avoid historic mining areas; follow PHMSA geohazard bulletin ADB-2022-01; pump and compressor stations meet the 42 dBA noise limit	Wells or aquifers damaged by construction or operation restored or replaced at the applicant's cost	Draft
DeWitt	Zoning Code § 155.053(B)(2) (Case A-35-2023), Aug 24, 2023	None: CO2 injection wells prohibited in all districts	Not applicable (banned)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes, by banning injection wells countywide	§ 155.053
Ford	CO2 Sequestration & Pipeline Ordinance, accepted Nov 27, 2024	Special use outside the Mahomet Aquifer and its recharge areas (per EJC); districts not confirmed	Unknown (text not posted)	Unknown	Unknown	Reported: injection barred through the Mahomet Aquifer and its recharge areas	Not online; request from county
McLean	Zoning Code §350-43 Z, May 11, 2023; standards Dec 14, 2023	A (Agriculture), M-1, M-2	Well at least 1,500 ft from an occupied residence, livestock shelter, school, community building, or commercial or manufacturing building	None specified for CO2 wells	None specified	No aquifer-specific rule	Ch. 350 Art. VI
Putnam (adopted)	Ord. 2025-O-05 (ZBA #25-002), Dec 8, 2025 (revised version substituted at Nov 25 ZBA hearing)	Agricultural or Heavy Industrial; complete applications "shall be" approved	1,000 ft from non-participating residences and occupied community buildings; none from participating residences	100 ft from public right-of-way; 100 ft from non-participating parcel lines	1,000 ft from town limits unless waived	Effectively none: the water-source ban does not apply to a project with a Class VI permit	Final · Original draft

County	Ordinance & status	Districts allowed (as a special use)	Setbacks: buildings	Setbacks: roads & parcel lines	Other separations	Aquifer protection	Text
Putnam (original draft)	Application for Text Amendment ZBA #25-002, noticed for the Nov 25, 2025 hearing; replaced by Exhibit A before the vote	Heavy Industrial District only	1,500 ft from non-participating residences and occupied community buildings; none from participating residences	500 ft from public right-of-way; 1,000 ft from the parcel line	1.5 mi from village or city limits unless waived	Yes: no part of a facility on or under aquifers, lakes, wetlands, ponds, streams, sinkholes or karst, wells, cisterns, or public water mains	Original draft
Vermillion, IN	Draft UDO amendment, Oct 8, 2026; not adopted	HI (Heavy Industrial) only, by special exception after rezoning; monitoring and test wells permitted in A1, A2, HI	Occupied building on non-participating property 2,640 ft; on participating property 1,320 ft; critical facility or place of public assembly 1 mi; confined feeding facility 1,000 ft	Public street right-of-way 500 ft; lot line 400 ft; legal drain 75 ft	1 mi from town limits, 5+ lot subdivisions, public water wells and airports; 3 mi from another CCS project's well; no occupied building in the modeled Hazard Zone	Groundwater testing, sentinel wells, water replacement; 1 mi from public water wells	Draft, Oct 8, 2026

Champaign County

Ordinance No. 2026-17 adopted Zoning Case 212-AT-26 on the County Board's Oct 22, 2026 consent agenda. It replaces the temporary moratorium with permanent special use rules. The minutes for that meeting were not yet posted, so adoption is shown by the ordinance's signature block in the packet.

How it got there

Date	Step
Oct 22, 2026	County Board consent agenda, Ordinance 2026-17
Oct 8, 2026	ELUC recommends approval as amended, adding item 10 to delete §5.5 (moratorium)
Sep 10, 2026	ELUC places on file for 30-day review
Aug 13, 2026	ZBA recommends approval, 5-0
Jul 16, 2026	ZBA public hearing opens
Jun 3, 2026	Carbon Sequestration Activities Task Force final recommendation
Jan 23, 2025	12-month moratorium adopted; extended Dec 2025 and again in 2026

Key provisions

- Adds "Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Facility" (CDSF) as a County Board special use permit.
- No CDSF may sit over, penetrate through, or store CO2 under the Mahomet Aquifer, or under mapped major sand and gravel aquifers.
- Standard conditions modeled on wind and solar, plus CCS-specific ones: an emergency and remedial response plan and a water replacement plan.
- Bars a Rural Residential Overlay district within one-half mile of a sequestration well.
- Deletes §5.5, the safety moratorium.

Open question: the Sep 29 staff memo says the permit is allowed in AG-1, AG-2 and I-2 only, while the agendas and the Aug 13 ZBA version say every district except R-5. Check the §5.2 table in the final text.

Documents: Final ordinance, Oct 22 packet pp. 5–52 · Oct 8 ELUC packet pp. 63–113 · ZBA Aug 13 supplemental memo · July 16 hearing presentation

Back to Counties

Christian County (drafts)

The draft Christian County Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Facility Ordinance, dated June 25, 2025, would allow carbon dioxide sequestration facilities (CDSFs) only by County Board special use permit and would bar them over, through, or under the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer and Lake Taylorville. It is unadopted: the adoption line reads "XXXX, 2025" and the operating-insurance section is marked "[need to determine]." It is a standalone siting ordinance rather than a zoning table amendment.

Where CCS is allowed

- Any CDSF needs prior siting approval and a County Board special use permit; deviations only by variance under Article XI, Division IV of the Zoning Code.
- Prohibited over, through, or under the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer or Lake Taylorville, which supply Taylorville and rural communities.
- Within 1.5 miles of a municipality or county line, the applicant must show that jurisdiction has no zoning authority there or has approved the site.
- Not allowed where identified faults or folds could be fractured by injection pressure.

Key provisions

Topic	Requirement
Permits before applying	Class VI well permit (U.S. EPA or State) and Illinois EPA sequestration permit already obtained
Setback	Sequestration well at least ½ mile (2,640 ft) from any primary structure
Blowout modeling	Computational fluid dynamics modeling of well blowout and surface-equipment rupture, certified by a third party
Rescue standard	Evacuate occupants exposed to 30,000–40,000 ppm within 15 minutes; no primary structure, gathering space or livestock area may reach 40,000 ppm
Emergency planning	Evacuation plans and road barricades for areas at 20,000 ppm; operator-funded alert system and CO2 detectors; first responder equipment and training
Seismic	Notify County Board at M1.5–2.0; reduce injection at M2.0+; shut down and evacuate if M2.0+ with confirmed damage
Plume containment	Semi-annual plume reports; injection stops when the plume reaches 90% of its approved footprint; migration beyond it is treated as trespass
Water	Annual water-quality reports (pH, toxic metals) for groundwater and Lake Taylorville; water replacement plan
Noise	42 dBA (10-minute Leq) maximum, or 3 dBA above background
Public participation	At least two public information meetings, presented to the whole audience (not open-house format); public complaint line and

Topic	Requirement
	monthly complaint reports
Fees and insurance	$250,000 review deposit; $5M per occurrence / $50M aggregate liability during construction; financial assurance naming the County
Hearing	ZBA chair may appoint an attorney as Presiding Officer, paid by the applicant

Open question: whether the County Board has acted on this draft is not yet confirmed.

Documents: Draft ordinance, June 25, 2025 (Google Doc)

Companion drafts: capture facilities and pipelines

Christian County's sequestration draft has two companion drafts, one for carbon dioxide capture facilities (CDCFs) and one for CO2 pipelines (CDPs). Both are unadopted; their adoption lines read "XXXX, 2025." Each part of a CCS project needs its own special use permit, though applications can be processed together.

Topic	Capture facility draft (12 pp.)	Pipeline draft (20 pp.)
Permit trigger	Siting approval and County Board special use permit for each new or modified CDCF; Illinois EPA carbon capture permit required	Special use permit for any CO2 pipeline, issued only after the ICC grants a certificate of authority under the SAFE CCS Act
Siting standard	No fixed setbacks; noise limit at dwellings	No fixed setbacks. The route must keep every primary structure, livestock operation and large outdoor gathering space below 40,000 ppm CO2 in a modeled leak or rupture. If design changes cannot achieve that, the permit is denied. The limit cannot be waived, and supplying oxygen to residents does not count
Modeling	Not required	Computational fluid dynamics plume modeling, certified by a third party; maps of structures and livestock within 2 miles of the centerline
Rescue thresholds	Not addressed	20,000 ppm: evacuate schools, nursing homes, hospitals and similar uses within a 30-minute goal; 30,000 ppm: evacuate within 15 minutes; 40,000 ppm:

Topic	Capture facility draft (12 pp.)	Pipeline draft (20 pp.)
		no exposure allowed
Emergency planning	Facility emergency response plan in the application	County plan: alert system, CO2 detectors for exposed homes, evacuation routes away from the pipeline, road barricades, responder equipment and training paid by the applicant, annual evacuation reminders
Geohazards	Not addressed	Follow PHMSA Advisory Bulletin ADB-2022-01 or a stricter rule; avoid all historic mining areas
Water	Must show no harm to existing water users, including in drought; water use agreement protecting the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer and Lake Taylorville; semi-annual water reports for 3 years; mitigation, reduced demand or closure if users are harmed; cooling water treated under an NPDES permit	Damaged wells or aquifers restored or replaced at the applicant's cost, with a comparable supply in the meantime
Required findings	Local jobs or business; net greenhouse gas reduction; no harm to water supply, property values or nearby development	Same, plus no exposure at or above 40,000 ppm and responders able to rescue people in time
Construction and abandonment	Not addressed beyond decommissioning plan in the narrative	Construction, mitigation and reclamation plan (topsoil, drainage tile, regrading within 10 to 30 days); pipe removed within 1 year of abandonment, backed by financial assurance; deemed abandoned after 24 months unused
Noise	42 dBA (10-minute Leq) or 3 dBA above background, measured at dwellings; study of homes within 1 mile	Same limit for pump and compressor stations
Insurance	$5M per occurrence / $50M aggregate during construction; County and road districts as additional insureds; operating	$5M / $50M covering capture, pipeline and sequestration projects; County and road districts as additional insureds;

Topic	Capture facility draft (12 pp.)	Pipeline draft (20 pp.)
	insurance "[need to determine]"	no self-insurance
Fees and hearing	$250,000 deposit for County review costs, applicant pays overruns; attorney Presiding Officer paid by the applicant	Same

Analysis

- Christian County is the only county reviewed that drafts rules for all three parts of a CCS project (capture, pipeline and sequestration), with shared insurance, fee and hearing terms.
- The pipeline draft uses a performance standard instead of a fixed setback: distance from homes depends on modeled leak concentrations, and the 40,000 ppm limit cannot be waived. For a large pipeline that could require more distance than any fixed setback, but it rests on the applicant's modeling, so the third-party certification is critical.
- The capture draft is the only ordinance reviewed that addresses water consumption, which matters for the Macon-Christian County Strip Aquifer and Lake Taylorville.
- Drafting issues to fix before adoption: the pipeline draft cites "Nebraska's public records laws" instead of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, its warning-sign section refers to wells and sequestration sites, and two definitions are both lettered "A." The capture draft's operating insurance is still "[need to determine]."
- Open question: how far a county can regulate CO2 pipeline routing, given the ICC's authority under the SAFE CCS Act and federal PHMSA safety rules. Worth confirming with counsel before adoption.

Documents: Draft Carbon Dioxide Capture Facility Ordinance (Google Doc) · Draft Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Ordinance (Google Doc)

Back to Counties

DeWitt County

DeWitt County bans CO2 injection wells in every zoning district. The ban is a single row in the county's table of uses, Zoning Code § 155.053(B)(2), added by Case A-35-2023 and approved by the County Board 12–0 on Aug 24, 2023.

How it got there

Date	Step
Mar 20, 2025	Most recent amendment to § 155.053; the CO2 row still reads "Prohibited in all districts"
Later in 2023	Board Chair Dan Matthews says the Board may have moved too quickly; Board discusses zoning for carbon capture instead, but no change is made
Aug 24, 2023	County Board approves Case A-35-2023,

Date	Step
	"Revision to 155.053B(1)(2) Prohibiting CO_2 injection wells in all zoning districts," 12–0 roll call (motion Carter, second Witte)
Jul 20, 2023	Motion to approve Case A-35-2023 tabled, 9–0

Key provisions

- § 155.053(B)(2), industrial uses table: "CO2 injection wells — Prohibited in all districts" (between "Cold storage warehouses" and "Creosoting…").
- § 155.053(A)(3): any use without an "x" (permitted) or "s" (special use) in a district is prohibited there; the CO2 row states the ban expressly across all districts (Agr., RD-1–3, R-1–4, B-1–3, I, FP).
- No special use path, setbacks or aquifer-specific language: the ban is total.

Open question: the minutes record the motion and vote but do not attach a separate ordinance document, and none was found posted. The codified table is the best published text of the amendment.

Documents: § 155.053 (current code) · Aug 24, 2023 Board minutes · Jul 20, 2023 Board minutes · Aug 14, 2023 Land Use Committee minutes (scan)

Back to Counties

Ford County

The Ford County Board accepted an "Ordinance for CO2 Sequestration and Pipeline" by voice vote on Nov 27, 2024. Its text is not posted on the county website, and EJC's own resolutions page lists it as not yet available.

Date	Step
Jan 13, 2025	County Board discusses implementing ZBA text amendments to the ordinance; Zoning Committee asked to review (minutes)
Nov 27, 2024	Special County Board meeting accepts the CO2 Sequestration and Pipeline Ordinance (minutes)
Oct 28 – Nov 4, 2024	ZBA public hearing on an ordinance regulating the siting of CO2 sequestration facilities (Ford County Chronicle)
Oct 2024	Resolution 24-63 asks the legislature to ban CO2 injection through or storage under sole-source aquifers

The ordinance does not appear on the Zoning Forms page, in the 2024–2026 resolution lists, or in the codified Zoning Ordinance (last revised Feb 2022). No later action on the text amendments was found.

Next step: request the ordinance and any amendments from Zoning Officer Brandon Magers, (217) 249-4727, or County Clerk Amy Frederick.

Back to Counties

McLean County

McLean has no standalone CCS ordinance. CO2 sequestration drilling is a special use under Zoning Code §350-43 Z, grouped with oil and gas drilling. It is allowed by special use permit in the A (Agriculture), M-1 and M-2 districts and barred in R-1, R-2 and C.

Standards in §350-43 Z(2)

- The applicant must already hold a U.S. EPA Class VI injection well permit.
- Wells must be at least 1,500 ft from an occupied residence, livestock shelter, school, community building, or commercial or manufacturing building.
- Lighting for security and safety only, shielded to the site.
- The applicant develops and funds, with the local fire department and EMA, an emergency response plan, an evacuation plan, equipment, and training.
- A road use agreement with a pre-construction road survey, financial assurance for damage, and a signed copy filed with the Building and Zoning Director.

Every permit also goes through Article VIII (§§350-54 to 350-59): a ZBA public hearing, at least four ZBA votes to recommend approval, and a County Board decision within 120 days.

History

- May 11, 2023: County Board requires a special use permit for sequestration wells, using the oil and gas siting rules (WGLT).
- Oct 2023: the State's Attorney says the county can require a permit but may not exclude Class VI wells (WGLT).
- Dec 14, 2023: the 1,500 ft setback and other standards are adopted; the same month the County Board denies One Earth Sequestration's permit for three wells near Saybrook (WGLT).

§350-43 has been amended several times since, most recently Aug 13, 2026; whether any change touched item Z is not yet checked.

Documents: Ch. 350 Article VI – Use Regulations · Article VIII – Special Use Permits

Back to Counties

Putnam County

The County Board adopted Ordinance 2025-O-05, the Carbon Capture and Sequestration Ordinance, on Dec 8, 2025 (Resolution 2025-29). It was a county-initiated text amendment, ZBA #25-002, written as Marquis Carbon Injection pursued its Class VI well near Hennepin.

Two versions

Version	What it is	Link
Original	"Application for Text Amendment ZBA 25-002," filed by the County and noticed to the public	Google Drive (PCCAT)

Version	What it is	Link
Final	“Exhibit A – Amended Carbon Capture and Sequestration Ordinance” (Petitioner’s Exhibit A), voted on by the ZBA Nov 25 and adopted Dec 8, 2025	County ZBA library · Ordinance 2025-O-05

The final version weakened nearly every protection in the original. It opened Agricultural land to CCS, cut setbacks by a third to nine-tenths, exempted Class VI projects from the water-source ban, and replaced most County requirements with whatever the EPA Class VI permit and SAFE CCS Act already require. It also directs that complete applications “shall be recommended for approval by the ZBA and approved by the County Board.”

Original vs. final

Topic	Original (noticed to public)	Final (adopted Dec 8, 2025)
Purpose	Regulate siting, development, operation and decommissioning	Regulate siting only
Where allowed	Heavy Industrial District only	Agricultural or Heavy Industrial District
Approval	ZBA recommends approval or denial	“All complete applications shall be recommended for approval by the ZBA and approved by the County Board”
Parcel line setback	1,000 ft from any parcel line	100 ft, and only from non-participating parcels
Public right-of-way	500 ft	100 ft
Non-participating residence	1,500 ft	1,000 ft
Occupied community building	1,500 ft	1,000 ft
Town limits	1.5 miles (unless waived)	1,000 ft (unless waived)
Water sources	No part of a facility on or under aquifers, lakes, wetlands, streams, sinkholes, wells or water mains	Same ban “unless permitted by state and federal authorities,” and it does not apply to any project with a Class VI permit
Application contents	Agency permits and all agency submissions; site plans; road use agreement; template landowner agreements; anything else the County requests	Agency permits and site plans; agency submissions, road use agreement, landowner templates and “other information” dropped
Emergency plan	County-specific plan: 2-mile map, health risks, worst-case	Class VI emergency plan and SAFE CCS risk assessment are

Topic	Original (noticed to public)	Final (adopted Dec 8, 2025)
	discharge, evacuation, responder equipment	accepted in place of a County plan
Alert system reach	5 miles beyond the projected plume	2 miles beyond the projected plume
Water replacement	Alternative water if an agency finds wells or public water harmed	Notify County within 24 hours if Class VI monitoring shows unsafe water; show compliance with SAFE CCS Act
Operations	County operating permit; written assumption of obligations on owner change; detailed annual report	Only forward material modifications and notices filed with agencies, within 30 days
Decommissioning	County plan by Illinois licensed engineer; agreement with financial assurance, updated every four years	Federal or state plan (e.g., Class VI well plugging and site closure) satisfies the County
Insurance	$10M per occurrence / $40M aggregate; County named as additional insured	$10M / $25M; County not named; umbrella coverage allowed; any state or federal liability or financial assurance plan satisfies the County
Fees	$50,000 application; building permit 10% of cost up to $50,000; $30,000 annual; applicant pays all County costs	$50,000 application; same building permit fee; $50,000 annual; “all costs” clause and refund terms dropped
Enforcement	Unsafe facilities abated; any violation is a default; $1,000 per day; County may hire outside counsel at applicant’s cost	Violations “may” be a default; County will not enforce matters governed by state or federal law; $1,000 per day only after a 30-day cure period; outside counsel clause dropped

Analysis: the draft and the final compared with other counties

As noticed to the public, Putnam’s draft would have been one of the strongest CCS ordinances in the region. The version adopted is the weakest of the adopted ordinances reviewed here.

Measure	Putnam draft	Putnam final	How other counties compare
Districts	Heavy Industrial only	Agricultural or Heavy Industrial	Draft matched Vermillion’s HI-only approach; final matches McLean (A,

Measure	Putnam draft	Putnam final	How other counties compare
			M-1, M-2) and Champaign (most districts, including AG-1 and AG-2)
Homes and community buildings	1,500 ft	1,000 ft	McLean 1,500 ft; Champaign and Christian 2,640 ft from any primary structure; Vermillion 2,640 ft (non-participating)
Roads	500 ft	100 ft	Champaign 2,000 ft (well); Vermillion 500 ft; McLean and Christian none
Parcel lines	1,000 ft, the largest of any county	100 ft, non-participating parcels only	Vermillion 400 ft; Champaign 250 ft (equipment, lots over 10 acres)
Town limits	1.5 mi	1,000 ft	Champaign and Christian require consent within 1.5 mi; Vermillion 1 mi
Water protection	Broadest in the group: all aquifers, surface waters, wells and water mains	Waived for any project with a Class VI permit, which every sequestration well needs	Champaign and Christian ban CCS over named aquifers; DeWitt bans injection wells entirely; McLean has no aquifer rule
County oversight	County emergency plan, operating permit, annual report, decommissioning plan	Defers to the Class VI permit and SAFE CCS Act	Champaign, Christian and Vermillion add County requirements beyond state and federal permits
Approval	ZBA recommends approval or denial	Complete applications “shall be” approved	No other ordinance directs approval of complete applications

Takeaways:

- The final’s 100 ft road and parcel setbacks are a twentieth of Champaign’s 2,000 ft road setback for wells. Its 1,000 ft home setback is shorter than any other adopted ordinance with a setback.

- The Class VI exemption removes the draft's main water protection for every sequestration well. That leaves Putnam with less aquifer protection than any other adopted ordinance except McLean's.
- The draft is a useful model for other counties. Its water-source ban and 1,000 ft parcel-line setback go further than any adopted ordinance here.

Process concerns

- At the Nov 25, 2025 ZBA hearing, residents learned a revised version had replaced the noticed one, with no prior notice or chance to review (PCCAT).
- The county's hired attorney said the company was consulted on the draft (Sierra Club, Jan 2026).
- The original draft is not in the county's own document library; only PCCAT posts it.

Since adoption

- May 6, 2026: ZBA hearing on #26-01, a special use permit for the Marquis Carbon Injection well (transcript).
- Resolution 2026-10 granted that permit (PDF).

Open question: the Nov 25 ZBA minutes may show who proposed the changes; the final is labeled "Petitioner's Exhibit A."

Back to Counties

Vermillion County, Indiana (draft)

Draft 2 of an amendment to Vermillion County, Indiana's Unified Development Ordinance is by far the most detailed of these ordinances. It does not ban CCS. Instead it confines CCS facilities to the HI (Heavy Industrial) district by special exception and adds extensive siting, monitoring, emergency and bonding requirements. It is unadopted: the Area Plan Commission hearing date and ordinance number are blank, and the file is dated Oct 8, 2026.

Note: this is Vermillion County across the state line in Indiana, which has a different statutory framework (IC 36-7-4, IC 14-39-2) from the Illinois counties.

Where CCS is allowed

- CCS facilities (capture, sequestration, surface): special exception in HI only, after rezoning.
- Monitoring wells and stratigraphic test wells: permitted in A1, A2 and HI with a Zoning Compliance Permit.
- Seismic surveys: regulated in every district.
- Projects with a Class VI construction permit issued before the effective date are exempt, except for new wells, unpermitted surface facilities, or expansions.

Siting and separation

From	Minimum distance
Another CCS project's injection well	3 miles, and plumes plus a 1-mile buffer may not overlap
Critical facility, place of public assembly, town	1 mile

From	Minimum distance
limits, 5+ lot subdivision, public water well, airport	
Occupied building, non-participating property	2,640 ft
Occupied building, participating property	1,320 ft
Confined feeding facility (non-participating)	1,000 ft
Public street right-of-way	500 ft
Lot line	400 ft
Legal drain	75 ft

The modeled Hazard Zone (40,000 ppm CO2) may contain no occupied building, critical facility or non-consenting property. No surface facility may sit in a regulatory floodplain.

Provisions with no counterpart in the Illinois ordinances

- Release Consequence Analysis using heavy-gas dispersion modeling, setting Hazard (40,000 ppm), Protective Action (15,000 ppm, min. 1 mile) and Notification (5,000 ppm, min. 2 miles) zones.
- Operator-funded warning: sirens, indoor alert radios, CO2 detectors in homes, critical facilities, school buses and emergency vehicles.
- Leakage pathway survey of wells, faults and historic mine workings, with a magnetic survey for undocumented wells and near-surface CO2 monitoring.
- Seismic hazard assessment for the Wabash Valley and New Madrid zones, a 4-station seismic network, and post-earthquake inspections.
- Groundwater protection: private well testing, sentinel wells for public water systems, alert thresholds, and water replacement.
- Source identification by isotope fingerprinting and a tracer registry.
- A $100,000 deposit for independent county review.
- Insurance of $5M per occurrence / $25M aggregate general liability and $15M pollution liability; a decommissioning bond at 115%; and a separate long-term monitoring and water security bond.
- Monitoring obligations last until the later of site closure or 20 years after injection stops.

Documents: Draft CCS ordinance, Oct 8, 2026 (19 pp.) · Ordinance 2025-11, temporary moratorium on carbon sequestration applications · Unified Development Ordinance · County zoning page

Back to Counties

Gaps and follow-ups

- Champaign: confirm the zoning districts in the final §5.2 table, and confirm adoption once the Oct 22 minutes are posted.
- Putnam: check the Nov 25 ZBA minutes for who drafted the changes in Exhibit A.
- McLean: check whether any §350-43 amendment since Dec 2023 changed item Z.
- Christian: confirm whether the sequestration, capture and pipeline drafts were adopted or revised; settle operating-insurance terms.

- DeWitt: request the signed ordinance for Case A-35-2023 and the Aug 14, 2023 Land Use Committee minutes.
- Ford: request the adopted ordinance and any ZBA text amendments.
- Vermillion, IN: confirm the draft's status and the Area Plan Commission hearing date.

Sources

- Champaign County Board, Oct 22, 2026 agenda packet
- Champaign ELUC, Oct 8, 2026 summary of action
- Christian County draft CDSF Ordinance, June 25, 2025
- Christian County draft Carbon Dioxide Capture Facility Ordinance, 2025
- Christian County draft Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Ordinance, 2025
- DeWitt County Code § 155.053
- DeWitt County Board minutes, Aug 24, 2023
- DeWitt County Board minutes, Jul 20, 2023
- DeWitt Daily News, "DeWitt County Board Softening Stance on Carbon Capture?"
- Putnam County Ordinances & Resolutions
- Putnam County Zoning document library
- PCCAT – Zoning CCS Ordinance
- McLean County Code Ch. 350, Article VI
- McLean County Code Ch. 350, Article VIII
- Ford County Board minutes, Nov 27, 2024
- Ford County Board minutes, Jan 13, 2025
- Vermillion County, IN, draft CCS ordinance (Oct 8, 2026)
- Vermillion County, IN, Ordinance 2025-11 (moratorium)
- Vermillion County, IN, zoning page

Prepared by Eco-Justice Collaborative

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