Maintaining safe and reliable access to North American energy supplies

Line 5 Wisconsin segment relocation

Crude oil and natural gas liquids are refined into products we use every day to heat our homes and businesses, and to fuel our vehicles.

Enbridge has been transporting North American energy supplies to refineries through underground pipelines for decades safely and reliably. The safe operation and maintenance of these pipelines is our top priority.

Line 5 has operated in northern Wisconsin since 1953, providing a vital link to propane and other energy supplies for northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Every day Line 5 transports 540,000 barrels of light crude oil, light synthetic crude oil, and natural gas liquids across Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, and Iron counties. Line 5 is a critical piece of energy infrastructure that transports essential fuels to heat homes, schools, and businesses, power transportation, and fuel industry in Wisconsin, the larger Midwest region, and eastern Canada.

In response to the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians request to relocate Line 5 off their Reservation, Enbridge has studied possible relocation options for a 12-mile segment of Line 5. Enbridge remains committed to continued dialogue with Bad River leadership; however, the company has an obligation to provide uninterrupted service to its customers and is therefore moving forward with a re-route of Line 5.

Enbridge conducted surveys along an approximate 40-mile corridor in Ashland and Iron counties. Enbridge also contacted landowners and reached easement agreements with 100% of landowners whose property would be crossed. The Enbridge proposed route best balances impacts to protected environments and affected communities.

In February 2020, Enbridge initiated the permitting process through a filing of applications to the federal government and the State of Wisconsin. The planning for relocating Line 5 has undergone a considerable amount of study and public review. The process of environmental permitting is underway and must be complete before any construction can begin.

Enbridge remains committed to open and inclusive public engagement. We will continue to reach out to stakeholders in the project area to make sure their issues and concerns are heard during the permitting process.
**Project purpose and need**

- In accordance with Bad River Band request and legal action, relocate segment of Line 5 pipeline off the Bad River Reservation.
- Continue uninterrupted transportation service through an underground pipeline of petroleum products that are refined into gas, diesel, jet fuel, and other products such as propane, which is extracted and used to heat homes and businesses in the Great Lakes region.

**Regulatory oversight and permitting**

Interstate liquid petroleum pipelines are regulated by various federal and state laws and regulations. Comprehensive national standards, federal laws and regulations have been developed over many decades that prescribe the design, construction, operation and maintenance of liquid petroleum pipelines. The agency exclusively responsible for regulating interstate crude oil pipeline safety is the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration’s office of Pipeline Safety Act. A number of other federal, state and local regulatory agencies are involved in the planning and permitting of any pipeline project including the segment relocation of Line 5.

More information on pipeline operation and regulation is available at pipeline101.org.

The regulatory and permitting process for the segment relocation of Line 5 in Wisconsin includes, but is not limited to, the following regulatory agencies:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wisconsin Historical Society – State Historic Preservation Office
- Wisconsin Department of Administration
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation

The State of Wisconsin has provided multiple opportunities for public input including two public hearings and a four-month comment period.

Questions?
email: enbridgeinWI@enbridge.com
website: enbridge.com/L5Wis