



1.18.24

TO: U.S. Senate and U.S. House Members

SUBJECT: Please Ask Pres. Biden to Protect the Great Lakes, U.S. and Tribal Sovereignty

Enbridge's Line 5 is America's Most Dangerous Oil Pipeline. It not only threatens the Great Lakes, but Enbridge and the Canadian federal government are using the pipeline to establish a legal precedent that creates additional risks to the Great Lakes and could tip us dangerously close to surrendering control over America's northern border to Canada's Big Oil interests.

Enbridge's own experts testified, and other independent reports confirm that a Line 5 pipeline shutdown would have little impact on energy prices and would not increase truck traffic to move the product it carries. The 70-year-old pipeline's failure, however, threatens our Great Lakes, Tribal sovereignty, and American laws that safeguard our water, our communities, and our children's future.

The proposed Enbridge Great Lakes oil tunnel is not a solution as it is more than a decade away and invests in more unneeded fossil fuel infrastructure and oil industry profits instead of addressing our overheating climate.

We are writing to strongly urge you to tell the Biden administration that it must revoke the presidential permit for Line 5 and stand with the American people in a huge legal battle pitting Big Oil and Canada against American laws and Tribal sovereignty.

That's what's at stake in a Wisconsin federal appeals court case where judges are waiting to hear from President Biden's administration. The President must answer whether the United States agrees with Canada that a Canadian oil pipeline operating in the United States cannot be shut down even if it violates domestic environmental laws, tribal sovereignty, and a centuries-old tribal treaty.

If the court decision goes Enbridge's way, expect every pipeline crossing from Canada into the U.S.--from Washington State to Maine and everywhere in between--to potentially be exempt from American court orders enforcing American laws that require dangerous pipelines to be shut down or relocated.

Big Oil money has been fighting the Bad River Band tribe in court, but a federal judge has ruled Enbridge is trespassing on tribal reservation land in Wisconsin and must leave. Enbridge wants a federal appeals court to overrule those orders, leaving the 70-year-old Line 5 pipeline as a dangerous threat to tribal lands and the Lake Superior watershed.

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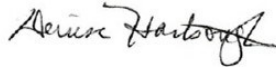
Moreover, Enbridge is making the same extraordinary claim of being exempt from laws in Michigan, challenging Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel's lawsuit aimed at shutting down Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac.

At least 35 times, Line 5 has failed. It has spilled over 1 million gallons of oil and natural gas liquids so far. It is a ticking time bomb every day it operates. Please urge President Biden to end the threat of Line 5 today by revoking its presidential permit and implementing an orderly decommissioning.

Sincerely,



Paula Bowman  
Co-President



Denise Hartsough  
Co-President