

# Replacement of Line 3 is a safety-driven infrastructure modernization project

## What opponents get wrong and you should know

*Myth: Line 3 has had 28 frac outs/spills that have polluted Minnesota rivers and aquifers.*

**Fact: During river crossing construction, Enbridge took great care to protect the environment. All releases of drilling mud were contained and thoroughly cleaned, successfully protecting aquifers and downstream waters from any impacts. Releases like this are not unexpected and plans for managing them are written into the permits. The drilling mud used is nontoxic, has many everyday uses and is sometimes used to clean and protect water resources.**

- According to the MPCA, **release of drilling fluid is not unexpected.** Enbridge followed **procedures for managing containment and clean up as specified in Project permits.**
- There was one inadvertent release of drilling mud into a river and it was **contained and thoroughly cleaned up.** Others were on land or nearby wetlands and likewise were quickly contained and remediated. In all cases, environmental control measures successfully protected aquifers and downstream waters from any impacts.
- Drilling mud is **non-toxic** and primarily **made up of naturally occurring bentonite clay (used in spas to treat skin allergies and acne and for home improvement projects) and water** and is **approved for use by the DNR and PCA.** Sometimes, it also includes xanthium gum, which is a common food additive often used in gluten free baking.
- **Bentonite clay is also approved as effective for cleaning contamination** in soil, water and air.

*Myth: The Project violates Indigenous Rights*

**Fact: Enbridge respects Tribal sovereignty.**

- Reached agreements on route with Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO) and Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (FDL) Tribal governments.
- LLBO and FDL have **spoken and written in support** of project permits.
- **First-of-its kind Tribal Cultural Resource Survey** of entire route.
- **Tribal monitors have authority to temporarily halt construction** to help protect important cultural resources.
- Enbridge has **spent \$250 million to date with tribal nations,** communities and contractors.
- More than 560 Native men and women have worked on Line 3 to date, roughly **6% of the workforce.**

*Myth: Line 3 man camps are sites of human trafficking, putting Indigenous women and children at risk*

**Fact: There are no man camps on Line 3 and never have been. Enbridge is working to increase awareness of human trafficking.**

- **Enbridge has zero tolerance** for such exploitation by anyone associated with our company or its projects and anyone **caught or arrested for such activity will be fired immediately.**
- All workers are **required to complete human trafficking awareness training to spot and report suspected trafficking situations.**
- More than **11,000 workers have completed human trafficking awareness and prevention training,** making the Line 3 Replacement Project one of the **largest human trafficking education platforms** of its kind in the state and industry.
- Enbridge **worked with the Tribes United Against Sex Trafficking (TRUST) Task Force and other experts to support the development of a public service campaign to raise awareness of human trafficking, Your Call Minnesota.**
- During the project, workers obtain their own lodging at hotels and motels, campgrounds, or renting private apartments or homes.

*Myth: The DNR gave Enbridge 5 billion gallons of water for \$150 during extreme drought.*

**Fact: The DNR permit allows Enbridge to create a safe workspace by removing water from trenches dug during construction. All water removed from trenches is returned to the ground a few feet from the trench.**

- When digging the trench for the pipe, workers **remove water that collects at the bottom,** then release it nearby so the **land can naturally filter it as it returns to its original source**
- As approved in state permits, Enbridge construction crews **remove water to protect workers in the trenches, the water itself and the natural environment**
- The revised **permit conditions allow** Enbridge to use equipment that draws larger volumes of water than traditional sump pump systems, but **discharges cleaner water back into the surrounding area**
- Of the 5 billion gallons of water allowed by the permit, Enbridge **only moved approximately 1.2 billion gallons of water**
- Enbridge is working with State Agencies to **implement strategies to reuse water to minimize** total needs. More than 50% of the water being used for hydro-testing is recycled water

*Myth: The Project will impact sacred wild rice watersheds in Ojibwe treaty territory*

**Fact: Enbridge has and will continue to safely co-exist with sacred wild rice watersheds in Minnesota.**

- Enbridge pipelines have **safely co-existed** in Ojibwe treaty territory for 70+ years.
- **No data in regulatory record** demonstrates that Enbridge has damaged Minnesota wild rice lakes.
- Significant **Line 3 route changes were made to avoid a wild rice watershed sacred** to White Earth Band of Ojibwe (WEBO).

*Myth: Project would carry “pollution equivalent” to 50 coal power plants*

**Fact: Replacing Line 3 has no impact on greenhouse gas emissions according to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).**

- Replacing Line 3 has **no impact on production or use of fossil fuels.**
- Restored capacity displaces **crude oil being delivered today by more carbon intense transportation.**
- The **EIS notes** the full volume transported on Line 3 would require **10 trains, each 110 tank cars long, or 4,000 tanker trucks travelling daily, all with greater emissions.**

*Myth: Officials should stop Line 3 / fossil fuel infrastructure construction due to climate change*

**Fact: Stopping Line 3 replacement will not stop oil flow nor reduce impacts of climate change.**

- This is a false choice – **oil will still get to market** by less safe, less energy-efficient means on truck and train.
- During a just energy transition from fossil fuels, **Indigenous people, rich natural environments and communities must be protected by newer, safer pipe** and all families need safe, affordable energy.
- **The vast majority of climate change emissions come from oil usage** – a responsibility we all share.
- One of the first North American energy companies to **pledge net zero GHG emissions by 2050.**
- **We were given a grade of A- for our climate change efforts** by the Carbon Disclosure Project.

*Myth: Project review didn't sufficiently examine potential environmental impacts*

**Fact: Line 3 far exceeds regulatory standards, is most studied pipeline in Minnesota history.**

- 6 years, 71 public regulatory meetings, 3,500+ community engagement meetings to gather input, ensure thorough **scientific review that met and exceeded Minnesota** legal and regulatory requirements.
- **Regulators repeatedly approved** and stood behind their decisions to approve this project.
- Opponent legal **challenges are from groups unwilling to accept the science.**

*Myth: This is a new pipeline – in a new route*

**Fact: The replacement route follows existing energy infrastructure for 75% route and deviations are the result of Tribal and stakeholder requests.**

- Line 3 stays within the **existing corridor over half** of the way through Minnesota.
- Where replacement line does not follow existing line, **it follows four pipelines** owned by another company, then follows an **existing power line corridor.**
- The replacement route **reflects Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe requests.**
- **There were 320 route modifications based on stakeholder input.**

*Myth: Line 3 will put the Mississippi River and critical water resources at risk of tar sands spills*

**Fact: Minnesota's water resources are at greater risk if Line 3 is not replaced.**

- Line 3 was built in the 1960s, travels through wetlands, crosses the Mississippi twice in Minnesota.
- Replacing an aging pipeline with a safer, thicker steel and more advanced coating is in Minnesota's water resources' best interest.
- Replacement will **reduce disruptions to the environment** due to ongoing maintenance.
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Commissioner Laura Bishop stated:
  - “The **MPCA has used sound science and thorough analysis to ensure that necessary safeguards are in place to protect Minnesota's waters.**
  - The 401 certification requires Enbridge to **meet Minnesota's extensive water quality standards instead of lower federal standards**
  - The result is a **certification and permits that are strong, enforceable, and protective.**”

*Myth: Nobody wants Line 3*

**Fact: Line 3 Replacement has widespread support, especially in the areas it crosses that are most directly impacted.**

- According to research conducted in 2020, **most people support replacing aging pipeline infrastructure**. And, 91% of residents closest to and most directly impacted by the project – those who live along its route – support the Line 3 Replacement Project.
- **Federal, state and local elected officials passed and/or signed more than 90 resolutions and letters supporting the replacement of Line 3** and 40,000 petition signatures and supportive letters have been gathered from Minnesotans who support the project.
- **Line 3 has supporters in all 87 Minnesota counties, 60,000 residents show their support with yard signs, advocacy for the project, penning letters to the editor and attending meetings in support of the project.**

*Myth: Enbridge has an abysmal safety and spill history*

**Fact: Enbridge has a strong safety record and strives toward zero releases.**

- In 2020, Enbridge **safely transported more than 3.77 billion barrels of oil**, and spilled a total of 63 barrels outside our facilities, for a **safe delivery record of 99.999975%**.
- The 2010 Kalamazoo River oil **spill transformed Enbridge forever**. The company spent millions improving the safety of its system, adding and training staff, conducting drills, monitoring and increasing maintenance on existing infrastructure and more.
- The **cleanup was hailed for restoring the river corridor, improving water quality**, fish and wildlife habitat, and the experience of river users.

*Myth: Enbridge does not respect the human rights of protesters*

**Fact: We understand there are differing opinions about the energy we all use. As a company, we recognize the rights of individuals and groups to express their views legally and peacefully.**

- Enbridge recognizes governments have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights.
- Enbridge will work with governments, tribes and agencies to support and respect human rights.
- Enbridge approach to protest activity is **respect for freedom of speech and de-escalation**
- Enbridge **will not tolerate human rights abuses** and will not engage or be complicit in any activity that solicits or encourages human rights abuse.
- Enbridge will always strive to build trust, deliver mutual advantage and **demonstrate respect for human dignity and rights in all relationships** it enters into, including respect for cultures, customs and values of individuals and groups

*Myth: Enbridge is paying and privatizing local law enforcement*

**Fact: The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission included a condition in the L3RP Route Permit establishing a public safety escrow account. Enbridge is required to pay into the account – an independent public safety escrow account manager decides how local law enforcement will be compensated for their costs.**

- Community police and sheriff deputies are responsible for public safety.
- Officers decide when protestors are breaking the law – or putting themselves and others in danger.
- The costs to communities from illegal protests can be submitted to the Line 3 public safety escrow account for compensation.
- The independent Public Safety Escrow Account Manager appointed by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission receives these bills – decides if they are appropriate – and reimburses communities accordingly.

*Myth: Line 3 has not delivered jobs to Minnesotans*

**Fact: Replacing Line 3 has provided critical economic benefits for northern Minnesota counties, small businesses, Native American communities, and union members – including creating 5,400 family-sustaining construction jobs, and millions of dollars in local spending and tax revenues.**

- The Line 3 Project Labor Agreement stipulates that the **contractor supplies 50% of the workforce and local union halls provide 50% of the workforce**. In many cases local union halls include membership in neighboring states like Wisconsin and the Dakotas.
- **Minnesota benches quickly** emptied as union workers filled jobs on the project.
- Due to seasonal and environmental restrictions, work on the Line 3 Replacement Project paused for most pipeline construction activities for approximately two months beginning April 1. Construction continues at the eight Line 3 pump station facilities and environmental inspectors continue to monitor the Project Right-of-Way **employing more than 800 workers during this planned pause in mainline construction**.
- Enbridge has begun construction on two new maintenance facilities in Park Rapids and Hill City, and combined with new positions at pump stations, **Line 3 will create 20 new permanent positions**.

*Myth: Enbridge wants to get out of paying taxes/  
Enbridge is burdening taxpayers*

**Fact: Enbridge has always been willing to pay our fair share of property taxes in Minnesota and expected and proposed tax increases every year.**

- Enbridge paid \$34 million in MN property taxes in 2012 and our annual property tax bill has consistently gone up. In 2019, we paid \$55 million in property taxes, and in 2020, we paid \$43 million.
- **Enbridge did not agree with – and the courts have since also ruled – that the Minnesota Department of Revenue (DOR) calculations in 2012 and subsequent years were too high.**
- This is **not unique to Enbridge**. The courts have adjusted the tax valuation differences for numerous other utilities and companies in the state.
- What is most unfortunate, is that the **counties did not have a voice in the valuation** calculations, Enbridge had to pay the counties the higher state-assessed tax amounts while the courts reviewed the cases and now the court is ordering the counties to pay back what is owed to Enbridge.
- Enbridge estimates its annual Minnesota property taxes will increase incrementally by more than **\$35 million** beginning the first full year of service of the Line 3 Replacement Project.

*Myth: Line 3 workers are spreading COVID-19*

**Fact: To protect our team, workers and surrounding communities, Enbridge has instituted strict and industry-leading coronavirus testing and screening protocols for Line 3. These include repeated, regular COVID-19 testing and daily health and temperature screenings, as well as required on-site safety protocols like wearing masks, observing strict physical distancing, and regularly sanitizing work areas.**

- Testing, screening, distancing, cleaning and isolation protocols have worked very well to protect both workers and surrounding communities.
- Individual workers on Line 3 are undergoing multiple nasal swab tests for the coronavirus, including testing on the first and seventh day of employment on the project and then on a bi-weekly basis after that.
- Any worker infected with COVID-19, or in contact with an infected person, is not allowed access to the work site and is required to isolate and quarantine following State of Minnesota and CDC recognized guidance.
- We continue to share our COVID-19 preparedness plan with state, local and regional health authorities. We are also engaging directly with communities to explain and answer questions about how our plan and preparations will help protect our workers and neighbors while we work to safely to build Line 3 in Minnesota
- All Line 3 project COVID safety protocols **follow the latest guidance provided by local, state, and federal guidelines to protect both themselves and local communities.**