



STOP THE ENBRIDGE ENERGY CORRIDOR!

Join thousands of tribal members, homeowners, farmers, townships, businesses, and citizen groups opposing an oil superhighway across the northland. Love Water Not Oil!



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BACKGROUND:

The development of new fossil fuel infrastructure is accelerating in Minnesota. We are becoming a superhighway for oil that we neither produce or consume, yet we take all the risk. Enbridge, a Canadian corporation, is proposing to transport 1.4 million barrels of oil per day through a new southern route, from the North Dakota border to Superior, WI. This is a dramatic increase from the original Sandpiper proposal of 375,000 bpd. To put this in context, this is more than triple the current capacity of the Alberta Clipper pipeline (450,000 bpd) and almost double the capacity of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline (830,000 bpd).

THE PIPELINES:

- **Sandpiper:** This new pipeline would carry highly volatile Bakken Crude oil, at an initial capacity of 375,000 barrels per day, with the potential to increase to 640,000 bpd.
- **Line 3 Replacement:** Enbridge is proposing to build the replacement of Line 3 along the same corridor as the Sandpiper, and abandon the old, rusted Line 3 pipeline, with unknown consequences. The new line would move up to 760,000 bpd of dirty Alberta Tar Sands oil.

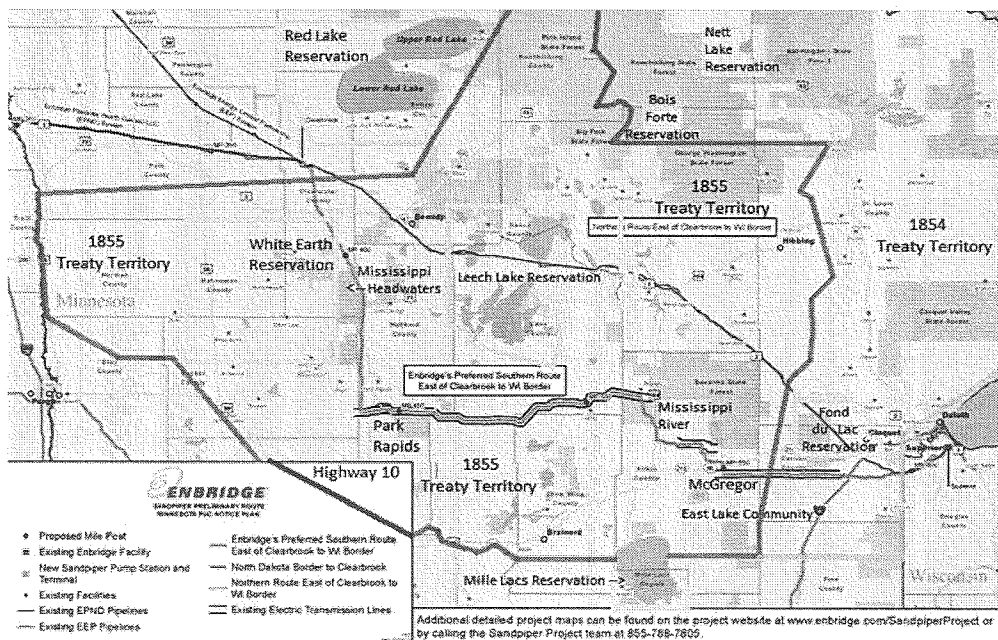
THE ROUTE:

The proposed route crosses through some of the most delicate soils, aquifers and pristine lakes in northern Minnesota, the watersheds of Rice Lake, the Mississippi Headwaters, Crow Wing, Big Sandy Lake, Rice Lake Refuge and into Superior.

THE PROBLEMS:

• Inevitable Spills:

Enbridge has promised that safety will be of the upmost concern, but their history suggests otherwise. They have had over 800 spills in the last 15 years, including the largest inland oil spill in US history (1.2 million gallons) on the Kalamazoo River in 2010. In late December 2014, an Enbridge line leaked in Canada, spilling 57,000 gallons of oil in a few minutes. On Jan 2, 2015, tanks exploded at its offices



in Williston, ND. In the last 2 years, over 300 pipeline spills went unreported in North Dakota alone! A full rupture of the Sandpiper would release over 20,000 gallons of oil per minute, making million-gallon spills entirely possible. Smaller spills are harder to detect and can last for days.

• **Refusal to Respond Appropriately:**

In the past MN legislative session, Enbridge lobbied aggressively against legislation that would improve disaster response, and refused to agree with many reasonable measures that would improve preparedness, prevention, containment, and cleanup.

• **Treaty Rights Violations:**

The US government has a responsibility under federal law to honor the rights guaranteed to tribal members in their treaties. The proposed pipelines would violate the treaty rights of the Anishinaabeg by endangering primary areas of hunting, fishing, wild rice harvest, medicinal plant harvest, and organically certified wild rice crops outlined in the 1867, 1855 and 1854 treaty areas. The US Supreme Court has upheld the rights of native peoples to hunt, fish, and subsist off the land. An important February 2015 decision by the US 8th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the rights of Ojibwe people to hunt and sell fish in the 1855 treaty area. These pipelines threaten the culture, way of life, and physical survival of the Ojibwe people.

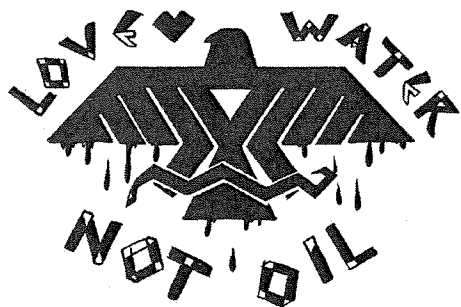
• **Property Rights and Insurance:**

On June 5, 2015, the MN Public Utilities Commission granted Enbridge a Certificate of Need for the Sandpiper pipeline, which gives the company eminent domain, on grounds that it is a public utility providing a public benefit. This allows them to take property without landowner consent. This is a problem: Enbridge is a private Canadian corporation that will earn billions in profit by carrying privately owned oil for privately owned oil-companies. Enbridge is now suing North Dakota family James and Krista Botsford for their land, and the case may set precedent. The Botsfords found that no insurance company would insure their farm in case of a spill, and that is after an Enbridge cleanup.

GET INVOLVED:

This battle is just getting started!! The next phase of the PUC process is the route permit, and an alliance of tribes, landowners, and citizen groups are working to at least push the route south of the lake country. Meanwhile, our resistance is building and the tribes are asserting their political power, preparing for legal and regulatory interventions at the federal level. Here's how you can get involved:

1. Stay informed. Follow us on facebook + our website, come to our events this summer, contact us.
2. Speak out: Contact your tribal leaders, your City Councilmembers, County Commissioners, and especially Governor Mark Dayton (651-201-3400). Tell them they have a responsibility to protect Minnesota's precious resources, honor our treaties, and work with tribal governments.
3. Connect with your local environmental groups or faith communities.
4. Support our work by donating thru our website, or signing up for a monthly contribution.

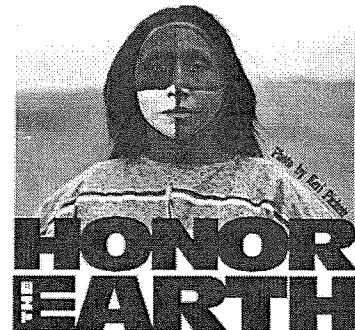


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THE CLIMATE COSTS OF ENBRIDGE OIL PIPELINES

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Accounting for the Climate Costs of Oil

As global leaders talk carbon capping at COP21 in Paris, Honor the Earth has prepared an invoice for the climate costs of Enbridge's proposed oil pipelines in Minnesota. Enbridge is liable for the carbon emissions their pipeline system enables. We want Enbridge to establish a fund to repair the damage they would cause with new lines and expansions.

Carbon Costs

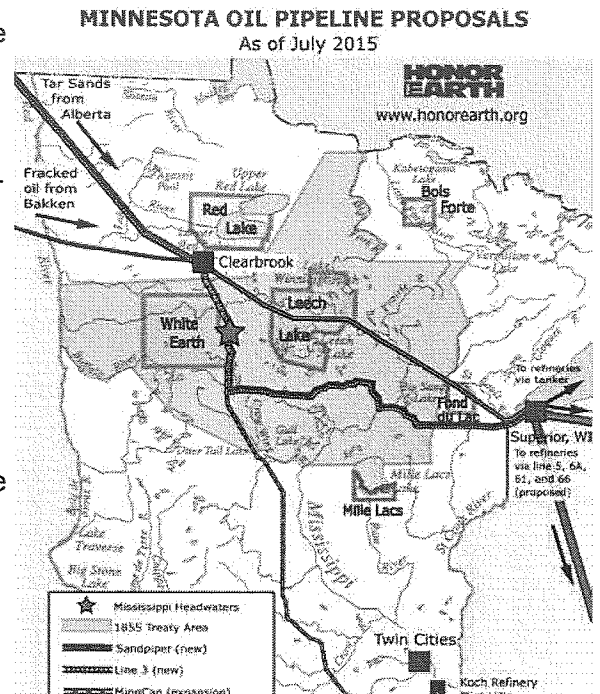
To calculate the carbon costs of these pipelines, we take the total volume of oil moving through three pipelines - the Sandpiper, Line 3, and the Alberta Clipper - and convert that to carbon equivalents. This tells us how many metric tons of carbon will be released into the atmosphere through the refining and use of the oil. We then calculate the cost to remove that carbon. The American Physics Society estimates that removing carbon from the atmosphere costs \$600 per metric ton. The total cost for these 3 pipelines would be over **\$198 billion, annually!**

Ecosystem costs

We also calculate costs for the loss of vital ecosystems. Our boreal forests and wetlands sequester carbon, stabilize fluctuations, and provide a buffer against climate impacts. A full carbon accounting must include the loss of these ecological services. To do that, we first calculate the land area lost to tailing ponds. Each barrel of oil creates approximately 16.9 barrels of toxic tailings.¹ We multiply this by the proposed volume in the pipelines, and convert it to hectares. We also estimate the total area of wetlands destroyed during the construction of the new corridor, which Enbridge has no plan to restore. We then place values these areas of land using estimates from the field of Ecosystem Services Valuation.² The total cost of the loss of ecosystem services for the three pipelines is over **\$26 billion, annually.** Our estimates for area impacted and cost per hectare are probably both extremely low.

An Incomplete Total

Adding these costs together give us a full cost of over **\$224 billion annually.** Of course, there are currently no real plans to remove the carbon or restore the forests and wetlands. So these annual costs should be set aside for future generations. Even at a conservative compound interest rate of 1%, the costs for the next seven generations (140 years) total over **\$68 trillion!!** Of course, we are still far from accounting for the TRUE cost of oil. We have not included the cost of climate conflicts, natural disasters caused by extreme weather events, the loss of biodiversity, or the inevitable damages to our fresh water and sacred manoomin when (not IF) these pipelines spill. Some things simply cannot be monetized.



¹ "Waste Streams of Mined Oil Sands: Characteristics and Remediation," Kasperski and Mikula, Elements, Dec 2011 vol 7 pp 387-392.

² For boreal forest we use \$160/hectare/yr (Canadian Forest Congress, <http://bit.ly/1m3MuL0>). For wetlands we use \$5,625/acre/yr (Earth Economics, "The Value of Nature's Benefits in the St. Louis River Watershed")

From: [Winona Laduke](#)
To: [MacAlister, Jamie \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Testimony for Scoping Energy Environmental Review and Analysis
Date: Monday, August 31, 2015 3:06:33 PM
Attachments: [Rice Lake Line Three Hearing Final.docx](#)
[Who Owns Abandoned Pipelines.docx](#)
[Mille Lacs hearing submission final.doc](#)

Jamie

I appreciate your hard work. As I mentioned in my discussions with you and testimony, since the DOC has decided to run contemporaneous hearing processes and environmental review in the comparative environmental analysis process, I am submitting both my testimony from the Sandpiper and the Line 3 Hearings. The Sandpiper submission is referred to as the Mille Lacs testimony. To be clear, some of the major concerns that you do not outline in your scoping request include:

Human Health Risk associated with pipelines, fossil fuels and climate change

Cumulative impact assessment or well to wheels impact. It is clear that there is nothing in your scoping outline which restricts testimony or impacts which are not along the pipeline corridor, therefore we are requesting that this is duly and comprehensively considered.

I remain deeply concerned and interested in your tribal community assessment

Your scoping paper in Line V is absolutely unclear as to the process for completion of the assessment relating to potential significant impact and as such cannot be discounted by your process, or a truncated process to expedite this critical regulatory process for the Enbridge Company or some other interest.

I believe that a full Line 3 assessment in the present location should be completed far in advance of any new projected route hearings.

I reserve the right to submit more testimony and would be happy to clarify or answer any questions

Miigwech, Winona LaDuke



Honor the Earth Comments to the PUC August 18, 2015

Submitted by Winona LaDuke

Overarching Policy Concerns:

Honor the Earth and the White Earth Band of Ojibwe are pleased that the Minnesota PUC has come to our community. It is interesting that when we requested this hearing for the initial Sandpiper Pipeline PUC process, we were denied such a hearing, but now that at a much larger corridor is proposed, you have come to our people. We appreciate this. ***To be clear, we believe a moratorium on large oil pipelines and projected pipeline abandonment projects is required until such time as a full environmental impact statement is made regarding the multitude of proposed projects, and the intersection of these projects with other mega mining projects and energy projections for the state of Minnesota and through Anishinaabe Akiing.***

In our testimony we will discuss the shortcomings and structural barriers within the present state of Minnesota's regulatory process to address these issues, and the absolute need to create a regulatory system which is secure in advance of a set of mega projects proposed by foreign companies. These regulations need to look at the issues of short term profits at the expense of the people, and ecosystem of Minnesota as well as the Anishinaabe people. We fully recognize the present economic and energy environment which has brought this crisis to the forefront, but also recognize that this is the opportunity for governance and community to lead rather than follow energy interests.

Or perhaps more clearly, it is incumbent upon a people who have lived omaa akiing, here in this Anishinaabe Akiing for over 8000 years to inform you of our observations. We have not seen either a prudent natural resource management by the state of Minnesota in the demise of fisheries, decline of water quality statewide, decline of major fauna, such as the wolf and the moose, and proposals for diminishing water quality in the state regulation of sulfide standards. We do not believe this is prudent management, and see that today the interests of a 65 year old Canadian corporation are not the interests of the Anishinaabe, or the people of Minnesota. We welcome the opportunity to build a collaborative and healthy relationship with the state of Minnesota to protect the water, land and future generations, and insure energy and food security. This is the role of governments.

In each deliberation we must consider the impact upon the seventh generation from now.

The Anishinaabeg people hold this as an essential tenet of behavior for our society, and for public policy. This intergenerational equity, responsibility, and opportunity is upon us now, and it is essential that we undertake this practice to carry on. This is responsible regulation. Anishinaabeg have tenets of sustainable governance that keep of our covenant with the Creator intact through intergenerational considerations of actions. *This was perhaps summarized in the June 4 Hearing held by the White Earth Tribal Government in Rice lake, where tribal member Michael Dahl testified, "We have treaties with creation. We have treaties with the fish, we have a treaty with the rice, [with] that lake. ... When we negotiated treaties with the United States we had to go back and renegotiate our treaties with*

creation. Creation doesn't give a second chance, we can't renegotiate again. Protect the land, live with the land, not off of it."

"Seems like folks don't want to hang around for a 1000 years or so,"

Mike Wiggins, Tribal Chair of the Band River Band of Ojibwe

The fact is that the Anishinaabeg people have lived in this territory for 8000 years, and intend to be here for at least another 1000 years. The short-sighted nature of US Federal oil pipeline regulations (of which there are very few) does not protect future generations from contemporary bad planning. In addition to the faulty siting, planning and oversight of the proposed Line 3 replacement, there is a drastic lack of regulatory authority over pipeline abandonment, a primary issue at stake here in the case of Line 3. This will be discussed in more details later in the testimony, but the underlying principle, that a lack of any regulatory scheme for protection of state assets remains a primary reason why such a proposal for both abandonment and a new pipe should not be forwarded.

In the broader scope, of policy making, internationally, enlightened governments are adopting new regulations which affirm the Rights of Mother Earth, (as enshrined in the Bolivian Constitution) and the Rights of Nature (as used in the Pennsylvania municipality) , and limit the rights of corporations. Prudent governments have also begun to adopt a precautionary principle in public policy. The precautionary principle has received widespread resonance in the European Economic Community, these countries, have longer term public policy and residence that the young United States and younger Minnesota. It is possible to learn from the older nation states in this way. This principle states:

"When an activity raises threats of harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically. In this context the proponent of an activity, rather than the public, should bear the burden of proof. The process of applying the precautionary principle must be open, informed and democratic and must include potentially affected parties. It must also involve an examination of the full range of alternatives, including no action."

Wingspread Statement on the Precautionary Principle, Jan. 1998 (<http://www.sehn.org/precaution.html>):

We advise the state of Minnesota to adopt this principal to protect the public interest, the commons and our collective future.

Formally, Honor the Earth and the White Earth band of Ojibwe are deeply concerned with the proposal for the Line 3 Replacement Project, in light of the lack of state and federal preparation for pipeline management, regulation, and the clear risk posed by the applicant Enbridge to the environment, public health and short and long term economic well being. Both the White Earth Band of Ojibwe and Honor the Earth submitted significant testimony in the previous hearings on the proposed Sandpiper Route. In these proceedings we will refer to that testimony, as the problems are augmented, and represent more than a cumulative impact of risk and direct impact on the health , well being and wealth of our people.

However, there are new, very significant problems which have become apparent in your regulatory process. These include: the inadequacy of the permitting process of oil pipelines

and the lack of any abandonment regulations. As well, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency needs state primacy in assessment of the environmental impact of this project, as well as federal and tribal jurisdictions. The fact that that present regulations delegate environmental assessment to the Department of Commerce, as opposed to the 950 staffed MPCA is very problematic in terms of capacity. This scale of project would require an integrated environmental, social and economic assessment. The regulatory problems we are facing put us all at risk.

We are at a nexus point of opportunity in Minnesota and nationally, which provides us a chance to examine the infrastructure we invest in. Fifty to sixty years ago, when most of the country's oil and gas infrastructure was being built out, there was not much understanding of sustainable development. As a result, we now have a D in infrastructure. This is a national issue, which causes pipelines to break, bridges to collapse and the loss of millions of dollars of water and gas in aging urban infrastructure. Now, as we look towards a new generation of infrastructure development, we must decide if we want to replace our crumbling infrastructure with more of the same, or invest in the infrastructure for sustainability. This is an excellent opportunity for us all, as tribal governments and as the state of Minnesota.

We believe the state of Minnesota must recognize their inability to regulate a project of this scope and enact a moratorium until a full cost accounting and environmental impact statement can be developed for the various pipeline projects in the works. This action would acknowledge the immense, and intergenerational economic, and health impacts of this project proposal, in terms of not only opportunity forgone benefits (investments which could be made) as well as the implications of oil impacts on the immediate environment and the world climate.

Honor the Earth and the White Earth band are pleased that the Minnesota PUC has come to our community. This is an important step, we must however, recall to the PUC the problem of the general disregard the PUC has exhibited for tribal and non tribal citizens, by allowing the company to classify maps and marketing material, and, securing an unknown amount of insurance during the proposals for the Sandpiper, without a full analysis and disclosure of methodology to the tribes or the citizens of Minnesota. As it is 2015 and not 1889, it is important for the state of Minnesota, in accordance with not only Governor Dayton's executive memorandum on tribal/state cooperation, but as well, as a matter of political respect and decency to address our tribe and the Anishinaabeg with respect.

The absence of transparency by state agencies, has caused a great burden on our tribe, and on citizens of Minnesota, who are then forced to carry out extra work, while the state shields a Canadian Corporation. While we are very pleased to see that the PUC and Enbridge have scheduled a formal hearing in our community, we did not find satisfactory last year's PUC process with regards to the Sandpiper. In turn, the suggestion that this Line 3 proposal should follow the same route, with a skewed and perplexing process for determining "need" that we continue to challenge, without a route approval or any satisfactory conclusion of a Sandpiper process, causes problems for us all.

Honor the Earth had asked that these processes be combined, and a full disclosure of new pipeline projects to be put into this proposed corridor (Lines 2 and 4 are anticipated), to be considered. We requested a **well to a pump impact** assessment as a prudent approach to this project's evaluation.

Prudent regulatory policy would review projects in this manner, as myopic environmental, health, economic, and risk assessments do not result in prudent policy. ***As such, while the PUC seeks to review this project as the Line 3 Project, we will refer to this as the Enbridge Energy Corridor, and understand fully that there are cumulative impacts of the proposal by the Canadian Energy company, which are briefly outlined here. We are very clear that public policy should not be dictated by the needs of a foreign oil company, particularly through the lands of the 1867 and 1855 treaty areas. Indeed policy needs to be in advance of economic or environmental crisis, and the application of the precautionary principle would need to begin prior to the advent of any more permitting.***

In short, the Line 3 Abandonment and Replacement or ***Enbridge Energy Corridor*** is a bad idea that requires a sophisticated level of analysis. To date, we have not seen that level of analysis in any high-profile pipeline projects nationally, or within Minnesota. As a nation of Indigenous peoples recognized as having a right to continue our existence under our own covenant with the Creator, and as well under UN General Assembly passed UNDRIP, we will require a full consideration of the merits of this project, and it's risks, not an expedited process for the benefit of a limited liability Canadian energy corporation.

Comments on the Proposed Project:

The White Earth Band of Ojibwe and Honor the Earth object to this project, the Enbridge Energy Corridor for many reasons. Namely; the Rice Lake and East Lake communities the pipeline passes dangerously close to are communities already at risk; the preferred route would cross the highest concentration of wild rice lakes in the world, and some of the most pristine waters in North America; and finally, the proposed project represents a massive carbon impact on a climate change compromised world, and a short-sighted investment in greed rather than a long-term investment in future generations.

Over the past two years, Honor the Earth has developed several public statements on the various pipeline projects in Minnesota and have submitted several documents to docket PL-6668/CN-13-473. The White Earth band has also consistently submitted to the process. Please apply this previous testimony to this new process.

As suggested, we will address the questions the PUC has placed before the public on this docket, specifically:

- 1. What human and environmental impacts should be studied in the environmental analysis?**
- 2. Are there any specific methods to address these impacts that should be studied in the environmental analysis?**
- 3. Are there any alternative routes or route segments that should be considered?**
- 4. Are there any alternatives to the project that should be considered?**

The first half of the document will answer the first two questions, while the second will cover the second two.

1) Human and Environmental Health Impacts:

To look at the human health impact, it is essential to look at the ***well to the pump impacts*** of tar sands oil, although the primary concern, of the Minnesota PUC is the impact on Minnesota residents. To be clear there are three sets of communities directly impacted by this project: the First Nations Communities in the Athabaskan Tar Sands, the communities along the proposed Enbridge Energy Corridor, as well as the communities around the refineries. Additionally, globally there are numerous communities at risk from continued climate change. Briefly, the three non Minnesota /tribal impacts will be summarized. Convenient and myopic accounting on environmental and public health issues has skewed externalizing losses and impacts. In an actual accounting full accounting, these will be deemed part of the need and consideration.

Athabaskan River Tribal Community Impacts: Ft. Chipewyan

The small community of Fort Chipewyan (or Fort Chip) is on the front lines of Canadian Tar Sands expansions. This community has faced an increased rate of cancer and exposure to a variety of chemicals, far exceeding national and international standards. This impacts include direct impacts on current generations and lingering impacts that will be felt for future generations. HTE is attaching the National Resource Defense Council's fact sheet on the health impacts of tar sands, which includes more information on this community and other impacts of tar sands, including refining.

Excerpted from the NRDC report, *"In a 2009 study commissioned by the governments of Alberta and Canada, scientists studied the incidences of cancer found in the tiny community of Fort Chipewyan. Fort Chip, as it is commonly known, has 1,100 residents and is located where the Athabasca River empties into Lake Athabasca, 124 miles north (downstream) of the major tar sands developments in Fort McMurray. In the report, scientists noted a diagnosed cancer rate from 1995 to 2006 that was 30 percent higher than what would typically be expected for that period of time. Further, certain types of cancers -- biliary tract cancers, blood and lymphatic cancers, lung cancers in women, and soft tissue cancers -- all occurred at rates higher than expected, the government study showed. Scientific studies have linked elevated levels of these specific cancers to exposure to certain constituents in petroleum products and the chemicals produced in petroleum manufacturing. Fort Chip has also gained the attention of the media due in part to concerns raised by an Alberta physician, Dr. John O'Connor, who has called for further investigation of cancer incidences after noting the presence of at least three cases of cholangiocarcinoma in this small town within the past decade. Cholangiocarcinoma is a cancer that typically strikes only 1 in every 100,000 to 200,000 individuals.*

A 2009 study published by the National Academy of Sciences showed that the snow and water in an area extending outward 30 miles from upgrading facilities at Fort McMurray contained high concentrations of pollutants associated with fossil fuels, known as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). These chemicals often present serious risks to human health -- some are known to damage DNA, others are carcinogens, and many cause developmental impacts. They also typically accumulate and remain present in the environment over long periods of time, according to research

published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A follow up study in 2014, published by the National Academy of Sciences, modeled the PAH levels measured in the tar sands region and found that environmental impact studies conducted by the tar sands industry in support of further development have systematically underestimated PAH emission levels and thus did not adequately account for human health risks.

In a landmark study published in the November 2013 issue of the journal *Atmospheric Environment*, scientists noted the presence of elevated levels of numerous hazardous air pollutants near major upgrading facilities just north of Edmonton. Among the pollutants found at elevated levels, many are carcinogens, including benzene and styrene. The study also noted elevated rates of leukemia and other cancers of the lymph and blood-forming systems in areas surrounding upgrading and petrochemical manufacturing facilities just north of Edmonton. Further, this study also noted that experts have found similar elevated risks in other populations living downwind of industrial facilities with similar emissions, which have also been linked to increased rates of leukemia and childhood lymphohematopoietic cancers.

The impact of increased air pollutants and noxious odors from excavating tar sands has been the subject of significant attention in the remote community of Peace River. There, the Alberta Energy Regulator is finally responding to years of reports by residents that emissions and odors from tar sands drilling and processing are making them sick. According to news reports, public hearings began in early 2014 following complaints that the tar sands operations have caused nausea, headaches, skin rashes, memory loss, joint pain, exhaustion, and respiratory problems, and have forced several families to leave the area.

Pollutants in the water

The majority of tar sands oil production takes place in close proximity to the north-flowing Athabasca River, which eventually flows into the Arctic Ocean (via the Peace, Slave, and MacKenzie Rivers). According to a 2012 study published by the National Academy of Sciences, researchers confirmed through lake sediment sampling and modeling that the presence of elevated levels of toxic PAHs can be traced to the major expansion of tar sands production that began in the 1980s. In particular, certain water bodies within the Athabasca watershed now exceed current Canadian standards for pollutants in sediment for seven PAHs, including benzo(a)pyrene, a chemical that has been linked to cancer, genetic damage, reproductive impacts including birth defects, and organ damage.

In addition, scientists analyzed lake sediments and snow samples and found evidence that tar sands development is leading to increasing amounts of methylmercury in Alberta's waterways and landscape. Specifically, the researchers report an exponential increase in measured methylmercury levels within 30 miles of tar sands upgraders. Methylmercury is a potent neurotoxin that causes developmental and behavioral problems, including lower IQ in children, as well as cardiovascular effects in adults. Methylmercury is known to accumulate in the food chain and can result in unsafe exposures, particularly among populations who consume a lot of fish. This increased presence of mercury in the Canadian landscape poses a unique threat to First Nations who rely on hunting and fishing for sustenance, and whose right to hunt and fish has been guaranteed by treaty and by the Canadian Constitution.

Further health threats arise from ponds full of mining waste. These tailings ponds contain multiple toxic chemicals including arsenic, benzene, lead, mercury, naphthenic acid, and ammonia, according to a Pembina Institute analysis. A 2008 study by Environmental Defence Canada, based on industry data, found that as much as 2.9 million gallons of water leaks from tar sands tailings ponds into the environment every day. Another study, published by the National Academy of Sciences in 2014, shows that extreme concentrations of PAHs present in tailings may lead to the evaporation of those PAHs into the ambient air. Further, the releases of PAHs into the ambient air from tar sands

upgrading facilities discussed above are finding their way into the Athabasca River and its numerous tributaries. While the tailings leakages suggest the possibility of a significant future threat to waterways, emissions from upgrading and evaporating PAHs from tailings ponds appear to already be contaminating water resources with carcinogens and other chemicals linked to negative human health effects."

Source : <http://www.nrdc.org/energy/tar-sands-health-effects.asp>

Marathon Tar Sands Refinery

One of the communities at the end of this proposed pipeline is the Detroit community surrounded by the Marathon Tar Sands refinery. Testimony presented at the White Earth Band of Ojibwe and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe regulatory hearings on June 4 and 5 on the proposed Sandpiper project by Emma Lockridge (attached) shows the impact of this refinery. Notably, Marathon, the company which owns this refinery is a one third partner in the Sandpiper. This was the "need" established by Marathon which became the driving force for the PUC to issue a certificate of need. We continue to dispute this "need" in the Marathon case, and wish to offer excerpts from Ms. Lockridge's testimony to this hearing:

"...The refinery emissions are so strong it feels like we live in the refinery, not near it. News reporters have asked me to describe the odor coming from Marathon. I say it smells like death. The odors emitted from the refinery are so toxic smelling that on many nights I am forced to sleep in a mask. I awaken coughing and gagging on the emissions and I have a sore in my nose. The emissions seem particularly strong at night when people should be sleeping. In fact, it has become so unbearable I am looking for a new place to live even though my home is paid off. My home is virtually worthless due to the industrial atmosphere and its proximity to Marathon.

We are sick in my community. My sister had kidney failure and died after several years on dialysis. I have kidney failure and underwent a life-saving transplant, thanks to a kidney donation from my nephew. [It's worth noting that there are no other people in our extended family with kidney issues.] My neighbor who grew up next door to me is on dialysis and the lady across the street suffered kidney failure and died on dialysis. Our community is impacted by respiratory illnesses, kidney failure, autoimmune diseases, such as sarcoidosis and multiple sclerosis, and early deaths. We have a five-acre toxic play field in the heart of our community that is contaminated with such a high level of lead it is on an EPA brownfield list and has been cordoned off with a fence.

I am opposed to tars sands mining and refining and the installation of any new pipelines that carry toxic fuel. It is unconscionable for an oil company to place any more pipelines in Mother Earth, particularly in the sensitive life-giving lake areas where the Ojibwe people live."

The fact is, that the proposed pipeline reroute would continue to worsen the direct health impacts on this community. And, in the opinion of Honor the Earth and the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, this favoring of the rights of a foreign fossil fuel pipeline company over the health and well being of the people, in no way established the "Need" required to issue the certificate of need.

Pipeline Impact on Our Community Directly:

"... The manoomin is our buffalo ,". It is... our covenant with the creator. It is very spiritual...We have a symbiotic relationship with the rice. We don't need to beat aroundthe rice tells the way. That's what he is bred to do.... I will continue ricing as long as I can lift a pole and lift knockers." Faron Jackson, Ojibwe Wild Rice Harvester

" I don't know who in their right mind, thought it was right to make the decision for my children, my grand children , my nieces and nephews and the generations to come after this....."

Algin Goodsky at the Rice Lake Hearing, June 4

Wild rice is an essential part of the spiritual, cultural, historical , nutritional and economic foundation of Anishinaabe well being. The proposed Enbridge Energy Corridor impacts this wild rice more than any proposed mega project in Minnesota, yet in a cumulative effect assessment, the impact on the rice by the other mega-projects must be taken into account. These include the proposed Polymet, Eagle Rock and the continuing interest in the Penokee Hills for taconite . Those mining proposals , although technically outside of the scope of the very limited review this PUC has undertaken so far, also impact our wild rice. This is particularly true, in light of the state of Minnesota's apparent interest in reducing the number of wild rice lakes in the state, so that a sulfate standard would not be applied to these mining operations, and EPA regulations could be skirted. That would not be our approach. The PUC needs to be cognizant of Tribal environmental knowledge and include this knowledge into a cumulative effect assessment.

Let us be clear, this is the only place in the world where there are Anishinaabeg and this is the only place in the world where there is wild rice. We understand that, and fully intend to protect both of those, as essential to our lives as Anishinaabeg people.

Proceeding, with some historic and regional knowledge, the proposed Enbridge Energy Corridor route already caused an immense amount of duress for our community.

"... I am afraid, I am very afraid. But we are Anishinaabeg people, and it is our way that has kept us alive for all these generations and will keep us alive for the next seven, fourteen, twenty one generations to come..." Michael Dahl, White Earth

People are stressed out already, and concerned about the pipeline. National and international studies on the impact of siting proposed megaprojects in communities all show that there is increased psychological and social trauma on these communities. It is important to note, that the most impacted tribal communities in the proposed Enbridge route for Line 3, are those of Rice Lake and East Lake. Both of these communities already suffer from health disparities and duress. The White Earth Tribal Health budget already consumes a vast proportion of the tribal budget in total, and adding more health problems to our community for the benefit of a Canadian Pipeline Company is a violation of state and federal, as well as tribal rights, laws, interests, and sensibilities.

The present mental and physical health conditions of the Ojibwe, in Minnesota has been documented recently to the Minnesota Commissioner of Health, with the Wilder Foundation. The study found:

"The evidence strongly suggests that social and economic conditions and structural racism contribute significantly to the relatively poor health outcomes of the American Indian population in Minnesota. Therefore, we feel that policy makers should take these critical factors into account in a systematic and transparent way when making decisions that potentially have wide ranging impacts..."¹

As can be seen from the following statistics, Tribal communities currently have significant health disparities, which would be exacerbated by the proposed pipeline projects.

Native American youth 15-24 suicide rate more than 3 times more than national average

Suicide leading cause of death for those 10-34

Reservations among the poorest places in the nation

Rates of depression twice national average

Alcoholism 5.5 times national rates

Heart disease twice national average²

In the 2014, Advancing Health Equity Report to the Legislature, the Minnesota Department of Health highlighted structural racism as a key contributor to health inequities in our state: "Structural racism — the normalization of historical, cultural, institutional and interpersonal dynamics that routinely advantage white people while producing cumulative and chronic adverse outcomes for people of color and American Indians — is rarely talked about. Revealing where structural racism is operating and where its effects are being felt is essential for figuring out where policies and programs can make the greatest improvements.

While this may not appear to be a direct interest of the Department of Commerce in these proceedings, the fact that the baseline for the communities to be impacted most heavily by the Enbridge proposed pipeline corridor, means that this additional health burden must be considered by the Department of Commerce. And, although the Minnesota PUC told the Mille Lacs band of Ojibwe that it was not required to consult with tribal governments, as had been outlined in Governor Dayton's Executive Order of 2014 on tribal and state relations, we insist that the Department of Commerce is, not in fact, exempt from that order, and in that, since the state Department of Health has already recognized the underlying structural racism in Minnesota's health disparities, in relationship to First Nations, it is clear that our community is at high risk and that it would be, in fact, reprehensible to attempt to push threat onto our tribal people.

Impact is worsened by Mega Project

The psychological and social impacts of siting a project in an at-risk community is very significant. Widespread studies and stories from Canadian and other Indigenous Nations who have faced or become victims of mega-projects indicates that there is significant social and psychological trauma,

¹ Wilder Letter June 4, 2015

² McLeigh JD. 2014. What are the policy issues related to the mental health of Native Americans? PsycINFO.
page 412

resulting in additional deaths from these projects³. For example, more than 43 % of victims of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, compared to 23 % of non-victims, had one or more psychological disorders (specifically depression, generalized anxiety disorder, or PTSD) one year after the oil spill (Palinkas et al. 1993). These psychological consequences persisted; six years later disaster victims had substantially higher than normative rates for depression, anxiety, and PTSD (Arata et al. 2000). Indeed, a review of studies assessing the psychological consequences of disasters invoking human culpability concluded that their psychological consequences are worse than for natural disasters (Norris et al. 2002)⁴.

The scope of oil projects, combined with large scale mining projects will cause significant additional stress on these communities which are already under duress . The pipeline corridor , if routed through the heart of the wild rice country would make the Tribal communities of Minnesota "victims of progress".

Price Tag for the Health Impact?

The State of Minnesota acknowledges that the risk of a pipeline failure would cause significant cost to the State. The State's Department of Commerce has arranged for expanded insurance under the PUC approval authority for a determination of the need for a pipeline disaster. The amount of and terms of the insurance need to be shared with the White Earth , Mille Lacs and other tribal governments and the 1855 treaty authority so that we can see the estimates of potential liability and the terms and limits to this policy. From what we know of the DOC request, there is no acknowledgement that these tribal communities, and those within the 1855 treaty area with their already significant health issues and numerous environmental injustices as a result of this pipeline, will be protected.

What we know is that based on the dearth of assessment by the state of Minnesota, the lack of a rigorous or robust assessment of risk and knowledge of the location of the impact of the pipeline proposal, the lack of integration of state agency cooperation, including , for instance the very accessible Department of Health report, any recommendations for insurance in the Sandpiper line and subsequently Line 3 would be grossly underestimated. The combined or actuarial risk of the Energy Corridor would need to be calculated as discussed elsewhere. We are concerned particularly that the present protection for the State of Minnesota makes no allowances for tribal communities already exposed to social, economic, and structural racism. Nor does it contemplate compensation for these communities in the event of an oil spill along the pipeline or other impacts. The present system allows for the state to protect its interests, but they have chosen not to implement a system to protect Tribal communities against potential loss of life and livelihood. In fact, they appear to be

³ Hoover E, et al. 2012. Indigenous Peoples of North America: Environmental Exposures and Reproductive Justice. *Envir Heal Pers* 120: 1645- 1649.; Tobias JK, Richmond CAM. 2014. "That land means everything to us as Anishinaabe...": Environmental dispossession and resilience on the North Shore of Lake Superior. *Health & Place* 29: 26-33.

⁴ Cline RJW, Orom H, Chung JE, and Hernandez T. 2014. The Role of Social Toxicity in Responses to a Slowly-Evolving Environmental Disaster: The Case of Amphibole Asbestos Exposure in Libby, Montana, USA. *Am J Comm Psychol* 54: 12-27.

choosing to put these Tribal communities at risk and compounding environmental justice issues⁵. At a June 30th Environmental Justice meeting sponsored by Minnesota PCA, the staff identified that Minnesota had subjected its minority population to environmental justice issues and they have born a disproportion of the environmental issues⁶. The White Earth band of Ojibwe and Honor the Earth would like to know the full extent of the insurance agreement between the state of Minnesota and Enbridge, as this is a matter of concern to our people, in the management of the resources and assets of the 1855 treaty area, as well as the precedent it may set. We believe that this issue should be resolved long before any permits are added.

Environmental Risk and Environmental Justice

All of the comments submitted previously by Honor the Earth, as well as related organizations such as the Friends of the Headwaters, and tribal governments, including White Earth, Fond du Lac and Mille Lacs, would apply in the case of Line 3, or the Enbridge Energy Corridor. The environmental destruction from fossil fuels is already documented. The exact figures for the increase in risk by adding mega projects to new corridor, or achieving what Enbridge calls ' pipeline fatigue" have not yet been ascertained, and would require qualified assessment. All of this, should be assessed prior to any approval for a new line, as well, full disclosure by the Enbridge Company, as to potential additional lines in the corridor they hope to secure will need to be reviewed by qualified scientific and Indigenous experts. None of this is in place at present.

Environmental Justice Concerns:

During hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at St. Paul, Minnesota in January, 2015, Enbridge project staff provide testimony and were questioned about the development of this pipeline and pipeline corridor. This is part of the public record, yet transcripts are not available. Specifically, the company considered an alternate route of the pipeline going down Interstate 94 as too dangerous because of the possibility of pipe failure and crude oil flooding the highway, causing accidents and it's routing through populated areas⁷. Enbridge's preferred route place the pipeline is very close in proximity to two tribal communities: Rice Lake Community in Clearwater County and East Lake/Sandy Lake Community in Aitkin County. These two tribal communities are being told they should shoulder the entire risk of the pipeline (which was too dangerous to place along Interstate 94 or larger, non-Indian communities).⁸. At a June 30th Environmental Justice meeting sponsored by Minnesota PCA, the staff identified that Minnesota had subjected its minority population to environmental justice issues and they have born a disproportion of the environmental issues⁹. This process must not continue that discrimination. We believe that this issue should be resolved long before any permits are added.

⁵ In the Matter of the Application of North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC for a Certificate of Need for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project in Minnesota MPUC Docket No. PL-6668/CN-13-473; OAH Docket No. 8-2500-31260 May 22,2015

⁶ MPCA notes of the meeting:

June 30th 2015.

⁷ Testimony of Enbridge Sandpiper Project Officer PUC hearing January 2105

⁸ In the Matter of the Application of North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC for a Certificate of Need for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project in Minnesota MPUC Docket No. PL-6668/CN-13-473; OAH Docket No. 8-2500-31260 May 22,2015

⁹ MPCA notes of the meeting:

June 30th 2015.

Additional Environmental Problems: Dilbit, Carbon and Abandonment

1) Dilbit Corrosion and Special Characteristics

"Dilbit" is the abbreviation for diluted bitumen, the substance Enbridge is currently pumping through the existing Line 3 and would continue to transport in the Line 3 replacement.

Because of the more viscous makeup of dilbit, it must be pumped at higher pressure and at higher temperatures than conventional crude oil. Additional toxic chemicals are added to allow the product flow. Some sand remains in dilbit. A combination of these attributes has led some engineers to compare dilbit to "fast, hot, and toxic liquid sandpaper." Add this to the fact that 41 percent of the pipelines were built to carry conventional crude oil in the 1950's and 1960's. The alarming speed at which tar sands are being added to this pipeline network raise legitimate questions about the likelihood of many more accidents. The environmental group Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) notes that pipelines in the upper Midwest that routinely carry oil from tar sands have spilled 3.6 times more oil per pipeline mile than the U.S. average¹⁰.

Carbon

The Enbridge Company, and its subsidiary, the North Dakota Pipeline Company, in Canadian and US regulatory proceedings has wished to only account for the carbon used to power the transportation of the oil through the pipelines it is providing for the extreme extraction process. We reject this suggestion as self serving and inaccurate.

Responsibility for the total carbon footprint of the substance would be required to be considered. It is as if we are saying that in the Nazi Gas chambers, those who operated the railroads to the gas chambers were not complicit in the Jewish holocaust, but instead, only the SS which administered it, would be liable. That is preposterous. This pipeline and the further combustion of high impact fossil fuels, constitute the gas chambers of climate change.

In short, when analyzing the carbon impact of the pipeline, more than just the operational impacts must be calculated. As the pipeline project is being developed to deliver tar sands oil to refineries and foreign markets, the carbon impact of the use of the oil must be included. HTE has done preliminary calculations of this impact and reported to the EPA:

The Sandpiper pipeline will transport 355,000 bl/day, 365.25 days a year the equivalent of 129,663,750 barrels annually. Carbon emissions per barrel per US EPA estimates: .43 metric tons per barrel¹¹. Total annual carbon emissions 55,755,412 metric tons. Cost to remove carbon at

¹⁰ http://www.oilandwaterdontmix.org/the_bigger_picture

¹¹ US EPA Carbon Calculation (Note: Due to rounding, performing the calculations given in the equations below may not return the exact results shown) {5.80 mmbtu/barrel × 20.31 kg C/mmbtu × 44 kg CO₂/12 kg C × 1 metric ton/1,000 kg = 0.43 metric tons CO₂/barrel}

Sources: EPA (2013). Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990–2011. Annex 2 (Methodology for estimating CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion), P. A-68, Table A-38 and Table A-45. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC. U.S. EPA #430-R-13-001 (PDF) (429 pp, 10.6MB, About PDF).

present is \$600.00 per metric ton (American Physics Society). Total cost to the atmosphere annually equals \$33.5 billion. The new Line 3 is also proposed to follow this corridor. Line 3 would be a 36" pipe transporting 675,000 barrels of tar sands crude oil daily (Enbridge Number), 365.25 days a year equalling 246,643,750 barrels annually. Carbon emission per barrel of tar sands oil is estimated .51 metric tons per barrel (Extract calculation from the book). Total annual carbon emission is estimated at 125,737,313 metric tons. Total cost to the atmosphere annually \$75.4 billion. The combined cost to the environment is \$181 billion. Compare this to the \$500 million Enbridge proposes to make. These figures do not include the loss of ecosystem services and values that would result from the development of the corridor. Nor does this include project costs of spills. " This also does not include the remaining Enbridge Lines, nor does it include the MinnCan expansion also being considered by the PUC.

Abandonment Problems- Significant in all ways.

In the 1960's, when the original Enbridge Mainline was developed, there was not much public knowledge around the environmental issues of pipeline development. Decades later, after living with the pipeline infrastructure, we have a much better understanding of the impact of these projects. This impacts include the risk of spills, the impact on landscape fracture, and hydrological disturbances. Now, as we move into an era of pipeline abandonment, the potential long-term impacts of leaving this corroding infrastructure in the environment must be analyzed before permitting corporations (such as Enbridge) to walk away from this remaining liabilities. We know that the existing Line 3 has over 900 structural anomalies, which represent increased risk of spills. This is why Enbridge wants to replace the line. However, Enbridge does not want the liability of soil testing and remediating contaminated soil, or restoring historical hydrological regimes. This is why Enbridge is proposing to abandon the existing pipeline in place.

Enbridge Line 3 was placed in by the Lakehead Pipeline Company in 1961 and has experienced significant structural integrity problems. Latest public estimates by the Enbridge Company indicate over 900 integrity anomalies in the pipeline, which spans over 300 miles of northern Minnesota, crossing part of the Red Lake, Leech Lake and Fond du Lac reservations and the 1855 and 1842 treaty areas.

Enbridge has gathered extensive integrity data on Line 3 throughout its years of operation. The integrity data shows a high number of integrity anomalies – specifically, corrosion and long seam cracking. Because of its integrity anomalies, Line 3 has experienced a number of failures during its more than 50-year history. As a result, Line 3 requires a high level of integrity monitoring and an extensive on-going integrity dig and repair program to maintain safe operation of the line. For example, approximately 4,000 integrity digs in the United States alone are currently forecasted for Line 3 over the next 15 years to maintain its current level of operation. This would result in year-after-year impacts to landowners and the environment, and may result in repeated impacts to the same landowners and environmental features. (Enbridge Reports)

If Enbridge is not required to remove the pipeline and restore the damaged ecosystems, there may never be a full accounting of the contamination surrounding the pipeline. This contamination would become the responsibility of nearby landowners , tribal governments, state and federal authorities. Additionally, Enbridge has stated they plan to fill the pipelines with nitirious oxide. This would

constitute an underground storage tank according to Minnesota statute Minnesota Statute § 103I.681¹² We believe that the state of Minnesota will need to regulate the pipeline as such.

In terms of jurisdiction. We find an article in the Oil and Gas Pipeline Journal by David Howell, Senior Right of Way Agent, International Right of Way Association (2009 article), where he notes the problem of jurisdiction is immense and a major concern...

"A dictionary definition for abandonment means to "give up entirely." Defined in terms of federal regulations, abandonment means "permanently removed from service." In federal pipeline safety jargon, an abandoned pipeline is a pipeline that is "physically separated from its source of gas and is no longer maintained," or in another federal agency glossary, "no longer connected to the system and is no longer maintained. The pipeline can be abandoned in place, by removal, or sold." In still another set of federal guidelines, abandoned property means "a property that, because of its general disrepair or lack of activity, a reasonable person could believe that there is intent on the part of the current owners to surrender their rights to the property." All of these definitions apply to gas and hazardous liquid pipelines that are interstate and fall under federal jurisdiction.

However, there are no guidelines for abandoned crude oil pipelines that fall under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and, presumably, the agencies that have succeeded to that federal agency's role since it was abolished in 1995, as common carriers. At the state level, there are no abandonment guidelines or definitions for intrastate gas, liquids, or oil pipelines, and there are no abandonment guidelines or definitions for intrastate oil or gas gathering systems. Any mention of abandonment of pipeline procedures follows federal guidelines of disconnecting from active gas service and purging of any hazardous substance."

More information on the issue of abandonment can be found in HTE supplemental Pipeline Abandonment Briefing document.

We have devoted a great deal of our comments to the first question being asked by the PUC and now look at the remaining questions. Many of these questions have been answered in the primary comments on the Sandpiper.

- 2. Are there any specific methods to address these impacts that should be studied in the environmental analysis?**
- 3. Are there any alternative routes or route segments that should be considered?**
- 4. Are there any alternatives to the project that should be considered?**

Methods:

The PUC has appeared to operate in an antiquated system of analysis, which neither is able to offer full assessments, nor able to integrate assessments, whether of the environment or the economy. This is particularly true when pipelines are considered singularly, jurisdiction is siloed, and information is withheld from the review. Governments on a worldwide scale are deploying policy analysis which includes full cost accounting, carbon footprint, social impact assessment, ecological analysis and the precautionary principle. This would offer a more conservative view of choices. We can provide the PUC with methodologies which could be included here. As well, NASA scientists and many others

¹² <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=103I.681>

have come to understand the essential knowledge of Indigenous people in relationship to the earth. This would require a full quality assessment and full partnership with Indigenous peoples, first nations and the tribes of Minnesota.

Scientifically, there are a number of methods that these potential impacts may be assessed. For ecosystem-level impacts, the Invest GIS modeling tool should be used, along with the UCONN Landscape fracture tool. This will give an estimation of ecosystems impacted. Utilizing ecosystem services valuation will give an economic impact of the loss of these ecosystems services. To look at the human health impact, it must be understood that the impact on the Tribal communities will not be the same as the non-Native communities. When estimating the impact on these communities, a seven generations perspective must be taken, or looking at the cumulative impact over the next 140 years. Past research has shown that the loss of the ability to continue traditional ways negatively impacts the physical and psychological health of Tribal communities. Given the spiritual nature of the wild rice, the loss of the ability to harvest this crop could present a potential loss of the cultural and economic basis of these communities. There is no way to quantify this potential loss. .

Alternative Routes

We do not believe this pipeline is necessary. We believe that Line 3 should be dismantled, and recognize that the economic benefits of pipeline removal, in terms of jobs and long term remediation represent at least four times as many jobs as those proposed by Enbridge for a short term , quick laying of new pipeline, without remediating any of the present pipeline toxicity. This is a significant economic issue, which we believe would benefit the state of Minnesota.

The consensus of the Tribes is that this project is not wanted or needed by these communities. As such, Enbridge must find an alternative route that does not cross Treaty protected lands. If we are required to submit a corridor option for a pipeline which we do not see the need for, then the only proposal is that which we have previously submitted: 29 94 to go down major interstates, for the benefit of those who will be able to monitor this pipeline and for the benefit, if there is some of those who will proportionally use and consume this oil.

Frankly, as the Line 3 is scheduled to follow the Sandpiper corridor, which has already been restricted to SA-applicant and SA-03-AM; HTE suggests that perhaps Enbridge shouldn't have invested so much into Clearbrook before they had permits in place for the New Mainline Corridor. Enbridge and other large oil companies have been allowed to develop a (mostly) unregulated expansive network of pipelines and refineries across the country over the last 50-60 years. This is about the life span of most of that infrastructure. That is part of the "need" for this most recent round of pipeline projects. Not that demand has gone up, but that infrastructure has decayed and markets have shifted. While domestically, urban areas are still the largest consumers of fossil fuels, there has finally been substantial movement towards investment in sustainable urban development. A major component of this is investment in public transportation. Often these vehicles do not rely on fossil fuels. Why should we invest in an infrastructure our grandchildren will not need?

Long story short, if Enbridge actually upheld the social conscience which it represents in the annual reports, we would be discussing the expansion of a regional public transportation network, the use of

the Enbridge proposed \$17 billion in oil pipeline additions in Minnesota into a renewable energy infrastructure. We would be discussing the prudent transition to a renewable and efficient energy economy and the reduction of the need for a fossil fuels economy as well as the need to invest in the aging infrastructure of this country. Indeed, just dismantling Line 3 will be a major employment opportunity for the unions of Minnesota, with likely four times the employment ratio that would be needed for the laying of a new pipe. This combined, with new energy infrastructure will insure that there is long term, sustainable benefit from new energy infrastructure in this state, not long term liability.

From: paige [mailto:paigebusse@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 1:01 AM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Sandpiper routing permit public comment

To Whom it May Concern:

We are an alliance of berry pickers, we call ourselves Mawinzo Asiginigaazo, which means, berry pickers gathering. We are in opposition to the proposed Sandpiper pipeline and request that you do not grant a permit for the construction of this pipeline.

The relationship to this docket is that the pipeline would run adjacent to the largest berry patches in this region. This ecosystem lies east of the proposed route from Moose Creek Township in Clearwater County to Lake Alice Township in Hubbard County. The Mississippi River flows next to one particular area and is downstream from where the pipeline would cross beneath this said river. Due to the nature of oil with its known carcinogens, an oil spill would be detrimental to the groundwater and river habitat, therefore effecting the berries. We depend on these berries not only for nourishment but they are a key component of our cultural resources. There are seven types of berries that we harvest in this area, along with hazelnuts and many types of medicinal plants. These are all considered organic. The list of berries consist of; juneberries, pin cherry, strawberries, blueberries, huckleberries, raspberries and chokecherries.

The Anishinaabe have traveled and camped next to these berry patches for hundreds of years. We have continued to enjoy this perfect ecosystem along with our neighbors who are not Anishinaabe. We want to continue to pick these berries for our families, camp next to these berry patches as our ancestors did and we want our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to be able to do the same.

We do not propose an alternative route because we do not see an alternative. We do not want any additional pipelines built in the state of Minnesota. We want to see alternative fuel sources developed rather than our continued dependence upon fossil fuels which are known to increase carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has contributed to negative global weather changes.

We do not support the proposed project in this docket. Pipeline ruptures and oil spills are happening all over the world at increasing rates. We do not want to increase our chances of a spill by allowing this level 4 explosive oil to run through these lands via. the Sandpiper.

Thank you for your time,

The members of Mawinzo Asinigaazo

Jill Hoppe
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

February 1, 2017

RE: Meeting request regarding the Line 3 Replacement EIS

Dear Ms. Hoppe:

The Minnesota Department of Commerce greatly appreciates the ongoing working relationship and input from the Fond du Lac technical staff on pipeline issues. I write today with two requests. First, we would like to meet with you and other board members to continue the discussion as to how the proposed pipeline could affect the natural and cultural resources that are important to the Fond du Lac Band.

Second, we would like to hold a separate open forum to discuss the project with the members of the Fond du Lac tribal community. The intent of this forum would inform tribal members about the project and for the Department to gain additional insight into tribal members' concerns on Line 3.

As you are aware, Enbridge Energy is proposing to replace their existing Line 3 pipeline, a section of which crosses the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation. Enbridge's proposal is to permanently deactivate the existing Line 3 pipeline and leave it in place, and construct a replacement pipeline along a new route that does not cross the reservation. However, route alternatives (RAs) proposed by other entities as alternatives or Enbridge's preferred route are in the vicinity of the Fond du Lac Reservation. For your convenience, I have attached a map of the proposed routes.

The process for pipeline approval is that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is responsible for deciding whether to issue a certificate of need and determining what route to permit for the proposed project. In this case, the PUC has ordered an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project and has asked the Commerce Department's Divisions of Energy, Environmental Review Unit (EERA) to conduct the EIS. Additional information on the EIS process and the project can be found on the project web page (<http://www.mn.gov//commerce/energyfacilities/line3/>).

Over the last year, the department has worked with the environmental staff in the Fond du Lac Resources Department to gather information for the EIS. These discussions focused on construction impacts, land use and hydrology, as well as the potential effects on nearby natural resources, including wild rice and water resources. The Fond du Lac Band also provided comments during the EIS scoping comment period. Finally, Commerce's Commissioner and Chief of Staff consulted with the Fond du Lac Tribal Chairman and Council on January 27, 2017 regarding a variety of issues, including the proposed project.

Cultural and Natural Resources Meeting

The State of Minnesota's EIS for the proposed project does not replace any federal consultation or environmental review efforts on this project. For example, Section 106, 401 and 402 reviews required by the Army Corps of Engineers are separate from the State of Minnesota's environmental review process.

Like the federal government, however, the State of Minnesota is responsible for considering the cultural and natural resource issues that are important to the Fond du Lac Band. Therefore, at the proposed meeting we would like to discuss the following:

1. The types of effects the pipeline route and proposed alternatives could have on tribal resources.
2. The areas where the location of the pipeline could affect these resources.
3. The type and distribution of resources used by the Fond du Lac Band for hunting, gathering, economic, and cultural purposes.
4. How information that could benefit the EIS process is best obtained.

The resources the Department is currently considering include known cultural and historical resources in the area and tribal traditional and historical use areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering, which may also be properties of religious and cultural significance and sacred places. We seek input to accurately reflect the impact and understand that culturally significant data are sensitive and require careful consideration and protection. What the Department learns from the requested meetings would help us to achieve that.

Please extend this invitation to other members in your office or other band members to attend the meeting, please let us know. We would also like to extend the invitation to your Natural Resources Department (copied here).

A preliminary agenda for the meeting will follow. We would greatly appreciate suggestions for agenda items we may have missed from the consultation meeting. If possible, please provide suggested items no later than February 10, 2017.

Community Open Forum

As mentioned above, we would also request an opportunity to hold a community forum. The purpose of the forum is to help us better understand environmental justice issues in the project area, and are seeking meaningful input from members of environmental justice communities. EERA staff would attend the forum and be available to answer general questions about the proposed project, the process for preparing the EIS, and the state regulatory processes.

We would like to meet in person at your tribal headquarters office or alternate location at your suggestion. We are blocking time for the meeting during the week of February 20, 2017. If this time works for you please let us know what day (February 20 – March 3) works best for you. If possible, we would like to schedule the open forum on the same day as our meeting with you and other board members.

Please confirm your interest in, and availability for, an in-person meeting. I will follow up in a week or so to discuss your availability. My e-mail address and telephone are listed below. We look forward to meeting and consulting with the Fond du Lac.

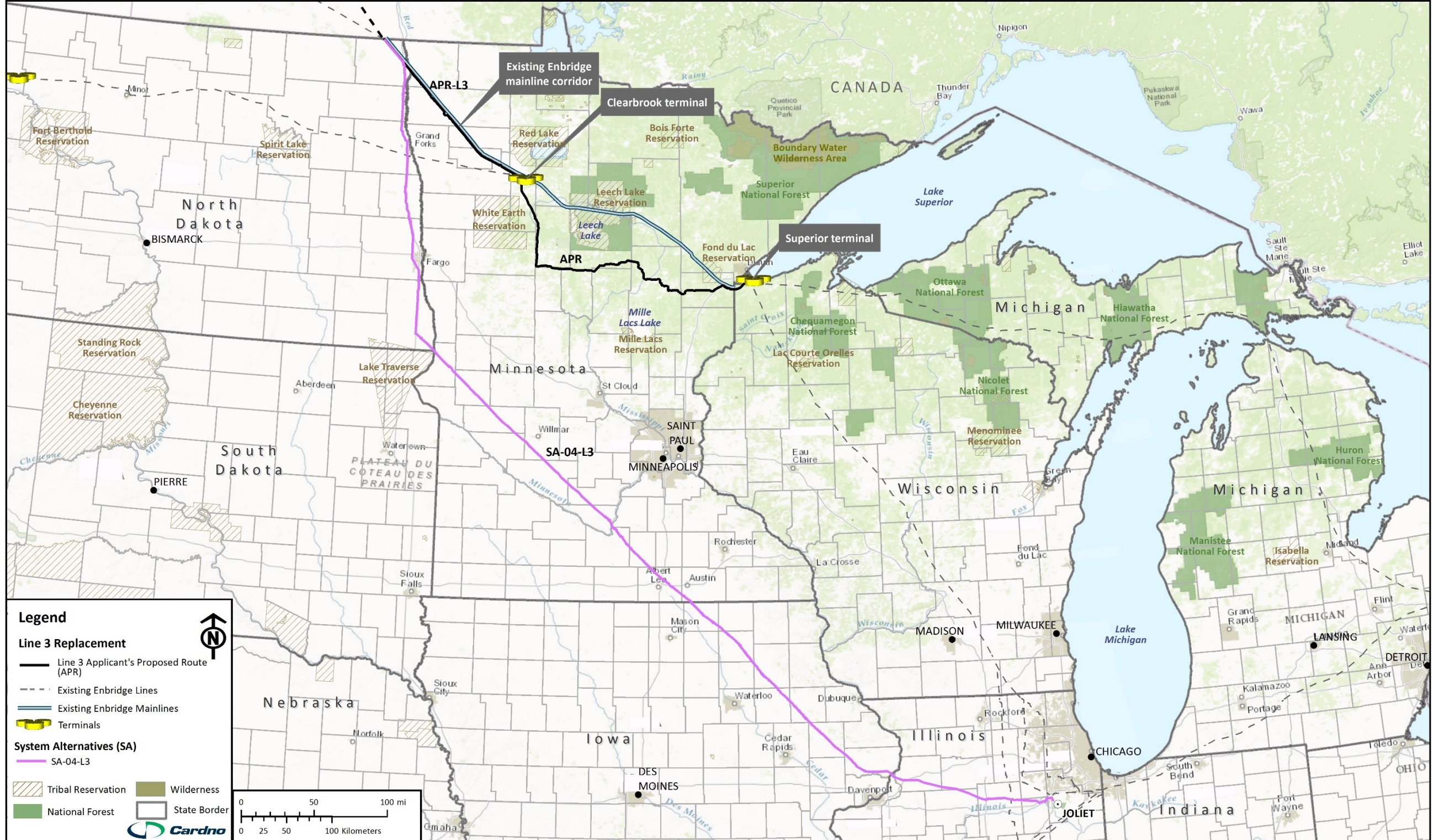
Sincerely,



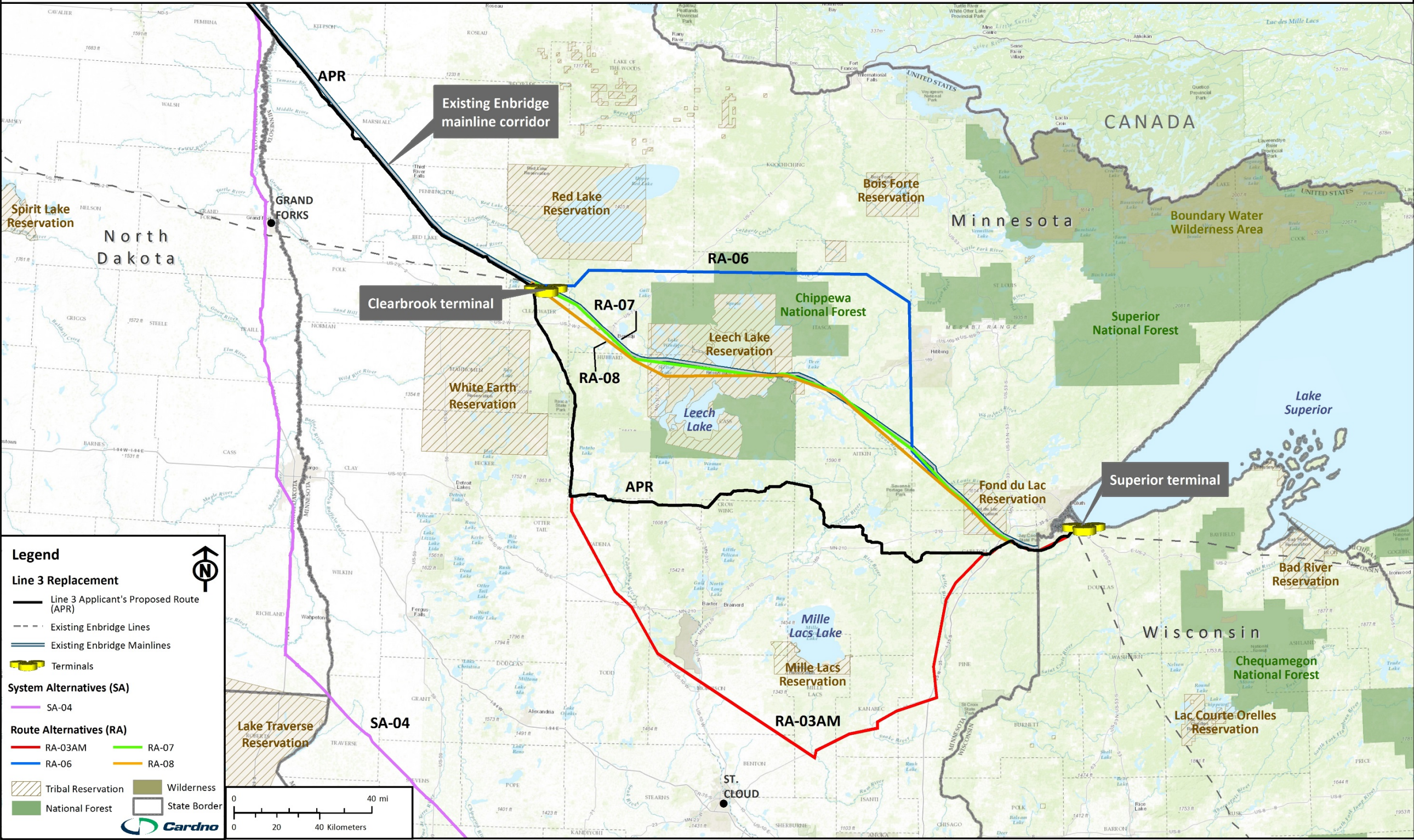
Jamie MacAlister
Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-539-1775
Email: Jamie.MacAlister@state.mn.us

cc: Thomas Howes, Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program Manager
Reginald DeFoe, Fond du Lac Natural Resources Director
Richard D. Gitar, Fond du Lac Water Regulatory Specialist/Tribal Inspector

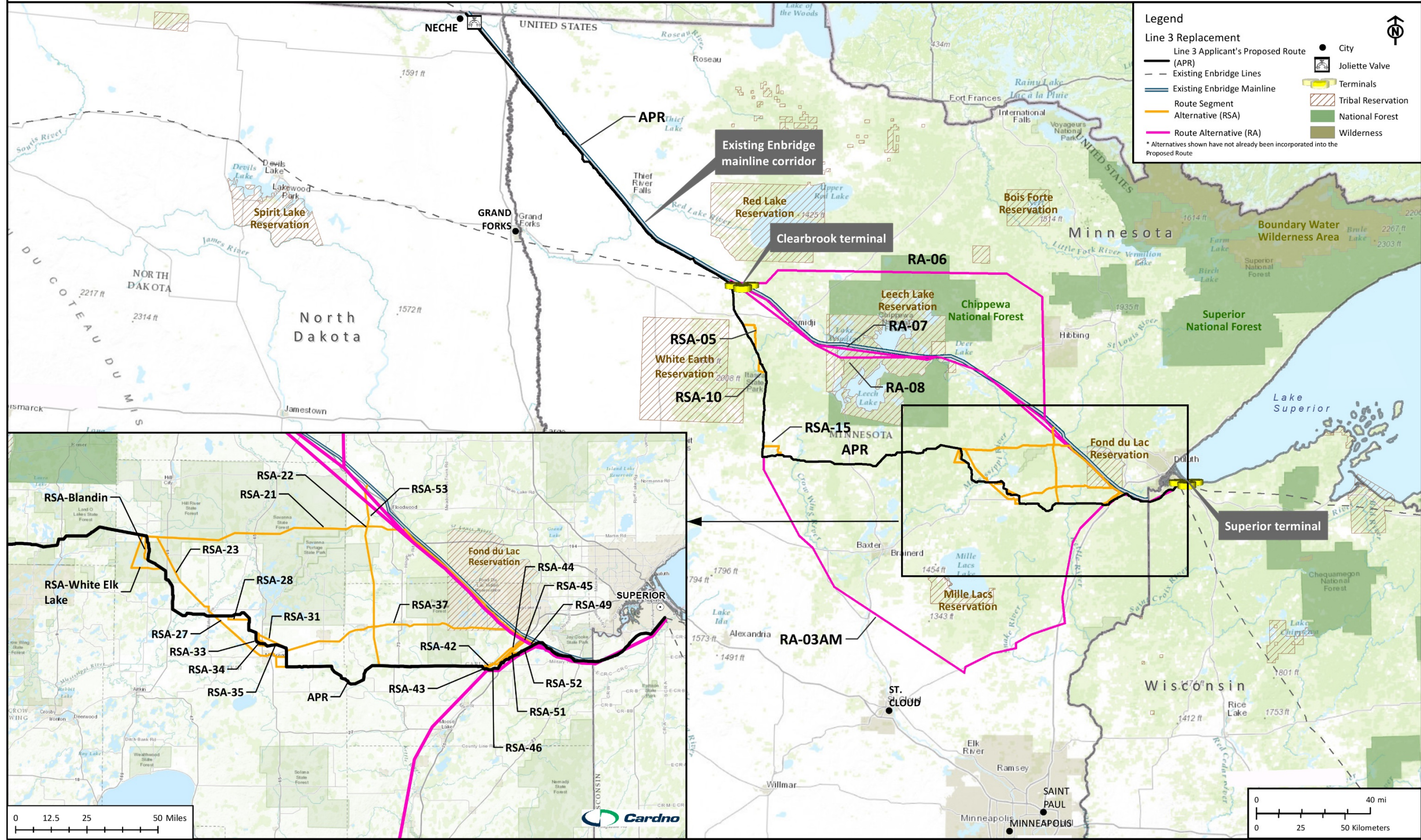
Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1a: System Alternative Selected for Analysis in the EIS



Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1b: Alternatives Selected for Analysis in the EIS



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



Amy Burnette
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
115 6th Street NW, Suite E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

February 1, 2017

RE: Meeting request regarding the Line 3 Replacement EIS

Dear Ms. Burnette:

The Minnesota Department of Commerce greatly appreciates the ongoing working relationship and input from the Leech Lake technical staff on pipeline issues. I write today with two requests. First, we would like to meet with you and other board members to continue the discussion as to how the proposed pipeline could affect the natural and cultural resources that are important to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Second, we would like to hold a separate open forum to discuss the project with the members of the Leech Lake tribal community. The intent of this forum would inform tribal members about the project and for the Department to gain additional insight into tribal members' concerns on Line 3.

As you are aware, Enbridge Energy is proposing to replace their existing Line 3 pipeline, a section of which crosses the Leech Lake Indian Reservation. Enbridge's proposal is to permanently deactivate the existing Line 3 pipeline and leave it in place, and construct a replacement pipeline along a new route that does not cross the reservation. However, route alternatives (RAs) proposed by other entities as alternatives or Enbridge's preferred route are in the vicinity of the Leech Lake Reservation. For your convenience, I have attached a map of the proposed routes.

The process for pipeline approval is that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is responsible for deciding whether to issue a certificate of need and determining what route to permit for the proposed project. In this case, the PUC has ordered an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project and has asked the Commerce Department's Divisions of Energy, Environmental Review Unit (EERA) to conduct the EIS. Additional information on the EIS process and the project can be found on the project web page (<http://www.mn.gov//commerce/energyfacilities/line3/>).

Over the last year, the department has worked with the environmental staff in the Leech Lake Resources Department to gather information for the EIS. These discussions focused on construction impacts, land use and hydrology, as well as the potential effects on nearby natural resources, including wild rice and water resources. The Leech Lake Band also provided comments during the EIS scoping comment period. Finally, Commerce's Commissioner and Chief of Staff consulted with the Leech Lake Tribal Chairman and Council on January 23, 2017 regarding a variety of issues, including the proposed project.

Cultural and Natural Resources Meeting

The State of Minnesota's EIS for the proposed project does not replace any federal consultation or environmental review efforts on this project. For example, Section 106, 401 and 402 reviews required by the Army Corps of Engineers are separate from the State of Minnesota's environmental review process.

Like the federal government, however, the State of Minnesota is responsible for considering the cultural and natural resource issues that are important to the Leech Lake Band. Therefore, at the proposed meeting we would like to discuss the following:

1. The types of effects the pipeline route and proposed alternatives could have on tribal resources.
2. The areas where the location of the pipeline could affect these resources.
3. The type and distribution of resources used by the Leech Lake Band for hunting, gathering, economic, and cultural purposes.
4. How information that could benefit the EIS process is best obtained.

The resources the Department is currently considering include known cultural and historical resources in the area and tribal traditional and historical use areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering, which may also be properties of religious and cultural significance and sacred places. We seek input to accurately reflect the impact and understand that culturally significant data are sensitive and require careful consideration and protection. What the Department learns from the requested meetings would help us to achieve that.

Please extend this invitation to other members in your office or other band members to attend the meeting, please let us know. We would also like to extend the invitation to your Natural Resources Department (copied here).

A preliminary agenda for the meeting will follow. We would greatly appreciate suggestions for agenda items we may have missed from the consultation meeting. If possible, please provide suggested items no later than February 10, 2017.

Community Open Forum

As mentioned above, we would also request an opportunity to hold a community forum. The purpose of the forum is to help us better understand environmental justice issues in the project area, and are seeking meaningful input from members of environmental justice communities. EERA staff would attend the forum and be available to answer general questions about the proposed project, the process for preparing the EIS, and the state regulatory processes.

We would like to meet in person at your tribal headquarters office or alternate location at your suggestion. We are blocking time for the meeting during the week of February 20, 2017. If this time works for you please let us know what day (February 20 – March 3) works best for you. If possible, we would like to schedule the open forum on the same day as our meeting with you and other board members.

Please confirm your interest in, and availability for, an in-person meeting. I will follow up in a week or so to discuss your availability. My e-mail address and telephone are listed below. We look forward to meeting and consulting with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

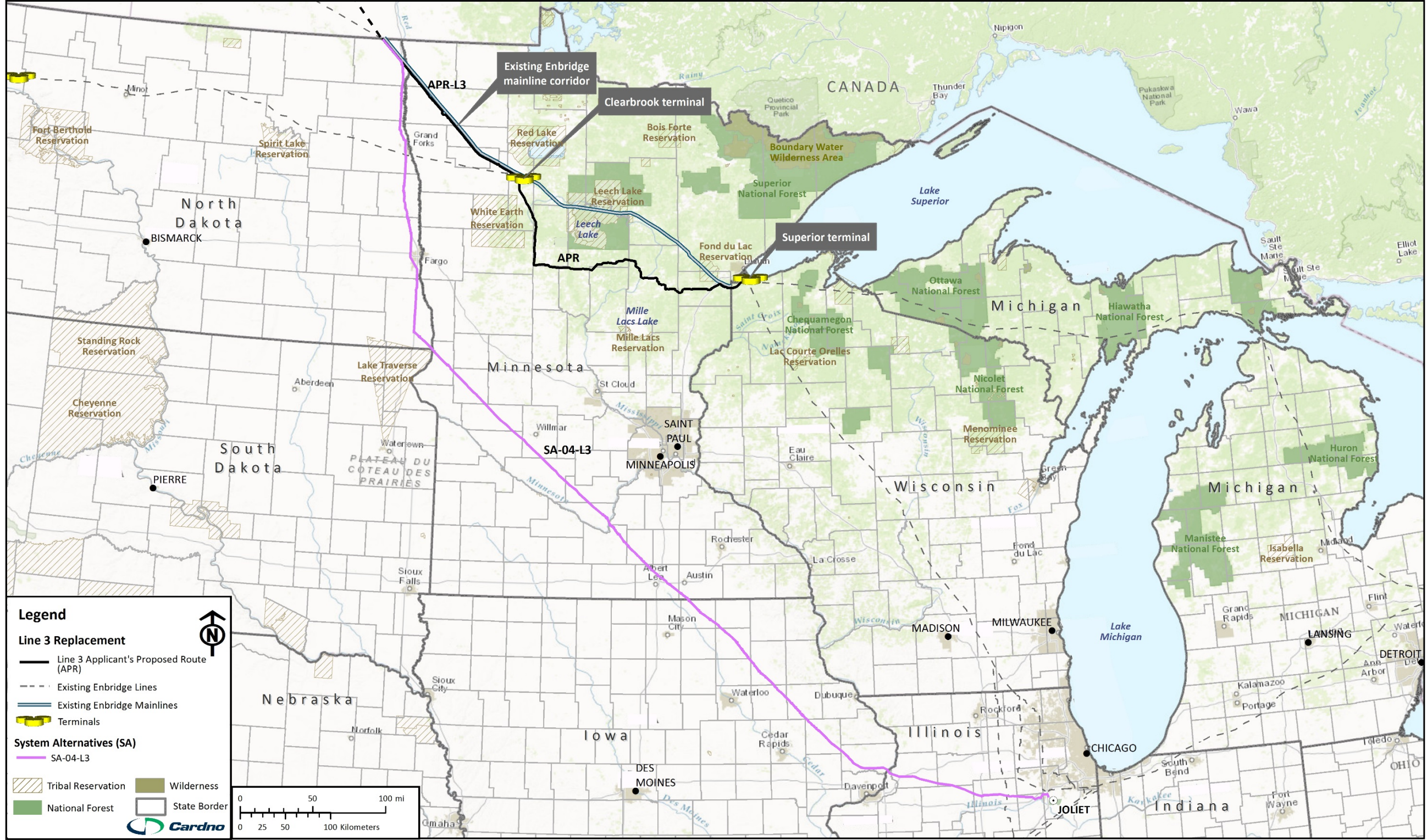
Sincerely,



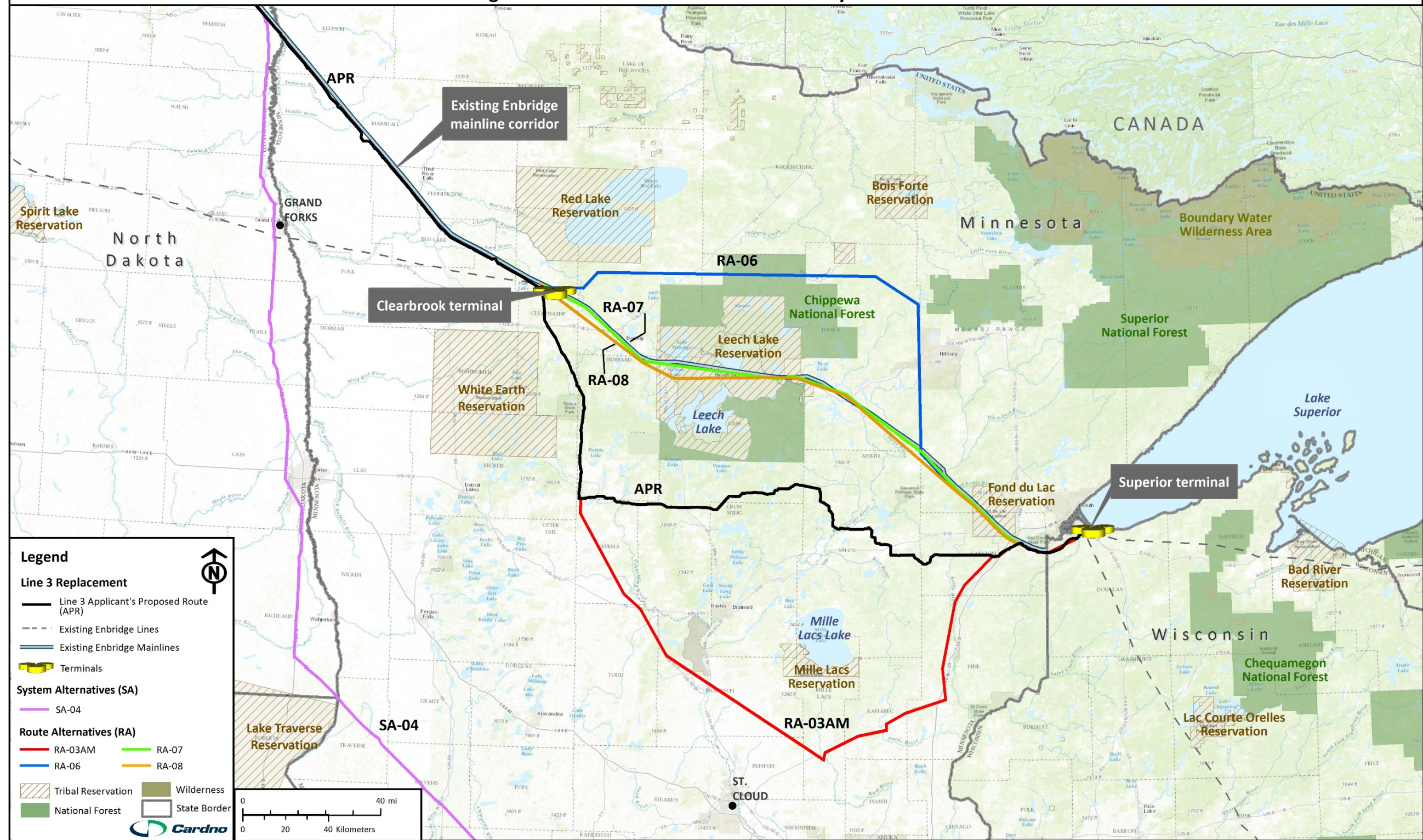
Jamie MacAlister
Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-539-1775
Email: Jamie.MacAlister@state.mn.us

cc: Steve Mortensen, Fish, Wildlife & Plant Resources Program Director
James Reyes, Ojibwe Fisheries Manager
Levi Brown, Environmental Director
Brandy Toft, Environmental Deputy Director

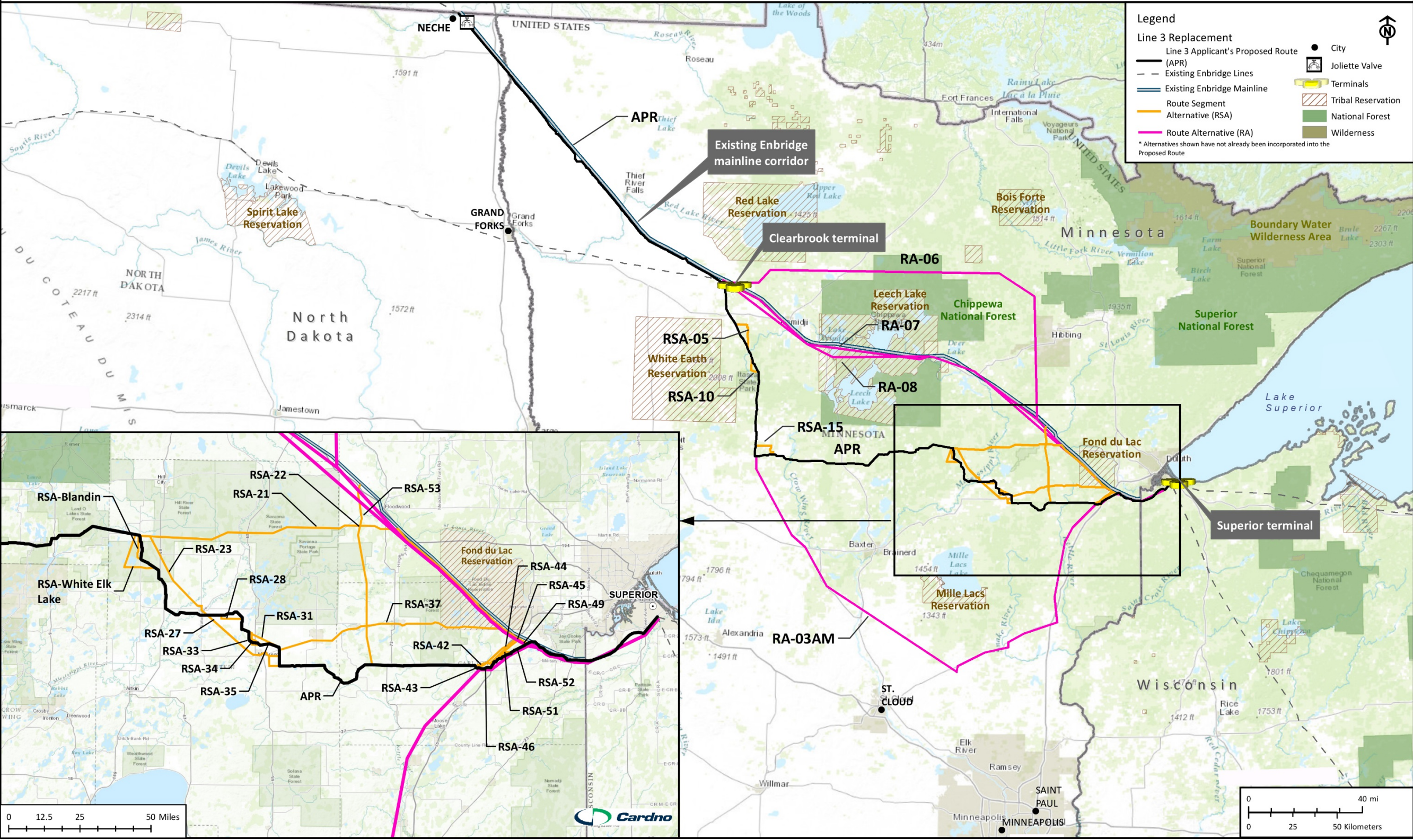
Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1a: System Alternative Selected for Analysis in the EIS



Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1b: Alternatives Selected for Analysis in the EIS



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



Natalie Weyaus
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

February 1, 2017

RE: Meeting request regarding the Line 3 Replacement EIS

Dear Ms. Weyaus:

The Minnesota Department of Commerce greatly appreciates the ongoing working relationship and input from the Mille Lacs Band technical staff on pipeline issues. I write today with two requests. First, we would like to meet with you and other board members to continue the discussion as to how the proposed pipeline could affect the natural and cultural resources that are important to the Mille Lacs Band.

Second, we would like to hold a separate open forum to discuss the project with the members of the Mille Lacs Band tribal community. The intent of this forum would inform tribal members about the project and for the Department to gain additional insight into tribal members' concerns on Line 3.

As you are aware, Enbridge Energy is proposing to replace their existing Line 3 pipeline, a section of which crosses the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation. Enbridge's proposal is to permanently deactivate the existing Line 3 pipeline and leave it in place, and construct a replacement pipeline along a new route that does not cross the reservation. However, route alternatives (RAs) proposed by other entities as alternatives or Enbridge's preferred route are in the vicinity of the Mille Lacs Reservation. For your convenience, I have attached a map of the proposed routes.

The process for pipeline approval is that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is responsible for deciding whether to issue a certificate of need and determining what route to permit for the proposed project. In this case, the PUC has ordered an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project and has asked the Commerce Department's Divisions of Energy, Environmental Review Unit (EERA) to conduct the EIS. Additional information on the EIS process and the project can be found on the project web page (<http://www.mn.gov//commerce/energyfacilities/line3/>).

Over the last year, the department has worked with the environmental staff in the Mille Lacs Resources Department to gather information for the EIS. These discussions focused on construction impacts, land use and hydrology, as well as the potential effects on nearby natural resources, including wild rice and water resources. The Mille Lacs Band also provided comments during the EIS scoping comment period. Finally, Commerce's Commissioner and Chief of Staff consulted with the Mille Lacs Tribal Chairman and Council on August 5, 2016 regarding a variety of issues, including the proposed project.

Cultural and Natural Resources Meeting

The State of Minnesota's EIS for the proposed project does not replace any federal consultation or environmental review efforts on this project. For example, Section 106, 401 and 402 reviews required by the Army Corps of Engineers are separate from the State of Minnesota's environmental review process.

Like the federal government, however, the State of Minnesota is responsible for considering the cultural and natural resource issues that are important to the Mille Lacs Band. Therefore, at the proposed meeting we would like to discuss the following:

1. The types of effects the pipeline route and proposed alternatives could have on tribal resources.
2. The areas where the location of the pipeline could affect these resources.
3. The type and distribution of resources used by the Mille Lacs Band for hunting, gathering, economic, and cultural purposes.
4. How information that could benefit the EIS process is best obtained.

The resources the Department is currently considering include known cultural and historical resources in the area and tribal traditional and historical use areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering, which may also be properties of religious and cultural significance and sacred places. We seek input to accurately reflect the impact and understand that culturally significant data are sensitive and require careful consideration and protection. What the Department learns from the requested meetings would help us to achieve that.

Please extend this invitation to other members in your office or other band members to attend the meeting, please let us know. We would also like to extend the invitation to your Natural Resources Department (copied here).

A preliminary agenda for the meeting will follow. We would greatly appreciate suggestions for agenda items we may have missed from the consultation meeting. If possible, please provide suggested items no later than February 10, 2017.

Community Open Forum

As mentioned above, we would also request an opportunity to hold a community forum. The purpose of the forum is to help us better understand environmental justice issues in the project area, and are seeking meaningful input from members of environmental justice communities. EERA staff would attend the forum and be available to answer general questions about the proposed project, the process for preparing the EIS, and the state regulatory processes.

We would like to meet in person at your tribal headquarters office or alternate location at your suggestion. We are blocking time for the meeting during the week of February 20, 2017. If this time works for you please let us know what day (February 20 – March 3) works best for you. If possible, we would like to schedule the open forum on the same day as our meeting with you and other board members.

Please confirm your interest in, and availability for, an in-person meeting. I will follow up in a week or so to discuss your availability. My e-mail address and telephone are listed below. We look forward to meeting and consulting with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

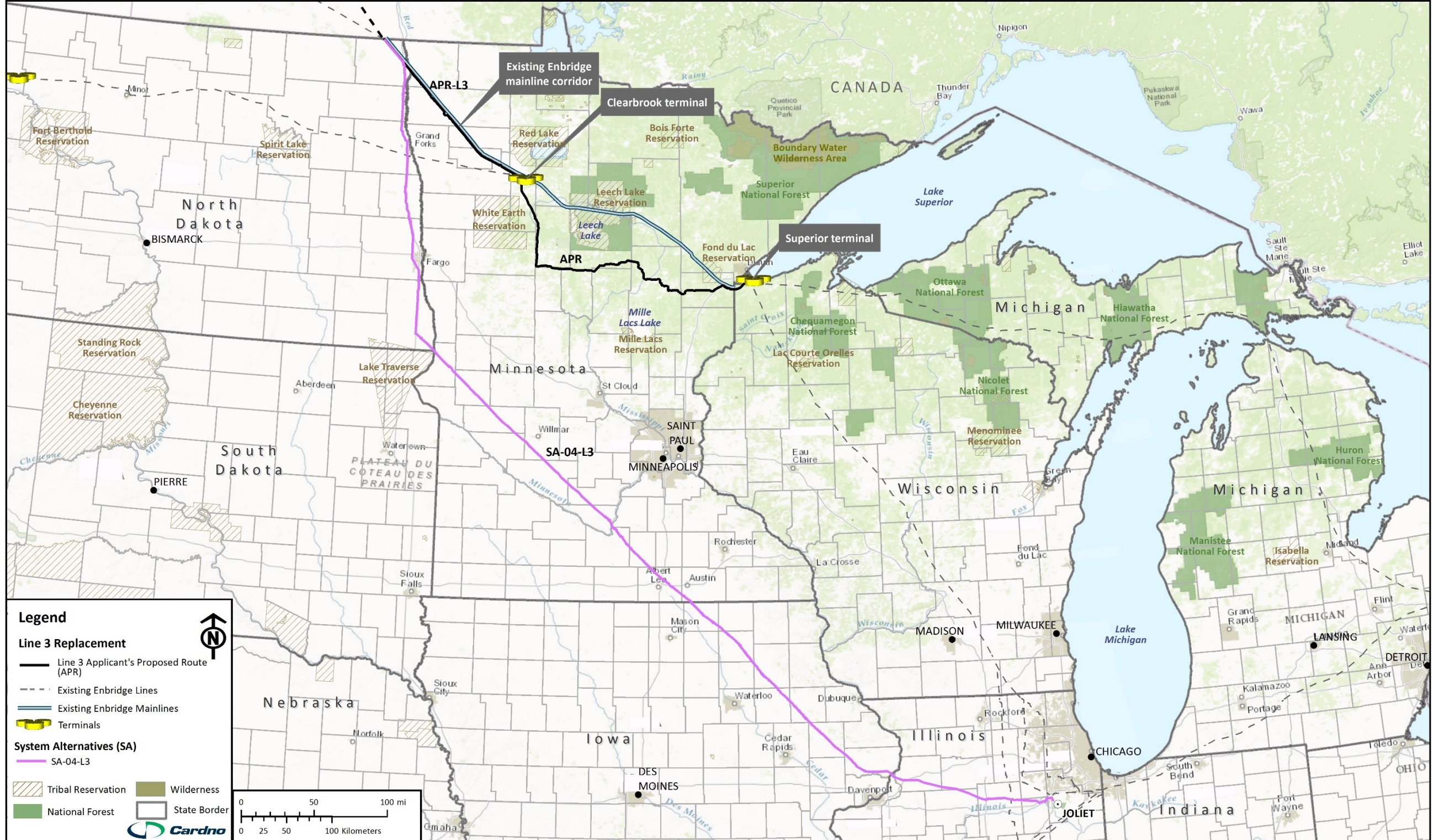
Sincerely,



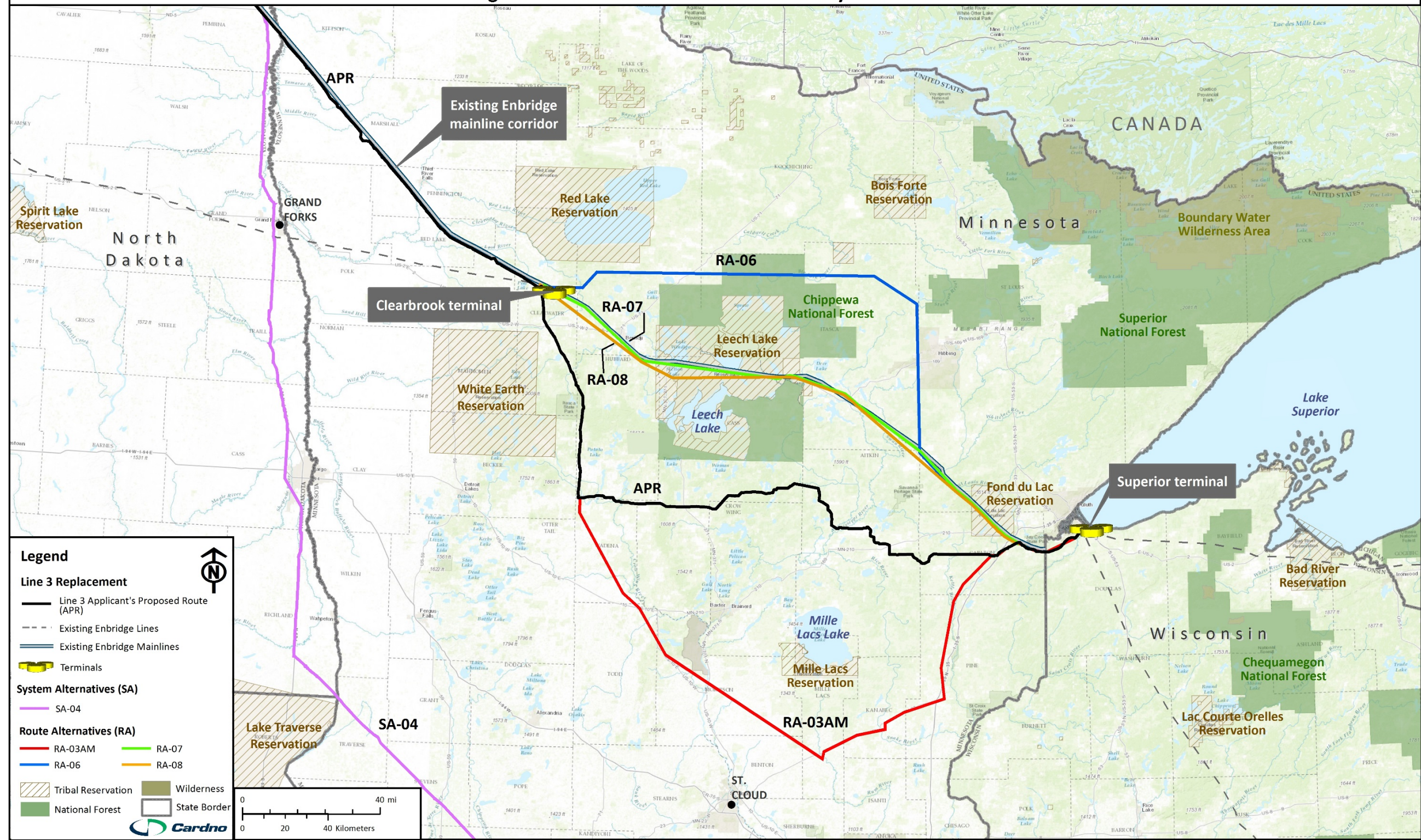
Jamie MacAlister
Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-539-1775
Email: Jamie.MacAlister@state.mn.us

cc: Susan Klapel, Executive Director of Natural Resources
Perry Bunting, Director of Environmental Programs
Ryan Rupp, Environmental Programs Manager

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



Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1b: Alternatives Selected for Analysis in the EIS



Kade Ferris
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Red Lake Band of Chippewa
P.O. Box 274
24200 Council Street
Red Lake, Minnesota 56671

February 9, 2017

RE: Meeting request regarding the Line 3 Replacement EIS

Dear Mr. Ferris:

The Minnesota Department of Commerce greatly appreciates the ongoing working relationship with the Red Lake Nation. On September 1, 2016 Commerce's Commissioner and Chief of Staff consulted with the Red Lake Tribal Chairman and Council regarding a variety of issues. However, those discussions were not focused on issues related to the proposed Enbridge pipeline project.

I write today with two requests. First, we would like to meet with you and other board members to discuss how the proposed Enbridge pipeline could affect the natural and cultural resources that are important to the Red Lake Band.

Second, we would like to hold a separate open forum to discuss the project with the members of the Red Lake tribal community. The intent of this forum would be to inform tribal members about the project and for the Department to gain additional insight into tribal members' concerns on Line 3.

Enbridge Energy is proposing to replace their existing Line 3 pipeline. Enbridge's proposal is to permanently deactivate the existing Line 3 pipeline and leave it in place, and construct a replacement pipeline along a new route. However, route alternatives (RAs) proposed by other entities as alternatives to the Enbridge route would be in the vicinity of the Red Lake Reservation. For your convenience, I have attached a map of the proposed routes.

The process for pipeline approval is that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is responsible for deciding whether to issue a certificate of need and determining what route to permit for the proposed project. In this case, the PUC has ordered an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project and has asked the Commerce Department's Divisions of Energy,

Environmental Review Unit (EERA) to conduct the EIS. Additional information on the EIS process and the project can be found on the project web page (<http://www.mn.gov//commerce/energyfacilities/line3/>).

Cultural and Natural Resources Meeting

The State of Minnesota's EIS for the proposed project does not replace any federal consultation or environmental review efforts on this project. For example, Section 106, 401 and 402 reviews required by the Army Corps of Engineers are separate from the State of Minnesota's environmental review process.

Like the federal government, however, the State of Minnesota is responsible for considering the cultural and natural resource issues that are important to the Red Lake Band. Therefore, at the proposed meeting we would like to discuss the following:

1. The types of effects the pipeline route and proposed alternatives could have on tribal resources.
2. The areas where the location of the pipeline could affect these resources.
3. The type and distribution of resources used by the Red Lake Band for hunting, gathering, economic, and cultural purposes.
4. How information that could benefit the EIS process is best obtained.

The resources the Department is currently considering include known cultural and historical resources in the area and tribal traditional and historical use areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering, which may also be properties of religious and cultural significance and sacred places. We seek input to accurately reflect the impact and understand that culturally significant data are sensitive and require careful consideration and protection. What the Department learns from the requested meetings would help us to achieve that.

Please extend this invitation to other members in your office or other band members to attend the meeting, please let us know. We would also like to extend the invitation to your Natural Resources Department.

A preliminary agenda for the meeting will follow. We would greatly appreciate suggestions for agenda items we may have missed from the consultation meeting. If possible, please provide suggested items no later than February 15, 2017.

Community Open Forum

As mentioned above, we would also request an opportunity to hold a community forum. The purpose of the forum is to help us better understand environmental justice issues in the project area, and are seeking meaningful input from members of environmental justice communities.

EERA staff would attend the forum and be available to answer general questions about the proposed project, the process for preparing the EIS, and the state regulatory processes.

We would like to meet in person at your tribal headquarters office or alternate location at your suggestion. We are blocking time for the meeting during the week of February 20, 2017. If this time works for you please let us know what day (February 20 – March 3) is best for you. If possible, we would like to schedule the open forum on the same day as our meeting with you and other board members.

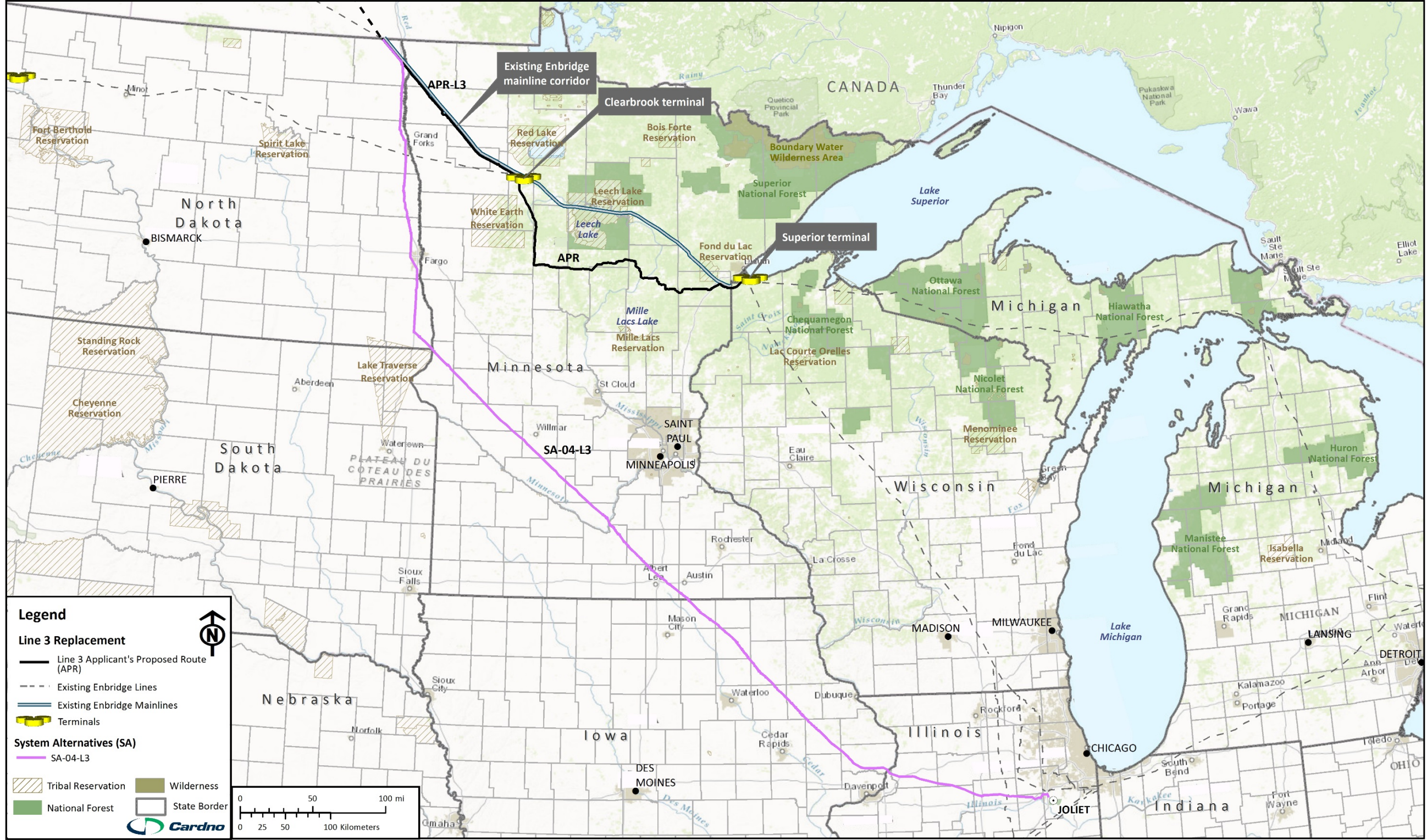
Please confirm your interest in, and availability for, an in-person meeting. I will follow up in a week or so to discuss your availability. My e-mail address and telephone are listed below. We look forward to meeting and consulting with the Red Lake Band.

Sincerely,

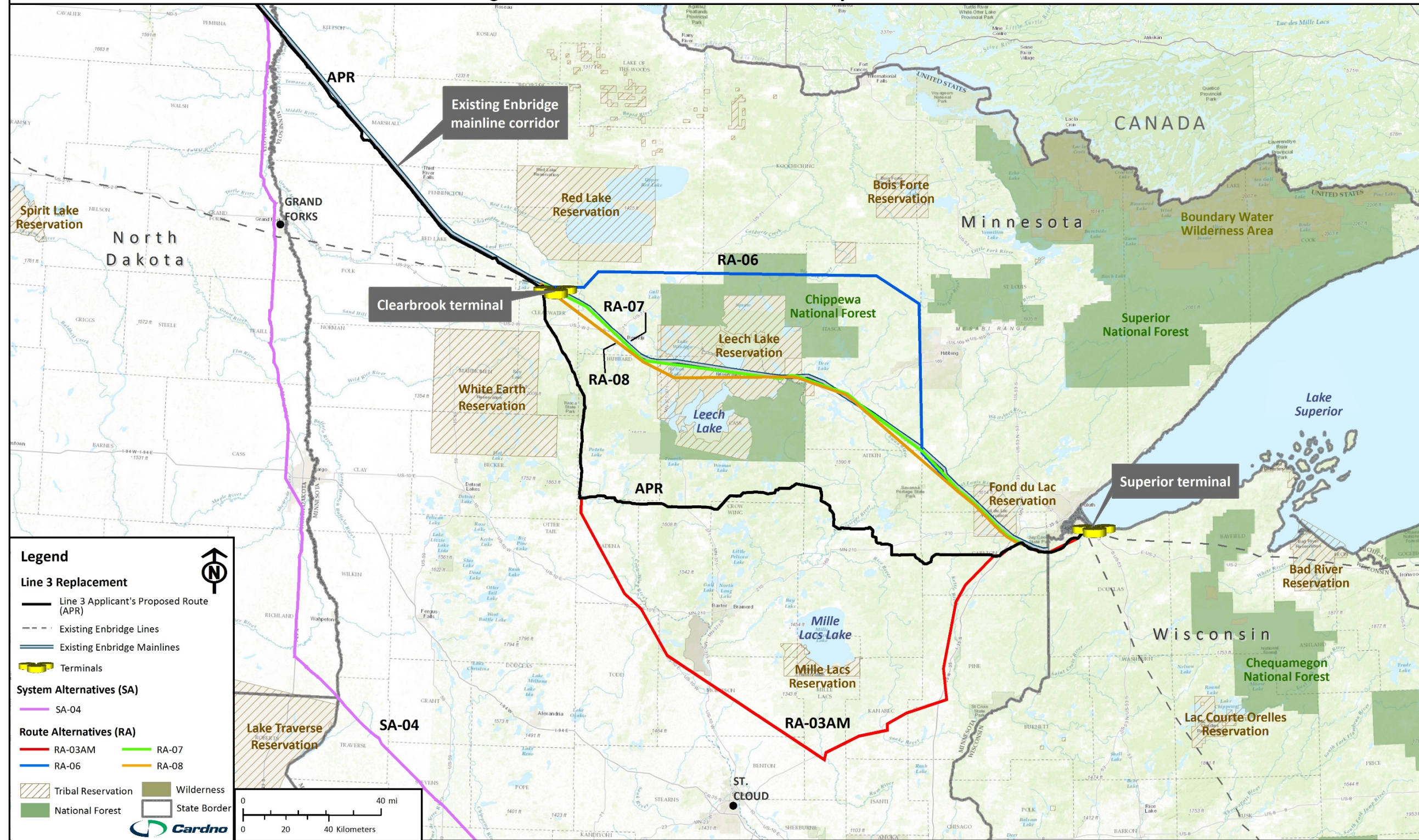
Jamie MacAlister
Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-539-1775
Email: Jamie.MacAlister@state.mn.us

Cc: Al Pemberton, Director of Natural Resources

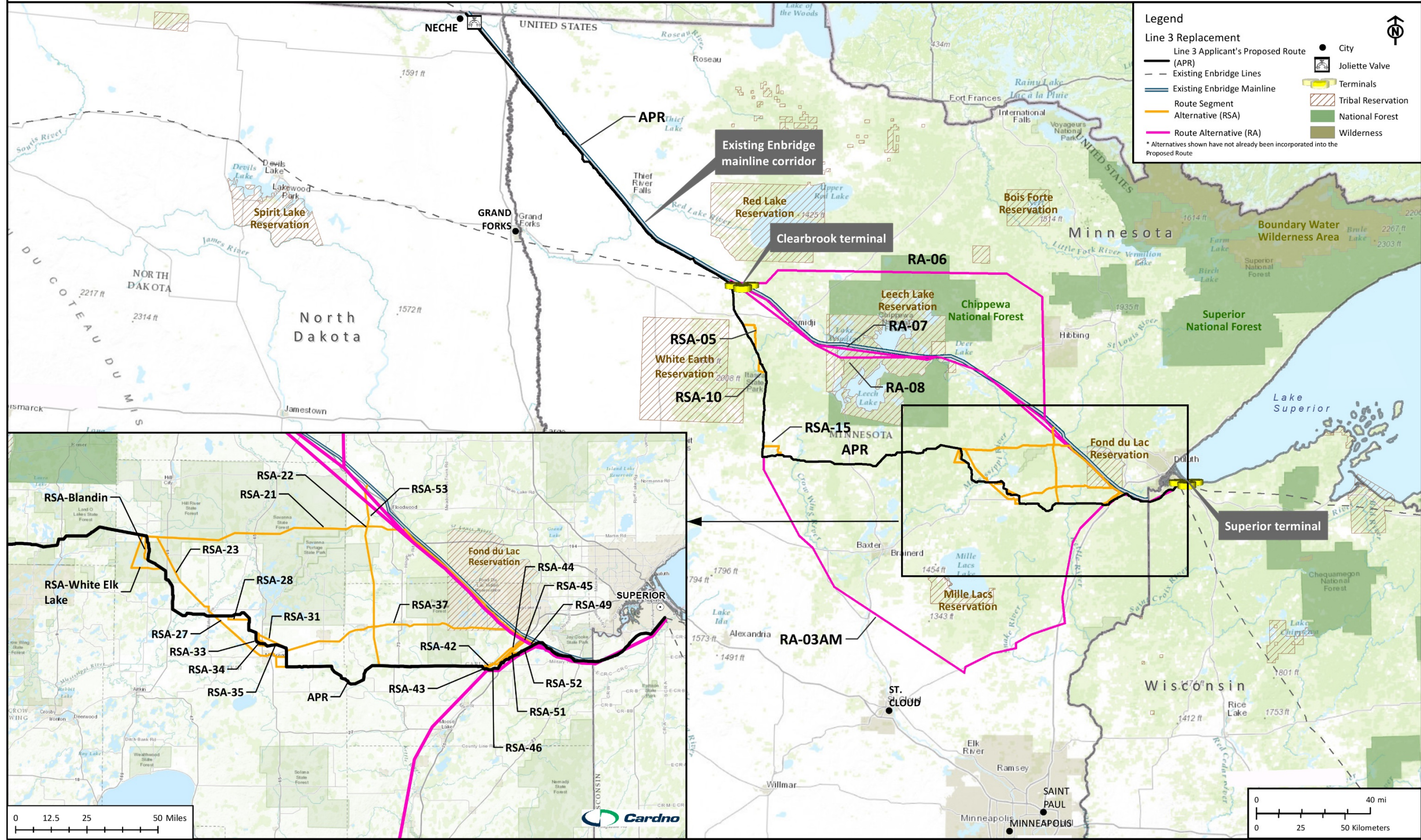
Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1a: System Alternative Selected for Analysis in the EIS



Line 3 Replacement Project
Figure 1b: Alternatives Selected for Analysis in the EIS



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



Cayla Olson
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and NAGPRA Representative
Archives
White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

February 1, 2017

RE: Meeting request regarding the Line 3 Replacement EIS

Dear Ms. Olson:

The Minnesota Department of Commerce greatly appreciates the ongoing working relationship and input from the White Earth technical staff on pipeline issues. I write today with two requests. First, we would like to meet with you and other board members to continue the discussion as to how the proposed pipeline could affect the natural and cultural resources that are important to the White Earth Band.

Second, we would like to hold a separate open forum to discuss the project with the members of the White Earth tribal community. The intent of this forum would inform tribal members about the project and for the Department to gain additional insight into tribal members' concerns on Line 3.

As you are aware, Enbridge Energy is proposing to replace their existing Line 3 pipeline, a section of which crosses the White Earth Indian Reservation. Enbridge's proposal is to permanently deactivate the existing Line 3 pipeline and leave it in place, and construct a replacement pipeline along a new route that does not cross the reservation. However, route alternatives (RAs) proposed by other entities as alternatives or Enbridge's preferred route are in the vicinity of the White Earth Reservation. For your convenience, I have attached a map of the proposed routes.

The process for pipeline approval is that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is responsible for deciding whether to issue a certificate of need and determining what route to permit for the proposed project. In this case, the PUC has ordered an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project and has asked the Commerce Department's Divisions of Energy, Environmental Review Unit (EERA) to conduct the EIS. Additional information on the EIS process

and the project can be found on the project web page (<http://www.mn.gov//commerce/energyfacilities/line3/>).

Over the last year, the department has worked with the environmental staff in the White Earth Resources Department to gather information for the EIS. These discussions focused on construction impacts, land use and hydrology, as well as the potential effects on nearby natural resources, including wild rice and water resources. The White Earth Band also provided comments during the EIS scoping comment period. Finally, Commerce's Commissioner and Chief of Staff consulted with the White Earth Tribal Chairman and Council on September 2, 2016 regarding a variety of issues, including the proposed project.

Cultural and Natural Resources Meeting

The State of Minnesota's EIS for the proposed project does not replace any federal consultation or environmental review efforts on this project. For example, Section 106, 401 and 402 reviews required by the Army Corps of Engineers are separate from the State of Minnesota's environmental review process.

Like the federal government, however, the State of Minnesota is responsible for considering the cultural and natural resource issues that are important to the White Earth Band. Therefore, at the proposed meeting we would like to discuss the following:

1. The types of effects the pipeline route and proposed alternatives could have on tribal resources.
2. The areas where the location of the pipeline could affect these resources.
3. The type and distribution of resources used by the White Earth Band for hunting, gathering, economic, and cultural purposes.
4. How information that could benefit the EIS process is best obtained.

The resources the Department is currently considering include known cultural and historical resources in the area and tribal traditional and historical use areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering, which may also be properties of religious and cultural significance and sacred places. We seek input to accurately reflect the impact and understand that culturally significant data are sensitive and require careful consideration and protection. What the Department learns from the requested meetings would help us to achieve that.

Please extend this invitation to other members in your office or other band members to attend the meeting, please let us know. We would also like to extend the invitation to your Natural Resources Department (copied here).

A preliminary agenda for the meeting will follow. We would greatly appreciate suggestions for agenda items we may have missed from the consultation meeting. If possible, please provide suggested items no later than February 10, 2017.

Community Open Forum

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We would like to meet in person at your tribal headquarters office or alternate location at your suggestion. We are blocking time for the meeting during the week of February 20, 2017. If this time works for you please let us know what day (February 20 – March 3) works best for you. If possible, we would like to schedule the open forum on the same day as our meeting with you and other board members.

Please confirm your interest in, and availability for, an in-person meeting. I will follow up in a week or so to discuss your availability. My e-mail address and telephone are listed below. We look forward to meeting and consulting with the White Earth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamie MacAlister". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jamie" being more prominent.

Jamie MacAlister
Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-539-1775
Email: Jamie.MacAlister@state.mn.us

cc: Monica Hedstrom, Director of Natural Resources
Will Bement, White Earth Water Division Manager