



Date: May 19, 2023

To: Peoria Park District Board of Trustees

From: Trustee Joyce Harant by Executive Director Emily Cahill

Re: Draft Resolution related to High-Pressure Carbon Dioxide Pipelines

Trustees:

Per the discussions had in both the last two regular board meetings and the last two Planning Committee meetings, following is a proposed resolution presented by Trustee Joyce Harant for review and consideration by the Board.

As agreed, the resolution is presented for review at the May 24, 2023 board meeting. Public comment will be accepted from that point up to and during the June 14, 2023, board meeting, at which time, trustees will vote on the adoption of the resolution. At any time during this period, citizens and stakeholders may email written comments to ppd@peoriaparks.org and I will compile them and share them with trustees.

Please let me know if you have questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you!

DRAFT ONLY

**Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria, Illinois, Resolution Regarding our
Commitment to Protect Park District Participants,
Visitors, Staff and First Responders from the Dangers of High-Pressure Carbon
Dioxide Pipelines**

Whereas, a high-pressure carbon dioxide pipeline is proposed to be constructed within the City of Peoria through its 61605 zip code and through Peoria County;

Whereas, the Park District has land holdings and facilities in close proximity to the proposed pipeline;

Whereas, the 61605 zipcode in the South Side of Peoria is designated as an environmental justice community and suffers from the cumulative impact of historical pollution and disinvestment in the people and infrastructure resulting in continuing adverse socio-economic, health and wellness outcomes;

Whereas, no high-pressure carbon dioxide pipelines currently exist in the City or County of Peoria;

Whereas, it has been determined that carbon dioxide gas in high concentrations can asphyxiate, or at lower concentrations can sicken humans and livestock, thereby creating a risk of injury or even death;

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 potentially a mile from a pipeline rupture depending on weather and other factors; that county residents, their families, animals, and others may be within potential harm from a CO₂ pipeline rupture;

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;

Whereas, carbon dioxide gas can intoxicate citizens and first responders and cause disorientation and confusion, limiting the potential for self-evacuation by citizens and making first responder rescue operations challenging and dangerous;

Whereas, carbon dioxide gas is heavier than air and can settle in low lying areas and closed structures for significant periods of time;

Whereas, high concentrations of carbon dioxide following a rupture of a CO₂ pipeline could cause internal combustion engines in motor vehicles to malfunction or even stop operating, limiting the ability of citizens to use their trucks and cars to self-evacuate, and limiting the ability of first responders to use rescue vehicles;

Whereas, large high-pressure liquified carbon dioxide pipelines may rupture with substantial force as the carbon dioxide depressurizes into a gas, producing running ductile fracturing for extensive distances

unless stopped through use of sufficiently strong pipe steel or crack arrestors, putting nearby citizens and properties in danger;

Whereas, the Peoria Park District has no reliable information about the geographic extent of a potential danger zone following a rupture of a proposed CO2 pipeline;

Whereas, should an emergency result related to a proposed CO2 pipeline failure, the Peoria Park District should not and cannot bear the cost of the specialized emergency response equipment, training, and other resources uniquely necessary for our police and other staff to respond to a high-pressure liquified carbon dioxide pipeline rupture;

Whereas, based on these findings, without tested safety and health regulations, the Peoria Park District reasonably believes that a CO2 pipeline will pose health and safety risks to those involved with and using our programs, outdoor areas and facilities.

Now therefore, be it resolved:

That the Peoria Park District Board of Trustees hereby institutes a a moratorium on any considerations, agreements, or requests for high-pressure liquified carbon dioxide pipelines within its properties or that place its properties in danger and to table any requests regarding road, construction, or other agreements or permits, infrastructure changes, or other measures for any high-pressure liquified carbon-dioxide pipelines, until updated regulations are issued effective by the U.S. Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration regarding high-pressure CO2 pipelines. Further, the Board of Trustees encourages other local municipalities to institute such a moratorium and the Board of Trustees also seeks to confer and coordinate its evaluation in connection and in collaboration with other local municipalities and government leaders affected by or responsible for legislation that guides any proposed CO2 pipeline construction.

Signed this Day of _____, 2023

President of the Peoria Park District