

DEIS MEETINGS - 14-916 15-137

BRAINERD - JUNE 8, 2017 - 6:00

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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

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

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

PUC DOCKET NO: PPL-15-137  
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Brainerd, Minnesota

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1 FACILITATOR: All right. Welcome,  
2 everybody. Thank you for coming out on such a  
3 beautiful night, for coming tonight.

4 My name is Patrick Field, and I'll be  
5 facilitating this evening's public comment session.  
6 I'm part of the consulting team, working on behalf  
7 and with the State of Minnesota in running these  
8 public meetings and efforts around the draft EIS.

9 So what I want to introduce is Bill  
10 Grant, who's Deputy Commissioner Energy at the  
11 Department of Commerce for State of Minnesota. He's  
12 going to welcome us, say a few words.

13 Before I do that, I just want to  
14 recognize -- are there any state, county, or local  
15 elected officials who just want to be recognized?

16 I believe we have a state rep here.  
17 Thank you for coming, sir. We're glad you're here.  
18 Excellent.

19 Any other elected officials in the  
20 room?

21 Bill.

22 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRANT: Thanks,  
23 Pat.

24 Thanks, everyone, for coming. And as  
25 Pat said, it's a beautiful night. So being inside

1 may not be your first choice, but thank you for  
2 coming.

3 I want to go over a little bit about  
4 what this is about and just orient people,  
5 particularly those who haven't been to any of the  
6 previous public meetings that we've had so far this  
7 week.

8 Over the course of the next three  
9 weeks, we will have no less than 22 public meetings  
10 in locations throughout the project area and in  
11 St. Paul. And you're welcome to attend any and all.

12 What we're here to talk about tonight  
13 is a document that the Department of Commerce  
14 prepared, with assistance from the Pollution Control  
15 Agency and the Department of Natural Resources,  
16 about a proposed project that has been proposed by  
17 Enbridge Energy to build a pipeline through northern  
18 Minnesota. It is a crude oil pipeline.

19 The EIS is really to inform decision  
20 makers. It is not a decision document in and of  
21 itself. It does not make recommendations about  
22 whether the project should be built or not. It is  
23 intended to provide the kind of information the  
24 decision makers will need and will have to evaluate  
25 in making that decision. In this case the

1 decision-making body is the Minnesota Public  
2 Utilities Commission.

3 There are other permitting agencies  
4 who will also be informed by the document. For  
5 example, the Army Corps of Engineers and all of you,  
6 as members of the public.

7 There are two decisions that the  
8 Public Utilities Commission will make and that  
9 Enbridge would have to have approval on in order to  
10 move forward.

11 The first is a certificate of need.  
12 And as the words suggest, it is a decision about  
13 whether the project is, in fact, needed.

14 If the Commission grants the  
15 certificate of need, their second task would be to  
16 issue a route permit. And perhaps some of you've  
17 already been along through the boards here and have  
18 seen the route alternatives, in addition to the  
19 route that's been proposed by Enbridge, that are  
20 being studied as part of this EIS process.

21 There are going to be a number of  
22 opportunities to comment. This first opportunity,  
23 now that the draft is out, is obviously one such  
24 opportunity. When the final EIS is released, there  
25 will be a second opportunity and another round of

1 public hearings in the project area in September and  
2 October of this year. And so there will be notices  
3 being sent out about those, as those get scheduled.

4 And the Public Utilities Commission  
5 expects to make a decision on this project sometime  
6 in the spring of 2018. So just a little less than a  
7 year from now.

8 For tonight all of the comments that  
9 we receive will be treated equally, whether you give  
10 them orally in front of the whole group, whether you  
11 talk to my good friend Janet, the court reporter  
12 over here, and you want to just do that one on one  
13 with her, or in written form. Either give those to  
14 us tonight; or if you're preparing more substantive  
15 comments, perhaps, the deadline for those comments  
16 will be July 10th and would need to be received in  
17 our office close of business on July 10th.

18 All of the comments that we receive,  
19 again either orally or in writing, will be compiled  
20 and shared with the public. It will be part of the  
21 final document. And we will indicate in the  
22 document how the comments that we've received have  
23 resulted in changes to the document itself.

24 What we're seeking tonight are really  
25 comments on the draft EIS. Is there information

1       that's missing? Are there things about it that  
2       aren't clear? What can be improved about the  
3       document? Those are the kinds of comments that  
4       would be most helpful to us. But you're free to  
5       make whatever kind of remarks you would like to.

6               And, as I said, the comments will  
7       inform the development of the final EIS, which will  
8       then in turn inform the PUC's decision about whether  
9       to grant these permits.

10              So, with that, I'm going to turn it  
11       back over to Pat for some ground rules for tonight,  
12       and then we can get started.

13              FACILITATOR: So first the  
14       preliminaries. The exits, as you know, just, you  
15       know, for safety's purpose, you can go either this  
16       way or this way. You can actually go out the  
17       building that way.

18              Bathrooms are a little -- actually a  
19       little hard to find. But if you go to the front  
20       door and that way, there are bathrooms. And if you  
21       go behind the poster board and keep walking and  
22       walking, then you pass a fish pond and you go to the  
23       next county, there are some bathrooms there as well.  
24       But bring a granola bar. You might get hungry. So  
25       they're there as well.



1                   So thank you all for coming tonight.  
2           I'm just going to walk through how we're going to  
3           handle the process for the public comment.

4                   So we want to make sure that everyone  
5           who wants to comment has a chance to do so. So we  
6           have about 15, 16 cards of people who wrote their  
7           name down in that box back there. So I'm just going  
8           to kind of walk through those individually.

9                   Crowds about this size, we give up to  
10          five minutes, if people want to comment that long.  
11          You don't have to comment that long, but we'll give  
12          that. But we do want people to kind of finish right  
13          at five minutes so we can allow others to speak.  
14          And we'll explain the timer in just a second that  
15          we'll show you.

16                  One thing to do is we want everyone to  
17          have a chance who wants to to comment and be  
18          listened to. So we do ask that people respectfully  
19          listen when someone comments. Certainly as someone  
20          finishes and you want to be affirmative or thank  
21          them for their comments, you're clapping, that's  
22          fine.

23                  We ask people not to be negative about  
24          people's comments. People may have a range of  
25          views. And on a complicated product like this, it

1 is understandable that there is going to be a wide  
2 range of views. And what we're going to do is, so  
3 everyone in the room is comfortable stating however  
4 they feel, being respectful of that view, not  
5 necessarily agreed with, and we can have respect  
6 with that agreement.

7 So the other thing to know, that we  
8 really ask people to direct their comments towards  
9 agencies, organizations, the project, the issues,  
10 the draft EIS. Please don't direct your comments to  
11 individuals, because that can make people feel  
12 pretty uncomfortable in this setting. So we really  
13 ask you to direct your comments to the issues, the  
14 project, agencies, or organization.

15 The role of the State here today. The  
16 State folks want to raise their hands who represent  
17 state agencies, just so you know? A lot of them are  
18 at poster boards, as you know. Their role tonight  
19 is to listen. So they'll be listening. And,  
20 really, many of them are going to be at almost all  
21 these meetings to really absorb the range of views  
22 and comments and issues that people raise around the  
23 draft EIS.

24 We have a very talented court reporter  
25 here, who will be taking your every word. When you

1 do come up to speak -- or we'll actually bring the  
2 mic to you -- sorry, I'll explain that -- just state  
3 your name and also spell it for the court reporter,  
4 just so we have the right, accurate spelling and the  
5 like.

6 And when I call you up -- or I call  
7 you to speak, I'm sure I will mispronounce your name  
8 frequently, so you can correct me as well.

9 Also, cell phones, please just take a  
10 second, put them on do not disturb, vibrate,  
11 whatever. We always have one that likes to go off  
12 with a nice little ring sometime during our meeting  
13 as well.

14 A few other things to note. There's  
15 also -- as Bill said, there's written comment forms.  
16 So if you prefer to write your comment, you can do  
17 that. There's comment boxes right over here. We  
18 have, again, Janet and other court reporters who can  
19 take your comments individually at the end, if  
20 people prefer that way.

21 If you want to submit your comment in  
22 writing, you have until July 10th to do that via  
23 email or regular mail as well.

24 What we'll do, partly because we have  
25 some feedback problems with the speakers, we will

1 bring the mic to you. So Eric right there has got a  
2 mic. Leslie's got a mic over here. And what I'll  
3 do is I'll call your name on the card, raise your  
4 hand, we'll bring the mic to you, and then you can  
5 either sit or stand where you are, whatever's most  
6 comfortable for you.

7 Okay. Andrew, do you want to pull up  
8 the timer, just so we can show people?

9 So a little friendly reminder about  
10 timing. So we've got this nifty little stopwatch up  
11 here. We'll just start it running after you state  
12 your name and spell it and then go. And about  
13 15 seconds before 5 minutes, I'll just send you a  
14 little signal by standing up. That's a hint to wrap  
15 it up. And if you keep going a little bit longer, I  
16 will very politely encourage you to finish, just so  
17 we can allow others to speak too.

18 Okay. With that, I think we are ready  
19 to go. So -- and we'll bring the mic to you,  
20 Charles Krysel. Charles, just raise your hand.  
21 Right over there.

22 And just name and spell it for the  
23 record too.

24 MR. CHARLES KRYSEL: K-R-Y-S-E-L,  
25 Krysel. My comments are regarding the abandonment

1 section, I think like Section 8.3. Can you hear it?

2 FACILITATOR: There we go. You just  
3 turned it on. That's better. Right here  
4 (indicating) is about right. You want to just spell  
5 your name one more time so we --

6 MR. CHARLES KRYSEL: Charles Krysel,  
7 K-R-Y-S-E-L.

8 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

9 MR. CHARLES KRYSEL: So my comments  
10 are in regard to abandonment, primarily. But to  
11 summarize my concerns, if the pipeline is to be  
12 replaced, if it's -- if the decision is made to  
13 replace the pipeline, I think it should be replaced  
14 in place, in the existing location in the  
15 mainline -- I think you call it the mainline  
16 corridor, whatever it is.

17 And I think it's technologically  
18 possible. Surely it must be. It should be able to  
19 be done. And it's merely a cost issue, I imagine,  
20 for the company.

21 It's already a sacrifice some for the  
22 purpose and with the impacts already in place. A  
23 new route would only add impact and sacrifice an  
24 area that we don't need in the state.

25 And regarding monitoring and

1 maintaining the abandoned Line 3, Enbridge -- the  
2 language states that Enbridge will continue to  
3 monitor and maintain the abandoned Line 3  
4 right-of-way in accordance with PHMSA regulations  
5 indefinitely. Indefinitely? Will Enbridge exist in  
6 5 years, 50 years, or a hundred years from now?  
7 There's no guarantee.

8 I don't think the State of Minnesota  
9 and the citizens should be responsible for the  
10 damage and impact that this pipeline has created.  
11 It's a risk Enbridge owns and needs to deal with.

12 FACILITATOR: Thank you, Charles.

13 Okay. So Nancy Palmer? You just want  
14 to raise your hand, Nancy, and we'll bring the mic  
15 to you. Great, right over there. Great.

16 MS. NANCY PALMER: Hello. I didn't  
17 plan on speaking, but here I am. I'm really --

18 FACILITATOR: And, Nancy, if you  
19 just --

20 MS. NANCY PALMER: Oh, yes.

21 FACILITATOR: -- state your name and  
22 spell it. Thank you.

23 MS. NANCY PALMER: Nancy Palmer,  
24 P-A-L-M-E-R.

25 I'm really concerned about the

1 environmental justice aspect of this pipeline and  
2 what it's going to do, because no study is being  
3 done that exactly says the impact that it's going to  
4 have on water systems all the way down our  
5 watershed, as far as the cities or wherever else it  
6 is. And all I know is that it costs a lot more to  
7 clean things up than it does to do them right in the  
8 first place.

9 And Enbridge's track record, as far as  
10 cleaning up oil spills, has been not very good. I  
11 don't think they can even keep up with the amount of  
12 spills that are happening. And, you know, what I  
13 read, it seems like it's not when it's going to --  
14 if it's going to break; it is going to break. And I  
15 think we need to be prepared for that, because it  
16 lasts forever, once the oil is in the water. And  
17 this kind of tar sands oil does not separate.

18 So thank you.

19 FACILITATOR: Thank you, Nancy.

20 So we have Richard Smith. Richard is  
21 right there.

22 MR. RICHARD SMITH: Hi, everybody.  
23 I'm Richard Smith. R-I-C-H-A-R-D. S-M-I-T-H. The  
24 reporter's going to be bored, because she's going to  
25 hear this speech over again. I'll leave off the

1       molasses cookies this time.

2               I am president of Friends of the  
3       Headwaters, and I want to give you just a quick bit  
4       of history. The reason we're sitting here tonight  
5       is because of an action that Friends of the  
6       Headwaters took back in the year 2014 when all this  
7       pipeline stuff started.

8               From the very beginning, our  
9       organization has stated that we wanted a robust,  
10      comprehensive, and independent environmental impact  
11      statement or study done on this large-scale project.  
12      When we realized that the State was not going to do  
13      that, we took the State to court in December of  
14      2014. The Minnesota Appellate Court heard our case,  
15      and in September of 2015 they gave us a unanimous  
16      verdict.

17              Enbridge wasn't happy with that, and  
18      our Attorney General's Office wasn't happy with  
19      that; and they appealed the case, and it went to the  
20      Supreme Court. And the Supreme Court looked at the  
21      Appellate Court ruling and said, this is absolutely  
22      fine; we don't need to hear this; we believe in what  
23      those three judges said.

24              That's why we can be here tonight.  
25      The PUC was ordered by the Minnesota Appellate Court



1 to do a robust, comprehensive, independent EIS. The  
2 DOC has started an okay job, but they have a lot of  
3 work left to do on this.

4 And I just want to point out one  
5 particular issue. And, actually, to credit the  
6 Department of Commerce, they are defending you and  
7 me and the citizens of this state on this particular  
8 issue.

9 More than -- about 25 percent of the  
10 almost 5,600 pages in this report is about  
11 accidental oil releases and pinhole oil spills. An  
12 independent company was contracted to do this work  
13 for the Department of Commerce. The company that  
14 contracted this independent contractor is Enbridge.  
15 This company that did the work has a previous  
16 working history with Enbridge.

17 In the process of doing the oil spill  
18 analysis, the methodology for this report, it turns  
19 out there's some information that's being withheld  
20 from you and me. So we can't look at this  
21 information and do our own reliable and justifiable  
22 analysis of the methodology that they used, because  
23 they left out an ingredient for us: How much oil  
24 was used to calculate these spills?

25 Why is this important? And you might

1 wonder why Enbridge doesn't want us to know this.  
2 This lady over here mentioned tar sands oil. You  
3 all recognize this (indicating). We drove on it to  
4 get here. This is bitumen. Otherwise known as  
5 asphalt, if you add some rocks to it, you heat it up  
6 and flatten it onto a road. Imagine trying to get  
7 this through a pipe.

8 Now, when it comes out of the ground  
9 where they strip mine it in northern Alberta, it's  
10 sticky. It's like a handful of peanut butter. So  
11 they have to dilute it. Diluted bitumen is called  
12 dilbit in the jargon of the industry. That word is  
13 in the EIS, but you won't see it very often. The  
14 company either calls it heavy crude, Canadian heavy  
15 crude, or they have a really cute little name for it  
16 called cold lake blend. Now, who the hell would  
17 know what that is, you know?

18 So -- and we all know from the  
19 infamous Kalamazoo spill what happens to dilbit when  
20 it goes into a water environment. The diluents  
21 evaporate -- very carcinogenic -- and the bitumen  
22 goes to the bottom, because it's sticky; it sticks  
23 to everything.

24 Why do we know that? This is easy  
25 reading (indicating), if you want to spare yourself

1 the 5,600 pages. This is the National Academy of  
2 Science's report on dilbit that was written, drafted  
3 after the Kalamazoo River spill in Michigan in 2010.  
4 It's still nightmare-ish reading, but the key  
5 take-away from this report is a dilbit pipeline  
6 should never be put through a water-rich environment  
7 called Minnesota.

8 So we need to defend the DOC's efforts  
9 to force the company to give us the information that  
10 was used in this project.

11 And thank you very much. Appreciate  
12 your time. And I see a lot of faces that have  
13 supported Friends of the Headwaters here. I  
14 appreciate it very much.

15 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

16 Okay. We'll bring the mic to you,  
17 Larry Ness.

18 MR. LARRY NESS: Right here.

19 FACILITATOR: Larry, great. And  
20 we'll -- Eric will bring the mic right to you,  
21 Larry. And, again, just name and spelling for the  
22 court reporter.

23 MR. LARRY NESS: I met this gentleman  
24 before the meeting started; and I would like to let  
25 him have the mic, because he's much smarter than I

1 am.

2 Do you have anything you want to...

3 MR. KEITH BLOMSTROM: Yeah. Thank you  
4 very much. Keith Blomstrom. K-E-I-T-H.  
5 B-L-O-M-S-T-R-O-M. I have worked on pipeline issues  
6 since 2006 with the National Wildlife Federation and  
7 others, lobbying in Washington DC and St. Paul,  
8 Minnesota.

9 One time I went with people from  
10 Kalamazoo, Michigan; we went to the U.S. Congress,  
11 the EPA, and the State Department. The Kalamazoo  
12 spill was 1.3 million gallons and was considered the  
13 largest spill in the Continental United States.

14 But since that time I have learned  
15 that the spill in Grand Rapids was probably bigger.  
16 I've heard up to 1.7 million gallons. That's  
17 85 miles north of here, not too far away. That was  
18 in the Mississippi River.

19 But the MPCA is just down the street  
20 here. I used to stop there not more than once a  
21 year, because I didn't want to bother them. They  
22 were very receptive to my questions; and they told  
23 me ten years after the spill they were still working  
24 on cleanup. And some of you here might know a lot  
25 more about this than I do. I never heard it until I

1       talked to the MPCA. It happened in town; a lot went  
2       down the storm sewers; and I believe it went on top  
3       of the ice, which made the cleanup a lot easier. We  
4       were very lucky in Minnesota.

5               That's the Mississippi River there, I  
6       believe, in Grand Rapids. And, you know,  
7       1.7 million gallons could have messed up water for a  
8       lot of people.

9               The Kalamazoo spill cleanup -- I  
10      haven't heard within the last year or so -- is over  
11      \$1.3 billion, and 30 percent of it will never be  
12      cleaned up. This oil is very toxic, as Richard  
13      said.

14              If you want to see more information,  
15      go to Youtube on the Internet and watch the videos  
16      put on by John Bolenbaughs. Bolenbaughs,  
17      B-O-L-E-N-B-A-U-G-H-S. He worked for the pipeline  
18      company, I think it was Enbridge, that was  
19      responsible for the spill. He was sent out to clean  
20      it up. Supposedly they said cover it up with sand.  
21      John said, no, we're going to clean it up. And they  
22      got rid of him; they got rid of his relatives at the  
23      company. It's a long story. John explains it very  
24      well in the video. You got to watch it. And he  
25      shows how toxic this stuff is.

1                   There also was a large spill at  
2                   Cohasset, Minnesota 82 miles north of here, and  
3                   there are others. There was a spill in Staples a  
4                   few years ago. I believe that was over  
5                   250,000 gallons. I went over there, and you  
6                   couldn't get near it. It was out in a big wetland.  
7                   Never heard any more about it, just like we didn't  
8                   hear much about the one in Grand Rapids.

9                   The pressure on these pipelines can go  
10                  as high as 1,200 to 1,600 pounds per square inch.  
11                  And I was a contractor and a plumber and put in a  
12                  lot of things and stuff. That's a lot of pressure.  
13                  Air conditioners now are up to over 300 pounds, and  
14                  that's very difficult to work with. I don't know  
15                  how -- it's pretty smart people that do this; but  
16                  they have problems, like blowouts at Kalamazoo.

17                  We told the State Department, and we  
18                  told the Pipeline Safety Commission: Improve your  
19                  standards on the installation of these pipelines and  
20                  lower the pressure on them and replace Line 3 in  
21                  place. It can be done.

22                  FACILITATOR: Thank you. Thank you  
23                  very much.

24                  I've got Jerry. I'm not going to say  
25                  the last name right. Jerry Rodecki. Okay. I

1 destroyed it. Leslie will bring you the mic right  
2 here. And if you can pronounce your name correctly  
3 and spell it, it would be very helpful.

4 MR. JERRY RAEDEKE: Did you say Jerry  
5 Ruddy Ducky?

6 FACILITATOR: I hope not.

7 MR. JERRY RAEDEKE: Jerry Raedeke with  
8 a J. R-A-E-D-E-K-E. Nisswa, Minnesota. I don't  
9 think there's any argument in really all the country  
10 that we have the purest, best water in the United  
11 States. That's just a known fact.

12 When you talk to Enbridge, they're  
13 very confident that no matter what kind of spill --  
14 they call it a release, but it's a spill -- that  
15 they can handle it.

16 I want to talk just a moment about a  
17 spill in -- on Yellow Stone River near Glendive,  
18 Montana, January 2015. The reason I want to talk  
19 about that one is because they weren't able to clean  
20 it up. There were over 40,000 gallons of oil  
21 spilled, and they were only able to retrieve about  
22 200 -- a little over 200 barrels of that oil. And  
23 they had oil that ended up all the way in Williston,  
24 North Dakota. Now, they -- and Glendive, too,  
25 because of some of the things that are combined with

1       the oil to make it move through the pipeline. They  
2       had benzene, a very serious carcinogenic substance,  
3       in their water in Glendive.

4               The reason that they couldn't clean it  
5       up is that it was in the wintertime and the oil went  
6       under the ice. So it just went down the river. How  
7       do you clean things when the water is moving and it  
8       is taking the spill down the waterway?

9               Now, all of the routes that we have in  
10       Minnesota through our lake region cross many -- many  
11       different rivers, creeks, and some of them very  
12       large wetlands and rice beds. And even a rice bed,  
13       in order to function, has moving water in it.

14              It may not seem like it, but some of  
15       these are huge areas. Now, if you have a spill in  
16       that area, a lot of these areas are inaccessible  
17       with the amount of snow. You can't even get there.  
18       Well, Enbridge said -- I raised that; and they said,  
19       well, we have a helicopter. Well, what is that  
20       going to do when you have oil moving through a water  
21       system downstream and you have a helicopter?

22              This -- you know, in these water areas  
23       that we have -- all of the routes that I saw in our  
24       water-rich area of Minnesota really are not good  
25       routes. Water right now and in the future is going



1 to be worth much more than oil.

2 And even in our -- in our economy they  
3 talk about jobs. And I understand the union people  
4 went to some of the other hearings. You have to  
5 feel sorry for a lot of these people that are really  
6 seriously struggling for work. But the few  
7 permanent jobs that are involved in that are nothing  
8 compared to the tourist economy that we have,  
9 property values in these areas. All of these things  
10 are easily damaged.

11 And then you look at the Native  
12 Americans and their rice culture and the oil damage  
13 that can happen just with a spill in some of  
14 these -- some of these really critical, precious  
15 areas.

16 I hardly know what to say. But I  
17 think that the Yellow Stone spill near Glendive,  
18 with oil ending up all the way in Williston, shows  
19 that any kind of confidence they show us that we can  
20 handle it, they can't. They can't. There are  
21 spills that they will not be able to retrieve. They  
22 retrieved only a little over 200 barrels out of the  
23 40,000 gallons of oil that went into Yellow Stone  
24 River. These are -- these are tragic. These are  
25 tragic.

1                   And I hope that Minnesota stands up  
2                   and says this is important to preserve our heritage,  
3                   our state, our Native American culture and also our  
4                   economy.

5                   Thank you.

6                   FACILITATOR: Thank you, Jerry.

7                   Okay. Allen Richardson? Okay. Name  
8                   and spelling for the reporter. Thanks.

9                   MR. ALLEN RICHARDSON: It's Allen  
10                  Richardson. A-L-L-E-N. R-I-C-H-A-R-D-S-O-N.  
11                  Afternoon, folks. I'm with the organization called  
12                  Minnesotans for Pipeline Cleanup. I just want to  
13                  again speak to the abandonment issue.

14                 We're taking exception to the DEIS's  
15                 sort of blithe assertions that most of the pipelines  
16                 in the mainline corridor are, in general, 10 or  
17                 15 feet apart. We took it upon ourselves --  
18                 Mr. John Munter over there took it upon himself to  
19                 walk some of these lines to measure the distances  
20                 between them. And we'd love it if the PUC and  
21                 Friends, DOC, or whoever, would confirm that we're  
22                 correct, basically that there is ample room to  
23                 remove abandoned pipeline.

24                 So basically we're here to advocate  
25                 for landowner choice. And I think this really

1 speaks to what I'm going to call Minnesotan common  
2 sense. There is a lot of common ground to be had on  
3 this question of abandonment. And so we should look  
4 at it strongly. I think we should embrace it.

5 I've said this a few times over these  
6 meetings, and I'll say it again to my brothers and  
7 sisters in the labor movement, that if -- if you  
8 want to benefit from the jobs that would come from  
9 digging up abandoned pipeline, it's my opinion that  
10 you're going to have to publicly assert your  
11 solidarity with landowners who have made it clear  
12 that they don't want to be stuck with abandoned  
13 pipeline on their land.

14 And I'll take it a step further; that,  
15 you know, regardless of what happens with the  
16 proposed new route, that this project should not  
17 move forward in any way, shape or form until this  
18 question of abandonment is conclusively settled.

19 Would love it for the final  
20 Environmental Impact Statement to have some really  
21 solid data about the distance between these  
22 pipelines, about how many jobs would be created  
23 pulling out those pipelines. We know that a  
24 precedent is being established on this question.

25 We know that Enbridge has every

1 intention of abandoning this line. They do not want  
2 to dig it up. So they're, you know -- may have to  
3 apply some pressure to them and the PUC on this  
4 point.

5 They are likely to abandon the rest of  
6 those pipelines in the mainline corridor eventually.  
7 So to take the long view, if we can, you know,  
8 continue to look for common ground on this question.  
9 There are long-term economic benefits to be had to  
10 the pipeline workers, who are definitely the ones  
11 who are qualified to do that work.

12 So thank you for your time.

13 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

14 Okay. Next I have Keith Blomstrom?

15 MR. KEITH BLOMSTROM: That was me.

16 FACILITATOR: Keith. Okay. You're  
17 all set?

18 MR. KEITH BLOMSTROM: He's already got  
19 it.

20 FACILITATOR: You're all set to  
21 comment or not?

22 MR. KEITH BLOMSTROM: He got it.

23 FACILITATOR: Okay. What he said.  
24 Good. All right. Very efficient.

25 Mark Persons or Pearson?

1 MR. MARK PERSONS: No comment.

2 FACILITATOR: No comment. Okay.

3 Kevin Miller? Okay. And, Kevin,  
4 we'll bring you the mic. Eric is right there  
5 bringing you the mic.

6 And just name and spelling for the  
7 court reporter. Okay. Thank you.

8 MR. KEVIN MILLER: You don't to want  
9 hear me sing. Kevin Miller. K-E-V-I-N.  
10 M-I-L-L-E-R. Thank you for the opportunity to speak  
11 tonight.

12 My name is Kevin Miller. I'm a  
13 special pipeline representative with the  
14 International Union of Operating Engineers. Real  
15 quickly. We represent approximately 400,000  
16 members, most of which reside in the construction  
17 industry. But narrowing it down more specifically  
18 and why I'm here tonight, because I'm speaking on  
19 behalf of thousands upon thousands of Local 49ers,  
20 known locally here in Minnesota, North Dakota, and  
21 even South Dakota, that would love to be here  
22 themselves and speak in favor of pipeline jobs such  
23 as Line 3, but right now they're all -- most of them  
24 are actually occupied with their other temporary  
25 jobs and going to work on those and complete those

1       so that they can take care of their families, build  
2       their retirements, and earn their solidified health  
3       insurance for the same so they don't have to depend  
4       on any state care.

5               That thing about temporary jobs, real  
6       quickly. A dentist, that's a temporary job. He  
7       goes from one client, the equivalent of a  
8       construction worker on one project. You're done.  
9       You move to the next client. Then you move to the  
10      next construction job. It's the same thing. So  
11      temporary, it just gets really old hearing it  
12      pounded day after day. And poor construction  
13      workers. No, not union construction workers.

14             This morning I heard the most absurd  
15      stuff that, just roundabout kind of putting it, that  
16      a pipeline job of this magnitude may incite child  
17      sex slave trade and intense drug abuse of some  
18      nature. And I'm actually appalled. Whatever went  
19      on in North Dakota, as my fellow brother from the  
20      United Association rebutted this morning with, we  
21      have approximately 4 or 5 percent maximum of  
22      anything that went on in North Dakota. There's a  
23      whole gamut of different things aside from pipeline.  
24      We had 4 percent of that, for whatever reason. I  
25      don't even -- I couldn't tell you where the other

1       96 percent even came from, to be honest with you.

2               Just like the United Association made  
3 a point, the Operating Engineers in absolutely no  
4 fashion will ever condone anything like that. I'm a  
5 father of three. Most of us have families too. Be  
6 an awfully cold-blooded bastard to ever even think  
7 that that would happen.

8               We have -- and I'm going to give you  
9 an example. Somebody please -- and if -- by all  
10 means, if we've had this child sex slave labor and  
11 this huge drug-run thing coming through with our  
12 projects, by all means please speak up and show me  
13 the facts.

14              But just a few jobs in the country --  
15 22 years in this industry, I've been all around the  
16 country, and we've seen and built tons. These are  
17 just a few: The Albert Clipper, the MinnCan, the  
18 Rockies Express, the Ruby Line, the Southern Lights  
19 project, the Keystone Phase I, the Bison, the  
20 Current River Lines 1 and 2. Nobody knows of any  
21 drug trafficking, no child sex slave labor shit  
22 going on, because neither do I.

23              There are dozens and dozens and dozens  
24 of other projects. I can't speak for any nonunion,  
25 but I can guarantee you the Operating Engineers are

1 not going to take that. We will never accept it.  
2 And if we ever found if we had some bizarre ass  
3 piece of crap member that was involved in something  
4 like that, we would take care of that in a legal  
5 manner, because that is not acceptable in America or  
6 anywhere else.

7 That's an emotional one. Wow.

8 I need clarification on one thing,  
9 because I keep hearing the word abandoned, and  
10 people are beating it and beating it. But I asked  
11 my brother, I said, hey, I thought the word was  
12 decommissioned. I see it in this Minnesota guide  
13 the word is abandoned. And I'm no scholar, but I  
14 have a little dictionary on my phone also, and  
15 decommissioning and abandoned are two different  
16 things.

17 Well, I went back to Enbridge's  
18 website for specifically the Line 3, and the word's  
19 still decommissioned. So they're two totally  
20 different. So, please, if I'm missing something,  
21 though, that Enbridge has changed, I would like to  
22 know, or if it was misspoken. But as far as I  
23 understand, and following that in Enbridge's  
24 website, the word is still decommissioned, which is  
25 fully taking responsibility, and it says for life.



1 Abandon means thrown to the curb.

2 FACILITATOR: A little bit over five  
3 minutes.

4 MR. KEVIN MILLER: Okay. Well, okay.  
5 That one part got my emotion. So for now I'm good.  
6 Thank you again for your time.

7 FACILITATOR: Thank you very much.  
8 Thank you, Kevin.

9 Next we have Tom Watson. Tom. And  
10 we'll bring you -- Eric will bring you the mic.

11 And just name and spelling for the  
12 reporter.

13 MR. TOM WATSON: Good evening. My  
14 name is Tom Watson, spelled T-O-M, W-A-T-S-O-N. I'm  
15 here on behalf of the Whitefish Area Property Owners  
16 Association, of which I'm the president. For the  
17 record, it's the largest lake association of its  
18 kind in Minnesota. 50 years old. You know it up in  
19 the Crosslake area. It's 14,000 acres of surface  
20 water; part of the Pine River Watershed, which is  
21 half a million acres of land and water.

22 I want to be clear that we're not  
23 opposed to using pipelines to transport oil. We are  
24 opposed to putting pipelines in a water-rich area  
25 that, as Mr. Raedeke pointed out very correctly --

1 he took half my words -- is the essence of the  
2 economy of the northern part of Crow Wing County,  
3 Southern Cass, Hubbard, Aitkin County, et cetera.

4 Comments specifically about the DEIS.  
5 I don't know how many years it's going to take to  
6 get through 5,000 pages, but I'm trying to read  
7 fast. But a couple of comments on the content of  
8 the document.

9 Section 116(d)(04), which is the  
10 description of the law covering environmental impact  
11 statements, speaks to the fact that these documents  
12 are supposed to be analytical, not Encyclopedic.  
13 This document is full of Encyclopedic information to  
14 tell me how to define soil, how to define a walleye,  
15 how to define water. The analytical part is to take  
16 the current experience and apply it. And this  
17 document is woefully inadequate in doing the  
18 analytical piece.

19 But we have a lot of redundancy, so I  
20 know -- I now know how to define a certificate of  
21 need. Commissioner Grant hit that one very quickly,  
22 in terms of the process. But just for the public to  
23 understand, a certificate of need actually requires  
24 the RGU, which in this case is the Minnesota Public  
25 Utilities Commission, to actually make a decision to

1 determine that the benefits to the public of  
2 Minnesota exceed the costs associated with this  
3 project. The costs of this project include the  
4 things that are negative, oil spills, et cetera.

5 Let me comment on section --  
6 throughout this document, but particularly Chapter  
7 4, Section 4.1, which has a reference to it that  
8 talks about the fact that the economic and --  
9 economic analysis and the technical information  
10 relative to jobs, employment, tax revenue, etcetera,  
11 will be provided by the Applicant, other parties,  
12 and the public that are participating in the  
13 contested case hearing. I'm sorry, the law says  
14 that the independent body retained to consult and  
15 advise the Public Utilities Commission is to do that  
16 work. You don't ask the Applicant to do that.

17 If it looks like a postcard that's  
18 arrived in our area, the data is totally  
19 misrepresented about how much revenue they're going  
20 to generate, etcetera -- this document talks about  
21 \$100 million worth of tax revenue. The postcards  
22 I've seen are numbers that are two and three times  
23 that. So you don't want the Applicant to do that.  
24 You know, they've got a dog in this battle. We need  
25 the independent bodies be doing that.

1           I want to speak to Section 5 on water  
2           resources. A comment was made earlier about the  
3           amount of water we've got in the district. We're  
4           part of the Pine River Watershed, which is in the  
5           south end of Hubbard, a small part of the south end  
6           of Cass, most of northern Crow Wing, and a little  
7           bit of Aitkin County. 5,400 acres of land and  
8           water. It turns out in that particular area  
9           40 percent of it is wetlands, open rivers, creeks,  
10          and streams. 51 percent is land. Others are roads  
11          and matters such as that.

12                 The critical thing that I find  
13          objectionable in this document is that of the  
14          338 miles of pipe that are being proposed with the  
15          Company's preferred line, 100 miles of that -- about  
16          110 goes through an area that's never had a pipeline  
17          through it before. We have no research. We have no  
18          data. That goes from Park Rapids essentially to  
19          about ten miles east of -- or west of Duluth.

20                 What we have in that area is a  
21          high-voltage power line. We have a lot of water.  
22          We have a number of things in that particular area.  
23          If I had the time, I'd show you a map. But a part  
24          of that I want three things to be touched on real  
25          quick.

1                   Groundwater is totally inadequate in  
2                   this area in the report. It doesn't address the  
3                   fact that a vast majority of people in that  
4                   particular area depend on groundwater for  
5                   consumption, for bathing, for a variety of human  
6                   use.

7                   I've been a mayor in the Twin Cities,  
8                   and I went through an environmental spill, and I  
9                   know what that's like to deal with that with the  
10                  public.

11                  The other thing that's not in this  
12                  document is addressing watersheds. This area is  
13                  rich with watersheds. It's important to understand  
14                  why watersheds exist. We have a report that I'm  
15                  happy to provide the Department of Commerce produced  
16                  by the DNR. It's called lake trout -- Protection  
17                  Strategies for Big Trout Lake, which is one of the  
18                  few lake trout lakes away from the Canadian border.  
19                  In the report we have decreasing water quality.  
20                  Their researcher, Pete Jacobson out of Park Rapids,  
21                  indicated that we should have 2,000 -- 250 acres of  
22                  private forested land under protection to manage  
23                  that rainwater that's flowing into these bodies of  
24                  water. Can you imagine what that would do with a  
25                  pipeline spill in that area?

1                   Very last comment. The document does  
2 not tell you anything about the Enbridge history  
3 with oil spills. We have an awful lot of engineered  
4 data in there about the probability of spilling  
5 occurring at certain times.

6                   Let me tell you what the experience is  
7 in their annual report. From 2004 to 2015 --

8                   FACILITATOR: Tom, it's been six  
9 minutes.

10                  MR. TOM WATSON: -- they talk about  
11 850 spills in an 11-year period. I'm a dumb kid  
12 from International Falls, but I can tell you it  
13 turns out to be 1.6 spills a week. And that was  
14 160 barrels per spill. Translated, that's two  
15 spills a week. That's 300 barrels a week in  
16 11 years. These are not the de minimis spills.  
17 These are not the little spills.

18                  FACILITATOR: Tom, if you could wrap  
19 it up.

20                  MR. TOM WATSON: These are the spills  
21 reported to the EPA and the state agencies,  
22 etcetera.

23                  Thank you.

24                  FACILITATOR: Great. Thank you very  
25 much. Appreciate it. Thank you, Tom.

1                   Next I have Darwin Dyce. Darwin.  
2           Great. We'll bring -- Eric will bring you the mic.

3                   Name and spelling for the reporter.

4                   MR. DARWIN DYCE: Yes, I'm Darwin  
5           Dyce, Darwin Charles Dyce. Last name is spelled  
6           D-Y-C-E. From southern Minnesota where many of our  
7           own lakes are so full of nitrogen and phosphorus and  
8           algae that you can't even safely swim in them, let  
9           alone try to get drinking water from them at some  
10          point.

11                   Now, despite the reassurances we hear  
12          from industry, which says it's safe to send  
13          highly-toxic tar sands oil through pipelines across  
14          pristine land, over and under rivers, over precious  
15          aquifers, all because they use the best-available  
16          technology, well, such terms are really best  
17          characterized as our latest mistake. So clearly I'm  
18          here to express my opposition to yet another tar  
19          sands pipeline.

20                   Now, you've heard from Native  
21          Americans and historians about how such projects are  
22          yet another violation of treaty rights. You've  
23          heard from scientists and excellent testimony  
24          tonight in this crowd documenting the dangers of the  
25          toxic soup contained in tar sands and what happens

1       when, not if, the pipeline breaks and contaminates  
2       our soil and water.

3               We've also heard from economists who  
4       point to the vast number of jobs that will be  
5       created if we actively pursue a clean energy future,  
6       and those can well be good union jobs. And as a  
7       former union member myself, that's pretty darn  
8       exciting.

9               Well, I'd like you to just hear for a  
10       bit from me. I'm a guy who right now works with our  
11       elders in assisted care facilities and a nursing  
12       home. The world they live in has become  
13       increasingly toxic, thanks to the reckless pursuit  
14       of profit at any cost. This is not -- this is not  
15       the world they want to leave for their children's  
16       children, nor do I.

17              What good is stockholder profit when  
18       the air and water can no longer sustain us? There's  
19       a reason Enbridge calls it crude oil. The need to  
20       move away from carbon-based energy and embrace a  
21       clean energy future is critically essential. And I  
22       truly hope that the result of these hearings will  
23       bear this out.

24              Thank you.

25              FACILITATOR: Thank you, Darwin.



1 I think Chuck Diessner is next.

2 And Leslie will bring you the mic.

3 And name and spelling for the reporter.

4 MR. CHUCK DIESSNER: Chuck, C-H-U-C-K.  
5 Diessner, D-I-E-S-S-N-E-R.

6 I'm here from Park Rapids. I got  
7 involved in this with Richard back when this all  
8 started. I've been to all of the hearings or I've  
9 watched them on TV. I am here to give you a little  
10 bit of insight into what's going on.

11 The bottom line is we need everybody  
12 in this room -- it's great that people are talking.  
13 We need everybody in this room and to get three  
14 friends to write the Department of Commerce and give  
15 them comments. If we don't pull our weight with  
16 them, it doesn't end up at the Public Utilities  
17 Commission.

18 And let me tell you, for going to all  
19 of those hearings, I was so naive when I started  
20 this process. My background is a lawyer in  
21 environmental area and real estate development. And  
22 when I got involved, I thought, well, I'll go look  
23 at the Department of Commerce. I didn't know  
24 anything about them. I thought, oh, here's their  
25 mission statement.

1                   They are here, believe it or not, to  
2                   act in the best interests of the public. I'm here  
3                   to tell you that that's bullshit. Their definition  
4                   of the best interest of the public is jobs. They  
5                   don't care that we sacrifice the environment; it's  
6                   just jobs.

7                   How many people here want jobs as  
8                   opposed to our clean environment?

9                   Mr. Grant, so noted. Nobody here  
10                  wants jobs if it sacrifices our environment.

11                  Bottom-line question for all of us is  
12                  what's the truth? We don't know. I can tell you  
13                  that Enbridge isn't telling us the truth. We all  
14                  know that.

15                  Sandpiper, where did it have to go?  
16                  Enbridge said absolutely Clearbrook, Superior,  
17                  cannot go anywhere else. Where are they now?  
18                  Dakota Access. They're not even going to Superior.  
19                  They're not going to Clearbrook.

20                  So I ask the Department of Commerce to  
21                  put in the EIS what, if anything, they have done to  
22                  verify the veracity of what Enbridge is saying. You  
23                  cannot take them at their word.

24                  Now let's talk about -- let's talk  
25                  about the process that we're in. Where did that

1       come from? It came from the court decision that  
2       Richard referred to, but it also came from the  
3       Public Utilities Commission. Let me read what came  
4       from the hearing on December 17th. This is the  
5       Public Utilities Commission: Everything possible  
6       must be done to ensure that the new process, the  
7       EIS, in considering the application is robust,  
8       comprehensive, high quality -- here's the big  
9       word -- independent -- this is not independent --  
10      fair -- it's not fair -- avoids further delay,  
11      et cetera, et cetera.

12                Okay. Let's go back and take a look  
13      at what the Department of Commerce has done. First  
14      of all, they have portions of the report that are  
15      solely based on reports submitted by Enbridge. I  
16      ask that the report point those out. If there are  
17      any -- there are any analysis in decisions, if it's  
18      based solely on Enbridge and not based on an  
19      independent study, the EIS should solely note.

20                What do you think Enbridge would be  
21      saying if Friends of the Headwaters could submit the  
22      environmental information and the Department of  
23      Commerce would rely on it and they had nothing to  
24      say about it? I mean, they thought we were a bunch  
25      of sleepy old people here, and they were just going

1 to walk in. They've never faced this before.  
2 Enbridge has never fought anything like this before  
3 in their lives. So they're struggling for their  
4 lives. Oh, my god.

5 Okay. List of consultants, all sorts  
6 of conflicts. I want the consultants listed and  
7 their prior dealings with Enbridge.

8 Big conflicts of interest. Vice  
9 president of Barr Engineering -- Barr Engineering is  
10 the consultant for Enbridge; was hired by the  
11 Department of Commerce to run this study. Oh,  
12 that's great. That's independent. You think this  
13 guy's going to taint the report that's going to  
14 conflict with and dispute what Barr Engineering has  
15 said?

16 Final point, if you would indulge me  
17 for a little bit more.

18 FACILITATOR: 30 seconds.

19 MR. CHUCK DIESSNER: Final -- final  
20 point. Department -- the Department of Commerce  
21 has, since day one, day one, the first hearing, they  
22 have ignored the Department of Natural Resources and  
23 they've ignored the Minnesota Pollution Control  
24 Agency. I was there. They were to recommend to the  
25 PUC what should be studied. They ignored the

1 letters from both those agencies that were 25 to  
2 30 pages apiece.

3 FACILITATOR: Chuck, it's been six  
4 minutes.

5 MR. CHUCK DIESSNER: Okay. I  
6 apologize. Please get involved, write, or this is  
7 just going to roll right over us.

8 Thank you.

9 FACILITATOR: Thank you, Chuck.

10 Kathy Gilchrist. Kathy. Right there.

11 And just name and spelling for the  
12 record. And Leslie is right behind you with the  
13 mic. She'll bring it right to you.

14 MS. KATHY GILCHRIST: My name is Kathy  
15 Gilchrist. It's K-A-T-H-Y. Last name  
16 G-I-L-C-H-R-I-S-T.

17 I hadn't planned to speak tonight,  
18 because I didn't have anything prepared in advance.  
19 But I just wanted to say a couple of things.

20 We really need to protect the value of  
21 our water. The gentleman who talked about the value  
22 of water in the future was correct. It's been  
23 predicted that future wars will be fought over  
24 water.

25 In terms of abandonment, I do not feel

1       that Enbridge should be able to walk away and  
2       abandon the current pipeline. It's one of the ways  
3       that large corporations are able to privatize their  
4       gains and socialize their losses, and they make the  
5       rest of us pay for their expenses and losses.

6               In terms of pipeline safety and not  
7       spilling, where I was told that they won't spill,  
8       the Dakota Access Pipeline has already had multiple  
9       spills, even before it's fully operational. We do  
10      need energy. We do need jobs. But we can get that  
11      energy and jobs by investing in green energy,  
12      renewable energy, creating jobs. We can get the  
13      jobs we need that will be better jobs that will be  
14      cleaner for the environment.

15             You know, in terms of jobs -- and I  
16      feel like a lot of people are trying to protect  
17      those pipeline jobs, because they do need jobs. But  
18      we had jobs in the past with telegraph. And if we  
19      had fought to protect those telegraph jobs so hard,  
20      we wouldn't have the telephone. The same with cars;  
21      if we were fighting for those horse-and-buggy jobs,  
22      we wouldn't have cars.

23             So we do need to move forward.  
24      There's always progress, and we need to be smart  
25      about moving forward. We will have jobs, just being

1        brave in that progress.

2                    And there's one thing that convinced  
3        me to speak up tonight. On one of these posters out  
4        here, the tribal resources one, from the EIS  
5        Chapters 9 and 11, there's a sentence in it that  
6        says, From a tribal perspective, any of the route  
7        segment or system alternatives would have a  
8        detrimental effect on tribal members.

9                    When I was growing up, I feel like I  
10       learned a very whitewashed version of the history of  
11       our country. And I find myself now in my 40s  
12       learning some of the real history of our country.  
13       And the more I learn about the history of our  
14       country, the more it horrifies me.

15                   And so I read this sentence, and any  
16       of these routes is going to have a detrimental  
17       impact on tribal members. There are treaty rights.  
18       We need to respect these treaty rights and not  
19       violate them. That's the integrity, our own  
20       integrity, the integrity of our country. We should  
21       not be violating these treaty rights.

22                   There's historical trauma for  
23       indigenous people that I feel like -- as much as I  
24       might research and find out, I feel like I'll never  
25       be able to fully wrap my head around that historical

1 trauma. And we don't have the power to go back and  
2 change those events in the past. We didn't do that,  
3 but the ancestors, the founding fathers of this  
4 country did. And we don't have the power to go back  
5 and change them, but we do have the power to impact  
6 what we're doing now. We have the power to stop  
7 this pipeline. We have the power to stop doing  
8 those traumatic events to the indigenous people in  
9 the country. We need to protect our water, our  
10 environment, not just for ourselves, but for  
11 everyone.

12 Thank you.

13 FACILITATOR: I have John Munter next.  
14 And, John, Eric will bring you the mic. He's right  
15 there. Just name and spelling for the record.

16 MR. JOHN MUNTER: My name is John  
17 Munter. J-O-H-N. M-U-N-T-E-R. Retired guy from  
18 Warba. And as Allen was saying, there's huge  
19 discrepancies in the DEIS we found when we were  
20 doing our pipeline study.

21 In the DEIS, for example, they're  
22 saying generally the pipes are 10, 15 feet apart,  
23 just plastered all over the document. And we found  
24 in our study that, on the average, from Rowena to  
25 Grand Rapids and 14, 15 named roads, that they're



1        actually 30 feet apart from Line 3 to Line 4 and  
2        Line 1 to 3 is 18 feet apart. And to their credit,  
3        though, the Department of Commerce has come up to me  
4        and said, we want to look into that data and verify  
5        it and maybe ask Enbridge some questions. And so  
6        I'm gratified that they're responsive to that.

7                And we need all of your responses, all  
8        of your eyes on the document, because the more you  
9        look at it, the more holes you'll see and the better  
10       this document will be.

11               There's four criteria they use for  
12       assessing the certificate of need. The first is  
13       basically the need. And the problem with this is  
14       we're not being given all the economic data. And it  
15       won't be available. They're in the process of  
16       hiring an economist right now, and all this stuff  
17       won't be available till after all of the public  
18       comments are made. And it's not a fair process to  
19       not have complete disclosure here, because this  
20       meeting involves both the route and the need itself.  
21       They're combined.

22               Secondly, in terms of the routing,  
23       it's been amply talked about earlier that there's  
24       real active water studies and a big problem with  
25       Enbridge not wanting to disclose how much oil is

1       flowing at certain point. So we can't do proper  
2       risk assessments, which is just ridiculous. They're  
3       using the idea that, oh, there might be terrorism,  
4       so we can't, you know, disclose where the most oil  
5       is flowing through. Well, just call up the  
6       pipeline, and you'll probably find it. But all you  
7       have to do is -- for a terrorist is to go up  
8       Highway 2 and find Line Number 3 there on the road  
9       or you can go into a substation or you can find all  
10      the exposed pipe, you know, in all these places  
11      along Highway 2 and everywhere.

12                So it's not -- it's just a ridic-- and  
13      you wouldn't, you know, stop voting because a  
14      terrorist might blow up your voting booth someplace.  
15      You know, this destroys democ-- really destroys the  
16      democratic process.

17                So the third criteria is -- most of  
18      the third and fourth, which has not been dealt with  
19      at all by the DEIS anywhere: The consequences to  
20      society of granting a certificate of need are more  
21      favorable than the consequences of denying the  
22      certificate of need.

23                So we've heard a lot about the  
24      negative stuff, but they're not putting this in a  
25      chapter heading, like, well, here's the positive

1 stuff; here's the negative stuff; let's compare, you  
2 know. You can't have a real debate, unless you're  
3 going to provide both sides to it.

4 I mean, for example, could it be  
5 cheaper if we don't have oil coming down from  
6 Canada? Possibly. You know, what happens if we  
7 import all the oil from farther south or farther  
8 east or refineries outside of our area? Is it 3  
9 cents cheaper? 10 cents cheaper? Is that a  
10 benefit? Well, that should be discussed here pro  
11 and con. Right?

12 Reliable supply. That's been in past  
13 documents we've read that Enbridge has put out  
14 rationales, you know, about reliable supplies from  
15 Canada, all this stuff. We don't really see it in  
16 there, as far as I don't see it anyway.

17 But, you know, there's -- this goes  
18 back to the oil embargo days. Now we have an  
19 oversupply, so we're in a whole different  
20 environment of oil. But oil is a global commodity.  
21 And so even if we stopped buying Saudi oil and just  
22 relied on tar sands, it wouldn't change anything.  
23 The price might skyrocket.

24 Well, the world is really going to EB  
25 vehicles. And, actually, a lot of important

1 commentators are saying that there's going to be a  
2 decline in the world oil demand in the 2020s and --  
3 which is only going to be a few years away. Because  
4 even India has a goal by 2030 to be 100 percent  
5 electric vehicles, for example.

6 So then the fourth criteria talks  
7 about it has not been demonstrated the design,  
8 construction, or operation of the proposed facility  
9 would fail to comply with relevant policies, rules,  
10 or regulations of federal, state, and local  
11 agencies.

12 So we ask -- when people come for a  
13 job interview, you know, they check out their job  
14 history, they go online and see if they said  
15 anything nasty about their prior employers, they  
16 look at their DWIs. And are we doing this with  
17 Enbridge? Are we really looking at all the various  
18 issues of genocide up in Canada?

19 And Bad River Band up in Wisconsin  
20 doesn't have a permit since 2013. What is Enbridge  
21 going to do with Line Number 5? Are they going  
22 around Bad River? Is it going to -- and what about  
23 all the landowners up here who just have issues with  
24 Enbridge?

25 So these should be mediated before the

1 PUC grants anything. And it could be a forced  
2 mediation, where it doesn't have to happen before  
3 the PUC makes the decision. But there should be  
4 some process so all of these issues are dealt with  
5 before the final judgment of the PUC because,  
6 otherwise, there won't be anything happening  
7 afterwards, we know.

8 FACILITATOR: Thank you, John, very  
9 much. Thank you, John.

10 I have Don Wedll next. Don. And,  
11 Don, Eric will come over and bring you the mic.

12 Ah, you're right there. Leslie will.  
13 Where's Leslie? We'll bring -- oh, there she is.  
14 We'll bring you a mic.

15 And, Don, just name and spelling for  
16 the record. Thank you.

17 MR. DON WEDLL: Don, D-O-N. Last name  
18 is W-E-D-L-L.

19 Good evening, everyone. I've been  
20 involved with this process for a little while,  
21 probably since it started. But tonight I was -- I  
22 started reading the draft EIS, and I'm concerned  
23 about the process that the Department of Commerce  
24 has undertaken for the implementation of this. And,  
25 in particular, what Richard had talked about was the

1 Supreme Court of Minnesota stating that they had to  
2 complete the EIS before they could produce a  
3 certificate of need. One of the issues involved in  
4 the Supreme Court ruling.

5 And tonight, if you look back there,  
6 you'll see draft EIS impacts, certificate of need.  
7 They're put right together. And we are being led  
8 down the road that that's okay; that it's okay --  
9 that the Supreme Court said no, you have to do an  
10 EIS before you do a certificate of need; but we are  
11 being told it's okay to do them simultaneously,  
12 because there won't be a problem with conflict if  
13 the EIS says one thing that conflicts with the  
14 certificate of need. That's wrong. That's not how  
15 this process should work. It's not how a general  
16 EIS is supposed to be conducted. So that's a  
17 problem that the Department of Commerce has with  
18 this issue.

19 The second issue is that when the  
20 Department of Commerce did public notice about  
21 Line 3 and at that time the Sandpiper, it was done  
22 in a combined public notice format. It said that  
23 they wanted to consolidate those two things because  
24 those two things were going to occur simultaneously.

25 About three months into that process,

1       Enbridge said, oh, by the way, we're -- we're  
2       pulling out of the Sandpiper; we've got other  
3       options for that, even though they said they had no  
4       other options. But they did say, we have other  
5       options so we're pulling -- withdrawing the  
6       Sandpiper.

7               Department of Commerce did not change  
8       the public notice requirement. They did not come  
9       back and relist that the public notice would now --  
10      on the EIS would only consist of Line 3, which is  
11      another error in this process. These are  
12      fundamental errors at the start of the process.  
13      This is not how you would conduct an EIS. You would  
14      have to redo the public notice, because the comments  
15      that people submitted were submitted for both the  
16      Sandpiper and Line 3. And I know personally myself,  
17      I devoted much more energy to the Sandpiper  
18      implementation than to Line 3. And as a result now,  
19      those comments on the Sandpiper are not being in the  
20      process, because Line 3 is what's being reviewed.  
21      So that's another error in the system that needs to  
22      be somehow corrected.

23             And I know that there are people out  
24      there saying, well, we've looked at those and we  
25      picked out the things that apply to both. That's

1 not fair, because when I wrote my comments, I was  
2 having to write for two things, two lines, Sandpiper  
3 and Line 3. And Sandpiper is no longer part of it,  
4 but it took most of my comments. And so it really  
5 isn't a fair way of implementing an EIS. So that's  
6 another process problem.

7 I think in the EIS -- and I know some  
8 people think about abandonment -- that no permit  
9 should be issued until we have decided in Minnesota  
10 and within the tribal government how abandonment  
11 will occur. We shouldn't leave that for our  
12 children. No one thought about that 60 years ago  
13 when these lines went through who was going to take  
14 care of this at the end. But anybody who's been  
15 involved in environmental law knows that the  
16 landowner is the ultimately-responsible party for  
17 any environmental degradation or irregularities that  
18 are occurring. And Enbridge knows that too. They  
19 can say we'll perpetually watch this, we're  
20 decommissioning this; but the bottom line is the  
21 landowner is the one that's responsible. And that  
22 should be clear and known to everyone who's involved  
23 in this.

24 I guess my time's up. Thank you.

25 FACILITATOR: Thank you, sir.



1                   Lindsey Ketchel. Lindsey. Oh, okay.  
2                   We'll bring -- Leslie we'll bring you the mic. Just  
3                   name and spelling for the record.

4                   MS. LINDSEY KETCHEL: My name is  
5                   Lindsey Ketchel. L-I-N-D-S-E-Y. Last name is  
6                   K-E-T-C-H-E-L. And I get the honor to serve as the  
7                   executive director of a nonprofit called the Leech  
8                   Lake Area Watershed Foundation. And for the last  
9                   20 years we have worked incredibly hard to protect  
10                  the amazing lakes in this region.

11                  And one issue that I do have with this  
12                  proposal so far is that we are not valuing -- and  
13                  this has come up earlier -- the true value of really  
14                  good lake quality, really great lakes. There are  
15                  very few in the United States. Upper Minnesota is  
16                  one of the very few regions in the United States  
17                  that still has this. This should be something that  
18                  is elevated within this document, honored not just  
19                  for its economic value, but its cultural value to  
20                  what it means to us in Minnesota. Not to also  
21                  mention it's essential to our economy.

22                  And to the pipefitters, yes, we want  
23                  you to have jobs. I drove here. I'm a realistic.  
24                  Yes, we're going to use fossil fuels for a little  
25                  while. It is -- we're in a transitional period. I

1 am a realist. But this document, this EIS, I've had  
2 20 years experience in Alaska, Vermont, and now  
3 Minnesota involved in EISS and EAs. Typically it is  
4 very easy for the average individual to easily  
5 identify a no-build alternative, to find their  
6 voice. It's easy to organize around it, and we  
7 become strong and we can make a difference. They  
8 have purposely made it impossible for us to find our  
9 voices. There are so many different alternatives,  
10 whether we're going to truck it, bus it, bike it.  
11 All this is craziness.

12 So, please, Bill -- sorry, I wasn't  
13 supposed to say names. These are good people too.  
14 I'm not getting -- these are good people on all  
15 sides, Enbridge folks, Department of Commerce  
16 people, lots of people here. So let's make it easy  
17 for our voices to be heard.

18 Separating the certificate of need  
19 with the alternative is crazy. We have got to make  
20 it very easy so that a no-build alternative is easy  
21 for us to articulate. And I'm saying this because  
22 this is not the place for a pipeline. There are  
23 other places. And we will be building pipelines,  
24 and we'll be supporting pipelines that will be built  
25 in the right place. This is not the place to do it.

1                   This is all about negotiating risks.  
2       Right? Trade-offs. We have to make hard, hard  
3       trade-offs not for our generation, but our  
4       grandchildren and their grandchildren. That's what  
5       this document is supposed to be able to provide us,  
6       the knowledge to understand those trade-offs. But  
7       to then say, we're sorry, you won't really  
8       understand what a major spill is going to look like?

9                   Let's think about Valdez, folks. How  
10      many people are familiar with the Valdez oil spill?  
11      How many people are aware of how that oil company  
12      treated that region? How many people know that the  
13      fisheries in that region have tanked, that economy  
14      has tanked? So many people have committed suicide,  
15      it's beyond my wildest imagination. An oil spill  
16      creates major, major heartache for communities. And  
17      I for one want to ensure that that doesn't happen to  
18      this region and to my brothers and sisters of all  
19      economic statuses. We have to understand that for  
20      that trade-off. And for you to tell me that the  
21      general public will never have that knowledge, how  
22      are we going to understand that trade-off? That is  
23      a glaring hole in this document.

24                  I will also say this -- and I'm  
25      probably running out of time; and I don't mean to be

1 a jerk. I really don't -- but when I started  
2 reviewing this document -- and I used to work for a  
3 nonprofit where I had a lawyer on staff; we took  
4 cases all the way to the Supreme Court. I think  
5 they're baiting us to sue them. And I'm like why?  
6 Why not write the best draft EIS to make Minnesota  
7 proud, to make Minnesota proud that we value and  
8 respect our natural resources, our native cultural  
9 resources.

10 This document is so full of  
11 inconsistencies, I'd go on, I'd hit a point that's  
12 supposed to go to another document. The link would  
13 go to nowhere. I'd look up citations that didn't  
14 exist in other documents. This looks like -- not  
15 cheap; this wasn't cheap -- a clip-and-paste job,  
16 guys. We deserve better.

17 I will also say that I may not even be  
18 providing comments, though, because we as a  
19 nonprofit have for the last three years provided  
20 comments on everything, just like Richard and other  
21 organizations do, and they disappear. You look on  
22 the website, oh, they're there; they're gone. I am  
23 so afraid that the process is so flawed that so many  
24 comments are going to get lost. Our voices are  
25 getting lost. Whether it's just a bad website or a

1 really difficult way of maneuvering it, it shouldn't  
2 be. It should be the opposite. We should make this  
3 easy, because this will allow all of us to create a  
4 culture where we're going to value and respect our  
5 natural resources versus fighting a horrible  
6 document and a horrible process for our voices to be  
7 heard.

8 Thank you.

9 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

10 I have Wendy Nielsen. Wendy. Right  
11 there. Eric, Wendy is right here, I think. Right?

12 I think, Wendy, do you want to raise  
13 your hand one more time. Thank you. She's  
14 preparing her comments as we speak.

15 Okay. Thank you. Wendy, just name  
16 and spelling for the record.

17 MS. WENDY NIELSEN: W-E-N-D-Y.

18 Nielsen, N-I-E-L-S-E-N. I grew up in Minnesota,  
19 know all about it, and especially the fact that we  
20 are the water base for one-quarter of America's  
21 water. Of all the water that comes out of Canada,  
22 Mexico, United States, one-quarter of it comes out  
23 of the ground in Minnesota.

24 I live in Fairbanks, Alaska. I work  
25 in pipeline. I work as a union operator, a side

1 boom operator, anything they tell me to operate.

2 That's the nature of the beast and what have you.

3 However, in Alaska, with the pipeline  
4 crossing and we've got earthquakes to contend with,  
5 where sometimes after an earthquake, northbound and  
6 southbound lanes are in line. That's on the roads.

7 I have been involved in making ice  
8 roads; and we're real proud of our ice roads,  
9 because we have to make ice roads over rivers. So  
10 we start putting the water -- or the ice on the  
11 side, on each side; and we keep going through,  
12 because as the ice goes, it keeps coming down. So  
13 it's kind of like the Mississippi River there in  
14 St. Paul where they've got that span bridge, right,  
15 only ours is made out of ice. And I've been privy  
16 enough to be involved with some of those ice bridges  
17 that we have had the highest consistency of no air  
18 or leaks, because they do testing constantly.

19 The bridge itself is probably, say,  
20 about this wide (indicating). And after it's  
21 done -- and I'm talking about the length of the  
22 river wide. Okay? And after it's done, this wide  
23 (indicating) is the width that anybody can cross.  
24 And once they're all done -- and we've been driving  
25 across them way back building them. Two-and-a-half

1 miles an hour is what we move our rigs on.

2 We take water to make our ice roads.  
3 We have to do all the remediation for the  
4 wintertime. We do all the remediation -- I've been  
5 involved in remediation. In fact, I got a BP gold  
6 coin safety award running double-side dumps on the  
7 ice roads before the ice road truckers then came out  
8 with the women. And it wasn't funny, because when  
9 they gave the coin, they said they have women up  
10 here. Well, I was the only women.

11 But I grew up here in Minnesota on a  
12 dairy farm with hay wagons. Fair enough? However,  
13 our pipeline goes across the Yukon River, we go  
14 across all kinds of the wetlands, and wildlife  
15 flourishes in our areas where the pipeline is.  
16 Because of the roads and things like that, we have  
17 no problems with it messing up any of our wildlife.

18 And with regard to Valdez, excuse me,  
19 I didn't know we had a pipeline called Valdez.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oil spills.

21 MS. WENDY NIELSEN: Exactly. But that  
22 was a ship. So what about that ship in the east  
23 that the guy decided to get close to honk or wave at  
24 somebody and they tipped the whole ship over? There  
25 was no pipeline there either. Those were driver

1 errors. One, I think Valdez was drunk. Okay? So  
2 let's make sure we're worrying about and being right  
3 about what we know.

4 And I'm not going to negate anything  
5 when somebody says we got good water. However, my  
6 mom and dad were in Prior Lake. We buy bottled  
7 water and filter that because Prior Lake water is so  
8 bad. That's pretty sad.

9 However, I just want to make those  
10 kind of comments, because I have worked with BP,  
11 I've worked with Alyeska, I've worked with  
12 ConocoPhillips and such, and we all -- most of our  
13 unions are the ones that we've been trained, we've  
14 been safety checked, we check-check. And almost  
15 every job I have ever worked at, any one person has  
16 the right and ability and authority to shut down a  
17 job. Get it?

18 Now, I worked with BP at a refine --  
19 at a shut-down in Washington State. There was just  
20 a few of us. Of course, we're crane operators  
21 working it. We had a crane operator in a seat, and  
22 we had the assistant. The so-called trainer, per  
23 se, was another fully-certified crane operator. I  
24 think we had close to 30 crane operators --  
25 fully-certified crane operators on that job. Union.



1           Unfortunately, BP made a big push, because they had  
2           just had 15 years no accidents, no injuries,  
3           whatever else. They had a lot of these nonunion  
4           people -- some people call them right-to-work type  
5           people, right to work.

6                       I grew up on the dairy farm. We had  
7           the right to work too. You better be working, and  
8           you had the right to live in this house.

9                       FACILITATOR: Great. Thank you very  
10          much.

11                      So that is all the names of folks on  
12          cards that I have. So I just want -- if anybody who  
13          has not commented would like to make a public  
14          comment now -- I want to get a show of hands how  
15          many folks. I'm going to go right to left to get  
16          everybody.

17                      So I'll start with this gentleman  
18          here. Eric will bring you the mic.

19                      And just state your name and, again,  
20          spell it for the record. Thank you. And I'll kind  
21          of work my way across the room.

22                      MR. FRANCIS LEMKE: Good afternoon.  
23          Francis Lemke, L-E-M-K-E. I am a pretty practical  
24          guy, and I've listened to all these comments here  
25          and stuff. And I guess if, and it's a big if, this

1 project is truly needed, then if we're going to  
2 build it, I am for putting it in the same place that  
3 it is right now. I am for digging it up, taking the  
4 old pipe out all the way from one end to the other,  
5 and putting a new pipe in. I'm not for getting a  
6 new route across the southern end of this whole area  
7 and going across probably twice as much water and  
8 wetlands as the Highway 2 route.

9 And I just can't see leaving old pipe  
10 in the ground. If they -- if they don't have the  
11 money to put the pipe -- to take the pipe out of the  
12 ground, then they probably -- well, I don't know. I  
13 don't think the -- I don't think the landowners want  
14 to take it out. They don't want to pay for that.  
15 And, besides that, leaving that pipe in the ground  
16 invites trouble, because those pipes are not totally  
17 level. There's going to be dips, and those dips are  
18 going to accumulate moisture, they're going to  
19 accumulate whatever oil residue is left in that  
20 pipe, and it will rust. Guarantee you it will rust.

21 I used to live up here in Laporte,  
22 about 90 miles up from where we're at here, and they  
23 had a gas station there. In fact, they had three of  
24 them along the highway. And one of them, anyway,  
25 they closed it up back about 1950s or thereabouts.

1 And they used a bulldozer; they dug a big hole, they  
2 pushed the building and stuff into it, and covered  
3 it up with dirt and left it. They left the tanks in  
4 the ground. Well, 30 years later those tanks, being  
5 all steel, they rotted out. And the residue in that  
6 tank, the gasoline they couldn't pump out, that  
7 leaked into the groundwater, and it polluted the  
8 whole south end of Laporte. And it worked its way  
9 down underneath Garfield Lake there, went down  
10 underneath and came up on the other side of the  
11 lake. And those people who lived over on the east  
12 side of the lake, they started having petroleum  
13 residues in their drinking water.

14 Now, you can't leave pipe and tanks in  
15 the ground. They will rust out eventually, and  
16 that's the kind of problems you're going to get. So  
17 that pipe, if Enbridge put it in the ground,  
18 Enbridge ought to take it out of the ground and put  
19 the new pipe right in on top of where their old pipe  
20 used to be. That's the proper way to do this job.

21 And I guess I don't know why that --  
22 why they would swing that pipeline new route down  
23 way south here. And then there looks like there's a  
24 branch going all the way down to the Twin Cities.  
25 Does anybody know if that branch pipeline is in? I

1 got no idea whether there's a branch pipeline that  
2 goes all the way down to the Twin Cities or not.

3 But I guess that's all I've got to say  
4 this evening. I just want to see it done in the  
5 best possible way, safest possible way. And if  
6 Enbridge can't do that, then I don't think we should  
7 let them build it.

8 FACILITATOR: Thanks a lot.

9 Ma'am, did you want to make a comment?

10 MS. EMMA NEEDHAM: Yeah.

11 FACILITATOR: Okay. Because you have  
12 a young child, I want to give you a chance to make a  
13 comment, just in case you need to go. So why don't  
14 we bring you the mic.

15 And if you just state your name and  
16 spelling for the record, that would be great. Thank  
17 you.

18 MS. EMMA NEEDHAM: Hello, everyone.  
19 My name is Emma, E-M-M-A. Last name N-E-E-D-H-A-M.

20 You know, I wasn't sure if I was going  
21 to speak tonight. But after hearing all these  
22 wonderful speakers tonight, you know, I hope to  
23 maybe add a little bit and summarize some.

24 I come from the Red Lake Band of  
25 Ojibwe, and we're taught to honor the next seven

1 generations. So her and her children and her  
2 children -- their children, so on and so forth. And  
3 what I've seen in all of these meetings that I've  
4 attended is that Enbridge and these companies say  
5 over and over they cannot quantify the damage that  
6 may happen for future generations because, they say,  
7 this would never happen; in the event of a spill,  
8 there will only be so much leaked. But they can  
9 quantify the money that they will make. And I find  
10 that horrifying, that their children are even to be  
11 affected by this, and they do not care.

12 What does Minnesota stand to gain from  
13 this pipeline? This is a Canadian company. Are  
14 they going to hire Minnesotans to do this pipeline  
15 or are they going to bring in people from Alberta?  
16 There's a very limited number of permanent jobs.  
17 There's nothing in the EIS that states what kind of  
18 economic impact that this is going to have to  
19 benefit Minnesota.

20 At what costs are we willing to put  
21 our lakes and rivers and water and wetland and  
22 everything at risk to build a few nonpermanent jobs?  
23 We have better options in clean energy.

24 With the Headwaters of the Mississippi  
25 being in Minnesota, we stand and we must set an

1 example to have clean water in this state.

2 Everything that we could do to the water, everything  
3 that happens in the Mississippi will hit the Gulf of  
4 Mexico and runs all the way down right down the  
5 middle of this country. We need to be aware that  
6 what we decide here, what happens with this  
7 pipeline, is going to affect the rest of the  
8 country.

9 Do we want to look back on this in the  
10 future when something happens, not if, and know that  
11 there could have been something done, when the rest  
12 of the country is looking at us?

13 My daughter is here with me because  
14 this is important. And I'm honestly sad to see not  
15 a lot of young faces here. So I implore all of you  
16 when you go home, talk to your children, talk to  
17 your grandchildren. Just because they're small does  
18 not mean they don't understand water and what it  
19 means. Teach them not to be wasteful. Limit your  
20 own waste. Be conservative. Do whatever you can.  
21 The littlest bit helps.

22 And as somebody else said it, get  
23 yourself to write a comment and get three other  
24 people. We have until July 10th. We don't want  
25 this to train roll over us like they did for the

1 DAPL. They held some of these meetings for DAPL,  
2 and nobody showed up. We're not going to let that  
3 happen here.

4 Thank you.

5 FACILITATOR: All right. So we'll go  
6 back to this side of the room. This gentleman right  
7 here in the red shirt, I think. Eric will bring it.

8 Your name and spelling for the record.  
9 Thank you, sir.

10 MR. PALMER DREWS: My name is Palmer  
11 Drews. That's P-A-L-M-E-R, D-R-E-W-S.

12 I have no particular reason to like or  
13 dislike a pipeline or any other method, except for  
14 one thing. It seems to me that if they're going to  
15 move 765,000 gallons of crude to port every day,  
16 they're going to do it whether it's by truck, by  
17 rail, or by pipeline. And to me the pipeline is the  
18 safest way to go.

19 Now, if somebody wants to pass a law  
20 that says Canadians can't move oil through  
21 Minnesota, then tell them to build a road or a  
22 pipeline all the way to the Great Lakes, that is the  
23 Lake Superior on the Canadian side, and you've  
24 solved your problem. But until then all you're  
25 doing is kicking the can down the road, because

1           they're still going to move that oil.

2                       Thank you.

3                       FACILITATOR: I think the next hand  
4 was here, then here, and we'll kind of work our way.  
5 So here and there.

6                       Name and spelling for the record.

7                       MR. DAVID BARNETT: All right. Thank  
8 you. Good evening. My name is David Barnett,  
9 B-A-R-N-E-T-T. I represent the welders,  
10 pipefitters, and helpers that will construct this  
11 pipeline. I'm a national representative across the  
12 United States for the United Associations of  
13 Plumbers and Pipefitters, Sprinkler Fitters and  
14 HVAC. In that we have our pipeline division, which  
15 I am -- which I oversee for the nation through our  
16 local unions and through our members.

17                      Our members very much want to build  
18 this pipeline. They want the jobs that go with it.  
19 I hear a lot of talk about, you know, clean energy  
20 jobs. And it's almost like folks think that a job  
21 is a job is a job. These jobs, because Enbridge has  
22 committed to doing them union, our welders will make  
23 \$55 an hour. They get great benefits. They have  
24 pensions. Helper -- an entry-level helper will make  
25 25 bucks an hour, plus the benefits. Those jobs you



1 don't go out and get every day.

2 And so we don't see wind and solar or  
3 clean energy jobs paying that kind of money; and we  
4 don't see very many of them being union, just to be  
5 honest.

6 The United Association of Plumbers and  
7 Pipefitters, we truly view ourselves as water  
8 protectors. Our union was created -- yeah, laugh if  
9 you want.

10 FACILITATOR: Please let him speak.

11 MR. DAVID BARNETT: Our union was  
12 created in 1889, and we've been protecting water  
13 since 1889, plumbers, pipefitters, HVAC. Think  
14 about it. My grandfather built pipelines, my father  
15 built pipelines union, I build pipelines union, my  
16 son-in-law builds pipelines union. It's meant a lot  
17 to my family. And I could use all the concerns in  
18 this room tonight to use on why we should replace  
19 this old pipeline with a new pipeline. If we're  
20 going to have oil transport, let's put it through a  
21 new pipeline like it's proposed.

22 The no-build alternative I hear talked  
23 about, that would mean continuing to transport oil  
24 through the old pipeline. That doesn't make sense.  
25 Not in a common-sense society, it does not make

1 sense.

2 We're all going to get in our vehicles  
3 and leave here today. If we need fuel, we're going  
4 to stop at the service station and fuel them up and  
5 not once thinking about the fact that it came to us  
6 through a pipeline.

7 For years as energy industry we prided  
8 ourselves in bringing industry to your front door  
9 silently. The less -- the less noise we made, the  
10 better. That was our job. That's what we'd do.  
11 That's why we're having to come out and educate  
12 folks on the fact that there's over 6,000 products  
13 made from oil. We depend on oil and we use oil and  
14 we need oil. And as long as we need oil in this  
15 country -- and it's going to be for some time. I  
16 mean, I think the auto industry had record sales  
17 over the last two years selling combustible engine  
18 automobiles. So that should tell us it's not going  
19 to happen overnight.

20 I'm all for innovation. But as we sit  
21 here today, we need oil. And the best way to do it  
22 is through pipelines.

23 I hear talk about -- that spill that  
24 was over in Montana. And the way that line crossed  
25 that river, it laid right in the water. And it's no

1       doubt it should have been replaced way before it  
2       ever broke. We don't even cross water body  
3       crossings that way anymore. We directional drill  
4       them. We put them hundreds of feet below the water  
5       level. We put pipe in that's twice the thickness of  
6       the regular-lined pipe. There's so many safety  
7       mitigations built into our water crossings on  
8       horizontal directional drilling that folks don't dig  
9       into to look at.

10               So I just want to say that I know a  
11       lot about pipelines, and; I sit on PHMSA's advisory  
12       board for Liquid Pipeline Committee, appointed by  
13       Anthony Fox, Secretary of Transportation. So it's  
14       not like I don't know anything about the quality of  
15       pipelines. I don't know anything about what a lot  
16       of you guys do, and I don't expect you to know a lot  
17       about pipelines. But I can tell you new pipelines  
18       with harder pipe, better coatings, better welding  
19       technology, they're better today than they've ever  
20       been, just like the automobiles you drive.

21               So I want to thank you for your time.

22               FACILITATOR: The gentleman right  
23       here. And we'll -- Eric will bring you the mic, and  
24       we'll -- and again, name and spelling for the  
25       record.

1                   MR. ANDY PEARSON: Hello. Thank you  
2                   very much. My name is Andy Pearson. A-N-D-Y.  
3                   P-E-A-R-S-O-N.

4                   You know, I know it's hard to be up  
5                   here today for the Department of Commerce. I'm sure  
6                   it is, because it's hard to sit and listen to people  
7                   criticize something you put a lot of time into. And  
8                   so I want to just first recognize that and say that  
9                   I think all of us here are here because at some  
10                  level we believe in science and we believe in  
11                  process; we're trying to make it better. And I hope  
12                  that you see it that way. I really think it's  
13                  intended in a good way. I want to say that.

14                  I also want to say that I have -- I  
15                  would love at some point -- I would love at some  
16                  point in my life to see folks who work on pipelines,  
17                  of whom I've heard many testify at this meeting and  
18                  others and on other projects, to address the  
19                  climate issue in an honest way. I would love that,  
20                  and I have never heard it.

21                  What I hear is that we're a group of  
22                  individuals who want to make money over the health  
23                  of us all. Because that is effectively the words  
24                  that are being said to me, when the climate issue is  
25                  not addressed explicitly. When you don't look it in

1 the eye and say that I know that we must transition  
2 off of fossil fuels as quickly as we possibly can  
3 because that is what the best science in the world  
4 tells us we need, and you still get up and say --  
5 and if you stand here and you testify and you do not  
6 say that, you must forgive me if I choose to not  
7 trust you or your words or what you're saying. You  
8 must forgive me for that, because it is a choice  
9 that I will make.

10 To speak to a couple of other things  
11 that have been brought up tonight. Pipeline  
12 abandonment is called abandonment in this EIS  
13 because that's what it is called in Minnesota  
14 statute. We don't have to adopt Enbridge's terms,  
15 if the state law uses different ones. And the state  
16 law happens to call it abandonment. That happens to  
17 also be accurately what it is here.

18 And to go to a point that somebody  
19 else mentioned today, that question of indefinitely  
20 is a really big one. What does indefinitely mean  
21 here? The paragraphs in the EIS about abandonment  
22 are more or less lifted out of Enbridge's material,  
23 or at least the intent is. And I would hope that  
24 the Department can push Enbridge a little bit harder  
25 on what indefinitely means. It's real tough to make

1 definite, long-lasting decisions based on  
2 indefinitely.

3 To the thought that many of us have,  
4 well, what if we don't build it; won't the oil move  
5 by truck or by rail? All the alternatives in the  
6 analysis assume that it will. I want us to think  
7 about Keystone Xcel. Right? For many of us that  
8 feels like a second coming of a bad idea to have  
9 that now on the table again. But let's note it was  
10 off for a while. Right?

11 Did we see huge increases in truck and  
12 rail transportation of crude oil out of Canada, when  
13 Keystone Xcel got denied? You know, you might not  
14 have looked at the data, but I have, and I can tell  
15 you we did not. Instead, what we saw over the two  
16 years that was politically contentious was five  
17 massive mining projects in Canada canceled, all of  
18 them citing no take-away pipeline capacity and  
19 changing oil economics. And so that oil, the  
20 dirtiest oil in the world, is staying in the ground,  
21 instead of coming here to fuel our cars. And I got  
22 to say we still have what we need to get by in  
23 Minnesota, in terms of our fuels. Right?

24 This is not like we're about to run  
25 out here in Minnesota, but we must begin

1 transitioning down and doing it gracefully. I like  
2 to think about it this way. Ever been on a high  
3 diving board at a pool? You have the choice -- if I  
4 had the choice of being on a high diving board, I  
5 had the choice about whether I wanted to leap off  
6 myself and take a graceful dive or have somebody  
7 push me off when I wasn't expecting it, I'd choose  
8 to dive. That's where we are on the climate issue  
9 here.

10 Let's be very clear about this. We  
11 must transition. It's not a question of whether we  
12 can or whether we can't, whether we will or we  
13 won't. We will and we must. Do we do it on our  
14 terms or do we do it on somebody else's terms?  
15 Right? That's what's at stake here.

16 The last thing I want to bring up is  
17 human error, because that is important. I would ask  
18 everybody to consider what a BP safety certification  
19 might mean, given what happened in 2010. And I want  
20 you to also think about Enbridge. In 2010 we had  
21 two major disasters. We had oil gushing into the  
22 Gulf of Mexico. A lot of us probably saw that  
23 video. Horrifying stuff. And they couldn't close  
24 it off.

25 Around that same time, the month of

1 July, we had the biggest tar sands oil spill in the  
2 country in Kalamazoo, Michigan. In that case that  
3 was user error. So just like how tankers can run  
4 aground because of user error, pipelines can. And  
5 for anybody who doesn't know, that pipeline gushed  
6 for 17 hours because the people in the control room  
7 thought it was an air bubble, tried to pop it by  
8 turning the pressure up, and did that for 17 hours.  
9 User error can happen here too.

10 And that's all I have for today.

11 Thank you.

12 FACILITATOR: Folks, hold your hands  
13 up that wanted to speak, just so I can keep track.  
14 Who else wanted to speak? Here. Here. I think  
15 there was someone over here well.

16 Okay. So we'll bring the mic. Eric  
17 is right here.

18 Just name and spelling.

19 MS. ANDREA HOLMES: My name's Andrea  
20 Holmes. I grew up in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

21 FACILITATOR: Andrea, could you just  
22 spell your last name?

23 MS. ANDREA HOLMES: Yep. Andrea,  
24 A-N-D-R-E-A. Holmes, H-O-L-M, as in Michael, E-S.  
25 I'm probably going to make one big point here



1       tonight; and for me that's the fact that, for the  
2       first time in my life, I'm a union worker. I work  
3       for the AFSCME Union, and that just began for me one  
4       year ago. I love unions. I'm a big fat booster.

5               That, however, does not mean -- just  
6       like when I say that I am a past president of  
7       American Legion Unit 255, it does not mean that I  
8       believe every single thing that the union or the  
9       legion or the auxiliary will tell me. And that's  
10      because we're not homogenous.

11             There are lots of us who love water in  
12      Minnesota, and we think about all these issues  
13      differently. There are lots of us who love unions  
14      in Minnesota and all over the country, and we think  
15      about these things differently. And just because  
16      you love union jobs and high pay for your neighbors  
17      does not mean that you have to go through this  
18      process without what wonderful and articulate people  
19      in this room have asked for you to; do, and that's  
20      to have a fair, equitable process for getting your  
21      information. And you cannot let anyone rush you,  
22      and you must make them stop and pay attention to  
23      every single one of your questions.

24             But I wanted you to know that I  
25      appreciate so much how well-thought all of you are

1 here tonight and your presence here. Thank you.

2 FACILITATOR: All right. Yes, in the  
3 back right there. Leslie, want to bring -- great.  
4 Thank you.

5 MS. CANDICE ESTEY: Hello, everybody.  
6 My name is Candice Estey. C-A-N-D-I-C-E.  
7 E-S-T-E-Y. I just want to thank everybody for  
8 coming tonight.

9 Much like the meetings here, each time  
10 I come to a meeting, I learn something new. And I  
11 may be here holding the youngest in the room. I'm  
12 speaking for my unborn child, as well as my two  
13 children I have at home, which I educate very much  
14 about the pipeline, about the spills, Dakota Access,  
15 et cetera.

16 I can tell you that my five year old  
17 knows that water and oil don't mix. And, you know,  
18 for this pipeline to -- you know, the certificate of  
19 need, do we need it? No.

20 I think that the existing pipeline,  
21 Enbridge should be held accountable to clean it up  
22 and take care of it. I agree with the comment that,  
23 you know, if they don't have the money to clean it  
24 up, then why put another line in?

25 It concerns me very much for our

1       pristine waters in Minnesota to be contaminated with  
2       oil, which eventually would happen. And to me that  
3       is very concerning, as well as, you know, my family.

4               So -- and I think we should honor,  
5       definitely, about the next seven generations. And,  
6       you know, we need to think about the future. And,  
7       you know, do my children really want to have dirty  
8       water? Absolutely not, you know, plain and simple.

9               I just wanted to keep it short and  
10       sweet, and I just have six words: The planet and  
11       people over profit.

12              FACILITATOR: Anybody else over here?  
13       I think there was a hand over here earlier. So  
14       Leslie will bring you the mic.

15              Just name and spelling. Thank you.

16              MR. HOLDEN HOLLISTER: Hello. I'm  
17       probably the least-informed person who will speak  
18       today. But I was speaking with --

19              FACILITATOR: Sorry. Just name and  
20       spelling.

21              MR. HOLDEN HOLLISTER: Oh, sorry.  
22       Sorry. Holden Hollister. H-O-L-D-E-N.  
23       H-O-L-L-I-S-T-E-R. And I was speaking with -- I  
24       know a couple engineers, and one of them floated the  
25       idea why not just build a tunnel around the

1 pipeline. I mean, it's what, like, 36 inches in  
2 diameter. It won't be much of a -- I don't know.  
3 Anybody's been on the subway, it's pretty simple  
4 technology.

5 We keep hearing people talk about all  
6 this research, more higher-tech pipelines, but we've  
7 got tunnels down. And -- okay. And then you could  
8 let engineers monitor the pipeline, maintain it as  
9 needed. You could run, you know -- you might not be  
10 able to do the entire pipeline, but you can probably  
11 do important waterways, wetlands, things like that.

12 And I just thought that was an  
13 interesting idea, and all I wanted to do was put it  
14 out there in the world. And if there are any  
15 engineers here who would like to weigh in on it, I'd  
16 like to hear from them.

17 So that's it.

18 FACILITATOR: Thank you, Holden.

19 Oh, there's a gentleman that wants to  
20 comment back here, so Eric will bring you the mic.  
21 Gentleman in the white shirt.

22 And name and spelling for the record.  
23 Thank you.

24 MR. PETER MANN: My name is Peter  
25 Mann, M-A-N-N. I am absolutely amazed at the number

1 of informed people and the quantity of people that  
2 are here tonight.

3 I did not come to speak. But having  
4 listened, I've decided that I do want a pipeline and  
5 I do want the union to build it. I want it to be  
6 where the present pipeline number 3 is.

7 And some gentleman spoke earlier, how  
8 is it that we require a defunct gas station to  
9 remove their storage tanks? I believe that's a  
10 state law. Some of you can help me. How can we not  
11 have a state law to remove a pipeline? And in so  
12 removing that pipeline, I assume the unions have  
13 expertise to do that.

14 MS. WENDY NIELSEN: Called mediation.

15 MR. PETER MANN: I'm sorry?

16 FACILITATOR: Please let him speak.

17 Go ahead, sir.

18 MS. WENDY NIELSEN: It's called  
19 remediation. We do it with all our projects. Make  
20 it look like nothing ever happened.

21 MR. PETER MANN: Okay. So where are  
22 we on considering a state law to remove pipelines,  
23 if indeed we have a state law on the books to remove  
24 gas station storage tanks? And doesn't this get  
25 back into the superfund, that at my age I remember?

1 I'm not sure who paid for the superfund. I think we  
2 all did. We all did.

3 So if we don't get to replace pipeline  
4 number 3, how about we require a superfund paid for  
5 by Enbridge called an S corp?

6 Thank you.

7 FACILITATOR: Thank you, sir.

8 So we're beginning to come to the end  
9 of the public comment. But if there's anyone else  
10 who does want to comment -- anybody who has not  
11 commented yet. And then if there's a quick comment  
12 anyone has, we'll go to that.

13 So anybody else who hasn't commented,  
14 final comment tonight? Yeah. Okay. We'll bring  
15 you the mic. Eric will come around, sir.

16 And, again, just name and spelling for  
17 the record, please.

18 MR. JESSE BLEICHNER: Hi, my name is  
19 Jesse Bleichner. J-E-S-S-E. B-L-E-I-C-H-N-E-R.

20 Just wanted to keep it real short and  
21 sweet. I'm also a union worker, local through  
22 Brainerd, Local 242. I'm an electrician. I know  
23 several big solar jobs going on, and just wanted to  
24 say something to the fact that I heard that a lot of  
25 these solar jobs aren't good jobs. I'm a union

1 worker. I can vouch for all my brothers and  
2 sisters. We get paid very well.

3 FACILITATOR: There's a comment right  
4 over here. And Leslie will bring you the mic.  
5 She's right behind you there.

6 Name and spelling for the record.  
7 Thank you.

8 MS. NATALIE BOYD: Thank you. My name  
9 is Natalie Boyd. N-A-T-A-L-I-E. B-O-Y-D.

10 And I just wanted to say something  
11 about the fact that we are going to drive away in  
12 our combustible fuel vehicles today. But I don't  
13 think it's fair to say that we don't think about  
14 where that comes from. I don't want anybody to say  
15 to me or tell me that I don't think about that,  
16 because I do every day, and it informs just about  
17 every decision that I make.

18 The fact that we do this, that we  
19 drive cars, it's not because, you know, it's  
20 something that we want to do; it's because we have a  
21 lack of alternatives. And we have a lack of  
22 alternatives not because the technology isn't there;  
23 the technology's definitely there and the innovation  
24 is there and science and everything. There's lots  
25 that people can do now to move past combustible

1 fuel.

2 I remember five, ten years ago my dad  
3 saying, I think combustible engines have gone about  
4 as far as they can go, which was probably true  
5 20 years ago. But the reason that we're still using  
6 these is because of the fossil fuel industry,  
7 because it is in their best interests to make us use  
8 them.

9 And the reason that construction jobs  
10 and pipefitters and whatever cannot make money in  
11 renewable energy jobs is because it's not in the  
12 best interests of the fossil industry to allow these  
13 new technologies and innovations the room to grow  
14 and become what they need to be. If these  
15 industries were allowed to become what they need to  
16 be, then those jobs would be there.

17 And, you know, corporate oil is in  
18 control of everything. And they're controlling how  
19 much these people get paid, and they're going to  
20 control how much we're not going to get paid and how  
21 technology moves forward and how renewable energy  
22 does or doesn't survive. And for someone to say  
23 that it is better for us to stick to something  
24 that's old, old technology, that's really just not  
25 even pertinent anymore. Because they're being paid



1 well for it portrays that they're making it an  
2 economic issue rather than an environmental one,  
3 which is what this is.

4 Everything about this EIS and these  
5 statements that are being made with information that  
6 is coming from Enbridge where we know the bottom  
7 line is about how much money they can make is  
8 suspect information.

9 And just know that, yeah, we are going  
10 to drive away in our cars and we're going to fill up  
11 at a gas station, but it's not because we want to.  
12 We know there are alternatives and that change has  
13 to happen. We do think about it, so please don't  
14 tell us that we don't.

15 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

16 You've not spoken before, I think. So  
17 why don't we bring the mic to you.

18 I see two hands who have spoken  
19 before. I'll try to get to you quickly before we  
20 close.

21 Just name and spelling.

22 MS. WENDY ULRICH: My name is Wendy  
23 Ulrich. W-E-N-D-Y. U-L-R-I-C-H. I live a little  
24 part time up here, part time down in the Twin  
25 Cities. I've been involved -- I'm sorry, I wasn't

1 planning on speaking tonight. I was going to  
2 plan -- preparing to speak at the hearing down in  
3 St. Paul. So I've just been actually writing some  
4 remarks here just in the last 15 minutes here. So  
5 it's not going to be real organized.

6 But I'm -- I'll speak on a couple of  
7 different things. But I'm -- because I've lived up  
8 here and worked up here in the resort industry, I  
9 understand how important these lakes are to all of  
10 us. Rivers, trails, clean air. This state is  
11 really reliant on tourism.

12 And, number one, I guess I -- I just  
13 am fearful for this environment being ruined. I was  
14 looking at this from an economic point right now.  
15 And that isn't my be-all and end-all point here, but  
16 we all like to talk about economics, so...

17 We have a culture here of loving our  
18 pristine lakes. These pipelines are going to go  
19 through some of those most pristine lakes, wild rice  
20 lakes, some of the most permeable soils in the  
21 state. In fact, I've read that the most favored  
22 route will go over two branches of the Pine River  
23 north of here, which people -- the Whitefish Chain,  
24 which is one of our biggest tourism areas of the  
25 state.

1           I -- like I said, my remarks aren't  
2       real well thought out and planned here. But there  
3       are people that say that, well, we're going to move  
4       the oil anyway, so we might as well just go ahead  
5       and let it be done; in other words, let's just go  
6       with the flow. Well, first of all, there is an  
7       oversupply of oil that's being stored right now. We  
8       don't really need this oil.

9           We -- sorry. We -- we need to make  
10      the transition, as Andy Pearson said. We need to  
11      start making a dramatic move towards transitioning  
12      to fossil -- to nonfossil fuel sources. I see  
13      Minnesota as being basically a conduit for the oil  
14      companies, letting them use our pristine properties  
15      here as a -- as an avenue for their pipelines. But  
16      I don't see that we benefit -- here again,  
17      economics -- very much. We get some property taxes,  
18      but I hear that they're even fighting the property  
19      taxes in one or two of the counties. And if they do  
20      get these property taxes back, through the payback,  
21      it's going to be a huge impact to those counties.  
22      And, I'm sorry, I can't recite which ones they are.

23           But the price of oil is down now. Why  
24      is that? It's because we have these reserves  
25      because there isn't a need for this oil. If we have

1 reserves and we want to make a transition, isn't  
2 this a good time to start cutting back on the amount  
3 of oil that we move? And especially this tar sands,  
4 which is -- requires more energy to process it.  
5 It's more dangerous for the environment. As other  
6 people said, they need to dilute it with chemicals  
7 that are harmful to the environment, to us, to be  
8 able to move it. And then when it -- when it leaks,  
9 these chemicals are -- evaporate into the air or we  
10 have them seeping down into these -- imagine them  
11 seeping down into the wetlands.

12 We drive from the Brainerd lakes area  
13 over to Brainerd once a year, so we go through all  
14 these wetland areas. I can't imagine oil leaking  
15 down into these. They look like no-man's land to a  
16 lot of people, but this is part of the Eco system.  
17 This cleans our water.

18 Regarding leaks to the system, most of  
19 the leaks are found by citizens I found out.  
20 There's a technology that Enbridge has to detect  
21 leaks, but it only goes down to 3 percent of the  
22 flow rate. So anything -- any smaller leak than  
23 that is not detected. But who detects it? Us.  
24 Isn't it terrible that we should have to be the ones  
25 who have to detect the leaks? And a pinhole-size

1 leak can leak 28 barrels a day. That's a lot. I  
2 mean, who's going to find that pinhole leak?

3 Okay. I'm coming up to my time.

4 Anyway, I want to say that we don't  
5 need to move this oil. We just need to make a  
6 dramatic stand and act for the future. We need to  
7 have clean, natural environment water here and a  
8 clean emotional environment for all of us, for the  
9 native people to honor their treaty rights.

10 We don't need to step on people  
11 anymore that we've made agreements with. We need to  
12 honor those rights. We need to honor all of us and  
13 keep this pristine cultural heritage that we have  
14 here in our clean areas of the state.

15 That's it. Thank you.

16 FACILITATOR: John here I think wanted  
17 to make a final remark. So we'll go to John. I  
18 think Chuck did over there. So then that will begin  
19 to wrap up.

20 So Eric's right behind you, John.  
21 And, again, just name and spelling for the record.

22 MR. JOHN MUNTER: John Munter.  
23 J-O-H-N. M-U-N-T-E-R. From Warba. And Iowa really  
24 has the only law in the nation, as far as I'm aware,  
25 that if there's a pipeline not being used for five

1 years, the pipeline owner can request the pipeline  
2 company to pull the pipe out.

3 In terms of our practical situation,  
4 the PUC is really the only last arbiter of pulling  
5 the pipe out. So we need your comments there to the  
6 PUC and the Department of Commerce to request them  
7 to remove the pipe because, you know, lobbying the  
8 state legislature may happen someday. We need to be  
9 able to get the legislation through, but this is  
10 really it.

11 I've been an activist, a climate  
12 activist, actually since 1984. So I was  
13 bird-dogging prejudicial candidates in the 1984  
14 caucuses. And so I've followed these issues closely  
15 for a long time. And I realize also that we're  
16 addicted to oil, and it's a big issue.

17 My view on the pipeline 3 is that we  
18 don't need a new one; we don't even need the old  
19 one. We need to transition down out of this. And  
20 part is an economic reason; follow the money. All  
21 the big oil companies are getting out of Canada, and  
22 they're selling off to smaller Canadian companies.  
23 And they see that there's no future \$8 barrel oil  
24 going on. So all the oil coming down from Canada is  
25 going to be sold for a loss to pay off debts and

1       abandoned investments. It's better than getting no  
2       money at all for them.

3                   And so we have a lot of production  
4       right now from the Saudis. We have a lot of  
5       production from the Permian down in Texas and  
6       Mexico. That's why we still have a glut of oil in  
7       this world. The Saudi oil should carry us through.

8                   There's a lot of intelligent observers  
9       who are saying the day for peak oil may be 2020  
10      even. Carbon tracker says that.

11                  Michael Seeley from Deutsche Bank,  
12      analyst, says 2024 will be the year for peak oils.  
13      So the Saudis and the Permian and probably -- you  
14      know, there will be more offshore oil, because of  
15      Trump. And so we have plenty of that stuff. We  
16      don't need carbon coming down from Canada that's  
17      21 percent more intensive than this other oil that  
18      we're currently using.

19                  So thanks.

20                  FACILITATOR: Leslie, do you want to  
21      hand Chuck there behind you?

22                  And, Chuck, spell your name one last  
23      time.

24                  This will be the last comment, as  
25      we're approaching 9. So if people could keep it to

1 a few minutes, I could get Chuck and this gentleman  
2 in on time.

3 Please keep it short, again.

4 MR. CHUCK DIESSNER: Chuck Diessner,  
5 D-I-E-S-S-N-E-R. I have one comments that I wasn't  
6 able to make earlier. A lot of people have made an  
7 excellent point about Enbridge cleaning up. Let me  
8 clarify something.

9 Enbridge is not liable, based on its  
10 organizational structure. Its organizational  
11 structure, you need a Ph.D. to understand. It goes  
12 down and down and down, and every layer is a  
13 separate limited liability organization of some  
14 sort. And when you get down to the owner of Line 3,  
15 it's not Enbridge. Enbridge is the parent that owns  
16 the subsidiary that has no liability.

17 So all of us should look at that very  
18 carefully. When we worked on Sandpiper, we talked  
19 about -- somebody mentioned a superfund. And I  
20 would ask that the EIS -- because the liability and  
21 the commitments by Enbridge relate to finances, that  
22 the EIS include an organizational chart so we can  
23 all see what we're buying into and an analysis of  
24 the extent to which the ownership of Line 3 is  
25 liable and the extent to which anybody else is



1       liable. I think you'll find that the only thing you  
2       can look at is the balance sheet of the limited  
3       liability organization that owns the pipeline.

4               Thank you.

5               FACILITATOR: Name and spelling for  
6       the record.

7               MR. TOM WATSON: Tom Watson.  
8       W-A-T-S-O-N. President of the Whitefish Property  
9       Owners.

10              I wanted to conclude with a couple of  
11       comments that I didn't get time to do before, and  
12       ties into this lady's comments back there before.

13              Traveling tourism in the four counties  
14       that is part of this new corridor, from Park Rapids  
15       to Lincoln County, including Cass and Crow Wing, is  
16       basically a \$750 million, \$800 million industry per  
17       year; employs about 28,000 people, about two-thirds  
18       of whom are directly in related industries.

19              A lot of cases everybody assumes  
20       that's the bartender and the server at the bar are  
21       making, you know, \$9.67 an hour. The truth of the  
22       matter is the biggest occupation as a result of that  
23       are people who are second homeowners who are hiring  
24       builders and remodelers and home improvement and  
25       people making and selling new electric systems and

1 new heating systems, et cetera. It's not buying  
2 booze at the grocery store -- I mean, at the bar and  
3 milk at the grocery store, although that's a major  
4 piece of it. That industry in those four counties  
5 is only exceeded by Hennepin and Ramsey County.  
6 Only exceeded by Hennepin and Ramsey County.

7 Number two, I have taken a look at  
8 what is the impact on property values. I know it's  
9 getting late, or is it early?

10 FACILITATOR: Early. The rooster is  
11 crowing.

12 MR. TOM WATSON: I have taken a look,  
13 for those that care, what's happening to Mille Lacs  
14 in terms of property values, what's happening to  
15 properties around Mille Lacs as a result of all the  
16 fishing problems, all the nonnative AIS issues we've  
17 got on Mille Lacs. I can tell you exactly. And I'm  
18 going to be looking at part of Aitkin County next.

19 In the four tax districts on the south  
20 end of Mille Lacs, that is Isle, Wahkon, South  
21 Shore, East Shore, and Kathio, property values from  
22 two years ago, taxes paid in '15 and valued in '15  
23 paid in '16 dropped \$29 million in those six  
24 districts. \$29 million.

25 Now, what does that mean? It means

1       that when people are buying and selling properties,  
2       they're selling them for a lot less than they  
3       probably paid for them. And in many cases, if  
4       they've got mortgages or otherwise, they may be  
5       under water on those mortgages.

6               In terms of how the state tax system  
7       works, I want the Department of Commerce to put in  
8       two things into their study that's not in there. I  
9       want to know the negative impact of putting a  
10      pipeline through this area. Spills are going to  
11      occur. I told you that before. 1.6 a week on the  
12      Enbridge system. That includes the Lakewood system,  
13      which they purchased.

14             I also want you to know that SA-04,  
15      which is the alternative the Friends of Headwaters  
16      proposed, if you're looking for jobs, more of them,  
17      SA-04 is your candidate. There's more miles in  
18      Minnesota. There's more miles in Minnesota. The  
19      only reason they want to do the preferred route is  
20      because it's the shortest route; it's got the least  
21      capital investment for Enbridge. It's called  
22      profits.

23             But I want them to analyze those  
24      spills. I want to look at the impact of property.  
25      And the other one that I want Commerce to take a

1 look at in this area in Minnesota, because it's  
2 significant, the economic impact of the value of  
3 second homeowners. But the research says -- and I  
4 can show you the University of Minnesota piece of  
5 work -- is second homeowners pay -- in the eight  
6 districts that are in the Pine River Watershed,  
7 which includes Breezy Point and the Lake Fish Chain,  
8 42 percent of the property that's seasonal rec is in  
9 those districts. And in those six districts -- or  
10 eight districts, that represents about 60 percent of  
11 the property values upon which taxes are paid.  
12 These are people that don't get to vote there. In  
13 other words, they're second homeowners. It's a  
14 significant industry.

15 And what happens is those people sell  
16 their homes in the Twin Cities, they move up here,  
17 they live here. And what comes with that?  
18 Healthcare, more senior housing, more need for  
19 services of a highly-professional, well-paid  
20 industry.

21 There's nothing in this DEIS talking  
22 about the second homeowner industry. There's  
23 nothing in there talking about the negative impact.  
24 I suspect Kalamazoo, Michigan, if I knew the county  
25 and could figure it out, I could probably find some

1 decreased values there as well.

2 Thank you.

3 FACILITATOR: So just a reminder that  
4 the end of the comment period is July 10th. So you  
5 need to get your comments in after tonight by  
6 July 10th, email, writing. In your booklet there's  
7 information about how to do that.

8 Thank you for your comments, for  
9 listening to each other. Appreciate your time and  
10 evening. Have safe travels home tonight.

11 Good night.

12 (Meeting concluded.)  
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