



Iowa Utilities Commission  
1375 E. Court Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the American Carbon Alliance to urge the Iowa Utilities Commission to establish a procedural schedule and move the Summit Carbon Solutions permit process forward without further delay.

This request comes at a time when Iowa farmers are facing extraordinary economic pressure. Just last week, corn suffered its worst weekly decline in nearly 17 years, with July futures falling 6.6 percent as market uncertainty continues to weigh heavily on producers. Many farmers are already struggling with high input costs, rising interest expenses, and shrinking margins.

Unfortunately, the financial stress facing rural America is showing up in troubling ways.

According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, Chapter 12 farm bankruptcies increased for the second consecutive year in 2025, reaching 315 filings nationwide, a 46 percent increase over the previous year. The Midwest accounted for more filings than any other region.

Farmers need markets, they need demand, and they need certainty about the future.

Carbon capture infrastructure is not a silver bullet for every challenge facing agriculture, but it represents one of the most significant opportunities available today to strengthen ethanol's competitiveness, lower carbon intensity scores, expand access to sustainable aviation fuel markets, marine biofuels, and other new developments create new demand for corn. Those opportunities cannot be realized if the process remains stalled indefinitely.

The Commission's role is not to predetermine an outcome. Rather, it is to ensure that a fair, transparent, and orderly process moves forward so the facts can be considered and a decision can ultimately be made. Right now, that process has stalled, and the uncertainty is creating consequences for farmers, ethanol producers, rural communities, and businesses that are looking for signals about Iowa's future.

Every month of delay is another month that farmers are left waiting while economic conditions continue to deteriorate. Every month of delay is another month that potential investments remain on hold.

Iowa agriculture cannot afford to stand still.

The American Carbon Alliance respectfully urges the Commission to establish a procedural schedule and allow this process to move forward. Farmers deserve certainty, rural communities deserve answers, and Iowa deserves the opportunity to compete for the next generation of agricultural investment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Buis".

Tom Buis  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Carbon Alliance