

From: Joyce Frohn
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Lake Superior
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 9:34:54 PM

Do not risk Wisconsin' S tourism industry and clean water for private profits for a few companies.

Sincerely,

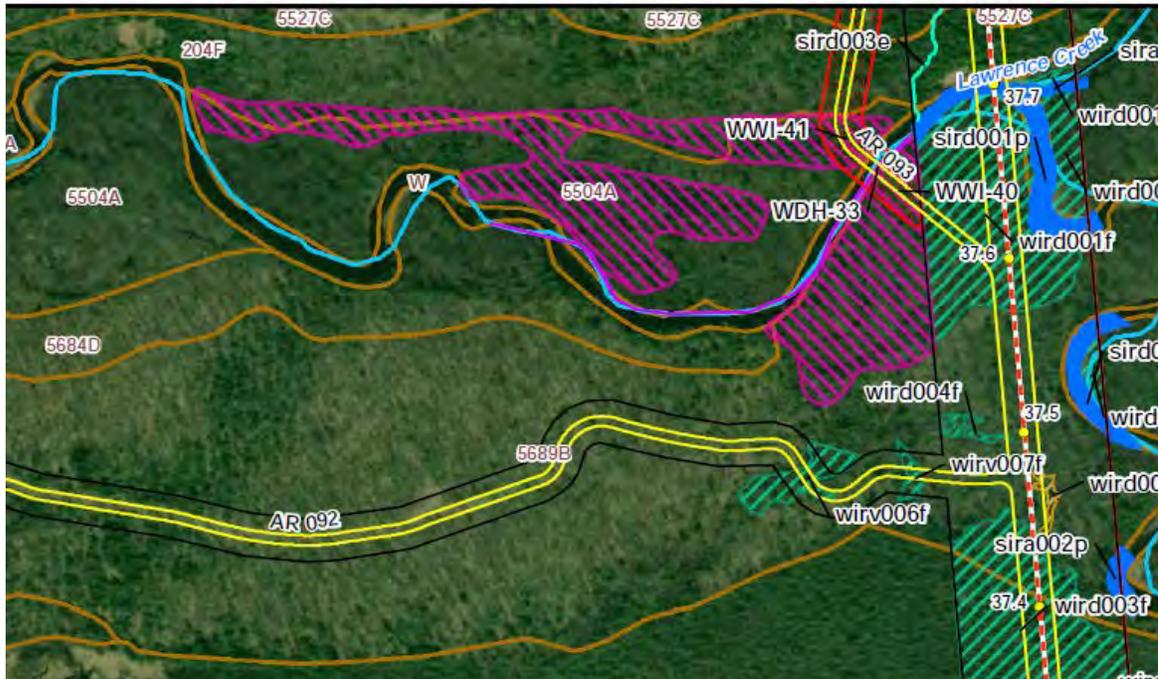
Joyce Frohn
425 Congress
Oshkosh, WI
54901

From: Bobbi
To: [DNR OEFA comments](#)
Subject: Lawrence Creek Brook Trout redds
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020 7:03:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

I live in Northern Iron County in the town of Gurney. Recently, some friends and I hiked through Iron County land to a spot on Lawrence Creek (known to locals as Mud Creek), not far upstream from where it meets the Potato River. We identified what appeared to be trout redds. The locals know Lawrence Creek as a good place to fish brook trout. I see that there is very little data on that stream in the DNR system. I came home and looked up the Enbridge proposal to make sure the proposed pipeline expansion wouldn't destroy the area. Enbridge's proposal shows their pipeline will cross the Potato right above the confluence-- crossing both Lawrence and the Potato. But I don't see Lawrence Creek listed in the Enbridge application on the waterbody crossing table, and it should be, right?

The confluence forms a significant wetland.

This snip is from their file *AttchB_Aerial_MapsSet3of3_NO0471.pdf*. The area of concern is the top right corner of page 12.



The Surface Water Data Viewer shows that Frieberg Creek feeds into Lawrence Creek. Several years ago, I monitored a temperature sensor in Frieberg for the Bad River Watershed Association and was told that it was the coldest stream they had results from to date. A trapper friend has seen spawning brook trout in Frieberg. Seems like a trout stream like Lawrence Creek should not be left off the application listing those that their pipeline will mess up.

Bobbi Rongstad

Town of Gurney, Iron County

From: Debra Roy
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Letter from Michels Corporation - Line 5 Comments
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 1:10:41 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Letter re Support Enbridge Line 5.pdf](#)

On behalf of Bob Osborn, attached is correspondence from Michels Corporation regarding Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471.

Debra Roy

Legal & Executive Assistant

office: 920.924.4300 x2583 | fax: 920.583.3429 |
droy@michels.us
PO Box 128 | 817 Main Street | Brownsville, WI 53006

Lead Safely. Others Will Follow.



THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS COMMUNICATION MAY BE **CONFIDENTIAL** AND/OR LEGALLY **PRIVILEGED** AND IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE RECIPIENT(S) NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION OR ANY OF ITS CONTENTS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this Communication in error, Please NOTIFY the sender and delete the communication in its entirety.



July 7, 2020

VIA EMAIL (DNROEEACOMMENTS@WI.GOV)

Line 5 Comments
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (EA/7)
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

Re: Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Michels Corporation (“Michels”), I am writing this letter to show our unqualified support for Enbridge’s Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) (“Project”).

As a proud Wisconsin infrastructure and utility construction company with over 8,000 employees, we understand how vital Line 5 is in transporting essential energy resources to heat homes, schools, and businesses while supporting the fuel industry in Wisconsin.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by Northern Wisconsin and the Region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

As a leader in the construction industry, Michels has a strong commitment to quality construction practices delivered with an equal commitment to health, safety, and environmental stewardship. Therefore, we know that the impact of this Project on the communities will ultimately be both economically and socially positive and responsible.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been specifically designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Michels has successfully implemented several techniques on various other Enbridge projects including:

- Using timber mats to limit wetland disturbance,
- Installing erosion control devices, and
- Utilizing site-specific waterbody crossing methods.

We ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process, and approve, the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward. If the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources would like any further information, Michels would be happy to provide a representative to speak in support of the Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert C. Osborn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert C. Osborn
Senior Group Vice President, Energy

From: Randy OConnell
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 and the proposed rerouting
Date: Friday, July 03, 2020 8:29:26 PM

Dear officials: Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony on the above topic.

In listening to the on line testifying the other day , I can only say that there was overwhelming support for not only denying the permit to Enbridge, but to retire Line 5 period.

As a citizen , a private well owner, and a frequent visitor to Ashland County and the Apostle Islands, I vehemently urge you to deny this permit and shut down Line 5 as well.

Given Enbridge's poor safety record, why would we allow for the inevitable pollution and economic devastation of the Great Lakes and the twenty percent of the world's freshwater source?

It is a known fact that fossil fuel industry and the infrastructure it creates are not only outdated , but are out of touch with the direction that the world is heading.

I would venture to say that the temporary jobs associated with this pipeline are just that. Temporary.

Tourism and the resultant green energy jobs that will develop with the reversal of this proposal will sustain far beyond the short-sightedness of a pipeline.

To further operate pipelines in areas occupied by our most vulnerable citizens just perpetuates systemic racism.

In conclusion, the brazen manner in which Enbridge feels they are entitled to operate within and apply eminent domain over the people adjacent to Line 5 is insulting.

Their safety record is beyond sketchy. It is abysmal. Over one million gallons of oil leaks on Line 5 alone speaks to abject failure.

We have no desire to be the next Kalamazoo, Michigan . Shut it down !

Thank you,

Randy O'Connell
11245 N. Webster St.
Evansville, WI 53536
414-460-1214

From: Savannah Nelles
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comment
Date: Saturday, June 27, 2020 10:55:24 AM

Enbridge has a history of pipeline leaks, and the reasons for the line to be re-routed away from the Bad River area ring true to the rest of the region. Environmental conditions in regards to clean water and air continue to worsen each year, we must do something to protect the remaining areas of clean water that we have. In addition, the poverty in Ashland County has placed its residents in a tough situation when considering the pipeline. Enbridge is a multi billion dollar corporation which is offering pennies to residents for use of their land, and making offers to people who lack the education themselves or access to legal representation to understand the terms of the agreement. Many offers include residents maintaining the pipeline themselves, which is sure to fail and create pollution, as well as significantly decrease the sale value of lands and homes who agreed to work with the pipeline.

Savannah Nelles
Former Resident of Ashland County

From: Shel Gross
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comment
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 12:19:49 PM

I am writing to object to Enbridge's alternative route proposal which would still leave the pipeline within the watershed of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa reservation and put the health and livelihood of tribal members, the region's wildlife and wetlands, and Lake Superior's coastline at risk.

Thank you.

Sheldon Gross
145 Jackson St.
Madison WI 53704

From: Susan G.
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comment
Date: Friday, July 03, 2020 11:26:05 AM

I am writing to urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

- **Wisconsinites treasure the outdoors and building new pipelines not only causes destruction of areas during the building process and with the potential for leaks, it also locks the population into use of a fuel source that will further disrupt our planet's climate, with all the destruction of ecosystems, wildlife and the human population's health.**

- - With climate chaos devastating our state, country and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure, and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.

- - The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

- - The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

Here are my thoughts about what the scope should be of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation.

- - You should include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.

- - Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.

- - How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in

erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?

- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.
- Enbridge's [terrible safety record](#), one spill every 20 days, on the average.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Sincerely,

Susan Goedeken
Middleton, Wisconsin

From: Seth Vasser
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comment
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:25:08 AM

I believe we need to stop construction of Line 5. There's no reason to build a pipe line that will last 100 years for a resource that will be outdated in 10 years. Thank you

Seth Vasser
76175 Paulson Rd
Washburn WI 54891

From: Angela Vasser
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comment
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:38:17 AM

I believe we should not permit the building of Line 5. Fossil Fuels are a limited, non-renewable resource. We should be investing in renewables.

Sincerely,
Angie Vasser
76175 Paulson Rd.
Washburn WI 54891

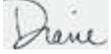
From: Lynn Foster
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comment
Date: Friday, June 26, 2020 6:36:23 AM

Hello, thank you for taking comments from the public. I oppose this project. Prioritizing local food and food diversity is critical in these times. Prioritizing climate stability is critical. Thank you.

Jerri Lynn Foster
La Farge, WI

From: ddaulton@centurytel.net
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments ddaulton
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:58:29 PM
Attachments: [Line 5 comments July 10, 2020.docx](#)

Please accept my comments on the Line 5 reroute attached. Thank you.



Diane Daulton
Independent author, naturalist/educator, lake and stream advocate



14353N State Hwy 169
Gurney, WI 54559
715.893.2433 (H)
715.360.8888 (cell)
Email: ddaulton@centurytel.net

July 10, 2020

TO: WDNR

FROM: Diane Daulton, Iron County landowner

RE: Public Comments on Enbridge Line 5 permits and Scope of EIS

Thank you for the opportunity to share comments and concerns regarding your approvals of permits for the Enbridge Line 5 project and the Scope of the EIS.

My perspective comes from a background as a career land & water conservationist in northern Wisconsin, and also, a water resource specialist with WDNR, currently employed as a naturalist/visitor services associate at Copper Falls State Park seasonally. I want to make clear that my comments in this letter are my personal opinions, based on my extensive background in soils, land and water conservation, and watershed management, and have no relationship per se with my current employment at DNR.

I understand that DNR has a limited authority with regard to the Line 5 re-route alternatives. Having said that, I believe that the agency responsible for natural resource management in our state should request much more detail in terms of the current route, stream/wetland specific potential impacts during construction, and detailed strategies and funding guarantees for a potential spill scenario that could affect the entire watershed including both surface and groundwater. I believe that the EIR is lacking is vague and lacking in detail in many areas. Seriously, could the company possibly have planned a worse route? The proposed re-route remains within the Lake Superior watershed, and is planned for an area with sensitive soil "sand/clay transition areas" where little is known about the groundwater supply where recharge timeframes could take decades, given the unique geology of the region.

Scope of EIS:

On the Scope of the EIS, I would hope to see a complete inventory of the important ecological landscape features, such as the Kakagon Slough, trout streams, Copper Falls State Park, and other potentially affected resources, such as Potato River Falls, etc. along with a listing of the many efforts which have been funded by the federal, state, county and local governments to protect and preserve Lake Superior. These should include wetland designations, Important Bird Areas (IBA's), Lake Superior designations, and any state natural areas etc. Enbridge should specifically address how they plan to protect each of these resources in the case of a spill, and what agencies or local municipalities will be involved in spill containment and clean up. Again, the company should include cost estimates, potential gallons of spill, and significant impacts to resources like wild rice, wildlife, etc.

Permit Approvals:

I hope the department to not approve the wetland and water permits as the information provided by Enbridge is very broad and lacks the detail which should be required in a review of their plans. Again, the clay plains in the Chequamegon Bay and Iron County areas are extremely vulnerable to erosion, sedimentation, and in recent years to extreme weather events such as flash floods. As a resident of Iron County, I am very disappointed at our county governments' decision to grant easements on Iron County Forest Lands, especially given the massive flooding that occurred at Saxon Harbor and on other waterways in the region. In reading the EIR from Enbridge, there does not appear to be adequate (if any) detail on the specific locations and types of crossings on streams. DNR should request a full description of each crossing with a plan for monitoring and rapid response should a spill occur at each site. I would also ask you to hold off on approving wetland permits until additional details are provided on specific locations, and the "long term" impacts that they cite as "minimal" are more fully clarified.

In conclusion, this project is poorly sited, and lacks the necessary details regarding water permitting upon which to base any decisions. Please consider developing a more adequate assessment of impacts and hold this company responsible for long term potential costs to citizens and to the Bad River tribe.

Sincerely,

Diane K. Daulton

14353N State Hwy 169

Saxon, WI 54559

From: Jeannie Peterson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:31:48 PM

Work to decommission and remove—not reroute—Line 5.

From: Erik Olsen
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7 - MARPA, LLC
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:01:02 PM
Attachments: [2020_06_11_MARPA Letter to DNR with Comments.pdf](#)

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please accept the attached letter which contains the comments of MARPA, LLC.

Sincerely,

Erik Olsen

--

Eminent Domain Services, LLC

www.eminentdomainservices.com

131 W Wilson st, ste. 800
Madison, WI, 53703
tel: 608-661-8509

The preceding email message may be confidential or protected by the attorney-client privilege. It is not intended for transmission to, or receipt by, any unauthorized persons. If you have received this message in error, please (i) do not read it, (ii) reply to the sender that you received the message in error, and (iii) erase or destroy the message. Legal advice contained in the preceding message is solely for the benefit of the intended Client(s) represented by the Firm in the particular matter that is the subject of this message, and may not be relied upon by any other party, or used in any other manner.

Internal Revenue Service regulations require that certain types of written advice include a disclaimer. To the extent the preceding message contains advice relating to a Federal tax issue, unless expressly stated otherwise the advice is not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used by the recipient or any other taxpayer, for the purpose of avoiding Federal tax penalties, and was not written to support the promotion or marketing of any transaction or matter discussed herein.

EMINENT DOMAIN SERVICES, LLC

131 West Wilson Street | Suite 800
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 535-6109 tel | (608) 338-0889 fax

Via Email to DNROEEACOMMENTS@WI.GOV

July 11th, 2020

Wisconsin DNR
Line 5 Comments EA/7
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

To Whom it may concern,

MARPA, LLC is a public interest/nonprofit Wisconsin Limited Liability Company with over a dozen affiliated members who are landowners and concerned citizens owning or controlling approximately one thousand acres in and around Mellen, and with deeply rooted community interests in and around Mellen, WI where their homes, farms, and other types of property are located. MARPA members' rights, including constitutional and legal rights, water rights, and land and rights will be directly and substantially impacted by the relocation of Line 5 because the re-routing will infringe property rights, potentially subject some or all of the members to condemnation, impact or infringe legal and constitutional rights, and put the water sources upon which these citizens, landowners, and the communities in which they live rely on at a greater and unacceptable risk of contamination, and possibly catastrophic contamination, which would severely damage land and land rights of MARPA members and affiliates should Line 5 be constructed by Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership in conformity with the approximate routes and plans currently expressed and without ideal safeguards in the routing, construction, and risk management processes. We are writing this letter in opposition to the proposed Enbridge pipeline Line 5 route permitting by the DNR.

The proposed route poses a severe risk to the region's valuable natural resources, especially our waterways and wetlands. The route breaches at least one hundred and eighty-six different waterways and wetland areas.

The route sits on the border of Copper Falls State Park, a 91-year-old state landmark. The state has invested millions of dollars in preserving this natural resource, with its beautiful waterfalls and gorges. Permitting Enbridge to build a pipeline through or upstream from the Park will jeopardize this resource and investment. A spill in this sensitive area would contaminate the two major waterways, Bad River and Tyler Forks River, which would then destroy this Park. Copper Falls' unique setting contains 100 foot gorges that are virtually inaccessible due to Copper and Brownstone Falls. A spill that contaminated the area in the gorges could not be cleaned up, remediated, or rectified.

The proposed route would also endanger our region's wells and other water resources. The Bad River upper watershed geology contains very shallow aquifers. These aquifers would be destroyed by a spill affecting the major rivers in the area. The numerous major river crossings would spread the damage from a spill and potentially destroy or degrade wells and streams in Mellen, Highbridge, Minersville, Marengo, Ashland, and all places in between.

The Bad River watershed is shaped like a bowl, with Lake Superior at the bottom of the bowl. MARPA submits that the proposed route is sited in the worst possible location because it runs along the upper edge of the "bowl" so a leak at any point on the route would flow into and contaminate the watershed and the lake. This makes no sense because the very impetus of this project was the Bad River Tribe's efforts to remove this threat from their lands and waters. Moving the pipeline to a location that poses a permanent existential threat to the Bad River watershed and then expands the risk to many other additional persons, and by extension expands the risk to *all* of the tribal lands is not a solution. It is an expansion of the problem.

Enbridge has still not addressed the concerns of the Bad River Tribe. The proposed route off the tribe's lands does not actually avoid the Tribe's environmental concerns. The route is still in the Bad River watershed, only further up, so a problem or spill on the route will still gravely affect the Tribe's lands and waters. Enbridge's refusal to address these concerns simply

worsens an existing problem instead of remedying it, and exacerbates the previously existing hazards and adds new ones. The new route will connect to existing pipeline which is more than fifty years old, this would be the time to address the problems with the old line, ideally by decommissioning the line or rerouting it north through Canada. This would obviate any need to reroute Line 5 along the proposed route.

The proposed route is unacceptable. It vastly expands the private property under threat, threatens our natural and recreation resources, and threatens our vital eco-tourism industry. A spill along the route would imperil the Kakagon Sloughs, the Sand Cut Sloughs, the Bad River Sloughs, and Chequamegon Bay. All of these are tourist destinations that create huge economic opportunities for Ashland, Bayfield and Iron Counties.

The proposed route is a huge risk for the members and affiliates of MARPA, LLC and the people of Wisconsin, and brings no benefit to us or to our state. Wisconsin should not be taking on a huge environmental risk to benefit a private Canadian company. The oil and gas transported in this pipeline is not used or needed in Wisconsin. Enbridge does not even claim that its pipeline serves Wisconsin residents, it only claims that some of its LP gas is used in some Upper Peninsula households. We are very skeptical that this claim merits any part in the decision making process. If the LP gas is related to Line 5, there are other ways to guarantee a supply of LP gas for these households. Such a small benefit for a very small number of people that can easily be served in numerous other ways does not come close to outweighing the risk posed to our members' and affiliates' property rights, the State's natural resources, and the regional negative impacts of the proposed route.

Please consider our comments, and please consider denying Enbridge the requested permits.

Sincerely,

EMINENT DOMAIN SERVICES, LLC
ATTORNEYS FOR MARPA, LLC

Electronically Signed by Erik S. Olsen
Erik S. Olsen

From: bdunn1@tds.net
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 7:16:46 AM

Please register my objection to issuance of any wetlands permits to Enbridge.

Bill Dunn
3060 Patty Ln.
Middleton, Wi 53562
608-827-9507

From: Andi Rich
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 8:22:46 AM

I object to issuing any wetlands permits To Enbridge. They repeatedly show their disregard for environmental safety, and I expect the DNR to protect us from their irresponsible corporate activities.

Please help protect us and our water!

Andi Rich
Candidate for 89th Assembly
906-290-6856

From: Donald Roberts
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 9:49:13 AM

Please Vote NO to Enbridge, Their proposal to reroute oil pipeline, Line 5 is unacceptable to the threat of everyones future health...Why should we the people who live here in Wisconsin gamble our lives away for their profit margins.. Its time to put a stop to the greed that is now threatening peoples lives.. VOTE NO, for this is your future that is at stake too..

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: Barbara Meyer
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:31:44 PM

JUST SAY NO TO ENBRIDGE.

Thank you.

From: Sarah Tourdot
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:41:34 PM

I object to the WI-DNR issuing any wetlands permits to Enbridge.

I oppose the WI-DNR issuing any permits to Enbridge. The Wisconsin DNR is charged with protecting the Great Lakes watershed, in general, and protecting us in particular, from the potential disasters that the reroute of Line 5 poses.

We are all at risk and are asking you to protect us from Enbridge.

Wild Rice, hazelnuts, blueberries, raspberries, wild onions, cranberries, brook trout, water fowl, our very ecosystems, and the Water we drink need protection and the WI-DNR is the agency tasked with that protection. Please do that.

From: Clyde Winter
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:00:34 PM

The proposed reroute of Enbridge's Line 5 around the Bad River Lake Superior Chippewa treaty land needs much closer scrutiny by the DNR because of its threat to precious clean fresh water, and to the health and safety of the people who live there, and to Mother Earth.

Please consider the alternative which is to decommission the line.

As we are becoming more and more aware, climate change leads to extreme weather.

Dangers of flooding, ground shifting and slumping, wave action, erosion, corrosion, acidic sulfide mining runoff, industrial accidents and fires

are but a few circumstances that could damage the pipeline.

All of these should be evaluated for each proposed crossing of or proximity to streams, rivers, lakes, wells, springs and wetlands.

The Bad River system has tributaries which tend to flash flood and its outlet to Lake Superior fills the Kakagon Slough which holds wild rice beds.

These areas have not been addressed well enough in the permitting process in order to protect them adequately.

Also, the Bad River Tribe has not been but must be consulted in each step of the permitting process.

They know these lands and waters better than anyone.

Enbridge's liquid petroleum pipelines have contaminated wells, they've polluted groundwater, and they have burst and flowed into streams and rivers and lakes including the Great Lakes.

Do the right thing and stop Enbridge and other corporate bullies from transforming this beautiful planet into their filthy loot.

Clyde Winter
2276 Hwy I
Grafton, WI 53024

From: Clyde Winter
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:59:05 PM

The proposed reroute of Enbridge's Line 5 around the Bad River Lake Superior Chippewa treaty land needs much closer scrutiny by the DNR because of its threat to precious clean fresh water, and to the health and safety of the people who live there, and to Mother Earth.

Please consider the alternative which is to decommission the line.

As we are becoming more and more aware, climate change leads to extreme weather.

Dangers of flooding, ground shifting and slumping, wave action, erosion, corrosion, acidic sulfide mining runoff, industrial accidents and fires

are but a few circumstances that could damage the pipeline.

All of these should be evaluated for each proposed crossing of or proximity to streams, rivers, lakes, wells, springs and wetlands.

The Bad River system has tributaries which tend to flash flood and its outlet to Lake Superior fills the Kakagon Slough which holds wild rice beds.

These areas have not been addressed well enough in the permitting process in order to protect them adequately.

Also, the Bad River Tribe has not been but must be consulted in each step of the permitting process.

They know these lands and waters better than anyone.

Enbridge's liquid petroleum pipelines have contaminated wells, they've polluted groundwater, and they have burst and flowed into streams and rivers and lakes including the Great Lakes.

Do the right thing and stop Enbridge and other corporate bullies from transforming this beautiful planet into their filthy loot.

Clyde Winter
2276 Hwy I
Grafton, WI 53024

From: Mike Mertes
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 11:43:27 PM

7-7-2020

To the Wisconsin DNR regarding Enbridge permitting

The recent problems with the failing line 5 in the Mackinac Straits have drawn attention to the massive problems that a spill would create in a very visible and sensitive area and it is not surprising that, given Enbridge's disastrous spill record and the inadequate responses to those spills, that people are concerned.

However, the risk posed by Line 5, is to the fresh water of the entire Great Lakes watershed. Even a relatively small spill could devastate a portion of the fragile filtration system that the lakes and humans depend on.

The nature and scale of that risk is monumental and the pipeline requires that the people of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan must assume it with little to no benefit to their citizens.

It is interesting to note that the Bad River Tribe has rejected potentially millions of pieces of green paper, in exchange for accepting the risk that could destroy their homeland and way of life. The Bad River Tribe knows where their true wealth resides and that green paper cannot replace it.

Following are some excerpts from an article by Geoffrey Morgan a reporter covering the oil and gas sector for the Financial Post in Calgary regarding who benefits from Line 5.

**A Michigan judge's decision to shut a key Enbridge Inc. oil pipeline running across North America, could send Ontario and Quebec refineries scrambling to secure oil supplies.

**Line 5's shutdown could be a blow for every refinery in southern Ontario, which depends on it for its crude supplies.

** A Canadian Imperial Oil spokesman said, "A shutdown will likely result in shortfalls in our distribution points in southern Ontario. We have some flexibility to mitigate any short-term impact but the company's other options are more costly."

We in the States are asked to risk our fresh water so that Ontario refineries can provide cheap gas to Canadians. To accomplish this, the sad reality is that we must rely on the integrity of Enbridge, which has been fined millions of dollars for environmental violations and caused over billion dollars in damage, due to spills.

Enbridge dances all around a direct answer when asked, "WHO BENEFITS?" They deceptively point to the minuscule amount of propane that they deliver to the U.P. and mumble about their duty to serve their "customers", not mentioning that the overwhelming amount of the dirtiest oil from Canada, flows through the USA and goes back to their Canadian customers.

It's interesting that Canada has chosen to shut down their border with the US when faced with the health risk of the Corona Virus. Good for them! They felt it necessary because the US has done such a lousy job in responding to the health threat.

I am not suggesting that we shut down Line 5 in retribution, but it would make sense to me to follow their lead by protecting our own interests, our people and resources by removing this potential threat which offers so little benefit.

Enbridge mitigates their financial risk by playing structural corporate and partnership games so that the assets of the Parent corporations are protected from a large scale liability.

Canada protects itself.

Enbridge protects itself.

I think that the time is long overdue that we protect ourselves from the potential

disaster posed by this failing, ancient pipeline.
Please do not issue any further permits to Enbridge for line 5, shut it down
completely and remove it from the Great Lakes watershed.
Respectfully submitted,
Michael Mertes
429 E. Bayfield St
Washburn, WI 54891

From: Sarah Howard
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 7:13:02 AM

Enbridge's line 5 reroute around the Bad River Reservation should not be approved. With the dangers of climate change clear, there is no reason to build new pipelines. We need to invest in clean energy projects instead. Solar and wind power do not leak into watersheds.

Thank you.

Sarah Howard
6880 N. Schoolhouse Lane
Stone Lake, Wisconsin 54876

From: Anne Steinberg
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:25:55 AM

To the DNR:

I am writing to urge the DNR to deny Enbridge's application for a waterway and wetland permit.

I watched the recent public hearing and I have visited the area where the proposed pipeline would be built. I've spent much time in many areas along Lake Superior, camped and hiked in Copper Falls State Park, and had the privilege to visit the Bad River Slough and its wild rice beds.

There are several reasons I believe that Enbridge should not be allowed permits to re-route (or to continue to operate) Line 5.

There is too high a risk for a spill and that spill could impact many waterways and Lake Superior. Enbridge already has a bad safety record. All pipelines leak and the DNR should not be approving new ones carrying toxic fossil fuels that cross rivers and wetlands, especially ones in pristine areas and ones that drain directly into Lake Superior.

The Bad River tribe is asking Enbridge to re-route the pipeline because the pipes crossing their reservation have been exposed by weather and erosion creating danger of a break and spill that would damage their watershed and way of life. The proposed route is barely outside of the Reservation and affects the same watershed. The DNR should consult with the Bad River tribe about their experience working with Enbridge. Of course, the tribe should have an equal say in the decision to grant the permit because it will affect their sovereign territory and their treaty rights in the ceded territories.

Enbridge is already looking for ways to transition out of the fossil fuel business. Just like the rest of us, it can see that climate change requires the end of using fossil fuels and that end must come quickly. When this pipeline is no longer used to transport fossil fuels, how do we know that Enbridge will remove the pipeline and clean up the mess? Will the taxpayers be left with the bill for cleanup? It is irresponsible to allow a dangerous pipeline project to be built when its projected usefulness is short.

Sincerely,

Anne Steinberg
2934 N. Prospect Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

From: Steve G
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 6:40:32 AM

To Whom it May Concern,

Please treat Enbridge the way any other company should be treated, by doing your job and making them pass environmental standards. Putting a pipeline through wetlands and threatening Lake Superior is a huge mistake. Instead of upgrading the technology of the past, we should be looking at sources of energy that don't pollute or create CO2.

Thanks,
Steve Gustafson
Butternut, WI

From: david soumis
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 9:57:16 AM

Hello,

Want to submit my opposition to Enbridge Line 5 being place anywhere in northern Wisconsin or the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The risks to the Great Lakes/Wisconsin watershed are too great to allow this line to exist. A major leak will happen eventually, and that risk to wildlife and our water is too great. At some point we need to understand this and stop it.

Davd Soumis
3588 Carncross Drive
McFarland WI 53558

608-572-2482

From: Joe Scarry
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 1:36:58 PM

I am writing from Madeline Island. I am writing to oppose WI-DNR issuing any wetlands permits to Enbridge.

Here where we live on the island, we have wetlands in front of and behind our residence. We have daily reminder of the incredible richness of these biomes, and their fragility, and of the value that *all* our wetlands here in northern Wisconsin add to our lives here.

I am a participant in an alliance of Great Lakes islands (GLIA: <https://glialliance.org/>) and have been learning about the opposition to this pipeline across *many* Great Lakes communities. As islands, with 360-degree exposure to a *variety* of impacts, we are like a "canary in a coal mine" -- intensely aware of what human impact does to our environments. We are doing our part to make the preservation of our precious natural environment a top priority. We need the DNR to do its part and "just say no" to such a threatening project.

Having just recognized the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, we have been remembering the leadership of Gaylord Nelson, and his visionary work to protect the Apostle Islands wilderness area. Part of continuing to protect what he started is keeping this pipeline out.

Finally, all of us here on Madeline Island are intensely aware of the traditions and intentions of the original inhabitants of this place. I believe we honor them by fully grasping the true treasure that we have in the form of this precious natural environment, and doing everything possible to preserve it for a very long time to come.

Please do not issue wetlands permits to Enbridge.

Sincerely,

Joe Scarry
PO Box 103
La Pointe, WI 54850

773-610-2464

From: Anne Chartier
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 8:32:06 PM
Attachments: [Enbridge Line 5 Comments for the DNR.pdf](#)

Dear Department of Natural Resources,

Attached are my comments in opposition to a permit allowing Enbridge to build a reroute to Line 5 in the Bad River Watershed.

In a nutshell, the wetland and waterways are too precious and fragile to risk a spill.

I have quoted facts that appear on your website to support my request which is ultimately based on the value I place on water.

I shared my comments during the hearing you made possible on July 1, and I must say I was impressed by the patience and tone of your moderator who gave all of us the chance to speak during several hours of testimony.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to share my opinion with you in writing.

The protection of our natural resources is in your expert hands!

With appreciation and best wishes,

Anne Chartier
1203 6TH AVE W
Ashland, WI 54806

I am opposed to the expansion of Enbridge Line 5 within the Bad River Watershed and request that the Department of Natural Resources not grant Enbridge a permit. I am concerned about the effect construction and maintenance will have on our wetlands and waterways, and the terrible effects a leak or spill will have on our water and the life it sustains.

Since I learned about the dangerous condition of the pipeline that currently traverses 12 miles of the Bad River Reservation, I have learned a great deal about the dangers pipelines pose. Enbridge pipelines have spilled hundreds of thousands of gallons of toxic petroleum products causing great damage. We do not want that to happen here too. I oppose Line 5 because our ecosystem is endangered by its presence. The proposed reroute affects the Bad River, its tributaries and Lake Superior. The DNR has expertise to confirm the harm construction of a pipeline around the reservation and within the watershed poses to fragile wetlands that control floods and are essential to supporting the species that thrive in them. According to research on the DNR website, "In Wisconsin, 32% of the state's listed species are wetland dependent. Further loss or degradation of wetlands would affect a disproportionate share of Wisconsin's rare species."

The same source indicates "our state has lost 47% of its original wetlands. Many of the remaining 5.3 million acres are in our northern third of the state". They include those that the new pipeline would affect. We must protect and restore what we have, not put more wetlands in peril. The same reasons for which the Bad River Tribe wants the pipeline off the reservation are those that justify the outpouring of opposition that was made evident during the public hearing on July 1 during which I shared my objection to a new pipeline that would destroy those wetlands and endanger streams that contribute to our livelihood.

Although I do not fish, I am aware of the wealth of our waters. I do enjoy harvesting wild rice, and have had the pleasure of canoeing the Kagagon Sloughs which are internationally acclaimed and produce some of the best rice in the region. Having hiked our fabulous Copper Falls State Park numerous times I always marvel at the roaring water of the Bad River and Tyler Forks that ultimately feed those rice beds.

I am not a scientist, simply an educated citizen who fears the destruction caused by construction of a pipeline reroute, and the terrible consequences a spill will produce. I count on DNR experts to protect the natural resources on which the region depends. We need alternatives to fossil fuels, not to continue pumping substances that contribute to climatic catastrophes such as the floods we experienced in 2016 and 18. For the sake of our wetlands and rice beds, please deny Enbridge the right to destroy the precious balance we want to protect and do not issue a permit.

Thank you very much!

Anne Chartier
1203 6TH AVE W
Ashland, WI 54806

From: Joe Sixpack
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:25:53 AM

Hi there,

I live in Saint Paul and visit Lake Superior every summer. Do not issue wetlands permits to Enbridge in order to protect our beautiful freshwater lakes and wetlands. Line 5 poses a great risk to the Great Lakes watershed in WI and MN, I hope that the DNR will take a stand against Enbridge and not allow any permits of wetlands.

Sincerely,
Jon Cole
417 Jessamine Ave E
Saint Paul, MN

From: Alex Breslav
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 12:29:22 PM

As a resident of the region, I object to the issuing of wetland permits to Line 5, or any other support for the pipeline. Let's stop putting our human and wild relations, and the 7 generations, into grave danger in the name of brief profits for the few. We all get one life to live - let's live it in a good way.

Alex Breslav, Cornucopia

From: Nikole V
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 1:13:02 PM

JUST SAY NO TO ENBRIDGE

Please do the right thing.

Thank you,
Nikole

From: Lois Carlson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 2:12:33 PM

Please register our household's opposition to allowing Enbridge to reroute Line 5 through wetlands. As a resident of Madeline Island and as someone who values the water quality of the Chequamegon Bay, and Lake Superior, I strongly oppose a line running through the wetlands, and do not want permits issued to do so.

Thank you for your attention to our request.

Lois & Todd Carlson
668 Old Fort Road
La Pointe, WI 54850

From: Teresa McMillian
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 2:59:21 PM

PLEASE say NO to Enbridge to protect the Great Lakes watershed from the potential disasters posed by the reroute of Line 5.

Over and over Enbridge and others have claimed the pipelines to be safe. And over and over we've watched the disasters created by broken and leaking pipelines.

PLEASE don't fall for it. Sooner or later the pipelines become disasters. You know this Is true. Please protect the water.

From: Jennifer teffer
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:40:13 PM

NO to issuing permits for Enbridge to reroute Line 5. JUST SAY NO.

Please stop allowing greed mongers to destroy our WI environment.

Thank you,

Jennifer Teffer
N8332 Greenwald Ct.
East Troy, WI 53120
262-227-6848



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: Rachel Bauman
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:26:01 PM

To whom it may concern,
As someone who loves and lives, works, and plays on/at Lake Superior, I urge you to not issue any wetland permits for Enbridge to reroute Line 5. Please say no to Enbridge.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rachel Bauman
La Pointe, WI 54850

I generally check e-mail messages Tuesday-Friday and on Sundays. For urgent messages, please call or text (831-566-0353).

Rev Rachel Bauman
Pastor, St John's United Church of Christ
Madeline Island - La Pointe, WI 54850
831-566-0353

From: Julia North
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:32:58 PM

To whom it may concern,

Please, I am a resident of Madeline Island and I am asking you to
Not issue any wetlands permits to Enbridge. They threaten the Great Lakes watershed with their pipelines. Just
please, say No. Protect our fresh water.

With deep sincerity,

Julia Stryker North
Box 232
LaPointe WI 54850

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sarah Martines
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:39:06 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to ask that you **NOT** grant Enbridge their requested wetlands permit.

On July 7, 2020, the Ashland County Board passed two resolutions, R07-20201354, a resolution to deny water crossing and other DNR permits for Enbridge Reroute Line 5, and R07-220-1355, a resolution denying eminent domain ability for Enbridge Energy. Although these are only resolutions, they speak volumes for the sentiment of the citizens of Ashland County as these resolutions were drawn up and passed in response to pressure from concerned voters.

According to the Wisconsin DNR's website, your mission statement is as follows:

To protect and enhance our natural resources: our air, land and water; our wildlife, fish and forests and the ecosystems that sustain all life. [An oil pipeline and its potential for a spill/leak is in direct conflict with this.]

To provide a healthy, sustainable environment and a full range of outdoor opportunities. [Once again, an oil pipeline and its potential for a spill/leak is in direct conflict with this.]

To ensure the right of all people to use and enjoy these resources in their work and leisure. To work with people to understand each other's views and to carry out the public will. [The public will is reflected in the above-noted resolutions passed by the Ashland County Board.] And in this partnership consider the future and generations to follow.

I'm sure you're aware of the recently reported anchor support damage to Line 5 in Michigan's Straits of Mackinac. The pipeline had to be shut down as a result of this discovery. As of today, July 10, 2020, almost two weeks after the shutdown, Enbridge has still not determined what caused the damage. What **is** known is that the very support that is damaged was actually installed in 2018. It's difficult to have faith in Enbridge when something installed so recently to address previous anchor issues has suffered damage severe enough to warrant a shutdown, and they **still** have absolutely no clue what happened.

Our concerns are legitimate. Your responsibility is to the citizens of Wisconsin, not to an oil company from Canada. Thank you in advance for protecting the concerned citizens and the natural resources of Northern Wisconsin.

Sarah Martines
58210 Noid Road
Mason, WI 54856
(715) 765-4783

From: Alexandra Prediger
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:03:08 PM

Hello,

My name is Alex Prediger and I am a farmer in the Chequamegon Bay Area. For the past three years I have worked at Hermit Creek Farm in Highbridge, WI which is not very far from the proposed rerouting of Line 5. There are many reasons, all relating to the health of my community (including the land, other small business, animals, and plants, as well as people), that relate to why I truly hope that these permits are not approved.

I have seen first hand the devastating aftermath of an Enbridge oil spill and never want to again. I am from near Kalamazoo, Michigan originally, and was a part of a group of people who volunteered after the 2010 Kalamazoo River Oil Spill to help clean oiled animals. We had to undergo HAZWOPER training and hundreds of people worked tirelessly for months after, meticulously scrubbing tar sands off of turtles, frogs, geese, herons, and muskrats. The spill happened in July and I was still organizing car pool groups of up to 50 students down from Michigan State in October. Many of those herptiles overwintered in stock tanks inside and were released the following spring, their home forever tainted. The Kalamazoo River and surrounding area are still not back to a pre-spill state and I have no confidence in Enbridge's ability to properly interpret readings, monitor the structural integrity of their pipelines (especially aging ones), or be transparent with the public. When you have spent days and days hunched over in a tyvek suit, using qtips, dawn dish soap, and tooth brushes to try and remove toxic goop from the tiny soft bodies of young turtles, there is plenty of time for reflection on how it is our duty to do better our neighbors who lost their homes, this Earth and these other living beings we share it with.

Sincerely,
Alex Prediger

From: Cole Pajala
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:35:27 AM

To the good people of the Wisconsin DNR,
Looking into the issue of Line 5 my feelings are mixed. I understand it's importance to those that make use of it, but I feel we must take great caution in where it is allowed to be placed. Permits to build the pipeline through our state's vulnerable wetlands should not be granted, at least not in my opinion.

Enbridge has in more recent years had a fairly good record when it comes to minimizing the environmental damage they cause, but it would take only one serious accident to cause significant damage to the area. The risks of that should be weighed now rather than waiting for catastrophe to happen.

It should also be noted that while the effects of any major accident will linger for who knows how long, Line 5 itself is something that can only last for so long. It's an oil pipeline being built in a time of environmental instability and transition away from a dependence on oil. The process is slow but it is happening and, indeed, must happen.

From: Claire Vanderslice
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:47:24 AM

Dear folks at Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources,

The proposed reroute of Enbridge's Line 5 around the Bad River Lake Superior Chippewa treaty land needs much closer scrutiny by the DNR because of its threat to precious clean fresh water.

Please consider the alternative which is to decommission the line. As we are becoming more and more aware, climate change leads to extreme weather. Dangers of flooding, ground shifting and slumping, wave action, erosion, corrosion, acidic sulfide mining runoff, industrial accidents and fires are but a few hazards that could damage the pipeline. Any or all of these should be evaluated for each proposed crossing of or proximity to streams, rivers, lakes, wells, springs and wetlands.

The Bad River system has tributaries which tend to flash flood and its outlet to Lake Superior fills the Kakagon Slough which holds wild rice beds. These areas have not been addressed well enough in the permitting process in order to protect them adequately. Also, the Bad River Tribe has not been but must be consulted in each step of the permitting process. They know these lands and waters better than anyone.

Enbridge's liquid petroleum pipelines have turned into drip irrigation systems that contaminated wells, they've turned into soaker hoses that have polluted groundwater, and they have burst and flowed into streams and rivers and lakes including the Great Lakes. Please raise the bar that Enbridge has to hurdle and don't let them burrow under it.

Respectfully,
Ms. Claire Vanderslice
2276 Hwy I
Grafton, WI 53024

From: Liam Hutchison
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:52:22 AM

Hello there,

My name is William Hutchison and I am writing to say that there is NO ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND way to transport oil across Northern Wisconsin.

The proposed Line 5 re-route is imagined to be safer than the existing infrastructure, but the only truly safe option is THE RETIREMENT OF THE EXISTING LINE 5, with NO REPLACEMENT BUILT.

Climate disaster is happening and we need to focus on local energy production, energy-efficiency, and locally renewable resources. A new pipeline will not solve any of these problems. Pipelines leak. Infrastructure projects spill oil into valuable woodlands and wetlands, which hold the biodiversity necessary to protect and provide for humanity.

THERE IS NO SAFE OIL PIPELINE. SHUT OFF EXISTING LINE 5, and DO NOT APPROVE A RE-ROUTE.

Thank you for your time and effort,

Liam Hutchison

From: Mari Verbeten
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:10:37 AM

Hello,

I am writing to express my opinion that permits should not be approved for Enbridge to build an alternative route for Line 5.

Enbridge has been responsible for 33 oil spills since 1968, including one of the largest land-based oil spills ever which contaminated riverways across Michigan and Northern Wisconsin.

We must prioritize local energy production, energy-efficiency and renewable natural resources. Oil pipelines, new and old, present massive environmental hazards on local and international scales. We cannot afford to build this pipeline. Please **DO NOT APPROVE PERMITS** for a new Line 5.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mari Verbeten

From: holly marie Tourdot
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:16:31 AM

I object to the WI-DNR issuing any wetlands permits to Enbridge.

I oppose the WI-DNR issuing any permits to Enbridge. The Wisconsin DNR is charged with protecting the Great Lakes watershed, in general, and protecting us in particular, from the potential disasters that the reroute of Line 5 poses.

I live on Madeline Island year round and have family and friends from Bad River, Ashland, Washburn, Bayfield, Red Cliff, and Cornucopia. We are all at risk and are asking you to protect us from Enbridge.

Wild Rice, hazelnuts, blueberries, raspberries, wild onions, cranberries, brook trout, water fowl, our very ecosystems, and the Water we drink need protection and the WI-DNR is the agency tasked with that protection. Please do that.

Sincerely,
Holly Tourdot
PO Box 171
La Pointe, WI. 54850

From: kcc_art@yahoo.com
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:55:11 PM

To Those Who Might Be Able to Help:

For whatever it is worth, you should know that I am not a democrat, and I am not a republican, and for a minute I'd like us to set aside ideas about political views and judgments, and just talk about the fact that we live near some of the only sources of freshwater *on the whole damn planet.*

Freshwater is a precious resource.

And I wonder: what good will Enbridge's money be if none of us have clean water to drink (or swim in) or if we destroy the habitats that house crucial species?
And why should we help them destroy it all so they can gain more wealth at our expense?

I am asking you to please protect the waters and watersheds of the Great Lakes by not issuing wetlands (or any other) permits to Enbridge. They should not be able to put us at risk just because it's inconvenient for them to put pipelines in their rocky, Canadian soil.

Thank you for doing what you can.

Kathleen Crawford
Washburn, WI 54891

From: paula mohan
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:34:09 PM

Greetings!

I am submitting comments on the EIS scope for the proposed line 5 relocation project in the hopes that this proposal will be rejected for the following reasons:

1) **Until Enbridge actually finalizes a single route for the pipeline, a ruling on scoping is premature.** Enbridge has submitted the proposed line 5 relocation route while simultaneously also continuing to pressure the Bad River Chippewa Indian tribe to allow for the renewal of the current location of the pipeline which they have continually asked to be removed. Please wait until all litigation is finalized and we know clearly the proposed route of the pipeline.

2). **This part of the state is rich in wetlands and waterways;** so much so that GTAC, a mining company that proposed a taconite mine in the Penokee mountains in 2012 withdrew its application citing the complications of satisfying mining regulations in an area this rich with water. The risk of building a pipeline without damaging the ecosystem and disturbing the hydrological interconnections in the region is too great.

3.) **Enbridge has a corporate record of being a "bad actor".** What "bad actor" entails means having insufficient liability insurance for spills, yet having a demonstrable record of spills in other areas in which their pipelines run through. Being a 'bad actor' also means refusing accountability to fix damaged stretches of pipeline as is happening currently in a Ingham county of Michigan circuit court, presided over by Judge James Jamo on June 25, 2020. The attorney for Enbridge claimed that the state of Michigan has no authority over how the company operates the pipeline running under the Straits of Mackinac and they are resisting an order by the governor to shut it down pending analysis of recent damages. Why would Wisconsin enter into a relationship with a company which refuses compliance but has such a poor safety record?

4). **Allowing a pipeline to be sited in ceded territory will create an unacceptable risk to the natural resources of the tribe and represents a failure to recognize our trust responsibility.**

The Bad River Chippewa Indian tribe opposes the presence of an Enbridge pipeline across its trust land because the risk to damages of resources, central to cultural practices, is too great. Relocating a pipeline outside of BR trust land, but in the same watershed does not diminish the risk to the waters and lands used by the tribe. The state of Wisconsin is obligated to protect the rights of Ojibwa tribes "to hunt, fish, and gather" in traditional territories ceded to the federal government in land cession treaties negotiated in the 19th century, according to the Voigt decision of 1983.

For all of these reasons, I sincerely hope that the DNR decides to reject this scoping plan.

Thank you for your attention.

Paula Mohan
1135 Williamson St. #4

Madison, WI 53703
608 658-6463.

From: Tony Janisch
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:36:17 PM
Attachments: [DNR Line 5 Comments 7.11.20.pdf](#)

Please accept the following attachment as comments to the Enbridge Inc. request for a waterways & wetlands permit to reroute its Line 5 oil pipeline.

Thank you,
Tony Janisch

Wisconsin Department of Nature Resources
Line 5 Comments EA/7
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

WDNR:

I write in opposition of the waterways & wetlands permit request from Enbridge Inc. to reroute its Line 5 around the Bad River Reservation. As the past director of the Bad River Watershed Association (501c3 not-for-profit), I have spent countless hours collecting water quality data and improving fish habitat in the Bad River Watershed. As you know, many of the rivers and streams in the watershed are of Very Good to Excellent water quality. Furthermore, this proposed new route would cross nine (9) Wisconsin Designated Outstanding or Exceptional Resources Waters (O/ERW).

O/ERWs are surface waters which provide outstanding recreational opportunities, support valuable fisheries and wildlife habitat, have good water quality, and are not significantly impacted by human activities. This status identifies waters that the State of Wisconsin has determined warrant additional protection from the effects of pollution. These designations are intended to meet federal Clean Water Act obligations requiring Wisconsin to adopt an "antidegradation" policy that is designed to prevent any lowering of water quality – especially in those waters having significant ecological or cultural value. (Wisconsin DNR Website)

The very nature of this designation obligates the State of Wisconsin to keep these waterways pristine, of high quality, and out of harm's way. The Brunsweler River, one of these O/ERWs, is further designated a State Wild Rivers along portions of its flow. Permitting a 42 mile reroute of the Line 5 pipeline and disturbing these nine O/ERWs would significantly alter these waterways, as well as numerous smaller tributaries, putting them in harm's way.

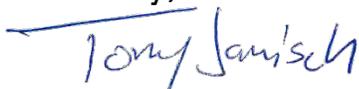
Another treasure placed in harm's way by this proposed reroute is Copper Falls State Park. My family truly enjoys hiking the loop trail and witnessing the stunning power of the waterfalls. Copper Falls is a significant economic generator for the City of Mellen and the surround communities. An oil spill at either the Bad River or Tyler Folks crossings would be catastrophic for Copper Falls and those that make a lively on summer tourism.

Speaking of catastrophic effects, The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has requested that Enbridge Inc. remove the portion of Line 5 that crosses the Reservation. Why? Because the pipeline is compromised from erosion along river crossings and that effects of an oil spill with devastate the Kakagon-Bad River Sloughs, a designated Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance. This reroute

does nothing to protect the Kakagon-Bad River Sloughs and only increases the number of tribal rivers & streams in harm's way.

In closing, I dedicate my opposition of the waterways & wetlands permit request from Enbridge Inc. to reroute its Line 5 oil pipeline to the memory of Michele Wheeler. Michele was the director of the Bad River Watershed Association before me and the previous DNR Lake Superior LAMP Coordinator. Michele dedicated her career to promoting and protecting the clean water resources of Wisconsin's Lake Superior Basin. She was a woman of science and of using fact-based decision making regarding our natural resources. Which is what I ask of you today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Janisch". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Tony Janisch
409 E. 5th St., Apt A
Washburn, WI 54491
tnt-janisch@sbcglobal.net

From: Amy Syverson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 9:20:32 PM

DNR Public Comments on Enbridge Request for Line 5 Proposed Relocation Project

To Whom it May Concern,

I write, as a resident of Ashland, Wisconsin, in opposition to approval of the Line 5 relocation project. The relocation was requested in response to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's refusal to renew the line lease for Enbridge. Our city and community support the Bad River Band's effort to protect the watershed of Lake Superior that is essential to our way of living for food, economy, and recreation. Line 5 does not serve the best long term interests of our community, state, and national interest. The proposed Line 5 reroute does not address the primary concern of removing the line, not only off tribal land, but also away from the Lake Superior watershed. This proposed route continues to pose a threat to unique and sensitive wetlands, streams, and wild rice beds. Pipelines have and will continue to leak. The risk is too great, the rewards are short term, and the investment in fossil fuel infrastructure is contrary to the steps that need to be taken to address the climate crisis we are facing.

I ask that you deny the request of Enbridge in favor of the long term health and safety of our community.

Sincerely,
Amy Syverson
813 6th Avenue West
Ashland, WI

Amy Syverson
715-685-0839
amysyverson@gmail.com

From: Elizabeth Andre
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:19:52 PM

Hello DNR,

I have been a resident of Ashland since July of 2009, and I plan to spend the rest of my life here. I moved here specifically because of the natural beauty of Lake Superior, the Chequamegon National Forest, State Parks like Copper Falls, the many rivers and streams and wetlands, and the abundance of wildlife that relies on them. I do not want Enbridge's Line 5 to continue to be located within the watershed of Lake Superior. I am, therefore, against the rerouting of it around the Bad River Reservation. The proposed route is upstream not only the Indian Reservation, but also of Copper Falls State park and many of the rivers that I love (e.g. Fish Creek, Bad River, White River, Marengo River, Tyler Forks, Potato River, and Montreal River). Any spills here would be devastating. Enbridge pipelines leak regularly, and new pipelines are no safer than the old ones. Lake Superior is 10% of the world's fresh water and as water becomes more and more scarce, we have to start taking the protection of it seriously.

Furthermore, as a resident of Ashland, I would get NO benefit from Enbridge siting their pipeline here, but I would be shouldering a lot of risk—to my property values and to my way of life. And as a person with a conscience, I do not want to see the Bad River Tribe stabbed in the back by having the pipeline routed immediately upstream of their reservation.

And of course, the background to all this is climate change. We have to start facing this head-on and that means a move away from additional investment in the infrastructure of fossil fuels. The IPCC has made it very clear that our society needs to act aggressively to curb carbon emissions, and a new/updated/rerouted pipeline is the opposite.

Thank you for doing the right thing,
Elizabeth Andre
908 9th Ave W
Ashland, WI 54806
515-451-7774 (cell)

From: Alex Strachota
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:40:26 PM

I would like to submit my objections to the Wisconsin DNR issuing wetland permits to Enbridge for the proposed Line 5 Relocation Project.

I am very concerned about maintaining the integrity of the Great Lakes watersheds and coastal ecosystems, and Enbridge's Line 5 Relocation Project--with its need to fill in local wetlands and cross scores of local waterways--is a grave threat to our natural resources.

The Bad River Band's reservation and treaty lands and resources are also of significant concern--a spill from this pipeline would devastate the Kakagon Sloughs' extensive wild rice beds and harm treaty-protected resources both within and outside of the reservation boundaries.

Additionally, it is my sincere hope that the WI DNR will consider this pipeline project--and any other fossil-energy infrastructure project under its review--in light of climate impacts. The DNR must realize the systemic climate-related effects on the lands and waters over which it has jurisdiction and incorporate an analysis of long-term climate disruption on these resources brought on by continued carbon-energy infrastructure development.

Because of its impacts on our local communities, natural resources, and intact ecosystems, I ask the WI DNR to deny wetland permits to Enbridge and to conduct research and educate the public through a thorough EIS to demonstrate that Line 5 is a threat to our present and future well-being.

Thank you,
Alex Strachota
Washburn, WI

From: Barbara Eisenberg
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:30:53 PM

I would like to state number concerns I have with the rerouting and expansion of Line 5. These concerns are wide ranging and include the risk of damage in the short term during construction and over the long term due to the operation and likely spills over the lifetime of the pipeline. The construction is planned in an area of valuable natural resources including wetlands, waterways, ephemeral ponds and diverse ecological communities. These communities provide habitat for countless plants, fish, invertebrates, birds, mammals, mollusks. These are sensitive areas that include 145 species of conservation concern within the Bad-Montreal Region. Forest clearing and fragmentation change habitats in ways that are often irreversible. The fact that there will be a 120 foot wide right of way during construction as well as a 50 foot permanent ROW should be carefully assessed for direct and cumulative effects. These ROW will permanently fragment the habitats, change the way wildlife moves through the sensitive area and put protected areas at risk of invasion by non-native, invasive species. Off road vehicles and white tailed deer are likely to use these right of way, further altering the ecology of the plant communities.

The area in which this project is proposed contains red clay soils that are characterized as highly erodible with low permeability and susceptible to massive wasting. This was demonstrated by the high level of damage dualities the 2016 flood event. Damages to roads and other infrastructure reached \$23 million. The pipeline crosses waterways at 186 locations, all of which could be at risk of damage if the pipeline is compromised during a future flood event. Extreme weather events have been increasing due to the effects of climate change, increasing the chance of damage to infrastructure such as the pipeline.

In the manner of assessing risks posed by an Enbridge project, their history of safety should be strongly considered to help predict their future actions. Some recent safety violations include 1) \$6.7 million fines in 2017 due to failure fix safety issues in a timely manner 2) natural gas pipeline explosion in British Columbia cause by corrosion in 2018 3) Explosion in August 2019 that killed one person and injured 6 people 4) \$177 million in fines or spills in Michigan and Illinois during 2016, 5) explosion in 2007 causing \$2.4 million in damages and the death of 2 men.

In addition to these concerns, there is the overarching consideration of climate change and the significant contribution the continued pipeline operation makes toward greenhouse gas emissions.

Please consider these comments as well as all the information provided by a complete Environmental Impact Statement before making any decisions regarding permits for this projects. That is what is required by law. Thank you.

Barb Eisenberg

Sent from my iPad

From: Jacob Oblatz
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: line 5 comments ea/7
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 7:50:46 PM

my name is Jacob Oblatz, I have lived in the Chequamegon Bay area for 22 years.
I am raising a family here, and run a business here .
I beg of you to not issue permits for Embridge to reroute line 5.
We must protect our water !!!!

From: Barbara With
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments EA/7: JUSY SAY NO
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 6:17:51 AM

I am writing to register my strong objection to the issuance of any kind of permit to Enbridge for rerouting line 5: JUST SAY NO.

The governor of Michigan is trying to get Line 5 shut down because it is putting the Straits of Mackinac and both Lake Superior and Lake Michigan in fatal danger.

Enbridge lies.

Kalamazoo spill is still affecting the water there.

No, no and no. Please. As someone who lives in Lake Superior, on Madeline Island, I get my water from the Penokee Hills. Enbridge needs to shut down Line 5 for good.

Just say no.

Thank you
Barbara With
701 Abby Lane
La Pointe WI 54850

From: Jeremy Bayes
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments for hearing
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 4:18:21 PM

Hi,

I'm a Madison resident and am strongly opposed to granting this new pipeline. I have a lot of reasons for being opposed:

- "natural" gas is a very water and energy intensive process, that ruins groundwater and increasingly rarely delivers a profit to investors and drilling companies

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.forbes.com/sites/edhirs/2020/02/21/the-arithmetic-of-fracking/amp/>

- renewable energy prices continue to fall and will continue to fall to prices well below energy costs for fossil fuel sources. That is just on the finances alone--not even looking at local or global environmental costs.

-this project is not in line with the U.S. energy future--green energy jobs CURRENTLY outnumber fossil fuel jobs 3-1.

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.forbes.com/sites/energyinnovation/2019/04/22/renewable-energy-job-boom-creating-economic-opportunity-as-coal-industry-slumps/amp/> Gov. Evers

also has set Wisconsin goals to be on clean energy and this project is not at all in line with those goals.

-what's the value to Wisconsin of this pipeline? How much is Enbridge paying into state coffers?

-what's the cost and risk of the pipeline leaking? I've heard that Enbridge as a company has a pipeline leak every 20 days, and line 5 has spilled 29 times so far.

-what about all the landowners indigenous and non that have said they don't want this pipeline on their land? Eminent domain might legally allow this, but is it ethical or fair?

I am convinced that this pipeline should not be granted because it is not worth the financial, environmental, and social costs for the marginal reward with significant risk.

Thank you for your time and taking my concerns into consideration.

All the best, and now can we just move on with creating the future we want and deserve,

Jeremy Bayes

From: Michael Brandt
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 6:29:16 PM

Please add the following to the official records:

In January 2017, the Tribal Council of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa passed a resolution which declared that the Tribe would not be renewing rights of way for the Enbridge pipeline which transects the Bad River Reservation. The resolution called for removal of all segments of the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline from the entire Bad River Watershed. In October 2019, the Tribal Council passed another resolution reiterating their 2017 decision.

The response from Enbridge is a proposal to remove pipe from the heart of tribal land, and to replace it with a bypass around the Reservation's perimeter.

Along with objections from the Bad River Band, resistance to the Enbridge plan has snowballed into many arguments from many directions. Most of the objections concern environmental impact which I am trusting the Department to faithfully address in the pending EIS process.

What I ask is that those performing the study and evaluating its findings do so in the context of the moment. We are witnessing something unique. Never have so any Americans been willing to scrutinize the past and make attempts to redress historical wrongs. None of our citizenry has been more abused by government and the people it has represented than have Native Americans. At a time when all around us symbols of inequality and oppression are falling, it is hard to deny the imagery of the Enbridge by-pass as yet another thing being imposed upon a people – a thing encroaching upon, indeed defining the limits of tribal authority. Nor is it possible to ignore the insensitivity behind the assumption that Native people value undeveloped land and waterways no more than do the residents of ever-changing suburbs.

It is clear that the Bad River Band want the pipeline gone from their domain. That simple fact needs to be understood. And respected.

Michael Brandt
7565 Mellum Road
Arena, @WI 53503

From: Kathy Allen
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 8:25:32 PM

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to ask you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for the following reasons:

1) The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any pipeline leak or rupture would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

2.) With climate chaos devastating our state, country, and world, it is time to **stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure** and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.

3.) The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and could crack building foundations.

I believe the scope of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation should:

- include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.

- consider how construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, would impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region

- investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.

- investigate how wildlife habitat would be impacted - creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.

- Take into account Enbridge's terrible safety record, one spill every 20 days, on the average.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Thank you for your time,
Kathy Allen

La Crosse, WI

From: wwheart@centurytel.net
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:36:12 PM
Attachments: [enbridge letter.docx](#)

Greetings,

Please accept the above attachment from the Wild Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited to the WDNR Environmental Impact Study committee handling line 5.

Thank you,

Bill Heart, President of Wild Rivers chapter of Trout Unlimited

Greetings,

The Wild Rivers chapter of Trout Unlimited is a small part of a huge National conservation organization with a mission to “Protect, Reconnect, and Restore” our Coldwater Fishery. The Wild River chapter consists of 7 counties in Northern Wisconsin. Parts of four of those counties: Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, and Iron are now at a huge risk to our cold-water trout streams from the potential construction of the Enbridge’s Line 5 reroute. There is a long list of Class 1, 2, and 3 trout streams plus the many wetlands and springs that supply the cold water to protect the trout in these trout streams that would be at risk. Many of our chapter members spend a lot of time angling and restoring many of these cold-water streams, and we work closely with the Wisconsin DNR fishery experts to help with their great work that improve and protect these waters.

As a chapter, we have very few scientist members and we rely on the Wisconsin DNR experts to help protect these very special trout streams from being put at risk by Enbridge, a private corporation that does nothing to help protect these very special waters.

Please reject all permits to allow Enbridge, a private corporation, from putting these trout streams at risk.

Thank You,

William (Bill) Heart, President

Wild River chapter of Trout Unlimited

From: Roy Settgas
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:46:25 PM
Attachments: [EIS scoping comments.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

my comments via attached pdf

to: WI DNR
re: EIS scoping for proposed Enbridge line 5 relocation

July 11, 2020

I have examined your draft EIS outline for this project and find it to be a comprehensive list of topics, however "the devil is in the details" and I wish to register my particular concerns regarding the following details:

1) the curious process where public comment is being solicited on an EIS and on waterway crossing permits when the exact project route has not yet been determined and publicized. How can any impact be identified or evaluated, other than in the most general terms, prior to knowledge of where the project falls on the landscape? First determine route, then assess impacts.

2) the fact that the relocation of this segment of line 5 is essential to the continued operation of line 5 as a whole. I assert, therefore, that any environmental impacts due to future operation of the entirety line 5 are properly considered to be environmental impacts of this proposed project. The primary, though by no means only, impact of concern from the continued operation of line 5 being the potential of line 5 leaking directly into the Straits of Mackinac.

3) the greatest threat to the integrity of existing line 5 as well as any future line 5 appears to be the pipeline's vulnerability to unforeseen erosion - both slow progressive erosion and major flood event episodic erosion. Recent weather events in the project area suggest that extreme rainfall events - and consequent flooding - are already dramatically off the charts of those presently used to engineer infrastructure projects. This trend and its future projection must be reflected in design and risk assessment for this project.

4) I applaud your listing of "5.7 greenhouse gas emissions and climate change" under the "5 direct, secondary, and cumulative effects of the proposed project ...". A related societal concern is the ongoing transition to a renewables-based energy economy. Ideally, section 7.1 "Consistency with Plans and Policies" would relate to plans that cover this topic, however, we're all aware of the sad state of federal and state planning with respect to climate change and renewable energy. Therefore I recommend that a separate section under "5 direct, secondary, and cumulative effects of the proposed project ..." be added to assess the project's effect on the transition to a renewable based energy economy.

5) I am dismayed by your categorizing "risk of potential spills" under "other issues and concerns" rather than under "direct, secondary, and cumulative effects of the proposed project ...". My concern is that this reflects emphasis and is not just an artifact of organization. There are impacts due to the potential construction of this project and there are impacts due to potential operation if it is constructed. I appreciate that the "list of direct, secondary, and cumulative effects of the proposed project ..." includes "non-traditional environmental impacts" such as socio-economic and greenhouse gas/climate change, however I contend it should also include the "risk of potential spills" section - as the risk of spills would be most certainly a direct impact of the proposed project.

I could go on, especially in that I have not really dug into specifics on the more traditional list of environmental impacts. In that realm I hope you will take to heart other extensive, detailed, and informed comments which I know have been submitted by individuals and organizations possessing extensive environmental expertise. We're all taking the time and making the effort to do this not because of any innate antipathy towards Enbridge, but out of our love and concern for Wisconsin natural resources in general, and in particular, for this especially lovely, healthy, stream-rich area which deserves the highest standard of protection we can give it.

Sincerely -

Roy Settgas
75405 Church Corner Rd
Washburn, WI 54891
715 685-4613

From: Arlene
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 10:01:55 AM

Please do not allow the enbridge pipeline to go thru our northern Wisconsin precious wetlands and public waterways. The environment must be protected and there is no guarantee that the pipe won't cause millions of dollars of damage, some of which could never be remedied.

They should not be allowed eminent domain for this project. It's not right to force landowners to sell. Eminent domain should only be for the important reasons of our government when there is no other recourse. It should not be for the business profit of a private foreign company.

Thank you.

Arlene Zaucha
Madison, Wisconsin

From: jamesorjimlee
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 10:44:48 AM

We are opposed to the Enbridge Line 5 relocation project for the following reasons:

1. Our land abutts the proposed route and we are concerned about the impact of the project on our well water and property value. We have received nothing from Enbridge that indictaes how they will mitigate any problems associated with the project that effects well water or property values.
2. The project will damage and deminish wetlands which are a part of the watershed that flows into Lake Superior.
3. Line 5 is an aging pipeline which is subject to failure due to fatigue and corrosion. Failures of the system will continue. Why add a new section to a system that will enevitably come under scrutiny for closure or replacement? The viability of this project needs to broaden its scope to determine all of Line 5 environmental impact in Wisconsin.
4. Enbridge responsiveness and mitigation of past pipeline failures leads us to believe they are not good neighbors.
5. We oppose Enbridge's plan to use eminent domain to gain easements and property they need for this project from private citizens of Wisconsin. The products that Line 5 transports goes to Canada. They should move the pipeline to Canada.
6. The detrimental environmental and economic impact of a leak in Line 5 to the local communities and Bad River tribe far outweigh the beneficial economic impact of building the new section.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this comment, however you need to know that we believe that it will not be considered. Your notice of the pending application contains a sentence on the first page paragraph 3, "The DNR has made a tentative determination it will approve with modifications the waterway and wetland permits for the proposed project", leads us to believe this is an exercise in futility.

Please surprise us... just say no to Line 5.
Sincerely,

James and Patricia Lee
[50094 State HWY 112](#)
[Ashland, WI 54806](#)

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® E

From: Janet Brandt
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 2:43:18 PM

Please add my comments to the record for the Enbridge Line 5 expansion.

The DNR must not enable Enbridge to defile the Bad River watershed in order to keep its beleaguered Line 5 alive. The 30-inch pipeline, which has spilled over 1,000,000 gallons of liquid petroleum during its 67 years of operation is a relic of the eclipsing fossil fuel era and should be decommissioned.

The fact that oil and water do not mix has been demonstrated ad nauseum. Yet the Enbridge project would violate dozens of Wisconsin streams and wetlands by dredging a channel to perpetuate a technology already proven to be environmentally risky. Intended as a by-pass around the Bad River Reservation, the new segment of pipeline would in fact amount to further encroachment upon the varied interests of tribal members. Also taken into account must be all those along the proposed route whose property would need to be acquired by terms negotiated under the threat of eminent domain seizure.

Moreover, it has not been demonstrated how tar sands slurry pumped from Canada to Canada for the purpose of trans-Atlantic export represents any long-term benefit to those of us residing in Wisconsin. A renewed Line 5 means damage here; profits elsewhere.

We expect that the pending EIS will reveal a cost to the environment unacceptable to the Department as well as to the public.

Janet Brandt
7565 Mellum Rd.
Arena, WI 53503

From: joolie hannis
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 10:04:52 AM

I have read Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel articles about the Endbridge Line 5 rerouting plan in Wisconsin, plus info on the DNR website.

Due to the effect on waterways, wetlands, the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa, etc, etc. I am
AGAINST this rerouting permit!

...plus the other end of it in the Straits of Mackinac is a definite cause of concern!

What a sorry situation! In this infancy of renewable energy, can't we use some foresight going forward?

Thank you,

Julie Hanus
3509 N 64th St
Milwaukee, WI 53216

From: BethAnne Yeager
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:32:42 AM

Good morning!

I hope you and yours are as happy and as healthy as can be in these uncertain times.

I am grateful that the DNR is there for all of us, protecting the environment, preserving it for its own sake, as well as for those peoples who are directly tied to the environment—I guess that's everyone! And many of us who may have taken the outdoors for granted are appreciating fresh air, ground to walk on, trees and wildlife as a respite; another way to be safer-at-home.

I grew up in northern Wisconsin, and fortunate to still have family and best friends there. Then (and now), I always looked forward to visiting Copper Falls State Park, and the surrounding area. The proposed Enbridge pipeline threatens that unique place, and a route around it would not eliminate the threat of damage or pollution, but may mitigate.

Even more importantly, the proposed pipeline threatens the Ojibwe. They are directly tied to the land, not only via their treaty rights to hunt, fish and gather, but also the land is as an inextricable to their identity. The EIS should take into account this tie. Indeed, in similar situations, environmental protection agencies in the U.S. and around the world have had to account for potential damage to the land where that land forms an intrinsic aspect of the people living on or nearby.

Thank you for your consideration.

Beth Anne Yeager
608-886-7667

From: Ryan Clark
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:49:40 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts. Examples include:

- Using timber mats to limit wetland disturbance,
- Installing erosion control devices, and
- Utilizing site-specific waterbody crossing methods.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

Ryan Clark

Analyst, Project Controls

Jobs 18001, 18002, 18003, 18004

C: (715) 225-6861

E: ryclark@precisionpipelinellc.com



O: (715) 874-4510

F: (715) 874-4511

3314 56th Street | Eau Claire, WI 54703

www.PrecisionPipelineLLC.com

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this email in error please delete and notify sender.

From: Ella Shively
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 5:23:03 PM

To the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources,

I am writing to urge you to reject all permits and approvals requested by Enbridge for the relocation of Line 5. Line 5 is a direct threat to the natural and cultural resources of Wisconsin, as well as those of the entire nation, and must be decommissioned immediately.

Enbridge claims that the pipeline's existence is in the public's best interest. I, as a citizen of Wisconsin and an invested member of the Chequamegon Bay community, whole-heartedly disagree. The risks Line 5 poses to the state of Wisconsin far outweigh the negligible benefits. Indeed, Enbridge is a Canadian-owned company that benefits at the *expense* of Wisconsin's people and resources. As a researcher at the Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation, I have become literate in water science issues, and I am deeply concerned about the effects the construction will have on Wisconsin's water resources. (My statement is my own and is not made on the Burke Center's behalf.) I am worried about the impact 186 waterway crossings will have on water quality in the Chequamegon Bay area. I do not trust Enbridge when it claims that 109 acres of wetland filling will only be temporary. I want to know why Enbridge's application does not address potential impacts on the region's abundant springs. Complex ecosystems hinge on the health of Lake Superior and the surrounding streams, rivers, springs, and wetlands. Even if the impacts to local waterways will only be temporary, as Enbridge claims, the smallest disruption could result in lasting damage to flora and fauna by driving away or culling individuals from the population. People depend on these waterways, too. If the Line 5 reroute is not beneficial to the people of Wisconsin, then why take the risk?

Furthermore, Enbridge's application only considers the impacts of the pipeline's construction, not the effects of its end products or a potential oil spill. Therefore, I consider its application incomplete. Given Enbridge's leaky track record (over 800 spills between 1999 and 2010 alone), it is only a matter of time before a spill occurs again. One cannot truly estimate environmental impact without taking a probable future oil spill into account. A leak in the Straits of Mackinac could devastate hundreds of miles of shoreline in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Canada. Furthermore, Line 5 transports fossil fuels, the burning of which exacerbates climate change. Wisconsin is already suffering from the impacts of climate change, and permitting Enbridge to continue piping fossil fuels through the state will only spell more suffering for Wisconsin's natural resources.

By destroying natural resources, Enbridge also harms people who depend upon healthy ecosystems for their way of life. Allowing Enbridge to continue along its destructive path only adds insult to injury for the Anishinaabe people, who are particularly vulnerable to a

warming climate—or an oil spill—due to their place-based identity. Rerouting the pipeline around the Bad River Reservation will not prevent the tribe’s water resources from being severely impacted in the event of a spill. Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission director Michael Isham has directly stated that, “Line 5 and the material Enbridge transports within it represent the significant, particular threat to the Anishinaabe people.” The Canadian-owned company continued to operate on Bad River Reservation for an astounding seven years after its easements expired, displaying its profound disrespect for the people who have occupied this area for centuries. Enbridge has failed to listen to the Anishinaabe people in the past and present, and, if granted permission to reroute Line 5, will continue its legacy of dishonesty and environmental racism in the future.

On the Wisconsin DNR website, I found a statement that summarizes Wisconsin’s public trust doctrine: “Wisconsin’s waters belong to everyone.” The state’s navigable waterways are held in trust for *all* Wisconsin citizens—not for Canadian energy companies. The DNR website goes on to explain that, “the public interest...has been broadened to include protected public rights to water quality and quantity, recreational activities, and scenic beauty.”

I call on you now, as the agency responsible for upholding the public trust, to protect the waterways *held in trust for all Wisconsin citizens* by denying the permits and approvals requested by Enbridge for the Line 5 reroute. In doing so, you will carry out your duty as protector of the public trust doctrine, but you will also do so much more. You will prevent a likely oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac from contaminating natural resources in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Canada. You will avoid the damage to state waterways caused by the reroute’s construction alone. You will force Enbridge to invest in its own renewable sector, thereby reducing the need for degrading extraction practices and curbing fossil fuel emissions that contribute to climate change. You will bring justice to the Anishinaabe people whose land and treaty rights Enbridge has abused.

The people of the Great Lakes have spoken. The era of fossil fuels is past, and we look now to a brighter, cleaner future. You, as an entity, are the crucial gatekeeper that can make that future possible.

Sincerely,

Ella J. Shively
N1983 Valley Road
La Crosse, WI 54601
Student at Northland College

From: Christel Sketch
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:29:06 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident of Ashland, Wisconsin, I am opposed to any and all pipelines. No Line 5. No permits. No pipelines. Oil pipelines are an irreversible threat to our environment. When (not if) something goes wrong, there is no going back. No amount of money, fines, or promises can reverse the damage. With the global climate crisis, we need to put our efforts into clean, renewable energies, not oil. No more oil/fossil fuels. Thank you for protecting and defending the rights of the land, water, trees, vegetation, habitats, and all life beings.

Sincerely,
Christel Sketch
808 Willis Avenue
Ashland, Wisconsin

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Erica Motz
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 3:00:33 PM

Hello,

My name is Erica Motz. I am a resident of Wisconsin submitting comments regarding the proposed reroute of Enbridge Line 5. I am writing to register my strong opposition to this project and my firm belief that the line should be decommissioned. It is long past time to consider the future of our planet and people and to recognize the harmful ramifications of continued fossil fuel use. Fossil fuels are not the future of energy in Wisconsin. It is wasteful in the extreme to use our valuable resources and land for the construction of this pipeline. It is harmful to the Great Lakes ecosystem, harmful to our drinking supply, and harmful to the Bad River people.

Thank you,
Erica

From: kristi kiel
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 4:31:09 PM

I am writing to express my concern about the re-routing of Enbridge Line 5 in Ashland County. I do not think that Line 5 should be allowed to be rebuilt in the Lake Superior watershed. The proposed re-route would be upstream of the Bad River Reservation and would endanger the health of the Bad River if it were allowed to be built.

Of the alternative routes, the only one that I would support would be the route that goes the furthest south, staying out of the Lake Superior watershed.

However, ultimately I think that it is a bad idea to build pipelines because they will always be a danger to the surrounding environment. Undetected leaks could allow vast quantities of oil or natural gas to spill out. I would be more supportive of transporting oil and natural gas via railroad or truck, because then if an accident happened, it would not go undetected, and would not have the same potential for the quantity of a spill, as compared to a pipeline.

It is our duty as Wisconsin citizens to protect the environment from contamination. It is also our duty to protect our tribal communities whose way of life is dependent on clean water.

Sincerely,

Kristi Kiel
29165 McKinley Rd
Washburn, WI 54891
kjkk19@yahoo.com
715-373-0626

From: elizabeth findley
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments, DNR (EA/7),
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 1:15:33 PM

I am strongly against Enbridge dredging and filling wetlands. I am strongly against Enbridge being allowed to re-route the pipeline. Sounds like an accident waiting to happen.
Seriously? We are going to risk our pristine northern lakes/rivers? The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa shouldn't have to have it on their land either.

And Enbridge shouldn't be able to use eminent domain to do this - HOW TERRIBLE!

I vote for Enbridge having to shut down the line.

Sounds like their pipeline in the Straights of Mackinac is another accident waiting to happen.

The state should be investing in more sustainable practices that are environmentally-friendly instead of risking an oil spill/etc.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for people to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Findley
3553 Broken Bow Trl
Delafield, WI 53018

From: Becky Comeau
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments, DNR (EA/7)
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:00:35 PM

To Wisconsin DNR:

Enbridge Line 5 permits should be rejected and Line 5 must be decommissioned. I am writing to urge you to **not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin**, for all of the following reasons.

1.) With climate chaos devastating our state, country, and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation, along with wetland and water conservation and restoration actions.

2.) The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge ecosystem and livelihood for Northern WI.

3.) The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

The scope should be of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation must include the following:

- itemized impacts to each and every wetland, each and every stream, each and every river, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.

- Impacts on each and all wild rice beds and each and every tributary, and the effects on tribal ability to hunt, fish and gather on these lands as agreed in treaties signed with 11 Ojibwe tribes. These treaties are living agreements that must be adhered to in full and in equal measure to any U.S. law or regulation.

- Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well and wetland contamination due to faults plus a spill.

- How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?

- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.

- Enbridge's terrible safety record, one spill every 20 days, on the average, millions of gallons already spilled.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its full Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions. This EIS should be conducted in equal and substantial collaboration with the Bad River Band, who as done extensive study and has first hand living knowledge of the existing pipeline and also has the most at stake in any small or large environmental impact.

The DNR and each of it's decision-Makers must chose which side of history to be on. These tar sands oils cannot be cleaned up, and any spill is permanent toxic damage. Climate change is greatly increased by tar sands production and distribution. The oil industry is dysfunctional and nearly dead, further investment and destruction is insane, immoral, and must be stopped. Ask yourselves what legacy you wish to leave on this planet. Your decision matters.

In consideration of the particularly harsh consequences already experienced by Bad River Band and other indigenous peoples, the link and text regarding their lawsuit and rationale are provided here. Consider this in full.

http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Pipeline_Govt_Complaint_PressRelease.pdf

Mashkiiziibi (Bad River) Band files suit against Enbridge

Tribe asserts invaluable resources at stake and calls for stopping operation and decommissioning of Line 5 at Bad River, WI

Odanah, WI, July 23, 2019-The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa filed suit against Enbridge today to force the decommissioning and removal of the Line 5 pipeline, which runs across 12 miles of sensitive habitat in the Bad River Reservation. This litigation follows a failed multi-year mediation process with the company and is necessary to force the Canadian-owned company to comply with its legal obligations to decommission and remove the 66-year-old pipeline from the Bad River watershed. Enbridge has continued to operate the pipeline for six years since easements allowing it to maintain the Reservation right-of-way expired in 2013, and today's action seeks to bring the company's unauthorized presence to an end.

The Bad River Reservation is located on the south shore of Lake Superior and includes vast wetlands interlaced with a network of rivers and streams, including the Kakagon River, the White River, and the Bad River. Those rivers give way to the Kakagon and Bad River sloughs, which are complex freshwater estuaries stewarded by the Band and internationally recognized as some of the most sensitive freshwater estuarine ecosystems on earth. They provide refuge for threatened and endangered species, support critical treaty fisheries,

contain some of the last remaining wild rice beds on the Great Lakes, and supply healthful, traditional sustenance to Bad River Band members who continue to fish, hunt, and gather in these lands and waters, as they have for centuries.

The Band passed a resolution in January of 2017 declaring that, in light of the threat posed by Line 5 to precious watershed resources, it would not consent to new easements for Line 5 across parcels of tribally-owned land. Since then, the Band has been collecting and reviewing environmental, water, and pipeline data to further assess the danger posed by the pipeline. While a significant threat of ruptures and leaks exists for the entire stretch of Line 5's path across the Reservation, there is a looming disaster just east of where Line 5 presently crosses the Bad River. There, the river channel is migrating towards the pipeline at an alarming rate due to bank erosion: while the distance between the riverbank and the pipeline was 320 feet at this location in 1963, it now stands at only 28 feet, and the river is threatening to carve a new channel directly across the pipeline route. The river will inevitably expose the pipeline, subjecting it to stresses that it was not designed to withstand and making a rupture all but certain.

Other than the decommissioning of the pipeline on the Reservation, the only options for avoiding such a disaster involve either the drilling of a new pipeline or armoring the banks of the Bad River. Neither is acceptable to the Band, as both carry their own significant risks and would involve further alteration and damage to watershed resources. More on these issues can be viewed at <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/tribal-operations/natural-resources/pipeline-information>.

The Bad River Band has carefully reviewed alternatives to Line 5, and understands that the majority of the product on the line is for export and that ready substitutes are available for the few services Line 5 actually provides to the region. Given these realities and the threat posed to the Bad River watershed and coastal wetlands and to Lake Superior, which together serve as the lifeblood not only for the Band but for many neighboring communities, the Bad River Tribal Council cannot allow the community to shoulder the significant and unacceptable risk associated with a foreign company's aging pipeline.

Bad River Tribal Chairman Mike Wiggins Jr. agrees with the Council's decision. "No amount of compensation is worth risking Wenji-Bimaadiziyaang- an Ojibwe word that literally means 'From where we get life.' It's time to end the imminent threat the company is presenting to our people, our rivers, and gichi gami (Lake Superior). It's not only an infringement of our sovereignty, but a burden felt by our people having to engage in the perpetual chase for the next pipeline rupture. It's time to stop the flow of oil immediately."

The Bad River Tribal Council would like for its constituents and local community members to know that the Tribe has weighed all options and filing suit against Enbridge represents the best and last route for successfully decommissioning an enormous threat to the local watershed and environment. For additional information about Enbridge Line 5, please visit

<https://blog.nwf.org/2017/11/why-the-line-5-oil-pipeline-threatens-the-great-lakes/>.

Bad River Tribal Council Member Dylan Bizhikiins Jennings explains, “The tribe has commenced litigation because we must stop the operation of line 5 in order to protect current and future generations from a potential catastrophe. We will not allow a foreign energy company to endanger our lifeway. As Anishinaabe, it’s really quite simple to us, ‘Giishpin ganawendamang iw nibi, giga-ganawenimigomin- If we take care of the water, it will continue to take care of us.’”

With over 7,000 members, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians is located on an 125,000-acre reservation in an area within Ashland and Iron Counties on the south shore of Gichi-Gami (Lake Superior). The Ojibwe people have a long and rich heritage throughout the Great Lakes region prior to European contact and through to today. Treaties signed by eleven Ojibwe Tribes ceded millions of acres throughout the region, including what is currently the upper one third of the State of Wisconsin, but retained the rights to hunt, fish, and gather in the ceded territories, both on and off of their reservation land. Learn more about the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians online at <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/>.

Again, I urge you to check your conscience as you proceed in decision making. We don’t need this oil. Keep it all in the ground.

Rebecca Comeau
La Farge, Wisconsin

From: Mira Grinsfelder
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Comments, EA/7
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 9:29:02 PM

Note: This was adapted from a comment to be read at the hearing on July 1st.

Hi,

my name is Mira (she/hers). I live at 22 N Butler St, in Madison, Wisconsin. I just wanted to say thank you for hosting this meeting. Especially now, these processes of democracy - opportunities for the public to voice their concern, and local governmental officials - to act in accordance to those concerns - are extremely important.

I'll start by sharing that I am terrified of public speaking - even when it involves me speaking to my computer by myself. But I am

I am firmly and defiantly against granting the waterways and wetlands permit for a re-route of Enbridge's Line 5 that I had no choice but to speak up.

Reasons why I am against the permits -

1. The pipeline is an inherent threat to the natural resources of this place we call Wisconsin - no matter how much care and consideration goes into its installation and maintenance - pipelines leak. Especially Enbridge pipelines. Jeez if I had the track record of Enbridge - I would have been expelled or excommunicated or something by now. They're dirty, and they leave a large oil smudge in the communities they operate, and a bill for the cleanup.

They have proven themselves time and time again to be unworthy of public trust to operate with respect and reverence for the natural resources. The only thing we can trust Enbridge to do is to operate in defense of their bottom line.

2. Wisconsin needs to be transitioning away from pipelines as energy reliance

The DNR should only grant these permits with EXTREME scrutiny of the environmental consequences and track record of the applicants. Enbridge's application falls short on both counts.

Doing so forces companies like Enbridge to shift from extractive industries towards renewable resources. We have the science and the wherewithal to do so. Processes of government must incentivize energy providers to shift away from extractive industries. Starting here and now.

As a member of the younger generation, the climate emergency hits differently. It threatens our livelihood. My livelihood. It is not unlikely - that in my lifetime - we will see water shortages and conflicts. The climate emergency and rapid environmental degradation holds significant weight for my future - will I have an opportunity to start a family? And see that family grow up? Will they be able to visit the same natural wonders that I visited as a kid? Or will oil flow from Cooper Falls where water once did.

3. When a door closes, a window opens

While the term reject makes it seem like I am asking you to close a door. But think about the windows! Think about the opportunities that present themselves when you reject these permits - the wetlands will develop, grow, adapt as they have been for millennia prior, the ecosystems will thank us with fresh and clean water. We have an opportunity to preserve the cultural heritage of the Bad River Band which has been growing alongside the wetlands and waterways for centuries, millennia? And the economy, the economy will open up in new and unimaginable ways as we depart from dependence on extractive industries and corporations.

I hope you will make this decision - to deny the wetlands and waterways permit for a Line 5 re-route - with respect to the gravity it holds for your and my future, and for the historical debt owed to the ancestors, and future ancestors of Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

From: Sue Meyer
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments.
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:26:57 PM

As a concerned citizen I am opposed to the Line 5 Pipeline proposal. There is the environmental health risks of contamination for waterways and food source for those who rightfully rely on wild rice. Also the recreational economic impact would be negative. This pipeline has no value to the citizens of Wisconsin and we should be putting our resources into renewable energy instead.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Sue A Meyer
1706 S Apple Ave
Marshfield, WI. 54449

From: Yvonne Besyk
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 9:26:03 AM

I would like to provide comments regarding the Line 5 pipeline.

1.
Enbridge's 67-year-old Line 5 represents a significant danger to Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and all the Great Lakes. It needs to be decommissioned immediately, not recreated one section at a time. In its 67-year history, it has already spilled over one million gallons! I have lived near Lake Michigan my whole life and have seen it deteriorate and recover in several cycles. It would hurt me deeply to see the Great Lakes damaged.
2.
The new section that Enbridge proposes is just outside the Bad River Reservation, and still within the Bad River watershed, which means that any rupture would contaminate the reservation. [A 2015 study by the Pipeline Safety Trust](#) showed that new pipelines fail even more often than old pipelines. The Nov. 2018 Greenpeace report "[Dangerous Pipelines](#)" shows that an Enbridge pipeline releases hazardous liquids on the average every 20 days!
3.
The Bad River Reservation is the only land left to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern WI. Their hunting and gathering grounds, and their wild rice beds are now, and will continue to be, in grave peril of a rupture in Line 5. The resulting contamination would make their way of life impossible. I have friends in the Ojibwe tribe. One provided input that reduced my medications by 3/4 saving the corporation where I work \$15K/month. Me, a white woman. I stand with my Indigenous friends in their efforts to protect the earth, particularly the part that directly affects them. Enough is enough - stop imposing on Indigenous rights.
4.
The proposed new section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, reaching the park, the reservation, and Lake Superior very quickly.
5.
Every year the world suffers increased harm from climate chaos: floods, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, new diseases, extreme weather events, etc. Every level of government must think in new ways of how to protect us. The DNR needs to broaden its focus and stop approving new fossil fuel infrastructure projects, and start decommissioning existing ones.
6.
Enbridge's proposed Line 5 route is too risky; it threatens the health and prosperity of tribal members, the region's wildlife and wetlands and Lake Superior's coastline.

7.

On July 18, 2020, the EPA (US Environmental Protection Agency) fined Enbridge \$6.7 million for failing to fix safety problems outlined in a consent decree in the aftermath of their 2010 Kalamazoo River rupture that released almost a million gallons of tar sands oil.

There is NO reason for the Line 5 oil pipeline to be located here. Wisconsin residents receive no benefit from Line 5. Enbridge is a Canadian company moving oil back into Canada. Wisconsin takes the risk and Enbridge reaps the benefits.

Damage and Risks to Water

I have been fortunate enough to have visited the Northern WI environment. It has given me peace of mind and directly affected my daughter's choice to get a Masters in Soil Science and work for an environmental firm. I owe a debt to help protect these precious resources. Copper Falls State Park is a treasure loved by locals and travelers. Line 5 will wrap around 3 sides of the park, crossing both the Bad River and Tyler Forks River which converge at the iconic Brownstone Falls. Eight and a half miles of river traverse this park, rivers which would be forever destroyed by an oil spill.

Water is the lifeblood of Northern Wisconsin and does not mix with oil. The Bad River watershed is laced with rivers and streams flowing north from the Penoque Range to Lake Superior. Line 5 currently crosses the Bad River Reservation, and pipes there have been exposed by weather and erosion, creating a potential disaster. The Line 5 extension proposed is actually even more of a threat to the Bad River than the current route. A pipeline spill would devastate the watershed and pollute the Bad River and its myriad of rich wetlands, killing fish, waterfowl, and wild rice beds.

The proposed pipeline route is in the Lake Superior drainage basin and will affect numerous wetlands and cross many watersheds including Fish Creek, Lower and Upper Bad River, White River, Marengo River, Tyler Forks, Potato River, and Montreal River. The proposed route crosses areas of precious natural resources that will be permanently disrupted by the construction and further endangered by possible spills.

Floods

The new route is a terrible location for a pipeline. Extreme weather, logging and agricultural practices have caused erosion and gulying in the complex geography of the Bad River Watershed. Pipeline exposed by a flood event is vulnerable to further damage and a devastating spill. Intense storms in recent years with resulting flash flooding, especially in the sensitive upland regions of the Bad River watershed, have contributed to road washouts in the course of hours. During these flash floods, culverts have been exposed or washed away, resulting in extensive silting into trout streams. The EIS should address Enbridge's detailed plan for enhanced erosion

control.

Wetlands

The reasons the Bad River Band wants the pipeline removed from their reservation are valid for the entire watershed; any spill or release could travel swiftly through the streams and rivers and ultimately to Lake Superior, causing irreparable damage, including to the Kakagon Sloughs, which is on the RAMSAR list of “Wetlands of International Importance.”

The disturbance of wetlands impacts adjacent or connected wetlands and decreases total capacity to absorb heavy rain events. Some wetlands are associated with springs which contribute to the cold waters capable of sustaining a viable brook trout population.

Enbridge Environmental Impact Review states that the project will affect approximately 194.5 acres of droughty (sandy and/or low moisture) soil, which is difficult to revegetate. Failure to successfully revegetate may enhance erosion, ultimately impacting aquatic habitat.

Forested wetlands that will be cut open for pipeline installation can never be restored because Enbridge requires a 50' wide open path in perpetuity. Opening a 50' canopy over a brook trout stream could raise temperatures in the water and threaten trout habitat. According to the DNR's website about the project, '[Construction of the proposed reroute would affect 109 acres of wetland, result in the conversion of 29.5 acres of wooded wetland to non-wooded wetland, and permanent fill of 0.06 acres of wetland. Of the 186 waterways that exist within the proposed project area, 185 would be temporarily bridged for vehicle access and 87 would have the new pipeline installed via open-cut trenching or dredging.](#)' Eighty-seven waterways sliced through, vegetation removed, and habitat gone!

Artesian Wells

Artesian wells bubble up throughout Ashland county. The water originates in the Copper Falls aquifer which lies beneath the proposed pipeline route. There is no mention of these or potential impacts to them in the EIR. These artesian wells reflect the interconnectedness and complexity of the Copper Falls Aquifer and associated geology. They provide a drinking water source for locals and visitors.

Damage and Risks to the Economy

Taking agricultural, recreational and forestry land out of production will impact the current and future development and economic stability for families in the watershed.

Land values have been shown to decrease in areas where oil pipelines are located. This will cause the socioeconomic impact of a lower tax base and subsequent inability for counties and municipalities to budget for basic mandated services, including public education, health and safety services, road infrastructure, etc. Raising taxes will disproportionately affect the 47% of Ashland County residents living in poverty or

asset limited. (United Way ALICE Report)

Project Details

While Enbridge declares it “will replace the existing Line 5 pipeline segment that traverses the Reservation with a new, 30-inch outside diameter pipeline segment to be located entirely outside the Reservation,” the proposed new segment would be within the Bad River Watershed, endangering water, flora and fauna on which not only the Ojibwe but other hunters, fishers and gatherers depend for sustenance. While Enbridge promises to purge and clean the oil from the decommissioned segment that currently crosses the Bad River Reservation, we demand that the entire sections

that endanger the Bad River and Lake Superior Watershed be decommissioned and removed, and the land returned to its former state to the best of Enbridge’s ability. Governor Evers declared 2019 the year of clean drinking water and the DNR compiled a report focusing on the accomplishments and plans for achieving and maintaining clean drinking water throughout the state. Decommissioning and removing all the Line 5 pipeline sections that threaten our state’s resources would contribute to that worthy goal.

Thank you for consideration,

Yvonne Besyk
8818 Camp Lake Rd
Salem, WI 53168
708-217-3519

From: scott herning
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 comments/EA 7
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 7:28:05 PM

To whom it concerns,

I am writing to ask the powers that be to deny the Enbridge Company rights in rerouting the pipeline through the sensitive watersheds in Northern Wisconsin. The people and agencies of this state have worked very hard in preserving the natural resources of Wisconsin. Allowing this project to move forward would be a huge risk and setback. Please decommission this project immediately.

Additionally, the proposed new section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. Copper Falls State Park, created in 1929, is a treasure beloved by locals and travelers. Line 5, in this proposal, will wrap around 3 sides of the park, crossing both the Bad River and Tyler Forks River which converge at the iconic Brownstone Falls. Eight and a half miles of river traverse this park, rivers which would be forever destroyed by an oil spill. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, reaching the park, the reservation, and Lake Superior very quickly.

Thank you for your time, sincerely,

Scott Herning
1529 Logan Ave
Marinette, WI 54143

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: Kathleen Cartwheel
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Concerns
Date: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:25:49 AM

I am very concerned about the reroute of line 5. Not only is it's existence through the Bad River Reservation questionable, it's reroute south is also questionable. Is it still to be within the Bad River watershed? How will the old line be removed and remediated? The threat due to increased storm events is real.. and the risk of a spill into the lake and the risk of the culturally valuable manoomin is irreplaceable. Also concerning is the critically endangered Great Lakes piping plover population that nests in a Chequamegon point and other apostle islands. Is the endangered species act any use when considering the potential environmental impact?

Also, what about the deeply disconcerting situation of line 5 under the straight Of Makinac? How come we have not addressed the distressing condition of this line?

Also, is not all of this natural gas being delivered to Canada?

I strongly oppose the existence of pipelines in this area .

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lynn Zimek
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 discussion
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 9:54:08 AM

Hi, I was told that the speaker/ comment section of your meeting is full, so am contacting you in this fashion although I am not much of either. I live in Gordon within a 1/2 mile of the 61 corridor, down stream on the St. Croix River, and have a farm in Highbridge less than a mile from the proposed line 5 reroute. I am in perpetual fear for the St . Croix , having been to several Enbridge safety meetings

Because I am an EMT. I have seen their exposed pipes along the Gordon swamp although I was told there wasn't any, and worry when I see pockets of oil on the water downstream.

Enbridge claims that their pressure sensing measures will detect a leak but that is after how many gallons? They want to install larger pipes and more pumping stations, where does it end?

I believe our water is our most important resource and should be protected from such a potential and on going danger. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concern,
Lynn Zimek

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Peter Murphy
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 EIS
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:16:00 AM

Hello,

Any environmental impact is too much at this point. Line 5 should be shut down entirely. The risks of any spill in the Straits of Mackinac or in the proposed route far outweigh the benefits.

Thank you for your consideration,

Peter Murphy
3347 N. Newhall St. 53211

From: Diane Koosed
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Enbridge
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:03:03 AM

The expansion of Line 5 must be prevented. I am most concerned with protecting Lake Superior and the Bad River Watershed.

The indigenous inhabitants of Northern Wisconsin, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, have hunting and gathering grounds, including wild rice beds, which are in grave danger of a rupture in Line 5. The resulting contamination would destroy their way of life.

There are many reasons, in addition to what I have mentioned, as to why the expansion of Line 5 must be stopped. Thank you for your consideration.

Diane Koosed
Ashland, WI

From: Bobbi
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 expansion through the Bad River Watershed
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:44:33 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this particularly important issue. I commented on July 1 at the Zoom hearing but have added substance in the document below.

I live in the Vaughn Creek watershed of the Potato River watershed of the Bad River Watershed. This pipeline is proposed just ¼ mile upstream of our land and would cut through Vaughn Creek and one of her tributaries that flow through our property. Over the years, my husband has caught Brook Trout on the Vaughn. Our grandchildren love to wade in her and explore her banks. But we also lived through the 2016 flood which turned our little creek into a raging river that tore out a large section of Hwy 169.

Approving permits to cross 186 wetlands and waterways would be a huge mistake for so many reasons in this unique watershed. I urge the DNR to deny these permits.

You should know by now that Enbridge has acquired access to properties away from their original route in Ashland County. I have checked the Enbridge filings weekly with the Register of Deeds and mapped them. Easement options are filed with landowners who were NOT listed on the permit's list of riparian owners. Mapping them indicates Enbridge may be changing their route to avoid landowners who refused to sign. The department cannot review this application adequately without knowing which wetlands will be affected and where the pipeline would cross rivers and streams.

I am concerned about the streams on Attachment D Waterbody Crossing Table listed as Intermittent and Ephemeral. If Enbridge took those 'Flow Regimes' from a database somewhere, the info may not be accurate. The unnamed tributary that flows through our back yard has only stopped flowing once for a few days during a long dry spell in the 21 years I have lived here. Over those 21 years, our water table has risen, and springs have appeared in new places. Our hydrology has changed. The application claims 31 perennial streams. I would argue that number is higher. You will need appropriate information to review permits. I would also ask for stream surveys. During hot weather like we've experienced recently, trout migrate to the cooler waters of the upper watershed. Some of those small streams are likely brook trout habitat.

Also troublesome is the number of water crossings where the bank and crossing width is TBD. If they have not even determined yet how wide the crossing, how can you review and approve? The Vaughn Creek tributary that flows through our back yard is listed on Attachment D Waterbody crossing table as intermittent. If it has only ceased to flow for a few days in past 21 years, is it still intermittent? I would like to know how they intend to cross it. Not 'To Be Determined.'

The geotechnical boring took place in March through May. We know because they used our dead-end road for access. How did they complete the application, filed in February with the methods they would use for each crossing if they had not even completed soil borings? How

can the DNR decide on permits for each crossing if they haven't told you how they plan to do it?

Why would they propose to blast their way through Vaughn Creek, which is a Class II Trout Stream? The Vaughn is listed along with several unnamed streams in the blasting plan on page 11 (part of the EIR). I live less than ½ mile from where they propose to cross. We have sandy soil. I see no possible reason to blast.

Important info about our watershed. The Penokee Hills form the edge of a bowl that tips toward Lake Superior. Geography and soils combine to make our rivers and streams very 'flashy.' That means they fill up fast and drain extremely fast toward the lake.

In some places, the glacier left us an interesting mix of clay and ancient beach sand. Rivers and runoff have carved deep channels and ravines. The pipeline would weave up and down under and through all those rivers—most of them brook trout streams-- through the rich wetlands that surround them and under the gullies carved by time.

The number of steep slopes listed on the EIR should be enough to stop the project. How can they possibly install pipe up and down all those slopes where we already know soils are highly erodible? They will not ever restore the banks sufficiently to prevent disaster. The transitional soils in the Marengo watershed are especially prone to erosion. That area was hit hard by the 2016 storms which scoured banks and eroded away bluffs. It seems so ridiculous to allow installation of a pipeline through that same fragile area where collaborations of agency experts have worked for decades and continue today to improve conditions. A 50' path cleared of trees, shrubs and natural vegetation will not be an improvement.

The value of intact wetlands cannot be ignored in this region. Severe weather with extreme precipitation amounts has caused floods resulting in millions of dollars in damages. Ashland and Iron Counties have not yet recovered from the floods in 2016 and 2018. Any wetland touched by the installation of a pipeline MUST be left hydrologically intact to assure those wetlands are able to function properly to slow the flow during the next storm.

If an oil spill occurred during our next crazy, wild storm, on one of those flashy streams, oil would move very fast toward the lake. Too fast to stop it. What would Enbridge do? How could they even get there? During the 2016 flood, our roads were washed out. ALL roads were washed out. There were no secret back roads. There were NO passable roads.¹ So, the oil would flow to the Bad River, through the sloughs and into the lake. That is precisely what the Bad River Band sought to avoid when they asked Enbridge to remove the pipeline. This plan does not remove the danger--it makes it even worse.

Enbridge should be required to provide a plan for how they would access and contain a spill in any of the many places it could occur in the Bad River watershed. Where is the nearest shut-off? Is it controlled remotely? Once that valve is closed, how much oil would remain in the pipe to continue flowing in the watershed? What is their plan for a containment area and how do they plan to get there in this remote, wet, and wooded area with steep, unstable banks? Emergency services in our rural counties are limited and mostly volunteer. How long would it take professionals to arrive?

One hundred eighty-six water crossings! That just horrifies me. Nothing in the permit

application or the Enbridge safety record convinces me they can do that safely. Enbridge pays out millions in fines for improper environmental protocols. And then they walk away.

Chequamegon Bay in Ashland has just been made whole again after a 25-year effort to clean up an environmental mistake from 100 years ago. Let's not do that again.

Line 5 is 67 years old. It was only designed to last 50 years. The state of Michigan wants it gone from under the Straits of Mackinac where it threatens Lakes Huron and Michigan.

Wisconsin should have the same concerns about a spill in the Lake Superior basin.

The EIS should require an analysis of who uses the oil from Line 5. We know that a portion comes off the line at Rapid River, Michigan. The state of Michigan Energy Task Force has studied alternate fuel sources and transportation to those customers who currently burn propane refined at Rapid River. In their [March 2020 report](#), on page 27, it states that 'the proportion of households using propane for home heating has decreased in both Michigan and the United States since 2010, with an 8.3 percent decrease in Michigan.' Enbridge's reason for Line 5's existence in the US is declining. Enbridge is a Canadian Company moving product from Canada, back to Canada. Even the refinery in Rapid River is Canadian owned. Let's tell them to run their oil through Canada. Wisconsin should not have to assume this risk.

People of the Chequamegon Bay area embrace locally sourced food and community solar gardens. Many of us have installed solar arrays and own energy efficient homes and vehicles. Fossil fuels are a major contributor to climate change, and we must STOP burning oil before it is too late. Scientists have warned we have less than 10 years. We want to be part of the solution, not contribute more to the problem—fossil fuels. Wisconsin used to be a leader in its concern for the environment; please have the courage to say no. Line 5 is a dinosaur. Oil is a dinosaur. Wisconsin derives no benefit from this line. It is time to RETIRE Line 5.

Bobbi Rongstad

14363 N Heffners Rd

Town of Gurney, Iron Co

1 Cushman, Will, WISCONTEXT 15 Aug 2019

<https://www.wiscontext.org/washed-away-northwest-wisconsin-copes-costs-changing-climate>

From: Kathy Bladow
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 expansion
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020 9:16:33 PM

In my opinion Enbridge should not expand Line 5 through the proposed Bad River reservation and watershed area. They should actually run their pipeline through Canada, around the Great Lakes and down to Sarnia through Ontario. I don't know why anyone allowed it through the Straits of Mackinac, or beneath the St. Clair River or now a proposed expansion through precious watersheds that support a plethora of flora, fauna and wildlife. Indigenous cultural customs such as harvesting Manoomin may be threatened also. The Great Lakes are too important to allow the threat an oil pipeline represents and are also too important for a proposed nuclear waste depository on its shoreline... also a Canadian idea. I hope line 5 will be taken out of the Great Lakes and out of the United States all together. It is an unnecessary risk for land habitats, animals, Indigenous cultural customs and the Great Lakes. Please do not expand this pipeline. Look at the environmental impact!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Joyce Metter
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 extension
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 1:30:12 PM

DNR ,

I am against the The Enbridge pipeline Line 5 Extension .

Constructing a new 41 mile expansion of Line 5 around the edge of the Reservation in Ashland and Iron Counties will do irreparable damage to other natural resources in the region. As 350 Madison has warned, “the health and prosperity of tribal members, the region’s wildlife and wetlands, and Lake Superior’s coastline are all at risk as long as Line 5 is allowed to continue its operation in the area.”

Joyce Metter
1336 Moore St
Beloit, Wi
Sent from my iPad

From: Linda Frank
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Hearing Testimony
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 3:18:41 PM
Attachments: [DNR.LINE5. testimony.200701.docx](#)

Hello,

The attached document contains my comments on Line 5 which I am filing with you. I also gave this testimony at the hearing on July 1st.

Yours truly,
Linda Frank

Testimony of Linda Frank from Shorewood, Milwaukee County – DNR hearing on Enbridge Line 5 Reroute permitting, 7/1/20

- Thank you for your work on this issue, for the clear information you provided and for the easy process for public participation
- I would urge the DNR to deny a waterway and wetland permit for the Enbridge Line 5 reroute.
 - Let me tell you what brings me here – before raising a family, I worked for many years as an estate planning attorney; and what happened during my break from work is that I opened my eyes to what was going on around me. I couldn't miss it. **Our old way of doing business is destroying the life-giving capacity of the Earth. We need to get our priorities straight and quickly, if we are to have a chance of turning this around.** What it meant for me is I have not gone back to estate planning. I needed to engage in a **mission of promoting healthy and diverse water, soils, plants, wildlife and people and stopping the imminent threats to them.**
 - The DNR has important work to do. This is one of those decisions that makes a difference. How will you carry out your mission to protect the people and the resources of this state?
 - The risks are clear. An Enbridge pipeline spills oil or other contaminants every 20 days (Nov. 2018 Greenpeace report [“Dangerous Pipelines”](#)). The record for new pipelines is no better than that for the old ones ([A 2015 study by the Pipeline Safety Trust](#)).
 - The spills that can be expected from the Line 5 reroute threaten the Bad River, Tyler Park River, Brownstone Falls and other rivers and streams connecting to Lake Superior, threatening many important wetlands and watersheds as well.
 - Meanwhile, the objective sought by Enbridge is the building of fossil fuel infrastructure so that more of it can be burned to raise atmospheric co2 and further destabilize the climate. They must not succeed. The permit application must be denied.
 - Thank you for this opportunity to be heard and for your consideration as you make your determinations.

Linda M Frank

4321 N Prospect Avenue

Shorewood WI 53211

Linda@frankenvironmental.com

(414) 501-4585

From: arlemis22@aim.com
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Landowner comment
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:30:57 PM
Attachments: [Wisconsin Line 5 comments.doc](#)

Hello DNR staff,

Please see attached document for official comments that I would like to see entered into record.

Regards,
Benjamin P. Groeschl

BEFORE THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

101 S Webster St, Madison, WI 53707

In the matter of application for
Water Crossing and Wetland Fill Permits and
Scoping for Environmental Impact Statement

Comments of Benjamin Groeschl
Landowner

As outlined by Dept. of Natural Resources(DNR henceforth) own documents, Enbridge is looking to relocate Line 5 because of “need and demand” as well as a lawsuit with the reservation the pipeline route currently occupies. My comments will try and address this.

I hope that whomever of your staff reads this takes my following comments seriously since I am the landowner that presided in November 2019 hearing in front of the Public Utilities Commission of Minnesota and informed them that Enbridge had been failing to make proper reports per the Federal Consent Decree(2017) as a result of the Kalamazoo oil spill. I am independent. I am not an organization.

I am an eyewitness, as was my attorney, that Enbridge was doing unreported integrity digs on defects/cracks that were also not reported. This was a huge breach of the Consent Decree that led to the recent \$6.7 million dollar fine(June 2020) by the EPA whom I also contacted. I have picture evidence as well. This was probably ongoing on Line 5 in Wisconsin as well.

I am writing to you because I grew up near Mellen, WI and have family there. It is highly disconcerting to me that on video you have local DNR literally repeating Enbridge PR soundbytes that they use against landowners as scare tactics. I am asking for oversight from Madison personnel on anything to be determined or examined on location of proposed route before permits are issued. I believe in fact and science and want that to be on the forefront of any determination of route and permits. I feel this is relevant and prudent step to be taken in light of Enbridge breaking the Consent Decree.

Since the DNR cannot determine “need” I feel it is a waste of tax dollars, as well as your time away from other projects, to move forward in any capacity until a ruling is made that they have sufficient need to keep oil flowing. It does not do any good now to go forward unless this burden of proof is met. They are simply leveraging you to get things approved so then they can bring it to Michigan as a way to get the tunnel project approved in the Straits of Mackinaw.

I ask that NO tree cutting of any kind happens along this new corridor even land they have purchased until Line 5 is turned back on and approval for the tunnel project in Michigan happens. There is no man made technology that can scrub CO2 as good as a simple tree.

The proposed route typically covers a large 1000ft swath that can be moved based on “alternative routes” and re-submitting route changes. This can be done to make their job as fast and easy, but also to get around proper oversight. Until the route is set in a permanent location by proper and legal survey there is no need to go forward with an EIS or permits. Even if landowners have not given approval and eminent domain may be requested, the route should be permanently established in a location that is in the best interest for the least environmental impact. Period. Then the EIS should be done on that location that was set.

The State of Minnesota has a statute stating that existing utility corridors shall be utilized whenever necessary. This is to protect ongoing impacts to environment from expansion and construction. The existing corridor was already a large impact on that environment and cannot ever fully be brought back to what it once was. Line 5 has not been shown to be in worse shape than Line 3 or any large structural defects to decommission it. Therefore it can continue to operate in Wisconsin if necessary by proper maintenance that is conducted by contract by local operators.

Simply because Enbridge cannot come to an agreement that is a matter of doing the proper maintenance in the first place and listening to the indigenous community does not give them outright permission to put in another corridor. They made the business decision years ago and took any risk of running a pipeline through sovereign territory. More Wisconsin wetlands should not be disturbed because it is cheaper and faster for them to just go around this territory.

From: Ralph Kerler
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Objections
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:51:10 PM

I strongly object to Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline in either its current location or in any reroute through Northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. This pipeline has a very high potential to cause great damage to Lake Superior, Rivers in either State, wetlands, or underground drinking water. The US receives very little benefit from this pipeline and enormous risk. Enbridge has a very poor record with its pipelines and especially with the Kalamazoo River disaster.

I live in Vilas County in Northern Wisconsin and am familiar with the sensitive areas in The Bad River Indian Reservation. There is no way that this pipeline can safely go anywhere near the Bad River including the headwaters through Copper Falls State Park and eventually the Kakagon Sloughs. This pipeline is clearly a huge threat to multiple areas in Northern Wisconsin.

I must mention the two 20" aging underwater pipelines through the Straits of Mackinac water crossing that is critical to the function of this pipeline. It's mandatory we shut down this section of Line 5 before the likely rupture of either pipe in this pristine area. No amount of recovery could possibly protect this section of the Great Lakes if a major accident happened. The pipes in this section are already highly vulnerable to strong water currents and major movement of the lakebed under the pipes.

Ralph Kerler
13977 Crawling Stone Trail
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

From: Patricia Faber
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 opposition
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 9:29:41 PM

I am writing to express my opposition to the Line 5 permit application. We live about 150 feet from the Enbridge pipeline, and they have repeatedly denied plans for expansion. We have wonderful natural resources in WI and we need to protect them. I am also supportive of tribal treaty rights for the Bad River tribe.

I urge you to reject this application.

Patricia Faber
Spencer WI

From: Five Skies Training
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Permit Comments IP-NO-2020-2-N00471
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 12:27:30 PM
Attachments: [L5 letter of support.pdf](#)

I am writing in support of the Line 5 replacement project in Wisconsin, not because I live directly in the path of Line 5's re-route or because I live within the existing corridor, but because I value Northern Wisconsin, my Tribal relatives that do live directly in the way and I care about the environment and watersheds in all of the Great Lakes region.

My wife and I do trainings for Tribal Members and their communities and saw first-hand the impact that Enbridge projects have on the Communities and the environment. We met with leaders and community members in several areas that were directly impacted by their Line 3 replacement in Canada and have had the privilege to work with them in Tribal Communities in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Attached is my letter of support and below is the same copied and pasted.

My name is Nicholas Kedrowski and my wife Nyree and I are trainers; coaches really, and we focus on providing Empowerment training but with component of our programming, we strive to tie them back to traditional, cultural ways and teachings. I am a member of the Oneida Nation and Nyree is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Because of our work and our beliefs, we both care about, and worry about, our environment and our communities.

About three years ago, we were approached by Enbridge, asking if we could provide training to their team members because they wanted to be better neighbors to the tribal communities they impacted. Not knowing the company very well, we of course did our research before agreeing to do the training. That began our relationship with Enbridge and because of the beginning, we were subsequently approached to provide another training for them.

Over the last several months we have had the opportunity to conduct trainings in anticipation of the Line 3 Replacement project and that has given us the opportunity to work with members from several of the Tribes in Minnesota and the surrounding areas. They have been attended by members from Fond du Lac, Bois Forte, Leech Lake, White Earth, Red Lake, Upper Sioux, Oneida, Lac du Flambeau, and Standing Rock and include descendants and spouses and parents of Band Members too. We've also trained members of the Bad River Band at trainings in Ashland. Not to prepare them for pipeline work, but to prepare them for a career pathway in general and have been making a positive impact on those communities. Had we not done our due diligence on Enbridge, the industry in general, and pipeline specifically, we would have declined because we heard the same things about the pipeline that everyone else has heard. Oil is bad, pipelines are bad, water is life and if you support "Big Oil" you hate the environment.

I do not know a whole lot about "Big Oil", but I now know a little more about Enbridge. The people I've met at Enbridge range from front line employees to upper Executive level officers and each one had something in common. They all cared about safety; both the safety of their employees and contractors and the safety of the environment, and they care a lot. In fact, their values are Safety, Integrity and Respect. I've heard stories about how people have been

dealt with in the past by Enbridge, what they've done to and in the communities that they impacted and they themselves had admitted to me that they were not good neighbors in the past and want to change that. We've found this is not just lip service, they walk the walk; and that, I guess, is why I wanted to write this letter.

While "walking the walk" is important, it wasn't quite enough for us to decide we wanted to work with them, after all, they are still a pipeline company. We needed to know more. One of the first things we learned was that Enbridge doesn't own oil, they are nothing more than a transportation company. They transport oil products from point A to point B for a cost, not unlike a Taxi, Metro Bus or other commercial transit system. The only real difference is that they transport oil product instead of people. We also learned that pipelines leak, well not that they leak obviously, there are headlines full of stories about those leaks. What we learned was what those leaks look like and how much can and does leak. I used to picture a geyser of oil spraying all over, like in the movies when someone struck oil. It doesn't happen that way though, oil is only moving through the pipe at a brisk walking pace, not rocketing through there so it doesn't leak out in great volumes all at once. I learned that they have inline devices that frequently inspect the pipe for any signs of weakness, from the inside out, and can verify and weakness and repair them before there is a failure. They do that, and way more to make sure they don't have any leaks, ever. That's their goal. Even if you don't believe they care about the environment and clean water and air, you have to consider that they are a transport company and they are paid to transport oil products. Would you pay the Door Dash or Uber Eats person who only delivered you empty food cartons? I wouldn't and I'm pretty sure you wouldn't either; I'm also guessing you wouldn't call them for a delivery again. Remember, pipeline companies like Enbridge, don't own the oil inside the pipe but for some reason we think that if we shut down the pipeline, the environment wins because suddenly no one will need or want oil anymore right? This takes us back to one of the first things we learned; pipeline companies are not "Big Oil".

Because most fuels, asphalt roads and shingles, fertilizers and detergents are derived from petroleum, not to mention rubber, plastic and even some clothes are made from petroleum by-products, the world's reliance on oil isn't going away, even if the pipelines shut down. Indeed, only about 50% of each barrel of oil goes into making fuel so the push to get everyone driving electric cars will not stop our demand for oil. It will only shift production to other markets, but the same volume will be needed. Big oil is planning to need to meet production demands for the next half century because of plastics and other non-fuel needs alone. "Big Oil" isn't going away even if you stop pipelines, so what's left?

My research has led to understand that there are only three effective alternative modes of transporting oil if you do not use pipeline. Those are trucks, trains and ships. There aren't many stories about train derailments, trucks crashing or ships sinking any more so they must be safer right? I found out that not only are they less safe but also have a bigger negative impact on the environment simply by operating than pipelines have. When a train derails or trucks crash, whole towns are evacuated and usually there are human casualties immediately as a direct result. To transport the same volume of oil that Line 5 transports on a daily basis,

you would need to add approximately 2,100 trucks each day to run out of Superior and along that route each day, or roughly 90 tanker trucks. Beyond the impact from the exhaust they produce and the fuel they consume, can the existing roadways absorb that much traffic? What do you think will happen to crash statistics with that many more tanker trucks on the road every single day? I am personally thankful that I do not have to drive any portion of that route, but I also realize that it will still impact the roads I do drive. Unless of course, trains are used; and I know that there is an initiative to consider regulating how long trains can block roadways; nothing else positive is being done for train regulation though. Just the opposite is true, there are few safety regulations and those are being relaxed, making trains able to haul highly flammable products like fossil fuels, something that was prohibited under past administrations, and to no longer require those trains to have anti-derailment braking systems installed. Not the way we should be going but I expect the Federal Government is not as concerned about the local impact as we are. It's almost frightening to think that all these regulations must be accomplished at a Federal level because State and Local jurisdictions can't regulate railroads, at all, in any manner. This leaves the third option which would be ships. How welcoming will the influx of Oil Tankers be on the Great Lakes again? Can we really absorb the cost of fuel in the wintertime when those ships can't operate, and supply suddenly drops? What if one, or more ships sink? Michigan is worried about anchors hitting existing lines, something that shouldn't happen if ships followed existing regulations but it's now a proven fact they aren't. So why would we think they will they follow regulations if they are called upon to haul oil? Can our roads and highways between Superior and Detroit absorb the increase in trucks that will inevitable be put into service to take up the slack during that time? These are all things we worry about.

A lot of the arguments against the pipelines do not appear to give any consideration to the more dangerous and harmful alternatives, and are frankly voiced in a way that will ultimately benefit rail and trucking industries by making them the only other choices to transport "Big Oil's" products. Yes, those products will still be moving from point A to point B, even without pipelines, and the winner will not be the environment.

I freely admit that I work with Enbridge. We provide our Empowerment Training to Native Americans as part of an initiative that Enbridge has undertaken to try to provide career pathways for the Tribal Communities in Minnesota. Our program, not theirs, our curriculum, not theirs. We are not employees of Enbridge; we are not controlled by them. I am not paid to say nice things. We are free to say anything we want about them, post anything we want and of course, write letters or speak at public events. We are free to say whatever we choose. The fact of the matter is that I don't say nice things about Enbridge; I say facts about Enbridge. Those facts just happen to tell a story that is commendable. While I have a lot of nice things to say about the people I've met at Enbridge, I don't need you to hear my opinion about them, you need to know facts about Enbridge so you can draw your own conclusions, based on facts, not opinions. Pipelines are statistically the safest way to transport oil products. Until we no longer need fossil fuels, we need to make sure they are well regulated, well protected from vandalism and can operate safely and effectively. Our reliance on fossil fuels will not disappear overnight and until it does disappear, the least we can do is not make the situation worse by fighting against the safest method we have to meet our own needs and demand. I know that there are well funded groups and organizations out there asking you to do the

exact opposite of what I'm asking, but we are not a lobbying organization or other prop company funded by Enbridge. Our work with Enbridge is solely for trainings we conduct and administer and those have been suspended since March of this year. This project will not result in our suddenly getting work again, and I want to be clear on that point. We do not stand to benefit or lose financially from your decision, but we do have a lot to lose environmentally if you deny the permits. This is why I implore you to approve the Wetland and Waterway permits so this project can move forward and protect Wisconsin's natural beauty and its citizen's health and safety.

Nicholas Kedrowski

Managing Partner/Instructor

Five Skies Training

206 S. Roosevelt # 135

Black River Falls, WI 54615

O- 612-638-6713

C – 715-896-1867

www.fiveskies.org

Facebook: @5skiestraining

July 10, 2020

Nicholas Kedrowski

Managing Partner – Five Skies Training and Consulting

My name is Nicholas Kedrowski and my wife Nyree and I are trainers; coaches really, and we focus on providing Empowerment training but with component of our programming, we strive to tie them back to traditional, cultural ways and teachings. I am a member of the Oneida Nation and Nyree is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Because of our work and our beliefs, we both care about, and worry about, our environment and our communities.

About three years ago, we were approached by Enbridge, asking if we could provide training to their team members because they wanted to be better neighbors to the tribal communities they impacted. Not knowing the company very well, we of course did our research before agreeing to do the training. That began our relationship with Enbridge and because of the beginning, we were subsequently approached to provide another training for them.

Over the last several months we have had the opportunity to conduct trainings in anticipation of the Line 3 Replacement project and that has given us the opportunity to work with members from several of the Tribes in Minnesota and the surrounding areas. They have been attended by members from Fond du Lac, Bois Forte, Leech Lake, White Earth, Red Lake, Upper Sioux, Oneida, Lac du Flambeau, and Standing Rock and include descendants and spouses and parents of Band Members too. We've also trained members of the Bad River Band at trainings in Ashland. Not to prepare them for pipeline work, but to prepare them for a career pathway in general and have been making a positive impact on those communities. Had we not done our due diligence on Enbridge, the industry in general, and pipeline specifically, we would have declined because we heard the same things about the pipeline that everyone else has heard. Oil is bad, pipelines are bad, water is life and if you support "Big Oil" you hate the environment.

I do not know a whole lot about "Big Oil", but I now know a little more about Enbridge. The people I've met at Enbridge range from front line employees to upper Executive level officers and each one had something in common. They all cared about safety; both the safety of their employees and contractors and the safety of the environment, and they care a lot. In fact, their values are Safety, Integrity and Respect. I've heard stories about how people have been dealt with in the past by Enbridge, what they've done to and in the communities that they impacted and they themselves had admitted to me that they were not good neighbors in the past and want to change that. We've found this is not just lip service, they walk the walk; and that, I guess, is why I wanted to write this letter.

While "walking the walk" is important, it wasn't quite enough for us to decide we wanted to work with them, after all, they are still a pipeline company. We needed to know more. One of the first things we learned was that Enbridge doesn't own oil, they are nothing more than a transportation company. They transport oil products from point A to point B for a cost, not unlike a Taxi, Metro Bus or other commercial transit system. The only real difference is that they transport oil product instead of people. We also learned that pipelines leak, well not that

they leak obviously, there are headlines full of stories about those leaks. What we learned was what those leaks look like and how much can and does leak. I used to picture a geyser of oil spraying all over, like in the movies when someone struck oil. It doesn't happen that way though, oil is only moving through the pipe at a brisk walking pace, not rocketing through there so it doesn't leak out in great volumes all at once. I learned that they have inline devices that frequently inspect the pipe for any signs of weakness, from the inside out, and can verify and weakness and repair them before there is a failure. They do that, and way more to make sure they don't have any leaks, ever. That's their goal. Even if you don't believe they care about the environment and clean water and air, you have to consider that they are a transport company and they are paid to transport oil products. Would you pay the Door Dash or Uber Eats person who only delivered you empty food cartons? I wouldn't and I'm pretty sure you wouldn't either; I'm also guessing you wouldn't call them for a delivery again. Remember, pipeline companies like Enbridge, don't own the oil inside the pipe but for some reason we think that if we shut down the pipeline, the environment wins because suddenly no one will need or want oil anymore right? This takes us back to one of the first things we learned; pipeline companies are not "Big Oil".

Because most fuels, asphalt roads and shingles, fertilizers and detergents are derived from petroleum, not to mention rubber, plastic and even some clothes are made from petroleum by-products, the world's reliance on oil isn't going away, even if the pipelines shut down. Indeed, only about 50% of each barrel of oil goes into making fuel so the push to get everyone driving electric cars will not stop our demand for oil. It will only shift production to other markets, but the same volume will be needed. Big oil is planning to need to meet production demands for the next half century because of plastics and other non-fuel needs alone. "Big Oil" isn't going away even if you stop pipelines, so what's left?

My research has led to understand that there are only three effective alternative modes of transporting oil if you do not use pipeline. Those are trucks, trains and ships. There aren't many stories about train derailments, trucks crashing or ships sinking any more so they must be safer right? I found out that not only are they less safe but also have a bigger negative impact on the environment simply by operating than pipelines have. When a train derails or trucks crash, whole towns are evacuated and usually there are human casualties immediately as a direct result. To transport the same volume of oil that Line 5 transports on a daily basis, you would need to add approximately 2,100 trucks each day to run out of Superior and along that route each day, or roughly 90 tanker trucks. Beyond the impact from the exhaust they produce and the fuel they consume, can the existing roadways absorb that much traffic? What do you think will happen to crash statistics with that many more tanker trucks on the road every single day? I am personally thankful that I do not have to drive any portion of that route, but I also realize that it will still impact the roads I do drive. Unless of course, trains are used; and I know that there is an initiative to consider regulating how long trains can block roadways; nothing else positive is being done for train regulation though. Just the opposite is true, there are few safety regulations and those are being relaxed, making trains able to haul highly flammable products like fossil fuels, something that was prohibited under past administrations, and to no longer

require those trains to have anti-derailment braking systems installed. Not the way we should be going but I expect the Federal Government is not as concerned about the local impact as we are. It's almost frightening to think that all these regulations must be accomplished at a Federal level because State and Local jurisdictions can't regulate railroads, at all, in any manner. This leaves the third option which would be ships. How welcoming will the influx of Oil Tankers be on the Great Lakes again? Can we really absorb the cost of fuel in the wintertime when those ships can't operate, and supply suddenly drops? What if one, or more ships sink? Michigan is worried about anchors hitting existing lines, something that shouldn't happen if ships followed existing regulations but it's now a proven fact they aren't. So why would we think they will they follow regulations if they are called upon to haul oil? Can our roads and highways between Superior and Detroit absorb the increase in trucks that will inevitable be put into service to take up the slack during that time? These are all things we worry about.

A lot of the arguments against the pipelines do not appear to give any consideration to the more dangerous and harmful alternatives, and are frankly voiced in a way that will ultimately benefit rail and trucking industries by making them the only other choices to transport "Big Oil's" products. Yes, those products will still be moving from point A to point B, even without pipelines, and the winner will not be the environment.

I freely admit that I work with Enbridge. We provide our Empowerment Training to Native Americans as part of an initiative that Enbridge has undertaken to try to provide career pathways for the Tribal Communities in Minnesota. Our program, not theirs, our curriculum, not theirs. We are not employees of Enbridge; we are not controlled by them. I am not paid to say nice things. We are free to say anything we want about them, post anything we want and of course, write letters or speak at public events. We are free to say whatever we choose. The fact of the matter is that I don't say nice things about Enbridge; I say facts about Enbridge. Those facts just happen to tell a story that is commendable. While I have a lot of nice things to say about the people I've met at Enbridge, I don't need you to hear my opinion about them, you need to know facts about Enbridge so you can draw your own conclusions, based on facts, not opinions. Pipelines are statistically the safest way to transport oil products. Until we no longer need fossil fuels, we need to make sure they are well regulated, well protected from vandalism and can operate safely and effectively. Our reliance on fossil fuels will not disappear overnight and until it does disappear, the least we can do is not make the situation worse by fighting against the safest method we have to meet our own needs and demand. I know that there are well funded groups and organizations out there asking you to do the exact opposite of what I'm asking, but we are not a lobbying organization or other prop company funded by Enbridge. Our work with Enbridge is solely for trainings we conduct and administer and those have been suspended since March of this year. This project will not result in our suddenly getting work again, and I want to be clear on that point. We do not stand to benefit or lose financially from your decision, but we do have a lot to lose environmentally if you deny the permits.

This is why I implore you to approve the Wetland and Waterway permits so this project can move forward and protect Wisconsin's natural beauty and its citizen's health and safety.

Nicholas Kedrowski
Managing Partner/Instructor
Five Skies Training
206 S Roosevelt Rd #135, Black River Falls, WI 54615
www.fiveskies.org Facebook: @5skiestraining

From: RT Both
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 pipeline comments
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 9:47:19 AM

These days, everyone agrees that we are at a critical stage in the struggle to maintain our planet as a sustainable environment, but no one wants to take the individual steps that are required to make it one, particularly if that means cutting into corporate profits, which are often masquerading behind the word “jobs,” as a necessity that can’t be opposed.

The truth is, Enbridge does not have a great track record for the safety of its pipelines and refuses to impose stronger safety measures, insisting they are not even necessary when the fact is, they would just cause a bit of money. Even if we needed the oil that will come through the proposed pipeline extension, Enbridge is a company that should not be entrusted with the future of our communities, which are dependent on clean water and non-toxic soils.

But the fact is, this is not the moment in history where we need to be investing in more pipelines.

We need to focus on getting our energy needs met by means other than extractive industries.

Instead, we need to create new jobs tied to energy sources created by clean-energy industries. We need to stop hitching our economic wagons to dirty, twentieth-century processes that tie us to the polluted past and risk everyone’s future, not just the Native people who’s treaty rights are being countermanded, not just the people of Wisconsin who’s water and soil will be poisoned by the inevitable Enbridge spill, but all of our futures.

The time is now. The first step is to stop doing the thing that benefits only one entity – Enbridge and its shareholders. Stop enabling greed. Do not allow permitting for the Line 5 extension.

From: Kathleen Sieja
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 pipeline expansion
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 11:56:02 AM

As a former public information officer with one of Wisconsin's public utilities, I'm familiar with the need for reliable energy sources to serve the region. However, Enbridge's 67-year-old Line 5 poses a serious and imminent danger to the Great Lakes. Study after study has pointed out its age and deterioration. The pipeline should be decommissioned entirely now, not re-created one section at a time.

The new pipeline section that Enbridge proposes is barely outside the Bad River Reservation, and still within the Bad River watershed, which means that any rupture would contaminate the reservation. A 2015 study by the Pipeline Safety Trust showed that new pipelines fail even more often than old pipelines. The Nov. 2018 Greenpeace report "Dangerous Pipelines" shows that an Enbridge pipeline releases hazardous liquids on average every 20 days!

For the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern Wisconsin, a Line 5 rupture would contaminate their hunting and gathering grounds and wild rice beds—destroying their way of life and livelihoods. The proposed new pipeline section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, reaching the park, the reservation and Lake Superior very quickly.

I live in Milwaukee, with magnificent Lake Michigan at the city's eastern border. I've owned land in Door County, with frontage on beautiful Green Bay. I've visited the Apostle Islands, surrounded by pristine Lake Superior. The Great Lakes are a precious, unique resource that must be protected. The DNR and every level of government needs to look beyond Enbridge's profit-driven proposals and find new ways to meet our energy needs without sacrificing our lakes, rivers, and threatening the livelihoods of those who depend on them.

We all remember the disastrous BP Deep Horizon oil spill and the destruction it wreaked. We cannot let a similar catastrophe happen in the Great Lakes region.

Kathleen Sieja
Milwaukee, WI

From: Dorothea Pantelios
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Pipeline Hearing
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 8:31:57 PM

Dear DNR,

My name is Dorothea, I reside in Chicago IL, 60646. I am asking that Line 5 Pipeline is rejected.

Water is critical for supporting all life forms, including humans. The question is not a matter of if the pipeline will leak, but a question of when. There are alternatives to oil pipelines that are MUCH more beneficial on various levels. Renewable energy continuously benefits the economy in the long term with reduced energy costs, green infrastructure for renewable energy will create more jobs, and most importantly, dangers that oil pipelines embody will be prevented. Short term profit never outweighs the magnitude of permanent environmental destruction and severe negative health effects.

For these reasons, I am asking for Line 5 pipeline to be shutdown and that the DNR does not grant the wetlands permit.

Thank you for your time,

Dorothea Pantelios

From: Greg Walter
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Pipeline
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 9:05:07 AM

Please do not allow the Enbridge line 5 relocation. Renewables are the way of the future, not the burning of fossil fuels which threaten the health and well-being of people and the environment. We all need clean water and clean air! Fossil fuels need to be kept in the ground where they won't contribute to climate change. Blocking construction of infrastructure such as the oil pipeline is one way to do this. Let's all be good stewards of this beautiful earth we have enjoyed so our children and grandchildren may also. Thank you very much.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jed Downs
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 position
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 7:33:35 PM

My microphone was not working so I couldn't testify earlier today. In lieu of verbal comments here are my written comments:

Environmental inequality occurs when those who are forced to risk the consequences or price are not the people who benefit from the sacrifice being demanded. Whether that be living in the vicinity of refineries, coal burning power plants, garbage incinerators, or pipelines with the potential for catastrophic, irreversible spills.

The beneficiaries of the Enbridge pipeline #5 are the primarily the employees and shareholders of the corporation and the people of Canada. The pipeline takes dirty oil extracted at a higher than usual environmental and climate cost and brings it to refineries primarily in Sarnia, Ontario. It does bring oil that supplies some of the needs of Michigan (~10%). But who are the people at risk. The residents of communities that rely on the Great Lakes for tourism and fishing, the people who get their drinking water supply from the great Lakes, and those who own lands and ecosystems that can be potentially destroyed by a spill. In this case the Bad River Bands existence and way of life is at stake. Moreover, billions of economic activity could be destroyed along Lakes Michigan and Huron should there be a spill in the Mackinac strait.

There are recent precedents of the federal government shoving pipelines down the throats of first peoples foremost in my mind is the Dakota Access pipeline which was rerouted due to the concerns of citizens of Bismarck-Mandan that it might contaminate their drinking water. Instead the pipeline route was moved to a location that put the Standing Rock Reservation at increased risk of consequences of a spill.

I served as the local community resource physician in Superior and Duluth at the time of the tank car spill into the Nemadji river, coordinating with the Medical College of Wisconsin faculty and ATSDR. That ruckus was caused by the spill of 3 tank cars of ~30,000 gallons each. Enbridge as often stated has managed to allow Line 5 to spill over a million gallons of crude oil over the years. I have seen the angst that unwanted exposure to chemicals which have the potential to be carcinogenic has on a community. Crude oil has various concentrations of hydrocarbon that have that possibility foremost among them is benzene. Crude oil has also been demonstrated to be a teratogen as well as being able to cause mucous membrane irritation, fatigue and nausea. A spill into the Bad River Watershed is going to lead to some degree of exposure to the local population. Given that population is largely Native American and the track record of disparities that tribes have face when it comes to health care, a spill would lead to a sense of social injustice and abandonment perhaps surpassed by the sense of violation of tribal land and sovereignty.

Those of us concerned about climate change and survival of the planet also feel that we should not be supporting building/investing in further oil and gas infrastructure. If Canada really needs the oil transported to Sarnia, Enbridge could route the pipeline north of the Great

Lakes instead of through the US (obviously at much higher costs).

Jed Downs, MD, MPH

3768 Birch Trail

Cross Plains, WI 53528

From: Scott Griffiths
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Public Comment
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:25:07 PM
Attachments: [Scott-Full-Signature.jpg](#)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed re-route of Enbridge Line 5. I implore you to deny the necessary permits for Enbridge to complete this re-route- The existence of a pipeline in this critical and pristine watershed is irresponsible. There is no way that the cost/benefit/risk analysis of such a project can possibly land in favor of this potential environmental catastrophe.

US treaties with the Anishinabe people protect their right to hunt, fish and gather and this pipeline is a direct threat to those rights. Please prioritize the rights of the indigenous people who have lived here for hundreds of years over the interests of the foreign oil corporation that seeks to profit from the risk.

This pipeline crosses numerous wetlands and watersheds including Fish Creek, Lower and Upper Bad River, White River, Marengo River, Tyler Forks, Potato River, and Montreal River, all of which flow to Lake Superior, the headwaters of the Great Lakes. This sentence in and of itself should be sufficient evidence to shut down this project

The proposed route crosses the Superior Coastal Plain and North Central Ecological Landscapes. All of these contain precious natural resources that will be permanently disrupted by the construction and further endangered by possible spills, leaks and releases. Floods.

Extreme weather, logging and agricultural practices have caused erosion and gullying in the complex geography of the Bad River Watershed. Intense storms in recent years with resulting flash flooding, especially in the sensitive upland regions of the Bad River watershed have contributed to road washouts in the course of hours. During these flash floods, culverts installed as engineered demonstration models for road crossing of trout streams have been exposed, resulting in extensive silting into trout streams. The EIS should address Enbridge's detailed plan for enhanced erosion control during flash floods.

The reasons for which the Bad River Band wants the pipeline removed from their reservation are valid for the entire watershed; any spill or release could travel swiftly to the streams, rivers and ultimately to Lake Superior, causing irreparable damage, including to the Kakagon Sloughs, which is on the RAMSAR list of "Wetlands of International Importance."

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Scott Griffiths
1404 Bratley Drive
Washburn, WI 54891

715-685-4031

From: Martha Lynch
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 1:41:00 PM

As a woman of faith and mother, I write to request that Enbridge's Line 5 be decommissioned immediately and permanently. I stand with the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, 350 Madison, Honor the Earth, and other people of conscience demanding that The Government of the People protect the Grate Lakes and surrounding ecosystems.

Oil spills large and small have already visited great damage to countless life streams and poisoned the waters. One example is here in mid-Michigan detrimental effects of the disastrous 2010 Kalamazoo oil spill remain a decade later. Science and environmental organizations tell us, it's not if but when the next spill will happen. This is not acceptable! Water is sacred; water is life.

We have been aware of Mother Earth's distress for decades to a great disadvantage of powerful and wealthy multinational corporate interests. It is time for us to end this carnage of Nature, and act on behalf of future generations and the health of the commons. We are ALL called to be Guardians of Nature.

Please, shut down Line 5 now.

Thank you for considering my comments, and for acting on behalf of Life.

Martha Lynch
1967 Pincrest Drive
East Lansing, Michigan 48823
517-285-8018

From: Ellie Braddock
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Public Comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:46:09 PM

To whom it may concern,

I'm a public health nurse, Bayfield County Board of Health member and resident of Bayfield County.

I am asking the Wisconsin DNR to deny Endbridge's application for any wetland and waterway permits for the reroute of Line 5 based on the vast amounts of data that oil pipelines inevitably break and pose huge threats to the water systems and ecosystems that they interact with. How is any risk to the rare fresh water on our planet worth permitting with the knowledge that un-salinated water is becoming more scarce with every passing year? Our local economy depends greatly on Lake Superior and the watershed, both for sustenance (the fishing industry, etc.) as well as tourism. Oil spills would have devastating effects on our local tourism economy, our property values, and our ability to live in a healthy environment.

The rerouting of Line 5 still poses a huge risk to the Bad River watershed and the community members of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. The reroute would still infringe on the tribe's rights to maintain clean land and water for their treaty-protected hunting, fishing and gathering. The WI-DNR has the responsibility to use its power to protect the treaty rights of the tribal nations that exist within the boundaries of the state of Wisconsin.

With this proposed reroute affecting 109 acres of wetland and 186 waterways (87 having new pipeline installed via open-cut trenching or dredging), access to monitor and maintain this pipeline over time will be challenging at best.

Endbridge has 8 known violations of compliance with the State of Michigan among many other examples of failing to protect the environment from harm from the oil it transports. How can we trust a company to properly maintain pipelines when they have such a poor track record?

On a global scale, the WI-DNR has the responsibility to deny any new permits for oil pipelines based on the special report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC--the leading world body for assessing the science related to climate change, its impacts and potential future risks, and possible response options) findings that:

“Limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared with 2°C would reduce challenging impacts on ecosystems, human health and well-being, making it easier to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,” said Priyadarshi Shukla, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III.

"The decisions we make today are critical in ensuring a safe and sustainable world for everyone, both now and in the future", said Debra Roberts, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group II.

“This report gives policymakers and practitioners the information they need to make decisions that tackle climate change while considering local context and people’s needs.

The Special Report makes clear that the world cannot prevent warming exceeding 1.5°C

without initiating a decline in global CO2 emissions as soon as possible. Specifically, the Report finds that preventing an overshoot of 1.5°C requires decreasing CO2 emissions by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching net zero around 2050. This will require massive reductions in the use of coal, oil and gas. The percent of energy coming from gas in 2030 must decline by 25% from 2010 levels and must decline 74% by 2050. The percent of energy coming from oil must decline by 37% by 2030 and 87% by 2050.

As a young person with hopefully many years ahead of me on this planet, I am very worried about my community and the local, regional and global impacts that the rerouting of Line 5 (and the continued allowance of new permitting of oil projects and on-going oil industry) will cause.

Please use the greatest degree of your authority to protect the public and the environment we all depend on in order to survive. Please deny any waterway and wetland permits to Endbridge for the reroute of Line 5. You have the power to protect us. Protection from the inevitable harm of this project is what we truly need. Please help us.

Sincerely,

Ellen M. Braddock, RN, PHN

From: Allison Bender
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Public Comments
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 3:56:43 PM

Hello,

My name is Allison Bender and I'm a lifelong resident of Wisconsin. I currently live in Madison.

Do not grant the Wetlands permit. This pipeline should be shut down, but at the very least, do not allow this pipeline through the Bad River watershed. I call upon the DNR to analyze upstream and downstream climate impacts of the pipeline and, most importantly, ensure that the Bad River Band and other Tribes who have ceded territory that the pipeline would pass through are full participants in this process. I've learned more and more recently about how the native nations in our state have been pushed out not only from their land, from policy and decision making. We need to listen to the Tribal members of the Bad River Band. They know how to take care of the people and places of Wisconsin so that future generations may benefit from our land and waters. Is this not the DNR's mission as well? It's long past time that we listen to the people who know what's best for their waters and wetlands.

The big picture context we must not forget is the climate crisis. Any new fossil fuel infrastructure simply doesn't make sense either climatically or economically. I ask that you make the right decision and do not grant the Wetlands permit.

Thank you again for taking the time to listen to my thoughts and I hope you'll consider them as you make your decisions.

Allison Bender
608.931.3358
53705

From: Adam Michael Krause
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Relocation
Date: Friday, July 03, 2020 12:00:12 PM

Hello,

I am writing you today to express my opposition to Enbridge's Line 5 relocation. There have been so many (literally thousands) pipeline accidents already this century, that we must conclude that pipelines are a dangerous way to transport fuel. Enbridge in particular has a terrible and troubling history of accidents.

I have read that this rerouting will disturb 185 waterways and 30 acres of wetlands. Should we let a Canadian company profit off endangering our beautiful state? Of course not! Please **DO NOT ALLOW ENBRIDGE TO CONTINUE.**

Thank You,

Adam Krause
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

From: Mark Lastrup
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 replacement
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 12:09:52 PM

It's high time Wisconsin takes climate change seriously and actions that prop up the status quo fail to do that. We, as a civilization need to move away from carbon if we want to survive. I saw yesterday where today there are less than 2-meters of multi year ice present in the Arctic. We need to act now.

And then there is the issue of environmental justice. The Bad River Ojibwe depend on nature to provide subsistence and a line 5 failure would do irreparable harm; they have no where else to go.

No to Line 5.

Mark Lastrup
15244 W Circle Rd, Hayward, WI 54843
715-558-6302

From: Margaret Gould
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Reroute
Date: Friday, June 26, 2020 12:49:16 PM

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

Oil doesn't follow property lines. Although the proposed Line 5 reroute will not cross the Bad River Reservation, its environmental consequences will still impact the Bad River Band. We cannot ignore their concerns just because Enbridge isn't "on their land."

Please consider the entire Bad River watershed in your Environmental Impact Statement.

Margaret Gould
4432 N. Woodruff Ave
Shorewood WI 53211
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: ed jeannette
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 reroute comment
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 10:39:59 AM

Dear DNR staff,

Please do not approve the Enbridge Line 5 reroute.

The proposed Line 5 reroute is more dangerous than the old Line 5 route. It still is in the Bad River Watershed and adds more natural places to damage upstream such as Copper Falls SP. When roads are damaged from flash floods, responding to ruptured breaches quickly will be impossible. Oil crashing down from water falls will be impossible to contain. Enbridge pipelines rupture often even under normal conditions—one spill every 20 days on average. The line 5 reroute should not be in the Lake Superior Basin or the Bad River Watershed with Enbridge's poor pipeline record.

I have been vacationing in Ashland County for 27 years and on Lake Superior much longer. It is important for me to have a natural clean place to go. It is important for me that the land and water of the Bad River Tribe is protected. The Kakagon Slough is the only remaining extensive coastal wild rice wetland in the Great Lake Basin. It is important for the Tribe's culture. Please reject the Enbridge Line 5 reroute.

Thank you,
Ed Jeannette
1206 Winston Dr
Edgerton, WI. 53534

From: Meghan Salmon-Tumas
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Reroute Proposal EIS Scope Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 3:11:08 PM

To the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources,

I am writing to urge you to include anticipated changes in the area's climate in the Environmental Impact Statement of Enbridge's Proposed Line 5 Reroute. As a climate scientist, I am concerned about the ongoing changes in hydrology in the area of the proposed reroute. These changes include increased heavy precipitation events and warmer waterways. These are both causes for concern themselves, and they increase the vulnerability of the area's people and ecosystems to the hazards of the proposed pipeline reroute.

According to the most recent forecasts from the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI), the area of the proposed reroute will experience increases by mid-century in 2-in daily precipitation events (about 4 additional days per decade). In 2016 and 2018, such heavy precipitation events caused massive destruction to infrastructure in this region. Indeed, this area is particularly vulnerable to storm-related erosion, such as that which caused a section of the previous pipeline to become exposed. I hope that you will very carefully consider Enbridge's proposal to situate the new pipeline in this vulnerable area that is increasingly prone to extreme flooding events given our changing climate.

The coldwater streams in this area are also under threat from global warming. The 2010 report from the Coldwater Fish and Fisheries Working Group of the WICCI estimated that the area of the proposed reroute could be some of the only remaining habitat in Wisconsin for highly valuable species like brown trout, brook trout, and mottled sculpin due to expected warming in the state's streams over the next 40 years. These streams are critical resources for our tourism industry and outdoor recreation opportunities and should not be exposed to the additional warming of land clearing for the proposed pipeline reroute.

These are but two concerns among many, but I hope that you will be certain to include their consideration in the EIS for this dangerous project. This pipeline is not a necessity for the citizens of Wisconsin and we should not bear the damages and risks that it poses to our ecosystems, natural resources, and economies.

Sincerely,
Dr. Meghan Salmon-Tumas

From: Linda Zirngibl
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 reroute
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:36:43 PM
Attachments: [email to DNR regarding Line 5.docx](#)

Starting in the 1950's, my family would drive up from Milwaukee to visit Copper Falls State Park. Tourism, even then, played a large part of the area's economy. The risk of losing this gem of a park is unacceptable and unnecessary. If there would be a spill near Mellen, it would be impossible to clean up. There is absolutely no reason to put it at risk.

Wisconsin tourism, fishing, boating, and wildlife simply trump the financial gain of a foreign company. The risk is too great for zero benefit. If Enbridge can tunnel under the straits of Mackinac, they can certainly run the pipeline entirely thru Canada.

Please deny their application for the wetlands and water crossing permit.

Thank you,

Linda Zirngibl

64123 Lippo Rd

Marengo, WI 54855

Lindazirn.b@gmail.com

From: Tom Filipczak
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 re-route
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 6:10:01 PM

As a longtime resident of the south shore area of Lake Superior I want to go on record in strong opposition to further permits to cross waterways and tributaries being granted to Enbridge Corporation.

They've already tried bullying local people so as to steamroll their way through this debacle with Line 5 underneath a major tributary to the big lake. Such behavior certainly doesn't bode well for future corporate behavior on a matter in which they want you to sign off on something that carries enormous responsibility.

They are a foreign corporation that supplies crude oil to refineries in Canada. They claim to provide us with fossil fuel to heat our homes etc but it's a negligible amount of propane they might or might not derive and such a claim was simply never true. How can we expect them to be truthful in the years to come?

In the event of a spill or a problem we (Wisconsin) will shoulder the financial burden of a clean up Or perhaps what we should be asking is whether it's even possible to clean up a body of water as unique as Lake Superior. How is that calculation made? Who will ultimately be held responsible for that formula?

For these reasons alone please note my opposition to granting them the permits they've sought to cross so many more Wisconsin waterways a short ways upstream.

Thank you
Thomas Filipczak
21655 Siskiwit Shores Drive
Cornucopia, WI 54827

filipczak39@gmail.com

From: Geralyn Leannah
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 shut down
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 6:46:16 AM

Yet again, Enbridge has confirmed what we already know — Line 5 is a clear and present danger to our Great Lakes and to the millions of Wisconsinites who rely on those lakes for recreation, business and tourism. SHUT IT DOWN!

From: Casey Walsh
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Support
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:57:05 AM

I ask that the WDNR approve the necessary permits for Enbridge's Line 5 Project. This is necessary to continue to safely transport essential energy used by the surrounding areas. Consideration has been taken to minimize impacts on key natural resources. Plans are in place to continue to keep these impacts minimized. This relocation is necessary and has support of Wisconsin residents.

Thank you,

CASEY WALSH

C: (218) 393-2211

E: cwalsh@precisionpipelinellc.com

O: (715) 874-4510

F: (715) 874-4511

3314 56th Street | Eau Claire, WI 54703

www.PrecisionPipelineLLC.com

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this email in error please delete and notify sender.

From: rowen
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Water Permit Comments
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:50:13 AM
Attachments: [RHODNRLINE52.pdf](#)

Dear DNR:

Attached please find my Line 5 Comments in .pdf form. I oppose the proposed water permits. This project is located on the wrong planet. We should be attempting to stop, not promote, rapid climate change. Earth is already too hot. Please share this revelation with Enbridge.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these comments.

Robert H. Owen, Jr.
Address on Comments

Line 5 "Relocation" Water Permit Comments of Robert H. Owen, Jr.

1. Enbridge Energy, *et al.*, have no valid permit for Line 5 in the vicinity of the Bad River Reservation. They gave up their federal permit by operation of law by letting some of their easements across the reservation expire in 2013. They are currently operating their pipeline across the reservation unlawfully as trespassers. The pipeline is a threat to the reservation, its wild rice beds, to Lake Superior and its fishery, and, if relocated further south, to other streams and rivers and their fisheries. By three treaties culminating in the Treaty of La Pointe in 1854, the United States recognized the gathering rights of the Lake Superior Ojibwe in the ceded territories of Northern Wisconsin, including on streams flowing north to Lake Superior or south to the Lake Michigan or Wisconsin River or Mississippi River Watershed and on Lake Superior. The 1854 Treaty also recognized the Bad River Reservation, the boundaries of which Enbridge is currently violating.
2. Enbridge not only has no valid permit for the 67-year-old Line 5, but granting such a permit anew is inconsistent with U.S. treaty obligations to preserve Ojibwe gathering rights throughout the ceded territories and all the way north to Lake Superior because all oil pipelines eventually leak, particularly old ones, and leaks of tar sands oil are impossible to fully remediate. Enbridge demonstrated that truth in the Kalamazoo River in 2010. Granting such permit is also beyond the pale because of the threat of climate catastrophe, largely unknown and not considered in 1953, but now widely acknowledged, from tar sands oil production, transportation and use and from carbon (carbon dioxide and methane) emissions in general.
3. It is just as unacceptable to allow Enbridge to pipe oil across the Bad River just south of Copper Falls State Park as it would be to allow such a pipeline through the wild rice beds of the Kakagon Sloughs themselves. A pipe rupture south of the falls would very quickly and uncontrollably discharge oil to the sloughs and Lake Superior before any effective cleanup response could be mounted. The proposed route is an horrific environmental disaster (crime) waiting to happen. The DNR needs to nip this disaster in the bud by telling the climate criminal Canadian fossil fuel company "No."
4. Finding a route across the ceded territory that would be south of the Lake Superior Watershed would be a quality improvement, but it would still potentially threaten Ojibwe fishing treaty rights further south in the ceded territory. There can be no justification for impairing treaty fishing rights to accommodate a criminal Canadian fossil fuel company distributing high-carbon-footprint, toxic, tar sands oil via Line 5, a facility which never had an environmental review.
5. The oil Enbridge seeks to distribute via Line 5 is mostly tar sands oil from Alberta. This is among the highest carbon-footprint oil now being produced anywhere, and it is relatively expensive to produce compared to other kinds of petroleum. As a result, Enbridge faces great uncertainty in how much of this expensive oil will be demanded in the future as electric vehicles gain an increased foothold in Canada and the U.S. These market changes will put tar sands oil at risk of production shutdown earlier than other kinds of oil. This means that the need for Line 5 will be increasingly in doubt as EVs proliferate. (It is my understanding that it is the policy of the Evers Administration to promote EV use.) Oil pipelines in general will see declining throughput. Tar sands pipelines will decline faster. How many years of additional service will Line 5 actually achieve as an oil pipeline if this "relocation" is approved?
6. Oil pipelines should decline rapidly in throughput because climate science tells us unequivocally that we must stop burning oil and other fossil fuels. Soon. And tar sands oil is the most carbon-

intensive oil to burn. We should cut it first, right now. Line 5 should be discontinued now, not relocated, and certainly not relocated in the Lake Superior Watershed upstream of its current location where it would cross a fast-flowing portion of the Bad River.

7. If Enbridge is looking for a better location for Line 5, I have a suggestion: the Planet Venus. Venus has the type of life-extinguishing hothouse climate Enbridge and its climate criminal cohorts appear to be trying to achieve on earth with their endless fossil fuel climate pollution.
8. Enbridge should not be permitted to site an oil pipeline anywhere that would permit a discharge of oil to Lake Superior, the Kakagon Sloughs or any stream or water body within the ceded territories. Its current effort to do so is a flagrant example of environmental racism all too typical of Canadian energy companies and a violation of Ojibwe treaty rights.
9. If DNR allows Enbridge to “relocate” the Bad River Band segment, the rest of the very long and elderly pipeline through the Basins of the Upper Great Lakes, including areas of NW Wisconsin and the Western U.P. in which an oil spill would directly threaten Ojibwe wild rice or fisheries and areas of the Straits of Mackinac, is effectively preserved, with all of its attendant risks of disastrous water pollution over hundreds of miles of superannuated pipeline unaddressed.
10. DNR should summarily deny the requested permits at this time. No Line 5 “relocation” within the ceded territories is approvable under the Treaty of La Pointe and the prior treaties with the Lake Superior Ojibwe. The federal treaties trump state law (and the original federal permit for Line 5, if that is deemed to still exist). The DNR cannot grant the requested permits.
11. If DNR does not deny the permits and does need to do an environmental impact statement, the EIS should include issues not considered in 1953:
 - a. a discussion of the effect of Line 5 on the continuation of tar sands oil production;
 - b. a discussion of the economic viability of tar sands oil as electric vehicles proliferate;
 - c. a discussion of the likely reduction of Line 5 oil shipments as tar sands oil production drops;
 - d. a discussion of the greenhouse gas impact of tar sands oil production;
 - e. disclosures of all potential impacts to tribal wild rice gathering and fisheries from Line 5;
 - f. disclosures of all potential impacts to Lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan from continued operation of Line 5 should a spill occur into the Bad River or another stream feeding Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron or the Straits of Mackinac; and
 - g. discussion of all impacts to climate from continued operation of Line 5 and of tar sands oil production and use permitted by Line 5.
12. Considerations of climate stability require that DNR stop permitting any aspect of dirty oil pipelines like Line 5. DNR should do more than talk about climate now that it has been permitted to acknowledge reality. It should protect our climate.
13. Enbridge has forfeited more than its legal license to operate Line 5. It has lost its social license to operate Line 5. This line is an unacceptable threat to both treaty gathering rights and all three of the Upper Great Lakes. After 67 years of deterioration, it is a ticking environmental disaster time bomb over its entire length from Superior to Sarnia. Note the lawsuit brought by the State of Michigan over the Line 5 crossing of the Straits of Mackinac. Defuse the bomb and protect our climate, DNR, by denying “relocation” water permits without delay.
14. Line 5 should be shut down and never operate again as an oil pipeline. It is a continuing climate affront to all of humanity as well as a grave threat to Ojibwe gathering rights and water quality.

15. DNR should cease acting as a facilitator and protector of water-polluting climate criminals like Enbridge lest it and Governor Evers lose their social licenses to manage and govern as *participes sceleris* with Enbridge.

Thank you for considering my comments.

July 10, 2020

Robert H. Owen, Jr.

1311 Middleton St.

Middleton, WI 53562

From: M Horning
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 waterways, wetlands, and erosion control public comment
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 9:58:58 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to provide comments to the Wisconsin DNR as they consider the Line 5 re-route project. I am a property owner along the White River. I am not an expert on wetlands or pipelines. However, in my brief review of the voluminous documents Enbridge has filed as part of their waterways, wetlands, and erosion control application, wetlands, waterways, and our water and way of life are at risk. Wetlands are unaccounted for, and the proposed re-route will forever alter the hydrology and water cycle of our region. Private wells are at risk. Public and private water sources are at risk. Ecosystems are at risk, with the disruption of streams, riverbanks, watersheds, and the vital wetlands that sustain us all.

I am most familiar with the property and portion of the proposed pipeline contained on slide 8 from the attachment: AttachB_Aerial_MapsSet1of3_N00471.pdf., which includes a proposed work area on my property (though I am not named as an Affected or involved land owner in the Enbridge filing), and wetlands on my property, which are not labeled as such. Erosion and slumpage are major issues along this portion of the project at baseline and are not addressed in the Enbridge filing. All of the rain that falls in this immediate vicinity flows into the White River, and yet these wetlands, tributaries, and ravines aren't even noted. The oversights and filing errors on this portion of the project alone are severe and warrant a complete, detailed, independent analysis of the accuracy of wetlands and waterways delineations and the full assessment of the unique hydrology, geology, and topography along the proposed re-route. Moreover, endangered and threatened species live along this area of the White River, and disruption to this water system and habitat destruction, disruption, and degradation may lead to species loss and even extinction.

I stand with the Bad River Band in opposition to the destruction of our watershed; and I request the Wisconsin DNR grant no permits to Enbridge for this project given their blatant disregard for the unique and fragile ecological characteristics of the wetlands and waterways along the proposed re-route, most of which, like my property along the White River, fall within the Bad River watershed.

My children, your children, and all of the children's children, deserve clean water to drink, and an environment of wetlands and waterways and ecological health and diversity protected from destruction, erosion, and potential catastrophic damage to our water. Water, the very life force of this planet, for all living beings (plants, animals, fungi, etc), including the people and our wonderful way of life in the great State of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,
Matt Horning
Property owner in the Town of Gingles, Ashland County, WI
Resident of City of Ashland, WI

From: Rachael Krivinchuk
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project - Request for approval of Wetland and Waterway Permits
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 1:45:43 PM

Good afternoon –

I respectfully request that the DNR process and approve the permits needed for the Line 5 Project to move forward.

- The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation. while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region.
- The project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies.
- Enbridge's proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River. All which deserve serious consideration.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rachael Krivinchuk

From: Kris Evanto
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:04:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

Thanks,

Kris evanto

Director - Major Projects

C: (715) 563-5140

E: kevanto@precisionpipelinellc.com



O: (715) 874-4510

F: (715) 874-4511

3314 56th Street | Eau Claire, WI 54703

www.PrecisionPipelineLLC.com

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this email in error please delete and notify sender.

From: Lisa Gundlach
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:59:22 PM

As a mom of two young children who love swimming in our lakes, I am writing to urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin.

We are in a unique situation to create lasting sustainable change, by making decisions based on what is right and best for our environment, not just the economy.

We can create new jobs and transition those from the fossil fuel industry to renewable energy. Allowing a new section of Line 5 is a huge step backwards in time. Our planet does not have time for that, we must move forward with urgency.

Additionally, the route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Thank you for your time,

Lisa Gundlach
404 Midland Lane, Monona, WI

From: Marina Minic
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Friday, June 26, 2020 4:33:09 PM

I am writing to urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

With climate chaos devastating our state, country and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure, and to instead put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.

The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in the pipeline would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs, where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

Constructing such a pipeline, which includes blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams and crack building foundations.

Here are my thoughts about what the scope should be of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation.

You should look into the following issues at minimum: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.

Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.

How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?

How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species. Enbridge's [terrible safety record](#), one spill every 20 days, on the average.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

From: Matt Hegland
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:46:51 AM

I'm in favor of the project not just for work, but for the local economic factors. We need pipeline for thousands in our field, also is great for new pipe in the ground for environmental protection due to existing pipelines are in need of replacement or repairs. It's economical and environmentally sound to have pipelines instead of trucks or trains doing the transportation of product. I and many colleagues are in favor of this project and other projects of this magnitude

Thank you for your time
Matt Hegland

Sent from my iPhone

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential or privileged information and is proprietary to Northern Clearing, Inc. You are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail and any attachments, or any information contained in them, by anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you are not the intended recipient or otherwise receive this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and permanently delete the original and any electronic copies, and destroy any printouts of this e-mail and any attachments.

From: Gary Sherman
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Cc: [Gary Sherman](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:04:18 PM

I live in Bayfield County and have mostly lived here since 1973. I practiced law in Bayfield County for about 35 years. I also represented this area in the Wisconsin Assembly for 12 years and was a judge on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals for 10 years, until I retired about one year ago. I am writing to ask that the DNR not grant a permit for line 5 and that line 5 be shut down as expeditiously as possible. I have several reasons.

1. I fail to see any public necessity or convenience. The pipeline does not serve or benefit Wisconsin consumers in any manner, while imposing upon Wisconsin citizens considerable burdens. On the one side, all of the product goes elsewhere, while on the other, a private, foreign company is being granted the power of eminent domain, the death penalty for property rights. And all Wisconsin citizens are being asked to assume the substantial risk to very important resources, like Copper Falls and the Kakagon Sloughs, as well as the watershed of Lake Superior, the world's largest supply of fresh water.

2. Enbridge is not a trustworthy and reliable corporate citizen to be granted such power and privilege. As a lawyer, a legislature and as a judge, I have repeatedly seen complaints by landowners that Enbridge ran roughshod over their rights and did not live up to promises that were made to obtain their easements. And now, most dramatically, Enbridge continues to operate illegally upon the Bad River Reservation, when they know, and have been officially notified by the tribe, that they have no legal right to do so. How can we trust Enbridge to obey our laws when they so flagrantly flaunt the sovereign authority of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa? This is a massive criminal trespass and should be an indication to the DNR that Enbridge is not an acceptable corporate citizen to be entrusted with the health and welfare of Wisconsin citizens and their vital resources.

3. This is a strange time in history to be investing in a major infrastructure project for the transportation of fossil fuels. This is a major investment, not only by Enbridge, but by all Wisconsin citizens, in a technology that is not only obsolete, but that will cease to exist at all long before the end of the lifespan of the new pipeline. As mankind struggles to find a way to survive global climate change, we are fazing out fossil fuels as quickly as our current technology will permit us to do so. This pipeline would be a huge step backward technologically and divert resources that should be used to develop carbon neutral sources of energy instead. We should not be complicit in our own extinction.

For the above reasons, and more, I call upon the Department of Natural Resources to act in accordance with their obligations as fiduciaries under the Public Trust Doctrine to protect our public waters and to otherwise take responsibility to protect the citizens of Wisconsin from an amoral foreign corporation which has shown repeatedly that it has no concern for Wisconsin citizens. Deny the permit and take whatever action you can to shut down line 5 and force Enbridge to safely remove it from our environment.

Gary E. Sherman
Port Wing, WI. 54865

From: Cindy Carter
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 4:36:55 PM

I DEMAND that you DENY Enbridge Line 5 permits. You are the Department of NATURAL RESOURCES, your job is to save our resources, not sell them off to the highest bidder. This is a bad idea for so many reasons, most of which have been spoken to over and over again in the public hearing session. PEOPLE OVER PROFITS, need I save more?
Scott Carter, 1325 E Amelia St, Appleton, WI

From: Cindy Carter
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 4:44:06 PM

I am demanding that you DENY Enbridge Line 5 permit. WE HAVE NOT PLANET B. We have brought Mother Earth to her knees and she is retaliating with this pandemic, and leading us to believe that there will be more of this to follow. She is slapping us across the face with more frequent and violent storms, and there will be more of this as well. We are destroying our climate for the sake of big corporations and their stakeholders, and it MUST stop, we are on the cusp of saving ourselves, allowing this environmental hazard to destroy more of our mother, will only push over the edge of no return. Do you understand????
Cindy Carter 1102 N Superior St. Appleton, WI

From: Glory Adams
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 6:08:08 PM

I am opposed to Enbridge's Line 5 for the following reasons:

~Enbridge does not have a stellar past regarding spills. A spill in the Bad River Watershed would be catastrophic. The Bad River is the source of water for many and then empties into Lake Superior, which is the source of water for towns nearby. Contamination of the Bad River would affect thousands of citizens.

~The number of lakes, waters, streams that the pipeline would cross presents a definite risk to the contamination of Wisconsin waters.

~Governments and citizens must start saying no to construction and use of fossil fuels as there is clear documentation it is destroying our planet.

~I question how complete an EIS has been done. Have historical sites been evaluated? What plants and animals are endangered?

~The proposed route is one three sides of Copper Falls State Park, a prominent tourist attraction. If would be contaminated there would be a significant loss of tourist dollars for that area and the state.

~There have been and will be extreme rainfalls in that area. The pipe is already exposed within the reservation. The potential for exposure and breakage due to flooding is a definite concern.

~Enbridge is a for profit company. Although it is not an environmental concern, use of eminent domain to gain profit seems grossly unfair to landowners.

~As the company extols the number of jobs created, no one places a value on what is destroyed to construct and maintain the pipeline.

~It is not a matter of moving tar sands oil by pipe or by truck. The real concern centers on digging and piping the oil at all.

Thank you.

Glory Adams
1216 S Farwell St
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715-834-8796

From: rfranze
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Sunday, July 05, 2020 9:34:29 PM

Hello - I'm emailing to express opposition to the proposed expansion of Enbridge Line 5. My reasons for opposing construction of a new pipeline are that Native Americans have suffered enough in the past at the hand of US government and business interests and furthermore such construction will affect water quality and damage wetlands in that part of our state. Finally, the attraction of northern Wisconsin for its inhabitants and visitors is its pristine beauty. Such a project flies in the face of that concept, so I urge that Enbridge not be granted permission to construct Line 5.

Thank You,

Robert Franze
Waukesha, Wi

From: Ron Biggerstaff
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 2:37:22 PM

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while ensuring uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply in northern Wisconsin and throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Name Ron Biggerstaff

Address 1413 Neva rd. Antigo Wi.

All electronic and hardcopy comments must be submitted or **postmarked by no later than Saturday July 11, 2020** in order to be considered. Commenters who wish to remain anonymous should submit written comments via U.S. mail and not sign the letter (or only sign their first name) or include a return address.

Sent from my iPad

From: fred.ramp.20@gmail.com
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 10:18:37 PM

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while ensuring uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply in northern Wisconsin and throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Fred Ramp

506 West Yellow Street Cadott, WI 54727

From: Tom Neale
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 6:41:51 PM

Line 5 is an imminent threat to the Bad River watershed and to the waters of lakes Superior, Huron, and Michigan. It needs to be decommissioned immediately. As a nation we need to turn away from fossil fuels in order to forestall mass extinction.

Sent from my iPad

From: Sue Costoff
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:34:17 PM

Hey folks,

We need to take much much better care of this perfect paradise that we've been given to live in. We do not need to ransack wreck and chaotically abandon any good treatment of this beautiful earth. Things need to go in a much more helpful direction with keeping this earth in the best shape it can be in for our descendants it's up to us to do the right thing and we've got to get off fossil fuels , we do not need to encourage more use of them and wreck the earth while we're doing that. Let's do a good job let's stand up and do the right thing let's be decent and compassionate let's take care of business this is the only ever earth that we ever are going to get.

Very extremely sincerely Susan Costoff
Sent from my iPhone

From: Kristy Heidenreich
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:05:18 PM

DNR Action Committee,

I live near the purposed reroute of line 5 and I must ask, why should it be rerouted. Rerouting won't fix the problems line 5 is facing. It is old, it has several dangerous breeches, it does not serve the people whose land it is on. It is time to decommission it.

With the climate warming as it is doing, it is imperative that we protect our freshwater resources. Line 5 endangers Lake Superior and several other great lakes. It is time, do the right thing deny this application.

Thank You,
Kristy L Heidenreich
1019 6th Ave W
Ashland, WI 54806

From: Janet Holte
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: line five comments EA/7
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:52:35 PM

My name is Janet Holte. address 231760 Summer Wheat Rd, Wausau, WI 54403.
I'm writing to express, in the strongest way I know how, my opposition to rerouting the tar sands pipeline Line 5! It should not be rerouted, it should be **REMOVED!**

It already goes through native territory, through land owned by the Bad River Reservation. Is that clear? The land is **owned** by people who strongly oppose the pipeline.

It goes through the watershed leading to the Great Lakes. **Pipelines leak!** It's not a matter of "if" it is a question of **WHEN!** There will be so much oil flowing through that pipeline that even a leak of a few minutes could do catastrophic damage.

Enbridge has a long history of leaks, hundreds of them. **WI says NO** to your greedy plans to pipe the toxic waste that causes the climate crisis we face right now through our state!

I beg you to consider my grandchildren, the water sheads and the future of life in WI, and the whole world, **REMOVE LINE FIVE AND LEAVE TAR SANDS IN THE GROUND!!!!**

From: Barbara Richards
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line Five
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 5:10:37 PM

Dear DNR, I hope you will support the residents of Bayfield county and the northern reaches of Wisconsin as well as all our grandchildren. Please prevent the expansion of Line 5 and protect the natural resources of the Bad River watershed and Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake in the world. As you do so you will also be protecting the future of all our grandchildren.

Peace, Barbara Richards
2400 N 111th Street
Wauwatosa WI 53226
414-259-0731

From: Johnston Connelly
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Line5 Comments EA/7
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 12:02:36 PM

I'm writing to encourage DNR to deny the wetland fill permit under ch 281.36 and the wetland fill and waterway impact/crossing permit under ch 30 filed by Enbridge for rerouting Line 5.

The potential impact to wetlands and waterways is too great to allow this project to move ahead, especially at a time when the world should be moving as rapidly as possible away from fossil fuels. Many spills have occurred in recent years from Enbridge pipelines. The large spill in Michigan in 2010 severely impacted the environment and cost over a billion dollars to clean up. It's too risky to allow this company to cross dozens of public waterways and disturb over 100 acres of wetlands in Wisconsin.

Please make a decision in favor of the environment and protecting our valuable wetlands for the long-term.

Thank you,
Johnston Connelly
2003 Adams St.
Madison, WI 53711

From: Bill and Donna
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: line5 permit
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:36:30 AM

I own an electric vehicle in an attempt to help jump start a future without fossil fuels. I am attempting to reduce the amount of plastic packaging I buy & I buy organic products regularly. The Bad River is in my "neighborhood" and in most years spring flooding is a regular fact. Having lived thru the "benzene" spill and subsequent flood of the Nemadji River south of Superior, WI in the early "90's" made it abundantly clear cleaning up any spilled chemical in a flooded river is an impossibility!

From: LWV Wisconsin
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: LWVWI Comments on Enbridge Energy Line 5 Proposal
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:26:47 AM
Attachments: [LWVWI Cover Letter re Line5 DNR.pdf](#)
[LWVWI Compiled Comments Line5.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. Mednick,

Attached to this email are a cover letter and compiled comments from the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin in regard to the proposed constriction of 41 new miles of Line 5 through the Bad River Watershed.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the environmental impact statement and waterways permitting process.

Best regards,

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin



612 W. Main Street, #200
Madison, WI 53703

Phone: (608) 256-0827
www.lwvwi.org



July 8, 2020

Line 5 Comments
DNR (EA/7)
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Mr. Mednick,

The following document outlines the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin's (LWVWI) comments in regard to the proposed construction of 41 new miles of Line 5 through the Bad River Watershed. The LWVWI strongly encourages you to deny the requested permits.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the environmental impact statement and waterways permitting process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Elias". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Joan Elias
Chair, Natural Resources Advocacy Committee
League of Women Voters of Bayfield and Ashland Counties

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Cronmiller". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Debra Cronmiller
Executive Director
League of Women Voters of Wisconsin

Cc: Governor Tony Evers and Secretary Preston D. Cole

DNROEEACOMMENTS@WI.GOV

Line 5 Comments

DNR (EA/7)

101 South Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

July 8, 2020

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin (LWVWI) thanks you for this opportunity to comment on the EIS and waterways permitting processes related to the proposed construction of 41 new miles of Line 5 through the Bad River Watershed. We have many concerns about the impacts the construction, maintenance, and operation of the pipeline would have on the environment, public safety, and emergency response capacity.

The region has been recognized for its particularly valuable resources, such as:

- The Bad River is one of only two rivers emptying into Lake Superior to host a self-sustaining lake sturgeon population (Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan 2013; <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/assets/documents/on/lake-superior/Lake-Superior-Biodiversity-Conservation-Assessment-Vol2-Regional-Unit-Summaries-Final-Sep2015.pdf>).
- The headwater streams and wetlands of the Bad River watershed are critical to cold-water fisheries, climate resilience, and downstream flow regimes (Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan 2013).
- Lake Superior was designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1973 and the Kakagon Sloughs, otherwise known as the "Everglades of the North", were designated as a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance in 2012. All of the streams crossed by the proposed pipeline eventually flow into these treasured resources.
- Copper Falls State Park, where the Bad River and Tyler Forks merge, is located just downstream of the proposed pipeline.
- Many streams and rivers have been designated as Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters.
- Numerous artesian wells bubble up throughout the region, supplying drinking water for residents and visitors alike.
- Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is located just offshore.
- Three state-recognized Important Bird Areas lie downstream of the proposed pipeline.

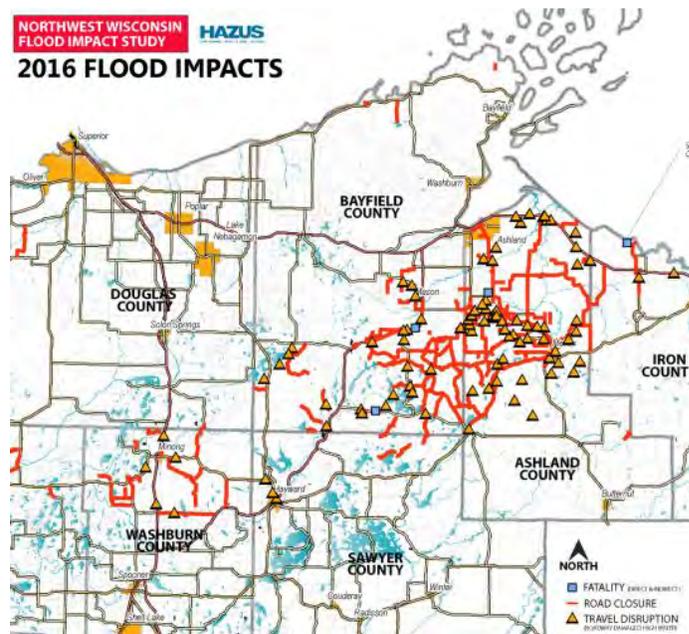
State and federal agencies, tribes, non-profit organizations, academia, and local citizens have collaborated for decades to restore wetlands, control invasive species, and improve fish passage in the Bad River Watershed. Townships, Tribal governments, and counties have recognized the importance of protecting ground and surface waters in their comprehensive plans. Construction of a pipeline along the

route proposed would be counter to all the time, money, and effort dedicated to protecting this Watershed.

This document is organized into sections on ravines, wetlands and stream crossings, and habitat. Each section begins with a short summary of relevant research, followed by a list of concerns we would like to see addressed in the EIS and taken into consideration in the permitting process, and ending with the literature cited. Severe storms have wreaked havoc on our region in recent years and are expected to become more frequent. Because the threat of such storms impacts all of the other sections in this document, we will start by summarizing the predictions of extreme weather events. We will close with a summary of Enbridge's history of pipeline damage and spills.

Increase in Extreme Weather Events

The Lake Superior basin experienced extremely high rainfall events in 2012, 2016, and 2018. The 2016 storm brought between 10 and 16 inches of rain to Ashland and Iron Counties in exactly the area of the proposed pipeline construction. The storm caused widespread flooding, infrastructure damage, loss of lives, and landscape changes. Some of the damage is still not repaired.



Northwest Wisconsin Flood Impact Study, HAZUS-MH Level 2 Analysis, Nov 2018, page 4
<https://nwrpc.com/DocumentCenter/View/1494/Northwest-Wisconsin-Flood-Impact-Study?bidId=>

The map above indicates the damage that rendered roads impassable, not due to high water, which recedes rapidly this close to Lake Superior, but rather, due to culvert washouts, asphalt peeling away, and bridge instability. Repair and replacement of this damage took months and left some parts of the region inaccessible. Some areas will never be restored.



Vaughn Creek on Hwy 169, Iron County, July 12, 2016.

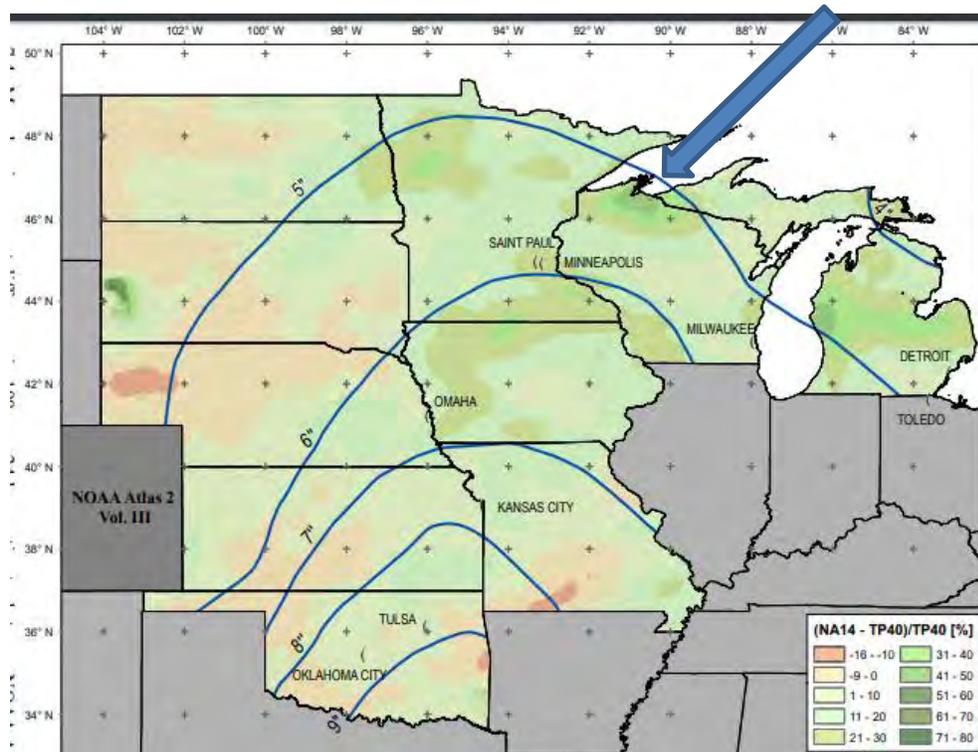


Railroad crossings over two small unnamed tributaries, Iron County, July 2016.



Billy Creek (left) and Trout Brook (right), Ashland County, July 2016.

Many studies have shown that severe rainfall events have increased since the 1950s and predict these increases will continue throughout this century (e.g., Perica et al. 2013, Wright et al. 2019, Lopez-Cantu et al. 2020). The figure below from Perica et al. (2013) shows the area in Wisconsin where the Line 5 expansion is proposed lies in the most extreme zone for predicted increases in rainfall.



Map showing percent differences in 100-year 24-hour estimates between NOAA Atlas 14 Volume 8 and TP40 (excluding Colorado). Superimposed on the map are isopluvials (blue lines) from TP40. Figure 7.4, page 39 in: https://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hdsc/PF_documents/Atlas14_Volume8.pdf (Blue arrow added.)

Decision-makers should use climate models when planning future infrastructure, as the infrastructure typically has a lifetime of at least 50 years, which is much longer than most planning cycles (Stegall and Kunkle 2019). Yet the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) regulations deny reimbursement for infrastructure that is re-engineered and upsized following a flood event, so many of the same culverts that failed in 2016 are just as vulnerable today as they were prior to the flood (FEMA policy 2009). Kevin Brewster, Restoration Manager for the Superior Rivers Watershed Association reports that "Under present FEMA guidelines, only original facility (culvert) replacement cost is eligible for disaster loss compensation. As a result, upgrading culverts to withstand historic and forecasted regional high stream flow events in an effort to stop expensive cycles of washout and repair is largely the burden of local communities". These local communities are not in a position to assume additional expenses for infrastructure, as 47% of Ashland County and 41% of Iron County residents live in poverty or are asset-limited (ALICE report 2018).



Enbridge engineers have evidently not yet found a way to remedy the exposed pipe on the existing line on the Bad River reservation. These photos, taken by a Bad River tribal member, shows Enbridge Line 5 pipeline uncovered by erosion on the reservation.

Citizens of Northern Wisconsin are rightly concerned about how a pipeline spill could possibly be contained if caused by or occurring during another extreme weather event. Damages incurred to public infrastructure in Ashland and Iron Counties exceeded \$23 million according to the study commissioned by Northwest Regional Planning in 2018. Concrete culverts broke and were carried downstream. People were trapped between roads wash-outs. Emergency vehicles were unable to access people who were sick and some were rescued by helicopter. Neighbors used ATVs to share water and food.

Concerns the EIS and permits should address

In light of these studies and the recent extreme storm events experienced in the region, we believe it is important that the EIS and any permits issued include detailed plans for addressing extreme weather events and winter snow and ice conditions. Additionally, the following questions should be answered:

- How will this pipeline design stand up to increased gullyng and erosion caused by future storms?
- When pipe is laid bare by our next extreme precipitation event, how will the applicant deal with the problem?
- How could Enbridge possibly stop an oil discharge from this pipeline if the rupture is caused by the next raging flood?

- How has Enbridge updated its design to accommodate anticipated extreme weather and flooding, especially where the pipe is proposed to be installed in steep ravines on a landscape prone to erosion, gullyng, and slumps?

Literature Cited

ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). 2018. ALICE: A study of financial hardship in Wisconsin. The United Way ALICE Project. <https://www.unitedwaymc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ALICE-Report-2018.pdf>

FEMA policy publication. 2009. Repair vs. replacement of a facility under 44 CFR §206.226(f) (The 50 Percent Rule). <https://www.fema.gov/9500-series-policy-publications/95244-repair-vs-replacement-facility-under-44-cfr-ss206226f-50-rule> See item 3 (b).

Lopez-Cantu, T. A., F. Prein, and C. Samaras. 2020. Uncertainties in future U.S. extreme precipitation from downscaled climate projections. *Geophysical Research Letters* 47:1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019GL086797>

Perica, S., D. Martin, S. Pavlovic, I. Roy, M. St. Laurent, C. Trypaluk, D. Unruh, M. Yetka, and G. Bonnin. 2013. NOAA Atlas14, Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States. Volume 8 Version 2.0: Midwestern States (Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin). U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service. Silver Spring, Maryland.

Stegall, S.T., and K.E. Kunkle. 2019. Simulation of daily extreme precipitation over the United States in the CMIP5 30-Yr decadal prediction experiment. *American Meteorological Society* 58:875-886. <https://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/JAMC-D-18-0057.1>

Wright, D.B., C.D. Bosma, and T. Lopez-Cantu. 2019. U.S. hydrologic design standards insufficient due to large increases in frequency of rainfall extremes. *Geophysical Research Letters* 46: 8144-8153. <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/2019GL083235>

Ravines

Summary of relevant research

In the last decade or less, extreme rain events and associated flooding have reshaped the landscape in Ashland and Iron Counties in the areas of the proposed Enbridge Line 5 reroute (Northwest Regional Planning Commission 2018, Fitzpatrick et al. 2017). Some of the potential vulnerabilities of the tributaries of the Bad River, and the larger Bad River Watershed in general, were identified prior to these floods, namely a complex and unstable hydrologic system, transitional soils, and excess sediment (Stable Solutions LLC and Community GIS, Inc. 2007, Bad River Watershed Association 2013, Fitzpatrick et al. 2017). A closer look at the potential hydrologic and erosion impacts of the construction route is warranted because the route runs mainly west to east across some of the steepest sections of the generally south to north running tributaries of the Marengo River.

Post-flood studies and observations have documented the importance of headwater wetland storage and its potential effect on reducing downstream erosion of ravines and small tributary channels

(Wisconsin Wetlands Association 2018). In ravines with perched ground water and a sandy soil layer, piping, or seepage/sapping occurs and ravines exhibit mass failing from the sides (Landmeyer and Wellborn 2013). Infiltration can supercharge erosion, especially when trees are removed, and can result in bluff failures and mass wasting (Fitzpatrick, pers. comm., Gafvert, pers. comm.). Sometimes a “nick point” develops in a ravine, with erosion working its way upstream. This geomorphic process can occur downstream of an assessment area and could affect the reach in which the pipe is located. The assessment area needs to be extended downstream to look for potential nick points (Fitzpatrick, pers. comm.).

Day et al. (2017) demonstrate how changes in hydrology can affect the rate at which ravines enlarge through head cut propagation, incision, and channel widening. They note differences in the way ravines respond to surface water runoff compared to older and larger channels. The way the ravines along the proposed Line 5 construction route may enlarge due to changes in hydrology is a new topic for investigation.

Gully erosion may be accelerated where a pipeline easement bisects a swale and concentrates runoff from what was multiple small watersheds. Gullies form, as can be observed in the Denomie Creek area on the Bad River Reservation where the pipeline crosses tributaries to the Creek. The potential for similar effects exists throughout the proposed Line 5 construction route in headwater areas of transitional soils and steep slopes.

The red clay soils typical along portions of the proposed pipeline construction route are characterized as highly erodible with low permeability and are susceptible to extensive mass wasting along waterways such as streams and rivers of all sizes including intermittent drainages (Verry and Kolka 2003, Stable Solutions LLC and Community GIS Inc. 2007).

Landmeyer’s and Wellborn’s (2013) work on gullies with an amphitheater shape should also be taken into consideration in assessing the ravines along the proposed pipeline construction route. Groundwater seepage may account for head cutting and erosion.

A FEMA-funded study is scheduled to begin in 2020 that will improve the understanding of how the Marengo River Watershed behaves during storm events (<https://www.wiscontext.org/when-big-storms-inundate-wisconsin-how-could-wetlands-slow-flow>). Among the goals of the study are to conduct flood erosion hazard (FEH) analyses, develop a gully/ravine slope stability index specific to the watershed, analyze changes in runoff rates and describe the ramifications of concentrating flow downstream in catchments with sensitive characteristics.

Concerns the EIS and permits should address

In light of these studies and recommendations, we believe it is important that the EIS and any permits issued address the following:

- Analyze the connectivity of wetlands, all tributaries (permanent, intermittent, and ephemeral), and larger rivers. LiDAR coverage for Ashland County is available from 2015 flights and data from flights conducted in 2020 are expected to be available by fall. Comparisons of the two sets of data should be used to assess current connectivity (vertically, laterally, longitudinally, and temporally) and changes in connectivity pre- and post-flood events.

- Assess every tributary and drainageway– permanent, intermittent, and ephemeral– far beyond the extent of the perceived impact of the pipeline right of way for nick points of erosion that have the potential to extend upstream and drain headwater and floodplain wetlands. Examine the easement elevations for possible blockage and concentration of runoff into steeper zones. Include existing land cover and projected changes in land cover due to pipeline installation and long-term maintenance. Explain how land cover changes will or will not affect runoff. Identify areas especially sensitive to headcutting, gully formation, and channel incision. Include geology, soil, topography (slope), and groundwater information.
- Conduct careful analyses of existing and potential bluff failures, mass wasting, erosion-induced wetland drainage, and floodplain disconnection.
- Map networks of ditches and drain tiles, including the network of ditches that are hydrologically connected to streams. Identify watersheds, at the scale of the individual ravine, with groundwater inputs and sandy soil layers and assess the potential for ravine instability.
- Identify areas where bluffs have failed and/or mass wasting has occurred or is likely to occur based on landscape characteristics (e.g., material of bluff); detail how construction and long-term maintenance of the pipeline will avoid exacerbating these devastating erosional consequences of land disturbance.
- Detail how spoils are to be stockpiled; the spoils should be sectioned out in layers and returned in the same order to avoid erosion and piping effects and to best support revegetation with native species. Monitoring after installation should include surveys for the occurrence of destabilizing effects.
- Describe the kind of bedding material to be used along the pipeline and how the fill in the easement will match the surrounding soils and geologic deposits.
- If a generic slope stability index is used, identify how the metrics included in the index are appropriate for the setting of the Marengo River tributaries and the transitional landforms, glacial deposits, and vegetation.

Literature Cited

Bad River Watershed Association. 2013. Marengo River Watershed Partnership Project Watershed Action Plan. Ashland, WI. Available at:

www.badriverwatershed.org/index.php/action/watershed-action-program/marengo-river-watershed-partnership-project/watershed-action-plan

Day, S.S., K.B. Gran, and C. Peola. 2017. Impacts of changing hydrology on ravine growth: experimental results. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss.*, <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2017-567>

Gafvert, U., personal communication. Soil Scientist, retired. Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Park Service, Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Division.

Fitzpatrick, F.A., E.D. Dantoin, N. Tillison, K.M. Watson, R.J. Waschbusch, and J.D. Blount. 2017. Flood of July 2016 in Northern Wisconsin and the Bad River Reservation: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2017–5029. <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20175029>

Fitzpatrick, F., personal communication. Research hydrologist, U. S. Geological Survey, Wisconsin Water Science Center.

Landmeyer, J.E., and J.B. Wellborn. 2013. Geomorphology and groundwater origin of amphitheater-shaped gullies at Fort Gordon, Georgia, 2010–2012: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2013–1230. <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2013/1230/>

Northwest Regional Planning Commission. 2018. Northwest Wisconsin flood impact study. HAZUS-HM Level 2 Analysis. Spooner, WI. <https://nwrpc.com/DocumentCenter/View/1494/Northwest-Wisconsin-Flood-Impact-Study?bidId=>

Stable Solutions LLC, and Community GIS, Inc., 2007. Marengo River watershed test case: Assessing the hydrologic conditions of the Marengo River watershed, Wisconsin. A Report of the Hydrologic Condition of the Marengo River Watershed. Prepared for the Wisconsin Lake Superior Basin Partner Team. <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs//pdf/marengotest.pdf>

Verry, E.S., and R.K. Kolka. 2003. Importance of wetlands to streamflow generation. Pages 126-132 in First Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Station, Benson, Arizona.

Wisconsin Context (2019). <https://www.wiscontext.org/when-big-storms-inundate-wisconsin-how-could-wetlands-slow-flow>

Wisconsin Wetlands Association. 2018. Exploring the Relationship between Wetlands and Flood Hazards in the Lake Superior Basin. https://wisconsinwetlands.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/WetlandsFloodHazards_WWA_web.pdf

Wisconsin Wetlands Association. 2020. 2019 Act 157 Flood risk reduction pilot project. <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/proposals/sb252>
https://www.apg-wi.com/spooner_advocate/free/bill-backs-pilot-project-in-ashland-county-for-flood-reduction-efforts/article_48b03736-d3c6-11e9-bf51-cb3aa2ce0564.html

Wetlands and Streams

Summary of relevant research

The Lake Superior Binational Program, a coalition between agencies of the U.S. and Canada, identified habitats to protect Lake Superior from degradation (The Lake Superior Binational Program 2015). Of

these targeted habitats, watersheds and tributaries were deemed the least healthy. Strategies designed to improve the health of these ecosystems include restoring and protecting wetlands and riparian forests, ensuring there is no loss of wetland area and function within the entire Lake Superior basin, and prohibiting off-road vehicle use in wetlands to avoid transporting invasive plant species (The Lake Superior Binational Program 2015).

The Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) analyzed 20 regional units surrounding and including Lake Superior to recommend conservation actions to protect the Lake (Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) - Superior Work Group 2013). The units are based on quaternary watershed boundaries that were then grouped based on Lake Superior coastal environments. Notable characteristics of the Bad-Montreal regional unit, the unit in which the proposed pipeline expansion lies, include:

- flashy streams
- excessive sediments
- erosion and slumping of streambanks
- channels and gullies
- red clay soils interspersed with sand
- deeply entrenched water courses with high banks

Factors contributing to the erosion and excessive sedimentation include conversion of native forests to aspen and grass/pasture (LAMP 2013). Much collaborative work has been done in the region to address the sources of this damaging sedimentation through 'slow the flow' projects. The 'slow the flow' strategy has been in effect for several decades. Numerous partners including WDNR, other state and federal agencies, tribes, non-profits, and others have worked together to acquire funding and complete projects (see the Lake Superior Landscape Restoration Partnership – the Joint Chiefs project, for example;

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/initiatives/?cid=nrcseprd1415620>.

Following the flood of 2016, the USGS documented peak-flow magnitudes and surveyed high water marks to create flood-inundation maps for the Bad River, Beartrap Creek, and Denomie Creek (Fitzpatrick et al. 2017). Massive flooding damage occurred elsewhere much farther up in the watershed (see photos in the extreme weather section above), though similar analyses have not been conducted for these other rivers and streams along the proposed pipeline. Flood damages amounted to over \$23 million to roads and other infrastructure, and as of today some of this damage has not been repaired.

Well in advance of the devastating storms that hit the region, Stable Solutions LLC and Community GIS Inc. (2007) identified concerns in the Marengo River watershed and provided recommendations, which have since been fortified by subsequent investigations (e.g., Bad River Watershed Association 2013, Wisconsin Wetlands Association 2018). Concerns included:

- percent of watershed in open land or young forest, with a percentage greater than 50% contributing to greater runoff and erosion;
- deposition of sand in the lower reaches of the watershed;
- channelizing water runoff by road and ditch systems;
- restricting hydrologic access to floodplains;
- draining of wetlands contributing to the overall volume and velocity of water added to the river system during major runoff events.

Recommendations included:

- Reduce the amount of open land to reduce runoff and sedimentation;
- Recognize that upland land use practices can impact suspended sediment by reducing the volume and velocity of water entering the Marengo River and tributaries, especially during peak runoff events;
- Evaluate culvert installations and whether some runoff could be controlled by placement of inlet controlled culverts;
- Maintain stable slopes on all culverts placed and control erosion in areas where water enters road ditches and culverts. Use and promote *Best Management Practice Guidelines for the Wisconsin Portion of the Lake Superior Basin* for guidance;
- Identify and target priority wetland restoration opportunities.

The Marengo River Watershed Action Plan (Bad River Watershed Association 2013) built on the foundations laid by the Stable Solutions LLC and Community GIS Inc., 2007 assessment, identified numerous sources of problems, proposed healthy watershed targets, and prioritized objectives (see Tables 4.24 and 5.25). This plan was developed through a broad partnership of state and federal agencies (including WDNR), the Bad River Tribe, local non-profits, academia, municipalities, and local citizens. In 2013 the plan was approved by the USEPA for meeting the 9 element plan requirements (outlined in US EPA's 2003 "Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories"; Federal Register: October 23, 2003. Volume 68, Number 205).

Benck et al. (2017) also conducted a functional assessment of the Marengo River Watershed, with a focus on wetland restoration. They identified restorable wetlands, the ditch/drainage network, barriers to natural flow; and they developed a stream power index and severity index (indicating areas of high potential for erosion). They pointed out that detailed and current wetland information useful for prioritizing wetland restoration and protection is not available. More generally, it is commonly known among natural resource professionals in the region that detailed wetland information is unreliable for the region. More robust hydrologic assessment and well-documented demonstration projects are needed (Wisconsin Wetlands Association 2018).

Beechie et al. (2010) describe watershed- and reach-wide influences on river and stream ecosystem processes. They advocate restoration of streams based on local potential while recognizing that when the degradation occurs at the watershed scale (as is the case in our region, especially since the series of recent flood events), many restoration activities may be required at the scale of individual sites. Emerging research is highlighting the need for a shift toward process-based hydrologic restoration.

Concerns the EIS and permits should address

In light of these studies and recommendations, we believe it is important that the EIS and any permits issued include the following:

- Describe how the installation and maintenance of the pipeline will avoid degradation or loss of riparian forest and wetland acreage or function.
- Detail the steps that will be taken at every stream crossing to prevent furthering the excessive sedimentation already occurring due to erosion and slumping of streambanks.
- Examine the extent to which vertical, longitudinal, lateral, and temporal connectivity of waterways is disrupted by road/stream crossings. Because culverts act as pinch points and channelize flows, road-stream crossings are altering natural channel, floodplain, and wetland processes, causing floodplain disconnection and erosion-induced wetland drainage.
- Explain how containment would occur and how repair crews would access the site of a damaged pipe when roads and other infrastructure may be impassable.
- Analyze the likely high water levels and area of inundation that occurred in the 2016 flood for the Marengo River, Tyler Forks, Potato River, Silver Creek, and Vaughn Creek Watersheds. Assess the degree of damage that these waterways and the infrastructure crossing them experienced relative to the amount of flooding, erosion, and deposition. Explain how a pipeline would survive such flooding.
- Evaluate the potential hazards of sediment and debris remaining from previous storms; such debris can be easily mobilized in future rain events.
- Detail the precautions that will be taken at every stream crossing to protect stream habitat, and ensure aquatic organisms have passage up-and downstream. Ensure brook trout have access to critical spawning areas.
- Describe the additional precautions that will be observed at every crossing of an ORW/ERW.

- Analyze the amount of shade that will be removed temporarily and permanently at each stream crossing.
- Describe the post construction monitoring that will be undertaken to ensure the rights-of-way have been properly stabilized and restoration of streams and wetlands has been completed and is in compliance with permit requirements.
- Explain how construction and maintenance of the pipeline will be conducted in a manner consistent with Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest (ASNRI), such as Lake Superior (National Natural Landmark), Copper Falls State Park, and the Kakagon Sloughs (Ramsar site). Explain how these and all ASNRIs will be protected in the event of a spill during operation of the pipeline.
- Describe how the waste products from horizontal directional drilling under streams, and especially larger rivers (Bad, Potato, Tyler Forks, Vaughn, Marengo), will be stored temporarily and permanently.
- Inventory and characterize the wetlands that will be impacted during construction, maintenance, right-of-way clearing, and operation of the pipeline. Include types of wetlands, acreages, their condition and functions, GPS locations, and conversion of types (e.g., forested wetland to sedge meadow or scrub-shrub).
- Describe how various wetland types and the degree of difficulty in their restoration will be accounted for in the permitting process and mitigation requirements, if permitted. Some types of wetland are not as easily restored as others; for example, floodplain forest and peatlands are not easily restorable. Headwater wetlands are particularly valuable for biodiversity, fisheries, ecosystem functions (Colvin et al. 2019).
- Describe each impacted wetland in terms of USACE categories and explain the rationale for compensatory mitigation ratios to be used (if mitigation is required).
- Tie standards for mitigation to hydrology rather than vegetation, which is especially important in a sensitive landscape like this. Reconnect streams and wetlands with the hydrological system; restore and reconnect headwaters and floodplains. Explain how restoration and mitigation standards will accommodate the need for hydrological connection from headwaters all the way through the system to floodplains and major rivers.
- Detail the extraordinary measures that must be and will be taken to avoid the disruption of sub-watershed functions. Include measures to avoid incision in headwater areas, gully formation, sediment deposition in the floodplains, and disconnection between headwaters and floodplain.

- Describe the upgrades that will be undertaken at every stream/road crossing, such as additional culverts, bridges, and stage-release culverts. Current infrastructure is old, undersized, and often mis-aligned. The addition of a pipeline will increase the stressors on the existing infrastructure.
- Ensure that the grade at every stream/road crossing mimics the natural hydrology.
- Explain and detail the measures Enbridge will undertake to not only not contribute to the further degradation of the local watersheds, but rather improve their functional integrity. The integrity of local watersheds is already compromised by past land use practices and intensified by recent extreme storm events. It is imperative that construction, maintenance, and operation of a new pipeline do more than mitigate its impacts.
- Explain how constructing a new pipeline in a fragile ecosystem can be justified ecologically, given the findings and recommendations from the myriad of past studies (only some of which are mentioned above), especially after the great amount of time, energy, and financial resources that have been devoted by a coalition of partners (including WDNR) to accomplishing these recommendations in the region.
- Explain how routing a pipeline through this watershed will be consistent with ongoing restoration efforts, such as those in the Marengo River Watershed, which was targeted by The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative as a key watershed for restoration efforts (Marengo Wetland Functional Assessment, Benck et al. 2017).
- Include a cross-walk between the proposed pipeline route and the locations of restorable wetlands, the ditch/drainage network, barriers to natural flow, and severity index identified and mapped in the Marengo Wetland Functional Assessment (Benck et al. 2017) report.

Literature Cited

Bad River Watershed Association. 2013. Marengo River Watershed Partnership Project Watershed Action Plan. Ashland, WI. Available at:

www.badriverwatershed.org/index.php/action/watershed-action-program/marengo-river-watershed-partnership-project/watershed-action-plan

Beechie, T.J., D.A. Sear, J.D. Olden, G.R. Pess, J.M. Buffington, H. Moir, P. Roni, and M.M. Pollock. 2010. Process-based principles for restoring river ecosystems. *Bioscience* 60(3):209-222.

Benck, K.M., K.J. Stark, and A.G. Robertson. 2017. Wetland functional assessment and wetland restoration prioritization framework: Marengo River watershed, Wisconsin. Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, GeoSpatial Services. Winona, MN.

Colvin, S.A.R., S. Mazeika, P. Sullivan, P.D. Shirey, R.W. Colvin, K.O. Winemiller, R.M. Hughes, K.D. Fausch, D.M. Infante, J.D. Olden, K.R. Bestgen, R.J. Danehy, L. Eby.. 2019. Headwater streams and

wetlands are critical for sustaining fish, fisheries, and ecosystem services. American Fisheries Society Special Report 44(2): 73-91.

Fitzpatrick, F.A., Dantoin, E.D., Tillison, Naomi, Watson, K.M., Waschbusch, R.J., and Blount, J.D., 2017, Flood of July 2016 in Northern Wisconsin and the Bad River Reservation: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2017–5029, 21 p., 1 app., <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20175029>.

Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) - Superior Work Group. 2013. Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Assessment: Regional Unit Summaries. 282p. (Updated May 2015). <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/assets/documents/on/lake-superior/Lake-Superior-Biodiversity-Conservation-Assessment-Vol2-Regional-Unit-Summaries-Final-Sep2015.pdf> (accessed 6/10/20)

Stable Solutions LLC and Community GIS, Inc., 2007. Marengo River watershed test case: Assessing the hydrologic conditions of the Marengo River watershed, Wisconsin. A Report of the Hydrologic Condition of the Marengo River Watershed. Prepared for the Wisconsin Lake Superior Basin Partner Team. <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs//pdf/marengotest.pdf>

The Lake Superior Binational Program. 2015. A Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Lake Superior: A Guide to Conserving and Restoring the Health of the World's Largest Freshwater Lake. <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/assets/documents/on/lake-superior/A-Biodiversity-Conservation-Strategy-for-Lake-Superior.pdf> (accessed 5/10/20)

Wisconsin Wetlands Association. 2018. Exploring the Relationship between Wetlands and Flood Hazards in the Lake Superior Basin. https://wisconsinwetlands.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/WetlandsFloodHazards_WWA_web.pdf

Hydrogeology and Groundwater

The proposed new section of pipeline will cross a complex and vulnerable area from a hydrogeological perspective, as well. This will be the subject of comments by others, experts in this field, which we have reviewed but will not attempt to repeat here. Suffice it to say that we are concerned about the potential for contamination of the Copper Falls aquifer, which is the source of drinking water for many area residents, including the City of Mellen. This needs to be addressed.

Ecosystems and Habitat

Summary of relevant research

The WDNR publication *Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin: An Assessment of Ecological Resources and a Guide to Planning Sustainable Management* (2015a) identifies management opportunities and provides recommendations to guard against habitat degradation and protect ecological integrity. Specific to geographic areas where Enbridge Line 5 pipeline construction would occur are North Central Forest (chapter 12, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2015b); Superior Coastal Plain (chapter 21,

Department of Natural Resources 2015c); and Natural Communities, Aquatic Features, and Selected Habitats (chapter 7, Epstein 2017). The publication supports protection of entire communities, rather than individual rare species, to protect not only the species, but also the ecosystem functions and interrelationships among all of the species that are required for the persistence of the rare species.

This thorough compendium identifies the following threats that construction of a pipeline would exacerbate and makes recommendations for ecosystem protection that construction, operation, and maintenance of a pipeline would be inconsistent with.

- Protection of site hydrology is crucial for all types of wetlands, including forested seeps, northern hardwood swamps, black spruce swamps, northern tamarack swamps, northern wet mesic forests (white cedar swamps), alder thickets, emergent marsh, northern sedge meadow, ephemeral pond, and floodplain forest. Activities that compromise hydrology include road and right-of-way construction, development within recharge areas, elimination of forest cover, and dredging.
- Forested seep communities should be protected from ground water contamination, rutting, soil compaction, and channeling of surface water to protect sensitive species. These habitats are fragile and of high ecological significance. The cold, clean, well-oxygenated waters from the Penokee Mountains provide crucial habitat for many habitat specialists, such as drooping sedge (*Carex prasina*), Schweinitz's sedge (*C. schweinitzii*), bog bluegrass (*Poa paludigena*), marsh valerian (*Valeriana uliginosa*; threatened in Wisconsin), wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*), Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*), and Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*). Forested seeps should be identified and protected.
- Northern hardwood swamps provide important habitat for a diverse community of vegetation and wildlife. Those swamps dominated by black ash already face serious threats by emerald ash-borers. The additional disturbances posed by the heavy equipment associated with pipeline construction and maintenance, such as soil compaction, rutting, and channeling of surface water could push these forests beyond the point of recovery. Hardwood swamps are extremely sensitive to hydrological disruption.
- Black spruce swamps provide critical habitat for many species that reach their southern-most extent. Pipelines and other rights-of-way that cross these peatlands and tamarack swamps alter the hydrology and can have wide-reaching negative effects. Cutting a swath through conifer swamps, such as would occur for a pipeline, would create abrupt, hard edges, eliminating interior habitat important for a variety of species. Maintenance activities would have similar effects and act as a corridor for invasive plant species.
- Many rare plant species are found in northern wet mesic (white cedar) forests. Ground water hydrology is particularly important to the vegetation in this community. Preferential browse of

young white cedar by white-tailed deer is leading to the senescence of this community type, as few seedlings and saplings survive the browse pressure. Cutting openings in cedar swamps creates a path for the invasion of exotic species, makes it easier for white-tailed deer to access the stand, and could result in increased windthrow and drying of soils.

- The integrity of northern sedge meadows is compromised by sedimentation, nutrient loading, invasive species, and construction of rights-of-way.
- Invasive species have become problematic in emergent marshes. Control and eradication are difficult and expensive.
- Ephemeral ponds provide essential breeding habitat for many species of amphibians and invertebrates, as well as foraging habitat for many species of birds, bats, and other mammals. Construction of roads and other rights-of-way compromise this habitat by isolating it from the surrounding matrix. Ephemeral ponds should be ecologically connected to surrounding forests (especially those without roads). Currently not emphasized in public planning processes, this community should receive greater protection.
- Floodplain forests are uncommon in northern Wisconsin, but are known to occur along the Bad, Potato, and Tyler Forks Rivers (Elias, pers. comm.). Some wildlife species depend on the structural characteristics of this habitat, namely large live and dead trees and snags, tree cavities, and a multi-layered (structurally diverse) forest canopy. The state of Wisconsin is in a unique position to protect “floodplain ecosystems at regional and continental scales” (Epstein 2017).
- The North Central Forest ecological landscape is known to contain important and unaltered rivers and streams, yet WDNR surveys of these waterways are far from complete and monitoring is uncommon.
- Many of the streams in the North Central Forest ecological landscape flow under a forested canopy. The good water quality of these streams (given the limited data) is likely because of the forested canopy, which serves to shade streams, maintaining cool water temperature, and which slows the flow of runoff, decreasing erosion and sedimentation (and hence eutrophication and diminished water quality).
- Over 23% of the land area of the North Central Forest landscape consists of wetlands, the majority of which are forested or shrub wetlands in good condition. These wetlands host native species, are generally free of invasive plant species, and are of high ecological value. This ecological landscape provides an important opportunity for the conservation of wetlands.
- In the Superior Coastal Plain Ecological Landscape, forested habitats along river corridors should be protected. All stands of boreal forest, floodplain forest, and rich northern mesic forest, as well as groundwater seep areas should be protected.

- Some watersheds within the Superior Coastal Plain never fully recovered after the cutover, as exhibited by unstable banks and massive erosion. Management and uses of these areas should focus on reduction of rapid run-off into streams.

Recognizing that construction and operation of a pipeline has negative impacts on wetlands and waterways, Goodale (2018) developed an index to assess cumulative adverse effects. Cumulative impacts must be considered under the Clean Water Act (40 CFR §230.7), the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR §402.14), and the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR §1508.7). Despite the cumulative impact assessments required by these laws, wetlands are often inadequately protected from cumulative effects.

Construction, maintenance, and operation of Line 5 would occur through multiple watersheds (White, Marengo, Bad, Tyler Forks, Potato, Vaughn, to name the larger watersheds), all of which are subwatersheds of the Bad River Watershed and ultimately Lake Superior. Each of these subwatersheds benefits from the functions performed by wetlands (e.g., flood water storage and retention of sediments).

Additionally, the pipeline would cross waterways at approximately 186 locations (though the exact number is currently unknown because the construction route remains unknown). Many of these waterways are known to be important Class I, II, and III trout streams. Many more of the small, unnamed tributaries are known only by the local fishermen and -women to support naturally sustaining populations of brook trout. The lack of survey information does not diminish the importance of these cold streams as trout refuges during times of hot temperatures and droughts, and sources of genetic diversity.

The Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP 2013) lists 145 species and communities of conservation concern documented within the Bad-Montreal Region, through which pipeline construction is planned (Table 14.4).

Concerns the EIS and permits should address

In light of these studies and recommendations, we believe it is important that the EIS and any permits issued address the following:

- Detail for every wetland crossing:
 - the amount and configuration of forest cover to be removed;
 - the depth of the pipe and whether ground and/or surface water flow would be disrupted, and if disruption of ground and/or surface water is possible, detail the precautions to avoid such disruption;
 - the plan for monitoring changes in ground water and surface water flow following construction.
- Detail the plan for a) controlling, and b) monitoring exotic plant occurrences along rights-of-way following construction. Intensive collaborative efforts to control garlic mustard have occurred in

the vicinity of Copper Falls State Park. Describe how pipeline construction, operation, and maintenance will not compromise these control efforts.

- Fragmentation of interior forest habitat will occur as a result of pipeline installation, especially in the areas northeast of Mellen.
 - Analyze the potential effects on forest interior species likely to occur in these areas. Include all species affected by forest fragmentation, not only those currently with statutory protection.
 - Analyze the effects of fragmentation, beyond the extent of forest clearing, on interior species likely to occur in these areas. Include pathways for invasive plant species, use by off-road vehicles, and travel corridors for white-tailed deer (and their effect on preferred browsed and grazed plant species such as white cedar, hemlock, Canada yew, and herbaceous species in the lily and orchid families).
 - Detail the exotic plant species likely to colonize the forested and wetland areas opened for construction of the pipeline.
 - Describe the methods to be used for maintaining rights-of-way (i.e., chemical, mechanical). Include how and when notification of landowners will occur.
- Describe the surveys conducted to determine the possibility of nesting/breeding T&E species, and the habitat needed for rearing of young; include timing, duration, geographical extent of surveys, as well as names and qualifications of contractors completing the surveys.
- Describe how pipeline construction and maintenance will avoid disrupting nesting/breeding/rearing of T&E species.
- Detail how and where silt fencing will be used, and what measure will be undertaken to ensure passage of wildlife, in particular, wood turtles and other herptiles.
- Provide results of baseline water quality monitoring, with definition of “baseline” used, of all waterways that will be crossed by the new pipeline. Provide complete background level information on vegetation, fish, mollusks, and macroinvertebrates for every waterway that will be crossed by the pipeline. Include dates of surveys, geographical extent, and names and qualifications of contractors completing the surveys.
- Provide results of continuous temperature monitoring to identify potential trout streams (should field surveys of fish populations not confirm the presence of native brook trout).
- Explain and justify allowing construction of a pipeline that counters key recommendations in the WDNR’s publication on Ecological Landscapes.
- Explain the potential effects of pipeline construction, maintenance, and operation on the species and communities listed in the Bad-Montreal Region (LAMP 2013).

- Conduct an analysis of cumulative adverse impacts, including:
 - potential of altered hydrology in multiple wetlands
 - changes in flood water storage capacity across the landscape
 - disruption of brook trout habitat at multiple stream crossings
 - risk of spill at multiple stream crossings
 - increased erosion, increased sedimentation
 - permanent removal of forest cover, combined with that lost due to powerlines, railroads, other infrastructure
 - new access roads fragmenting all habitat types
 - pathways for exotic plant species to spread
 - potential for headcutting, side blowouts, and gully formation across multiple ravines and associated effects of culvert and road washouts, erosion, road closures, and access for emergency response

Literature Cited

Elias, J., personal communication. Aquatic ecologist, retired. National Park Service, Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Division.

Epstein, E.E. 2017. Natural communities, aquatic features, and selected habitats of Wisconsin. Chapter 7 *in* The ecological landscapes of Wisconsin: An assessment of ecological resources and a guide to planning sustainable management. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PUB-SS-1131H 2017, Madison.

Goodale, W. 2018. The Cumulative Adverse Effects of Gas Pipeline Development on Wetlands. Background and Assessment Process. Biodiversity Research Institute. A Product of the Association of State Wetland Managers Pipeline Permitting Project.

Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) - Superior Work Group. 2013. Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Assessment: Regional Unit Summaries. 282p. (Updated May 2015). <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/assets/documents/on/lake-superior/Lake-Superior-Biodiversity-Conservation-Assessment-Vol2-Regional-Unit-Summaries-Final-Sep2015.pdf> (accessed 6/10/20)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. 1998. Endangered Species Consultation Handbook Procedures for Conducting Consultation and Conference Activities Under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. https://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/esa_section7_handbook.pdf

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2015a. The ecological landscapes of Wisconsin: An assessment of ecological resources and a guide to planning sustainable management. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PUB-SS-1131 2015, Madison.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2015b. The ecological landscapes of Wisconsin: An assessment of ecological resources and a guide to planning sustainable management. Chapter 12, North Central Forest Ecological Landscape. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PUB-SS-1131N 2015, Madison.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2015c. The ecological landscapes of Wisconsin: An assessment of ecological resources and a guide to planning sustainable management. Chapter 21, Superior Coastal Plain Ecological Landscape. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PUB-SS-1131W 2015, Madison.

Incidents and Safety Issues

Enbridge has a poor safety record, as evidenced by the following and numerous other articles that are easily accessed from news reports in recent years. This record should lead the Department of Natural Resources and the residents of Northern Wisconsin to question Enbridge's assurances that they will not cause environmental damage to our land and water.

Experts say support damage part of a bigger Line 5 structural problem

https://www.record-eagle.com/news/local_news/experts-say-support-damage-part-of-a-bigger-line-5-structural-problem/article_1b76b9f2-b723-11ea-9be3-df39efea8b6d.html

A court order required Enbridge Energy to cease all transport operations of its Line 5 after Enbridge's disclosure in June 2020 of significant damage to an anchor support on the east leg of the Line 5 pipelines.

Kentucky natural gas line owned by Enbridge had defects not identified

<http://www.hazardexonthenet.net/article/179229/Pipeline-defects-were-missed-by-operator-prior-to-fatal-2019-explosion.aspx>

A federal report has revealed that a natural gas pipeline in Kentucky had several defects which its operator had missed during nine years of self-inspections prior to it suffering an explosion in August 2019. The pipeline, which is operated by Enbridge subsidiary Texas Eastern Transmission LP, exploded in the early hours of the morning, killing one person and injuring six others.

Enbridge fined \$6.7 million for safety violations

<https://www.startribune.com/epa-fines-enbridge-6-7-million-for-response-to-pipeline-safety-issues/571349992/>

Federal environmental regulators have fined Enbridge \$6.7 million for allegedly violating a 2017 consent decree, saying the company failed to remedy pipeline-safety issues in a timely manner.

Enbridge natural gas pipeline explosion in northern British Columbia was caused by corrosion

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/corrosion-caused-2018-enbridge-gas-165010060.html>

Winnipeg, Manitoba, March 4 (Reuters) - An explosion and fire in 2018 along an Enbridge Inc. natural gas pipeline in northern British Columbia was caused by corrosion, Canada's Transportation Safety Board (TSB) said. The pipeline operated by Enbridge subsidiary Westcoast

Energy Inc. ruptured on Oct. 9, 2018, in a forested area near Prince George, British Columbia. No one was injured, but the blast led to the evacuation of 125 people, including from the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation.

In 2016 Enbridge was fined \$177 million for spills in Michigan and Illinois.

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/united-states-enbridge-reach-177-million-settlement-after-2010-oil-spills-michigan-and>

Enbridge was fined \$2.4 million for the 2007 explosion deaths of 2 Superior men.

<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/business/2300949-enbridge-must-pay-24-million-fatal-explosion>

In 2009, the WI Department of Justice charged Enbridge for over 100 violations of state water protections in central Wisconsin and fined the company \$1.1 million.

2007 spill in Rusk County

https://chippewa.com/news/pipeline-spilled-126-000-gallons-of-oil-in-rusk-county/article_58312ef5-f9c9-5f1f-a812-3eaf5ff3b632.html#:~:text=The%20latest%20spill%20of%20at,the%20company%20and%20state%20regulators.

2007-08 Enbridge Energy Partners, owners of a 321-mile oil pipeline in Wisconsin, will pay \$1.1 million to settle state officials' allegations that the company broke numerous environmental laws during construction

<http://archive.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/37009324.html/>

Undetected cracks blamed for Enbridge gas pipeline blast in British Columbia in 2018.

<https://www.townandcountrytoday.com/alberta-news/undetected-cracks-blamed-for-enbridge-gas-pipeline-blast-in-bc-in-2018-2137710>

A delayed inspection and a failure to predict how fast cracks could develop from corrosion are cited in a report describing the cause of an explosion and fire in an Enbridge Inc. natural gas pipeline northeast of Prince George, B.C., in October 2018

Spills

http://world.350.org/kishwaukee/files/2017/02/EnbridgeMajorSpills_1996-2014.pdf

<https://line9communities.com/history-of-enbridge-spills/>

Enbridge Corporate rap sheet --- article listing information on many of the incidents above

<https://www.corp-research.org/enbridge>

EPA timeline for the Kalamazoo spill

<https://www.epa.gov/enbridge-spill-michigan/enbridge-spill-response-timeline>

Higher insurance limits on Line 9 not allowed

<https://apnews.com/c367bb7dfe834df6bab95308a93c4224>

Dane County attempted to demand higher liability insurance before allowing an Enbridge pipeline project to proceed. Lawmakers slipped a last-minute measure into the 2015-2017 state budget to prohibit counties from requiring higher insurance limits if a pipeline operator already carries comprehensive liability insurance.

Helicopter crash killed pilot of Enbridge flight

http://www.businessnorth.com/kuws_wisconsin_public_radio/pilot-dies-in-enbridge-helicopter-crash/article_5bdd1838-dcaf-11e8-afe3-b333ea21bd14.html

A leak or spill from the new pipeline, which, given the above described record, seems to be a question of when, not if, would cause disastrous contamination of streams and wetlands in the Bad River watershed, the Copper Falls aquifer, which is the source of drinking water for thousands of area residents, and Lake Superior itself, the largest expanse of freshwater in the world. The lake supports “diverse aquatic and near-shore habitats. Sandy beaches, rocky shorelines, [and] wetlands . . . can all be found here. Each of these habitats--and their collection of plants is unique. Some are found nowhere else on Earth.”

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/learn.html>

The Ashland area just spent many years attempting to recover from an environmental disaster that contaminated Chequamegon Bay 100 years ago. We don't need any more disasters brought on by a company that prefers to pay millions in fines rather than operate their pipelines safely. Given the uncertainty of the long-term market for fossil fuels, Enbridge may leave the citizens financially responsible for spills and remediation.

<https://www.wpr.org/xcel-final-phase-complete-ashland-superfund-cleanup>

Conclusion

Much, highlighted above, is known about the portions of Ashland and Iron Counties through which the new pipeline would pass, and it gives rise to grave concerns about the probable adverse impacts of the project. Much more is not known. The area is one of complex hydrogeology, few surveys or inventories, undocumented trout streams, flashy and fragile streams, a sensitive aquifer and treasured recreational sites, including Copper Falls State Park. It is sacred to local Ojibwe bands. The full scope of the environmental impacts which could result, were this project to proceed, would probably not be known until it is too late.

We hope that DNR will fully incorporate the findings and recommendations of all literature we have cited herein, as well as additional relevant current research, in the EIS. We also hope the Department will wait until the EIS is complete, or at least preliminarily assembled, before making any permitting decisions. It is difficult to comprehend how an EIS can be written when the exact route of the pipeline is not yet known, but it is even more difficult to understand how waterway and wetland crossings can be permitted when the route is unknown (which waterbodies and wetlands will be crossed?) and the EIS is not complete. The permitting should be informed by the EIS, or the latter is no more than a meaningless exercise.

It is also important that the EIS address the risks and costs associated with a continuation of the fossil fuel economy. Governor Evers Climate Change Task Force has only begun its analyses and development of a plan for Wisconsin and DNR is, or should be, part of this effort.

Water is the lifeblood of northern Wisconsin. Rivers and streams in the Bad River watershed flow north from the Penokees into Lake Superior. These lands are a terrible location for an oil pipeline. A pipeline exposed by floods is vulnerable to further damage and a devastating spill. In 2016, a downpour of 10-16" sent raging torrents of water through the ravines, busting through aged culverts, peeling off asphalt, and tearing down vegetation. In 2018, another storm struck. Severe weather events are increasing in frequency and severity. The next storm could wash soil away from beneath the pipeline or send debris crashing into it. If another catastrophic flood occurs and roads have been washed out, there would be no way to stop an oil spill from coating the riverbed, killing fish, destroying wild rice beds, washing up on the shores of the islands, and wiping out tourism and our way of life, both spiritually and economically.

We strongly encourage you to deny the requested permits.

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin

From: Christopher Lutter-Gardella
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:08:19 PM

Please reject Enbridge's attempts to secure permits for traversing wetlands...period.
Just say "No!"
Thank you.
K

From: Vicky Schettl
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:17:27 PM

It is time to #ShutDownLine5!!

The environmental issues already caused by the million gallon plus of leaks over the years is more than enough reason to shut it down. The potential for future environmental disasters is only magnified by the fact that the pipeline is seriously deteriorating.

We should all be more concerned about the damage we are doing to our planet. Our current leadership is only making the environmental situation worse by gutting the EPA and turning back environmental protections. The time is now to make a stand!

Thank you,
Victoria Schettl

From: Beth Gerbing
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 3:37:43 PM

Hello,

I'd would like to request that this Enbridge project is stopped immediately!

Water is our most precious liquid and can't be polluted .

These are sacred grounds and should not be destroyed by this project.

Thank you,

Beth Gerbing

From: Jeanne DeSimone Sieger
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: my comments on the proposed new section of Enbridge Energy's Line 5 crude oil pipeline
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 4:38:57 PM

I oppose the Enbridge Energy Line 5 pipeline. The pipeline will be of no benefit to Wisconsin. We have already lost much of our state's wetlands. We cannot afford to lose our natural resources, our water, fish, wild rice and habitat. We must protect the people and all creation living here. I cannot state this any better than those who spoke at the hearing. I heard three hours of the four hearing and the voices saying "No" to the pipeline were eloquent. As a member of Christian Life Community, I participate in an Ecology working group. I have read Laudato Si, by Pope Francis. I am concerned for the environment and the poor. Let us protect those voices and voiceless who are asking for our protection in Northern Wisconsin.

Jeanne DeSimone Sieger
9651 South 31 Street
Franklin, WI
53132-9528

Barbara Aho also asked me to include her voice here. She does not want the pipeline either. Her father helped build the original pipeline and because of this, she even got a full scholarship to study at Northland College. She now knows that the pipeline was and is a bad idea.

Barbara Aho
3019 North Bartlett
Milwaukee
53211

From: Amanda Henes
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Native power now
Date: Sunday, July 05, 2020 7:24:29 PM

That pipeline won't last.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Katherine Kratcha (katherinekratcha@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: No Enbridge Line 5 permits
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:20:37 AM

Dear Line 5 Comments,

I am concerned that the pipeline carries refined tar sands oil through northern Wisconsin, and that its reroute endangers the Bad River watershed and the wild rice that grows in it.

If a rupture occurs, the oil from Line 5 will flow through Copper Falls State Park, including through its beautiful waterfalls for which the area is known. It will then reach the Bad River Reservation. On the coast of Lake Superior it will circulate through the Kakagon Sloughs, internationally recognized wetlands that support many rare species of plants and animals, including wild rice. Culturally, economically, and ecologically significant, this estuary is possibly the most pristine in Lake Superior, and home to the only extensive coastal wild rice bed left in the Great Lakes. Don't take a chance with these gems for our state!

Do not permit Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin. I oppose the new section of Line 5 all of the following reasons.

- 1.) Wisconsin should stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure and instead put state efforts and taxpayer money into renewable energy and conservation. Fossil fuel is not the way forward.
- 2.) The proposed route goes through an area that is culturally and environmentally significant to our state, is important for local economy, and drains into Lake Superior. The line risks contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs and the wild rice that's harvested there, and Lake Superior, which provides drinking water and tourism economy.
- 3.) Construction would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

The Environmental Impact Statement investigation needs to address the following:

- Enbridge's safety record, which I understand is one spill per 20 days, on the average.
- impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
- potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.
- Impact of construction through wetlands and streams, which would result in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, and corresponding impact on aquatic species and flooding in the region
- Impact on wildlife habitat, including breaking up habitat blocks and bringing in invasive species.

The DNR should not decide on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement. The EIS is meant to guide permitting decisions. How can it do that if it's an afterthought?

Sincerely,

Katherine Kratcha
4063 N Stowell Ave
Shorewood, WI 53211
katherinekratcha@gmail.com
(608) 333-2796

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.

From: Jayne Zabrowski
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: No Enbridge OIL pipeline through Wisconsin
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 1:25:21 PM

STOP Enbridge, Inc from building an OIL pipeline through Wisconsin waterways and wetlands. Shut Down Line No. 5.

We need you to protect Wisconsin waterways and wetlands. We can not drink oil.

Jayne Zabrowski
212 Whitetail Run Lane
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-208-9447
jayne@tblaw.com

From: eric repala
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: No line 5 expansion
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:00:15 AM

I think the DNR has done enough to risk our waters. The expansion of line five would only push the risk of contaminating Lake Superior to another level. This along with DNR's position on sulfide mining in the Northwoods leads me to believe that you have become nothing more than a political tool, wielded by whoever has the power determined by a gerrymandered state. I expect more from the DNR and have been disappointed by your lack of independent thought and failure to put public concern above all else. I've grown tired of the " I agree with you but" response.

From: Terry Mattson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: No Line 5
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 2:14:03 PM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image014.png](#)

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

My name is Terry Mattson. My primary address is 4165 Trillium Lane East, Minnetrista, MN 55364; however, I am also a landowner in Ashland County, Wisconsin where I call home.

The DNR should not grant Enbridge Energy a wetlands permit for the Line 5 pipeline project. Furthermore, the obsolete and hazardous pipeline should be permanently shut down. Aside from the common good, this matter is of seriousness to my family members and to me personally. My great grandfather homesteaded our land in 1901. The threatening pipeline is at our doorstep and of dire concern.

I have concerns about contaminating our well water. Concerns about the area's water table. Concerns about the Bad River Watershed. Concerns about Lake Superior. And I also have perilous concerns about our collective health and the region's economy. Perhaps if there was the slightest hope of any long-term economic benefit or much less risk I could somehow understand considering this proposal. But there isn't any justification for such an egregious project. This dicey build should not happen.

There is no future in this pipeline. Enbridge isn't even an American corporation. And we all know the highly toxic product which cannot be separated and cleaned up like crude oil isn't even used here. Instead, we should acknowledge the rare, pristine value of our region. We should also analyze the upstream and downstream climatic impacts which are globally significant. While I understand the dynamics of gratuitous monetary payments to political bodies and others, acceptance of such gifts are short-sighted. These so called "opportunities" simply are not worth it. The future lies in nonhazardous opportunity and clearly not with this.

I am optimistic that as stewards for future generations we are as a community better than this. Discussion needs more active and engaged reasoning. I ask that the DNR consult with the Bad River Band each and every step of the way. It's the right thing to do.

I've done my homework. I've also been around long enough to understand and work through process. Those of us in respectful opposition are not going away. Thank you for your hard work. I appreciate all you do along with the layers of complexity.

In closing, I ask that you give serious consideration to what such a precarious project does to our environment and the very ethos of the DNR's hard work. Everyone's future depends on you. There is no benefit in continuing Line 5 yet there is unacceptable risk. And the last thing this world needs is another disaster. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Terry

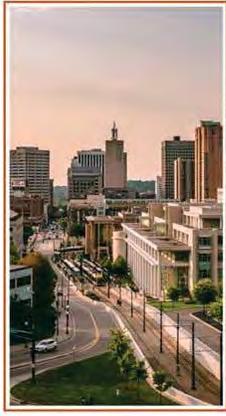
Terry Mattson

President & CEO

Visit Saint Paul | RiverCentre

Office: 651.265.4902

tmattson@visitsaintpaul.com



175 W Kellogg Blvd, Suite 502
Saint Paul, MN 55102

VisitSaintPaul.com



#MYSAINTPAUL

From: hilda richy
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: No Permits for Enbridge to Reroute Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 8:07:55 PM

To whom it may concern:

Please know that I object to the WI-DNR issuing any wetlands permits to Enbridge. DNR must protect the Great Lakes watershed -- protect us from the potential disasters that the reroute of Line 5 poses.

So I say NO TO ENBRIDGE.

Thank you,

Hilda Richey

From: liddy ginther
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: No Permits for Line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:10:18 AM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my opinion that permits should not be approved for Enbridge to build an alternative route for Line 5.

Enbridge has been responsible for 33 oil spills since 1968, including one of the largest land-based oil spills ever which contaminated riverways across Michigan and Northern Wisconsin.

We must prioritize local energy production, energy-efficiency and renewable natural resources. Oil pipelines, new and old, present massive environmental hazards on local and international scales. We cannot afford to build this pipeline. Please **DO NOT APPROVE PERMITS** for a new Line 5.

Many thanks for your time,

Alyssa Ginther

From: Jeremy Rice
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: No Pipeline
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 11:46:39 AM

As a concerned Wisconsin resident I urge you to not build this pipeline. It is dangerous structurally and counter to our communal goals fighting climate change. Thank you.

From: Ann Forstrom
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: NO please!!!!
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:30:13 PM

Dear Committee Members and Decision Makers,

I am writing to implore you to oppose Enbridge Line 5. It is a serious threat to our water supply. We cannot live or survive without water. Our very existence depends upon water. We can and should learn to survive without oil.

I implore you to end Enbridge Line 5 completely. Let's re-tool and utilize solar and wind for our energy needs. Save the planet. Save yourselves. Save those you love. Save me. Be a hero to our children and the next seven generations. End Enbridge Line 5 completely. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Michael and Ann Forstrom
Fond du Lac County, WI

From: L LW
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: No to Enbridge Permits
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:52:18 PM

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to request that Enbridge Inc. not be granted a waterway and wetlands permit application to build a pipeline through Wisconsin to Mackinac Straits. Wisconsin's natural resources are beautiful, irreplaceable, and an important part of our culture. Don't allow them to be destroyed.

Sincerely,
Lydia Washechek
Wisconsin Resident

From: cat@emote.ws
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: No to Endbridge
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 6:53:34 AM

The world is exploding from our continuous rape and exploitation of her resources. We have everything we need to move beyond oil. NO MORE PIPELINES! NO MORE DESTRUCTION OF THE WATER AND LAND!

Please, go down in history as the men and women who turned the tide. We need you!

Sincerely,

Cat Thompson

cat@emote.ws

www.emotionaltechnologies.com

612-405-0165

“Everything you can imagine is real.”

— Pablo Picasso

From: Mary Jo Walters
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: No to line 5
Date: Sunday, July 05, 2020 4:42:57 PM

I am writing to encourage the WI DNR should withdraw all line 5 pipeline permits. Bad River reservation has decided to not renew the lease with Enbridge and now the pipeline is scheduled to go through Mellen, a town I love and hope to retire to in 7 years. Michigan also wants to end the lease with Enbridge. So, I don't know what that means for the tar sands gallons of which travel through the pipelines now.

Thank you for considering listening to the people who are saying no more line 5.

Mary Jo Walters
Madison, WI

From: Kathleen Cairns
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: no wetlands permit to Enbridge for Line 5
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 4:01:07 PM

Please do not grant the wetlands permit to Enbridge for the alternative route for Line 5.

1. Wisconsin residents receive NO BENEFIT from this pipeline. Enbridge is a Canadian company moving oil back into Canada. We take the risk and they reap the benefit.
2. All pipelines leak. In this case, into the Bad River watershed, which has rivers and streams flowing north into Lake Superior, risking our precious natural resources.
3. Every year climate chaos increases harm through floods, droughts, heat waves, and new diseases, among other effects. Every level of government must begin to think in new ways to protect our future. The DNR needs to broaden its focus and stop approving new fossil fuel infrastructure projects and start decommissioning existing ones.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Cairns
Member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Member of 350 Madison climate action team

From: A FORSTROM
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: NO!!! Enbridge line5
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:24:08 PM

Dear Committee Members and Decision Makers,

I am writing to implore you to oppose Enbridge Line 5. It is a serious threat to our water supply. We cannot live or survive without water. Our very existence depends upon water. We can and should learn to survive without oil.

I implore you to end Enbridge Line 5 completely. Let's re-tool and utilize solar and wind for our energy needs. Save the planet. Save yourselves. Save those you love. Save me. Be a hero to our children and the next seven generations. End Enbridge Line 5 completely. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ann Forstrom
Malone, WI 53049
Find du Lac County

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: marie pufall
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Northern WI
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 8:38:03 AM

Please do not allow a pipeline through the reservations and the Copper Falls area!
These are so important to our state! PLEASE protect this area of our state!!!

Sincerely,
Dave and Marie Pufall
Green Bay, WI

From: Yazmin Bowers
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Objection to Endbridge Pipeline Reroute
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 1:40:50 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I grew up in Washburn, WI and have lived here the majority of my life. I feel very strongly about protecting our water from the potential disasters the reroute of Line 5 poses. I want to voice my concern and ask that you please don't issue any wetland permits to Endbridge.

Thank you,

Jasmine Bowers

From: Hope McLeod
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Objection to Endridge reroute of Line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:28:45 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I have lived in Washburn, WI 30 years. I feel very strongly about protecting our water from the potential disasters the reroute of Line 5 poses. I want to voice my concern and ask that you please don't issue any wetland permits to Endbridge.

Hope McLeod

Hope McLeod
Freelance Writer
(715) 373-5898
Cell: (715) 730-0235

From: gary van ess
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Oil Pipeline ... NO!
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 5:39:16 AM

To Whom: No more oil pipelines anywhere near the valuable waters of Wisconsin. Oil spills always happen eventually..... always. Northern Wisconsin is just too valuable for so many things.... fishing, hunting, camping, winter sports, and one of the state's prime industries: tourism. Why take the risk on screwing up our land and waters for rich folks to get richer, mainly in Canada? Not to mention that the land and waters are the Native American's home... and I'll trust them to care for that land and water above anyone. Unlike us, they look ahead and plan seven generations ahead. If only the rest of us had that philosophy.

Oil and liquid gas are on the way out. Why take the slightest chance of a spill.... anywhere in God's country?

Gary Van Ess, Green Bay, Wisconsin gvaness@new.rr.com

From: Kristy DeChamps
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Oil pipeline 5
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:57:23 PM

This concerns all humans-

Your plans to expand the 67 year old line 5 oil pipeline are dangerous and reckless. As a human, we are all dependent on clean water and any attempt to threaten the fresh waters of the Great Lakes and the wetlands of the Kakagon Slough-awarded recognition as a Wetland of International Importance needs to be protected. Governor Evers declared 2019 the year of clean drinking water it is now your responsibility and integrity to follow through and protect us, wildlife, our state, and our Earth. There have been too many instances of pipeline failures, especially new lines per the 2015 Pipeline Safety Trust study. Please, do NOT do this.

As a real estate professional, the potential for economic ruin is far too great a risk. The affect this would have on property would decimate already depressed market by threatening residential wells. Their source is in Copper Falls aquifer, which lies directly under the proposed route. This proposal doesn't benefit Wisconsin not the United States, Enbridge is a Canadian Company. Please, do NOT do this.

As a Native American with ancestry in Bad River Band, I cannot stand aside while the only remaining lands of my tribe are about to be eradicated. Our way of life depends on those lands to hunt, fish, gather, and cultivate wild rice. This is the last piece of land that remains to my people, it is just and right to preserve ALL the diversity of cultures in we so we can learn from each other and thrive. Please, do NOT do this.

As a member of the League of Women Voters, we do NOT support this proposal. Recognize that the people of Wisconsin and other's safety is paramount. The general public believes the DNT protects the land so strike this down.

Sincerely and Insistently,
Kristy DeChamps

From: Conor McInerny
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opinion Against Line 5
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 10:56:31 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express an opinion which seems to be quite popular, but one that I fear will be ignored in the pursuit of profits. The plan to re-route an LNG pipeline through Northern Wisconsin is a sickening thought, both literally and figuratively. Time and time again, oil and gas companies waltz in with a big smile, the promise of job creation and revenue, and assurance that of course nothing bad will happen this time! Time and time again, a pipeline breaks or leaks and the local people suffer. The damage done by these pipe breakdowns causes lasting health effects that last far longer than any economic impact of cleanup, which also comes with a considerable price for the citizens of Wisconsin to pay. That Wisconsin would even consider an eminent domain claim is even more sickening. For decades, the state has spit in the faces of indigenous peoples who have a deep connection to their land. Let this be a turning point where the state does what is right for a change. The idea of Wisconsin as a progressive leader has been dead for too long. Give us new hope and stand for the health and welfare of your citizens!

Thank you,

Conor McInerny

From: Penny
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: oppodstition to granting a line 5 permit to Enbridge Inc
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 4:30:41 PM

To DNR decision makers,

It is very important that we protect the citizens, the water and ecology of Wisconsin. In order to make sure these protections are in place I ask you to deny a permit for the Line 5 Pipeline for Enbridge, Inc. Enbridge, Inc. has a history of not caring for their pipelines and has numerous leaks and larger spills. They should not be allowed to continue the line 5 pipeline through our important and fragile north woods.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not grant this permit,

Penny Bernard Schaber

--

Penny

Penny Bernard Schaber
815 East Washington Street
Appleton, WI 54911

920-739-6041
pennybernardschaber@athenet.net

From: mail Schmit
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Oppose Line 5 Enbridge
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 4:25:54 PM

I oppose Line 5 Enbridge plans due to local environmental and global climate change concerns.

Mary Ellen Schmit

From: Amy Owen
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Opposing Enbridge permits for Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 9:33:07 AM

Dear DNR Staff,

I am writing to express my opposition to granting wetlands permits for Enbridge for Line 5. This company does not have the safety record we need to be an appropriate partner for pipeline work in our state, and has not established a history of trustworthy communication or respectful relationships with local communities impacted, or Tribal Sovereignty. Preserving the health of our waterways to ensure needed tourism dollars, natural beauty, and healthy residents can flourish is too important to approve these permits.

Thank you,

Amy Owen
3129 Buena Vista St.
Madison, WI 53704

From: Susan Millar
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposing Enbridge's Application for Relocating its Line 5 Pipeline
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 5:29:50 PM

Dear members of the Wisconsin DNR:

Thank you for providing clear instructions for public comment on Enbridge's application to reroute its Line 5 in Wisconsin.

I understand that the DNR's jurisdiction in this matter is limited to conducting an EIS investigation into the potential harm to Wisconsin waterways that may occur if you approve this Canadian company's application to reroute its Line 5. A vast amount of data already indicates that, in many respects great harm will, and in other respects very likely will occur to our waterways and to the people and other organisms that depend on these waterways.

I write to tell you that a broad and rapidly growing proportion of the Wisconsin public will be scrutinizing the thoroughness, adequacy, accuracy, and political neutrality of the methods you use to conduct this EIS. We will not accept any greenwashing. We will be scrutinizing every step of the process by which the DNR and other state agencies make their decisions on the new permit Enbridge seeks to obtain.

We are aware that in the past Enbridge paid off politicians and possibly staff and judges who work for Wisconsin in order to get their way--at great cost to the people and other living organisms in Wisconsin and beyond. This history with Enbridge in Wisconsin violated our rights to environmental protection and to social and racial justice. We will make sure that this kind of violation of our rights to environmental and social justice does not occur again. And if it does, we promise there will be serious negative consequences to those who misuse power in this way.

Thank you for seeking public comment on this matter.

Susan Millar
2233 Rowley Ave.
Madison, WI 53726

--

I was born when CO2 PPM was 310.5.
When my youngest grandchild was born, PPM was 393.1.
At current rates, when he is 20, PPM will be 423.

See the attached data file from NASA:

<https://data.giss.nasa.gov/modelforce/ghgases/fig1A.ext.txt>

From: Debra Martin
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposing Line 5 Relocation
Date: Sunday, July 05, 2020 10:56:43 AM

I am formally requesting that my voice be heard in regards to the relocation of Line 5.
I am opposing such action. **In addition, I would also like to see the removal of the existing line.**

Our waterways, air and lands need to be protected from manmade catastrophic interference.
Let's leave a better land for our children's, childrens', children.

Your decision today will impact many generations to come.

Respectfully,

Debra Martin
65 River Drive
Appleton, WI

From: terri@abundance-a.com
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: opposition to Enbridge line 5 reroute
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 6:35:29 PM

To Whom it may concern;

I am opposed to Enbridge line 5 reroute. The risks to WI water are too great. I am a lifelong resident of WI. I believe we need to develop green, safe energy policies and decrease our dependence on oil.

Respectfully,

Theresa L Holzem

1206 Mendota St Madison WI

53714

From: Everett Fuchs
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Cc: [Bud](#)
Subject: Opposition to Enbridge Line 5 Re-Route
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:17:17 PM

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express my opposition to the Enbridge Line 5 Re-Route and to support shutting down this pipeline altogether.

We all know too well the hazards and risks that this pipeline poses to the Great Lakes and the general environment. But you are the experts on this topic so I will not go into what you already know.

You also know that we are at a pivotal time in history where the continued promotion of carbon based fuels will spell an end to the planet as we know it. It is time to pivot to sustainable energy.

Northern Wisconsin is a jewel of not only Wisconsin but of the Country. It must be protected for the benefit of the present and future generations. Once despoiled it is gone forever.

To me, the DNR is about protecting our natural resources, about practicing conservation, about caring for both the people and the wild critters that reside in the State. So do the right thing. Stand up for the environment, the people, and the planet over profits. Wisconsin needs to once again become a national leader in the field of conservation as it was historically before the Walker administration.

Choose Wisconsin and the planet over a big out of country corporation that wants to transport oil based products through our State for use mainly in Ontario and to export to support increased corporate profits. Their environmental track record is awful yet they propose Wisconsin take on the environmental risks for their greater profit. This can not be allowed. It would be an insult to the people of this State.

Sincerely

Everett H. Fuchs
1724 Laurel Avenue
Hudson, WI
54016

715-386-2858

From: Cory Sprinkel
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to Enbridge Line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:02:41 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Enbridge's pipeline proposal.

Simply put, we no longer have time to put off our transition away from fossil fuels as a society. Not only would this pipeline further exacerbate the problem of climate change, it would risk destroying Wisconsin's natural beauty. Furthermore, the pipeline is located within the Bad River watershed, which poses a risk to the Bad River tribe,

There is an abundance of evidence that pipelines are not safe. They leak frequently and these companies that push these pipelines have no concern for the natural environment or the citizens who live in these areas.

We do not need or want more pipelines in this state. It does not matter if they are new or even more properly placed. They are always a risk and it is due time we commit to the move towards cleaner and safer forms of energy, for the good of all of Wisconsinites.

Thank you,
Cory Sprinkel

--

Cory Sprinkel
He/Him/His
Community Engagement Preparation Specialist
University of Wisconsin-Madison

From: Mark Johnson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to Enbridge pipeline expansion and re-routing
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 1:39:16 PM

I would like to register my strong opposition to the proposal to re-route the Enbridge pipeline around the Bad River Indian Reservation for several reasons. First, I think even the proposed re-routing poses grave environmental threats to the wetlands and traditional ricing areas of the tribe, in the event of any kind of spill or even environmental degradation from the extensive construction that would be required. Second, Enbridge has suffered a series of ruptures and disastrous leaks, and I think have not engaged in sufficient corporate social responsibility and transparency around their operations to justify the proposal. Third, I would strongly oppose the taking of private property through the use of eminent domain to force through the re-routing.

Sincerely, Mark S. Johnson
2010 Madison St.
Madison, WI 53711
608-514-3178

From: June Mathiowetz
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to Enbridge Project
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 10:07:40 AM

Dear Wisconsin DNR leadership,

The purpose of this email is to voice my strong opposition to the Enbridge project currently under discussion. This is the time to be transitioning entirely and wholeheartedly into the new energy economy that arrived some time ago. There is no reason for us to settle any longer for dirty, polluting and inefficient energy systems including this one and to do so puts the water and well being of our communities and economies at even graver risk than we're already enduring and facing going forward. Running lines through or near tribal lands continues to reveal the willingness of some to continue oppressing First Nation people. This never was tolerable and it certainly is not tolerable now.

Please do not support Enbridge's Line 5 efforts. More efficient, cleaner and less risky energy systems options are available. This is the time to back away and cease any and all state funds, subsidies and investments currently supporting the oil industry and shift them to solar instead. This pipeline does not need moving, it needs complete removal.

This Mother says Enough. The children and future generations of this state deserve better than this.

Thank you.

June Mathiowetz
New Richmond, WI 54017
715-246-6113

From: Andrea Collins
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to Line 5 construction
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 5:52:22 PM

Hello,

Moving forward with the reconstruction of Line 5 would be a catastrophic crime against the environment and the people who call the area home. It has already been a historical failure, contaminating our water ways with over one million gallons of oil. It is morally and inherently wrong to try to reconstruct that piece by piece — we need to simply dismantle it. Any rupture of this new construction (which is more probable than not) would directly cause horrible negative effects to land on the Band River Reservation, thus making the way of life for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa impossible (as the land is already in precarious conditions due to unfair, unjust treatment and disrespect of treaties).

The climate crisis is getting worse by the minute and this construction would undermine efforts to combat it. We need investment in new technologies and infrastructures based on Indigenous teachings and wisdom, not gross attempts at maintaining an already dead industry. This year is supposed to be about clean drinking water according to Gov Evers — constructing this pipeline would pretty much guarantee the denial of clean drinking water for many people.

I vehemently oppose the reconstruction of Line 5 and I encourage you to do everything in your power to stop it.

Thank you,
Andrea Collins

--

Andrea Collins
She/Her/Hers
Phone: 217-649-0254

From: Julia DePalma
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to Line 5 Expansion
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:40:21 PM

Hello,

My name is Julia DePalma. I am writing to urge you to not grant permits to Enbridge for the purpose of creating a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin should not be supporting the expansion of an oil pipeline. It is time to stop expanding our fossil fuel infrastructure and invest in renewable energy and conservation.

The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

The Great Lakes are the largest body of fresh water in the world. It is not worth the risk of damaging that body for infrastructure that is outdated and does not have a place in the future of our energy economy. Line 5 needs to be decommissioned immediately, not re-created one section at a time.

You should include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.

Also, how will the species living in these areas be affected? What wildlife will be put at risk for this pipeline?

The DNR must also consider Enbridge's pitiful record, with one spill on average every 20 days. How can we trust that Enbridge will not endanger the wildlife, wetlands, and vital natural resources of this region?

The Bad River Reservation is the only land left to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern WI. Their hunting and gathering grounds, and their wild rice beds are now, and will continue to be, in grave peril of a rupture in Line 5, which would make their way of life impossible. These people deserve justice and respect for their lands and way of life. Line 5 cannot possibly offer this to them.

Please be respectful of the future of Wisconsin and its need to step back from fossil fuel infrastructure and focus on renewables and conservation. Please do not allow Line 5 to go through.

Thank you for your attention.

Julia DePalma
7701 Radcliffe Dr
Madison, WI

--

Julia DePalma
B.F.A. Fashion Design
Minor in Marketing
Kent State University, 2018
juliadepalma1@gmail.com
juliadepalma.com
[401-654-0289](tel:401-654-0289)

From: Thomas Hickey
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition To Proposed Enbridge Pipeline Thru Northern Wisconsin Counties
Date: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:34:41 PM

Hello... I'm opposed to this dangerous project being engineered by Enbridge Inc
They have a terrible 20 year history of mechanical failures, non compliance with state and local environmental laws,
and many serious breaks, ruptured and leaks in their pipelines in other locations thru out the country
Also the lost of important wet lands and wooded acres in proposed project is against sound use of land and
resources.

We need to protect this area of the Upper Midwest from all forms of pollution and degradation in its many insidious
ways and actions mainly caused by companies like Enbridge Inc!

Thank you

Sincerely, Thomas J Hickey

3233 N Cramer St
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Sent from my iPhone

From: Mark Bruhy
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to the Proposed Enbridge Line 5 Expansion
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 4:05:10 PM

I write in opposition to Enbridge's proposal to expand Line 5, and strongly recommend that Line 5 does not need expansion but rather, it must be decommissioned. I believe, as many others do, that there is no reason for Line 5 to be located in Wisconsin, particularly considering the ecological sensitivity of the area where Line 5 exists as well as the proposed expansion area. I believe that the 67-year-old Line 5 poses an imminent danger to Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and all the Great Lakes. It needs to be decommissioned immediately, not re-created one section at a time. Along with the catastrophic environmental threat that it poses, Line 5 threatens the both Native (i.e. Bad River Band) and non-Native peoples who ascribe important cultural, economical and social values to the broader area that includes Line 5. As a former long-time resident of northern Wisconsin, and a now-retired career cultural resource manager for Wisconsin's largest federal land management agency, I understand the importance of protecting northern Wisconsin's fragile ecosystems and cultural resources, and I further understand the devastating potential of pipeline failures, which are clearly not uncommon.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this proposal.

Mark Bruhy
W62N822 Arbor Drive
Cedarburg, WI 53012
(262) 339-2202
markbruhy@gmail.com

From: gaquinnrn
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Cc: [Jennie Watson](#)
Subject: Pipe line
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 6:25:27 PM

Shut down line5

Sent from my iPhone

From: Ellen Magee
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Pipeline hearing
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020 11:39:09 AM

I strongly object to the pipeline being built in any way shape or form. It is dangerous to the immediate environment because oil pipeline leaks happen all too frequently. The long term effects of building more extractive industry infrastructure and their impact on the global climate crisis make no sense for our survival.

Additionally there is no public good that excuses heavy handed, disrespectful imminent domain.

What does need to happen is removing the old rotten pipeline from ear the First Nation's rice waters.

Please put people and the Earth before corporations. Thank you, Ellen Magee, Madison

From: Andrea Rongstad
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Pipeline
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 3:06:07 PM

As the stepmother of children that belong to the bad river tribe I am beseeching you not to put the pipeline through what is proposed. It would be a travesty to damage this beautiful country with some thing just to better a business. I beseech thee again to find a different way to get this done and not have a go through those rivers.

Andrea Rongstad
13041 N Hwy 74
Altura,MN. 55910

507-250-3373

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Kristy Jensch
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Please Deny Enbridge Line 5
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 5:03:37 PM

Climate change is devastating our world Right Now.

It is affecting us Right Now.

There is no justifiable reason to permit this pipeline.

It does not provide anything of value to us.

Enbridge has a very troublesome record with many pipeline spills.

The location in which this line would run is across wild forested land (with many many rivers and streams) and access to it during a flood or fire situation would be impossible.

Enbridge has paid thousands of dollars in fines for infractions of their permitting process.

The risks of a spill that would contaminate hundreds of waterways on their way to larger bodies of water such as Lake Superior and the Bad River wild rice beds, is great.

It is time - it is beyond time- to make a commitment toward the future of energy production in this country. Other countries are far along this path and we need to direct our time and resources toward more up-to-date processes.

The DNR can help to make that step by denying this pipeline.

Sent from my iPad.

Kristy Jensch

Kjensch70@icloud.com

410 5th Ave E

Washburn, WI. 54891

715-373-5491

From: Lucy Gibson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Please deny permits to Enbridge Line 5
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 4:13:05 PM

To the Wisconsin DNR:

I'm writing to ask you to close Enbridge's oil pipeline called Line 5.

- Line 5 pipeline is aging and a danger to the Great Lakes.
- Line 5 within the Bad River Reservation should be shut down because Enbridge has been running the current pipeline since its permits to run it through the Bad River Reservation expired in 2013, showing bad faith and no respect for contracts or contract law, let alone for the people affected by its activities. The new pipeline Enbridge is proposing is outside the Bad River reservation, but right next to it, and would still pose a threat to the Bad River watershed.
- The proposed new pipeline would be just upstream from Copper Falls State Park, and any rupture would go straight into Copper Falls, the State Park, the Bad River Reservation, and Lake Superior. Given that Enbridge pipelines release hazardous liquids every 20 days on average, this is almost bound to happen at some point if the pipeline is allowed near this watershed.
- There is no reason for Wisconsin to want the Enbridge pipeline here, because it brings no advantage, only hazard, to Wisconsin. The oil comes from Canada and moves through Wisconsin and back into Canada. Spills in this area would particularly endanger a large number of streams and wetlands and ultimately contaminate Lake Superior.
- Enbridge requires a 50' wide open path for its pipelines in perpetuity, destroying wide swathes of healthy forest and wetland.
- Clean water and healthy wetlands are essential to the economy of the whole area the pipeline runs through, from tourism to fishing to agriculture to basic drinking water needs, and more.

There is no sense in allowing this oil to be transported through Wisconsin, since it poses a grave threat to important northern parts of the state, and offers no advantage to the state or its citizens. Please don't allow it any longer, and don't allow an expansion or re-routing of it within Wisconsin.

Thank you,
Lucy Gibson
1610 Angel Crest Way, Madison, WI 53716

608-221-3258

From: Jessica LeClair
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please deny the permit for Enbridge Tar Sand Oil Pipeline 5
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 7:36:46 PM

Dear DNR Staff,

Please deny the permit for Enbridge Tar Sand Oil Pipeline 5 and decommission the old line. This will affect the health of the Bad River watershed, Copper Falls and Lake Superior - all places that are very special to Wisconsin residents. We need to invest in green energy and not dirty tar sands oil.

Sincerely,
Jessica LeClair
Madison, WI

From: Emma Pedersen
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Please deny the reroute of Enbridge line 5 pipeline
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 10:03:45 PM

Hello,

I am requesting that you deny Enbridge a waterway and wetland permit, and I believe the line 5 pipeline should be decommissioned. This pipeline will have negative impacts on both the environment and many people. This reroute is still within the Bad River watershed which leads to the potential of contaminating the reservation and destroying the Bad River tribal members' way of life. Not only does the pipeline have the potential to pollute the reservation, but it could pollute many other valuable waterways, wetlands, and ecosystems which would have very harmful effects on the environment and our communities. I have family members who live near the pipeline, and I have gone to visit the area every year. I have had the opportunity to enjoy the area's natural beauty and I believe everybody should continue to have that opportunity, but that could all be taken away with this pipeline.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Emma Pedersen

From: Alex Tanke
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please Do Not Approve Permits for Proposed Line 5 Re-Route
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:24:38 AM

Hello,

I am writing to express my opinion that permits should not be approved for Enbridge to build an alternative route for Line 5.

Enbridge has been responsible for 33 oil spills since 1968, including one of the largest land-based oil spills ever which contaminated riverways across Michigan and Northern Wisconsin.

We must prioritize local energy production, energy-efficiency and renewable natural resources. Oil pipelines, new and old, present massive environmental hazards on local and international scales. We cannot afford to build this pipeline. Please **DO NOT APPROVE PERMITS** for a new Line 5.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alexander J. Tanke

From: Alison Mix
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Please do not grant permits to Enbridge!
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:29:58 AM

As citizens of this beautiful state, we are upset to think that you would be granting a notorious company with the terrible safety record of Enbridge permits to create a new pipeline section up north. With climate chaos devastating our state, country and world, is it not high time we stopped creating new fossil fuel infrastructure? Let's put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation instead.

We are writing to urge you not to grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

- The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.
- The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

In our opinion, your Environmental Impact Statement investigation should include:

- Impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
- The potential harm from blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, as well as the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill, as well as the impact of construction through wetlands and streams on aquatic species and flooding exacerbation, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream.
- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species. Wisconsin has enough invasive species already.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

John and Alison Mix
3614 Nakoma Road
Madison, WI 53711

From: Melanie Sax
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Please Halt Construction of Line 5
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:18:14 PM

Dear DNR,

I am speaking against giving a waterway and wetland permit for Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline. The alternative route will still be within the same watershed as before and is only just outside the reservation boundaries.

So often there is a problem with these pipelines and if there should be a break in the line, it will adversely affect the health of the people on the reservation, the wildlife in the area and the wetlands which are so important for filtering fresh water and growing the wild rice harvested by those tribes for generations.

Instead of wrecking the tar sands of Canada's First Nations and piping it thousands of miles, potentially endangering the environment and people all along the line, could we not put the money toward sustainable, alternative energy sources? Toward something that we can tell our grandchildren, we were planning for their future and not just grabbing something quick now and the future be damned.

You have the chance to do something wonderful here. Choose life and sustainability, not inevitable disaster.

Thank you for your attention,
Melanie Sax
4433 Sentinel Pass
Fitchburg, WI. 53711

From: Mary Jo Rice
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please Oppose the Enbridge Pipeline Proposal
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 11:15:53 PM

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

I strongly urge you to oppose the proposed Enbridge pipeline circumventing the Bad River Reservation.

The 2010 Kalamazoo oil spill suggests that Enbridge is not to be trusted.

The risks of the proposed pipeline would violate the 1836 Treaty with the Ottawa and Chippewa Nations by ignoring indigenous communities' rights to fish the waters that would be contaminated by oil spills if the pipeline was approved, and if it later leaked. Such damaging incidents happen in spite of precautions and good intentions.

As a Wisconsin native and a retired high school teacher who regularly returns to visit family and enjoy the state's beautiful waters, I am dismayed by both the proposal and the possibility of its approval.

Thank you for considering my objection to the pipeline before making your decision. We urge you to vote against approval. My wife, Mary Jo Rice, joins me in this request.

Sincerely,
Jim Rice and Mary Jo Rice
maryjorice@comcast.net

From: Jake Miller
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please Reject Enbridge Line 5 permits!
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 8:10:50 PM

Hello,

As a resident of this fine state, I strongly support the conservation of natural resources, which are irreplaceable and largely responsible for the beauty of this amazing state. I also believe that our state should be divesting from fossil fuel infrastructure at this time, and strongly be pushing for any new infrastructure to be renewable. From my research, Enbridge has a record of spills and any economic benefit to the residents of the state are negligible at best, especially when looking at the potential danger to priceless natural resources such as fresh water, recreational opportunities for residents, and habits for wildlife and their ecosystems. I believe it is also the duty of the WI DNR to be stewards of our environment.

I am writing to unequivocally urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

- 1.) With climate chaos devastating our state, country, and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.
- 2.) The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.
- 3.) The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

Here are my thoughts about what the scope should be of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation.

- You should include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
- Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.
- How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?
- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.
- Enbridge's terrible safety record, one spill every 20 days, on the average.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Not only should the environmental impact statement be taken into account, but I also think the track record of Enbridge needs to be taken into serious consideration as well. Does this benefit our state and it's residents long term? Could the damage done by allowing this to be built ever be repaired? Who does this actually benefit? From where I am standing it would appear to benefit Enbridge as a company, and not the people who will have to live with the mistake if it were to be built.

Thank you for your time,

Jake S. Miller
2518 N. Lake Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
414-477-8151

From: Anne Small (smallanne76@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please reject Enbridge Line 5 permits
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:53:29 AM

Dear Line 5 Comments,

The region that would be impacted by these permits is precious to me and millions of people, not to mention the plants and animals that call it home. I would like to urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

- 1) The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.
- 2) The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

Here are my thoughts about what the scope should be of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation.

- You should include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
- Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.
- How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?
- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.
- Enbridge's terrible safety record, one spill every 20 days, on the average.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Sincerely,

Anne Small
8574 State Highway 70 W
Saint Germain, WI 54558
smallanne76@gmail.com
(715) 614-3711

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.

From: Ella Lysne
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please Reject Line 5 Permits
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:12:21 PM

To the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources,

I am writing to ask you to reject the permits and approvals requested by Enbridge for the relocation of Line 5. This line is a huge threat to the natural resources of Wisconsin and we must not allow any plans for it to go through.

After researching the pipeline and listening to the public hearing on July 1st, it's become clear to me that the 186 waterway crossings Enbridge plans to put in place will result in habitat fragmentation. This can lead to a decrease in biodiversity.

This can lead to a decrease in biodiversity. In this case, said habitat fragmentation would be caused directly by Line 5. The ecosystems in Northern Wisconsin are unique and biodiverse. One or more disruption is likely to cause a huge loss in the populations of both plants and animals—also a huge loss for Wisconsin's natural resources.

So again, for the sake of Northern Wisconsin's beautiful and complex ecosystems, as well as it's—now—thriving natural resources, I ask the DNR to reject all permits and approvals requested by Enbridge and Line 5.

Thank you,

Ella Lysne
La Crosse, WI

From: Eva Vigo (evigo@nmu.edu) Sent You a Personal Message
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Please say no to Enbridge Line 5 permits
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:19:20 AM

Dear Line 5 Comments,

Please please please protect our precious Great Lakes, shut down line 5. It matters to me, my future grandchildren and ALL generations to come. It matters to ALL LIFE, plant, animal and human, all is dependent on clean fresh water. We have the privilege of being the caretakers and stewards of our wondrous bodies of fresh water, we are at the peak of human development, let's use our wisdom and technology to shut down this line and work to find a solution to preserve and protect our precious Great Lakes!

Thank you,
Eva M. Vigo
Marquette, MI

I am writing to urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

- 1.) With climate chaos devastating our state, country, and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.
- 2.) The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.
- 3.) The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

Here are my thoughts about what the scope should be of your Environmental Impact Statement investigation.

- You should include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
- Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.
- How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?
- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.
- Enbridge's terrible safety record, one spill every 20 days, on the average.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Sincerely,

Eva Vigo
2212 Beaudoin St
Marquette, MI 49855
evigo@nmu.edu
(906) 236-3602

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.

From: Cheryl McCutcheon
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Please stop the expansion of Line 5!
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:04:42 PM

To Wisconsin DNR,
Please help protect our beautiful Wisconsin environment!!!
Please do not support the Line 5 oil pipeline in Wisconsin.
It is time to encourage clean energy!
Thank you,
Cheryl McCutcheon

From: Linda
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Prevention of expansion of Line 5
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:20:50 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Enough is Enough! It is time to take the side of the greater good and tell this Canadian company to find another way to transport their toxic commodity in their own country.

Enbridge is good at extending their network of pipelines all over the state of Wisconsin and even under our precious waters but they do not maintain them and even now we hold our breath wondering when the much overdue repairs to the pipeline under the Mackinaw Bridge will fill our most precious lakes with their destructive oil.

My drinking water source is under siege and the clock is ticking before all of us who rely on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior for our most precious natural resource.

The DNR was created to protect the people of Wisconsin by preserving their land and water. Enbridge is a private company situated in Canada. Who are we protecting?

There should be no question as to what the moral answer to this question is.

Sincerely,
Linda K. Van Beekl

From: Helen Bannan-Baurecht
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Printed version of testimony on Enbridge Line 5 from 7/1/2020
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 12:12:10 PM
Attachments: [HB Testimony vs Enbridge, 712020.docx](#)

I understand that those of us who testified at the DNR Hearing on ZOOM on July 1, 2020 should submit a written version of our testimony. Attached is a WORD document of my planned remarks, which I may have departed from a bit in person.

Thank you once again for giving members of the public a chance to express our feelings about this issue. Using ZOOM technology probably made it possible for more of us to do this, since we didn't have to travel to speak our minds. I hope it sets a precedent that could be followed once COVID 19 is only a memory (God willing!).

Helen Banan-Baurecht
5457 N Bay Ridge Ave.
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Testimony of Helen Bannan-Baurecht, 5457 N. Bay Ridge Ave, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217, given July 1, 2020 at the DNR hearing on Enbridge Line 5.

My name is Helen Bannan-Baurecht and I am grateful to you for welcoming public comment on this critical issue, and making it possible for us to speak despite the challenges of Covid. This is the first time I have done something like this.

I am asking you to keep the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline out of the Bad River Watershed. The Bad River Band of the Anishinabe put a 50 year time limit on the first pipeline through their homeland, and it has already expired. Enbridge had promised to remove that pipeline and clean up after it, but that has not yet been done, and they have now asked permission to replace it with another pipeline, going around the reservation but within the watershed of the Bad River. The new pipeline would still threaten the water on the reservation, and thus the health of the Bad River people.

I am a retired history professor from UW Oshkosh. One of the courses I taught regularly was American Indian History, which I believe is essential for ALL students in this country to learn. Starting from their first encounter with Europeans, the Native peoples of this hemisphere have been victimized by uninvited foreigners, killed by their weapons and their diseases, Native children stolen from their families, and many Native nations forced to move from their homelands.

Many of my students were surprised at the unrelenting litany of wrongs they learned about in the course, an unbroken trail of broken treaties and promises. I particularly remember one student the first time I taught the course, who asked me, "Weren't there ANY decent white people?" Each successive century, the newcomers seemed to find new ways to oppress the original people of this continent, individual acts of kindness by well-meaning settlers notwithstanding.

It is time for this sordid history to end. Respect for the sovereignty of the Anishinabe, in this case, those known as the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, demands that Enbridge be denied the right to rebuild Line 5 within Anishinabe-ceded territories. As demonstrated by this company's record of pipeline ruptures and resultant contamination, Enbridge cannot be trusted with the waters and wetlands necessary to Anishinabe life.

It is within your power to begin to end the long history of abuse of America's Native peoples, changing the pattern for this century with your decision against this pipeline. Thank you for your attention and action in this critical matter.

From: Scott Spoolman
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Enbridge Line 5 extension
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:17:37 AM

As a former Northwoods resident, a professional environmental science writer, and one who loves northern Wisconsin, especially the area around the proposed Enbridge extension of Line 5, I am adamantly opposed to the proposal. It is unacceptable for several reasons:

- For the same reason the Bad River Band justifiably does not want the pipeline running across the reservation—the threat to its water resources—it makes absolutely no sense to run the line around the reservation. It would be an even bigger threat to those precious waterways, for it would still cross them—186 times, according to the permit request. To cross any one pristine stream or wetland with an oil pipeline is risky; to cross 186 such waterways, no matter where they are in the state, is that many times more risky.
- A number of these waterways are prime trout streams and all of them serve as vital habitat for a complex plant and animal communities of the region.
- To replace a straight-line crossing of the Bad River Reservation with a meandering line around the reservation, at least three times as long, greatly increases the odds of leaks and ruptures in the operating line, as well as of spills and leaks occurring during construction of the line.
- One of our most precious and beautiful resources, Copper Falls State Park, would have the pipeline running on three sides of it, crossing both of the ancient rivers that join in the park to make it a completely unique and precious resource.
- A crucial groundwater recharge zone, the narrow strip of soil through which precipitation percolates to restore the Copper Falls Aquifer, which serves the entire population of the region, would be crossed twice by the proposed pipeline. It was designated by the US Geological Survey as *extremely susceptible* to groundwater contamination. There is no way to go around the reservation without crossing that zone twice. The vulnerability of this zone was reported in more detail by Tom Fitz, Professor of Geoscience at Northland College, in his June 2020 comments, “Geology and hydrogeology along the proposed line 5 pipeline route in Wisconsin.”
- Enbridge has a bad record for pipeline maintenance and compliance with regulations. Line 5 has already spilled some 30 times over the years. With more than 100 documented violations of state water protection measures, Enbridge is one of the last companies I want to trust with caring for precious resources.
- Wisconsin residents receive none of the benefits of this pipeline as it flows out of and back into Canada. Enbridge uses our precious public and private lands and waterways for a money-saving shortcut. At the same time, we assume all of the considerable risk of an environmental catastrophe.

Any one of these reasons would be enough to say NO to this proposal. I strongly urge you to reject it.

Sincerely,

Scott Spoolman

From: eggleson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Enbridge Line 5 Pipeline Relocation Project, Waterway & Wetland Permit Application and EIS Scope
Date: Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:35:22 PM
Attachments: [permits and EIS comment letter.doc](#)

Comments attached.

77510 N. Houghton Point Road
Washburn, WI 54891
July 9, 2020

Line 5 Comments
DNR (EA/7)
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

RE: Proposed Enbridge Line 5 Pipeline Relocation Project
Waterway & Wetland Permit Application and EIS Scope

I am writing to express my grave concerns about the pending applications from Enbridge Energy for waterway and wetland permits to allow it to construct 42 miles of new oil pipeline through the Bad River watershed. This is a terrible location for a pipeline, where spills are both likely and catastrophic. Likely because of the increasing frequency of floods and other infrastructure-smashing natural disasters, and catastrophic because of the sensitive and irreplaceable natural resources in the area, including Copper Falls State Park and the Kakagon Sloughs, not to mention the human health and welfare considerations arising from the Line's proximity to the Bad River Reservation. The Line should be decommissioned, not relocated.

My initial concerns relate to process. First, I understand the Department is simultaneously soliciting comments on both the scope of the EIS it will be preparing in conjunction with the permits, and on the permits themselves. This seems to run contrary to Wis. Admin. Code sec. NR 150.05(2)(e) which indicates that the EIS is to be made "available to the decision maker in a timely manner" and requires that the Department "recognize that decisions subject to WEPA requirements cannot be made until the appropriate environmental review process is completed." The purpose of an EIS is, then, to allow the agency to make better informed permitting decisions. If they run their course simultaneously, it only reinforces the impression that the permits are a foregone conclusion, and the EIS is a paper exercise. While the hearing officer stated at the outset of the July 1 public hearing that no permit decisions will be "issued" until the EIS process is complete, my fear is that those decisions have actually already been made, before the EIS is even underway.

Secondly, it seems that Enbridge has not finalized the proposed route. Apparently some landowners have sold easements, others have refused, and others are still negotiating. Enbridge may need to resort to eminent domain, if the PSC allows it to do so. In any case, the route is still a work in progress, with the associated uncertainty about which streams and wetlands would be crossed and impacted. I do not understand how work on the EIS, or public input on the study, can proceed given that uncertainty. Work on the comment period and the project should be suspended until the impacted streams have been identified and wetlands delineated.

With respect to my substantive concerns, I am a member of the League of Women Voters, and most of my reservations and expectations have been fully set forth in the League's comments by others with scientific expertise I lack. I hope those suggestions will help shape the EIS and that that study will, in turn, guide the permitting decision processes.

However, as troubling as I find the risks to the local environment posed by the construction and operation of an oil pipeline through one of the most vulnerable watersheds in the state, situated just a few miles from the largest body of freshwater in the world, I am even more distressed about the climate change repercussions of these permits. While numerous credible reports warn that global carbon emissions must be cut drastically and immediately to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, new pipelines are locking in a continuing untenable level of emissions for 40 to 50 more years, making it impossible to achieve international goals to limit global warming.

Courts have rejected pipeline impact statements that do not adequately address the effects on climate change, including cumulative impacts. The EIS for Line 5 should calculate the expected life-cycle emissions from the project, including extraction, transportation, refining, distribution and combustion. The impact statement for Enbridge's Line 3 in Minnesota calculated that it would cause huge increases in CO2 emissions. In Northwest Wisconsin, a region proud of its commitment to and investment in renewable energy, this throwback expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure is neither responsible nor welcome.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on these permit applications and the scope of the associated EIS.

Sincerely,
Shari Eggleston

From: Doreen Hickey
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Pipeline Line 5 Reroute
Date: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:11:42 PM

This is to voice my strong opposition to the proposed reroute, which, although it avoids the reservation land, will still impact in very detrimental ways dozens of waterways and wetland areas. There is no safe way for Enbridge to proceed, based on their decades of spills and mistakes that have caused terrible damage to water and land in Upper Midwest States where they have operated. Wisconsin's land should be protected for future generations. Our state has been known for its bountiful forests, lands and waterways, and we need to keep them untainted to the best of our ability – please do not approve Enbridge's request to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Doreen Hickey

From: Austin Schumacher
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Reroute of Line 5 in Wisconsin
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:58:19 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

Thanks,

Austin Schumacher

Senior Accountant

C: (715) 225-0423

E: aschumacher@precisionpipelinellc.com



O: (715) 874-4510

F: (715) 874-4511

3314 56th Street | Eau Claire, WI 54703

www.PrecisionPipelineLLC.com

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this email in error please delete and notify sender.

From: Jean Roach
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment Enbridge Line 5
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:05:40 PM

I am opposed to the permitting of the expansion of Enbridge Energy's Line 5. Since its original opening Line 5 has spilled over 1 million gallons of oil and gas onto pristine areas of forest, wetlands, and the Great Lakes. Most recently, damage and inadequate monitoring and repairs by Enbridge threaten the Michigan Straits of Mackinac. This company has not shown they are willing to responsibly protect the land and water along the current pipeline route, so why would anyone assume they will do a better job with more pipeline?

The proposed new route endangers trout streams, wildlife habitat, the largest natural wild rice beds on the Great lakes, the beautiful waterfalls and deep gorges of Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior. All of these are main drivers of local economies along the proposed extension of the pipeline, that is tourism.

This quote from Madison 350 says it all, "The health and prosperity of tribal members, the region's wildlife and wetlands, and Lake Superior's coastline are all at risk as long as Line 5 is allowed to continue its operation in the area." Please do not permit this expansion and halt the current flow of oil on Line 5. It's the right thing to do.

Thank you,

Jean Roach

Pelican Lake, WI 54463

From: Kyle Bukovich
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Docket Number: IP-NO-2020-2-N00471
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 8:45:48 AM
Attachments: [DNR Line 5 Support Letter.docx](#)

Attached below is a support letter from the Northern Wisconsin Building and Construction Trades Council asking the DNR to promptly process and approve the permits needed for Enbridge's Line 5 Relocation Project, Docket Number: IP-NO-2020-2-N00471

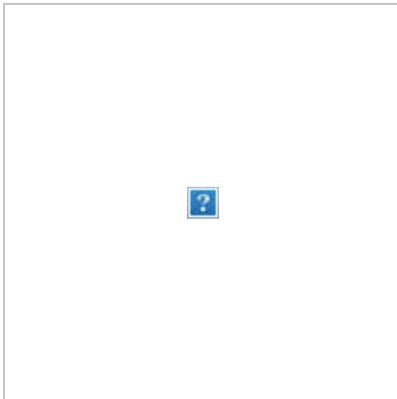
Thank You

--

Kyle Bukovich
President

*Northern Wisconsin Building
and Construction Trades Council
PO Box 577
Superior, WI 54880*

*Cell: 218-591-0157
Office: 218-728-6895*



NORTHERN WISCONSIN BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

P. O. BOX 577
SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN 54880-0577

KYLE BUKOVICH
PRESIDENT
(218) 591-0157

CASEY ARONSON
VICE PRESIDENT
(715) 416-3893

DEREK PEDERSON
SECRETARY-TREASURER
(218) 269-2497

Secretary Cole,

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by Northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts. Examples include:

- Using timber mats to limit wetland disturbance,
- Installing erosion control devices, and
- Utilizing site-specific waterbody crossing methods.

Without Line 5, an estimated 2,100 trucks would need to leave Superior and travel east on US-2 every day to transport products currently carried by Line 5. That amounts to about 90 tanker trucks an hour. Construction will bring an estimated 700 family-sustaining jobs hired mostly from the region's union halls and an economic boost for Northern Wisconsin communities.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

The Northern Wisconsin Building and Construction Trades Council fully supports the Line 5 relocation project and asks that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

Sincerely,



Kyle Bukovich
President



Casey Aronson
Vice President

Derek Pederson
Secretary-Treasurer

From: jfkerler@charter.net
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Enbridge Line 5 Relocation Project
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:36:58 PM

Please accept this as my public comment regarding the proposed reroute of Enbridge Line 5 in Wisconsin:

This project should not be permitted. Instead, Line 5 should be retired. It does not satisfy the public benefit requirement for its use of eminent domain. Rerouting it would guarantee the continuing use of fossil fuels which will have a long term devastating impact on Wisconsin and the global community of humans, plants, animals and ecosystems. The United States and all other countries need to drastically reduce our use of and emissions from fossil fuels. The only way to do that is to gradually decommission – not rebuild -- Line 5 and all other fossil fuel sources and conveyances. In fact public highways, bridges and other facilities in the area of the proposed construction work have, in recent years, been devastated by intensive storms and flash floods. This project and other similar fossil fuel infrastructure work would exacerbate the very climate change effects that are causing these emerging destructive weather patterns.

Furthermore the project would perpetuate and increase unacceptable risks to critical watersheds and wetland resources including Fish Creek, the Lower and Upper Bad River, White River, Marengo River, Tyler Forks, Potato River, the Montreal River and ultimately, Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes. Because new pipelines are prone to spills, the reroute would increase the threat to the Kakagon Sloughs on the Bad River Ojibway reservation, thereby threatening wild rice and other aquatic resources that provide critical food, spiritual and cultural resources for the Bad River Ojibway people. These resources and others in Wisconsin's ceded territories are guaranteed via U.S. treaty to the Ojibway. This is not to mention the unacceptable existing risks to the 60 year old section of the same pipeline that passes under the Straits of Mackinac. Modeling of a spill in this critical location shows the devastation it would cause to the Great Lakes and is further evidence that this line should be decommissioned. The Nov. 2018 Greenpeace report "[Dangerous Pipelines](#)" found that Enbridge pipeline network averages a release of hazardous liquids every 20 days. Environmental cleanup of Enbridge's 2010 spill into the Kalamazoo River has cost over a billion dollars. Clearly Line 5 should be completely decommissioned.

My interest in protecting these resources stems from the global concern noted in my opening paragraph, but also from a concern for environmental equity for the Ojibway people, some of whom are personal friends. Furthermore, I have personally backpacked, camped and paddled in the Penokee Hills region and along Lake Superior. I have enjoyed the trails, rivers and waterfalls of Copper Falls State Park on several occasions and have served as a volunteer helping to build and maintain the North Country Trail. All of these recreational and cultural resources are at risk in the potential reroute of Line 5.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources should deny all permits associated with continued use or reroute of Enbridge Line 5.

Thank you for considering these comments.

James F. Kerler
369 W. Prospect Street
Lake Mills, Wisconsin

From: Eric Benn
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Enbridge Line 5 Relocation Project
Date: Friday, July 03, 2020 3:18:52 PM

Sir / Ma'am,

I appreciate the opportunity to register a comment to support your engagement with the stakeholder public in preparing the Environmental Impact Statement in support of the permitting process.

I am a year-round resident of the Northwoods of Wisconsin, living in the town of Presque Isle, in the County of Vilas, Wisconsin. This is my place of retirement and I am here because of the peace, the beauty, and the natural serenity of this part of the state. I have a deep appreciation for our natural environment and revel in enjoying the diverse and complex environment and ecosystems which are such a central part of this wonderful region.

That said, I wish to articulate my SUPPORT for approval and permitting of the proposed route and the relocation of the Line 5 pipeline, as requested by Enbridge Energy

First; I think it is imperative that the Federal and State authorities who license and regulate this important energy infrastructure respect the sovereign rights of the Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe who are asking that the pipeline no longer traverse their lands. These peoples have every right to make this request and it is imperative that our federal and state governmental entities do whatever is necessary to reach an accommodation with this request.

Second; While I support and applaud the transition which continues to be made in the transition of energy supplies from legacy fossil fuels to cleaner and more sustainable sources, I recognize the complexity of this transition and believe that market forces must play a significant role in achieving scalable and sustainable strategies for meeting the needs of our populations and the commerce and recreational interests which they enjoy and depend on. The legacy investment in efficient production, transfer, and market availability of energy sources is enormous and much as we may wish it was otherwise, we (as a society) can only accommodate so much change and/or adjustment at a given pace. Pipelines remain a tremendously safe, efficient, and non-intrusive method for transporting bulk fluids, and I assert they can and will be an important part of our energy infrastructure for the foreseeable future.

Third; I do not want to imply any corners should be cut or sacrifices made to the very fragile environments through which the proposed new path would take the Line 5 pipeline. I hold confidence in the expertise and rigor of the DNR and other regulatory entities to ensure that if/when this project is approved, the construction and operations of the pipeline will be in FULL compliance with best-practices and will not introduce any unacceptable risk or degradation to the lands through which the pipeline will pass. Your standards are, and must be held to be high, and I would insist that all rigor be maintained to ensure construction and operations are in all ways compliant with regulatory standards.

In summary; while I recognize that there is risk to the proposed relocation of the Line 5 pipeline, I believe that it is a necessary and appropriate thing to do. One, because it is the right thing to do, and two, because I believe it can be done safely and conscientiously in order to

sustain the broad needs and interests of the citizens of our region and the commercial interests of the energy company making the request.

Thank you for extending to the public the opportunity to comment and for your consideration of my perspective, beliefs, and priorities. Best regards for your challenging task of working to accommodate the broad perspective of the interested public.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric R. Benn

7961 Armour Lake Rd, Presque Isle, WI 54557-9333
(715) 686-2658



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: Rainbow Barry
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: public comment on Enbridge Line 5 reroute proposal
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 11:36:32 AM

Dear DNR,

I ask that you join the Bad River Tribe in preventing Enbridge's continued transport of inefficient fossil fuels through aging infrastructure and the threat this poses to our waterways.

Line 5 provides little benefit to Wisconsin. Wisconsin citizens do not receive fuel from the pipeline. Only 2% of the pipeline's capacity is distributed directly to residents of Michigan in the form of propane. According to propane suppliers in the Upper Peninsula, this fuel can be supplied by truck and rail without the risk of the large-scale, catastrophic leaks from a compromised Enbridge pipeline. The fact is that the majority of fuels flowing through the pipeline end up outside of our region. How can we risk the health of our waterways for an industry that offers us so little benefit?

The state of Michigan is on the cusp of shutting down line 5 through the Great Lakes, which constitute a freshwater ecosystem unparalleled in the world and provide drinking water to 40 million people. In this case, investment in the reroute of line 5 around the Bad River tribal lands would be futile and would compromise pristine Ashland county wetlands and waterways for nothing.

In a world in which it is far past time to address the contribution of fossil fuel combustion to global climate change, the transportation of low-value, tar sand oil across a continent through aging pipelines must cease and new energy solutions must replace this hazardous and inefficient system now. Enbridge is responsible for the largest inland oil spill in U.S. history and spilling more than one million gallons of oil and gas through at least 29 leaks. It is clear that the 66 year old pipeline is beginning to fail. Now is the perfect time to find alternative solutions to our energy future. The Department of Natural Resources is a primary authority to provide the research and evidence needed to make this happen and protect our priceless natural resources for future generations; this is the primary duty of the agency. Please do everything in your power to keep our wetland ecosystems intact and to maintain the integrity of our water supply.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Sincerely,

Rainbow Barry

Resident of Pierce County WI

From: Joan Elias
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Cc: [Sen.Bewley - LEGIS](#); [Rep.Meyers - LEGIS](#)
Subject: public comment period Line 5
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 3:37:00 PM
Attachments: [Elias Line5 scoping comments.pdf](#)

Please find my comments on the proposed expansion of Enbridge Line 5 through the Bad River Watershed below and attached.

DNROEEACOMMENTS@WI.GOV

Line 5 Comments

DNR (EA/7)

101 South Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

July 8, 2020

Gentlefolk,

The land I live on and pay taxes on is adjacent to the proposed construction of the expanded Enbridge Line 5. Having lived here for 30 years, I am intimately familiar with this land and the land of my surrounding neighbors. Our land here includes steep ravines and fragile, erodible soils. The proposed construction route crosses many permanent and intermittent groundwater-fed cold streams. Some of these streams host naturally sustaining brook trout populations, though they may not be on the DNR's radar because of lack of thorough surveys throughout our region. My land is downstream of portions of the proposed route, and hence, I would be directly affected by construction, maintenance, and operation of the proposed expansion of Line 5.

I am concerned with every aspect of the construction of the expanded Line 5, from the global to the local and everything in between. At the global scale, this is not the time to be expanding oil delivery lines, given the impacts of climate change and the current divestiture of many banks from fossil fuels. As bankruptcies within the fossil fuel industry become more numerous, Enbridge's terrible track record of spills and ruptures is especially worrisome. Will Enbridge be solvent financially when it comes time to clean up a spill in our watershed? At the local level, it is my land, neighborhood, water, and air that will be affected, and it is my taxes that support road maintenance and emergency services – both of which will be strained during construction of the pipeline. At the intermediate or watershed level, the proposed construction route crosses nearly 200 wetlands and waterways – several of which have OWR or EWR designation and all of which drain into the Bad River and ultimately Lake Superior. The route runs through fragile and complex hydrogeology

that is only beginning to be understood, and it passes upstream of Copper Falls State Park. These resources are too precious to risk.

I question the thoroughness of the DNR's database on the ecological resources of this region, and have heard, first-hand, from DNR personnel who say the region is under-surveyed. I also question the competency of the Enbridge contractors doing ecological surveys this season. I had occasion to interact with an ecological survey crew on 6/2/2020 passing along the edge of my land on the railroad tracks, which they said was an access route for the pipeline. (The railroad tracks have been severely washed out due to extreme flooding in June of 2016 and are still not repaired.) Through my professional career, I have gained expertise in conducting ecological surveys. This crew could not identify the birds, they were out at the wrong time of day for bird surveys, and they were out at the wrong time of year for track surveys (the only wildlife they had documented was one deer track).

As I understand it, the main purpose of soliciting public comments at this time is to gain the public's perspective on what should be included in the EIS and our concerns regarding the permitting of wetland and waterway crossings. The following list, while not all-inclusive, outlines my main concerns: the granting of any wetland/waterway permits must be based on a completed EIS;

- the EIS must include a comprehensive analysis of pipeline construction, maintenance, and operation impacts on all Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest within the Bad River Watershed;
- the EIS must include a cumulative impact analysis of potential erosion, sedimentation, slumping of ravines, flash flooding, head-cutting, and gully formation; every wetland, stream, and ravine crossing should be included in the cumulative impact analysis, no matter how far up in the headwaters it is located;
- the EIS must include an analysis of potential flood impacts within every subwatershed of every permanent stream, especially since these streams have already undergone substantial flood damage in recent years and will likely never fully recover;
- the EIS must analyze the cumulative impacts on forest fragmentation, removal of shade along waterways, and hydrological disruption along the entire proposed construction route;
- the EIS must include a comprehensive analysis of the effects the construction of the pipeline would have on the groundwater recharge area, especially in the Copper Falls Formation, and concomitant effects on private wells throughout the region dependent on that aquifer;
- the EIS must include a risk assessment of a spill occurring in the groundwater recharge area of the Copper Falls Formation;
- wetland/waterway permits must be considered one by one – crossing by crossing, and not en masse;
- every wetland/waterway crossing permit granted must require hydrological connections be restored between the headwaters and the floodplain;
- every wetland/waterway permit granted must require upgrading of all culverts to accommodate projections of extreme rain events (local municipalities cannot afford such upgrades);

- every wetland/waterway permit granted must require monitoring of long-term effects of fragmentation of habitats (e.g., invasion and control of exotic species, changes in stream temperature due to decreased shading);
- every wetland/waterway permit granted must require monitoring of seasonal and long-term flood effects caused by wetland/waterway crossings (e.g., changes in erosion, sedimentation, slumping of banks and ravines; culvert failure).

Finally, at this time, Enbridge has not finalized its route. The company has asked for two extensions from the Public Service Commission in order to negotiate with additional landowners to secure the construction route. The public hearing held on July 1 and this public comment period are premature. We do not even know which wetlands, waterways, ravines, and stretches of forest and grassland might be impacted. How can we comment, except in the broadest of senses?

Enbridge will have to reapply for permits once the route is determined. The public must have another opportunity to comment once we know the exact construction route Enbridge proposes.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed expansion of Enbridge Line 5. Because the proposed route runs through my watershed and adjacent to my land I have already been affected by the soil boring activity and survey crews. Should construction of the pipeline proceed I expect profound direct effects on the streams running through my land. Pipeline construction would impact the ambient noise level, my property value, and my peace of mind.

Joan Elias

11140W Edwards Rd.

Saxon, WI 54559

DNROEFACOMMENTS@WI.GOV

Line 5 Comments

DNR (EA/7)

101 South Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

July 8, 2020

Gentlefolk,

The land I live on and pay taxes on is adjacent to the proposed construction of the expanded Enbridge Line 5. Having lived here for 30 years, I am intimately familiar with this land and the land of my surrounding neighbors. Our land here includes steep ravines and fragile, erodible soils. The proposed construction route crosses many permanent and intermittent groundwater-fed cold streams. Some of these streams host naturally sustaining brook trout populations, though they may not be on the DNR's radar because of lack of thorough surveys throughout our region. My land is downstream of portions of the proposed route, and hence, I would be directly affected by construction, maintenance, and operation of the proposed expansion of Line 5.

I am concerned with every aspect of the construction of the expanded Line 5, from the global to the local and everything in between. At the global scale, this is not the time to be expanding oil delivery lines, given the impacts of climate change and the current divestiture of many banks from fossil fuels. As bankruptcies within the fossil fuel industry become more numerous, Enbridge's terrible track record of spills and ruptures is especially worrisome. Will Enbridge be solvent financially when it comes time to clean up a spill in our watershed? At the local level, it is my land, neighborhood, water, and air that will be affected, and it is my taxes that support road maintenance and emergency services – both of which will be strained during construction of the pipeline. At the intermediate or watershed level, the proposed construction route crosses nearly 200 wetlands and waterways – several of which have OWR or EWR designation and all of which drain into the Bad River and ultimately Lake Superior. The route runs through fragile and complex hydrogeology that is only beginning to be understood, and it passes upstream of Copper Falls State Park. These resources are too precious to risk.

I question the thoroughness of the DNR's database on the ecological resources of this region, and have heard, first-hand, from DNR personnel who say the region is under-surveyed. I also question the competency of the Enbridge contractors doing ecological surveys this season. I had occasion to interact with an ecological survey crew on 6/2/2020 passing along the edge of my land on the railroad tracks, which they said was an access route for the pipeline. (The railroad tracks have been severely washed out due to extreme flooding in June of 2016 and are still not repaired.) Through my professional career, I have gained expertise in conducting ecological surveys. This crew could not identify the birds, they were out at the wrong time of day for bird surveys, and they were out at the wrong time of year for track surveys (the only wildlife they had documented was one deer track).

As I understand it, the main purpose of soliciting public comments at this time is to gain the public's perspective on what should be included in the EIS and our concerns regarding the permitting of wetland and waterway crossings. The following list, while not all-inclusive, outlines my main concerns:

- the granting of any wetland/waterway permits must be based on a completed EIS;
- the EIS must include a comprehensive analysis of pipeline construction, maintenance, and operation impacts on all Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest within the Bad River Watershed;
- the EIS must include a cumulative impact analysis of potential erosion, sedimentation, slumping of ravines, flash flooding, head-cutting, and gully formation; every wetland, stream, and ravine crossing should be included in the cumulative impact analysis, no matter how far up in the headwaters it is located;
- the EIS must include an analysis of potential flood impacts within every subwatershed of every permanent stream, especially since these streams have already undergone substantial flood damage in recent years and will likely never fully recover;
- the EIS must analyze the cumulative impacts on forest fragmentation, removal of shade along waterways, and hydrological disruption along the entire proposed construction route;
- the EIS must include a comprehensive analysis of the effects the construction of the pipeline would have on the groundwater recharge area, especially in the Copper Falls Formation, and concomitant effects on private wells throughout the region dependent on that aquifer;
- the EIS must include a risk assessment of a spill occurring in the groundwater recharge area of the Copper Falls Formation;
- wetland/waterway permits must be considered one by one – crossing by crossing, and not en masse;
- every wetland/waterway crossing permit granted must require hydrological connections be restored between the headwaters and the floodplain;
- every wetland/waterway permit granted must require upgrading of all culverts to accommodate projections of extreme rain events (local municipalities cannot afford such upgrades);
- every wetland/waterway permit granted must require monitoring of long-term effects of fragmentation of habitats (e.g., invasion and control of exotic species, changes in stream temperature due to decreased shading);
- every wetland/waterway permit granted must require monitoring of seasonal and long-term flood effects caused by wetland/waterway crossings (e.g., changes in erosion, sedimentation, slumping of banks and ravines; culvert failure).

Finally, at this time, Enbridge has not finalized its route. The company has asked for two extensions from the Public Service Commission in order to negotiate with additional landowners to secure the construction route. The public hearing held on July 1 and this public comment period are premature. We do not even know which wetlands, waterways, ravines, and stretches of forest and grassland might be impacted. How can we comment, except in the broadest of senses?

Enbridge will have to reapply for permits once the route is determined. The public must have another opportunity to comment once we know the exact construction route Enbridge proposes.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed expansion of Enbridge Line 5. Because the proposed route runs through my watershed and adjacent to my land I have already been affected by the soil boring activity and survey crews. Should construction of the pipeline proceed I expect profound direct effects on the streams running through my land. Pipeline construction would impact the ambient noise level, my property value, and my peace of mind.

Joan Elias
11140W Edwards Rd.
Saxon, WI 54559

From: Mary Wichita
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Public comment re wetland permits for Enbridge
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 6:59:23 AM

Dear DNR staff,

I am adding my voice to the literally hundreds of articulate voices who have given ample evidence as to why DNR should not be granting Enbridge wetland permits.

In my opinion, because of all the well-documented reasons stated in the DNR public hearing, July 1, the pipeline should be shut down.

But just in case you need one more reminder of why, let me quote from the Wisconsin Examiner, July 1, 2020:

“The Kakagon Sloughs are an additional precious, internationally renowned resource threatened by the pipeline. The Sloughs have been named one of Wisconsin’s 100 Wetland Gems and as a RAMSAR Site (a designation of a Wetland of International Importance). [The RAMSAR website](#) explains that “... as the only remaining extensive coastal wild rice bed in the Great Lakes region, it is critical to ensuring the genetic diversity of Lake Superior wild rice.” If the new segment of the pipeline were to rupture, the oil could flow into the sloughs, damaging them forever. Even if the spill could be cleaned up, wild rice is such a sensitive plant, it might never return.

Enbridge also carelessly proposed the pipeline run upstream of another Wisconsin gem, Copper Falls State Park. The pipeline would cross the Bad River and the Tyler Forks River just upstream of the iconic Brownstone Falls. The powerful waterfalls would act as a chute during a spill, carrying the toxic oil downstream faster than any humans could muster a response. Copper Falls is one of Wisconsin’s most beautiful parks and attracts visitors from across the state and beyond. Given the importance of tourism to the area, a spill could cause permanent damage to the economy of Northern Wisconsin.

Finally, it is 2020. That means we have 10 years to stop the worst effects of climate change, according to the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The Line 5 pipeline carries dirty tar sands oil that has been refined into ‘light’ crude oil. Tar sands oil is the dirtiest form of oil and is so carbon-intensive that former NASA scientist James Hansen stated that if we burned all the tar sands

oil, it would be “game over for the climate.” Last year Gov. Tony Evers called for bold climate action as he committed the state to 100% carbon-free electricity and created the Task Force on Climate Change, with a directive to create the plan to “meaningfully address the effects of climate change and create a clean energy economy in Wisconsin.” The last thing Wisconsin needs is to be investing in new fossil fuel infrastructure that would continue enabling the mining, transport, and burning of the dirtiest fuel on the planet.

The DNR has an opportunity to protect Wisconsin from these disasters and not allow Enbridge to build this new pipeline segment. It is simply too risky. With the new knowledge that [new pipelines spill](#) even more frequently than older pipelines, a new pipeline segment will offer no added protection from a spill. If Enbridge had their way, they would continue operating Line 5 forever, throwing money into court battles that allow the pipeline to continue operating until a catastrophe happens. The Evers Administration needs to shut down Line 5 for good.”

Please heed the will of the people & especially of the residents of the Bad River Reservation, and deny Enbridge the wetland permits it is requesting.

Thank you,

Mary Wichita
52380 Beaver Tail Rd
Mason, WI 54856
715-765-4132

From: Karen Cliffe
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Public comment, Line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:57:53 PM

Decommissioning line 5 is the responsible thing to do. Do not compound the problem with construction of the proposed section which has the potential to destroy so many valuable resources.

We need to start thinking not of immediate benefits to a few people and corporations, but to the long term health of the whole ecosystem. Even with a good track record as regards safety (which Enbridge does Not have) one can expect problems to occur. These pipes and the oil they hold have the potential to stay where they are built long after anyone is paying attention to them. We cannot base a decision regarding building a pipe line on jobs that may be generated within the next 25 years. We must base the decision on what could happen between the time of its construction and the next 100 to 200 years. And the probability of a leak or a catastrophic spill is far too likely to risk.

We must think about the long term health of this region for the sake of the generations that follow us. I guarantee that the need for oil will decrease and the need for clean water and a healthy watershed will be shown to be more important than any short term gains to be realized by corporate oil.

A new paradigm is emerging that does not rely on oil. Decommission Line 5 and do now allow construction of the proposed Line 5 route. It threatens the health and prosperity of tribal members, the region's wetlands and wildlife, and Lake Superior's coastline.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen F. Cliffe
801 Sweetbriar Ct
Waukesha WI 53186

Sent from my iPhone

From: kyle bladow
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Enbridge Line 5 Water Resources Permit
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 12:31:14 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kyle Bladow and I'm a professor at Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. Thanks you for providing this opportunity for public comment. I strongly urge that the DNR *deny* Enbridge's water resources permit application, given both the proposed project's grave threats to wetlands and waterways as well as its infringements on the retained treaty rights of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

The application should be denied because it is not complete. Without knowing the precise location for the proposed reroute, reliable assessment of impacts on wetlands and waterways cannot be determined. Furthermore, the application should be considered incomplete for failing to adequately account for the impacts associated with the *operation* of the rerouted pipeline, crucial considerations for assessing the long-term impacts of the project on wetlands and waterways.

The pipeline proposes grave risks to the water resources in question, both in the form of accidental leaks—and Enbridge has a disturbing track record demonstrating that leaks are not anomalies—and in terms of climate change. The continued production and consumption of fossil fuels accelerates climate change and its detrimental effects on the wetlands and waterways in our region via increased precipitation and flood events. I've witnessed several 100-year-flood events in my four years of living in Ashland. Such events present hazards to wetlands, and they intensify risks for spills.

The present permit application results from the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's demands that Line 5 be removed from their reservation, in the interest of protecting their land and their rights to hunt, fish, and gather in ceded territory. The proposed reroute fails to honestly address the tribe's concerns, as the pipeline would still remain in the Bad River watershed and thus pose the same threats. These interconnected waterways run to Lake Superior through the Kakagon Slough, a wetland of international importance and one integral to a number of nonhuman species like wild rice, to the physical and cultural wellbeing of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and to other Anishinaabe peoples of the region.

I write as someone who has lived most his life near various points of the Line 5 pipeline. I grew up in Marysville, Michigan, across from Sarnia, Ontario, the terminus of Line 5 at an immense petrochemical refinery industrial corridor known colloquially as Chemical Valley. It's also the home of the Aamjiwnaang First Nation, whose people have suffered from negative health disparities tied to this industry. I've also lived in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and have witnessed the strong opposition to the section of Line 5 running directly under the Straits of

Mackinac, further threatening the Great Lakes. The pipeline threatens resources in these places, and the proposed reroute similarly threatens the environment of Northern Wisconsin. This project is not right for our land and water and for the many beings who depend on it.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit public comment. Please deny Enbridge's permit application for rerouting Line 5.

Sincerely,

Kyle Bladow

523 Chapple Ave. Apt. 3

Ashland, WI 54806

From: jenny.pav@charter.net
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Public Input on Proposed Line 5 Relocation Project
Date: Sunday, July 05, 2020 5:20:33 PM

I'm writing regarding the Enbridge proposal to reroute 40 miles of pipeline around the Bad River Reservation – to shut down and remove the pipeline from the tribe's land. This pipeline carries about 23 million gallons of oil and natural gas per day from Superior, Wisconsin to Sarnia, Ontario.

Recently part of this pipeline was shut down due to damage to an anchor support on a leg of pipeline running across the lake bed in the Straits of Mackinaw. A million gallons of oil have already been spilled on Line 5 since the 1960s.

The Bad River Reservation on Lake Superior – "where food (wild rice) grows on water" – is very vulnerable to any contamination of the local water source. This community is specific to the location and cannot just pick up and move to a different place. The Kakagon/ Bad River Sloughs are pristine water resources, internationally recognized wetlands that should be protected for the well-being of the community. So I agree that the pipeline should be removed from the Bad River Reservation and that permits should be denied for a pipeline across these very vulnerable wetlands.

The surrounding area is vulnerable to pollution from the pipeline too, and should also be protected. In the past few years, severe storms and flooding from climate change have caused millions of dollars in damage across northern Wisconsin. This should be examined in an environmental impact assessment. The fragile wetlands and change in climate are not conducive to a pipeline being operated safely in northern Wisconsin. The Pipeline has already experienced erosion/exposure due to the extreme weather, and Enbridge has not demonstrated that it can mitigate all of the potential risks. The risks of a spill contaminating the water supply are too great. Thus I also oppose rerouting the pipeline - I oppose continuing to operate this pipeline in northern Wisconsin at all.

Enbridge was responsible for one of the largest inland oil spills in history in July 2010, when a 6-foot break in an Enbridge pipeline allowed 1.2 million gallons of oil to flow into Talmadge Creek and the Kalamazoo River. Any environmental impact assessment should examine this incident as well as the potential for a similar irreversible disaster to occur on Line 5.

Please suggest that Enbridge find other ways to transport oil than via the Line 5 pipeline across northern Wisconsin. Thank you for considering public input.

Best regards,

Jennifer Pavlovic, Ph.D., P.E.

From: gsyverud@centurytel.net
To: [Neil Howk Susan Larsen](#)
Cc: [DNR OEEA comments](#); [Karin Kozie](#); [Phil Freeman and Wendy Stein](#)
Subject: Re: Comments regarding Enbridge Energy's proposed route for the Line 5 crude oil pipeline
Date: Friday, July 03, 2020 4:31:59 PM

Thanks Neil.

This is a great letter and I think you addressed many concerns of the Line 5 reroute.

Would it be ok to send it to Joan Elias, Jan Penn and Bobbi Rongstad?

I think it will boost their spirits.

Gail Syverud

----- Original Message -----

From: Neil Howk Susan Larsen
To: DNROEEACOMMENTS@wi.gov
Cc: Gail Syverud , Karin Kozie , Phil Freeman and Wendy Stein
Sent: Fri, 03 Jul 2020 16:34:47 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: Comments regarding Enbridge Energy's proposed route for the Line 5 crude oil pipeline

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of more than 100 Audubon members in Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron counties to express our opposition to the proposed route for Enbridge Energy's Line 5 oil pipeline. Our Audubon chapter's mission is to “conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth’s biological diversity.” We feel that this pipeline poses a multitude of threats to area wildlife and their habitats.

A 2019 study by Audubon titled “Survival by Degrees, 389 Bird Species on the Brink” found that two-thirds of studied North American birds are at increasing risk of extinction from global temperature rise. The burning of fossil fuels is a primary cause of the climate change we are presently experiencing. The oil that Enbridge will transport in this pipeline is particularly dirty, generating significantly more greenhouse gases than conventional crude oil. With climate chaos devastating our state, country and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure, and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.

The proposed pipeline passes through or close to several of Wisconsin's Important Bird Areas including Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Lower Chequamegon Bay, St. Peter's Dome, and the Kakagon-Bad River Wetlands.

Potential oil spills would threaten water quality and habitat in all these areas, but particularly the Kakagon-Bad River Wetlands. The marshes, conifer swamps and shrub wetlands of the wetland complex support such diverse breeding species as yellow rail, Virginia rail, northern harrier, sedge wren, Le Conte's sparrow, northern waterthrush, Blackburnian warbler, and golden-winged warbler. The forested river corridors are particularly important for breeding neotropical migrants such as ovenbird, Canada warbler, Nashville warbler, black-throated green warbler, and mourning warbler. Long Island supports one of the state's only successful breeding areas for the endangered piping plover. The area is an outstanding migratory concentration area in both fall and spring, hosting tens of thousands of passerines, raptors, shorebirds, and waterbirds. Furthermore, any leak or rupture in the pipeline would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for northern Wisconsin.

The proposed route includes dozens of river and stream crossings. The act of constructing this pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams.

When preparing your Environmental Impact Statement you should consider investigating impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior. How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region? How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.

We encourage you to deny Enbridge's application for wetland and waterways permits. There is NO reason for the Line 5 oil pipeline to be located here. Wisconsin residents receive no benefit from Line 5. Enbridge is a Canadian company moving oil back into Canada. Wisconsin takes the risk and Enbridge reaps the benefits.

Sincerely

NeilHowk

President,
Chequamegon Audubon

From: Zack Demos
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Re: DNR, Cancel Enbridge Pipeline Construction Plans
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:48:14 AM

To Whom it may concern,

In response to an upcoming hearing on the construction of an oil pipeline through northern Wisconsin, I'd like to formally submit that the pipeline's construction should not be completed. The environmental impacts of the pipeline will be too severe, as the trenching of the pipeline in and around waterways risks contaminating the water. As we've seen countless times, oil pipeline spills are all too common and can adversely affect not only the environment, but the health and safety of surrounding people and ecosystems. This would end up costing the state of Wisconsin even more money to fix and maintain the pipeline than it would be worth to build. Oil spills can take a very long time (if ever) to clean. The risks here are too great.

For that matter, oil production is becoming increasingly less safe, cost effective, and useful on a global scale. The emissions from the production of fossil fuels is accelerating climate change as we've seen with the arctic circle reaching 100 degrees fahrenheit recently (coinciding with another oil spill that left the water red as pipeline infrastructure in Siberia deteriorated with ice and permafrost melting). This further accelerates climate change by releasing methane into the air. The state of Wisconsin has a great opportunity to be a leader in transitioning away from fossil fuels and protecting the hundreds of acres of wetlands and wooded areas that the United States so desperately needs to preserve.

I hope these comments are heeded and submitted into the record during the hearing on July 1st 2020. I hope that the completion of this pipeline is canceled and the wetlands of northern Wisconsin preserved. Thank you for your time.

Zack Demos

E. Zack Demos
Owner/Manager
Mute City Music, LLC
720 281 1852
www.mutecitymusic.com



From: Phyllis Hasbrouck
To: [Susan Millar](#)
Cc: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Re: Do NOT grant Enbridge permits to create a new section of Line 5 in WI
Date: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:07:57 PM

Awesome, Susan, you're the best!

The phone banking is distributed among 6 people, mostly college students, so don't be surprised if you get a call asking you to do what you've already done!

Say, would you like to come over some time for a distant visit in my garden? (Once it stops raining?) We have 2 gates into the back yard, and I could sanitize the "guests' gate" handles before and after each visit. there is plenty of space to stay apart in, and I could scrub off one of the plastic chairs before you came.

And we we Mosquito Joe to spray their rosemary and garlic mist every 2 weeks, so almost no mosquitos!

Phyllis

On Sat, Jun 20, 2020 at 9:02 PM Susan Millar <sbmillar@gmail.com> wrote:

To the Wisconsin DNR,

I implore you, as watchdogs for the environment here in Wisconsin, to deny the Enbridge company's request for permission to build a new section of its Line 5 pipeline.

There are two main reasons for my request:

1. During this time of climate crisis, our state leaders, and especially the leaders of the DNR, must act to prevent the development of all new fossil fuel infrastructure, and instead focus all available resources on developing renewable energy infrastructure and on conserving the irreplaceable natural resources that we still have.
2. This Canadian company, Enbridge, seeks to do exactly what we cannot allow - develop fossil fuel infrastructure that not only will further fuel the climate crisis, but will do so at great risk to a fragile, water-rich area of Wisconsin that drains into Lake Superior. Enbridge pipelines, which on average leak or rupture every 20 days, would almost inevitably contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs (where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice), and Lake Superior, a major source of drinking water and a major source for the tourism economy in Northern WI.

In short, there is NO justification for approving Enbridge's request. To do so would only bring harm to the humans and other organisms living in Wisconsin and harm irreplaceable natural resources within Wisconsin. To do so would bring no advantage to the people or other organisms living in Wisconsin - other than, perhaps,

a few elected officials whom Enbridge might attempt to bribe.

I implore the DNR to produce a very comprehensive and future-aware EIS prior to making a decision on Enbridge's request to reroute its Line 5 pipeline. This EIS must comprehensively assess the likelihood of current and future harm to all the waterways (including Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior), and all the aquatic species therein, within the area that Enbridge proposes to invade with its pipelines. This EIS must investigate how Enbridge's proposed pipeline would cause harm both during the building process (e.g., blasting through granite) and if it carried harmful fossil fuel from Canada, harm such as contamination of wells, wetlands and streams, increase in erosion, harm to aquatic species, increase in flooding, potential of invasive species, and so forth.

Thank you for acting as stewards of our precious land, of the Native Bad River Band people who already have suffered greatly over the last three centuries, and of all the people and other organisms living in our state now and into the future.

With my respect,
Susan Millar, Senior Scientist Emeritus, UW-Madison
2233 Rowley Ave., Madison, WI 53726

--

I was born when CO2 PPM was 310.5.
When my youngest grandchild was born, PPM was 393.1.
At current rates, when he is 20, PPM will be 423.

See the attached data file from NASA:
<https://data.giss.nasa.gov/modelforce/ghgases/fig1A.ext.txt>

--

Phyllis Hasbrouck

H - 608-223-9571
C - 608-628-2605

From: Betsy Rogers
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Re: Enbridge Line 5
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 11:06:26 AM

To: The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

From: Elisabeth Rogers, 11427 Beach Road, Sister Bay, WI 54234

Re: Proposed 41-mile expansion of Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline

Date: June 23, 2020

I write to urge the Department of Natural Resources to reject any expansion of Enbridge pipelines. Enbridge has proved itself to be an irresponsible and unreliable corporate actor. Line 5 alone has spilled more than 1 million gallons of oil and gas over its history, including newly discovered breaches in the Mackinac Straits, causing untold harm to the environment and people living nearby. On average, Enbridge pipelines release hazardous liquids **every 20 days**. And research shows that new pipelines fail even more often than old ones.

Specifically, I oppose this expansion because:

- This 67-year-old Line 5 poses an imminent danger to Lake Superior and all the Great Lakes. It needs to be **shut down permanently**. Most emphatically, it should NOT be re-created one section at a time.
- The proposed new line lies within the Bad River watershed, so that any rupture would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the only land left to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern Wisconsin. Their hunting and gathering grounds and their wild rice beds are now, and will continue to be, in grave peril of a Line 5 rupture. The resulting contamination would make their way of life impossible.
- The proposed new section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, rapidly reaching the park, the reservation, and Lake Superior. The line would wrap around three sides of this much-loved park, and a spill could destroy the rivers and permanently mar the beautiful falls for which it is named.
- Any spill or release could travel swiftly to area streams, rivers and ultimately to Lake Superior, causing irreparable damage, including to the globally recognized Kakagon Sloughs, on the RAMSAR list of “Wetlands of International Importance.”
- Land values decrease in areas where oil pipelines are located. A reduced tax base means counties and municipalities are less able to budget for basic mandated services, including public education, health and safety services, road infrastructure, and more.
- Every year the world suffers increased harm from climate chaos: floods, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, new diseases and pandemics. Fossil fuels are among the chief culprits in this climate crisis. We must wean ourselves off of fossil fuels and turn to renewables for energy. Every level of government, including the Wisconsin DNR, must think in new ways if we are to avert the worst effects of climate change. The DNR must broaden its focus, put a stop to new fossil fuel infrastructure projects, and start decommissioning existing ones.
- Governor Evers declared 2019 the year of clean drinking water, and the DNR compiled a report focusing on accomplishments and plans for achieving and maintaining clean drinking

water throughout the state. Decommissioning and removing all the Line 5 pipeline sections that threaten our state's resources would contribute to that worthy goal.

Thank you.

From: Kat Dunar
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: RE: public hearing on the proposed reroute of Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline in Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron Counties
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 6:50:24 PM

I am writing this statement to ask that the permits for this pipeline reroute development be denied. I attempted to make this statement in person during the hearing, but was unable to get into the zoom chat, so I appreciate having this alternate means to make my concerns heard.

I currently live in the southern part of Wisconsin, but my family roots are in copper mining very near the proposed site. I had family in all three affected counties and visited this area every summer in my childhood.

Because of this, I know this area very well and dearly love this part of Wisconsin. Also because of this family history, I know that prioritizing short term jobs above the natural resources of our state is a grave mistake for the local communities, the environment, and Wisconsin as a whole. Especially considering the guaranteed pollution that will come with this development. Enbridge has already spilled over one million gallons with its current Line 5. Why would we allow them to continue polluting our state when they have such a bad track record already? We should decommission the current line and deny any future development.

The communities close to this proposed pipeline have worked hard to create long-term economic opportunities in this area and many of these depend on natural resources and the natural local areas, in particular the waters of this area. Allowing this pipeline will effectively kill many of these small businesses and tourism in this area in favor of short term jobs that will disappear, leaving pollution and floundering communities behind.

This development comes with a great risk to local communities and no lasting benefit to either these communities or Wisconsin itself. Again, I ask that you deny these permits. Thank you for taking my concerns seriously.

Kat Dunar
5111 Glen Rd
McFarland, WI 53558

From: staubersoik@charter.net
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Re:
Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 11:26:53 AM

The Wisconsin taxpayer should not be supporting the continued use of petroleum products. Global heating as a result of burning fossil fuels is happening. My parents have lived on Waubee Lake in northern Oconto County for more than 30 years. I have lived on or near the shores of Lake Michigan much of my life. The lake levels have never been higher.

More common and frequent severe weather droughts, floods and storms are a symptom of global heating.

Please divest from fossil fuels and invest in a green Wisconsin future.

Thank you
Chad Stauber Soik
Sheboygan Wisconsin.

From: Gene Yang, MD, MBA
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Regarding Copper Falls and Bad River
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 4:11:06 PM

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

I am a concerned Wisconsinite and I am asking you to deny Enbridge's waterway and wetland permit request for Line 5. The company has an egregious history of oil spills that has resulted in considerable damage to rivers and watersheds. The pipeline's current route takes it through lands belonging to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and in several places the pipeline has been unmaintained and is dangerously exposed and unsupported.

The proposed reroute of Line 5 that would take it south of the Bad River reservation would still threaten the Bad River Band's watershed, including Copper Falls State Park and Lake Superior. The negligence and poor maintenance of the pipeline currently in the reservation does not give me confidence that Enbridge has any interest in preserving the beauty of the state park, which we love. The state and CCC back in the past invested a lot of effort to make it accessible, which would end up being a waste if oil were to leak everywhere.

We're nearing the end of needing so much fossil fuel given the changes in laws (Europe, California) that will disrupt the auto and energy industries, so that the risk of building the pipeline won't have as much downstream benefits.

As a healthcare professional, I see the sequelae of children who drink from poisoned groundwater sources, which this would only contribute to.

At DNR's July 1 public hearing on this matter, over 90% of the comments from the public were in opposition to the pipeline. I hope DNR chooses to listen.

Sincerely,

Gene Yang, MD, MBA
Madison, WI

From: Yaoli Pu
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Regarding Copper Falls State Park
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:56:37 PM

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

I am not in support for Enbridge's permit request for Line 5. I am concerned about the company's history of oil spills and role in damaging rivers and watersheds. The proposed reroute would still threaten the Bad River watershed, impacting Copper Falls State Park and Lake Superior. I am concerned regarding their prior history of negligence, poor maintenance of the current route and the company's treatment of the Bad River Band demonstrates a lack of respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Furthermore, I think fossil fuel is not a sustainable future option. We should work on preserving natural resources and land for future generations to come. The decisions we make today will have consequential and irreversible impact for the future. Copper Falls State Park is rich in history and hold important value to Wisconsinites. I, along with the majority of expressed public opinion in this matter, do not support the request for this pipeline.

Sincerely,
Yaoli Yang, MD
Madison, WI

From: Julius Salinas
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: reject Enbridge Line 5
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 6:14:47 PM

Do not grant permits for Enbridge a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin.

Extreme weather events are right now devastating our state, country and world. Stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure, prioritize efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.

The proposed Enbridge route goes through a fragile, water-rich area that flows into Lake Superior. A leak would contaminate the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, a world class tourist destination.

Construction would include blasting granite, creating irreversible damage to wetlands and trout streams.

The Environmental Impact Statement investigation should include:

1. impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
2. potential harm of explosives to dismember granite, fault lines that can open or shut down because of it, plus the potential for well contamination.
3. Construction impacts on wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact on aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region.
4. Impact on wildlife habitat
5. A review of Enbridge's [terrible safety record](#), which averages a spill every 20 days.

No decisions on permitting from the DNR should be made prior to completing and evaluating the results of an Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Thank you for your time.

Julius Salinas

From: Barbara Hann
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Reject Line 5 DNR application
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 5:56:51 PM

I urge you to reject the Embridge Line 5 application. This project is NOT in the best interest of the residents of Bayfield, Ashland, and Iron counties in Wisconsin. We are very worried about what will become of our water supply if there is a break and spill of oil in and around our waters.

They plan on putting in 185 temporary bridges, this will scar the earth, rivers and streams permanently.

Embridge is using us for their gain. We do not support this project. This Line 5 will ruin the economy and tourism in the area. We are lucky to have such beautiful natural resources and cannot take the risk of losing it all, and in the end, for nothing.

Please deny this application for the Line 5 project.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hann
39515 Section Five Road
Highbridge, WI 54846

Sent from my iPad

From: Jasmine Gonzalez (jasmineg1292@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Reject the Enbridge Line 5 permits!
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 6:52:12 PM

Dear Line 5 Comments,

I am writing to urge you to not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin, for all of the following reasons.

- 1.) With climate chaos devastating our state, country, and world, it is time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation.
- 2.) The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.
- 3.) The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Gonzalez
2728A S Delaware Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207
jasmineg1292@gmail.com
(414) 502-7493

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.

From: Patricia Peltekos
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Reject the Enbridge permits
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 3:47:33 PM

To the DNR:

I am opposed to permitting Enbridge to relocate Line 5 in northern Wisconsin. This is the wrong project, at the wrong time.

The existing Line 5 is already an environmental nightmare and should be shut down before it causes irrevocable harm. Replacing sections of the pipeline along a different route will create new, longer-lasting land- and water-quality issues for northern Wisconsin. Moving the pipeline off of tribal lands will not remove the potential disasters from pipeline breaks. At a time when we must reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, it makes no sense to endanger Wisconsin's waters with a pipeline that is not even carrying oil for use in the U.S., especially when world oil supplies exceed demand. We must protect Wisconsin's waters and the Great Lakes from further environmental damage.

Plus, Wisconsin has lost acres of wetlands to fossil-fuel related projects, and we cannot afford to lose more wetlands to the fracking industry. Our state's quality of life—the quality of our water, air, and land—must come before the “needs” of an oil company.

Sincerely,

Patricia Peltekos

From: Philomena Kebec
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Requesting the DNR to Reconsider its Decision to Issue Wetlands and Waterways Permits to Enbridge; Develop a Comprehensive EIS
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 4:46:54 PM

I am submitting comments [Enbridge Energy's application](#) for a waterway and wetland permit for the proposed reroute of the Line 5 pipeline in Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron counties, requesting that the DNR reconsider its decision to permit Enbridge's activities, and instead deny those permits; furthermore, a comprehensive EIS should be conducted to fully evaluate the very real risks of harm to communities and the environment in Ashland, Bayfield and Iron Counties.

I am currently serving as a Supervisor on the Ashland County Board. I am a mother of two school-aged children. I am an Anishinaabekwe and my relatives have lived in the Chequamegon Bay area for more than 350 years. We have no other homeland. On July 7, 2020, the Ashland County Board adopted a resolution opposing the issuance of a wetland and waterways permit. Simply put, the risks to our community are too great and the benefits, if any, are too few. We also do not understand how the DNR has come to the decision to approve these permits when the route is not complete. How could you have performed a complete analysis? The company's application is woefully inadequate and contains no information related to oil spills and their effect on human, animal and plant communities. There's no information about how the inevitable oil spills will be cleaned up, or contained, in some of the most wild river country in the United States.

My kids and I swim in Lake Superior all the time in the summer. Everyday, we drink from our tap, which is sourced from Lake Superior. The people in my district rely on the value of their homes and the fact that local property taxes won't outsize their budgets. These basic assumptions are all at risk with this project. Enbridge is a foreign company that has behaved incredibly irresponsibly in its operations, with American communities paying the price. The very real risks to communities must be seriously considered in both decisions on the wetland and waterways permits and within the EIS.

Very truly yours:
Philomena Kebec

From: Roger Packard
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Retire Line 5
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 6:37:36 PM

Reject the proposal to reroute Enbridge Energy's Line 5 crude oil pipeline. We must stop investing in fossil fuel infrastructure immediately if there is any hope of averting climate catastrophe. The proposed route will still threatens the Bad River reservation, Kakagon Sloughs, Brownstone Falls and the Copper Falls State Park, and countless other waterways. Line 5 still threatens the Great Lakes at Mackinac. Line 5 has already spilled more than 1,000,000 gallons of heavy crude and WILL spill more if it is not shut down. The Enbridge proposal is S-T-U-P-I-D. Shut it down!

Sincerely,
Roger Packard
N7550 North Shore Rd
Lake Mills, WI 53706

From: Joan Custer
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Save our Planet - Oil Pipeline Expansion Threatens Our Waters
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 11:37:59 AM

Save our Planet for our Children

Every year the world suffers increased harm from climate chaos: floods, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, new diseases, extreme weather events, etc. Every level of government must think in new ways of how to protect us. The DNR needs to broaden its focus and stop approving new fossil fuel infrastructure projects, and start decommissioning existing ones.

Enbridge's 67-year-old Line 5 poses an imminent danger to Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and all the Great Lakes.

The Bad River Reservation is the only land left to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern WI. Their hunting and gathering grounds, and their wild rice beds are now, and will continue to be, in grave peril of a rupture in Line 5. The resulting contamination would make their way of life impossible.

The proposed new section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, reaching the park, the reservation, and Lake Superior very quickly.

There is NO reason for the Line 5 oil pipeline to be located here. Wisconsin residents receive no benefit from Line 5. Enbridge is a Canadian company moving oil back into Canada. Wisconsin takes the risk and Enbridge reaps the benefits.

Stop this now!

Joan

From: JULIE BENTZ FITZPATRICK
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Say NO to Enbridge Line 5
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 4:47:55 PM

Wisconsinites need our clean water. The pipeline does not give Wisconsinites anything in return for putting our clean water and land at risk. Leave the carbon in the ground. Support solar.

Julie Fitzpatrick
jbfitzpa@wisc.edu
608-279-1856

From: Hayley Tymeson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Say no to Enbridge Line 5
Date: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:01:34 PM

I am writing to urge the DNR to deny permits to construct a new segment of Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline. The time has come to start decommissioning existing fossil fuel projects, **not** expanding them, so we can continue our transition to cleaner energy systems across the United States.

I oppose this pipeline expansion for the defense of legal, environmental, and public health rights of citizens of the United States.

1. From a legal standpoint, Enbridge is illegally occupying land and pumping dangerous and harmful substances through that land. They have been doing this for seven years, as easements expired on some portions of land the pipeline passes through in 2013. I will quote some excerpts the Bad River Reservation's July 2019 Federal Court Suit (http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Pipeline_Govt_Complaint.pdf) :

"1. Defendants Enbridge Inc., Enbridge Energy Partners, L.P., Enbridge Energy Company, Inc., and Enbridge Energy, L.P. (collectively, "Enbridge") operate a pipeline transporting up to twenty-three million gallons of crude oil and natural gas liquids per day across the Reservation. Since 2013, they have done so despite 1) the expiration of easements along the right-of-way and an express legal obligation to remove the pipeline from those parcels; (2) the Band's insistence that the flow of oil cease; and (3) the fact that the pipeline's placement near the migrating channel of the Bad River has given rise to circumstances that have been demonstrated to lead to environmental catastrophe."

...

8. Enbridge no longer has the legal right to operate Line 5 across the full reach of the Reservation corridor. Line 5 was installed on the Reservation in 1953 pursuant to easements issued by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the tribal and individual lands that lie

along its path. These easements were renewed in the 1970s and again in 1993.

9. Fifteen of the easements expired on June 2, 2013, as their renewal was expressly "limited as to tenure for a period not to exceed 20 (Twenty) years ... ending on June 2, 2013[.]" In those same easements, Enbridge expressly promised that the company would "remove all materials, equipment and associated installations within six months of termination, and ... restore the land to its prior condition." Rather than doing so, or seeking the Band's consent to a renewal of the easements prior to their expiration, Enbridge has continued to operate the pipeline as if it has an indefinite entitlement to do so. This constitutes an unlawful possession of the subject lands, and an intentional, ongoing trespass upon them.

Enbridge tries not to address this occupation directly, instead pointing out that they still have contractual agreements on much of the Bad River Reservation territory until the 2040s. But Enbridge itself knowingly made contracts of differing lengths, likely for different payments. Property rights are not something that the United States government can enforce when it is convenient, and ignore when it is not. Given this flagrant disregard for their own contractual obligations, the DNR should not grant permits to Enbridge and validate their seven years of illegal land occupation.

2. From an environmental standpoint, I oppose this pipeline for the following reasons:

- Enbridge has a history of spills in the Northern Midwest. In 2010, an Enbridge pipeline spilled an estimated 840,000 gallons of oil into the Kalamazoo river. When alarm bells went off alerting Enbridge employees to a loss of pressure at the leak site, they misinterpreted the information and believed there was a bubble somewhere within the section of pipeline. To try to deal with the bubble, they restarted the flow of oil *multiple times, and were actually actively pumping harmful substances into the environment.* Enbridge didn't learn of the actual leak for over 16 hours, after a local utilities company employee in Michigan saw oil in the area. Enbridge's methods to determine and prevent spill events were not effective, and the issue was only revealed by visual identification by a non-employee. (loe.org/shows/segments.html?programID=12-P13-00027&segmentID=1)
-

For a further history of the 307 hazardous liquid events reported by Enbridge since 2002, see Greenpeace documentation:

<https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/reports/dangerous-pipelines/>.

- The Bad River is currently, through natural erosion processes, moving closer to a section of the pipeline that is not designed for immersion in river water. The Tribal leadership in the Bad River Reservation has been calling attention to the changing flow of the Bad River near sections of the Enbridge Pipeline, and Enbridge has neglected to take the necessary actions to safeguard that section of the pipeline. Tribal members, who have carefully tracked the movement of the river over *decades*, estimate that the river will inundate that section of pipeline within 2-5 years. (http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Pipeline_Govt_Complaint.pdf)
- The route that Enbridge has proposed goes through a fragile, water-rich area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.
- The act of construction of such a pipeline, including blasting through granite, would cause irreparable damage to wetlands and trout streams, and crack building foundations.

3. From a public health standpoint, and as a I oppose the pipeline for the following reasons:

- Enbridge has a history of safety issues within the Bad River Reservation (http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/202002_NRD_EnbridgeLine5_Brochure.pdf), including:
 - In October 2018, a helicopter crash in Bad River Territory that damaged the local ecosystem and resulted in the death of the pilot. Enbridge gave no notice

of this flight, despite legal obligations to do so.

- In July 2019, another helicopter accident occurred when over 7000 pounds of materials fell from an Enbridge helicopter. Accidents like this endanger anyone in the area. Enbridge has not removed the fallen materials or done any work to restore the environmental damaged caused by the fallen materials.
- In September 2019, organic volatile compounds were found in soil and air samples at the location of an Enbridge dig after tribal members sensed an unusual odor in the area.
- Spills have occurred many times in the Northern Midwest over the last 50 years. The harm to human populations from contaminated drinking water, loss of safe recreational spaces, and loss of habitable land.
- The danger of a leak in the Bad River Reservation is increasing year-by-year due to the changing river patterns in relation to the location of the pipeline, putting the health of reservation residents at heightened risk. (http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Pipeline_Govt_Complaint.pdf)

From all of these perspectives, I urge the Department of Natural Resources to stand against the pipeline reroute. In the event the DNR does approve the pipeline, I sincerely hope that the following environmental impacts will be investigated and addressed within any plans:

- You should include looking into at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior.
- Also investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite, and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill.
- How would construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion,

gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region?

- How would wildlife habitat be impacted? Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks, and bring in invasive species.
- Enbridge's [terrible safety record](#), one spill every 20 days, on the average.

At a minimum, The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Best,

Hayley Tymeson

Madison, WI

From: KA SAMELSON
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: shut down Line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:41:58 PM

To the DNR:

Please reject the rerouting plan for Enbridge Line 5 and shut it down.

The Bad River Band already made it clear they didn't want the pipeline on their tribal land, and yet the new proposal still goes through their watershed. If a rupture occurred, it would send oil into the reservation and the vital wild rice beds. And how could the DNR allow a pipeline upstream of Copper Falls State Park, one of our great parks, where I have camped twice? If oil got into the falls, that would ruin a great resource and add to the woes of North Woods tourism.

Sadly, we've seen too many pipeline ruptures. Some residents in Wisconsin still can't drink their water as a result. We cannot trust Enbridge and its pipeline proposal to be 100% safe.

Please think about the irreparable harm that could be done to our precious natural resources and reject this proposal.

Sincerely,

Karen Samelson
2925 S California St
Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-481-1596

From: Alexander Waters
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Shut down line 5
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:04:30 PM

To whom it may concern,

I live on 18 acres of land that line five cuts through. It has always been of concern to me, so I have informed myself on it and the risks it poses to me, my family, the wildlife, land, and water.

The pipeline has spilled over 1.1 million gallons in nearly 30 incidents that are documented. As the infrastructure continues to age and Enbridge chooses to try to get as much money as they can from this infrastructure before the petroleum industry collapses, we are increasingly likely to experience spills.

The best thing we can do is to close down and remove this pipeline before it spills again.

The only ones who gain from its continuation is Enbridge, but everyone else could gain from the pipeline's removal.

Thank you,

Alexander Waters

From: Joe Pueschner
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Speaking up for our future
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 6:11:56 AM

Good morning,

I, Joseph Pueschner, am a Wisconsin resident. I've lived in western Wisconsin, along the St. Croix River. I have been a Wisconsinite my whole 22 years on Earth. I am a hunter, a fisherman, and an enjoyer of the outdoors. I am also a 22 year old University of Wisconsin graduate, who feels that it is part of my responsibility to firmly voice that I DO NOT WANT THE PROPOSED ENBRIDGE REROUTE PLAN.

I am not in support of this pipeline, as I feel it is destructive, as well as corrosive to our environment. Too many times have corporations and outside interests made choices that are short-sighted when it comes to our planet. It has left my generation, and successive generations, with the task of making drastic changes against the will of older generations who either didn't have enough foresight - or more likely, didn't care. This is proving to be a difficult task, but I will say it again - NO PIPELINE.

Have a blessed day - and good health to all.

Best,

Joe Pueschner

From: Bella Engleson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Stop Enbridge inc.
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 2:33:16 PM

My name is Bella, I live in milwaukee WI. I am emailing to ask that you stop Enbridge inc from building an oil pipeline through Wisconsin waterways and wetlands. We cannot drink oil. It is not environmentally friendly or necessary.

Thank You

From: Donna Ganson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: stop Enbridge Line 5
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:58:50 AM

There is NO reason for the Line 5 oil pipeline to be located here. Wisconsin residents receive no benefit from Line 5. Enbridge is a Canadian company moving product back to Canada. Wisconsin takes the risk and Enbridge reaps the benefits.

Enbridge's 67-year-old Line 5 poses an imminent danger to Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and all the Great Lakes. It needs to be decommissioned immediately, not recreated one section at a time. In its 67-year history, it has already spilled over one million gallons!

The proposed new section that Enbridge proposes is barely outside the Bad River Reservation, and still within the Bad River watershed, which means that any rupture would contaminate the reservation. A 2015 study by the Pipeline Safety Trust showed that new pipelines fail even more often than old pipelines. The Nov. 2018 Greenpeace report "Dangerous Pipelines" shows that an Enbridge pipeline releases hazardous liquids on the average every 20 days!

The Bad River Reservation is the only land left to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern WI. Their hunting and gathering grounds, and their wild rice beds are now, and will continue to be, in grave peril of a rupture in Line 5. The resulting contamination would make their way of life impossible.

The proposed new section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, reaching the park, the reservation, and Lake Superior very quickly.

Every year the world suffers increased harm from climate chaos: floods, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, new diseases, extreme weather events, etc. Every level of government must think in new ways of how to protect us. **The DNR needs to broaden its focus and stop approving new fossil fuel infrastructure projects, and start decommissioning existing ones.**

Enbridge's proposed Line 5 route is too risky; it threatens the health and prosperity of every living thing in our region.

Donna Ganson
Washburn, WI

From: Cyra K. Polizzi
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Stop Line 5
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 12:36:57 PM

Hello,

Line 5 should not be rerouted and should be shut down for good. Line 5 is bad for human health, wildlife, and local and regional business. The environmental impacts are unacceptable.

Sincerely,
Cyra K. Polizzi
UW-Madison

From: Helen Wilson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Stop sending
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:12:46 PM

From: Cynthia Finch
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Support for Enbridge Line 5 application
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 4:26:40 PM

Wisconsin DNR Representatives:

I support Enbridge and its plan to reroute the Line 5 pipeline in Wisconsin. Line 5 is a vital link to propane and other energy supplies in the Upper Midwest. It affords transportation fuel as well as fuels to heat homes, schools and businesses, and fuels industry in Wisconsin.

Safety is the company's #1 value and Enbridge has developed a plan to successfully protect people, communities and the environment. As a five-year employee of Enbridge, I've incorporated the company's values concerning the environment, safety and community at work and at my home. I've appreciated my role as a community investment advisor to liaison partnerships that help to build community, address social issues, support safety initiatives and protect and preserve the environment.

Enbridge has been a trusted partner in Wisconsin for 70 years and the Line 5 reroute project is another example of its commitment to fueling people's quality of life.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Cindy Finch
Duluth, MN
218-730-0340

From: Jake Castanza
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Support for Enbridge Line 5
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 3:47:12 PM
Attachments: [Enbridge Line 5 Support.pdf](#)

Hello,

please see attached.

Thank you for considering the comments.

Jake Castanza
Wisconsin Building Trades Council
608.338.9964



To whom it may concern:

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by Northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts. Examples include:

- Using timber mats to limit wetland disturbance,
- Installing erosion control devices, and
- Utilizing site-specific waterbody crossing methods.

Without Line 5, an estimated 2,100 trucks would need to leave Superior and travel east on US-2 every day to transport products currently carried by Line 5. That amounts to about 90 tanker trucks an hour. Construction will bring an estimated 700 family-sustaining jobs hired mostly from the region's union halls and an economic boost for Northern Wisconsin communities.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

The Wisconsin Building Trades Council fully supports the Line 5 relocation project and asks that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

Sincerely,

Jake Castanza

Executive Director

Wisconsin Building Trades Council
25 W Main St f5 #64,
Madison, WI 53703



Wisconsin Building Trades Council Members

Wisconsin Building Trades Council (WBTC) is a membership organization representing the interests of 15 trade organizations and over 40,000 working men and women across the entire State of Wisconsin. The trade organization members of the WBTC are:

Boilermakers Local 107

Sheet Metal Workers Local 18

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 19

United Association (Plumbers Local 75)

IBEW Local 494

Operating Engineers 139

IUPAT DC 7

Plasterers and Cement Masons 599

Bricklayers and Allied Crafts WI

Teamsters Local 200

Wisconsin Laborers

Iron Workers Local 8

North Central States Regional Council of
Carpenters

Roofers and Waterproofers Local 11



Wisconsin Building Trades Council
1602 S Park St., Suite 204
Madison, WI 53715

From: Glen Elias
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Support for Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:47:03 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953.

I support this project and think it will have many benefits for the people of Wisconsin, while being mindful of our natural resources and other important factors that pipelines need to factor in.

Best Regards,

Glen EliAS

Chief Financial Officer

C: (715) 225-9473

E: geliias@precisionpipelinellc.com



O: (715) 874-4510

F: (715) 874-4511

3314 56th Street | Eau Claire, WI 54703

PrecisionPipelineLLC.com

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this email in error please delete and notify sender.

From: Kelly Grabara
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Support the Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project!
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:21:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

Kelly Grabara

Front Desk/Administrative Assistant

E: kgrabara@precisionpipelinellc.com



O: (715) 874-4510

F: (715) 874-4511

3314 56th Street | Eau Claire, WI 54703

www.PrecisionPipelineLLC.com

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this email in error please delete and notify sender.

From: Mike Pahnke
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Support the Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project
Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 3:17:29 PM

To whom it may concern:

I ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources promptly process and approve the permits required for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project (Docket Number IP-NO-2020-2-N00471) to move forward.

The relocation of a segment of Line 5 is needed in order to remove the pipeline from the Bad River Reservation while maintaining the safe transportation of essential energy used by northern Wisconsin and the region. The proposed route maintains service of Line 5 in a corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other routes would impact such as Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River.

Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies. Nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary, and the wetlands will be restored following construction. Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts. Examples include:

- Using timber mats to limit wetland disturbance,
- Installing erosion control devices, and
- Utilizing site-specific waterbody crossing methods.

Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953. Moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply.

From: Caryl Terrell
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Cc: [Caryl Terrell](#)
Subject: 2020 711 Terrell Testimony to DNR on Enbridge Line 5 Expansion
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 4:10:48 PM
Attachments: [2020 711 Terrell testimony to DNR on Enbridge Line 5 concerns EIS Permits.pdf](#)

Dear DNR

Please find attached my full final testimony on Enbridge Line 5 Expansion.

I gave oral testimony on July 1, 2020 at about 8:42 p.m. during the virtual public hearing. The attached written testimony should supersede and amend my oral testimony because it includes more details and recommendations on the EIS and Permits than I had time to state orally due to the three-minute restriction.

Thank you for all you do to protect Wisconsin's environment and people.

Respectfully,
Caryl Terrell

Activism is our rent for living on this planet

Be smart, Stay healthy. Get an absentee ballot. It is easy! Go to myvote.wi.gov

Caryl Terrell
19 Red Maple Trail
Madison WI 53717
pronouns: she, her, hers
608.833.8828 home; 608.213.4648 mobile

NEW EMAIL carylterrell@gmail.com

**7.11.2020 Caryl Terrell Testimony to DNR
on concerns, the EIS and Permits concerning Enbridge Line 5 Expansion**

I gave oral testimony on July 1, 2020 at about 8:42 p.m. during the virtual public hearing. This written testimony should supersede and amend my oral testimony because it includes more details and recommendations on the EIS and Permits than I had time to state orally due to the three-minute restriction.

My name is Caryl Terrell. 19 Red Maple Trail Madison WI (carylterrell@gmail.com).

Despite our home address, my husband Bob and I have a passion for the Bad River Watershed and Lake Superior. In the 1970's Bob collected data on near shore currents in Lake Superior over a 3-year period for a UW Madison Sea Grant Institute research project. I helped write the Draft EIS on natural resources along and threats to Lake Superior and Lake Michigan to establish the Wisconsin Coastal Zone Management Program in the 1970's. Over the intervening years, we continue to regularly visit friends in Mellen, Drummond/Grandview, Washburn, and Bayfield to help with tapping trees and making maple syrup and to enjoy a wide variety of recreation activities up North in all seasons.

I believe this pipeline should be shut down for many reasons-- ending reliance on polluting fossil fuels, reducing GHG emissions and preventing destruction of resources that are culturally significant to the lives of indigenous people. I believe that allowing Pipeline 5 to continue to operate and in fact be expanded puts at risk the internationally unique waters, wetlands, forests and geologic features of northern Wisconsin and the shoreline of Lake Superior.

The DNR public hearing and comment period on the expansion of the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline are significant for the overwhelming public demand that this pipeline not be expanded and that Line 5 be decommissioned.

DNR analysis and regulatory decisions need to fully consider public testimony and the impacts of Climate Disruption.

In addition, DNR analysis and regulatory decisions should consider the past performance of Enbridge. Accidents happen. But Enbridge certainly has an appalling history of frequent and often undetected spills along Line 5, estimated at over 1 million gallons in total. Even modern emergency response equipment, used at oil and gas spills and pipeline ruptures, cannot protect the water resources of the Bad River Watershed from oil pollution that will desecrate the wetland rich Bad River Watershed, Copper Falls State Park, the Kakagon Slough and its natural wild rice beds, and the shores of Lake Superior.

To honor the purpose of the DNR public hearing and comment process, here are a few of my concerns and what should be included in the EIS and Permits.

The Enbridge application is both incomplete and inadequate. As we all know, the actual route is not yet determined, making it impossible for DNR to inform the public with accurate descriptions and maps.

DNR should require Enbridge to provide survey documents, maps (detailed maps, photographs, videos) and written reports and analysis of each waterway, wetlands, gully and steep slope impacted directly and indirectly by the construction activities. A further concern is the presence and location of “knickpoints or nickpoints” (the parts of a channel or river where there is a sharp change in channel slope, up to and including waterfall or lake). DNR should require Enbridge to provide survey documents, maps, photographs, videos and written reports and analysis to areas up and down stream beyond the construction area looking specifically for “knickpoints” and indications of degradation and instability in the area that could undermine even DNR approved erosion controls. Such areas identified in the vicinity of Line 5, should become a part of the DNR required monitoring areas and points of identified risk and be publicly available.

Construction is the most sensitive time for erosion and impacts to aquatic habitat. It is not acceptable to allow inadequate watershed protection at any time and especially not during construction. Worst case scenario, construction activities will result in bluff and slope failure, slumping, increased erosion and sedimentation, and washout of pipeline sections.

Pipeline construction activities will cross steep slopes, streams (185 of 186 waterways) and wetlands and regrading will expose bare ground in an area wider than the proposed route, estimated at about 600 acres. The EIR states that the project will damage 109 acres of wetlands and destroy 30 acres of wooded wetlands. Blasting in wetlands and other areas are envisioned. The EIR states that the project will affect approximately 194.5 acres of droughty (sandy and/or low moisture) soil. The following comments use “changed conditions” to denote all and every one of these areas.

1. The EIS should explore at each of these changed conditions how successful and long term revegetation with native plants will be achieved.
2. The EIS should explore at each of these changed conditions the risks that invasive species will gain a foothold and how to address these risks during construction and over the time the pipeline exists.
3. The EIS should explore at each of these changed conditions the risks to the local ecosystem for native wildlife, aquatic species, native plants and forests, how to prevent their destruction and if not feasible, needed ecosystem restoration.

4. The EIS and Permit analysis should address whether Enbridge's plans for erosion control and revegetation are sufficient along the full route and at every individual waterway crossing and the degree of risks posed by the Enbridge plans at each location.
5. The EIS should explore the consequences to the land resources, habitat and waters of the loss of each of these resources due to changed conditions as well as the potential failure of erosion control measures at each of these locations.
6. The EIS should describe what enhanced erosion control and revegetation techniques are needed to protect aquatic habitat and wetlands for the construction period and for the length of time the pipeline exists. In particular, wetlands mitigation should include restoration of headwaters wetlands and restoration of connectivity with other waters. These efforts provide natural flood control, enhance habitat and provide other ecosystem services.
7. The EIS and Permits should recognize the increase in extreme weather events based on global Climate Disruption and include an additional risk analysis for each of the above analyses.
8. The EIS and Permits should include analysis of "knickpoints or nickpoints" (discussed earlier) on the changed conditions. Where gullying is growing up or down stream of a pipeline crossing, the Permits should require Enbridge to report every such occurrence in a timely manner and, with DNR, consider additional water diversion routes, enhanced erosion control or remediation to protect the pipeline from previously unforeseen stresses. The Permits should include the ability for DNR to require additional remedial steps in response to hazardous situations or pipeline failures. These changes should be publicly available.
9. Permit conditions should include, but not be limited to, monitoring of stream crossings that include measurements of any unusual increases in water velocity or volume and increased sedimentation that might indicate changes up or down stream of Enbridge easements or property ownership. Visual inspection, mapping, photographs and videos and written reports of conditions up and down stream of pipeline stream crossings must be required after every 10 year or larger storm event. These report materials should be publicly available.
10. Based on climate risk analysis and analyses of identified areas of risk, Permit conditions need to incorporate upgraded erosion control and innovative safety measures and alternatives (including but not limited to different routes) sufficiently resilient to deal with safety hazards and failure of erosion controls for the construction period and over the time the pipeline exists.
11. Based on the climate risk and the ecosystem risk analyses, Permit conditions should identify the specific route segments of greatest risk and include requirements for, but not limited to, enhanced emergency response plans, strategic location of response

equipment, enhanced inspection and written reports submitted to DNR and publicly available.

12. The Permit conditions must include, but not be limited to, emergency response plans and equipment, continuing surveillance of the entire pipeline route, identification of changed conditions, immediate reporting of and immediate response to hazardous situations, aggressive repair and extensive remediation and restoration standards. Permit conditions should include the ability for DNR to require additional remedial steps in response to hazardous situations or pipeline failures. These changes should be in writing and publicly available.

Thank you DNR for the opportunity to provide public input about my concerns and on the EIS and Permits.

Caryl Terrell

Caryl Terrell
19 Red Maple Trail
Madison Wi 53717

carylterrell@gmail.com

608.833.8828

From: Janet LaBrie
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: The Enbridge Pipeline proposal through Wisconsin
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 9:10:55 PM

Nationally, from 2002 to the present, Enbridge and its joint ventures and subsidiaries reported 307 hazardous liquids incidents to federal regulators — one incident every 20 days on average. These spills released a total of 2.8 million gallons (more than four Olympic-sized swimming pools) of hazardous liquids. Enbridge's largest accident was the disastrous 2010 spill of 840,000 gallons of tar sands into the Kalamazoo River in Michigan, and 42 other incidents were larger than 2,100 gallons. In addition to being a possible physical threat to Wisconsinites, Enbridge has also lobbied to benefit from public rights, namely to have its private oil pipelines recognized as "in the public interest" (for the purpose of being able to invoke eminent domain as well as in obtaining statutory felonious protection against protesters). Enbridge is a foreign company transporting oil through our state to be processed and distributed elsewhere — this is not a piece of our state's energy infrastructure.

The proposed new section in the 67-year-old Line 5 that Enbridge proposes is barely outside the Bad River Reservation, and still within the Bad River watershed, which means that any rupture would contaminate the reservation. The Bad River Reservation is the only land left to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, indigenous inhabitants of northern WI. Their hunting and gathering grounds, and their wild rice beds are now, and will continue to be, in grave peril of a rupture in Line 5. The resulting contamination would make their way of life impossible. The proposed new section would cross the Bad River just upstream of Copper Falls State Park. A rupture there would send the oil down a powerful chute, reaching the park, the reservation, and Lake Superior very quickly. I urge you to continue to defend our natural resources and deny Enbridge permits for this continued reckless encroachment on our lands

Janet LaBrie
Janesville, WI

From: Allison Dolezal
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: The Pipeline 5 Project
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 1:49:38 PM

Hello,

First off, thank you for listening. It is so important for citizens to have a voice in important community and environmental matters, and making this hearing public and accessible is greatly appreciated.

Here are a few items that I want the DNR to consider regarding permitting Enbridge and Pipeline 5.

1. The DNR should *not* grant Enbridge a Wetlands permit for this project.
2. The pipeline should be shut down, but at the very least, it should not be in the Bad River watershed.
3. The upstream and downstream climate impacts should be analyzed on this project.
4. The DNR should ensure it's properly consulting with the Bad River Band every step of the way with this project.

Thank you,

Allison Dolezal

From: weiss.hank@gmail.com
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: to Line 5 Comments, DNR (EA/7
Date: Sunday, July 05, 2020 6:31:03 PM

To Whom It Concerns:

I am writing to urge you to disallow grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin.

With climate chaos devastating our state, country and world, it is past time to stop creating new fossil fuel infrastructure, and to put our efforts and money into renewable energy and conservation. If not now, when?

In addition, the proposed route goes through a fragile area that drains into Lake Superior. Any leak or rupture in it would contaminate the Bad River Reservation, the Kakagon Sloughs where the Bad River Band harvests wild rice, and Lake Superior, the source of drinking water and a huge tourism economy for Northern WI.

The DNR should not be deciding on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should guide its decisions.

Cordially,

Hank Weiss PhD

From: Mary Fl anum
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Virtual Public Hearing
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:21:35 PM

Hello, Sorry, but I am unable to go to the hearing.....

From: Ellie Anderson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Vote No on the Enbridge Pipeline Expansion
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:19:53 PM

As a member of the League of Women Voters and as someone who strives to enjoy the outdoors every day, I urge you **NOT** to allow Enbridge to expand their pipeline in the Bad River Watershed. This pipeline is 67 years old--an accident waiting to happen! I'm sure the electrical utility in California that sparked the Camp Fire wishes in hindsight that they had decommissioned their old equipment years ago!

Enbridge is a Canadian company transporting crude from one part of Canada to another. Why should Wisconsin and Michigan be a party to that? Where is the advantage?

There are a number of parties that oppose this expansion on environmental grounds. Their studies talk about potential damage to the land and wildlife. These are precious resources. I believe it is the duty of the DNR to act to protect the natural resources of our state.

Thank you for your attention.
Sincerely,

Ellie Anderson

"Without the organ donor, there is no story, no hope, no transplant. BUT when there is an organ donor, life springs from death, sorrow turns to hope and a terrible loss becomes a gift." UNOS

From: Jaci Christenson
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Water Crossing Permit—LINE 5
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2020 2:40:20 PM

LINE 5 WATER CROSSING PERMITS
WI DNR
HAVE WHITE COURAGE,
USE YOUR PRIVILEGE
Jaci Christenson
7/2/20

There are numerous concerns about the Line 5 Water Crossing Permits, as were succinctly stated by an overwhelming majority during 5 hours of virtual public testimony yesterday. I echo every one of those but this project should never have made it past the first consideration--the first people and their inherent rights.

The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa said no. No more pipelines on their reservation, no more pipelines impacting their watershed. Enbridge's decision to run Line 5 along the reservation, and in the Bad River Watershed, is blatant racism.

There is no denying the privilege that is represented in the, primarily white, Wisconsin DNR staff. This is our time of great awakening to the trifecta of race, pandemic and climate injustice. No one gets a pass here and that includes a state agency like the WI DNR.

Where, in these permits, is reflected, the right to self-determination and self-government guaranteed to tribal nations? The State of WI does not have jurisdiction on tribal lands, including ceded territories of 1854.

How is it equitable to hold a public meeting during a worldwide pandemic? You must admit there were a number of glitches in the technology and I, for one, lost connection many times. It is shameful to push this process on people while managing the impacts of a pandemic.

What about the rights of wild rice, within all the ceded territories, to exist, flourish, regenerate and evolve? Why do you put the rights of a

foreign corporation above all else?

How do you justify the discrimination and environmental racism to native people, evident in this permit and throughout the permitting process?

Are you prepared to carry the burden of your decision, on native communities, with the coming destruction to water and land, the rise of sex trafficking, trauma, crime, etc?

You know moving forward is not just—not yesterday, not today, not ever. Have white courage, use your privilege and deny the water crossing permit!

From: Malakie Usn
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: What? NO.
Date: Monday, June 08, 2020 1:07:53 PM

This is wrong. Why the hell should the rest of us lose and the tribes be catered to?

There is NO BASIS, legal, environmental or anything else that should protect the indian nations area vs anyone else's property.

Why do they keep getting preferential treatment in ALL ways? I am sick and tired of it.. This is the United States of America.. It is not the United Indian Territories.. and continuing to blame the past for what is today, is getting way out of control.

I don't care if the area of the pipeline is through 'indian' territory.. They can deal with it just like any other land owner. They have NO and should have NO special treatment just because...

I am sick and tired of this crap taking place and using racism or past excuses to justify things today, being done constantly..

Oh and guess what? I am adopted and actually have Native American heritage apparently.. But I don't play it off, use it as an excuse, get any money for it nor brag about it to anyone. IT MEANS nothing when it comes to other people.. I am no different and deserve NO recognition or special consideration just because of that..

And I am tired of it being used as an excuse to destroy OTHER land, private property and so forth.

From: Terry Hayden
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: WI Pipe Trades Comments - Enbridge Line 5 WI Segment Relocation
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 8:25:02 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[WPTA - Line 5 Segment Relocation Letter of Support.pdf](#)

Dear WI DNR,

Please find our attached written comments regarding the Enbridge Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project.

Thank you,

-Terry

Terry J Hayden, President

Wisconsin Pipe Trades Association



E-mail: thayden@uanet.org

Mobile: (414) 313-6701

www.wipipetrades.org

WISCONSIN PIPE TRADES ASSOCIATION

11175 West Parkland Avenue • Milwaukee, WI 53224-3135 • OFC: (414) 359-1310 • FAX (414) 359-1323



UA Affiliated
Unions:

Fox Valley
No. 400

Milwaukee-Madison
No. 75
No. 601

Milwaukee
No. 183

Northwest
No. 434

Racine-Kenosha
No. 118

Superior-Duluth
No. 11

Local 669
District 15
District 31

Toll Free
888-248-3392

Website
www.wipipetrades.org



Terry Hayden
Wisconsin Pipe Trades Assoc.
11175 West Parkland Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53224

July 1, 2020

Line 5 Comments DNR (EA/7)
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

(Docket Number: IP-NO-2020-2-N00471)

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of our 9,000 highly-skilled piping professionals, the Wisconsin Pipe Trades Association respectfully asks the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, to promptly process and approve the permits that are required for Enbridge's Line 5 – Wisconsin Segment Replacement Project, to move forward.

The relocation of this segment of Line 5 is required to remove the existing pipeline from the Bad River Reservation, while continuing to provide safe and efficient transportation of essential energy, including Natural Gas Liquids to NE Wisconsin. Pipelines are and will remain to be the safest and most energy efficient means to transfer such fuels and other products. It is estimated that 2,100 tanker trucks would need to leave Superior daily, to transport the products that are currently carried by Line 5.

The Wisconsin Pipe Trades Association invests \$10 million dollars of private money each year, to develop our future workforce and increase the skills of our existing members, in order to supply the needs of an ever changing industry.

Our union members will make up a significant portion of the estimated 700 family-sustaining jobs that this project creates. Their skills and the skills of all the union's members who work on this project will assure that this segment is installed safely and responsibly. Because this project combines the quality work of our members, with the careful planning and engineering by Enbridge, we can be assured that this pipeline will continue operate safely and efficiently.

Sincerely,

Terry Hayden, President
Wisconsin Pipe Trades Association

From: Stephen Kwaterski
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Cc: [John Schmitt](#); [Kent Miller](#)
Subject: Wisconsin Laborers" District Council Letter re: Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project (Docket Number: IP-NO-2020-2-N00471)
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:56:10 AM
Attachments: [07.10.2020 - WLDC DNR Letter Line 5 Relocation Project.pdf](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find the attached letter from Wisconsin Laborers' District Council President/Business Manager John Schmitt re: Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project (Docket Number: IP-NO-2020-2-N00471).

Sincerely,
Steve Kwaterski

--

Steve Kwaterski
Wisconsin Laborers' District Council | Communications Director
O: 608.846.8242
M: 608.406.8378



July 10, 2020

Line 5 Comments
DNR (EA/7)
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the over 9,000 working men and women of the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council, I am writing today to ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources processes in a timely fashion and approves the necessary permits for Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project (Docket Number: IP-NO-2020-2-N00471).

This relocation project is necessary to remove a segment of Line 5 from the Bad River Reservation, while at the same time ensuring that energy is transported in the safest and most efficient means necessary to meet the needs of Wisconsin and our region.

Many of our members would be working on this vital project. Our skills and safety training programs have prepared the construction craft laborers who would be working on this project. The work would be performed in such a manner that will protect our resources and have no negative impact on the surrounding environment.

With the current economic uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic downturn, this project could provide a significant amount of work for our members. Nearly one million of our union members' working hours have been on critical energy infrastructure projects like this, and it can help support working people throughout Northern Wisconsin.

Finally, our members who would be working on this project live and work in Wisconsin. They too enjoy all that Wisconsin has to offer when it comes to clean water, fishing, hunting, and everything else that the outdoors provides. It is in our members' self-interest to ensure that construction-related impacts are minimized, and future generations benefit from a clean and healthy environment.

We thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

John Schmitt
President/Business Manager
Wisconsin Laborers' District Council

From: Nancy Larson
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Wisconsin's Green Fire Comments on Enbridge Line 5 Relocation Project
Date: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:37:01 PM
Attachments: [WGF Enbridge Comment letter 2020-7-11 final.pdf](#)

Hello,
please find our attached comments on the Enbridge Pipeline Line 5 Relocation Project
Waterway and Wetland Permit and Environmental Impact Statement Scope

Sincerely,
Nancy Larson

Nancy Larson
Assistant Director



715-203-0384

715-413-0306 mobile

<https://wgreenfire.org/>



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707
DNROEEAComments@wisconsin.gov

July 11, 2020

Wisconsin's Green Fire Comments on Enbridge Pipeline Line 5 Relocation Project Waterway and Wetland Permit and Environmental Impact Statement Scope

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Waterway and Wetland Permit (WP-IP-NO-2020-2-X02-11T12-18-51) and scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Wisconsin's Green Fire (WGF) is a statewide conservation organization formed in 2017 with a mission to support the use of science in natural resource decision making. Our members have extensive experience in natural resource management, science, education, law, and other fields. Our review team includes people with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) experience who have reviewed and issued hundreds of waterway and wetland permits. Our team also includes people who have worked in the Lake Superior basin in regulatory and resource management fields.

Executive Summary

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be developed based on exact information on the route, water crossings, and wetland impacts. The exact route of the Line 5 Relocation project has not been established, since negotiations with landowners continue and the Enbridge application for a Public Interest Determination for authorization to condemn property is before the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. The EIS should include robust evaluations and consideration of the unique unstable watersheds and hydrology in the Lake Superior basin which can/could lead to flooding and catastrophic events. These watershed factors impact structural stability of the pipeline, increase the risk of spills, and affect spill response. Furthermore, the construction of the pipeline could easily exacerbate hydrological impacts and watershed stability. Finally, the information submitted by Enbridge in the Waterway and Wetland Permit application is incomplete. The permit decisions and conditions should be informed by the actual site-specific plans and the analysis of the EIS. Wisconsin's Green Fire recommends that a second public comment period be held on the permit application after the EIS is complete and the applicant submits complete site-specific plans and information for each

wlgreenfire.org

PO Box 1206, Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501 | Info@wlgreenfire.org | 715.203.0384

waterway and wetland crossing. Without this input opportunity, the public is denied the right to review and comment on the actual defined project.

A. Comments on Waterway and Wetland Permit Application

1. Waterway Permit Application

The Chapter 30 waterway permit application from Enbridge is incomplete because it does not provide construction detail for specific river and stream crossings and does not provide enough information for the public to review and comment on those specific crossings during this comment period.

We were struck by the lack of information in the submittal by Enbridge. Enbridge proposes to cross over 180 waterways or water courses, yet it provides no site plans for individual waterway crossings, only “typical” designs of how the pipeline may cross any individual waterway, apparently leaving the design work for contractors at some future date or as they encounter individual waterways. These “typical” designs are laid out in the Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) which is dated December, 2019, and referred to in the permit application. The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) submitted by Enbridge notes that field surveys for waterway crossings and wetland impact areas are not complete.

Even though Enbridge may supply more information to the DNR as surveys continue, we question how the public would review and provide input since the public comment period on the permit closes July 11? How can the EIS adequately evaluate the water crossings when specific information has not been provided? The lack of information provided by the company is unacceptable. The public would be required to provide more extensive information in a request for even one water crossing.

The public should see how the specific plans take into account the varied conditions of waterways, including the White River, Marengo River, Brunsweiler River, Trout Brook, Silver Brook, Bad River, Tylers Forks, Potato River, Vaughn Creek, and all navigable streams. Even though (presumably) Enbridge may supply more information to the DNR as work continues to survey and finalize the proposed route, it is unclear how the public would receive notice of these plans and have an adequate opportunity for review/ input given that this public comment period on the permit closes July 11.

The company’s April response to the DNR March 6, 2020 request for more information still did not include simple but necessary information for each stream crossing such as:

- Is the stream in question navigable per state standards?
- What are the stream dimensions?
- What is the stream bank composition, height and slope? What are the bottom characteristics?
- What crossing method does the company propose for the specific river or stream and what are the site characteristics of the crossing location?
- How does the company plan to stabilize the bed and banks after construction?
- What site-specific erosion controls are needed? How will the particular challenges of soil, slope, and hydrology of the Lake Superior basin watersheds be addressed?

Many of the streams are trout water or tributary to trout water and as such should be off limits to work from Sept 15 to May 15 to protect trout spawning redds. Many of the streams are designated as Outstanding Resource Waters or Exceptional Resource Waters and as such merit special treatment to prevent degradation. Enbridge should note how they propose to protect these designated waters on a case by case basis.

The company proposes to blast through the bottom of at least nine streams, including Vaughn Creek in Iron County (see Blasting Plan within Environmental Protection Plan in EIR). Up to ten miles of blasting could occur in areas of shallow bedrock. We contend that it is not appropriate to blast any stream bed and it would be a dangerous precedent. Blasting would damage the stream bed, possibly damage spawning habitat, impede navigation, and could exposure fissures in bedrock and change hydrology. The EPP also notes that the blasting contractors would be responsible to address any damage to private wells. How will Enbridge and its contractors evaluate wells and address damage? We share the concern expressed by other organizations about blasting and fractures to bedrock with possible affects to wells, groundwater, and surface water hydrology.

The company proposes to use wet cuts in some yet-to-be identified waterway crossings. These need to be identified up front as wet cuts are environmentally damaging and in many cases may be inappropriate due to flow below the stream bed. The company should have identified sites where wet cuts are proposed prior to DNR review so that all impacts could be considered. Other methods should be considered where appropriate.

In sections 5 of the narrative response to DNR dated April 1, 2020, the company states that there will likely be minimal short term or long-term negative impacts. This statement is vague and further shows that Enbridge has not properly evaluated the proposed crossings and appears to be unaware of the fragility of the clay soils and steep topography that shapes the

waterways in the Lake Superior clay region. The company needs to provide a site-specific plan for minimizing impacts, be able to describe what short and long term impacts are expected, and provide a thorough discussion on remediation for any long-term impacts.

No monitoring plan for crossings is presented. The company needs to prepare a strong monitoring program with clear reporting requirements and there needs to be a clear regulatory response for failure to monitor and repair. Without such a plan, how will the public have confidence in the actions of the company and its contractors, and how will the public have confidence in DNR oversight?

Public Access for Navigation

The State of Wisconsin Constitution and Wisconsin's Public Trust Doctrine sets forth the rights of the public to navigate public waters, which includes fishing, hunting, recreation, and other public trust uses, as long as one enters at a public access point and keeps one foot in the water (with reasonable ability to walk around obstructions). However, the felony trespass law, 2019 Wisconsin Act 33, amended Wis. Stat. § 943.143 such that the public's right to navigate at pipeline waterway crossings could be impacted. The law makes it a felony to intentionally enter the property of an energy provider without consent; energy provider property is defined to include oil distribution systems. Wisconsin's Green Fire is very concerned about the potential curtailment of public trust rights. WGF is grateful that Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) explains this legal issue in their comments on the Enbridge Line 5 project. WGF agrees with MEA's comment:

To ensure that the rights of the public under Wisconsin's Public Trust Doctrine are not infringed, DNR must require that Enbridge provide authorization for the public to access those portions of navigable waters through which the New Line 5 Segment will pass.

We agree with MEA that otherwise, the permit must be denied because it does not meet statutory requirements for maintaining the public interest.

2. Wetland Permit Application

The wetland permit application states that most of the wetland impacts will be temporary. However, there is significant acreage converted from forested to other wetland types. The DNR's March 6, 2020 letter requesting more information from Enbridge, asks how wetlands will be monitored to ensure revegetation, surface elevations, and water flow is not impacted. Further, it asks Enbridge to state how the impacts would be addressed and corrected if

revegetation growth becomes impeded, surface elevations become altered, and / or water flow becomes obstructed.

The Enbridge April 1, 2020 response to the DNR includes this response to data request #5 as follows:

Enbridge will monitor wetlands impacted by construction in accordance with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and WDNR monitoring requirement yet to be defined for the Project. Enbridge will continue to consult with the WDNR and USACE regarding post-construction wetland monitoring requirements.

The Enbridge response to DNR indicates that as of the time of permit application, the company does not have a monitoring plan to determine whether revegetation growth becomes impeded, surface elevations become altered, and/or water flow becomes obstructed. Likewise, it appears the company does not have a plan to address and correct those impacts. Rather, the company is relying on government agencies for direction. For such a large and expensive project with extensive wetland impacts that are proposed as temporary in the permit application, the company needs to have a plan to monitor and address impacts before permits can be granted.

Failure to provide these plans at this time means that again, the public will have no opportunity to review and comment since the public comment period will be closed. **Our Wisconsin's Green Fire review team cannot remember an instance in our careers in which an applicant would be allowed to express intent to comply with permit requirements absent a specific plan, as satisfying the requirements for a complete application.**

In its March 6, 2020 request for more information, DNR asked that Enbridge prepare a separate Wetlands Practicable Alternatives Analysis (PAA) section. Is the Enbridge response to data request #5 (April 1, 2020) to be considered the sum total of the PAA for the permit application?

Again, our review team's experience is that a PAA is a site-specific extensive consideration of alternatives and methods to minimize impacts, which appears to be lacking in this submittal.

Construction and mitigation plans must be developed for each individual wetland crossed, including how to address affected hydrology and wetland plant communities. Given the lack of mitigation plans, it is reasonable to wonder if the company has a plan to mitigate these issues, rather than relying on an undefined monitoring process. Their intent needs to be clearly spelled out. It appears there is no long-term plan to address invasive species introduction, problems with revegetation, head cuts, gully formation, slumping, and altered hydrology affecting wetland functional values.

The Enbridge response to data request #19 suggests that wetland field surveys for the 2020 growing season were not complete for this permit application. This would again argue for the fact that the permit application is not complete. **WGF recommends extending the public comment period until these deficiencies are met, or denying the permit.**

B. Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement

1. The EIS needs to address the Lake Superior Red Clay Watershed and Instability

The EPP states that “unstable banks will be reshaped to prevent slumping” as a practice for stream crossings. Unstable banks and slumps are common in the Lake Superior clay region even without construction activities. The EIS should include a robust treatment of the specific watershed conditions in the Lake Superior region that create unstable conditions in the rivers and streams. There have been significant studies and planning efforts over the past decades addressing the challenging hydrological conditions in the area, under the local term “slow the flow.” Comments from other organizations include extensive discussion of these efforts. We include some additional citations at the end of this comment letter.

It is notable that in 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved a nine key element watershed action plan for the Marengo River watershed under the EPA’s Nonpoint Source Program (Bad River Watershed Association, 2013). The plan was developed through an extensive partnership that included the Bad River Watershed Association (now Superior Rivers Watershed Association), Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa, Wisconsin DNR, US Forest Service, U.S. EPA, County Land and Water Conservation Departments, and several others. The government sponsor was the Bad River Tribe working with the EPA with support by Wisconsin DNR. These plans are unusual outside of the context of a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load – a plan typically done to model nutrient inputs and determine how to reduce nutrients in agricultural and urban watersheds). The federal attention and partnerships in the Marengo plan highlights the level of interest and acknowledgment among many levels of government and local citizens of the unique regional hydrological degradation in the watershed.

The EIS should address how these watershed conditions, and patterns of increasingly large rain events, affect pipeline water crossings and overall stability, safety, increased risk of spills, and spill response in this remote region. **The Chapter 30 waterway permit and the wetland permit**

should be **informed** by the EIS treatment of watershed considerations and resulting stream characteristics in this region.

Steep Slopes: (EIR section 6.3.7.2)

Treatment of steep slopes in the EIR is not adequate for the EIS. Steep slopes need to be addressed in terms of the geomorphology and soils in the region and the risk of instability for a pipeline, leading to increased risk of failure. Studies on slumping processes in the Lake Superior red clay region are included in the references. Slumping events along waterways in which the stream energy erodes coarser material at the bottom of the bluff or slope are extreme. Engineering options to stabilize clay banks have met significant challenges and often are not successful. Stream banks and crossings are particularly unstable in this region, particularly with increasing storm intensity.

Flooding:

The Lake Superior basin experienced intense flooding in the summers of 2012, 2016, and 2018. The damage to road and other infrastructure experienced at those times would make it difficult or impossible to respond in a timely manner to a leak or spill. In addition, the rapid rise of water in rivers, streams, gullies, and along roads would make it impossible to contain a spill in a meaningful way. One member of our review team was part of the DNR's response team to the spill on the Nemadji River following a train derailment south of Superior, WI on June 30, 1992. Heavy rain, but not of flood intensity, followed the spill. The rapid rise in the Nemadji River, with similar hydrology to the red clay rivers further east, hampered spill containment, and most of the benzene and other aromatic hydrocarbon mixtures flushed into Superior Bay and Lake Superior. Heavy rains and flooding are not uncommon in the region. The EIS should address how these rain events and the flashy waterways in the red clay region, could contribute to spill risk and spill response.

2. The EIS needs to address Environmental Justice, High Quality Resources, and Risk of Spills

The proposed Line 5 reroute is in response to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa non-renewal of its lease across tribal lands, and potential damage to tribal resources. The proposed reroute in no way mitigates those concerns; it only amplifies them as many more waterways that flow into the Bad River and Lake Superior are crossed by the proposed route. In addition, the proposed reroute would cross through Objbwe ceded territories and therefore

government to government consultation with the tribes is critical. Lake Superior and the high-quality rivers, streams, and wetlands that feed it are irreplaceable. **The EIS should address the high quality waters and habitats at risk from spills and other disruptions, as well as the environmental justice aspects of this proposal.**

Alternative routes, including the “No Action Alternative” that protect tribal rights and cultural resources should be given thorough consideration. A summary of existing natural resource designations/high quality resources should be provided, as is noted in extensive comments provided to DNR by other organizations. Enbridge should provide details on how spills at critical locations along the pipeline (such as crossing above Copper Falls State Park) would be prevented, minimized, responded to. The EIS needs to include a robust evaluation of spill potential from pipeline operation. This should include: potential volumes based on shut off procedures and locations, and the challenges and costs, citing who would bear those costs, of spill response in this region, and plans for spill response during severe weather events.

3. Additional Comments for the EIS

Buffers

Section 4.5 of the EIR (Specialized Construction) describes the plan to leave 20-foot buffers on all stream banks during initial clearing. However, the DNR Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Forestry suggest a 100-foot riparian buffer for trout streams. Forestry BMPs include 100 foot riparian buffers for all streams with a width greater than three feet, and a 35-foot buffer for streams less than 3 feet wide (Publication FR-093 2010). Enbridge should follow the buffers in the DNR Forestry BMPs.

Invasive Species Management

Section 4.7 of the EIR (Invasive Species Management) describes the practice of cleaning equipment before arriving on site. Enbridge should clarify that they will also require equipment cleaning between sites.

Threatened and Endangered Species:

Construction should be avoided during wood turtle nesting season (late May), hatching (mid-July through mid-September) in wood turtle nesting habitat. The project plan should include a thorough survey for wood turtles and other key T and E species such as bats.

C. Summary of our Findings and Conclusions

- The permit application for waterway crossings and wetland impact by Enbridge should not be considered complete and the comment period should not be closed without Enbridge providing detailed plans and evaluation for each particular water crossing and wetland impact.
- The public should have adequate opportunity to review and comment on the water permit applications.
- The wetland permit application should include details on responses if revegetation growth becomes impeded, surface elevations become altered, and / or water flow becomes obstructed. The applicant also needs to provide the Wetlands Practicable Alternatives Analysis (PAA) section.
- Once complete, the public should have adequate opportunity to review and comment on the wetland permit applications.
- The waterway and wetland permit decisions and conditions should be informed by the EIS. We appreciate that the DNR has indicated the intent to issue no permit decisions until the EIS complete. However, the public will not be able to review and comment on specific waterway and wetland plans unless another public comment period is held.
- The EIS should include robust evaluations of watershed processes, significant water and terrestrial resources, and spill potential and response.
- Within the EIS, section 5.1.3, on environmental justice, should include a comprehensive discussion of ways this project specifically impacts Indigenous (minority) communities and low-income populations. For example, the WI Department of Transportation (DOT) web site lists the following criteria for environmental justice considerations in the EIS process.
 - To avoid, minimize or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects on minority populations and low-income populations
 - To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process
 - To prevent the denial of, reduction of or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

If DNR does not have environmental justice criteria for an EIS of this nature, they could be developed or adapted from DOT or other state or federal EIS guidance documents.



Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the scope of the EIS and to comment on the submittals for the Waterway and Wetland permit. We appreciate the difficult job of evaluating the submittals by Enbridge under statutory time frames and sorting through the comments and information provided by the public.

We truly hope the DNR affords the public the opportunity to review and comment on the permit application when the site-specific information submitted by Enbridge includes the information needed to evaluate whether the plans meet permitting standards.

For further information on these comments, please contact:

Nancy Larson, Assistant Director
Wisconsin's Green Fire
nlarson@wigreenfire.org

References:

Bad River Watershed Association, 2013. Marengo River Watershed Partnership Project Watershed Action Plan. Ashland, WI.
www.badriverwatershed.org/index.php/action/watershed-action-program/marengo-river-watershed-partnership-project/watershed-action-plan

Fitzpatrick, F.A, M.C. Pepler, H.E. Schwar, J.A. Hoopes, and M.W. Diebel. 2005. Monitoring Channel Morphology and Bluff Erosion at Two Installations of Flow-Deflecting Vanes, North Fish Creek, Wisconsin, 2000-03 in Lake Superior Basin Regional Assessment and Report Compendium. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. PUB-FR-468-2010. Madison, WI. 85 p.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) 1998. Erosion and Sedimentation in the Nemadji River Basin Project Final Report. U.S. Forest Service. January. Ashland, WI.

Northwest Regional Planning Commission, 2018. Northwest Wisconsin Flood Impact Study, HAZUS-MH Level 2 Analysis.
<https://nwrpc.com/DocumentCenter/View/1494/Northwest-Wisconsin-Flood-Impact-Study>

Schultz, S.D. 2003. Best Management Practice Guidelines for the Wisconsin Portion of the Lake Superior Basin. Prepared for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, and Iron County Land Conservation Department.

Shy, K. and C. Wagner, 2007b. Managing Woodlands on Lake Superior's Red Clay Plain: Information and Training Workbook. Department of Natural Resources, Madison, WI.

Shy, K. and C. Wagner, 2007c. Management Recommendations for Forestry Practices along Wisconsin's Coastal Trout Streams. Department of Natural Resources, Madison, WI.

Stable Solutions LLC, and Community GIS, Inc., 2007. Understanding Hydrology – A Guide to Understanding the Hydrological Condition of Wisconsin's Lake Superior Watersheds. Prepared for the Wisconsin Lake Superior Basin Partner Team.

<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/pdf/marengoguide.pdf>

Stable Solutions LLC, and Community GIS, Inc., 2007. Marengo River watershed test case: Assessing the hydrologic conditions of the Marengo River watershed, Wisconsin. A Report of the Hydrologic Condition of the Marengo River Watershed. Prepared for the Wisconsin Lake Superior Basin Partner Team.

<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/pdf/marengotest.pdf>

Verry, E.S., J.R. Lewis, and K.N. Brooks. 1983. Aspen clearcutting increases snowmelt and storm flow peaks in north central Minnesota. Water Resources Bulletin. vol. 19, no.1, p. 59-67.

Verry, E.S. 2001. Land fragmentation and impacts to streams and fish in the central and upper Midwest. In: Proceedings, Society of American Foresters 2000 national convention. SAF Publ. 01-02. Bethesda, MD. Society of American Foresters, p. 38-44.

Wisconsin Wetlands Association, 2018. Exploring the Relationship between Wetlands and Flood Hazards in the Lake Superior Basin.

https://wisconsinwetlands.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/06/WetlandsFloodHazards_WWA_web.pdf.

From: seth jensen
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: With youth bearing the brunt of climate change, it is time to stop building new fossil fuel infrastructure.
Date: Sunday, June 21, 2020 3:49:02 PM

A few years ago, Dylan Jennings gave an interview with Madison Magazine to explain why his tribal government voted for removal of crude oil Pipeline #5 from Bad River Territory near Lake Superior. He explained that the pipeline was a threat to the waterways and wild rice beds of the area. It is operated by Enbridge, a company that averages an oil spill every 20 days. Once Line 5's lease expired, the Bad River Band chose now to renew.

That should have meant the end crude oil cutting through the heart of the Bad River reservation, but Enbridge chose a court battle over compliance. Now the company proposes to encircle the Bad River Reservation with a pipeline reroute. **I urge you not to grant permits for Enbridge to build new sections of Line 5 in Wisconsin.**

Dylan Jennings cited concern for future generations as a reason for protecting his watershed from the threat of a pipeline spill. I would ask the Department of Natural Resources to demonstrate the same or greater level of concern and reject Line 5 in all its forms.

Sincerely,

Seth T. Jensen
(608) 217-3845
sethjensen@yahoo.com

From: Madeleine LaBanca
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Written Comment for Enbridge's Line 5 Permit Application Meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:44:50 PM

To whom it my concern,

At this point in our worlds history, we need to be transitioning to renewable sources of energy now, not committing resources to new fossil fuel projects.

Pipelines benefit large corporations not the citizens who live on the land the pipelines exist. Any spill will contaminate the unique and complex watershed ecosystem that feeds into the area's many rivers, state parks, and Lake Superior.

Wisconsin can not afford to continue to invest in forms of energy that pollute the water & air, and children a livable future.

Do better.

Madeleine LaBanca

From: Alex Faber
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Written Comment Re: Enbridge Projects in WI
Date: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 10:34:01 AM
Attachments: [SRWA Line 5 Written Comment- Revised.pdf](#)

To the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

The Superior Rivers Watershed Association writes to urge the Department of Natural Resources not to grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin. Superior Rivers Watershed Association is a non-profit organization based in Ashland, Wisconsin whose mission is to promote the healthy connection between the people and natural communities of our watersheds by involving all citizens in assessing, maintaining and improving watershed integrity for future generations.

The proposed pipeline corridor will be developed within the Bad River watershed, which is characterized by numerous high quality water resource streams, wetlands, sloughs, and more. The proposed corridor will cross State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources-designated Exceptional or Outstanding Resource Water stream segments nine times, and will cross US-Fish and Wildlife Service-designated critical brook trout fishery stream segments five times.

Because of these and numerous other ecological and community safety issues, the Superior Rivers Watershed Association's position is that transportation of hazardous materials, including pipelines carrying oil, gas, and other toxic fluids, should avoid crossing Lake Superior's watersheds. When that is not possible, all precautions should be taken to minimize the potential for harm to water quality. Of concern to the Superior Rivers Watershed Association is that the proposed reroute will *increase*, not minimize, the potential for water quality degradation by increasing the number of streams and wetlands it will cross.

Aside from the potentially devastating localized effects of pipeline leaks or spills, other impacts of the proposed reroute concern us:

- **Removal of shading vegetation cover at pipeline stream crossings.** Multi-year water temperature data collection at 14 sites in the proposed corridor demonstrate presence of exceptional cold water resources. Cold water temperatures are at least partially maintained by shading from abundant streamside vegetation.
- **Construction of crossing sites and maintenance access roads.** Erosion and sedimentation severely impair many streams in the watershed. Parts of the pipeline corridor lie within areas prioritized by regional interagency working groups for reduction of erosion and sedimentation potential. Additionally, the entire corridor footprint lies in documented range of the wood turtle, a Wisconsin DNR-listed

threatened species. Twenty-one potential nesting habitat sites may experience short term to permanent negative impacts from construction disturbances.

- **Pipeline exposure and destabilization.** The Bad River watershed is an historically flood-prone region, and has been subjected to three record-breaking flooding events since 2012. These events have resulted in loss of life, property, and infrastructure, twice on a catastrophic scale. Multiple regional climate models forecast increasing frequency of large precipitation events.

All of these potential impacts can affect our region's clean water resources in numerous and unknown ways, yet none of these impacts are well-understood in terms of their possible extent or how effectively they could be responded to.

In addition, extensive wetlands critical to the water and cultural resources of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians all lie directly downstream of the proposed pipeline reroute, including the Kakagon/Bad River Sloughs ecosystem, which was designated a Wetland of International Importance by the United Nations Ramsar Convention in 2012. This globally unique ecosystem:

- Supports wild rice;
- Supports diverse Lake Superior and inland fisheries;
- Controls flooding; and
- Filters pollutants from water.

With so much at stake, this is not a decision which can be made without being fully informed. The Department of Natural Resources should therefore not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement.

Here are our thoughts about what the scope of the Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Impact Statement investigation should be:

- Include at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior;
- Investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, and the potential for well contamination due to

faults plus a spill;

- Investigate how construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region;
- Investigate how wildlife habitat would be impacted. Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks and bring invasive species; and
- Consider Enbridge's broader safety record outside of Line 5.

The Superior Rivers Watershed Association recommends that the Department of Natural Resources should not decide on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should include the full scope of the impact of all watersheds linked to the proposed Line 5 reroute and Lake Superior. Only this full scope Environmental Impact Statement should guide the Department of Natural Resource's decisions.

Encl. Attachment letter.

--

Alex Faber
Executive Director
Superior Rivers Watershed Association

Connecting People, Land and Water

[Contact Us](#)
P.O. Box 875
Ashland, WI 54806
[715-682-2003](tel:715-682-2003)



101 W Main Street, PO Box 875, Ashland, WI 54806
(Formerly the Bad River Watershed Association)

To the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

The Superior Rivers Watershed Association writes to urge the Department of Natural Resources not to grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin. Superior Rivers Watershed Association is a non-profit organization based in Ashland, Wisconsin whose mission is to promote the healthy connection between the people and natural communities of our watersheds by involving all citizens in assessing, maintaining and improving watershed integrity for future generations.

The proposed pipeline corridor will be developed within the Bad River watershed, which is characterized by numerous high quality water resource streams, wetlands, sloughs, and more. The proposed corridor will cross State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources-designated Exceptional or Outstanding Resource Water stream segments nine times, and will cross US-Fish and Wildlife Service-designated critical brook trout fishery stream segments five times.

Because of these and numerous other ecological and community safety issues, the Superior Rivers Watershed Association's position is that transportation of hazardous materials, including pipelines carrying oil, gas, and other toxic fluids, should avoid crossing Lake Superior's watersheds. When that is not possible, all precautions should be taken to minimize the potential for harm to water quality. Of concern to the Superior Rivers Watershed Association is that the proposed reroute will *increase*, not minimize, the potential for water quality degradation by increasing the number of streams and wetlands it will cross.

Aside from the potentially devastating localized effects of pipeline leaks or spills, other impacts of the proposed reroute concern us:

- **Removal of shading vegetation cover at pipeline stream crossings.** Multi-year water temperature data collection at 14 sites in the proposed corridor demonstrate presence of exceptional cold water resources. Cold water temperatures are at least partially maintained by shading from abundant streamside vegetation.
- **Construction of crossing sites and maintenance access roads.** Erosion and sedimentation severely impair many streams in the watershed. Parts of the pipeline corridor lie within areas prioritized by regional interagency working groups for reduction of erosion and sedimentation potential. Additionally, the entire corridor footprint lies in documented range of the wood turtle, a Wisconsin DNR-listed threatened species. Twenty-one potential nesting habitat sites may experience short term to permanent negative impacts from construction disturbances.

- **Pipeline exposure and destabilization.** The Bad River watershed is an historically flood-prone region, and has been subjected to three record-breaking flooding events since 2012. These events have resulted in loss of life, property, and infrastructure, twice on a catastrophic scale. Multiple regional climate models forecast increasing frequency of large precipitation events.

All of these potential impacts can affect our region's clean water resources in numerous and unknown ways, yet none of these impacts are well-understood in terms of their possible extent or how effectively they could be responded to.

In addition, extensive wetlands critical to the water and cultural resources of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians all lie directly downstream of the proposed pipeline reroute, including the Kakagon/Bad River Sloughs ecosystem, which was designated a Wetland of International Importance by the United Nations Ramsar Convention in 2012. This globally unique ecosystem:

- Supports wild rice;
- Supports diverse Lake Superior and inland fisheries;
- Controls flooding; and
- Filters pollutants from water.

With so much at stake, this is not a decision which can be made without being fully informed. The Department of Natural Resources should therefore not grant permits for Enbridge to create a new section of Line 5 in Wisconsin before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement.

Here are our thoughts about what the scope of the Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Impact Statement investigation should be:

- Include at least the following issues: impacts to wetlands, streams, rivers, the Kakagon Sloughs, the Bad River, Copper Falls State Park, and Lake Superior;
- Investigate the potential harms of blasting through granite and the faults that can open up or shut down because of it, and the potential for well contamination due to faults plus a spill;
- Investigate how construction through wetlands and streams, resulting in erosion, gullies, and silt deposits downstream, impact aquatic species and exacerbate flooding in the region;
- Investigate how wildlife habitat would be impacted. Creating new, long-term openings to habitat can break up habitat blocks and bring invasive species; and
- Consider Enbridge's broader safety record outside of Line 5.

The Superior Rivers Watershed Association recommends that the Department of Natural Resources should not decide on any permits before it completes its Environmental Impact Statement, which should include the full scope of the impact of all watersheds linked to the proposed Line 5 reroute and Lake Superior. Only this full scope Environmental Impact Statement should guide the Department of Natural Resource's decisions.

From: Brandon Kim
To: [DNR OEEA comments](#)
Subject: Written comments against the Enbridge Line 5 Relocation
Date: Monday, July 06, 2020 4:34:49 PM
Attachments: [Enbridge Line 5 relocation.pdf](#)

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for reviewing my attached comments against the Enbridge Line 5 Relocation. Future Wisconsinites will thank you for continuing to promote public health and fighting climate instability.

Thank you,
Brandon Kim

University of Wisconsin Madison School of Medicine and Public Health
MD candidate 2022
MPH candidate 2021

My name is Brandon Kim. I am a medical student at the University of Wisconsin. I grew up in Waukesha County, lived in Madison for 6 years, and I am currently residing in Sand Creek, Wisconsin.

The Enbridge Line 5 relocation and the wetlands permit will be a detriment to the health of local residents, the Chippewa tribe of the Bad River Reservation, Wisconsinites, and the world. Therefore, as a future medical practitioner, I cannot support the Enbridge Line 5 relocation and urge the DNR to not allow the use of our precious wetlands and waterways to transport an outdated source of energy.

When the Enbridge Line 5 inevitably leaks, it will spew toxic carcinogenic chemicals into the water of local residents and the Chippewa tribe of the Bad River Reservation. Benzene and toluene, chemicals found in the oil within the Enbridge Line, are known carcinogens that increase the risk of leukemia in adults and children. These two chemicals can also affect our nervous system and even our unborn children. This should not be a surprise as we have known the detrimental health effects of ingesting or inhaling oil and its derivatives for decades. Small leaks of this relocated pipeline may be unnoticeable, but still infect our water supply and impact the health of the surrounding residents. A large spill, akin to the Kalamazoo River spill in 2010, is a public health emergency, and would cost Wisconsin tens of millions in health-associated costs alone. The location of the Enbridge Line 5 relocation would inequitably impact rural Wisconsinites and the Chippewa tribe of the Bad River Reservation, a fact that we cannot overlook as well.

The utilization of fossil fuels as our main energy source has been the primary contributor to global warming and climate instability. Increased temperatures disproportionately impact the elderly and individuals with low socio-economic status, but it can and will affect all of our health. Elevated temperatures can lead to heat stroke, dehydration, and exacerbation of chronic disease, most notably. Extreme weather events including flooding, tornadoes, thunderstorms, extreme cold spells, and others all impact the State of Wisconsin and our citizen's health directly and indirectly. The shifting of temperatures will dramatically increase the rate of diseases contracted by tick, mosquito, and other insects, and will lead to algae blooms that can have detrimental health impacts to our pets and ourselves. Unfortunately, if the DNR supports the relocation of the Enbridge Line 5, they are supporting all of these negative impacts burning fossil fuels have to the health of Wisconsinites, Americans, and the world.

It is vital that we understand that approving the use of Wisconsin's wetlands for transporting an archaic energy source is also approving the devastating results that climate instability has on human health. These health impacts also have an unseen economic impact as well. The State of Wisconsin will be on the wrong side of history if we allow for the relocation of Enbridge Line 5. Let us do what is right by moving "Forward" with clean, renewable energy sources to ensure the health of our loved ones now, and for generations to come.

From: Jennifer Giegerich
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Subject: Written Comments on Enbridge Pipeline
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:44:20 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[20200701 WI Conservation Voters Enbridge Testimony.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please find my written comments for the July 1st public hearing on the reroute of Enbridge Line 5 pipeline.

Thank you,

Jennifer

Jennifer Giegerich, Government Affairs Director

Wisconsin Conservation Voters

133 S. Butler St. Ste. 320, Madison, WI 53703

Office: 608-661-0845 | Direct: 608-208-1130 | Cell: 608-213-1406

Jennifer@conservationvoters.org | www.conservationvoters.org



Engaging voters to protect Wisconsin's environment.



**Testimony of Wisconsin Conservation Voters to Wisconsin DNR
Opposition to Enbridge Pipeline Reroute
July 1, 2020**

Wisconsin Conservation Voters is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to encouraging decision makers to champion conservation policies that effectively protect Wisconsin's public health and natural resources. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in opposition to Enbridge's plans for the continued operation of a pipeline through Wisconsin.

It is worth asking why Wisconsin would double down on a fossil fuel that has an outsized contribution to climate change, the most important issue facing our planet. Pipelines, such as Line 5, carry some of the dirtiest fuels in the world. We should be working to immediately retire these outdated energy sources. The Enbridge pipeline should be shutdown, not rebuilt and rerouted.

But, given that this is a hearing to talk about the threats to our water from this proposed revision of Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline, it makes even less sense. This pipeline is an immediate threat to Lake Superior and all the communities around it. The Bad River watershed and the Lake Superior shoreline are some of the most beautiful and ecologically important places on the planet. But, even more important, it is the home of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Their families and way of life is put at risk from the pollution this pipeline will bring.

The citizens of Wisconsin have been loud and clear about the value of this area when there were efforts almost a decade ago to develop an open-pit iron mine in this same watershed. And now, Enbridge, another out-of-state corporation would like Wisconsin residents to shoulder the threats of a dangerous project while taking all the profits out of the country.

Enbridge Line 5 threatens our drinking water, pollutes our rivers and lakes, and increases the dangers of flooding.

Enbridge Line 5 threatens our drinking water: Artesian wells bubble up throughout Ashland County and are a source of drinking water for many people. There is no mention of these wells or the potential impacts to them in Enbridge's Environmental Impact Review. Threats to our drinking water are a direct threat to public health and the DNR must ensure that there

is an accurate and complete accounting of impacts to drinking water sources from this pipeline.

Enbridge Line 5 threatens our rivers and streams with pollution: This new route is a terrible location for a pipeline. The proposed pipeline route is in the Lake Superior drainage basin and will affect numerous wetlands and cross many watersheds including Fish Creek, Lower and Upper Bad River, White River, Marengo River, Tyler Forks, Potato River, and Montreal River. The proposed route crosses areas of precious natural resources that will be permanently disrupted by the construction and further endangered by possible spills.

Finally, Line 5 will lead to increased flooding: The disturbance of wetlands for this pipeline impacts adjacent or connected wetlands and decreases total capacity to absorb heavy rain events. Enbridge 's Environmental Impact Review states that the project will affect approximately 200 acres of soil, which is difficult to revegetate. Failure to successfully revegetate may enhance erosion.

Extreme weather, logging and agricultural practices have already caused erosion in the Bad River Watershed. Pipeline exposed by a flood event is vulnerable to further damage and a devastating spill. Intense storms in recent years with resulting flash flooding, especially in the sensitive upland regions of the Bad River watershed, have contributed to road washouts in the course of hours. During these flash floods, culverts have been exposed or washed away, resulting in extensive silting into trout streams. The Environmental Impact Statement should address Enbridge's detailed plan for enhanced erosion control.

Ironically, extreme weather events due to climate change will only further exacerbate the impacts that will threaten the structural integrity of the pipeline's route.

Citizens see the Department of Natural Resources as the last line of defense for our drinking water, Lake Superior, and our rivers. We believe a thorough review of the threats to our waters from this pipeline will demonstrate why Wisconsin should reject efforts by Enbridge to expand Line 5. Thank you for your time and service.

For more information, contact Jennifer Giegerich at Jennifer@conservationvoters.org or 608-208-1130.

From: Ann Wisc
To: [DNR OE EA comments](#)
Cc: [Peggy Creer](#); [Louise Petering](#)
Subject: Written comments regarding Enbridge Pipeline 5 - please deny the permit
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:54:22 PM
Attachments: [Batiza.Enbridge Testimony 7.1.20.docx](#)

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

I have attached my written comments to urge that you deny the wetlands and waterways permit to Enbridge Corporation for Line 5. I provided essentially the same testimony at the July 1, 2020 WI DNR hearing. I have also copied that request below. Thank you for considering my request.

Dear Wisconsin DNR:

My name is Ann Batiza. I live in Milwaukee at 200 S. Water Street #205, 53204. Thank you for listening to my concerns at the July 1, 2020 Wisconsin DNR hearing and in the comments below.

I am urging that you deny a wetlands and waterways permit to Enbridge for Pipeline 5.

As a child and teenager, I would make the yearly trek to Washburn from Texas and later from Oklahoma to visit my great grandmother, Christiana Nelson. (I often asked my parents why we lived in Texas, when we could have lived in beautiful Wisconsin! My mother grew up in Superior and my father in Menomonie, and as an adult, I made my wish come true.)

My great grandmother came to Washburn from Norway in 1889 and married a Swede there in 1892, both of them undoubtedly drawn by the crystal clear waters of Lake Superior. These waters are visible from their gravesites.

Not only my European ancestors, but more importantly, the ancestors of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa found these waters beautiful and nourishing.

I am asking for justice not only for all those ancestors, but for the current residents who depend upon the wild rice harvesting areas, the spawning sites for walleye and northern pike, and the trout streams that feed into Lake Superior.

I am asking for justice for the clear water that nourishes residents of the Bad River Reservation and for the fragile ecological relationships within the Bad River watershed.

What does that justice look like?

Justice removes the threat of contamination by a pipeline that has spilled over 1 million barrels of fossil fuels along its path.

Justice prevents Copper Falls from ever turning black with sludge. (The reroute crosses just upstream .)

Justice removes the threat of 1 billion dollars and years devoted to cleaning up Enbridge's messes as happened in Michigan.

Justice honors the 1854 Treaty that ceded these lands and gathering rights to the Bad River Reservation.

Justice recognizes the lack of transparency and irresponsibility of the Enbridge Corporation recently slapped with an ~7 million dollar fine for endangering public safety.

Justice honors the wishes of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa Nation.

Justice for the current residents of the Bad River Reservation and their descendants urges that you deny a wetlands and waterways permit to Enbridge for Pipeline 5.

Thank you very much for considering my request.

Best regards,
Ann Batiza, 200 S. Water Street #205, Milwaukee, WI 53204

Testimony: Please Deny the Permit to Enbridge for Pipeline 5

July 10, 2020

Dear Wisconsin DNR:

My name is Ann Batiza. I live in Milwaukee at 200 S. Water Street #205, 53204. Thank you for listening to my concerns at the July 1, 2020 Wisconsin DNR hearing and in the comments below.

I am urging that you deny a wetlands and waterways permit to Enbridge for Pipeline 5.

As a child and teenager, I would make the yearly trek to Washburn from Texas and later from Oklahoma to visit my great grandmother, Christiana Nelson. (I often asked my parents why we lived in Texas, when we could have lived in beautiful Wisconsin! My mother grew up in Superior and my father in Menomonie, and as an adult, I made my wish come true.)

My great grandmother came to Washburn from Norway in 1889 and married a Swede there in 1892, both of them undoubtedly drawn by the crystal clear waters of Lake Superior. These waters are visible from their gravesites.

Not only my European ancestors, but more importantly, the ancestors of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa found these waters beautiful and nourishing.

I am asking for justice not only for all those ancestors, but for the current residents who depend upon the wild rice harvesting areas, the spawning sites for walleye and northern pike, and the trout streams that feed into Lake Superior.

I am asking for justice for the clear water that nourishes residents of the Bad River Reservation and for the fragile ecological relationships within the Bad River watershed.

What does that justice look like?

Justice removes the threat of contamination by a pipeline that has spilled over 1 million barrels of fossil fuels along its path.

Justice prevents Copper Falls from ever turning black with sludge. (The reroute crosses just upstream .)

Justice removes the threat of 1 billion dollars and years devoted to cleaning up Enbridge's messes as happened in Michigan.

Justice honors the 1854 Treaty that ceded these lands and gathering rights to the Bad River Reservation.

Justice recognizes the lack of transparency and irresponsibility of the Enbridge Corporation recently slapped with an ~7 million dollar fine for endangering public safety.

Justice honors the wishes of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa Nation.

Justice for the current residents of the Bad River Reservation and their descendants urges that you deny a wetlands and waterways permit to Enbridge for Pipeline 5.

Thank you very much for considering my request.

Best regards,

Ann Batiza, 200 S. Water Street #205, Milwaukee, WI 53204