

DEIS MEETINGS - 14-916 15-137

WADENA - JUNE 9, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

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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Wadena, Minnesota

I N D E X

	SPEAKER	PAGE
3	JOHN WACHTER	4
4	LEOFWIN LINDBLOM	13
5	JUDY CARPENTER	14
6	KAREN HELLER	16
7	STEVE ROE	18
8	ALLEN RICHARDSON	21
9	ANDY PEARSON	24
10	NICOLETTE SLAGLE	29
11	LAURA COLON	35

1 FACILITATOR: Good afternoon,
2 everybody. Please come down to the tables.
3 We'd like to get started with the public
4 comment period. So if everybody wants to
5 gather here in the next minute or so, we will
6 get started.

7 We're going to start the public
8 comment period in about a minute. If you
9 folks want to come take a seat at the table,
10 we'll get started soon.

11 Good morning, everybody. Thank
12 you so much for coming out on such a beautiful
13 day. The good news is we're air conditioned
14 inside here.

15 My name is Patrick Field. I'm
16 the facilitator for today's public comment
17 session, and I'm part of the consultant team
18 working on behalf of the State of Minnesota.

19 What we want to do is we have a
20 very short slide show, just a few slides, to
21 kind of set the stage, and then we're going to
22 open it to public comment.

23 So first I want John Wachter --
24 he's the manager of Environmental Review for
25 the Department of Commerce from the State of

1 Minnesota. He's going to give us a short
2 welcome and introduce us to the process and
3 where we're at. I'm going to hand the mic to
4 him. I know the acoustics are a little
5 tricky, so we'll do our best here.

6 MR. JOHN WACHTER: I'm going to
7 do about a two-minute overview of what we're
8 doing here today and then I'm going to turn it
9 back over to Patrick.

10 The reason we're here is because
11 Enbridge applied for -- I'm going to talk
12 louder. All right. This is really awkward,
13 but this is what I'm supposed to do.

14 So Enbridge has applied for two
15 permits from the Public Utilities Commission.

16 The first one is the certificate
17 of need. The second one is a route permit.
18 The first one is a determination of whether
19 the project is needed at all. That's a yes or
20 no, more or less. They can put conditions on
21 it, but more or less, a yes or no.

22 The second one, if it's needed
23 and the Commission makes a decision that it is
24 needed, then where should it go. That's the
25 two decisions with the two permits that

1 Enbridge has applied for from the Public
2 Utilities Commission.

3 Before the Commission can make a
4 decision on either of those permits, they have
5 to do, they have to do an Environmental Impact
6 Statement on the project, where we try to look
7 at the environmental impacts of the proposal,
8 of the potential alternatives, whatever
9 mitigation, whatever things could be done to
10 reduce the impact of the project, and that's
11 where we are now in the process.

12 Before the Commission can make
13 the decision, we're doing the Environmental
14 Impact Statement. The Environmental Impact
15 Statement covers both decisions in one
16 project. So it's a little bit complicated
17 because of that reason.

18 We've got -- part of the EIS
19 covers the alternatives that are going to be
20 looked at in the Certificate of Need process,
21 and part of it looks at the alternatives that
22 are on the route permit decision process.

23 So the process, as it goes
24 through, the application comes in. We have to
25 do -- the Public Utilities Commission

1 delegated the EIS to the Department of
2 Commerce.

3 We're working closely with the
4 Pollution Control Agency and the Department of
5 Natural Resources on the EIS.

6 Once that's done -- we're in the
7 draft EIS stage right now. That's what we're
8 talking about today. We've got a draft EIS
9 out. We're looking for input on the draft
10 EIS, and I'm going to talk about that in a
11 little bit more detail in a minute.

12 Once the draft EIS comment
13 period is over on July 10th, we'll go back,
14 make the changes that we think are needed to
15 the document, and then we'll release it as a
16 final EIS.

17 And then after that, there's a
18 formal contested case hearing that's conducted
19 by an administrative law judge, who will do a
20 formal hearing with more public comment.

21 There's another chance for
22 public comment during the hearing process.
23 And then that's going to be this fall.

24 The hearing process will be
25 starting this fall, and then after that the

1 judge will make a recommendation on both
2 permits for the Public Utilities Commission
3 for their final decision.

4 We expect that decision to be
5 sometime in the spring of 2018.

6 So the one thing I forgot, the
7 chances, the opportunities for public comment
8 are now. It happened during the scoping
9 process, now during the draft EIS process.

10 When the final EIS comes out,
11 there's a two-week comment on whether we did a
12 good job of adequately capturing the
13 information the Commission needs to make their
14 decisions.

15 During the hearing process the
16 administrative law judge will also allow
17 comment. This process is all about do we have
18 the information right.

19 The EIS process is not -- we're
20 not here to make any decisions today. The EIS
21 doesn't say anything about what should be
22 done. We're just trying to make sure we've
23 got the information the Commission needs to
24 make their decision right.

25 But the hearing process that

1 comes this fall will be about what's the best
2 thing to do.

3 So if you want to make arguments
4 about what the decision should be, it's really
5 more at the hearing.

6 Today's more about do we have
7 the information right.

8 So there's lots of different
9 ways to make comments on the Draft EIS. You
10 can make them -- you can do them verbally
11 today and Patrick's going to facilitate an
12 open mic verbal comment period in a minute
13 here. You can give your comments.

14 If you'd rather not -- a lot of
15 people don't particularly enjoy public
16 speaking. If you want to give your comment to
17 a court reporter, there's a court reporter
18 outside the door that can take it privately,
19 if you want to do that.

20 There's comment forms throughout
21 the room here that you can fill out. You can
22 always, of course, email, mail, and use our
23 online tool to submit comments through
24 July 10th. You know, we're looking --
25 formally, we're looking for comments on the

1 EIS.

2 For most people it's pretty
3 tough to read a 3,000-page document and have a
4 lot of comments on it. So if there's things
5 that you -- if you haven't had a chance to
6 study it -- if there are things that you think
7 are important to you that you want to make
8 sure that we know about, that's certainly
9 something we can talk about, too, today.

10 I'm going to turn it back to
11 Patrick.

12 FACILITATOR: So I see the room
13 is actually shifting this way so I'll come
14 through over here.

15 I'm just going to walk through
16 the process for the comments. As John said,
17 we have a court reporter. If you want to give
18 your individual comments, she's happy to take
19 your comment and it'll go right into the
20 record to the full public.

21 Written comments go in the boxes
22 there and I'll be submitting that after today.

23 So for today, the way that we
24 have generally handled public comments is we
25 ask for people to put their name in the

1 speaker registration. I've got about five or
2 six cards.

3 We allocate the time we have
4 across that. So people can probably speak up
5 to six or seven minutes. I'll show you a
6 clock in just a second. We do ask people, as
7 best they can, to direct their comments
8 towards the draft EIS; things you like, things
9 you don't like, things you think are missing
10 or that should be improved.

11 We ask that people be respectful
12 of the speaker. Anybody that wants to speak,
13 we want to make sure they have a voice and
14 they are listened to.

15 So when the commenter is
16 speaking, if folks could listen, that would be
17 most appreciated.

18 If people want to be affirmative
19 about a speaker, that's fine. We ask people
20 to not be negative about a comment. We may
21 not agree, but that's okay. You probably
22 don't.

23 But it's important that we allow
24 everyone to give their opinion and have
25 respect, whatever it may be.

1 We do ask that people direct
2 their comments at the the EIS, at the issues,
3 at organizations, agencies, et cetera, but not
4 at individuals.

5 We want everyone in the room to
6 feel comfortable, so we prefer you not direct
7 comments to specific individuals in the room
8 but really to the issues at hand.

9 The State Agency's role for this
10 comment period is to listen. So as you know,
11 there are folks sitting in chairs now at the
12 poster board sessions. People are here to
13 listen.

14 Raise your hands, folks, to see
15 who's in the room.

16 And we've got a terrific court
17 reporter who's going to capture your every
18 word that's going into the record.

19 After July 10th, the transcripts
20 of these comments will be available online for
21 all of you. And of course, they go through
22 the process of the state as they analyze and
23 move forward from the draft to the final EIS.

24 Take your cell phones, put them
25 on do not disturb, vibrate, whatever it is,

1 just so don't hear your lovely ring right in
2 the middle of the meeting.

3 And I don't think we'll have any
4 problems finishing on time.

5 With that, I'm going to read off
6 the names, and be mindful of the basic ground
7 rules.

8 Andrew is going to pull up a
9 clock, a small timer, and you can see how
10 you're doing. It's a little smaller crowd, we
11 can go a little longer, somewhere around six
12 and a half minutes.

13 If you're still talking, I'll
14 stand up. That'll be the signal to begin your
15 wrap-up, to try to encourage you to finish up.

16 The acoustics are not perfect so
17 if we can't hear you, we'll let you know.

18 Leslie, right there, is going to help run the
19 mic for us. We'll bring the mic to you so
20 you're comfortable. You can stand or sit as
21 you comment, no problem. We'll bring the mic
22 to you.

23 State your name and spell it for
24 the court reporter, if you could. And
25 sometimes when I pronounce names, I pronounce

1 them terribly, so you can correct me, as you
2 will say your name better than I can.

3 So the first commenter, state
4 your name and spell it for the record, sir.

5 MR. LEOFWIN LINDBLOM:

6 L-E-O-F-W-I-N L-I-N-D-B-L-O-M.

7 I have a background in chemical
8 engineering, and I was responsible for the
9 International Falls treatment system some years
10 ago.

11 I am concerned about petroleum
12 getting into swamp lands, wetlands, and
13 ultimately getting into aquifers.

14 Once the petroleum gets into an
15 aquifer, it's there forever. And from the
16 spill it can move many miles in the aquifer,
17 and the only way to handle the taste and odor
18 of petroleum in the aquifer is activated
19 carbon. And very few units, treatment units,
20 have activated carbon systems involved. And if
21 they had to install activated carbon, it would
22 be a long delay.

23 One way to avoid a spill getting
24 into a wetland would be double containment.
25 And OSHA is working on getting double

1 containment in all the chemical plant systems.

2 And double containment would
3 double the cost of the pipeline and give a
4 double cost of petroleum for a pipeline
5 regardless of just the material cost.

6 And self containment would be an
7 additional cost for the instrumentation to
8 determine if a leak occurred.

9 FACILITATOR: Thank you, sir.
10 Appreciate it.

11 I'll speak into this one. We
12 have Judy Carpenter. We'll bring the mic
13 right to you, and state your name and spelling
14 for the record.

15 MS. JUDY CARPENTER: J-U-D-Y,
16 last name, C-A-R-P-E-N-T-E-R.

17 I'm speaking on behalf of the
18 Ottertail County and (indiscernible) group, a
19 pro clean energy advocacy group.

20 My concern regarding the Draft
21 Environmental Impact Statement for the
22 proposed expansion and reroute of the Line 3
23 pipeline is that it fails to establish a need
24 for the proposed project as well as account
25 for numerous risks this project possesses to

1 the environments in Minnesota.

2 The DEIS fails to adequately
3 account for the climate impacts of extracting
4 and burning an additional 400,000 barrels per
5 day of tar sand.

6 A recent National Academy of
7 Sciences report found that cleaning up a tar
8 sand spill in a waterway is much more difficult
9 and up to 14.5 times more expensive than
10 cleaning up a non-tar sand oil spill.

11 Enbridge has a history of spills
12 and greater scrutiny is needed for spill
13 cleanup. Permanent damage to waterways impact
14 Minnesota's economy and is a threat to the
15 Ojibwe wild rice rights.

16 I reviewed the applicant's
17 preferred route map online and three of the
18 route alternatives that they have online. I've
19 also looked at the ones on the posters today.

20 Many of these routes would cross
21 and jeopardize Minnesota's irreplaceable water
22 sheds and waterways.

23 The Canadian company Enbridge
24 should create a route to transport the oil
25 sludge across Canada. Minnesota should be

1 focused on growing our economy by developing
2 clean energy and renewable resources.

3 I urge the Minnesota Department
4 of Commerce to reject all pipeline construction
5 in Minnesota.

6 FACILITATOR: Karen Heller. Name
7 and spelling for the record.

8 MS. KAREN HELLER: K-A-R-E-N,
9 H-E-L-L-E-R.

10 Has anyone seen the map that
11 shows where the proposed new Enbridge pipeline
12 would cross Wadena County? I tried to get one
13 at the zoning office on Wednesday, but they
14 didn't have one.

15 But there is one over on the
16 table here, and it shows you that it does go
17 through Wadena County right near Huntersville.
18 I live on the Koch pipeline that already goes
19 through Wadena County. It has four lines
20 there.

21 Enbridge has six already going
22 through up north.

23 For the last 48 years we have
24 been very happy with the company that takes
25 care of it. They go out of their way to treat

1 the landowners right. They check and repair
2 potential weak spots every year. But you don't
3 get that with Enbridge Energy. They have one
4 of the worst records for environmental
5 degradation in the business.

6 They care very little for the
7 people affected by their hasty workmanship
8 resulting in destruction of property, bullying
9 attitudes, and disregard for cultural values.

10 Also, there's some manipulative
11 tactics such as trying to avoid Line 3 by just
12 abandoning it and moving to a new clean place.

13 The only environmental issue
14 Enbridge is worried about is the business
15 climate through the project area.

16 So what is a Certificate of Need?
17 Do we in Wadena County need their business?

18 No. We need them to stay out of
19 our wilderness, camping areas, lakes, rivers,
20 and quality groundwater reserves.

21 And what is the route permit?
22 Enbridge should be mandated to clean up the
23 existing Line 3 before getting anymore permits
24 to pollute.

25 And in conclusion, all the data

1 and paperwork in the world cannot clean up a
2 spill of toxic tar sand slurry from a pristine
3 wetland.

4 FACILITATOR: Thank you, Karen.

5 I have Steve Roe.

6 MR. STEVE ROE: My name is Steve
7 Roe. S-T-E-V-E, last name R-O-E.

8 I'm here on behalf of the Pine
9 River Watershed Alliance today. I live on the
10 Whitefish chain of lakes. And I am probably
11 ten miles south of the proposed route.

12 The route north of me crosses
13 very sensitive flow leak areas. There are no
14 less than 13 creeks, rivers, streams, flowages
15 that flow from the pipeline route into the
16 Pine River through the Whitefish chain of
17 lakes.

18 I am a professional engineer,
19 educated at the University of Minnesota. I'm
20 civil. I learned about hydraulics, hydrology,
21 and pipe stress while I was in school, which
22 it was kind of interesting to resurrect some
23 of that education.

24 I will say, and I will make a
25 claim, that the pipe that they intend to use

1 is an inadequate design for the pressures that
2 they intend to run in.

3 It's somewhere over twice --
4 they're running the pressure at over twice
5 what it probably should be.

6 When you read about the
7 failures, the incidents, the stress cracks,
8 and so forth, and they don't repair them, the
9 stress cracks represent structural failure of
10 the pipe.

11 I'm sorry, but I really get
12 upset when I think about what we might do to
13 ourselves.

14 All spills occur along the
15 pipeline and the frequency is alarming.

16 Many of them occur in the pump
17 stations, but somewhere along the line, every
18 15 to 30 miles, there is a spill every year.
19 You can prove that by going in and looking at
20 the PHMSA reports.

21 We develop tremendous safety
22 protocol around pipelines because spills and
23 ruptures have become the norm.

24 Why do we accept that? We can
25 run these pipes at probably half or less of

1 pressure and have a much better outcome.

2 I believe that in most cases in
3 the state of Minnesota, public buildings,
4 public structures, structures that occur in
5 the public domain are required to have a
6 Minnesota registered professional engineer
7 sign off on them.

8 Why is that not true with this
9 pipe?

10 By the way, those engineers
11 should not be either retained or employed by
12 the pipe owner.

13 Good judgment -- everyone says
14 to me, well, it's designed according to the
15 federal specification. One thing in the
16 federal spec that is implied is good judgment.
17 And I think that this product should be
18 installed with good judgment.

19 The other issue is that they're
20 going to run it in the proximity of a high
21 voltage power line. The induced current in
22 this pipe could be life threatening to the
23 people that are maintaining the line.

24 I have already witnessed a dairy
25 farmer put out of business by stray voltage

1 because of the pipelines and transmission
2 lines which changed a product, i.e.,
3 electricity.

4 I thank you all for listening,
5 and I'll talk to you another time.

6 FACILITATOR: Thank you, Steve.

7 And Allen Richardson next.

8 Allen, name and spelling for the record.

9 MR. ALLEN RICHARDSON: Good
10 morning. My name is Allen Richardson,
11 A-L-L-E-N, R-I-C-H-A-R-D-S-O-N.

12 I'm here to speak on the issue
13 of pipeline abandonment as regards to the
14 overall political scenario that we find
15 ourselves in.

16 You know, there's a lot of
17 common ground to be had on this particular
18 question, and I've delivered these remarks
19 several times over the course of the week.

20 And I'm gratified to the Duluth
21 Tribune for having a nice article in today's
22 paper on that topic.

23 What it boils down to is that
24 there are many landowners in Minnesota who
25 have graciously hosted Enbridge pipeline for

1 decades, and many of them are saying that if
2 Enbridge Line 3 is to be decommissioned, that
3 Enbridge should be liable for removing,
4 physically removing that pipeline.

5 And so that's really the central
6 question. What we're advocating for is
7 landowner choice, and so basically in a
8 situation where the soil conditions and the
9 ground conditions are appropriate.

10 If it's physically and
11 scientifically possible to remove a piece of
12 abandoned pipeline, then it should be up to
13 the landowner, individual, private property
14 owner or state county tribal land, that they
15 should be able to have that pipeline
16 physically removed at Enbridge's expense.

17 Pretty straightforward to ask.
18 I think it speaks to Minnesotan common sense.
19 And you know, we know that there are a lot of
20 union jobs to be had out there doing that
21 work. Certainly we agree that that is the
22 community that is most qualified to do that
23 work with those pipelines.

24 I will say that I don't think
25 the DEIS has done this process any favors by

1 sort of issuing this blanket statement that in
2 general the pipelines are ten to fifteen feet
3 apart.

4 Mr. John Munter of Warba took it
5 upon himself to measure the distances between
6 those pipelines in the proximity of what we
7 know to Grand Rapids on publicly named
8 thoroughfares and found on average there's
9 30 feet of space between lines 3 and 4.

10 So from what we're hearing, I
11 think we're seeing, in this question, the
12 profile of this particular part of this public
13 debate is only -- is only going up, which is
14 to say we heard a lot of support for the idea
15 of this question of what to do about abandoned
16 pipeline to be conclusively resolved before
17 any permitting takes place.

18 So you know, we're going to need
19 some more scientific data on the proximity of
20 these pipelines to each other. What is
21 actually technologically possible, based on
22 the best science that is available?

23 And so we're asking for the
24 support of the general public and we're hoping
25 that PUC and related entities will provide a

1 substantial amount of additional data on this
2 question.

3 And that's it. Thanks for your
4 time.

5 FACILITATOR: Thank you, John.
6 Those are the cards I had. We want to make
7 sure if there are others who want to speak,
8 that this is the time to do so. So if there
9 are others who would like to make a public
10 comment, just raise your hand and I'll call you
11 forward -- name and spelling of your name as
12 well.

13 MR. ANDY PEARSON: Thank you --
14 hello. My name is Andy Pearson, A-N-D-Y,
15 P-E-A-R-S-O-N.

16 Thanks for the chance to comment.
17 So I have two points today that I want to make.
18 One is the technical and one is a little less
19 so.

20 To start with the technical one,
21 one of the things that I really appreciate
22 about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
23 is the climate modeling section where it does
24 calculate out the social cost of carbon as
25 being \$50 something billion and \$287 billion,

1 depending on the displacement of oil in the
2 pipeline, as in how much oil this pipeline
3 offsets that's currently being transported now
4 by other means.

5 I will say, and I've said this
6 before, that the 30-year time horizon is short
7 and that it needs to be at least 60 years,
8 because there's strong precedent in Minnesota
9 for Enbridge operating that line. So I believe
10 the numbers are understated right now.

11 But the second point about that,
12 is that in addition to changing the timeline, I
13 would encourage the Department of Commerce to
14 explore modeling with partial displacement,
15 because I believe that that is what the
16 Enbridge company is actually proposing here;
17 unless I am confused.

18 It appears that Enbridge is
19 proposing to stop the operation of the current
20 Line 3 and to begin a new pipeline, which
21 would, in theory, carry some amount of the oil
22 that's currently going on Line 3; essentially
23 what Line 3 is carrying now plus an additional
24 370,000 barrels per day of primarily heavy
25 crude.

1 And I didn't see that addressed
2 in the climate section. I saw only no
3 displacement or full displacement, when it
4 appears the company's been, in fact, proposing
5 from the beginning partial displacement.

6 So I would encourage a partial
7 displacement model in the climate section and
8 for it to be modeled on a 60-year social cost
9 of carbon, again, given precedent in Minnesota.
10 So that's a technical comment.

11 The less technical one is I had a
12 wonderful conversation earlier today with one
13 of the state employees here and we talked about
14 public process, because this is really cool
15 what we're doing here.

16 It's really cool that the State
17 has said, "We will be open and we will listen
18 and we will make a commitment to have 22
19 meetings and to hear voices."

20 I know that it's tough to sit up
21 there or stand up there and essentially hear
22 your work criticized, and I want to say that I
23 think all the speakers share a belief that good
24 process can lead to good outcomes and good
25 science. So that's where this is coming from.

1 Now, the thing that came out of
2 this conversation this morning, I want to say
3 to everybody in the room, including all the
4 state employees, is I think maybe in some
5 people's minds it's a little bit of a lack of
6 understanding of the importance of this
7 particular decision.

8 Because what I heard was that,
9 hey, it feels great. We're in kind of a new
10 moment here with a lot of groups coming out and
11 participating. We're seeing a lot of young
12 people at many of these meetings.

13 We're seeing a lot of indigenous
14 people really committing their time to this
15 process. And what I heard this morning was
16 that that would probably continue and it's
17 really cool to see this kind of future we're
18 heading into where people feel they have a
19 voice in government this way.

20 But what I want to say is that
21 that isn't automatic, and I am more sure of
22 this than I am sure of virtually anything.

23 The outcome of the decision on
24 this project is what is going to determine the
25 way that the State interacts on environmental

1 issues with young people and indigenous people
2 for the next 50 years.

3 If we go through this process
4 with all this openness and positive discussion,
5 good science and the project is built anyway,
6 that will absolutely shut that off. That will
7 shut that off.

8 You do not get to make that
9 decision and then keep the collaboration going
10 forward, because it will have been a slap in
11 the face to the hundreds and hundreds of people
12 who have come out, voiced their opinion, been
13 heard or felt like they were heard in that way.

14 This is thus extending a hand in
15 cooperation and goodwill times 22. You're in a
16 lot of meetings. But it is not going to be
17 there forever and it is especially not
18 something that can be kept automatically,
19 regardless of the decision made on this
20 project.

21 It is dependent on an outcome
22 that's based in the science and on a strong
23 environmental impact statement being the end
24 result here.

25 And I would encourage everybody

1 to just realize the gravity of the decision
2 that's upon us and how it's going to impact the
3 way that so many constituencies interact with
4 the State of Minnesota for decades to come and
5 how they feel. Thank you.

6 FACILITATOR: Are there others
7 who would like to make a public comment to the
8 group at this time? Again, there's also the
9 written form and a court reporter out in the
10 hallway at this time. Anybody else at this
11 time?

12 Name and spelling for the
13 record.

14 MS. NICOLETTE SLAGLE: Hi, I'm
15 Nicolette Slagle, N-I-C-O-L-E-T-T-E
16 S-L-A-G-L-E. And I just kind of wanted to
17 support a little bit of what Allen was saying,
18 and bring up this issue again of the
19 abandonment and the cost estimates that
20 Enbridge has in there.

21 For anybody in this room who
22 hasn't read through the abandonment section,
23 it's actually quite short, which is pretty
24 disturbing, because we know that this is not
25 their only line here.

1 And so if they do get to kind of
2 just decommission it, abandon it, and leave it
3 in place, their estimated costs for the
4 removal of that pipeline is \$120 billion.

5 So if Enbridge is not required to
6 pay that, who is going to pay that?

7 Because the tribes are not going
8 to want those pipelines left on their land, and
9 I'm sure there are some homeowners that aren't
10 going to want the pipelines left on their land
11 or the contamination left in their soil.

12 If Enbridge is not required to
13 pay for this, who is?

14 That's only their first pipeline.
15 Let's think about the fact that they want to
16 build this whole new corridor and put in a new
17 pipeline that they're estimating will have a
18 lifetime of 30 years.

19 I'm going to have to disagree
20 with Andy and I think Thane also, but Thane's
21 not here anyway. I don't think that we should
22 think that they're going to use that pipeline
23 for 60 years when they say they're going to use
24 it for 30.

25 What that says to me is they know

1 they're not going to have oil to put through
2 the pipeline for more than 30 years. And if
3 they're saying 30 years, it's probably actually
4 20.

5 We know the oil industry is being
6 divested from on a massive scale. Numerous
7 international corporations have pulled out of
8 the tar sands. The Saudi government is even
9 looking to what is next after the oil industry.

10 So if we have these two major
11 producers looking at the end of the oil
12 industry, we have to think about are we going
13 to allow this company to get their final last
14 gasp out of the oil industry, or are we going
15 to say no, and we want to keep our lakes and
16 areas clean and want them to clean up the mess.

17 And we don't want them to leave
18 us with six pipelines that somebody else is
19 going to have to pay for.

20 I also want to talk a little bit
21 about the integrity of Line 3 and just the
22 integrity in general.

23 Back in March or April, I don't
24 really remember what it was, but Enbridge had
25 submitted a whole bunch of testimony on Line 3.

1 And one of it was the testimony about the
2 integrity of Line 3. And it's pretty shocking
3 how bad that pipeline is and that's for a
4 number of reasons.

5 The manufacturing process that
6 they use to make this pipeline is -- it's --
7 basically what they did is took a flat sheet of
8 steel and rolled it, and then that seam, that
9 longitudinal seam is prone to cracking. So
10 there's a lot of those issues.

11 There's a lot of issues from the
12 wrapping that they put around it, disbonding
13 from the surface, which means the cathodic
14 protection can't actually protect the pipeline.

15 And so they say that, "Oh, you
16 know, we're going to maintain it forever." We
17 already know they have to do so many integrity
18 digs per year, like 600 or something.

19 And they're projecting that
20 they're going to have to do that into the
21 future.

22 So now, if they're stepping away
23 from that and saying, "Well, we're going to
24 maintain it," but they're not going to be going
25 in there -- you know, if an area of the

1 pipeline does subside, are they going to go in
2 there and fix that now? Or are they just going
3 to maintain the cathodic protection that isn't
4 even connected to the pipeline anymore?

5 Also, in that testimony about the
6 integrity, there's this very interesting
7 comment that states that, "Since 2003, Enbridge
8 themselves have had an internal review
9 committee about the need to replace this
10 pipeline."

11 I think it was 2003, or maybe it
12 was -- I think it was 2003 that the MPCA wrote
13 a letter to PHMSA about this pipeline and all
14 of the failures that they've had on it.

15 So they've known for that long
16 that this pipeline needs to be replaced. But
17 what they did is they waited and they drug
18 their feet and decided to just commit to
19 integrity digs until the cost of replacing the
20 pipeline in place, building a whole new
21 pipeline in the corridor were equal.

22 So they didn't want to do
23 anything until they could get a whole new
24 pipeline, because that's how they make profits
25 for their shareholders -- is making new

1 projects.

2 Which is why they're pushing so
3 hard for this one. Because Al Monaco himself,
4 the CEO of Enbridge, stated that Enbridge is
5 going to be transitioning out of fossil fuels
6 and that if all of the three major pipeline
7 project proposals that are on the table right
8 now get approved, there will be too much oil.
9 There will be more pipeline capacity than oil
10 coming out of the tar sand.

11 We know the tar sand production
12 numbers are not going to increase. If you go
13 to the Alberta provinces, big projects in
14 Alberta website, and you look through there,
15 all of these projects that the tar sand
16 industry has been projecting that are going to
17 come online, if you actually dig into those
18 projects, most of them are idled or stalled,
19 where people are divesting from those projects.

20 So why are we going to let
21 Enbridge come in here, put in a whole new
22 pipeline that then they're going to abandon in
23 30 years and then we're going to have the
24 existing corridor that they're abandoning, the
25 new corridor that they're abandoning, for a

1 project that's -- what did they say,
2 \$2.8 billion?

3 Well, do a \$120 billion project,
4 and clean up their mess and shift out of the
5 oil industry now, not in 30 years, and scrape
6 every last dollar out of there you possibly
7 can.

8 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

9 Anyone else who wants to make a
10 public comment for the full group?

11 MS. LAURA COLON: Hi, I'm Laura
12 Colon. That's L-A-U-R-A C-O-L-O-N.

13 I'm just a private citizen, but
14 I also am a member of (indiscernible), and I
15 didn't have as much information as I wanted
16 coming into this meeting, except for my
17 visceral reaction looking at the project and
18 the maps and the routes.

19 And knowing what I know from
20 doing my own personal research about energy
21 and that it seems pretty plain to me, touching
22 what the last speaker spoke on, that the
23 newest technology in energy is not fossil
24 fuels, it's not oil.

25 We need to move on to other

1 things, because we know that's a finite
2 resource.

3 Just my own general layperson
4 reaction looking at this project, it doesn't
5 make sense to put so much money into older
6 technology. Why are we not putting money into
7 the new renewable technology, especially for a
8 country like America?

9 We want to be leaders. We need
10 to lead with energy. We need to move away
11 from fossil fuels. Thank you.

12 FACILITATOR: Anyone else who
13 wants to make their comment for the group?

14 So again, there are written
15 comment forms if you want to take some time to
16 write afterwards.

17 The court reporter can take a
18 verbal comment, if you want to give it
19 individually. State folks will stick around
20 and we can continue to have the conversation.
21 If people want to submit written comments,
22 we'll be here for a bit afterwards if people
23 want to do that.

24 We have plenty of food so eat it
25 on the way out.

1 Comments are due on July 10th.
2 So if you want to submit them, do them by July
3 10th. The State will take those comments and
4 be responding to them.

5 We appreciate you all coming
6 out. Thank you for your time and your
7 comments and constructive and respectful
8 conversation. And have a great weekend and
9 safe travels home. Thank you all.

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	afternoon (1) 3:1	4:11,14;5:1	19:23	10,13,18,21,21;9:9;
\$	afterwards (2) 36:16,22	Appreciate (3) 14:10;24:21;37:5	begin (2) 12:14;25:20	10:4,7;12:9,11,20;
\$120 (2) 30:4;35:3	again (4) 26:9;29:8,18;36:14	appreciated (1) 10:17	beginning (1) 26:5	13:1,2,16;19:19,24;
\$2.8 (1) 35:2	agencies (1) 11:3	appropriate (1) 22:9	behalf (3) 3:18;14:17;18:8	26:24;28:18;35:7;
\$287 (1) 24:25	Agency (1) 6:4	approved (1) 34:8	belief (1) 26:23	36:17,20
\$50 (1) 24:25	Agency's (1) 11:9	April (1) 31:23	best (4) 4:5;8:1;10:7;23:22	Canada (1) 15:25
A	ago (1) 13:10	aquifer (3) 13:15,16,18	better (2) 13:2;20:1	Canadian (1) 15:23
abandon (2) 30:2;34:22	agree (2) 10:21;22:21	aquifers (1) 13:13	big (1) 34:13	capacity (1) 34:9
abandoned (2) 22:12;23:15	air (1) 3:13	area (2) 17:15;32:25	billion (5) 24:25,25;30:4;35:2,	capture (1) 11:17
abandoning (3) 17:12;34:24,25	Al (1) 34:3	areas (3) 17:19;18:13;31:16	3	capturing (1) 7:12
abandonment (3) 21:13;29:19,22	alarming (1) 19:15	arguments (1) 8:3	bit (6) 5:16;6:11;27:5;	carbon (5) 13:19,20,21;24:24;
able (1) 22:15	Alberta (2) 34:13,14	around (4) 12:11;19:22;32:12;	29:17;31:20;36:22	26:9
absolutely (1) 28:6	Allen (5) 21:7,8,9,10;29:17	36:19	blanket (1) 23:1	cards (2) 10:2;24:6
Academy (1) 15:6	A-L-L-E-N (1) 21:11	article (1) 21:21	board (1) 11:12	care (2) 16:25;17:6
accept (1) 19:24	Alliance (1) 18:9	attitudes (1) 17:9	boils (1) 21:23	Carpenter (2) 14:12,15
according (1) 20:14	allocate (1) 10:3	automatic (1) 27:21	both (2) 5:15;7:1	C-A-R-P-E-N-T-E-R (1) 14:16
account (2) 14:24;15:3	allow (3) 7:16;10:23;31:13	automatically (1) 28:18	boxes (1) 9:21	carry (1) 25:21
acoustics (2) 4:4;12:16	along (2) 19:14,17	available (2) 11:20;23:22	bring (4) 12:19,21;14:12;	carrying (1) 25:23
across (2) 10:4;15:25	alternatives (4) 5:8,19,21;15:18	average (1) 23:8	29:18	case (1) 6:18
activated (3) 13:18,20,21	always (1) 8:22	avoid (2) 13:23;17:11	build (1) 30:16	cases (1) 20:2
actually (7) 9:13;23:21;25:16;	America (1) 36:8	away (2) 32:22;36:10	building (1) 33:20	cathodic (2) 32:13;33:3
29:23;31:3;32:14;	amount (2) 24:1;25:21	awkward (1) 4:12	buildings (1) 20:3	cell (1) 11:24
34:17	analyze (1) 11:22	B	built (1) 28:5	central (1) 22:5
addition (1) 25:12	Andrew (1) 12:8	back (4) 4:9;6:13;9:10;	bullying (1) 17:8	CEO (1) 34:4
additional (4) 14:7;15:4;24:1;	ANDY (3) 24:13,14;30:20	31:23	bunch (1) 31:25	certainly (2) 9:8;22:21
25:23	A-N-D-Y (1) 24:14	background (1) 13:7	burning (1) 15:4	certificate (3) 4:16;5:20;17:16
addressed (1) 26:1	anymore (2) 17:23;33:4	bad (1) 32:3	business (4) 17:5,14,17;20:25	cetera (1) 11:3
adequately (2) 7:12;15:2	apart (1) 23:3	barrels (2) 15:4;25:24	C	chain (2) 18:10,16
administrative (2) 6:19;7:16	appears (2) 25:18;26:4	based (2) 23:21;28:22	calculate (1) 24:24	chairs (1) 11:11
advocacy (1) 14:19	applicant's (1) 15:16	basic (1) 12:6	call (1) 24:10	chance (3) 6:21;9:5;24:16
advocating (1) 22:6	application (1) 5:24	basically (2) 22:7;32:7	came (1) 27:1	chances (1) 7:7
affected (1) 17:7	applied (3)	beautiful (1) 3:12	camping (1) 17:19	changed (1) 21:2
affirmative (1) 10:18		become (1)	can (25) 4:20;5:3,12;8:10,	changes (1) 6:14
				changing (1) 25:12
				check (1)

17:1 chemical (2) 13:7;14:1 choice (1) 22:7 citizen (1) 35:13 civil (1) 18:20 claim (1) 18:25 clean (8) 14:19;16:2;17:12; 22:18;1;31:16,16; 35:4 cleaning (2) 15:7,10 cleanup (1) 15:13 climate (5) 15:3;17:15;24:23; 26:2,7 clock (2) 10:6;12:9 closely (1) 6:3 collaboration (1) 28:9 COLON (2) 35:11,12 C-O-L-O-N (1) 35:12 comfortable (2) 11:6;12:20 coming (6) 3:12;26:25;27:10; 34:10;35:16;37:5 comment (26) 3:4,8,16,22;6:12,20, 22:7;7,11,17;8:12,16, 20:9;19;10:20;11:10; 12:21;24:10,16; 26:10;29:7;33:7; 35:10;36:13,15,18 commenter (2) 10:15;13:3 comments (17) 8:9,13,23,25;9:4,16, 18,21,24;10:7;11:2,7, 20;36:21;37:1,3,7 Commerce (4) 3:25;6:2;16:4; 25:13 Commission (9) 4:15,23;5:2,3,12, 25:7;2,13,23 commit (1) 33:18 commitment (1) 26:18 committee (1) 33:9 committing (1)	27:14 common (2) 21:17;22:18 community (1) 22:22 company (4) 15:23;16:24;25:16; 31:13 company's (1) 26:4 complicated (1) 5:16 concern (1) 14:20 concerned (1) 13:11 conclusion (1) 17:25 conclusively (1) 23:16 conditioned (1) 3:13 conditions (3) 4:20;22:8,9 conducted (1) 6:18 confused (1) 25:17 connected (1) 33:4 constituencies (1) 29:3 construction (1) 16:4 constructive (1) 37:7 consultant (1) 3:17 containment (4) 13:24;14:1,2,6 contamination (1) 30:11 contested (1) 6:18 continue (2) 27:16;36:20 Control (1) 6:4 conversation (4) 26:12;27:2;36:20; 37:8 cool (3) 26:14,16;27:17 cooperation (1) 28:15 corporations (1) 31:7 corridor (4) 30:16;33:21;34:24, 25 cost (8) 14:3,4,5,7;24:24; 26:8;29:19;33:19	costs (1) 30:3 country (1) 36:8 County (6) 14:18;16:12,17,19; 17:17;22:14 course (3) 8:22;11:21;21:19 court (7) 8:17,17;9:17;11:16; 12:24;29:9;36:17 covers (2) 5:15,19 cracking (1) 32:9 cracks (2) 19:7,9 create (1) 15:24 creeks (1) 18:14 criticized (1) 26:22 cross (2) 15:20;16:12 crosses (1) 18:12 crowd (1) 12:10 crude (1) 25:25 cultural (1) 17:9 current (2) 20:21;25:19 currently (2) 25:3,22	decommissioned (1) 22:2 degradation (1) 17:5 DEIS (2) 15:2;22:25 delay (1) 13:22 delegated (1) 6:1 delivered (1) 21:18 Department (5) 3:25;6:1,4;16:3; 25:13 dependent (1) 28:21 depending (1) 25:1 design (1) 19:1 designed (1) 20:14 destruction (1) 17:8 detail (1) 6:11 determination (1) 4:18 determine (2) 14:8;27:24 develop (1) 19:21 developing (1) 16:1 different (1) 8:8 difficult (1) 15:8 dig (1) 34:17 digs (2) 32:18;33:19 direct (3) 10:7;11:1,6 disagree (1) 30:19 disbonding (1) 32:12 discussion (1) 28:4 displacement (6) 25:1,14;26:3,3,5,7 disregard (1) 17:9 distances (1) 23:5 disturb (1) 11:25 disturbing (1) 29:24 divested (1) 31:6	divesting (1) 34:19 document (2) 6:15;9:3 dollar (1) 35:6 domain (1) 20:5 done (4) 5:9;6:6;7:22;22:25 door (1) 8:18 double (5) 13:24,25;14:2,3,4 down (2) 3:2;21:23 draft (10) 6:7,8,9,12;7:9;8:9; 10:8;11:23;14:20; 24:22 drug (1) 33:17 due (1) 37:1 Duluth (1) 21:20 during (4) 6:22;7:8,9,15
E				
earlier (1) 26:12 eat (1) 36:24 economy (2) 15:14;16:1 educated (1) 18:19 education (1) 18:23 EIS (17) 5:18;6:1,5,7,8,10, 12,16;7:9,10,19,20; 8:9;9:1;10:8;11:2,23 either (2) 5:4;20:11 electricity (1) 21:3 else (4) 29:10;31:18;35:9; 36:12 email (1) 8:22 employed (1) 20:11 employees (2) 26:13;27:4 Enbridge (24) 4:11,14;5:1;15:11, 23;16:11,21;17:3,14, 22;21:25;22:2,3;25:9, 16,18;29:20;30:5,12;				

31:24;33:7;34:4,4,21 Enbridge's (1) 22:16 encourage (4) 12:15;25:13;26:6; 28:25 end (2) 28:23;31:11 energy (6) 14:19;16:2;17:3; 35:20,23;36:10 engineer (2) 18:18;20:6 engineering (1) 13:8 engineers (1) 20:10 enjoy (1) 8:15 entities (1) 23:25 Environmental (11) 3:24;5:5,7,13,14; 14:21;17:4,13;24:22; 27:25;28:23 environments (1) 15:1 equal (1) 33:21 especially (2) 28:17;36:7 essentially (2) 25:22;26:21 establish (1) 14:23 estimated (1) 30:3 estimates (1) 29:19 estimating (1) 30:17 et (1) 11:3 even (2) 31:8;33:4 everybody (5) 3:2,4,11;27:3;28:25 everyone (3) 10:24;11:5;20:13 except (1) 35:16 existing (2) 17:23;34:24 expansion (1) 14:22 expect (1) 7:4 expense (1) 22:16 expensive (1) 15:9 explore (1) 25:14	extending (1) 28:14 extracting (1) 15:3 F face (1) 28:11 facilitate (1) 8:11 FACILITATOR (11) 3:1,16;9:12;14:9; 16:6;18:4;21:6;24:5; 29:6;35:8;36:12 fact (2) 26:4;30:15 fails (2) 14:23;15:2 failure (1) 19:9 failures (2) 19:7;33:14 fall (3) 6:23,25;8:1 Falls (1) 13:9 farmer (1) 20:25 favors (1) 22:25 federal (2) 20:15,16 feel (3) 11:6;27:18;29:5 feels (1) 27:9 feet (3) 23:2,9;33:18 felt (1) 28:13 few (2) 3:20;13:19 Field (1) 3:15 fifteen (1) 23:2 fill (1) 8:21 final (5) 6:16;7:3,10;11:23; 31:13 find (1) 21:14 fine (1) 10:19 finish (1) 12:15 finishing (1) 12:4 finite (1) 36:1 first (5)	3:23;4:16,18;13:3; 30:14 five (1) 10:1 fix (1) 33:2 flat (1) 32:7 flow (2) 18:13,15 flowages (1) 18:14 focused (1) 16:1 folks (5) 3:9;10:16;11:11,14; 36:19 food (1) 36:24 forever (3) 13:15;28:17;32:16 forgot (1) 7:6 form (1) 29:9 formal (2) 6:18,20 formally (1) 8:25 forms (2) 8:20;36:15 forth (1) 19:8 forward (3) 11:23;24:11;28:10 fossil (3) 34:5;35:23;36:11 found (2) 15:7;23:8 four (1) 16:19 frequency (1) 19:15 fuels (3) 34:5;35:24;36:11 full (3) 9:20;26:3;35:10 future (2) 27:17;32:21 G gasp (1) 31:14 gather (1) 3:5 general (4) 23:2,24;31:22;36:3 generally (1) 9:24 gets (1) 13:14 given (1)	26:9 goes (2) 5:23;16:18 Good (12) 3:1,11,13;7:12; 20:13,16,18;21:9; 26:23,24,24;28:5 goodwill (1) 28:15 government (2) 27:19;31:8 graciously (1) 21:25 Grand (1) 23:7 gratified (1) 21:20 gravity (1) 29:1 great (2) 27:9;37:8 greater (1) 15:12 ground (3) 12:6;21:17;22:9 groundwater (1) 17:20 group (5) 14:18,19;29:8; 35:10;36:13 groups (1) 27:10 growing (1) 16:1 H half (2) 12:12;19:25 hallway (1) 29:10 hand (4) 4:3;11:8;24:10; 28:14 handle (1) 13:17 handled (1) 9:24 hands (1) 11:14 happened (1) 7:8 happy (2) 9:18;16:24 hard (1) 34:3 hasty (1) 17:7 heading (1) 27:18 hear (4) 12:1,17;26:19,21 heard (5)	23:14;27:8,15; 28:13,13 hearing (8) 6:18,20,22,24;7:15, 25:8;5;23:10 heavy (1) 25:24 Heller (2) 16:6,8 H-E-L-L-E-R (1) 16:9 hello (1) 24:14 help (1) 12:18 hey (1) 27:9 Hi (2) 29:14;35:11 high (1) 20:20 himself (2) 23:5;34:3 history (1) 15:11 home (1) 37:9 homeowners (1) 30:9 hoping (1) 23:24 horizon (1) 25:6 hosted (1) 21:25 hundreds (2) 28:11,11 Huntersville (1) 16:17 hydraulics (1) 18:20 hydrology (1) 18:20 I idea (1) 23:14 idled (1) 34:18 ie (1) 21:2 Impact (9) 5:5,10,14,14;14:21; 15:13;24:22;28:23; 29:2 impacts (2) 5:7;15:3 implied (1) 20:16 importance (1) 27:6 important (2)
---	--	---	---	--

<p>9:7;10:23 improved (1) 10:10 inadequate (1) 19:1 incidents (1) 19:7 including (1) 27:3 increase (1) 34:12 indigenous (2) 27:13;28:1 indiscernible (2) 14:18;35:14 individual (2) 9:18;22:13 individually (1) 36:19 individuals (2) 11:4,7 induced (1) 20:21 industry (6) 31:5,9,12,14;34:16; 35:5 information (5) 7:13,18,23;8:7; 35:15 input (1) 6:9 inside (1) 3:14 install (1) 13:21 installed (1) 20:18 instrumentation (1) 14:7 integrity (6) 31:21,22;32:2,17; 33:6,19 intend (2) 18:25;19:2 interact (1) 29:3 interacts (1) 27:25 interesting (2) 18:22;33:6 internal (1) 33:8 International (2) 13:9;31:7 into (14) 9:19;11:18;13:12, 13,14,24;14:11; 18:15;27:18;32:20; 34:17;35:16;36:5,6 introduce (1) 4:2 involved (1) 13:20</p>	<p>irreplaceable (1) 15:21 issue (4) 17:13;20:19;21:12; 29:18 issues (5) 11:2,8;28:1;32:10, 11 issuing (1) 23:1</p> <p>J</p> <p>jeopardize (1) 15:21 job (1) 7:12 jobs (1) 22:20 John (5) 3:23;4:6;9:16;23:4; 24:5 judge (3) 6:19;7:1,16 judgment (3) 20:13,16,18 Judy (2) 14:12,15 J-U-D-Y (1) 14:15 July (5) 6:13;8:24;11:19; 37:1,2</p> <p>K</p> <p>Karen (3) 16:6,8;18:4 K-A-R-E-N (1) 16:8 keep (2) 28:9;31:15 kept (1) 28:18 kind (6) 3:21;18:22;27:9,17; 29:16;30:1 knowing (1) 35:19 known (1) 33:15 Koch (1) 16:18</p> <p>L</p> <p>lack (1) 27:5 lakes (4) 17:19;18:10,17; 31:15 land (3) 22:14;30:8,10</p>	<p>landowner (2) 22:7,13 landowners (2) 17:1;21:24 lands (1) 13:12 last (6) 14:16;16:23;18:7; 31:13;35:6,22 LAURA (2) 35:11,11 L-A-U-R-A (1) 35:12 law (2) 6:19;7:16 layperson (1) 36:3 lead (2) 26:24;36:10 leaders (1) 36:9 leak (2) 14:8;18:13 learned (1) 18:20 least (1) 25:7 leave (2) 30:2;31:17 left (3) 30:8,10,11 LEOFWIN (1) 13:5 L-E-O-F-W-I-N (1) 13:6 Leslie (1) 12:18 less (6) 4:20,21;18:14; 19:25;24:18;26:11 letter (1) 33:13 liable (1) 22:3 life (1) 20:22 lifetime (1) 30:18 LINDBLOM (1) 13:5 L-I-N-D-B-L-O-M (1) 13:6 Line (15) 14:22;17:11,23; 19:17;20:21,23;22:2; 25:9,20,22,23;29:25; 31:21,25;32:2 lines (3) 16:19;21:2;23:9 listen (4) 10:16;11:10,13; 26:17 listened (1)</p>	<p>10:14 listening (1) 21:4 little (10) 4:4;5:16;6:11; 12:10,11;17:6;24:18; 27:5;29:17;31:20 live (2) 16:18;18:9 long (2) 13:22;33:15 longer (1) 12:11 longitudinal (1) 32:9 look (2) 5:6;34:14 looked (2) 5:20;15:19 looking (8) 6:9;8:24,25;19:19; 31:9,11;35:17;36:4 looks (1) 5:21 lot (11) 8:14;9:4;21:16; 22:19;23:14;27:10, 11,13;28:16;32:10,11 lots (1) 8:8 louder (1) 4:12 lovely (1) 12:1</p> <p>M</p> <p>mail (1) 8:22 maintain (3) 32:16,24;33:3 maintaining (1) 20:23 major (2) 31:10;34:6 makes (1) 4:23 making (1) 33:25 manager (1) 3:24 mandated (1) 17:22 manipulative (1) 17:10 manufacturing (1) 32:5 many (8) 13:16;15:20;19:16; 21:24;22:1;27:12; 29:3;32:17 map (2) 15:17;16:10</p>	<p>maps (1) 35:18 March (1) 31:23 massive (1) 31:6 material (1) 14:5 may (2) 10:20,25 maybe (2) 27:4;33:11 means (2) 25:4;32:13 measure (1) 23:5 meeting (2) 12:2;35:16 meetings (3) 26:19;27:12;28:16 member (1) 35:14 mess (2) 31:16;35:4 mic (6) 4:3;8:12;12:19,19, 21:14;12 middle (1) 12:2 might (1) 19:12 miles (3) 13:16;18:11;19:18 mindful (1) 12:6 minds (1) 27:5 Minnesota (13) 3:18;4:1;15:1,25; 16:3,5;18:19;20:3,6; 21:24;25:8;26:9;29:4 Minnesotan (1) 22:18 Minnesota's (2) 15:14,21 minute (4) 3:5,8;6:11;8:12 minutes (2) 10:5;12:12 missing (1) 10:9 mitigation (1) 5:9 model (1) 26:7 modeled (1) 26:8 modeling (2) 24:23;25:14 moment (1) 27:10 Monaco (1) 34:3</p>
---	---	---	--	--

money (2) 36:5,6 more (12) 4:20,21;6:11,20; 8:5,6;15:8,9;23:19; 27:21;31:2;34:9 morning (4) 3:11;21:10;27:2,15 most (5) 9:2;10:17;20:2; 22:22;34:18 move (4) 11:23;13:16;35:25; 36:10 moving (1) 17:12 MPCA (1) 33:12 much (7) 3:12;15:8;20:1; 25:2;34:8;35:15;36:5 Munter (1) 23:4	21:21 NICOLETTE (2) 29:14,15 N-I-C-O-L-E-T-T-E (1) 29:15 non-tar (1) 15:10 norm (1) 19:23 north (2) 16:22;18:12 number (1) 32:4 numbers (2) 25:10;34:12 numerous (2) 14:25;31:6	25:19 opinion (2) 10:24;28:12 opportunities (1) 7:7 organizations (1) 11:3 OSHA (1) 13:25 others (3) 24:7,9;29:6 Ottertail (1) 14:18 ourselves (2) 19:13;21:15 out (21) 3:12;6:9;7:10;8:21; 16:25;17:18;20:25; 22:20;24:24;27:1,10; 28:12;29:9;31:7,14; 34:5,10;35:4,6;36:25; 37:6 outcome (3) 20:1;27:23;28:21 outcomes (1) 26:24 outside (1) 8:18 over (7) 4:9;6:13;9:14; 16:15;19:3,4;21:19 overall (1) 21:14 overview (1) 4:7 own (2) 35:20;36:3 owner (2) 20:12;22:14	24:13,14 P-E-A-R-S-O-N (1) 24:15 people (21) 8:15;9:2,25;10:4,6, 11,18,19;11:1,12; 17:7;20:23;27:12,14, 18;28:1,1,11;34:19; 36:21,22 people's (1) 27:5 per (3) 15:4;25:24;32:18 perfect (1) 12:16 period (5) 3:4,8;6:13;8:12; 11:10 Permanent (1) 15:13 permit (3) 4:17;5:22;17:21 permits (5) 4:15,25;5:4;7:2; 17:23 permitting (1) 23:17 personal (1) 35:20 petroleum (4) 13:11,14,18;14:4 PHMSA (2) 19:20;33:13 phones (1) 11:24 physically (3) 22:4,10,16 piece (1) 22:11 Pine (2) 18:8,16 pipe (6) 18:21,25;19:10; 20:9,12,22 pipeline (36) 14:3,4,23;16:4,11, 18;18:15;19:15; 21:13,25;22:4,12,15; 23:16;25:2,2,20;30:4, 14,17,22;31:2;32:3,6, 14;33:1,4,10,13,16, 20,21,24;34:6,9,22 pipelines (9) 19:22;21:1;22:23; 23:2,6,20;30:8,10; 31:18 pipes (1) 19:25 place (4) 17:12;23:17;30:3; 33:20 plain (1) 35:21	plant (1) 14:1 Please (1) 3:2 plenty (1) 36:24 plus (1) 25:23 point (1) 25:11 points (1) 24:17 political (1) 21:14 pollute (1) 17:24 Pollution (1) 6:4 positive (1) 28:4 possesses (1) 14:25 possible (2) 22:11;23:21 possibly (1) 35:6 poster (1) 11:12 posters (1) 15:19 potential (2) 5:8;17:2 power (1) 20:21 precedent (2) 25:8;26:9 prefer (1) 11:6 preferred (1) 15:17 pressure (2) 19:4;20:1 pressures (1) 19:1 pretty (5) 9:2;22:17;29:23; 32:2;35:21 primarily (1) 25:24 pristine (1) 18:2 private (2) 22:13;35:13 privately (1) 8:18 pro (1) 14:19 probably (7) 10:4,21;18:10;19:5, 25;27:16;31:3 problem (1) 12:21 problems (1)
N	O			
name (16) 3:15;9:25;12:23; 13:2,4;14:13,16;16:6; 18:6,7;21:8,10;24:11, 11,14;29:12 named (1) 23:7 names (2) 12:6,25 National (1) 15:6 Natural (1) 6:5 near (1) 16:17 need (11) 4:17;5:20;14:23; 17:16,17,18;23:18; 33:9;35:25;36:9,10 needed (5) 4:19,22,24;6:14; 15:12 needs (4) 7:13,23;25:7;33:16 negative (1) 10:20 new (12) 16:11;17:12;25:20; 27:9;30:16,16;33:20, 23,25;34:21,25;36:7 newest (1) 35:23 news (1) 3:13 next (4) 3:5;21:7;28:2;31:9 nice (1)	occur (3) 19:14,16;20:4 occurred (1) 14:8 odor (1) 13:17 off (4) 12:5;20:7;28:6,7 office (1) 16:13 offsets (1) 25:3 oil (14) 15:10,24;25:1,2,21; 31:1,5,9,11,14;34:8,9; 35:5,24 Ojibwe (1) 15:15 older (1) 36:5 Once (3) 6:6,12;13:14 one (21) 4:16,17,18,22;5:15; 7:6;13:23;14:11; 16:12,14,15;17:3; 20:15;24:18,18,20,21; 26:11,12;32:1;34:3 ones (1) 15:19 online (5) 8:23;11:20;15:17, 18;34:17 only (7) 13:17;17:13;23:13, 13;26:2;29:25;30:14 open (3) 3:22;8:12;26:17 openness (1) 28:4 operating (1) 25:9 operation (1)	P paper (1) 21:22 paperwork (1) 18:1 part (4) 3:17;5:18,21;23:12 partial (3) 25:14;26:5,6 participating (1) 27:11 particular (3) 21:17;23:12;27:7 particularly (1) 8:15 Patrick (3) 3:15;4:9;9:11 Patrick's (1) 8:11 pay (4) 30:6,6,13;31:19 PEARSON (2)		

12:4 process (21) 4:2;5:11,20,22,23; 6:22,24;7:9,9,15,17, 19,25;9:16;11:22; 22:25;26:14,24; 27:15;28:3;32:5 producers (1) 31:11 product (2) 20:17;21:2 production (1) 34:11 professional (2) 18:18;20:6 profile (1) 23:12 profits (1) 33:24 project (15) 4:19;5:6,10,16; 14:24,25;17:15; 27:24;28:5,20;34:7; 35:1,3,17;36:4 projecting (2) 32:19;34:16 projects (5) 34:1,13,15,18,19 prone (1) 32:9 pronounce (2) 12:25,25 property (2) 17:8;22:13 proposal (1) 5:7 proposals (1) 34:7 proposed (4) 14:22,24;16:11; 18:11 proposing (3) 25:16,19;26:4 protect (1) 32:14 protection (2) 32:14;33:3 protocol (1) 19:22 prove (1) 19:19 provide (1) 23:25 provinces (1) 34:13 proximity (3) 20:20;23:6,19 public (23) 3:3,7,16,22;4:15; 5:1,25;6:20,22;7:2,7; 8:15;9:20,24;20:3,4, 5;23:12,24;24:9; 26:14;29:7;35:10	publicly (1) 23:7 PUC (1) 23:25 pull (1) 12:8 pulled (1) 31:7 pump (1) 19:16 pushing (1) 34:2 put (9) 4:20;9:25;11:24; 20:25;30:16;31:1; 32:12;34:21;36:5 putting (1) 36:6 Q qualified (1) 22:22 quality (1) 17:20 quite (1) 29:23 R Raise (2) 11:14;24:10 Rapids (1) 23:7 rather (1) 8:14 reaction (2) 35:17;36:4 read (4) 9:3;12:5;19:6; 29:22 realize (1) 29:1 really (11) 4:12;8:4;11:8; 19:11;22:5;24:21; 26:14,16;27:14,17; 31:24 reason (2) 4:10;5:17 reasons (1) 32:4 recent (1) 15:6 recommendation (1) 7:1 record (7) 9:20;11:18;13:4; 14:14;16:7;21:8; 29:13 records (1) 17:4 reduce (1)	5:10 regarding (1) 14:20 regardless (2) 14:5;28:19 regards (1) 21:13 registered (1) 20:6 registration (1) 10:1 reject (1) 16:4 related (1) 23:25 release (1) 6:15 remarks (1) 21:18 remember (1) 31:24 removal (1) 30:4 remove (1) 22:11 removed (1) 22:16 removing (2) 22:3,4 renewable (2) 16:2;36:7 repair (2) 17:1;19:8 replace (1) 33:9 replaced (1) 33:16 replacing (1) 33:19 report (1) 15:7 reporter (7) 8:17,17;9:17;11:17; 12:24;29:9;36:17 reports (1) 19:20 represent (1) 19:9 required (3) 20:5;30:5,12 reroute (1) 14:22 research (1) 35:20 reserves (1) 17:20 resolved (1) 23:16 resource (1) 36:2 Resources (2) 6:5;16:2 respect (1)	10:25 respectful (2) 10:11;37:7 responding (1) 37:4 responsible (1) 13:8 result (1) 28:24 resulting (1) 17:8 resurrect (1) 18:22 retained (1) 20:11 Review (2) 3:24;33:8 reviewed (1) 15:16 rice (1) 15:15 Richardson (3) 21:7,9,10 R-I-C-H-A-R-D-S-O-N (1) 21:11 right (13) 4:12;6:7;7:18,24; 8:7;9:19;12:1,18; 14:13;16:17;17:1; 25:10;34:7 rights (1) 15:15 ring (1) 12:1 risks (1) 14:25 River (2) 18:9,16 rivers (2) 17:19;18:14 Roe (3) 18:5,6,7 R-O-E (1) 18:7 role (1) 11:9 rolled (1) 32:8 room (7) 8:21;9:12;11:5,7, 15;27:3;29:21 route (9) 4:17;5:22;15:17,18, 24;17:21;18:11,12,15 routes (2) 15:20;35:18 rules (1) 12:7 run (4) 12:18;19:2,25; 20:20 running (1) 19:4	ruptures (1) 19:23 S safe (1) 37:9 safety (1) 19:21 sand (7) 15:5,8,10;18:2; 34:10,11,15 sands (1) 31:8 Saudi (1) 31:8 saw (1) 26:2 saying (4) 22:1;29:17;31:3; 32:23 scale (1) 31:6 scenario (1) 21:14 school (1) 18:21 science (4) 23:22;26:25;28:5, 22 Sciences (1) 15:7 scientific (1) 23:19 scientifically (1) 22:11 scoping (1) 7:8 scrape (1) 35:5 scrutiny (1) 15:12 seam (2) 32:8,9 seat (1) 3:9 second (4) 4:17,22;10:6;25:11 section (4) 24:23;26:2,7;29:22 seeing (3) 23:11;27:11,13 seems (1) 35:21 self (1) 14:6 sense (2) 22:18;36:5 sensitive (1) 18:13 session (1) 3:17 sessions (1)
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11:12 set (1) 3:21 seven (1) 10:5 several (1) 21:19 share (1) 26:23 shareholders (1) 33:25 sheds (1) 15:22 sheet (1) 32:7 shift (1) 35:4 shifting (1) 9:13 shocking (1) 32:2 short (4) 3:20;4:1;25:6; 29:23 show (2) 3:20;10:5 shows (2) 16:11,16 shut (2) 28:6,7 sign (1) 20:7 signal (1) 12:14 sit (2) 12:20;26:20 sitting (1) 11:11 situation (1) 22:8 six (5) 10:2,5;12:11;16:21; 31:18 SLAGLE (2) 29:14,15 S-L-A-G-L-E (1) 29:16 slap (1) 28:10 slide (1) 3:20 slides (1) 3:20 sludge (1) 15:25 slurry (1) 18:2 small (1) 12:9 smaller (1) 12:10 social (2) 24:24;26:8	soil (2) 22:8;30:11 somebody (1) 31:18 sometime (1) 7:5 sometimes (1) 12:25 somewhere (3) 12:11;19:3,17 soon (1) 3:10 sorry (1) 19:11 sort (1) 23:1 south (1) 18:11 space (1) 23:9 speak (5) 10:4,12;14:11; 21:12;24:7 speaker (4) 10:1,12,19;35:22 speakers (1) 26:23 speaking (3) 8:16;10:16;14:17 speaks (1) 22:18 spec (1) 20:16 specific (1) 11:7 specification (1) 20:15 spell (2) 12:23;13:4 spelling (5) 14:13;16:7;21:8; 24:11;29:12 spill (7) 13:16,23;15:8,10, 12;18:2;19:18 spills (3) 15:11;19:14,22 spoke (1) 35:22 spots (1) 17:2 spring (1) 7:5 stage (2) 3:21;6:7 stalled (1) 34:18 stand (3) 12:14,20;26:21 start (2) 3:7;24:20 started (3) 3:3,6,10	starting (1) 6:25 State (16) 3:18,25;11:9,22; 12:23;13:3;14:13; 20:3;22:14;26:13,16; 27:4,25;29:4;36:19; 37:3 stated (1) 34:4 Statement (7) 5:6,14,15;14:21; 23:1;24:22;28:23 states (1) 33:7 stations (1) 19:17 stay (1) 17:18 steel (1) 32:8 stepping (1) 32:22 Steve (4) 18:5,6,6;21:6 S-T-E-V-E (1) 18:7 stick (1) 36:19 still (1) 12:13 stop (1) 25:19 straightforward (1) 22:17 stray (1) 20:25 streams (1) 18:14 stress (3) 18:21;19:7,9 strong (2) 25:8;28:22 structural (1) 19:9 structures (2) 20:4,4 study (1) 9:6 submit (3) 8:23;36:21;37:2 submitted (1) 31:25 submitting (1) 9:22 subside (1) 33:1 substantial (1) 24:1 support (3) 23:14,24;29:17 supposed (1) 4:13	sure (7) 7:22;9:8;10:13; 24:7;27:21,22;30:9 surface (1) 32:13 swamp (1) 13:12 system (1) 13:9 systems (2) 13:20;14:1 T table (3) 3:9;16:16;34:7 tables (1) 3:2 tactics (1) 17:11 talk (5) 4:11;6:10;9:9;21:5; 31:20 talked (1) 26:13 talking (2) 6:8;12:13 tar (7) 15:5,7;18:2;31:8; 34:10,11,15 taste (1) 13:17 team (1) 3:17 technical (4) 24:18,20;26:10,11 technologically (1) 23:21 technology (3) 35:23;36:6,7 ten (2) 18:11;23:2 terribly (1) 13:1 terrific (1) 11:16 testimony (3) 31:25;32:1;33:5 Thane (1) 30:20 Thane's (1) 30:20 Thanks (2) 24:3,16 That'll (1) 12:14 theory (1) 25:21 thoroughfares (1) 23:8 threat (1) 15:14 threatening (1)	20:22 three (2) 15:17;34:6 throughout (1) 8:20 thus (1) 28:14 timeline (1) 25:12 timer (1) 12:9 times (3) 15:9;21:19;28:15 today (11) 4:8;6:8;7:20;8:11; 9:9,22,23;15:19;18:9; 24:17;26:12 today's (3) 3:16;8:6;21:21 took (2) 23:4;32:7 tool (1) 8:23 topic (1) 21:22 touching (1) 35:21 tough (2) 9:3;26:20 towards (1) 10:8 toxic (1) 18:2 transcripts (1) 11:19 transitioning (1) 34:5 transmission (1) 21:1 transport (1) 15:24 transported (1) 25:3 travels (1) 37:9 treat (1) 16:25 treatment (2) 13:9,19 tremendous (1) 19:21 tribal (1) 22:14 tribes (1) 30:7 Tribune (1) 21:21 tricky (1) 4:5 tried (1) 16:12 true (1) 20:8
---	--	--	--	---

try (2) 5:6;12:15 trying (2) 7:22;17:11 turn (2) 4:8;9:10 twice (2) 19:3,4 two (5) 4:14,25,25;24:17; 31:10 two-minute (1) 4:7 two-week (1) 7:11	10:13;27:19 voiced (1) 28:12 voices (1) 26:19 voltage (2) 20:21,25	15:15 wilderness (1) 17:19 witnessed (1) 20:24 wonderful (1) 26:12	31:4 2003 (3) 33:7,11,12 2018 (1) 7:5 22 (2) 26:18;28:15	
U	W	word (1) 11:18 work (3) 22:21,23;26:22 working (3) 3:18;6:3;13:25 workmanship (1) 17:7 world (1) 18:1 worried (1) 17:14 worst (1) 17:4 wrapping (1) 32:12 wrap-up (1) 12:15 write (1) 36:16 Written (4) 9:21;29:9;36:14,21 wrote (1) 33:12	3 3 (11) 14:22;17:11,23; 22:2;23:9;25:20,22, 23;31:21,25;32:2 3,000-page (1) 9:3 30 (8) 19:18;23:9;30:18, 24;31:2,3;34:23;35:5 30-year (1) 25:6 370,000 (1) 25:24	
ultimately (1) 13:13 understated (1) 25:10 union (1) 22:20 units (2) 13:19,19 University (1) 18:19 unless (1) 25:17 up (17) 10:4;12:8,14,15; 15:7,9,10;16:22; 17:22;18:1;22:12; 23:13;26:20,21; 29:18;31:16;35:4 upon (2) 23:5;29:2 upset (1) 19:12 urge (1) 16:3 use (5) 8:22;18:25;30:22, 23;32:6 Utilities (4) 4:15;5:2,25;7:2	Wachter (2) 3:23;4:6 Wadena (4) 16:12,17,19;17:17 waited (1) 33:17 walk (1) 9:15 wants (4) 3:4;10:12;35:9; 36:13 Warba (1) 23:4 water (1) 15:21 Watershed (1) 18:9 waterway (1) 15:8 waterways (2) 15:13,22 way (11) 9:13,23;13:17,23; 16:25;20:10;27:19, 25;28:13;29:3;36:25 ways (1) 8:9 weak (1) 17:2 website (1) 34:14 Wednesday (1) 16:13 week (1) 21:19 weekend (1) 37:8 welcome (1) 4:2 wetland (2) 13:24;18:3 wetlands (1) 13:12 what's (1) 8:1 Whitefish (2) 18:10,16 whole (5) 30:16;31:25;33:20, 23;34:21 who's (2) 11:15,17 wild (1)	Y year (3) 17:2;19:18;32:18 years (10) 13:9;16:23;25:7; 28:2;30:18,23;31:2,3; 34:23;35:5 young (2) 27:11;28:1	4 4 (1) 23:9 400,000 (1) 15:4 48 (1) 16:23 5 50 (1) 28:2 6 60 (2) 25:7;30:23 600 (1) 32:18 60-year (1) 26:8	
V		Z zoning (1) 16:13		
values (1) 17:9 verbal (2) 8:12;36:18 verbally (1) 8:10 vibrate (1) 11:25 virtually (1) 27:22 visceral (1) 35:17 voice (2)		1 10th (5) 6:13;8:24;11:19; 37:1,3 13 (1) 18:14 14.5 (1) 15:9 15 (1) 19:18		
		2 20 (1)		