



The challenges of our time demand bold action and innovative thinking. But in the face of these challenges, we have an opportunity—a responsibility—to chart a new course towards a more sustainable future.

I will advocate for policies that prioritize environmental conservation, and champion initiatives that promote sustainability, renewable energy, and responsible land use practices. We must prioritize long-term thinking over short-term gains, and ensure that our actions today do not compromise the well-being of future generations.

Emissions: we want manufacturing facilities and transportation hubs, but those industries come with air pollution, leading to negative impacts on public health and the environment. Addressing emissions from these sources while promoting cleaner energy alternatives is essential.

Preserving Nature: We want to bring in new businesses and boost our local economy, but we also have to manage land use and prevent urban sprawl, which is crucial for preserving natural habitats, farmland, and open spaces. Encouraging smart growth and sustainable development practices can help minimize environmental degradation while supporting economic growth.

Researching the EPA's CO2 Project: I applaud the collaborative efforts that have taken place so far regarding the ARPA funds and Wabash Valley Resources. But I still have concerns about The Environmental Protection Agency allowing Wabash Valley Resources to inject CO2 in wells in Vigo and Vermillion counties. It is a pilot program, and I don't believe enough research has been done to guarantee it won't affect our water and air quality. And there is genuine fears that need to be heard regarding this project's safety. Can they guarantee this CO2 won't leak? Because if it does, this project is putting the health of our residents and livestock in harms way. We need to look into safety procedures in case of an emergency.

Our Agricultural Community: I'd like to learn more about Agricultural sustainability. This is not a subject I am well-versed on, but Agriculture has a vital role in our county, and unsustainable farming practices can lead to soil erosion, water pollution, and loss of biodiversity. Promoting conservation agriculture techniques, such as no-till farming and cover cropping, can help protect natural resources while maintaining agricultural productivity. But I want to talk to our local farmers and hear their thoughts and concerns.

Waste Management: Proper disposal and recycling of waste, including municipal solid waste and hazardous materials, are significant concerns for counties. Implementing effective waste

management strategies, such as recycling programs and waste-to-energy initiatives, can reduce landfill waste and environmental pollution. I want to investigate ways to improve recycling practices in Vigo County.

I know recycling has been a hot button topic in Vigo County, but talking to residents, it seems that people want a better recycling program. I'd like to talk with other counties that have successful recycling programs, such as Monroe County, and see how they are doing it.

I will continue to expand the ongoing partnership with the Vigo County Solid Waste Management District to reduce illegal dumping by providing collection sites for various household waste products throughout the year.

Energy Efficiency: I'd like to make sure Vigo County is doing all it can to work with our local utilities to implement energy efficiency programs and incentivize the adoption of renewable energy technologies that can promote sustainability and economic development.

Let's look into the growing number of solar farms in other areas of the state. Is this an alternative we should consider here?