

NEWS POLICY

Gov. Doug Burgum says Summit carbon pipeline will get approval in North Dakota; Iowa hearings set to begin

Summit Carbon Solutions received a setback in North Dakota; the Iowa Utilities Board is set to begin its hearing process on the Summit carbon capture pipeline.



Republican U.S. presidential candidate and North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum speaks during Fair-Side Chat with Governor of Iowa Kim Reynolds (not pictured), at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 11, 2023. EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS

By **Jeff Beach**

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 News reporting

DES MOINES, Iowa — Campaigning in Iowa for the Republican presidential nomination, North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum said he

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is confident that a controversial carbon pipeline will be built despite a setback.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission on Aug. 4 rejected a route permit application(<https://www.agweek.com/news/policy/north-dakota-denies-summit-carbon-solutions-pipeline-permit>) from Iowa-based Summit Carbon Solutions. In North Dakota, the three members of the PSC are elected, unlike Iowa, where the governor appoints the three members of the IUB.

Iowa Radio quoted Burgum f(<https://www.radioiowa.com/2023/08/10/burgum-confident-summit-carbon-pipeline-will-be-built/>) rom the Iowa State Fair on Aug. 10 as saying, “I have every expectation that pipeline is going to (be) approved in North Dakota,” Burgum said. “There is going to be a reconsideration of that process I’m sure and as they have done in the past, they’ve been super accommodating in routing around. If you’ve got a farmer that doesn’t want a big check for an easement, their neighbor probably does and they’ll keep making adjustments.”

The Iowa Utilities Board is set to begin its hearing process on the Summit permit application(<https://www.agweek.com/news/policy/summit-says-iowa-permit-could-come-by-years-end-opponents-decry-new-fast-track-schedule>) on Aug. 22. Live video will be available through the IUB.(<https://iowautilitiesboard.eduvision.tv/WatchLive.aspx?q=mhiAExSvIysDoVz7376B4w%253d%253d>)

Summit’s projects is one of three carbon capture projects in the works in Iowa. Iowa is the nation's top ethanol producing state but the Sierra Club has led landowner resistance to the hazardous liquid pipelines.



State Sen. Jeff Taylor of Iowa speaks at a rally at the Iowa Capitol in Des Moines of opponents to carbon capture pipelines on Feb. 21, 2023. John Aspray / Food and Water Watch

“We have been fighting the same fight in Iowa as North Dakota,” the Iowa Sierra Club said in its August newsletter. “If Summit failed to meet the burden of proof there, they have failed to meet it here as well.”

The possible use of eminent domain to force landowners to provide a right-of-way for the pipeline has been a primary issue for landowners, along with concerns about safety, damage to farmland and property values.

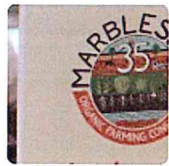
MORE CARBON CAPTURE COVERAGE



Noem signs 'Landowner Bill of Rights' but some landowners still have concerns(<https://www.agweek.com/news/policy/noem-signs-landowner-bill-of-rights-but-some-landowners-still-have-concerns>)

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North Dakota legislators oppose \$300K grant to promote carbon capture
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Summit had originally hoped to start construction in 2023 on what it calls the world's largest carbon capture and storage project, piping greenhouse gas emissions from ethanol plants in five states to an underground storage site in western North Dakota.

Summit says the project will benefit the ethanol industry, corn growers and the environment.

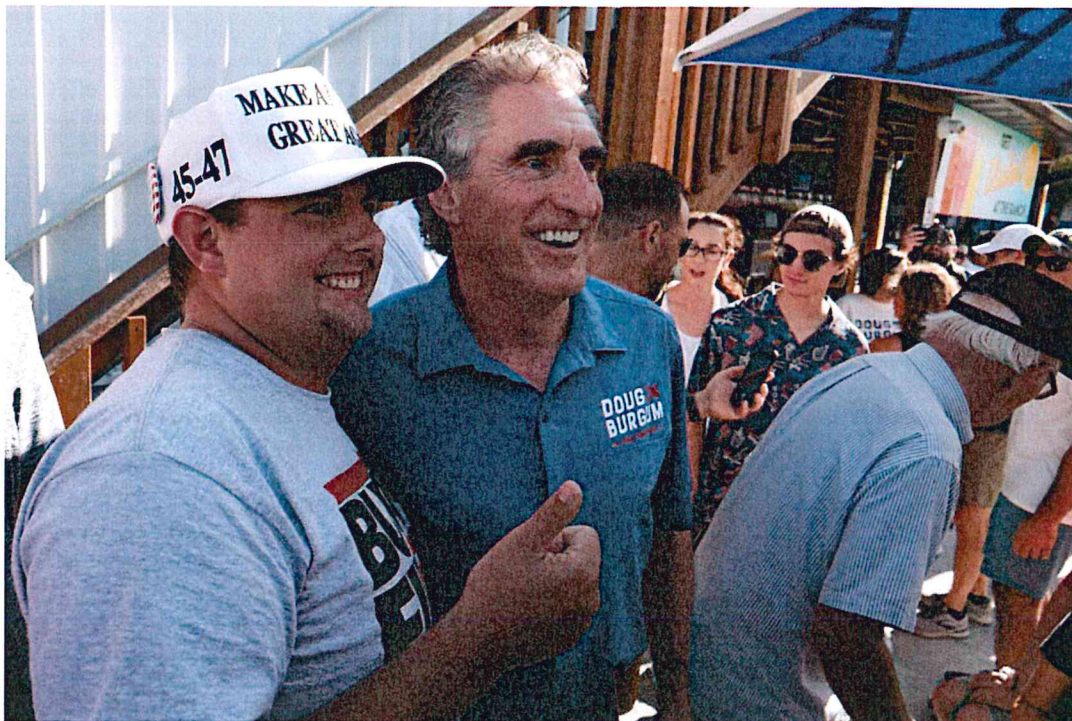
But Summit has yet to obtain permits for its 2,000 mile pipeline and will need to restart the permit process in North Dakota.



Bruce Rastetter, left, and North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum were at the Tharaldson Ethanol plant in Casselton, North Dakota, on March 2, 2022, to announce an investment from Continental Resources into the Summit Carbon Solutions pipeline project. Rastetter is the head of Iowa-based Summit Agricultural Group, with Summit Carbon Solutions a spinoff of that company. Evan Girtz / Agweek

Burgum has been a vocal supporter of carbon capture projects and joined Summit CEO Bruce Rastetter in North Dakota to help announce an investment by oil company Continental Resources into the project.

Burgum also sits on the three-member North Dakota Industrial Commission that has authority over carbon sequestration permits in the state.



Republican U.S. presidential candidate and North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum poses with a supporter as he attends the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 11, 2023. EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS

Summit has partnered with Minnkota Power Cooperative to have access to their sequestration site, Project Tundra. The company says it has acquired nearly 90% of the pore space rights within its own sequestration sites in North Dakota.

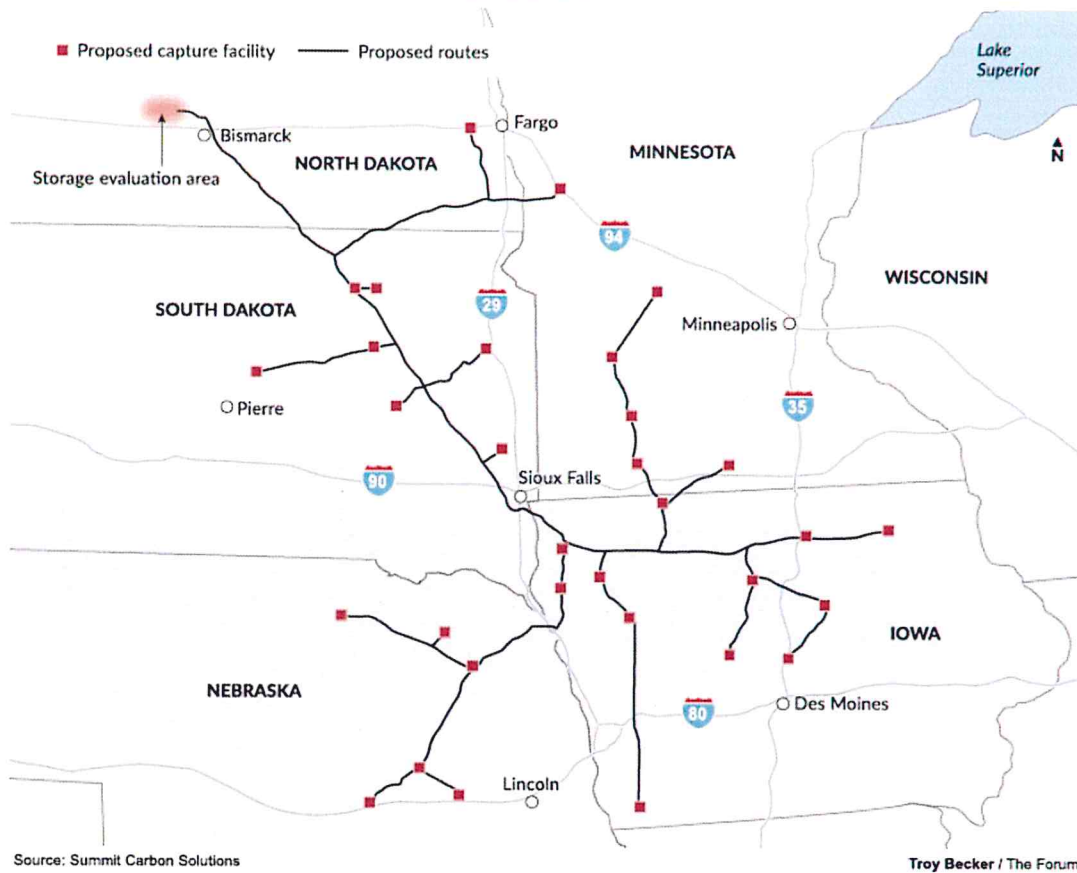
Summit says it has obtained 80% of the voluntary easements for its pipeline route in North Dakota, but that route is subject to change after the PSC's ruling.

Summit says it plans to reapply for a route permit in North Dakota and address concerns of the PSC, including an alternate route around the city of Bismarck.

“Summit is looking at plans again and will address those issues in our reconsidered application, including reroutes. The company is determined to get this right for everyone involved,” Summit said in a news release.

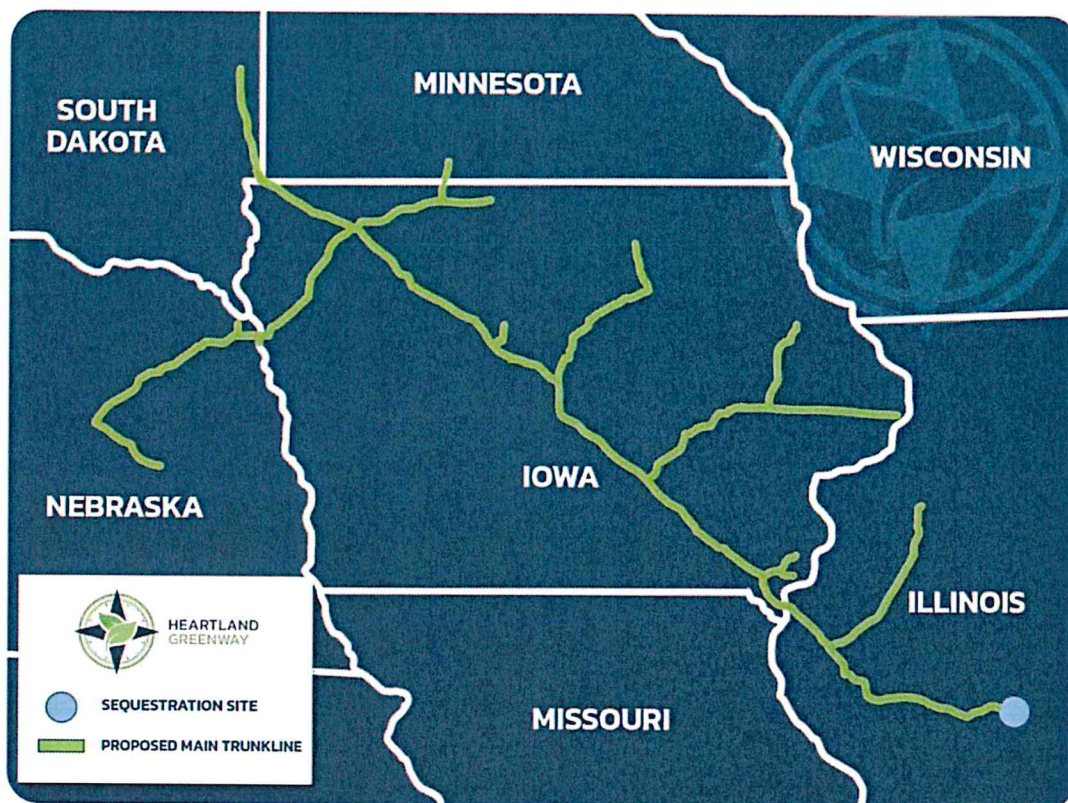
Midwest Carbon Express

Summit Carbon Solutions' proposed Midwest Carbon Express pipeline intends to gather carbon dioxide from 32 ethanol plants and send it to western North Dakota for permanent underground storage.



Meanwhile, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission is set to restart hearings on the Navigator CO₂ carbon pipeline project on Aug. 24.

That five-state pipeline has a planned sequestration site in Illinois.



The Navigator C02 Ventures pipeline project called the Heartland Greenway would gather carbon emission from ethanol plants for storage in Illinois. Navigator C02 Ventures

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