Dear Senate Majority Leader Whitver,

The undersigned County Supervisors urge you to take action to stop the abuse of eminent domain by private corporations.

As you know, multiple carbon capture ventures have been proposed in Iowa, requiring thousands of miles of hazardous carbon pipelines. Impacted landowners, renters, and community members have voiced very serious concerns in regards to the proposed carbon pipelines, many of which we share, including allowing pipeline corporations to seize land through the use of eminent domain. We believe it is our duty to our constituents to inform you of these matters and urge you to pass legislation banning the use of eminent domain for these projects.

The carbon pipelines currently proposed in Iowa represent a clear abuse of eminent domain. As the Constitution makes clear, eminent domain is to be awarded only when a project presents a clear public use. Given the risks forced upon Iowans who will not see any legitimate, long-lasting benefits from the proposed carbon pipelines, supporting a private company’s right to eminent domain in this instance would further a harmful precedent. The use of eminent domain should not be awarded to corporations seeking private profits at the expense of our land and our tax dollars without providing any true benefit to the public.

To address the wide-ranging concerns surrounding hazardous liquid carbon pipelines, we believe the legislature needs to take decisive action. As the Iowa State Association of Counties put forth in their 2023 legislative priorities, our suggested solution is to amend Iowa Code Chapter 479B to prohibit the use of eminent domain by a carbon sequestration or other hazardous material pipeline company that is not a public utility and that is not serving a public use and/or purpose.

We respectfully ask that you consider the ramifications of the proposed carbon pipelines and utilize your position of leadership to protect the needs and interests of all Iowans by banning the use of eminent domain for carbon pipelines.

Sincerely,

Jodie Hoadley
Adair County Supervisor

Joshua Waechter
Kossuth County Supervisor

Tracy Seeman
Benton County Supervisor

Jack Plathe
Kossuth County Supervisor

Chris Schwartz
Black Hawk County Supervisor

Charles W Holmes
Lee County Supervisor

Corey Cerwinske
Bremer County Supervisor

Thomas K Schulz
Lee County Supervisor

Dawn M Vogel
Buchanan County Supervisor

Ron Fedler
Lee County Supervisor
Greg Barnett  
Butler County Supervisor  
Garry W. Seyb, Jr.  
Lee County Supervisor

Wayne Dralle  
Butler County Supervisor  
Matt Pflug  
Lee County Supervisor

Scott Becker  
Calhoun County Supervisor  
Jerry Birkey  
Lyon County Supervisor

Bernard Pettinger  
Cass County Supervisor  
Heather Stancil  
Madison County Supervisor

Chris Watts  
Cerro Gordo County Supervisor  
Chuck Webb  
Mahaska County Supervisor

Randy Swanson  
Clay County Supervisor  
Mark Raymie  
Marion County Supervisor

Alan Yahnke  
Davis County Supervisor  
Mike Schulte  
Osceola County Supervisor

Lisa Hansen  
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Todd Maher  
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John Pluth  
Emmet County Supervisor  
Linus J Solberg  
Palo Alto County Supervisor

Jeff Quastad  
Emmet County Supervisor  
Craig Anderson  
Plymouth County Supervisor

Mark Kuhn  
Floyd County Supervisor  
Matt McCoy  
Polk County Supervisor

Mark A Schildroth  
Grundy County Supervisor  
Bryce Schaben  
Shelby County Supervisor

Heidi Nederhoff  
Grundy County Supervisor  
Steve Kenkel  
Shelby County Supervisor

Florence Greiman  
Hancock County Supervisor  
Craig Hoftyzer  
Sioux County Supervisor

Erik Underberg  
Humboldt County Supervisor  
Jerry Muilenburg  
Sioux County Supervisor

Devlun Whiteing  
Ida County Supervisor  
Dan Anderson  
Tama County Supervisor

Crystal McIntyre  
Iowa County Supervisor  
William Faircloth  
Tama County Supervisor

Lee Dimmitt  
Curt Hilmer
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