

Hi, my name is Eloise MacMillan Reid for the record.

Thank you for having us this evening, and for adding another hearing, although I know many people and organizations have requested an extension of the comment period and I hoping you are still considering that request.

I'm speaking on behalf of the Louisiana against False solutions coalition and as resident of Louisiana. I just want to clarify that as the Environmental Protection Agency you are meant to protect the environment, correct? I listened to every day of the last three days of hearings, and it was hard for me to understand that the EPA was sitting listening to supporters and lobbyists for the oil and gas industry when you know that the oil and gas industry actively pollutes the environment and is causing climate destruction and environmental racism, across the country and especially here in Louisiana, home to cancer ally. The oil and gas industry is also the only one telling you that carbon capture is the way forward when so many Louisianans were telling you we DO NOT want CCS in our state. We are just trying to live in Louisiana, just people trying to have a future for their children, trying to have a future for themselves. Trying to get insurance on their homes. Why are so many Louisianans losing insurance for their homes? Due to the increased risks of hurricanes, floods and natural disasters, and other impacts of climate change. We know that these disasters are not actually natural, right? We know this. If you work for the EPA, you should know this. You know, climate change is caused by the industry the oil and gas industry, you know that the that Louisiana is home to some of the worst environmental injustices and climate injustices in the entire world.

Why is that? Because for hundreds of years, the oil and gas industry has cleared cypress trees cleared the swamps, and cut channels in the wetlands, which causes saltwater intrusion etc. We're losing land at a rapid rate. This state has more stressors, and more industry in a land that is already so fragile.

I have been lucky enough to live in a lot of places. I have lived in Louisiana for 10 years, and I am so grateful to be here. The people in Louisiana are not like anyone else. It's true. This is a culture that you cannot replace. If we lose our land due to carbon injection wells, and land loss, we will be displaced. This is a culture that you cannot replace. It is clear to me that every single person who has spoken, whether they are for or against carbon capture, loves Louisiana. I hope those listening will take a second to imagine a future for Louisiana that does not rely on a toxic industry to survive. We can and will transition to a just future, and we do not have to continue to inhale the toxic fumes and lies of the oil and gas industry any longer. We don't need CCS in our state, and we deserve so much better.

This is an emotional topic because people really need to live be able to live here and live their truth and live out who they are. Approving primacy for LDNR to regulate CCS is a death sentence for this state. If and when Co2 escapes, it is an asphyxiant, which means it will displace oxygen, so you cannot breathe. First responders, and ambulances cannot get to you.

LDNR is an irresponsible and understaffed agency who literally caves to the oil and gas industry at any chance they must regulate them. Please do not let them have control over primacy and permitting for the wells for this toxic waste in Louisiana.

We are fighting enough this state already, as you know. It's not okay, and it should not happen here, and it should not happen anywhere. And if it doesn't happen in Louisiana, it won't happen anywhere. Do not use Louisiana as a testing ground again. For the 100th time people are sick, and people are dying. We've seen the results of the tests, LDNR has failed.

We need clean and renewable energy with no pollution, we do not need a false solution.

It is hard to live here, you are fighting environmental challenges on every angle. You're fighting record breaking temperatures, you're fighting hurricanes, you're fighting cancer because of the oil and gas industry, and yet people are so determined to live here.

Why? Because there's nothing else like Louisiana in the world. If you do this, It's a death sentence for our state. And we've dealt with too much death already.

Please listen to the people speaking to you. We know this state, we live here every day. We live in 2023, we should be fighting environmental racism, not furthering it.