

Environmental Impact Statement Preparation Notice Line 3 Pipeline Replacement Project

December 05, 2016

The Minnesota Department of Commerce is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for Enbridge Energy's proposed Line 3 pipeline replacement project. Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (Enbridge) has applied for a certificate of need and a route permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to construct and operate the proposed project. The Commission has authorized the Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis unit (EERA) to prepare an EIS for the proposed project in consultation with the Commission's executive secretary. Commerce EERA is preparing the EIS in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Enbridge's proposed 337-mile long route for the project would cross Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Clearwater, Hubbard, Wadena, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin and Carlton counties in Minnesota. The proposed project also includes upgrades to existing pump stations at Clearbrook, Donaldson, Plummer and Viking; and construction of new pump stations at Backus, Cromwell, Palisade and Two Inlets. Upon completion of the project, Enbridge proposes to permanently deactivate the existing Line 3 pipeline and leave it in place.

The Commission approved the Final Scoping Decision Document (FSDD) for the EIS on November 30, 2016. The FSDD and other relevant documents are available at:
<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=34079>.

In accordance with the FSDD, the EIS will analyze the following general topics:

- Pipeline deactivation or abandonment
- Greenhouse gas emissions and climate change
- Potential impacts of oil spills and leaks on area lakes, rivers, groundwater, and other natural resources such as wildlife, wild rice, and human settlements
- Unique tribal concerns (e.g., cultural resources, treaty rights, wild rice areas)
- Potential impacts to humans settlements and local economies
- Natural resource impacts (e.g. water, wetlands, wildlife, and natural communities)
- Cumulative potential effects
- Development of a new pipeline corridor

The EIS will analyze a variety of project alternatives including:

- Enbridge's proposed route
- Alternative technologies (including oil transport by truck and rail)

- Modified designs or layouts (including one system alternative, four route alternatives, and 24 route segment alternatives; see attached maps)
- Alternatives incorporating reasonable mitigation measures
- No action alternative

A history of actions to date and a tentative EIS schedule are included in the table below:

EIS Tentative Schedule	
Task	Date
Scoping EAW and DSDD Issued	April 11, 2016
2016 EIS Public Scoping Meetings	April–May 2016
Close of 2016 EIS Public Comment Period	May 26, 2016
Scoping Summary Report, FSDD, Alternatives Screening Report, and Comments and Recommendations to Commission	September 21, 2016
Commission Meeting to Approve Final Scope	October 28, 2016
Commission Decision on Final Scope	November 30, 2016
EIS Preparation Notice (Start of 280-day EIS process)	December 05, 2016
Draft EIS Issued for Public Review and Comment	April 3, 2017
Draft EIS Public Meetings	April-May 2017
Final EIS Issued	July 10, 2017

How to Learn More

Project Mailing List

Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.). Contact docketing.puc@state.mn.us, 651-201-2204, or 1-800-657-3782 with the project's docket numbers, your name, mailing address, and email address. The Line 3 project has two docket numbers. The docket number for Enbridge's certificate of need application is 14-916. The docket number for Enbridge's route permit application is 15-137.

Department of Commerce Project Website

Line 3: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=34079>

E-Dockets (Full Case Record)

To review all documents filed with the Commission regarding the Line 3 project, go to: <http://www.mn.gov/puc/>, click on "Search Documents, eDockets," and enter the docket number. The Line 3 project has two docket numbers. The docket number for Enbridge's certificate of need application is 14-916. The docket number for Enbridge's route permit application is 15-137.

E-Dockets Subscription

To receive an email every time a document is filed with the Commission regarding the Line 3 project, create a subscription with the Commission's electronic docketing system (e-Dockets). Go to:

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/subscription/createSubscription.do?method=subscribeNew>
and follow the instructions.

Contacts

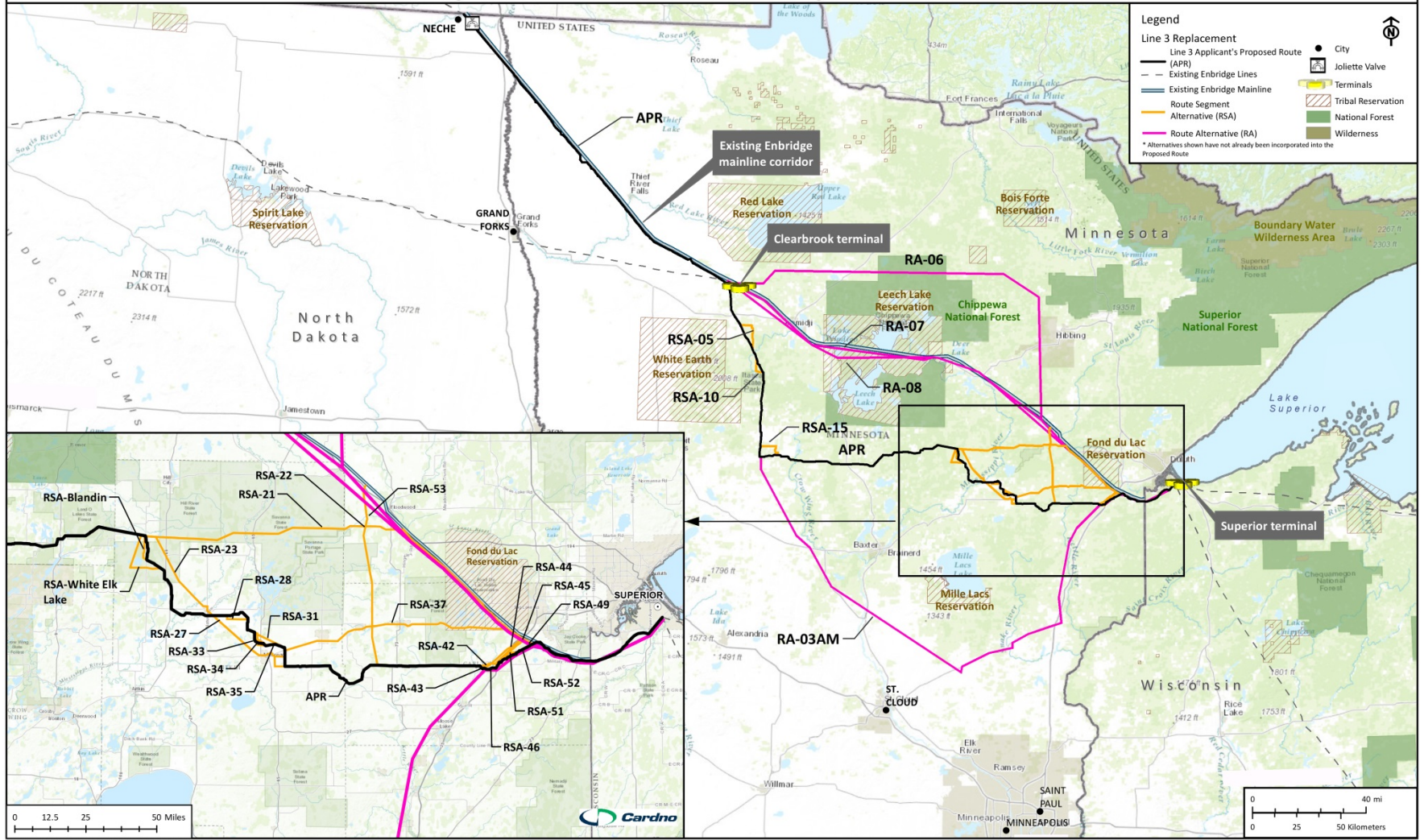
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Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 2: Route Alternatives and Route Segment Alternatives



Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1a: System Alternative Selected for Analysis in the EIS

