

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 16

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CLINTON IN SUPPORT OF STATE ACTION TO
PROTECT THE MAHOMET AQUIFER**

WHEREAS, drinking water aquifers are a public good and critical resource threatened by changing climate, pollution, and overconsumption; and

WHEREAS, the US Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) can designate an aquifer as a sole source aquifer if no reasonably available alternative drinking water sources exist should the aquifer become contaminated; and

WHEREAS, the US EPA has designated the Mahomet Aquifer as a sole-source aquifer, and may, upon petition, designate other aquifers in Illinois as sole source; and

WHEREAS, the Mahomet Aquifer provides drinking water for nearly 1 million people in Central Illinois, including many DeWitt County residents and City of Clinton residents; and

WHEREAS, the business of sequestering carbon in saline aquifers is increasing due to the federal 45Q tax credit, which offers \$85 per metric ton of sequestered carbon; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Simon Sandstone saline aquifer, located below the freshwater Mahomet Aquifer, is an attractive target for CO₂ sequestration; and

WHEREAS, new carbon sequestration projects propose to sequester carbon at an unprecedented scale in Illinois, with projects proposing to store over one hundred times the amount of carbon already sequestered in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, as of this date, four of seven new carbon sequestration projects would inject CO₂ through and/or store it under the Mahomet Aquifer or its recharge areas; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that more carbon sequestration projects will be proposed in Illinois, and some may impact the Mahomet Aquifer in DeWitt County; and

WHEREAS, leaked carbon risks acidification of the Mahomet Aquifer, threatening to release heavy metals known to cause acute and chronic toxicity, liver, kidney, and intestinal damage, anemia, and cancer; and

WHEREAS, no guarantee exists that CO₂ won't leak into the Mahomet Aquifer; and

WHEREAS, Archer Daniels Midland's carbon sequestration facility, where the only active carbon sequestration wells in Illinois are located, has leaked twice; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State of Illinois that its only current sole source aquifer, the Mahomet Aquifer, and any future sole source aquifers are protected from water quality threats; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clinton desires to protect the Mahomet Aquifer and all sole source aquifers, recognizing that no reasonably available alternative drinking water sources exist should these aquifers become contaminated.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLINTON, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1. that the City of Clinton calls on the General Assembly and the Governor of Illinois to protect the Mahomet Aquifer and future designated sole-source aquifers in the state from potential contamination associated with injecting CO₂ through and storage of CO₂ under any sole source aquifer and its recharge areas, by passing, without delay, a Sole Source Aquifer Carbon Sequestration Ban.

The vote on the adoption of this Resolution was as follows:

Commissioner Edmunds	<u>Absent</u>	Commissioner Buchanan	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Ballenger	<u>Aye</u>	Commissioner Wise	<u>Aye</u>

Ayes: 3

Nays: -

Abstain: -

Absent: 1

PRESENTED to the City Council of the City of Clinton, Illinois, this 19th day of November 2024.

Passed and approved this 3rd day of December, 2024.

CITY OF CLINTON,

BY: 
Tom Edmunds, Acting Mayor
City of Clinton, DeWitt County, Illinois

ATTEST:  (SEAL)
Deputy City Clerk, City of Clinton,
DeWitt County, Illinois