

DEIS MEETINGS - 14-916 15-137

GRAND RAPIDS - JUNE 6, 2017 - 6:00 P.M.

(PRIVATE COMMENTS WITH COURT REPORTERS)

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy,
Limited Partnership for a Certificate of Need for the
Line 3 Pipeline Replacement Project in Minnesota from the
North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border.

PUC DOCKET NO: CN-14-916
OAH DOCKET NO: 65-2500-32764

In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy,
Limited Partnership for a Route Permit for the Line 3
Pipeline Replacement Project in Minnesota from the North
Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border

PUC DOCKET NO: PPL-15-137
OAH DOCKET NO: 65-2500-33377

IRA Civic Center
1401 NW 3rd Avenue
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

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1 (GRAND RAPIDS)

2 MS. DARLENE FREEMAN: My comment is
3 with the abandonment. What type of laws and
4 regulations are set up in the state of Minnesota for
5 this? If they do not have any, why are we not
6 addressing that now?

7 And then the other thing is the
8 abandonment is really the wrong way of doing it. I
9 think that they should go back and clean it up and
10 bring their pipe through that process instead of
11 going another route that has no way of making it
12 feasible for them. Because the people, especially
13 the Indian communities are being affected so
14 dramatically and it seems like that's always the
15 easy way for a business to do that.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. JOE ABEYTA: My name is Joe
18 Abeyta, J-O-E, A-B-E-Y-T-A.

19 And the only comment I want to make is
20 that the technology has seriously changed over the
21 years when it comes to pipe lining. The equipment
22 is better, more high-tech, we have better safety
23 measures and monitoring processes for it.

24 And you take examples of oil spills
25 from 1991 and try to make them relevant to today is

1 not possible. The oil spill the lady spoke of in
2 '91 happened 50 yards from the house I currently
3 live in. And my house has well water and we've had
4 it tested and it is safe and it is drinkable and we
5 do drink it, including my 10-month old daughter.
6 Our water is safe.

7 And just the technology today is way
8 more advanced than the pipeline that they want to
9 replace. So to replace it with today's technology
10 is the best thing to do.

11 So I strongly support the technology
12 we have putting in this pipeline. It puts food on
13 my table, it feeds my family, and I feel safer for
14 my kids in the future 'cause I know what technology
15 is out there.

16 I think that's probably all I want to
17 say on that. Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

18 MR. WILLIAM SWEENEY: William Sweeney,
19 S-W-E-E-N-E-Y. I just would like to comment. Any
20 business entity in the U.S. is not allowed to
21 abandon an empty tank with oil in it, and I don't
22 understand how they could abandon a 300-mile tank
23 with oil still in it. It's going to have oil in it.
24 And once you empty it out, you enter the interphase
25 of the tank, the area between the liquid and the

1 air. And those erode like crazy very quickly. And
2 I don't understand how they can leave that in the
3 ground.

4 I'm not opposed to the pipeline. I
5 just think they could rip the old one out.

6 MR. GARY BURT: My name is Gary Burt.
7 First name G-A-R-Y. Second name same as Burt
8 Reynolds' first name, B-U-R-T.

9 Enbridge is not in the oil business.
10 Oil is just a facade or the stage on which their
11 business is played out on. Enbridge, like every
12 other system based on patriarchal male values, is in
13 the addiction business. Enbridge and the people who
14 run it are addicted to money and power, and they use
15 oil to gain and maintain that money and power and
16 the social status that comes with that money and
17 power.

18 The patriarchal male system is based
19 on four myths. The first and primary myth is that
20 the patriarchal male system is the only system that
21 exists.

22 The second myth is the patriarchal
23 system is innately superior to any other system that
24 could exist.

25 The third myth is the patriarchal

1 system knows and understands everything. This is
2 important because, to believe it, means that
3 anything that is not understood by the methods and
4 technology of the patriarchal system theoretically
5 doesn't exist. This myth defines what knowledge is
6 and what is worth learning. This all -- this myth
7 also defines large areas of learning information out
8 of existence.

9 The fourth myth is that it is possible
10 by the patriarchal males to be totally logical,
11 rational, and objective.

12 The patriarchal system surrounds and
13 envelopes us, but does not feel like home. In order
14 to survive within it, we must adjust our values,
15 language, and thinking and the way we view the
16 world. We must deny our own reality and surrender
17 our personal power in order to gain a minimum sense
18 of acceptance.

19 This current socioeconomic system does
20 not reward ability and achievement, as much as it is
21 geared to reward two things. One, capital. Two,
22 the willingness to sacrifice any ethical concerns in
23 order to gain capital or serve those who have
24 capital.

25 These choices are presented to all of

1 us again and again. If you're not -- if you're not
2 born with capital, the chances are you are a wage
3 slave to someone with capital.

4 Demands are made to sacrifice personal
5 ethical standards to serve the designs of capital.
6 Those who do so with skill and ruthlessness succeed
7 in this society.

8 The super rich don't actually want the
9 free market to work, because it tends to reduce
10 prices and, therefore, profits. They much prefer,
11 like the railroad and steamship tycoons of the 18th
12 Century, to create artificial means to stop the
13 market from working and to extract units, as
14 economists would say.

15 In a perfectly-functioning free
16 market, which is impossible outside a thought
17 experiment, everyone earns basically the same small
18 profits. Think family farming for a real-world
19 example. Does anyone think Enbridge CEOs want to
20 live like family farmers?

21 Big business in general and many oil
22 companies in particular don't want the truth about
23 global warming to get out and be believed. Even if
24 it destroys the world, it's bad for business. Yes,
25 we need business and jobs, but the first job of

1 government is to protect the people and the earth.
2 For corporations, however, the first job is to
3 protect assets and the bottom line, even if doing so
4 will destroy the world.

5 The choice is clear to anyone with any
6 kind of moral standards or standards that are not
7 based on being addicted to money, power, and status.

8 Man is the only animal that can make
9 this kind of problem or this kind of -- I forget the
10 word. Anyway, man is also the only animal that can
11 clean it up.

12 (End of Grand Rapids private comments.)
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