Line 3 Replacement Project: What’s left before construction

The Line 3 Replacement Program, the largest project in Enbridge history, represents an improvement of our pipeline infrastructure—helping to ensure that Minnesota and the surrounding region are connected to secure, reliable and growing supplies of North American crude oil.

In June 2018, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) granted a Certificate of Need and approved the preferred route with minor modifications. And in August 2018, Enbridge and the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa negotiated a mutually beneficial agreement that assures construction of the project through the reservation, while protecting vital natural and cultural resources for tribal members. On October 26, 2018 the written Route Permit was issued. In November and December, PUC Commissioners reaffirmed their approval of the project’s Certificate of Need and Route Permit.

The Fond du Lac Band has done a Tribal and Cultural Properties survey of the entire route.

In the coming months, Enbridge will work with the appropriate authorities to secure more than 20 permits and approvals at the federal, state and local levels before the start of construction.

Please see reverse for a list of permits and authorizations Enbridge must obtain.

Learn more:
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Line 3 Replacement Project

Necessary permits and authorizations

- Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
  - Order to Construct

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - Section 404/10 individual permit
  - Section 408 authorization

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Bald eagle nest disturbance permit

- Bureau of Indian Affairs
  - Right-of-way grant

- Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
  - Tribal permits and authorizations

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
  - License to cross public waters
  - Work in public waters permit
  - License to cross public lands
  - Long-term lease for access roads to valves
  - Short-term leases for both haul and access roads
  - Endangered species permit
  - Gully 30 calcareous fen management plan authorization
  - Individual groundwater appropriation permit

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
  - Section 401 water quality certification and anti-degradation assessment
  - Clearbrook Terminal air quality permit
  - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) industry hydrostatic discharge permit
  - NPDES construction stormwater general permit
  - NPDES general construction stormwater coverage for equipment yards

- Minnesota Department of Transportation
  - Road crossing permit
  - Temporary access permit

- Watershed Districts
  - Red Lake Watershed permit
  - Two Rivers Watershed permit
  - Middle-Snake Watershed permit

- Mississippi Headwaters Board
  - Compatibility evaluation

- Minnesota Department of Drinking Water Supply Management Areas
  - Notification

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
  - License to cross public waters
  - Work in public waters permit
  - License to cross public lands
  - Long-term lease for access roads to valves
  - Short-term leases for both haul and access roads
  - Endangered species permit
  - Gully 30 calcareous fen management plan authorization
  - Individual groundwater appropriation permit

Construction will occur after receipt of regulatory and associated permit approvals. The replacement for Line 3 is expected to enter service in the second half of 2020.

Land restoration and deactivation of the original Line 3 will follow construction. We will update individual landowners and other stakeholders as we move through the planning and regulatory process. Pre-construction activities, including surveying, land acquisition, engineering and design, began in 2014.