

DEIS MEETINGS - 14-916 15-137

ST. PAUL - JUNE 13, 2017 - 6:00 P.M.

(PRIVATE COMMENTS TO 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

Intercontinental Hotel
11 East Kellogg Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota

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1 MR. TRISTAN MICHAEL MERINO: Tristan,
2 T-R-I-S-T-A-N, Michael, M-I-C-H-A-E-L, M-E-R-I-N-O.

3 And I oppose the pipeline because I
4 don't believe that oil creates as many jobs as they
5 say they will. I don't think it'll be permanent
6 jobs, rather than like if we invested all that money
7 into clean energy, I think it would create more
8 long-term careers rather than short-term jobs. And
9 I wish we were moving away from oil, it's a dying
10 industry.

11 MR. RON WETZELL: The name is Ron,
12 R-O-N, Wetzell, W-E-T-Z-E-L-L.

13 In the closing days of the 2017
14 Minnesota legislative session, legislation regarding
15 Enbridge's Line 3 proposal was inserted into the
16 omnibus bill. The language stipulated that Enbridge
17 should be relieved of the requirement to obtain a
18 certificate of need from the State of Minnesota and
19 that no function, office, or person in the state of
20 Minnesota should be allowed to consider alternative
21 routing of this pipeline from what Enbridge wants.

22 In short, Enbridge asked for relief
23 from meeting Minnesota's regulation for this
24 project. Whose need is being served here? Will the
25 environment be served? Well, no.

1 This DEIS estimates that the line will
2 contribute directly and indirectly 450 tons of CO2
3 per year into the atmosphere. It estimates that the
4 project will add \$267 billion to our climate costs
5 in 30 years.

6 In addition, Enbridge plans to leave
7 current Line 3 in the ground, which will contaminate
8 and degrade our environment even further.

9 Will the Indigenous nations in the
10 vicinity of this project be served? Well, no.

11 The DEIS is clear. Line 3, quote,
12 would have a long-term detrimental effect on tribal
13 members and tribal resources. Traditional resources
14 are essential to the maintenance and realization of
15 the tribal life ways. And where destruction or
16 damage can have profound cultural consequences.
17 Disproportionate and adverse impacts would occur to
18 American Indian populations in the vicinity of the
19 proposed project, end quote.

20 There is more. Chapter 11, quote,
21 acknowledges that pipeline impacts on tribal
22 communities are part of the larger pattern of
23 structural racism that tribal people face in
24 Minnesota per a 2014 Minnesota Department of Health
25 study. The DEIS acknowledges that Line 3 would be

1 an additional stressor to these communities.

2 17 wild rice lakes would be in
3 jeopardy from this project. There is not now
4 available a comprehensive survey of the
5 archaeological resources that are endangered by this
6 project.

7 Will the Minnesota economy be served?
8 Well, no. Enbridge states in its application per
9 Chapter 5 that their existing operations would be
10 able to operate the pipeline and that few additional
11 workers would be hired, end quote. In addition, the
12 Department of Commerce expects that, quote, zero
13 construction jobs will go to Minnesota and there
14 would be no measurable impact on the local
15 employment per capita household income or
16 unemployment, end quote.

17 With regards to the matter of
18 alternative routing, why is it that Minnesota would
19 allow a corporation to dictate to the state what
20 routing the corporation consists on without being
21 willing to entertain realistic alternatives
22 including a no-build option? Why would the State of
23 Minnesota allow a corporation to abandon a mess,
24 i.e., current Line 3 that they have already made,
25 will not clean up, and just go on to create another

1 mess?

2 A corporation is asking for permission
3 from the state, right? In the end, this project
4 really should have started at the beginning. The
5 United Nations has stipulated that projects which
6 impact on Indigenous nations should require free,
7 prior, and informed consent. In addition, the State
8 of Minnesota has treaty obligations to the
9 Indigenous nations involved to protect their rights
10 to hunt, fish, and gather on their territory. Have
11 these conditions been met? Does the project
12 encroach on these agreements?

13 In reference to the question of whose
14 need this pipeline project satisfies, it is clear
15 that it does not serve the interests or the needs of
16 the environment, it does not honor our agreements to
17 respect the rights of the Indigenous nations in the
18 state of Minnesota impacted by this project, it does
19 not benefit the state economy. Who this project
20 does benefit is a corporation that wants to use the
21 state of Minnesota as a resource for their own
22 profit. The State of Minnesota needs to rule in
23 favor of the environment and Indigenous nations
24 rather than in the favor of a corporation looking
25 for its own profit. The State of Minnesota needs to

1 reject this project.

2 MS. EMILY JARRETT HUGHES: It's Emily
3 Jarrett Hughes. E-M-I-L-Y, J-A-R-R-E-T-T,
4 H-U-G-H-E-S.

5 So I am very concerned about the
6 environmental impact of this proposed pipeline. I'm
7 super concerned that the company be responsible for
8 the cleanup, not the government. Very concerned
9 that there will be insufficient monitoring of the
10 pipeline because when it's in rural areas and
11 there's less watching it. And it's a violation of
12 some treaties. And the role of the government and
13 the evaluation board is to make sure that we have
14 clean water for future generations and that's the
15 first thing that should be considered.

16 That's it.

17 MR. TOM ANDERSON: My name is Tom
18 Anderson, A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N.

19 And I'm very much opposed to the
20 building of this pipeline because, one, I hate to
21 see those dirty tar sands being brought down here.
22 And I feel like usually these things are
23 shortsighted in terms of they build it for very
24 short-term interests and then they have very little
25 ability to detect leaks in it. And then the

1 companies that build them make their profit and
2 leave and we're left with the environmental damage
3 for generations to come.

4 So that's sort of about what I have to
5 say.

6 MR. DAVID MOSEMAN: David Moseman.
7 D-A-V-I-D, M-O-S-E-M-A-N.

8 I think in addition to the basic
9 environmental issues, there are additional issues
10 such as the fact that fossil fuels are no longer
11 needed as evidenced by the persistent low price of
12 fossil fuels and gasoline. And that, thus, Enbridge
13 and other fossil fuel companies are actually going
14 bankrupt. They have a legacy of leaving messes
15 behind. We need to be sure there is a bond adequate
16 to clean up the worst case mess they leave behind.

17 They have already abandoned other
18 pipelines and propose to abandon one line now. So
19 we need good performance bonds to clean up an EXXON
20 Valdez-type spill. And I want to be sure that this
21 is addressed adequately.

22 MR. ANDY SCHEIDEL: My name is Andy
23 Scheidel, A-N-D-Y, S-C-H-E-I-D-E-L.

24 I live in Duluth, Minnesota. I enjoy
25 the outdoors immensely. I hunt, I fish, I kayak, I

1 spend a lot of time on all of our waterways and in
2 the woods.

3 I truly believe that the safest way to
4 transfer oil from anywhere to anywhere is with a
5 pipeline. And I believe that our infrastructure at
6 this current time is required to use petroleum as a
7 product for energy. Just like everyone's home has
8 natural gas running into it to turn on the heat and
9 gas stations have gasoline to get peoples' cars to
10 where they need to go for their jobs and their
11 lives. And I believe that this pipeline is a
12 replacement -- can you redact, or no?

13 Okay. So, A, not only do I believe
14 that the pipelines are the safest way to transfer
15 petroleum, but this is actually a replacement of a
16 line so it's improving what is already there for
17 many, many years to come of safer transfer of oil.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. ROWAN GLASER: Rowan Glaser,
20 R-O-W-A-N, G-L-A-S-E-R.

21 I'm wondering why the Department of
22 Commerce is in charge of this. Wouldn't this be
23 something more appropriately put up for vote to the
24 citizens since it's going to impact every single
25 person in the state? Whereas, if Commerce is in

1 charge of it, just by their name, they're in charge
2 of trying to build money. So it's the wrong
3 department to be doing this. This should be more
4 each individual or a selection of different
5 departments, all that have a vested interest, not
6 just one.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. JAMES GJEPKEMA: My full name is
9 Jim, or James, Gjepkema. The last name is spelled
10 G-J-E-P-K-E-M-A.

11 I'm feeling that this pipeline
12 shouldn't be built at all. It's coming from Canada,
13 bringing tar sands oil out across Minnesota. And
14 the tar sands oil is devastating the area where it's
15 being extracted. And we don't need more oil right
16 now, we need to have more efforts put into the
17 energy sources that are fossil fuel free. So Line 3
18 is one of a number of battles all over the country
19 trying to make it clear that it's time to get off
20 fossil fuels and stop building pipelines to carry
21 that fossil fuel out of the oil fields, stop
22 extracting the oil from the oil fields.

23 We know that for the time being we
24 can't be completely without fossil fuels, but
25 building more extensive infrastructure to bring

1 fossil fuels out isn't needed now. We need to cut
2 back on the infrastructure for fossil fuels, not
3 increase it.

4 There's a lot of environmental impact
5 of pipelines. And one person told me that the
6 pipeline of this size is one of the biggest impacts
7 on the environment of any project that could be done
8 in Minnesota. So it's very important to have a very
9 complete environmental impact study. And I'm not
10 the one who is examining every detail of the report,
11 but I know other people are and I support them doing
12 that and I think they should be very careful to be
13 sure that they also notice all the damage that it
14 can do to the environment with a pipeline like this.

15 I guess that's it.

16 MS. CAROLYN FELDMAN: Carolyn,
17 C-A-R-O-L-Y-N, Feldman, F-E-L-D-M-A-N.

18 I'm here to oppose the Line 3 pipeline
19 being built in northern Minnesota. Beyond the
20 environmental risks from many spills and destruction
21 of lands that as the pipeline is getting put in to
22 meet the bigger issue, just addressing the issue of
23 our oil dependence in general and the climate change
24 that's being caused by it and the use of all that
25 oil. And I think we need to, as we're working on

1 big construction projects, focus on things that are
2 going to be sustainable to last in the future and
3 have a healthy planet.

4 MR. KRISTIAN NYBERG: Okay. Kristian
5 Nyberg, K-R-I-S-T-I-A-N, and the last name,
6 N-Y-B-E-R-G.

7 I think that they should not approve
8 the pipeline and do a more thorough EIS. The United
9 Nations International standards for projects that
10 impact Indigenous people as free prior to an
11 informed consent tribal consultancy after the
12 project is already proposed is not free, prior, and
13 informed consent. So I think that there should be
14 much, like, the focus of both the state, the
15 government should be on the Indigenous population.
16 This is stolen lands and they should listen to
17 Indigenous communities and not allow this pipeline
18 to come through.

19 That's all I got to say. Thank you.

20 MR. SAMUEL SPARHAWA: Samuel,
21 S-A-M-U-E-L, S-P, as in Paul, arhawa, A-R-H-A-W-A.

22 I work for the pipeline. I provide a
23 job that supports my family. It supports not only
24 my family but extended family. I'm able to
25 contribute to the community because of the

1 opportunities I have right now. Not only does the
2 pipeline provide for me, but I believe it provides
3 cheaper energy so that we can enjoy life.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. STEVE ZUPON: Okay. I'm just
6 going to make it short, sweet, and simple. My name
7 is Steve Zupon, S-T-E-V-E, Z-U-P-O-N.

8 And I'm in favor of the pipeline.
9 They create good jobs and the old pipe that's in the
10 ground needs to be replaced.

11 That's all I have. Thank you.

12 MS. ABBY LOUCKS: My name is Abby
13 Loucks, A-B-B-Y, L-O-U-C-K-S.

14 I support Line 3. I'm a lover of
15 nature and all things outdoors, but pipelines are
16 the safest mode of transportation, plain and simple.
17 Line 3 is going to have a great impact on our local
18 communities, our economy. It's going to create many
19 jobs. And I definitely support it.

20 MS. ASHLEY STALVIG: Ashley Stalvig.
21 A-S-H-L-E-Y, S-T-A-L-V-I-G.

22 So I'm here in support of the Line 3
23 project. I work for a pipeline contracting company.
24 And I just want it to be on record that our company
25 makes an effort to financially and charitably

1 support every community that we work in. And I
2 think the energy industry gets a bad rap a lot of
3 the times, but we're just real people, too. We're
4 working in places where we want to support the
5 community, we want to make a livelihood. We want to
6 impact in a good way the people and the places
7 there, do it in a safe way and preserve the
8 environment when we're there.

9 The last thing that I would like to
10 say is I'd like to see the process followed in the
11 timelines that are laid out according to how the
12 process is supposed to run.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. RIFF YEAGER: Okay. My name is
15 Riff, R-I-F-F, last name is Yeager, Y-E-A-G-E-R.

16 And here's my comment. I think in all
17 of the discussion here we need to be aware of
18 secondary consequences. My example is this: If for
19 some reason the Line 3 replacement isn't built,
20 there are two consequences that in my mind are
21 negative. One is there's a likelihood that that oil
22 may be moved by rail instead of by pipeline and rail
23 is less safe than pipeline. And two, as we learned
24 in 2014, if oil needs to be moved by rail, that may
25 get in the way of moving grain by rail as it was in

1 2014, as I said.

2 And according to, as I understand it,
3 from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture,
4 farmers lost about \$100 million in three months in
5 2014 'cause they couldn't move their freight because
6 those same trains were being used to move oil. So
7 it seems to me common sense would say let's not move
8 oil by rail, let's move it by an upgraded Line 3
9 replacement so that the trains are free to move the
10 grain to market.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. ELEANOR DVORAK: My name is
13 Eleanor, E-L-E-A-N-O-R, Dvorak, D-V-O-R-A-K.

14 And I strongly oppose the proposed
15 Enbridge pipeline project.

16 So I am here to talk about the
17 proposed abandonment of the existing Line 3. The
18 problems associated with leaving Line 3 in the
19 ground will not disappear over time and may in fact
20 worsen. While Enbridge says they will monitor
21 indefinitely, Enbridge might not be around in 100
22 more years. But, if abandoned, the pipeline and its
23 continuing impact on our lakes, rivers, agricultural
24 and residential lands will be there.

25 In Section 8.3.1.1.1, the DEIS states

1 that Enbridge has indicated that it would develop a
2 contaminated sites management plan to identify and
3 mitigate contaminated soils and waters found during
4 the abandonment of Line 3. We want to see that
5 plan.

6 In Section 8.3.1.2, the risks to
7 critical habitat as a result of the aging pipeline
8 creating typological connections are stated. While
9 Enbridge proposes segmentation to mitigate the risk,
10 they also admit that the potential need for more
11 segmentation requires further study. And the DEIS
12 states that state, federal, and tribal agencies may
13 require more segmentation. These studies need to be
14 done now and be included in the EIS.

15 Section 8.3.1.4 addresses a risk of
16 buoyancy and resulting leaks into water, and admits
17 that Enbridge's plan does not address this issue in
18 detail. It needs to be researched and included in
19 the EIS.

20 Table 8.3-1 in Appendix B states that
21 the abandonment of existing Line 3 could negatively
22 affect communities with potential environmental
23 justice impacts. Quote, Due to ongoing stress or
24 anxiety related to the presence of the pipeline and
25 ongoing risks related to water flow, soil and water

1 contamination, end quote. I see no remedies for
2 this proposed in the DEIS.

3 The decision on Enbridge's request to
4 abandon Line 3 would set a precedent. Yet there is
5 no mention of the potential abandonment of the three
6 other aging pipelines in Enbridge's existing
7 mainline corridor across Minnesota. Those are lines
8 1, 2, and 4, which Enbridge might then next attempt
9 to abandon. Nor is there any discussion of the
10 abandonment of the new Line 3 in 50 to 60 years. We
11 don't know whether Enbridge will still be around in
12 50, 60, or 100 years, and if they're not, we would
13 put a costly burden on future generations, risking
14 their health and right to clean water and land.

15 Line 3 abandonment alone can bring
16 huge costs to Minnesota. But there are many other
17 aspects of the proposed replacement pipeline that I
18 have not addressed, including the fact that
19 Enbridge's new Line 3 would breach the 1837 and 1855
20 Native American treaties that were upheld in 1999 by
21 the Supreme Court and affirmed in 2015 and the fact
22 that spills will occur and will likely do permanent
23 damage to pristine lakes and lands.

24 Finally, I think we need to take a
25 hard look at the fact that the demand for oil is

1 declining, posing the question of whether building
2 new, increased capacity infrastructure for a
3 declining energy source at a very high risk to our
4 environment makes sense for Minnesota.

5 Please deny the certificate of need.

6 MS. MEERIM MILAND: My full name is
7 Meerim Miland. It is spelled M-E-E-R-I-M, and
8 Miland, M-I-L-A-N-D.

9 I do support proceeding with the
10 building of the pipeline. I love earth and nature
11 and I'm all about, you know, keeping the planet
12 basically for the generations. And I have my child
13 and I would never work in the industry if i knew
14 that it's, you know, doing something horrible to our
15 future. But working for it, I do believe in the
16 quality of what we do and it's the safest way to
17 transport fuel and fuel for our civilization and for
18 our life. It's important.

19 There is -- if there was another way
20 to do it, we would have gone that way. But, you
21 know, those who protest, they drive cars, they, you
22 know, have boats, wear clothing and wear shoes and
23 use phones. All of it takes fuel and oil and the
24 industry and there's just no other better way to do
25 it as of right now. And I think we have to do it

1 the safest way possible and that is why I support
2 it.

3 MR. BRYCE PURCELL: My name is Bryce
4 Purcell. B-R-Y-C-E, P-U-R-C-E-L-L.

5 Well, I think that solar and wind
6 energy are both great things, but they can't provide
7 power around the clock. And for that we need
8 something else. And along those lines, natural gas
9 is significantly better than coal, and pipelines are
10 also significantly more reliable and safe than
11 moving natural gas by rail or truck.

12 That's about it.

13 MS. GABRIELLE ELISABETH PILLMANN: My
14 name is Gabrielle Elizabeth Pillmann.
15 G-A-B-R-I-E-L-L-E, E-L-I-S-A-B-E-T-H,
16 P-I-L-L-M-A-N-N.

17 As a mother and a citizen I am opposed
18 to any kind of pipelines through the state of
19 Minnesota.

20 So then I would just like to say that
21 due to our environment, which is maybe -- to me, the
22 preservation of our natural resources is more
23 important than oil pipelines. And we can get energy
24 from solar and wind.

25 That's it.

1 MR. ROBERT HARLAN HULL: My name is
2 Robert Harlan Hull, H-U-L-L.

3 The world has 78 percent water. We're
4 78 percent water. 2.5 volts of electricity changes
5 water into hydrogen-oxygen. The technology has been
6 here since 1938 where the first hydrogen fuel cell
7 came about. I've been around the world and I've
8 seen hydrogen cars, hydrogen engines, combustible
9 hydrogen engines, as well as fuel cell electric.
10 It's been blocked from the United States. The UK
11 has a hydrogen solar tandem membrane that they can
12 use on their roof. It takes the moisture out of the
13 air for the water and it changes into hydrogen
14 through solar electricity. They can burn their
15 furnaces and their cars and their stoves off of
16 hydrogen.

17 When we burn hydrogen we force oxygen
18 into it, creating drinkable water. NASA has been
19 using this technology since 1960. Every rocket ship
20 that goes up burns hydrogen that seeds the air to
21 makes it rain. NASA told me that Americans are
22 addicted to oil and that we're too careless to be
23 able to use hydrogen, but they use it in the
24 hospitals in the UK.

25 In Europe it's child's play for

1 children to change water into hydrogen and use it
2 for making balloons and other experiments. Where
3 our children don't even know the quality of the
4 water that they drink.

5 The technology has been here. It's
6 just been hidden and blocked by the oil companies,
7 and in Detroit, the car companies, and our corporate
8 government.

9 So we can get rid of this oil. We
10 have in reserve over a 10-year supply for the United
11 States. We don't need this oil. If we're going to
12 ship oil, we should have a quality control, no crude
13 oil.

14 The Gulf, with BP, that oil leak they
15 had down there, I believe it was on purpose. They
16 did that in Columbia as well for 10 longer months
17 than what we had our oil leak.

18 Oil floats on water and the crude
19 drops to the bottom and all they had to do was suck
20 up the oil. It was less expensive for them to
21 separate the oil in the water from the crude than it
22 would be for them to refine it and have to clean up
23 the ocean afterwards. And our president approved of
24 that. Obama.

25 Okay.

1 MS. JACQUELINE RODKEWICH: Jacqueline,
2 J-A-C-Q-U-E-L-I-N-E, Rodkewich, R-0-D-K-E-W-I-C-H.

3 So before I begin my comments on the
4 draft of the environmental impact statement I need
5 to share my experience in getting the draft of the
6 environmental impact statement.

7 So in order to make a comment I had to
8 call the Minnesota Department of Commerce. I called
9 the Minnesota Department of Commerce, I was
10 transferred four times before I was disconnected.
11 Then I decided, because it was important to me, I
12 would call the Public Utilities Commission. They
13 gave me all of the information, the draft, and the
14 phone number and the email for the Minnesota
15 Department of Commerce on the EIS.

16 After I waited for a little bit and I
17 sat with that and I thought, you know, I'm really
18 not comfortable seeing other constituents going
19 through what I did, so I called the Minnesota
20 Department of Commerce again to make sure the
21 situation improved. It had not, so I called my
22 state representative and then the Commissioners'
23 office. After speaking to the Commissioners'
24 office, I had left a message, and four days later I
25 still hadn't heard back. I left another message

1 which I heard back from the next day. So this whole
2 process took three weeks at this point.

3 I want to contrast that with the
4 situation where the Minnesota Department of
5 Agriculture was taking public comment on a
6 groundwater issue. I called them, they called me
7 back within an hour and a half, I had all the
8 information I needed to make a public comment.

9 I'd like to know, what is the plan of
10 action to improve communication and access for the
11 constituents of Minnesota regarding this issue, the
12 pipeline?

13 Moving on to the DEIS. As a whole, I
14 found the DEIS unprofessional and lacking. It reads
15 more like a soft sell for the pipeline than an
16 environmental impact statement. If we need to
17 expedite the process due to the emergent need of the
18 pipeline being compromised, needing to be replaced,
19 then I suggest that we shut down the pipeline until
20 a viable route or alternative energy corridor can be
21 found. I question the oversight or lack thereof
22 resulting in this emergent situation.

23 I feel Line 3, replacing Line 3 is
24 incongruent with item 3, subdivision 2 of 116D.02,
25 and that's the declaration of state environmental

1 policy and it reads as follows: Discourage
2 ecologically unsound aspects of population,
3 economic, and technological growth and develop and
4 implement a policy such that such growth only occurs
5 in an environmentally acceptable manner.

6 I want to see a no pipeline action in
7 the draft of the environmental impact study. I also
8 would like to ask how many Enbridge pipelines have
9 never failed. And by failed I mean pinhole leaks,
10 weeping, unreported spills and reported spills.

11 There are 139 counties nationwide
12 where the bee population is at serious risk. 17
13 counties of these counties are in Minnesota. There
14 is some overlap between the route and these
15 counties. And I'm quoting an article from BlueStem
16 Prairie, which is quoting Aaron Sidder, who is an
17 ecologist and writer.

18 I know that Enbridge has proposed to
19 use herbicides which may or may not contain
20 neonicitonoids which will further jeopardize our
21 bees. So I'm concerned with the herbicides. I'm
22 concerned if the herbicides contain neonicitonoids.
23 This will further jeopardize our bee population or
24 pollinator population.

25 Again, I'm citing the law, the

1 statute, 116D.02, same subdivision, but the item is
2 number 7 this time. In parentheses, the state may,
3 end parentheses, define, designate, and protect
4 environmentally sensitive areas.

5 In summary, I believe that the EIS
6 needs to include a no pipeline option and it
7 provides only superficial information regarding
8 environmental impact. If need be, I hope Enbridge
9 Line 3 will be shut down until all options have been
10 thoroughly researched in order to prevent a cursory
11 decision or rush job which would be deleterious for
12 Minnesota.

13 MS. MAUREEN HACKETT: My name is
14 Maureen Hackett, M-A-U-R-E-E-N, H-A-C-K-E-T-T. I do
15 have an M.D., I don't know if you want that.

16 Okay. I'm against any expansion of
17 Line 3. I think if they have to do something, they
18 should choose the SA-04 option. So it's S-A-04. I
19 truly believe that even though it does go through
20 crop land, there isn't going to be much more
21 motivation to stop a spill faster. But, frankly, I
22 don't think we need it at all and I don't think the
23 state of Minnesota is going to benefit at all if
24 it's going to actually bear the risk and the costs
25 to the water and the forests where they want to put

1 the expansion.

2 I know firsthand there's no cleanup of
3 oil. There is none. I went down to the Gulf oil
4 spill in 2010 and I witnessed large cranes carrying
5 oil boom. And I asked where is that oil boom going.
6 And it was going by railway car up to the Midwest to
7 be buried in the ground. There is no cleanup of
8 oil. Once it's taken out of the ground, the only
9 option to dispose of it is to burn it, and that's
10 the best option. And that was the best option
11 during the Gulf oil spill. Putting it in water,
12 bury, there's nothing you can do once it's spilled.
13 Oil doesn't want to be contained. Naturally, oil is
14 not to be contained, it needs to stay in the ground.

15 I also know that the oil companies do
16 not have the interests of the people or the land
17 once the land is spoiled by an oil spill. I
18 witnessed what happened at the Gulf oil spill, which
19 was the media was kept out, the land was fenced in
20 with chain link fences, the people were given water
21 in the local areas. But mostly the company spent
22 their time hiding the quantity and the destruction
23 from the media and from the people and they hid it
24 by using dispersants. Dispersants, like the
25 effluent, E-F-F-L-U-E-N-T, in the oil of the

1 pipeline are made of a formula that is secret. Even
2 during the Gulf oil spill, even the president of the
3 United States wasn't going to be able to find out
4 what was exactly in the dispersants' corexit,
5 C-O-R-E-X-I-T. If you got the hazard, the data
6 hazard sheet, it didn't tell you what was in it. It
7 did tell you don't let it touch your skin or eyes or
8 anything or don't breathe it. But they were
9 dropping it by airplanes over marinas and everything
10 to hide the oil spill.

11 So the goal is to hide and to continue
12 production. And right now the goal is to just keep
13 the production of the Bakken oil out -- sorry.
14 Another corridor, another 10 years. I mean, that's
15 the whole goal. This is not about anything other
16 than keeping the production going.

17 I am absolutely against the expansion.
18 I visited the place where they are going to expand
19 and it is in a pristine watershed in northern
20 Minnesota in forested streams and rivers that all
21 eventually pour into the Mississippi watershed and
22 feed the wild rice beds.

23 Wild rice is wild food and we don't
24 have hardly any pristine wild food left. The fish
25 are poisoned by mercury. You know, the amount of

1 game animals, they're getting disease too. But here
2 we have wild rice. It has six to seven grams of
3 protein in a quarter cup.

4 The Native American people absolutely
5 need the wild rice. We are the largest place in the
6 world to produce this. This is a very unusual
7 product. And the final thing is you cannot eat
8 money. You cannot drink oil. You need water. Try
9 to live a couple days without water. All these jobs
10 people are talking about, they're not going to mean
11 anything if the land is spoiled. They're not going
12 to want to live there. They won't be able to drink
13 the water.

14 The BP, Beyond Petroleum, whatever
15 they call it, they either lied to the president of
16 the United States or they were inept. But they told
17 him they couldn't shut down the Gulf oil spill.
18 They had the whole country believing they couldn't
19 close the hole. They closed the hole and I know how
20 they did it and it was doable from day one. They
21 just wanted to keep it open so they could have
22 another corridor, another 10 years of profit from a
23 gusher that they had found.

24 And their goal was stated on BBC news
25 in late April after the spill, but before the oil

1 rig collapsed. Their goal was to spray dispersants
2 and drill a relief well. The relief well was going
3 to help them keep drilling in that reservoir without
4 having to pass another environmental review. They
5 lied to the president, they lied to the country.

6 This is what we're dealing with with
7 pipeline companies and oil companies. We are
8 dealing with deception and ineptitude. They don't
9 care about our climate, our water. I'm sure if you
10 talk to them behind closed doors you'll hear some
11 pretty -- anyway. You can strike that.

12 Okay. So the bottom line is, Governor
13 Dayton, please, this is the time that you do have
14 the power. And once you sign over that permit, you
15 don't have the power anymore, and neither will any
16 other governor after you. And the people won't have
17 power either. When you get a spill you will get
18 chain linked fences and bottled water and you will
19 have to walk into the area with an I.D. and they
20 will use military to keep you out. 'Cause that's
21 what they did in the Gulf oil spill and I saw it.

22 MS. LAURA DESHANE: My name is Laura,
23 L-A-U-R-A, Deshane, D-E-S-H-A-N-E. I'm a Minnesota
24 resident and I want to speak today in opposition of
25 this pipeline.

1 I've been to a number of hearings and
2 meetings over the past few months both on the issue
3 of pipelines and more generally on
4 environmentally-related issues.

5 And as an overarching note, I've been
6 appalled by the consideration given to the
7 environment. The air we breathe and water we drink
8 has an -- an understandably difficult to assess --
9 sorry, is understandably difficult to assess on a
10 monetary level. It is a fundamental resource and as
11 such it is important. It is important to us and yet
12 we are quick to put it at risk to satisfy the wants
13 of an industry.

14 We've heard repeatedly that the
15 existing Line 3 pipeline is too dangerous to
16 continue using and I absolutely trust that
17 assessment. The existing Line 3 clearly needs to be
18 shut down, cleaned up, and the land restored. What
19 troubles me is what happens in 30 years? What will
20 become of the now proposed line?

21 If we are not taking out the existing
22 Line 3 and restoring the land now, how can we have
23 any assurance that the new Line 3 will be cleaned up
24 once it is also obsolete. Do we all gather in a
25 room and be told yet again that it just isn't

1 possible to return to a life of reduced fossil fuel
2 consumption?

3 So with that in mind, my question
4 becomes what do we need to do to make these
5 pipelines unnecessary? What do I need to sacrifice?
6 Can all of us make this choice possible? I'm hoping
7 that there would be a study on this somewhere to
8 tell us how we can live such that we would not need
9 these pipelines at all.

10 I am very concerned about the
11 information provided on the accidental crude oil
12 release handout. First, it states clearly that
13 pipelines have much, much larger spills than any
14 other method of transportation. But what I'm not
15 seeing on the sheet is what each gallon of oil will
16 do to a lake or to land once it is spilled. How
17 many gallons need to be spilled in order to make a
18 waterway poison to the wildlife and people who drink
19 from it?

20 A few people speaking in support of
21 the pipeline warrant that other methods of
22 transportation would bring this oil close to city
23 centers and as such that should convince me to
24 support a new pipeline. Because it would force the
25 oil to travel closer to other people further away

1 from me. Why should population size really be of
2 any importance? If it is dangerous to us here in
3 the city, surely it is also dangerous to those in
4 smaller communities. I cannot value my safety over
5 theirs.

6 It is not just -- it is not just or
7 prudent to keep building these pipelines. It is a
8 mistake to go forward with Line 3. We must shut
9 down the old Line 3 and then, finally, we must work
10 towards other alternatives to fossil fuels at every
11 opportunity.

12 (Comments concluded.)
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