Carbon Dioxide Pipelines: Role in Responding to Carbon Emissions

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Acknowledgements

UH Energy extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following industry experts and community leaders, whose invaluable contributions have greatly enriched this research endeavor:

Dan Cole
Vice President of CCUS Commercial Development and Governmental Relations, Denbury, Inc.

Marty Jorgensen
President, Barnard Pipeline, Inc.

Tony Straquadine
Executive Director, The INGAA Foundation, Inc.

Mindy Green
Public Awareness Advisor, ExxonMobil

Josie Long
Consultant, Process Performance Improvement Consulting

Jim Saccone
Head of North America Sales, Industrial & Energy Technology, Baker Hughes

Alexander John Cruz
Technology Integration Leader, Baker Hughes

Jeff Baranek
County Judge, Jefferson County, TX

Anne Gowen
Facilitator, Community Advisory Panel to Lyondell and Equistar

Diane Sheridan
Facilitator, Bay Area Community Advisory Panel

Their expertise, insights, and dedication to advancing our understanding of critical energy topics have been instrumental in the success of this research project. We are deeply thankful for their time, expertise, and commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and innovation in the field of energy.
A growing number of carbon capture, utilization, and storage projects are expected to come online over the next decade, causing a related growth in pipelines to transport the captured carbon dioxide to its final destination. This paper is intended to help people whose communities are in the path of a proposed project better understand why these pipelines are needed, what risks their construction and operation may pose, and what can be done to ensure the safety of the surrounding environment and communities. A more detailed review of CO₂ pipelines is available at www.uh.edu/uh-energy.

**Background**

In an era marked by remarkable technological advancements, our world is undergoing a profound energy transition as we shift toward sustainable electrical energy and adopt cleaner fuels such as hydrogen. Even so, carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels in the atmosphere continue to rise. There are numerous sources of these emissions, and many segments of the global economy are taking action to address them. Scientists have linked CO₂ emissions with more frequent extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and other impacts, a reminder that the clock is ticking if we are to address these additional carbon dioxide emissions.

The solutions are complex, and low-carbon sources of energy, including wind, solar, and geothermal power, are essential. But the world will continue to depend on fossil fuels for at least the next few decades, both to satisfy growing global demands for energy and to produce the plastics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and other necessities of daily life we have come to depend upon. Hydrocarbons are a key building block for these products, and at least for now, there is no reliable, affordable substitute. Allowing the resulting levels of carbon dioxide to continue to rise unabated risks serious impacts on people, the environment, and the economy.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have identified carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) technologies as necessary to reduce the impact of carbon dioxide emissions generated by these activities. CCUS, along with other decarbonization strategies including fuel switching and nature-based solutions, are part of an umbrella of strategies needed to address the energy transition. The IEA identifies four reasons to deploy CCUS: (a) tackling emissions from existing energy assets; (b) as a solution for sectors where emissions are hard to abate; (c) as a platform for clean and affordable hydrogen production; and (d) removing carbon from the atmosphere to balance emissions that cannot be directly abated or avoided. One approach has been to capture CO₂ emissions from fossil energy combustion, such as steam power plants or the manufacturing of cement and steel, or directly from the air or the ocean and either safely sequester the emissions or use the CO₂ for the manufacture of materials. A network of CO₂ pipelines, capable of safely and efficiently moving the captured emissions to places they can be stored or used, is a key component of the effort to combat rising CO₂ levels, and their significance cannot be overstated. The captured CO₂, once transported, can be safely stored in geological formations deep underground, harnessed to enhance oil production, or transformed into commercially viable products.

Such a network of CO₂ pipelines would allow us to translate the potential of CCUS technologies into tangible, impactful solutions for mitigating the effects of increased CO₂ emissions on the climate. However, there are risks associated with the construction and operation of these pipelines. The best practices and guardrails that ensure the continued safety and protection of the environment and communities during the construction and operation of pipelines continue to evolve. This paper endeavors to explain the role these pipelines play in CCUS, the best practices for the construction and operation, and the broader journey toward a sustainable world, connecting various industries and safely moving the captured CO₂ to its secure end destination.

**CO₂ Pipelines in the United States**

![Figure 1. Current CO₂ Pipeline Network in the United States.](image)

The United States is a global leader in carbon management and the deployment of CCUS. The U.S. has an extensive CO₂ pipeline network spanning 5,385 miles (Fig. 1), with a capacity to transport 80 million tons of CO₂ annually. The CO₂ is transported as a high-pressure fluid at temperatures ranging from 500 Fahrenheit to 1100 F. The pipelines are typically made of carbon-manganese steel material, such as API grades X60 or X80. This existing network has primarily been used to transport CO₂ to oil-producing fields to support enhanced oil recovery (EOR) efforts. However, the current network falls far short of what is required to make CCUS truly impactful. Projections in support of climate
goals indicate this system will need to grow substantially by 2050, expanding to 65,865 miles to enable capture from over a thousand facilities (Fig. 2), and increasing its capacity to transport around 930 million tons of CO₂ each year. Achieving this expansion by 2035 will require significant investment, site characterization, and permitting across multiple storage basins and sites. It will also require significant investment and effort to engage with a broad range of stakeholders across the communities impacted by these pipelines.

While there are alternative means of transporting CO₂, such as trucks, railways, and ships, pipelines hold a distinct advantage when it comes to achieving large-scale connectivity. A few of the advantages are:

- They excel at high-volume transport, safely and economically moving large quantities of CO₂.
- Established safety protocols, engineering standards, and regulatory oversight.
- Reliable means of transporting captured emissions consistently and continuously. This is crucial for industries that depend on steady operations.
- Seamlessly integrate with various industrial processes, such as power plants, cement manufacture, and chemical facilities. This integration streamlines the CCUS process and minimizes logistical complexities.

The advantages of CO₂ pipelines are similar to those of other existing energy services, including oil and gas pipelines. These pipeline networks are crucial for the transfer of vital resources across the value chain. Several CCUS projects have also been proposed in Southeast Asia, Australia, and elsewhere around the world. While the regulatory and permitting issues are different from those in the U.S., and the geology may dictate different methods of CO₂ storage, the lessons learned during the U.S. buildout of CCUS, and the accompanying CO₂ pipeline expansion will provide valuable insights as the technologies spread globally.

Storage

Oil and natural gas are trapped in subsurface reservoirs, shales, or carbonate rocks. Similarly, naturally occurring CO₂ from natural biological activity, igneous activity, and chemical reactions between rocks and fluids accumulate in the natural subsurface environment and are trapped in similar formations.

Subsurface storage opportunities for CO₂ are shown in Fig. 3. The oil and gas industry has injected CO₂ into subsurface formations for more than 50 years to stimulate reservoirs and produce more hydrocarbons. To mitigate the impact of CO₂ on the environment, it will be captured and permanently stored underground.

To successfully store CO₂ underground, several key issues must be dealt with. State and federal regulations, as well as industry practices, must ensure that CO₂ is safely injected into the subsurface and that it remains where it has been injected.

- **Site selection:** Pore space (microscopic cavities in the rock) must be assessed to determine their capacity, and it must be determined that the formation itself and the cap rock on top of the formation will not allow the CO₂ to migrate to the surface or beyond the boundaries of the storage site.

- **Permitting:** Injection wells for CO₂ are considered Class VI wells and have special regulations that ensure proper drilling and pumping procedures are followed. Class VI permit requirements are rigorous and in most instances are administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). That agency has given a few states “primacy,” under which the state can administer the permit program in accordance with EPA
standards.

- **Sub-Surface Monitoring**: Injection flows and pressures must be monitored during drilling, injection, and storage to ensure pressures do not exceed what is safe for the storage site. Additionally, storage site selection and drilling methods adopted are chosen so as not to take place in a formation that could be prone to induced seismicity.

- **Surface monitoring** for the presence of excess CO₂ to provide early detection in the event of a release is also essential. Data from current CO₂ storage projects demonstrate that monitoring techniques can detect movement of CO₂ in the storage reservoirs and while data is limited, no release to the surface has been detected.

### Utilization of Transported CO₂

Transport through pipelines goes beyond the safe and efficient delivery of the captured carbon dioxide; it enables the use of that CO₂ in applications that can potentially make significant contributions to sustainability. Some of the ways in which transported CO₂ is utilized are:

- **Enhanced Oil Recovery**: CO₂ is injected into depleted oil reservoirs to enhance oil production. This not only increases oil yields but also ensures the long-term storage of CO₂ deep underground.

- **Transported CO₂** is used in the cultivation of algae, which thrives on CO₂ and sunlight. Algae can serve as a vital component in the production of biofuels, offering a renewable and environmentally friendly alternative.

- The food and beverage industry relies upon CO₂ pipelines to provide carbon dioxide for use in producing carbonated beverages and food processing.

- CO₂ is used in concrete carbonation, a sustainable construction technique. By injecting CO₂ into concrete mixtures, the material becomes stronger and more resilient while simultaneously locking away carbon dioxide in a solid form.

These uses highlight the potential of captured CO₂ and the pivotal role CO₂ pipelines play in driving innovation towards decarbonization.

### Regulations

A leaking CO₂ pipeline can displace oxygen in the surrounding air, causing a variety of health problems – including headaches, dizziness, elevated blood pressure, difficulty breathing, and even death – and, if not mitigated quickly, raising the risk of harm to waterways, fish, and other wildlife. Because it is colorless and odorless, it can be difficult to detect a leak. And any leak of CO₂ into the atmosphere obviously defeats the purpose of capturing it in the first place.

A number of regulations and industry practices are in place to limit the risks. In the United States, regulation of CO₂ pipelines falls under the jurisdiction of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), a federal agency under the Department of Transportation. These regulations are essential to ensure the safety and reliability of CO₂ pipelines, reducing the risk of accidents, damage to the environment, and harm to public health. PHMSA’s rules are in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), specifically in Part 195 for hazardous liquid pipelines. (CFR :: 49 CFR Part 195 – Transportation of Hazardous Liquids by Pipeline).

The regulations stipulate standards for the design, construction, and testing of new pipelines. Many of the challenges and safety procedures related to CO₂ pipelines are no different than those faced by other pipelines, including those carrying chemicals, oil, and natural gas, although the risks in the event of an accident or leak vary. INGAA, the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America, serves as the trade association representing the owners and operators of natural gas and CO₂ pipelines. The INGAA Foundation, whose membership consists of pipeline operators and their associated supply chain, maintains a members-only “lessons learned” repository to ensure all members learn from incidents and so-called “near misses.”

Generally, individual states regulate CO₂ pipelines on state lands and private lands within the state. Texas and New Mexico are illustrative.

Both Texas and New Mexico permit a pipeline operator to build a pipeline to move CO₂ from a specific source to a specific destination as a private or proprietary line. Texas also allows a CO₂ pipeline to be built and operated as a “common carrier line”. In that case, the operator can seek to exercise the right of eminent domain to obtain a right of way but must do so by agreeing to certain obligations. For example, they must establish equal rates for the use of the pipeline by its customers, and they must publish their rates or tariffs for all to see. Using eminent domain rests on a finding of the importance of the overriding public good provided by a project and requires fair and reasonable compensation to the
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property owner. Nevertheless, use of the eminent domain process is often contentious and provokes significant negative reactions from impacted landowners and communities.

Additionally, PHMSA enforces standards for safe pipeline operations. These standards require operators to implement measures to maintain pipeline integrity throughout the pipelines’ operational life. This includes regular inspections, maintenance, and integrity management programs aimed at identifying and addressing potential risks.

Pipeline safety regulations use the concept of “High Consequence Areas” (HCAs), to identify specific locations and areas where a pipeline incident could have the most significant adverse consequences on the environment or the community. Within HCAs, operators are required to provide additional focus, efforts, and analysis to ensure the integrity of pipelines. HCAs include schools, hospitals, community centers, and cities and towns with high population density.

Enhancements to CO₂ pipeline operations include emergency response protocols, spill prevention and response plans, and measures to protect against third-party damages. By enforcing these standards and suggesting best practices, PHMSA works to ensure CO₂ pipelines are operated with attention to safety, reliability, and environmental protection.

Challenges and Measures

It is important to note that most CO₂ pipelines, like the majority of existing oil and natural gas pipelines are located underground. The right of way is excavated, and the pipeline installed and then buried, with the surface land restored as near as possible to its pre-excavation condition. While CO₂ pipelines offer a promising solution to several environmental challenges, they also present hurdles, in part because they are buried and out of sight. A few of the primary challenges are:

- **Pipeline Integrity Issues**: Pipeline integrity refers to the continuous process of maintaining and ensuring a pipeline is fit for use. CO₂ pipelines face threats including corrosion, mechanical stress, material degradation, and welding defects. These issues can weaken the pipeline structure and compromise its ability to safely transport CO₂.

- **Geological Issues**: CO₂ pipelines often traverse diverse terrains and landscapes, making them susceptible to geological hazards. Landslides, subsidence, and erosion can disrupt pipeline stability and lead to potential leaks or ruptures. Additionally, seismic events pose a significant threat in regions prone to earthquakes.

  - **Third-Party Damage**: The risk of third-party interference, such as accidental damage caused by construction activities or excavations near pipelines, is an additional layer of concern.

In navigating these challenges, ongoing monitoring, maintenance, and rigorous inspections are essential. Reputable operators follow best practices developed through INGAA, in addition to standards set by state and federal (PHMSA) regulations, to reduce the risks from CO₂ and other pipelines. Community members seeking more information about a proposed pipeline should ask if measures such as the following will be used for the new project:

- **In-Line Inspection**: A technique where specialized inspection tools, often referred to as “smart pigs,” are inserted into pipelines to assess their internal condition. These smart pigs employ multiple technologies to address different issues:
  - Magnetic flux tools identify and measure metal wall loss.
  - Ultrasonic tools can identify wall loss but also detect crack-like defects, weld defects, and longitudinal cracks.
  - Geometry tools measure the pipe bore from inside the line and identify dents, deformations, and other changes to the pipeline.

- **Cathodic Protection**: An electrochemical technique that uses a low electrical current to prevent corrosion of the metal pipeline. This technique has been used since the 1930s to protect long pipelines.

- **Geological Surveys and Site Investigations**: To assess soil properties, and geological features, thorough surveys are required.

- **Geological Monitoring**: Implementing programs to continuously monitor ground movement, slope stability, and other geological parameters along the pipeline.

- **Advanced Leak Detection Systems**: Utilizing advanced technologies like acoustic sensors, infrared imaging, and fiber optics to promptly detect leaks in CO₂ pipelines, especially in high-consequence areas.

- **Ensuring participation in the National 811 program, also known as the “Call Before You Dig” program. It provides landowners and contractors with free marking of underground lines to ensure that they are not inadvertently damaged.**
Emergency Response Plans: Emergency response plans outline actions to be taken in the event of pipeline incidents. These plans ensure a rapid and effective response to mitigate environmental and community impacts and should be devised in cooperation with local first responders to ensure appropriate action is taken and necessary equipment will be available. The plans typically provide emergency response training for first responders.

By incorporating these measures, CO₂ pipelines can be managed with a strong emphasis on safety, integrity, and environmental responsibility. For a more detailed review of integrity issues, causes, and solutions, see Appendices I, II & III.

Having emphasized the importance of safety, integrity, and environmental responsibility, we examine a real-world case highlighting the potential risks and consequences of CO₂ pipeline transport.

Case of Satartia, Mississippi

A CO₂ pipeline managed by Denbury Gulf Coast Pipelines ruptured near the community of Satartia, Mississippi, in 2020, the result of a landslide triggered by heavy rainfall, which placed excessive stress on a weld in the pipeline. While the cause of the rupture was not caused by the CO₂ in the pipeline, the subsequent release of CO₂ prompted the evacuation of 200 residents, and 45 people required medical attention due to breathing difficulties. The incident brought new attention to CO₂ pipelines and has prompted heightened regulatory focus. PHMSA cited the following reasons for the incident involving Denbury’s role:

- Operations and maintenance procedures did not account for soil instability as a potential threat, despite prior knowledge of such risks.
- The integrity management program did not address geological hazards or ways to prevent them.
- The company’s dispersion model for emergency events did not account for the region’s topographical features and did not anticipate that a release could impact Satartia.
- Aerial checks did not spot any issues at the pipeline location before the accident.
- There was a delay in notifying local responders, resulting in confusion and delays in the emergency response.

Updated Rule Making by PHMSA

PHMSA’s failure investigation report highlighted two key issues that should be prioritized through regulatory measures:

a) pipeline company awareness and mitigation efforts to address integrity threats due to changing climate, geohazards, and soil stability issues, and
b) improved public engagement efforts to ensure public and emergency responder awareness of nearby CO₂ pipelines and pipeline-related facilities, including what to do if a CO₂ release occurs, especially in low-lying areas with topographical features such as rivers and valleys.

To enhance CO₂ pipeline safety following the Satartia incident, PHMSA has taken the following actions:

- It is creating new rules for CO₂ pipelines that will include guidelines for emergency preparedness, training, and response, ensuring pipeline operators can effectively handle unexpected situations.
- It has distributed an updated nationwide advisory to all pipeline operators stressing the need for improved planning and risk reduction strategies. This advisory highlights risks associated with land movements and geohazards.
- It is proactively conducting research and supporting research to model, identify, and implement improved safety protocols to prevent similar incidents.
- On May 26, 2022, PHMSA issued a Notice of Probable Violation, Proposed Civil Penalty and Proposed Compliance Order, proposing a fine of $3.9 million for Denbury Gulf Coast Pipeline, LLC, emphasizing the importance of strict compliance with safety regulations. Ultimately, the company paid $2.8 million.
Incident Reporting

PHMSA maintains a comprehensive database that catalogs incident details spanning the past two decades. Over the last 20 years, the database reports that CO₂ pipelines have recorded a relatively low incident count of 105 nationwide. This stands in contrast to other hazardous liquid categories. CO₂, crude oil, and refined petroleum products belong to the hazardous liquid classification. Appendix IV outlines the length of crude oil, refined petroleum products, and CO₂ pipelines, as well as the number of incidents and incident rates by year. CO₂ pipelines rank as the safest of the three categories, and the highest incident rate for CO₂ lines, which occurred in 2006, was less than 0.002 incidents per mile. This data provides insight into the safety record of CO₂ pipelines when compared to their counterparts, highlighting their ability to maintain generally safe operations over the past two decades.

Planned Pipelines and Rights-of-Way

In a recent development, three major companies—Summit Carbon Solutions, Navigator Ventures, and Wolf Carbon Solutions—proposed an ambitious project involving approximately 3,650 miles (5,874 km) of new carbon dioxide pipelines across the American Midwest. The primary goal was to bolster carbon capture efforts, especially from ethanol production, and reduce biogenic emissions. However, the plan drew concerns, primarily related to the chosen route that crossed predominantly rural areas and farmlands. These concerns involve pipeline efficiency, safety, and the potential impact on local communities. While community opposition and permitting delays caused operators of the Navigator line to cancel the project in the fall of 2023, and the Summit line has been put on hold for similar reasons, both illustrate the problems facing the pipeline industry.

Negotiations and Legal Complexities: The process of obtaining agreements from landowners to facilitate pipeline construction encountered lengthy delays, as negotiations continued between the companies and concerned landowners. These delays amplified public apprehension, driven by concerns that the companies would resort to the use of eminent domain to secure the required rights-of-way. In this context, it is vital to understand terms like "rights-of-way," referring to legal authorization to cross another’s land for specific purposes like pipeline construction, and "eminent domain," which grants the government or authorized entities the authority to acquire private property for public use, provided fair compensation is offered to property owners. In many cases involving CO₂ pipelines, the landowner retains the ability to use the property once construction is complete. Nevertheless, it is easy for landowners and communities to feel they are being forced to accept a development that is undesirable and unsafe. These terms highlight the complex legal and ethical aspects underpinning the ongoing debate between companies, affected communities, and landowners.

Community Concerns: People living near proposed pipeline routes sought legal intervention to address the issues. Their primary concern centered on the well-being of their communities and the potential repercussions for the farming sector. These concerns were compounded by real-world incidents, such as the one in Satartia, Mississippi, which intensified the debate over the safety and necessity of such extensive projects.

Stakeholder Management

Working with stakeholders requires a proactive approach by pipeline owners to minimize community objections and ensure successful infrastructure deployment and operation. The key aspects of a sound stakeholder approach are:

- **Community Engagement**: Transparent, two-way, and open communication channels with local communities are vital to addressing community concerns, meeting the community’s aspirations, collaborating on shared environmental values and goals, and gathering valuable insights. Conversations must move seamlessly from the operator to the community and vice versa. Allowing members of the community to speak for themselves and have their issues addressed can foster trust and cooperation.

- **Outreach**: Effective outreach is essential to disseminate accurate information. Outreach initiatives should encompass public awareness campaigns, informational meetings, and educational programs. Clear, community-specific, and concise information allows stakeholders to make informed decisions and can dispel misconceptions and fears. Outreach should also include feedback mechanisms to integrate community knowledge and input.

- **Fear and Misinformation**: It is critical to proactively address concerns and counter misconceptions. Easily understandable, and consistent messaging can help alleviate anxieties and build trust among stakeholders. This is also essential for preventing the spread of misinformation and delays in emergency response in case of an accident.

- **Land Acquisition**: Land use, particularly in agriculture-dependent areas, is a significant stakeholder concern. CO₂ pipeline operators must consider the impact on agricultural activities and landowners, including engaging with farmers and other landowners to understand their concerns. Implementing
measures to minimize disruptions to agriculture and compensating landowners fairly can mitigate conflicts and ensure continued stakeholder support.

**Safety Considerations**

In addition to the measures proposed by PHMSA, our study has identified various potential impacts during pipeline development and operation, including CO₂ pipelines. These include soil erosion, pollution, habitat disturbance, noise, and traffic congestion resulting from excavation activities, as well as concerns specific to CO₂ related to oxygen levels, and pipe rupture due to high pressures. To ensure the safety of local communities and the surrounding environment, addressing the potential risks proactively is crucial. Collaborative efforts are essential to address the following:

**Construction Issues:**

- Erosion Control: Implement erosion control measures such as sediment barriers to prevent soil erosion and protect the surrounding ecosystem.
- Traffic Management: Schedule the transport of heavy machinery and materials during off-peak hours to minimize traffic congestion and reduce the impact on local roads.
- Habitat Protection: Establish construction buffer zones to safeguard critical habitats, preserving local biodiversity.
- Noise Reduction: Employ noise mitigation measures, such as erecting sound barriers or using quieter construction equipment, to minimize noise pollution in the vicinity.
- Dust Control: Institute best management practices to minimize fugitive dust, including reducing driving speeds, and utilizing water and additives as well as tackifiers to stabilize soil piles.

**Operational Issues:**

- Gas Monitoring: Continuously monitor CO₂ concentrations in and around pipeline facilities using advanced sensors. A variety of technologies are available and easily implemented.
- Leak Detection and Repair: Implement a rigorous program for prompt and accurate leak detection and rapid repair of leaking pipelines.
- Pressure Safety: Install pressure relief valves and safety mechanisms that automatically activate in case of excessive pressure, ensuring the integrity of the pipeline system.

These safety considerations and corresponding measures can mitigate potential risks and ensure the secure development and operation of CO₂ pipelines while prioritizing the environment and local communities.

**Benefits**

CO₂ pipelines offer a range of benefits that could address critical challenges of emissions reduction and foster sustainable development. These benefits include:

- Mitigating Climate Change: One of the foremost benefits of CO₂ pipelines is their role in mitigating climate change. This proactive approach aligns with international climate goals and demonstrates a commitment to combating climate change.
- Technological Advancements: Innovation is driving the development of cutting-edge technologies related to carbon capture, transport, and utilization. These advancements have broader applications beyond CO₂ pipelines, benefiting other sectors and industries.
- Economic Benefits: CO₂ pipeline projects contribute to the local and national economies. During the construction phase alone, projects like those proposed by Navigator Ventures and Summit Carbon Solutions generate a substantial number of jobs. Navigator had said it would employ 8,000 individuals, while Summit projected the creation of 11,000 jobs during the construction phase. Additionally, these projects would have generated tax revenues for local communities. Such projects also bring indirect and induced benefits to the local community through new jobs in related sectors, essential services, and new investments across all sectors of the economy.

The Dakota Institute recently completed a study of the economic impact of CO₂ pipelines in the state of South Dakota. The results, while specific to South Dakota, offer additional insights into the benefits these infrastructure investments can provide. According to the study, the Navigator and Summit pipelines would have generated approximately $3.3 billion in economic impact during the construction and operational phases; $925 million would come from the construction phase in 2024-25. The operational phase would have added $2.35 billion to the state GDP from the combined impacts of pipeline operations, clean fuel and CCS tax credits, and a stronger corn basis, according to the study, which forecasts the creation of 7,105 jobs between 2024 and 2034. Of those, 5,353 jobs were to be part of the construction phase, with 1,752 permanent jobs created during the operational life of the project.
Best Practices

To prevent incidents like those in Satartia, Mississippi, CO₂ pipeline owners can adopt a set of best practices aimed at ensuring safety, compliance, and effective stakeholder engagement. Communities and landowners should query developers on their plans to address these issues when discussing specific projects in their communities:

- Following Regulations: Compliance with PHMSA regulations and other relevant guidelines is paramount. This includes systematic monitoring and assessment of pipeline integrity, conducting regular inspections, and promptly addressing any identified issues.

- Adopting Technology: Owners should employ advanced monitoring and control systems that provide real-time data on pipeline conditions. These technologies include leak detection systems, remote sensors, and predictive analytics, which enable early detection of potential issues and rapid response to mitigate risks.

- Engaging with Stakeholders: Effective stakeholder engagement is a cornerstone of best practices for pipeline owners, whether they are building a proprietary line or a common carrier. Beyond regulatory requirements, it is crucial to actively engage with the communities and individuals residing near pipeline routes. This engagement should involve not only sharing information but also listening to and addressing concerns, understanding the community’s expectations, and working together to accelerate emissions reduction while meeting the community’s socioeconomic aspirations. Consideration of community responses and input is vital for building trust and fostering cooperation. Concerns and responses will vary between communities, and there is no one-size-fits-all solution.

- Emergency Response Planning: Robust emergency response planning is a non-negotiable best practice. Pipeline owners should develop comprehensive emergency response plans that outline procedures for addressing various scenarios, including leaks, ruptures, and other incidents. Collaboration with local emergency responders and training programs, such as Exxon Mobil’s partnership with Texas A&M University’s Engineering Extension Service, can equip first responders with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage emergencies.

By incorporating these best practices, CO₂ pipeline owners can significantly reduce the likelihood of incidents, ensure the safe and responsible operation of their pipelines, and credibly, symbiotically, and sustainably coexist with impacted communities.

Conclusion

Ensuring the safety of CO₂ transportation requires a balance between protecting the community, the environment, and continued economic development through fossil energy use. Striking this balance requires a commitment to safety, compliance, and proactive dialogue with stakeholders to realize the benefits of CO₂ pipelines while addressing legitimate concerns. Moreover, the related socioeconomic benefits and regional connectivity will be invaluable in forging a sustainable and interconnected future.

Ultimately, CO₂ pipelines are essential in the context of removing carbon dioxide emissions, mitigating climate change, and enabling the transition to cleaner, more sustainable energy sources. They also bring significant positive economic benefits to the communities in which they operate. However, any effort to expand their use to reap these benefits will rely upon both the reality and the public perception that they can be constructed and operated safely.

This paper, along with the accompanying white paper, offers a roadmap for getting there through a neutral assessment of the risks and benefits of these pipelines and recommended best practices to ensure their operation is rooted in responsible environmental stewardship and respectful engagement with the communities they affect.
## APPENDIX I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PIPELINE INTEGRITY ISSUES</th>
<th>CAUSES</th>
<th>RESOLUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fractures</td>
<td>A fracture refers to a break in the pipeline's structure, resulting in a discontinuity in the design and flow.</td>
<td>Mechanical stress, material defects, and corrosion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Damage</td>
<td>External damage, such as excavation work, construction activities, or natural disasters like landslides or earthquakes, can damage co-pipelines.</td>
<td>Mechanical impacts from heavy machinery or other objects can cause punctures or dents in the pipeline, compromising its integrity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipe Joint Failures</td>
<td>The connection between pipe segments, known as pipe joints, can be vulnerable. These joints may fail if not installed properly or unmonitored, leading to ruptures.</td>
<td>Corrosion, thermal stress, material, and welding defects.</td>
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</tbody>
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## APPENDIX II

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<tr>
<th>ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS</th>
<th>CAUSES</th>
<th>RESOLUTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corrosion</td>
<td>• Regularly inspect the pipeline for signs of corrosion using advanced inspection technologies such as corrosion probes and inline inspection tools (smart pigs). Implement corrosion-resistant coatings on the pipeline's interior and exterior surfaces. • Utilize cathodic protection systems to prevent corrosion by creating an electrochemical barrier. • Epoxy resin injection: The method involves introducing a specially formulated epoxy or resin into a crack or defect to restore structural integrity and prevent further deterioration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Material degradation</td>
<td>• Use corrosion-resistant stainless steel, which is less prone to degradation from the CO2 transported. • Perform material testing in a controlled environment to simulate pipeline conditions, ensuring the material's durability over time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faulty valves</td>
<td>• Establish a quarterly valve inspection schedule, during which trained technicians visually inspect valve components, assess their functionality, and perform any necessary maintenance. • Utilize smart valve monitoring systems that can detect deviations from normal valve operations, such as irregular pressure changes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pipeline Leakage Due to Damage by Third Parties</td>
<td>External Damages</td>
<td>• Install highly-visible markers and signs indicating the presence of the pipeline along construction routes.</td>
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# APPENDIX III

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<th>GEOLOGIC RISKS</th>
<th>CAUSES</th>
<th>RESOLUTION</th>
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<tr>
<td>SOIL COMPOSITION</td>
<td>The type of soil the pipeline is buried in can affect its stability. Different soils have varying load-bearing capacities, settlement behaviors, and drainage characteristics.</td>
<td>• If the soil is clay-rich and prone to swelling, design the pipeline with flexible joints to accommodate soil movement without causing structural damage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERRAIN AND TOPOGRAPHY</td>
<td>The pipeline route may cross varying terrains, including slopes, valleys, and hills. Steep slopes can lead to soil erosion, while valleys may be prone to landslides.</td>
<td>• In areas with steep slopes, install erosion control measures such as retaining walls or vegetation to prevent soil erosion that could expose the pipeline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUNDWATER LEVELS</td>
<td>Elevated groundwater levels can lead to soil instability, erosion, and corrosion of the pipeline. Changes in groundwater levels due to seasonal variations or nearby water bodies can impact soil behavior.</td>
<td>• Install drainage systems around the pipeline to help manage excess groundwater and prevent soil instability and corrosion risks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOIL EROSION AND LANDSLIDES</td>
<td>Erosion can expose the pipeline, increasing the risk of external damage. Landslides in hilly or mountainous areas can cause soil movement and impact pipeline integrity.</td>
<td>• Implement erosion control techniques such as slope stabilization, rock protection, and vegetation to prevent soil erosion and landslides. • Install erosion control mats or blankets along slopes to provide soil stability and prevent erosion that could undermine the pipeline's support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEISMIC ACTIVITY</td>
<td>Regions prone to earthquakes can experience ground shaking that affects the pipeline's structural integrity. Seismic activity can induce ground movement and potentially lead to pipeline failure.</td>
<td>• Conduct seismic hazard assessments to determine potential risks. Design pipelines to withstand anticipated seismic forces. • Reinforce pipeline supports in earthquake-prone regions and incorporate flexible joints to absorb seismic movements without damaging the pipeline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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INCIDENT RATE COMPARISON (2004-2022)

The trend of sum of incidents per Mile for Year broken down by Type.
FOOTNOTES


[5]- See, CO2 Pipeline Map, provided by National Pipeline Mapping System, PHMSA, which provides the latest network of CO2 present in the US. https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/GeneralPublic.aspx

[7]- See, Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage (2005)— IPCC. This report analysis the CO2 storage process and details factors influencing the methodology. Detailed report found at https://www.ipcc.ch/report/carbon-dioxide-capture-and-storage/.


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Carbon Dioxide Pipelines: Role in Responding to Carbon Emissions