

CO2 PIPELINES | WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

There are multiple large-scale, multi-state CO2 pipeline networks being proposed in the Midwest by out-of-state corporations that aim to “capture” CO2 from a variety of industrial facilities. In Minnesota, the pipeline route currently crosses ten counties: **Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Martin, Otter Tail, Redwood, Renville, Wilkin, and Yellow Medicine Counties.**

CO2 PIPELINES ARE:

Destructive

The construction of pipelines can wreck soil structure, disrupt drain tile, and have other [serious and long-term impacts](#) on the integrity and productivity of agricultural land.

Untested

The size and scale of these pipeline networks makes them the first of their kind.

Hazardous

While the air we breathe contains small amounts of carbon dioxide (usually around 0.04%), [CO2 is an asphyxiant](#). Concentrations of 10% or more can produce unconsciousness or death.

Risky

Piping CO2 through a pipeline must be done at very high pressures – 2-3x higher than a natural gas pipeline. At these pressures, a CO2 pipeline rupture can lead to a rapid, uncontrolled release of CO2 into the surrounding area, [posing a serious risk](#) to any people, animals or vegetation in the area.

CO2 PIPELINE PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR MINNESOTA:

Whose gain? | The companies and their investors who want to build these pipelines stand to make billions. In exchange, they plan to give landowners and farmers one-time payments for permanent easements. Meanwhile, the economic and environmental burdens and safety [risks shift to the surrounding rural communities and taxpayers.](#)

Selling snake oil | The CO2 pipeline companies are making big claims about the benefits these projects will bring to rural communities—in taxes, employment, and economic growth. But beneath the surface [there is little substance to these promises.](#) Rural communities are used to big corporations coming into town and making promises they don't keep—will we be fooled again?

Boondoggles | The companies say we need these projects as a response to climate change. But these CO2 pipelines are not a real climate solution and [“capturing” CO2 is unproven](#) as an effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to combat climate change. They are also not economically workable without [massive public subsidies](#) (e.g. the 45Q tax credit) and do not change our underlying reliance on non-renewable energy. We need real solutions for our communities and the environment – not boondoggles that steal our time, money, and energy.

“Their side [CO2 pipeline companies] says whatever they want and does whatever they want... They're pushing that this is going to be the salvation [for ethanol]. That's not true.”

- Richard McKean, an Iowa farmer who grows corn for ethanol ([The Guardian](#))

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