

Citizen Resolution # 020320

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Eliminating the Risk of a Line 5 spill

Enbridge Energy wants to build a new segment of their Line 5 pipeline in Ashland and Iron Counties, within the Bad River watershed. The Line 5 pipeline travels from Superior, Wisconsin through Northern Wisconsin, across the Upper Peninsula of MI, under the Straits of Mackinac (where Lake Huron and Lake Michigan meet), into the Lower Peninsula, and then on to Sarnia in Ontario. The pipeline is more than sixty-six years old.

The pipeline has already spilled over 1.1 million gallons of oil in 33 incidents, according to the National Wildlife Federation. A study by the University of Michigan described the Straits as “the worst possible place for an oil spill in the Great Lakes.” The pipeline poses a risk to the Great Lakes, a source of drinking water for more than 1.6 million Wisconsin residents, according to the DNR.

Enbridge’s proposed new segment would mean more investment in old-fashioned technology and a pipeline that needs to be decommissioned. The area that Enbridge has proposed this new segment is upstream of Copper Falls State Park, threatening that beloved park with contamination. It also risks cultural and natural resources that are important to the Bad River and many Tribes in the region, critical wetlands for the region, and other important natural resources. The rich and diverse ecosystem of the watershed is also highly valued by the landowners within the Watershed. The streams and creeks of the watershed host a strong trout population and contribute to the exceptional fishery of Lake Superior.

BE IT RESOLVED that the WI Conservation Congress direct the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board and DNR not to allow Enbridge to build the new Line 5 segment and to encourage them to instead decommission the pipeline.

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Signature: _____

Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The

author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.