Replacing Line 3: The Facts

The Line 3 Replacement Project will replace existing aging infrastructure with new state of the art technology while protecting our environment, providing jobs and economic benefits to Minnesotans. The facts speak for themselves.

Strong support from the public

- 90 resolutions and letters of support were submitted to the MN Public Utilities Commission from federal, state and local elected officials and governments; this includes resolutions of support from a majority of the counties on Enbridge’s preferred route.
- More than 50% of unique speakers and thousands of attendees at the 16 public hearings in Fall 2017 were in support of the project.
- More than 16,000 calls have gone to Governor Dayton in support of replacing Line 3.
- An independent survey showed the overwhelming majority of people in Minnesota believe that we should repair and replace aging pipelines even if they oppose further fossil fuel projects in Minnesota (85% route, 75% Twin Cities suburbs, 80% statewide).

Landowners and communities are engaged

- Agreements have already been signed with 95% of landowners along the route (Over 5,400 contacts with private landowners in 2017).
- Over 840 meetings with local officials, community leaders and other interested stakeholders were held in 2017; more than 2,000 meetings since 2014.
- An independent survey showed 73% of respondents along the route said they trust state agencies and regulators to conduct a thorough environmental review of pipeline projects.
- That same study showed the top concern about the L3R project as reported by participants along the route is that regulatory delays may kill it and that fear has increased over time.

Safer and better for our environment

- According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, underground pipelines are the safest way to transport petroleum long distances from oil reserves to refineries.
- The replacement pipeline will utilize the most advanced technology, including advances in welding, pipe-manufacturing, and construction quality, plus the use of fusion-bonded epoxy coating on thicker-walled steel pipe.
- A new 36 inch pipeline to replace Line 3 will use less energy than either a new 34 inch pipeline or continued use of the existing Line 3 with rail supplementing.

Robust regulatory oversight

- An administrative law judge concluded that, from an environmental perspective, replacing Line 3 is superior to maintaining the existing line.
- There have been 65 public meetings and numerous public comment periods over the past four years.
- The five panel MPUC unanimously determined the project is needed and issued a Certificate of Need on June 28, 2018 with conditions.
- The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa have been contracted to conduct the Tribal Cultural Properties Survey required by the U.S. Corp of Army Engineers permitting process.
- Enbridge still needs to secure more than 20 permits and approvals at the federal, state and local levels before the start of construction.

Benefits to Minnesota

- Reliable supply of crude oil to Minnesota refineries for years to come
- Additional $19.5 million annual property taxes to Minnesota after its first year in service
- $2+ billion private investment into Minnesota supporting 8,600 jobs during construction
- $100 million in economic development and employment opportunities for Minnesota Tribes

Questions?

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“As elected officials, we value a robust and transparent process with ample opportunity for public input. After nearly three years of analysis and more than 60 public meetings, we believe these goals have been achieved. The majority of the counties, cities and townships we represent support the need for this project.”

DFL Leaders Thomas Bakk, David Tomassoni and Rob Ecklund

“I fail to see how soon it will be before we can plant anything in any field without oil.”

Representative Debra Kiel, MN District 1B

“I think that a lot of people don’t realize that Enbridge sets the standard, a very high standard. I can go back to our Elders and explain to them how we keep our standards up, who we all report to, how we stay compliant.”

Audrey, Pipeliner, raised in the American southwest on the Navajo Nation

“There was a sense of excitement for the business community when the pipeline came through in 2009. Pipeliners spent on average about eight times as much as our regular customers when they came in. They were very patriotic. It’s really “peace oil” in these pipelines. Allowing us to shift our reliance from overseas oil to North American supply… why wouldn’t we embrace that?”

Bill, Bemidji, Minnesota Business Owner