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DEIS MEETINGS - 14-916 15-137

THIEF RIVER FALLS - JUNE 21, 2017 - 10:00 A.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

Ralph Engelstad Arena
Imperial Room
525 Brooks Avenue North
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

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I N D E X

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1 MR. RENAE LOUISE MARQUIS: My full name
2 is Renae, R-E-N-A-E, Louise, L-O-U-I-S-E, Marquis,
3 M-A-R-Q-U-I-S.

4 I would just like to say that I firmly
5 believe that God gave us this beautiful earth with
6 resources to take care of ourselves. And in these
7 resources we have oil under the ground just like we
8 have water under the ground. I feel that we should
9 utilize the resources God gave us. I feel that
10 Enbridge handles it safely and wisely.

11 I am not an Enbridge employee. I have a
12 husband that has worked many years construction. He
13 is safely trained, he goes to his jobs. My fear is
14 not how people are doing their job, my fear is
15 people who entice to create problems for people out
16 there like my husband doing the job.

17 I strongly encourage we work together. I
18 strongly encourage that we utilize the resources God
19 gave us. I strongly encourage that we don't pick
20 one aspect of a resource is stronger or better than
21 another.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. CURTIS COBB: My name is Curtis Cobb.
24 C-U-R-T-I-S, C-O-B-B. And I'm a retired engineer.

25 I am concerned about the environmental

1 impact of the processing of the oil sands in Canada.
2 It is leaving behind a toxic residual that is
3 poisoning a huge portion of the planet and
4 especially that portion of Canada. They have 176
5 square kilometers of toxic residual fluid ponds left
6 behind and it is poisoning the groundwater for
7 thousands of square miles in that area. And also it
8 is killing any wildlife that touches that water.

9 So the problem is not the pipeline
10 hauling it, but the -- it's the toxicity of the
11 product which the pipeline will be hauling. And
12 Enbridge is aiding and abetting one of the biggest
13 environmental disasters on earth.

14 That's my statement. My concern is not
15 the environmental impact of the pipeline going
16 across the state of Minnesota, it is with the
17 product with which it is hauling, of which it is
18 hauling.

19 MR. GORDON WETTERLUND: My name is Gordon
20 Wetterlund, Jr. G-O-R-D-O-N, W-E-T-T-E-R-L-U-N-D.

21 What I'm here for, I farm, I live in
22 McCrea Township. I have three parcels of land in
23 Foldahl Township, section 20, section 17 and section
24 7 that the pipeline goes across. And I also have
25 two parcels of land in section 33 and section 34 of

1 Viking Township that I rent land that the pipeline
2 goes across. And I guess I'd just like to make my
3 comment in favor of this pipeline.

4 And the main reason, the land that I own,
5 I have owned since 1997. They have come across and
6 they put in the new pipe, they were fair with me,
7 they have also done two dig-ups to patch the line.
8 They've called ahead and, you know, they've paid me
9 for crop damage so they've been fair there.

10 But the one thing that I'd really like to
11 express is they have been, from a safety standpoint,
12 they're almost overly anal on their safety. I mean,
13 they are -- it looked like a little town out there,
14 there's so many people to watch. And this is the
15 one thing that a lot of people that don't own land
16 and don't see, you know, firsthand, how they conduct
17 themselves. And each, almost each year I'll get a
18 phone call and saying they are going to walk the
19 lines and check for anything. And these are just
20 things that I wanted to express, the fact that, you
21 know, from a landowner standpoint, they've been
22 fair. And also I think they are very, very diligent
23 in their safety aspect.

24 And I guess that's my comment.

25 MR. JOHN FIELD: My name is John Field,

1 J-O-H-N, F-I-E-L-D.

2 And I just came here today as a landowner
3 in Marshall County, Minnesota. I've been working
4 with Enbridge for several years on projects,
5 different maintenance projects, line projects. And
6 I just wanted to make a few comments.

7 First of all, I'd like to state that I'm
8 100 percent on board with what they are doing. The
9 projects they do I see as very necessary to the
10 economy in general. I like that it supports oil
11 production in North America. I like the economic
12 impact it has on the local communities. When the
13 projects go through it creates several jobs. It's
14 wonderful for businesses.

15 And as far as the environment goes,
16 Enbridge has always been great to work with with the
17 environment. They're working very hard to replace
18 the ground and the conditions as they were and in
19 many cases improve it for the future. All my
20 interaction with their employees has been positive.
21 Very nice employees, very accommodating to their
22 employees. So that's been very positive as well.

23 So that's probably it. I think that
24 summarizes it pretty well, but we're very on board
25 with what they're doing. I see it as a necessary

1 project, necessary business, and the minor
2 inconveniences that come with the construction and
3 the project itself are far outweighed by the
4 benefits.

5 (Comments concluded.)
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