

DEIS MEETINGS - 14-916 15-137

STAPLES - JUNE 14, 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  
OAH DOCKET NO: 65-2500-33377

Staples Community Center  
122 6th Street NE  
Staples, Minnesota

## I N D E X

	SPEAKER	PAGE
1		
2		
3	JAMIE MACALISTER	3
4	DENNIS THOMPSON	11
5	KAREN HELLER	14
6	ANDREW STRUSS	16
7	BILL PAULSON	23
8	DAN BRADY	29
9	WENDY ULRICH	30
10	LISA KAJER	34
11	PETER KLINK	34
12	AMY BOND	38
13	TONY WICKEN	40
14	PHILLIP WALLACE	41
15	ANDY PEARSON	45
16	MEL DANIELS	52
17	KYLIE LEMLEY	52
18	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER	57
19	JUNE WEITEMIER	58
20	BILL PAULSON	63
21	AMY BOND	65
22	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER	65
23	NANCY TERHARK	67
24	NICOLETTE SLAGLE	72
25		

1 FACILITATOR: Good morning,  
2 everyone. I want to invite you to come on  
3 over, fine if you want to stay at the tables.

4 We're going to open up the  
5 public comment portion of our meeting.

6 Welcome. Again, this is the  
7 Line 3 Project Draft Environmental Impact  
8 Statement meeting, hosted by the State of  
9 Minnesota. I'm going to hand this over to the  
10 project manager from the Department of  
11 Commerce, Jamie MacAlister.

12 MS. JAMIE MACALISTER: Good  
13 morning, everyone. Welcome, thank you for  
14 coming. As Stacie mentioned, I'm Jamie  
15 Macalister with the Minnesota Department of  
16 Commerce.

17 I just want to go over a few  
18 things quickly before we move into the oral  
19 comment portion of our meeting.

20 We just want to remind everyone  
21 that we are here today to get your comments on  
22 the Draft EIS. Hopefully you've had an  
23 opportunity to check out the posters, look  
24 over some of our material.

25 If you haven't had a chance to

1       pour through the thousands of pages of the  
2       document, maybe you've got enough information  
3       to provide us a comment today or send one in  
4       in writing.

5                       We do not make -- the Minnesota  
6       Department of Commerce is not making any  
7       decision on the Draft EIS or the permitting  
8       for these projects. That is done by the  
9       Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, and  
10      they will determine first whether or not to  
11      issue a Certificate of Need. And second,  
12      whether or not to issue a route permit for  
13      this project.

14                     This Environmental Impact  
15      Statement has been prepared with a handful of  
16      other state agencies, including Minnesota  
17      Department of Natural Resources and Minnesota  
18      Pollution Control Agency.

19                     And agency staff are here to  
20      help you find information in the Draft EIS if  
21      you need assistance.

22                     So if you've been following the  
23      process for a while, we'll just quickly give  
24      you a run-through of where we're at.

25                     We are currently at number 3

1 with the Draft EIS comment period and  
2 meetings, and we will be preparing -- once we  
3 get all of these public comments, we will be  
4 finalizing the EIS, and that will move this  
5 phase of the process into the contested case  
6 hearings with an administrative law judge.

7 Those are scheduled to begin  
8 sometime in late September, and the  
9 administrative law judge will take comments,  
10 take testimony, and prepare a report which  
11 will be sent to the Public Utilities  
12 Commission, along with the record, and that  
13 will help inform their decision.

14 There is not expected to be any  
15 decisions made on this project until sometime  
16 in 2018.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you  
18 taking questions from the floor?

19 MS. JAMIE MACALISTER: We are not  
20 taking questions from the floor, but we are  
21 taking comments on the Draft EIS. That's why  
22 we're here. That's what we're hoping you came  
23 here for is to give information and comments on  
24 the draft.

25 What we need to know is if

1       there's information missing from the EIS. Is  
2       there information in the EIS that is unclear  
3       that we need to further clarify and make it  
4       easier to understand?

5                   And we need to know what else  
6       could be improved in that document. So that's  
7       what we're here for.

8                   You can provide your comments  
9       today orally. You can write them and leave  
10      them in the box. You can take your time and  
11      send them in to me later. You can do that by  
12      mail or email, whichever you prefer.

13                  And all of these comments will  
14      be shared with each one of you. They'll be  
15      posted on our website. There will also be  
16      transcripts from these meetings. If you  
17      provided oral comments, you will be able to  
18      see them online as well.

19                  So what is important to remember  
20      about this is that all of these comments are  
21      treated equally. This is not an up or down  
22      vote. We're not taking sides here. We're  
23      looking for information on the draft.

24                  If we get thousands of comments  
25      for this project and thousands of comments

1       against this project, those are not what makes  
2       the decision for this.

3                       And furthermore, the EIS itself  
4       is not a decision-making document. The EIS is  
5       an informational document that helps the  
6       decision-making body, the Public Utilities  
7       Commission, make their decision.

8                       So with that, I'm going to turn  
9       it back over to Stacie and she will begin the  
10      oral comment portion of the meeting.

11                      FACILITATOR: Thank you so much,  
12      Jamie.

13                      So a couple of ground rules to  
14      get us started and to make sure our meeting --  
15      this portion of the meeting is effective.

16                      Our goal, as you heard from  
17      Jamie, is to allow everybody to speak, to  
18      share your ideas, those who want to give  
19      public comments. We have a court reporter  
20      here who will be creating a transcript of what  
21      we say.

22                      If you are reading from prepared  
23      remarks that are written, if you could give  
24      those to us for the court reporter to  
25      double-check as she goes through making the

1 transcript, that would be very helpful. So we  
2 would appreciate that.

3 A couple of ground rules. We  
4 need everybody to work together. We're a  
5 fairly small group, but we do want to make  
6 sure everybody who wants to speak gets a  
7 chance to speak.

8 We're going to ask you to keep  
9 your comments to seven minutes or less, and  
10 we're going to put a timer on the screen  
11 that's going to remind you of that.

12 As we start to get towards seven  
13 minutes, I will stand up to give you the  
14 signal, the time, and when it's at seven  
15 minutes, I will ask you to conclude.

16 And that's so that we make sure  
17 everybody who want to speak gets a chance.

18 Right now we have I think twelve  
19 people who put their names in the box and are  
20 wanting to speak. If we get through all of  
21 those and we still have time, then we can go on  
22 hands, if there's additional time, for  
23 additional people who want to speak.

24 And we'll still keep comments to  
25 seven minutes.



1                   If you do have questions that you  
2                   want to ask, in your comments you can do that.  
3                   There's not going to be an opportunity for a  
4                   response to those questions now. But you could  
5                   get those in. Those questions could helpful as  
6                   they're revising the EIS as well.

7                   We ask you to be respectful of  
8                   others. Please do not interrupt. If you want  
9                   to show appreciation or affirmative support for  
10                  something that somebody has said, please hold  
11                  that until the end of their comments and then  
12                  feel free to express that.

13                  If you have a negative reaction  
14                  to something that somebody said, we ask you to  
15                  just keep that inside. Because we really do  
16                  want people to have a chance to feel safe to  
17                  speak.

18                  It's really important to get  
19                  everybody's views out. That's what this  
20                  process is all about.

21                  When you're making your comments,  
22                  if you can also focus on the issues. The more  
23                  substantive, the better, in terms of the EIS;  
24                  that really is helpful to the agencies.

25                  Focus on the issues. You can

1 talk about organization, but please do not  
2 direct comments towards any individuals. That  
3 makes people feel very uncomfortable. So  
4 please don't do that.

5 In the back we have a number of  
6 members. Maybe you've have a chance to speak  
7 with them earlier. If you all can raise your  
8 hand for a moment, State Agency Folks.

9 They are here at this point in  
10 listening mode. They're here to listen and to  
11 hear what you have to say.

12 Just a few logistics. If you can  
13 silence your cell phones so we don't hear cell  
14 phone rings, that would be great. Feel free to  
15 step out if you need to use the restrooms or  
16 have refreshments. They've asked us not to  
17 have refreshments in the room.

18 We are going to end the meeting  
19 on time. A couple other things, the sound in  
20 here is a bit echoey. You might have noticed.

21 One thing that will help. Leslie  
22 will be bringing the microphone to you. So  
23 when I call your name, you don't need to stand  
24 up and come up front. She's going to bring it  
25 to you and you can speak from your seat or you

1 can stand up and speak from there.

2 It's going to be helpful if you  
3 hold the microphone -- this one's a little bit  
4 different, but the cordless ones, if you hold  
5 it like this, fairly close to your mouth -- you  
6 don't have to smother it. It's going to be  
7 really helpful for everybody to hear you so try  
8 to speak somewhat slowly. That will help as  
9 well.

10 And I think I've covered it. So  
11 with that -- I don't know if you want to pull  
12 up the timer. So as I call your name, what I'd  
13 like you to do when you start is to say and  
14 also to spell your name. I apologize in  
15 advance if I pronounce anybody's name wrong.  
16 You can correct me.

17 So, Dennis Thompson, please start  
18 by saying and spelling your name. And we'll  
19 start our timer after you're done spelling your  
20 name.

21 MR. DENNIS THOMPSON: Thank you.  
22 My name is Dennis Thompson, D-E-N-N-I-S.  
23 Thompson, T-H-O-M-P-S-O-N. First of all --  
24 I've got a couple of things here in terms of  
25 where we're going.

1 I'm a former state park ranger at  
2 Itasca State Park. Many years ago, we lost all  
3 of our red and white pine up there at the  
4 Itasca Canadian headwaters. And today those  
5 red pine and white pine are over 200 years old.

6 At the time the park commissioner  
7 park manager was named Gibbs. He died in  
8 office back in 1906, I believe it was. And his  
9 daughter took over for him. The governor  
10 appointed her.

11 And Itasca Park, you know, is the  
12 oldest state park in the state of Minnesota.  
13 It is the second oldest park in the country.  
14 Back in 1906, when she was appointed, the park  
15 rangers, they had some lumber companies up  
16 there taking a bunch of timber and then damming  
17 the headwaters up there.

18 She was informed by St. Paul to  
19 go and make sure that that dam was released so  
20 that water would not be out in front of the  
21 headwater there and killing trees.

22 She went up there with the  
23 constable by the name -- I can't remember his  
24 particular name, but went up there with the  
25 constable and told them that the laborers were

1 going to have to be pulled, and the  
2 superintendent of the logging company said  
3 anyone that pulls their hand in those waters  
4 will be shot.

5 The constable stood there, and  
6 all 110 pounds of her, put her hands in the  
7 waters (indiscernible) to pull those waters.  
8 The superintendent realized that this woman was  
9 serious, and decided -- told him to pull those.  
10 That saved those red pines and white pines.

11 Here we are, 114 years later,  
12 trying to defend the Itasca State Park.

13 We shouldn't have to do that. We  
14 know better. The White Earth Indian  
15 reservation is sacred to them; the hunting, the  
16 white waters, and the fishing.

17 How many times do we have to keep  
18 (indiscernible) treaty with them? I think,  
19 folks, it's time Americans can stand up to  
20 those of us -- we should be able to stand up  
21 against Enbridge. Thank you for your time.

22 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

23 Karen Heller. And, again, if  
24 you can hold the mic parallel and say and  
25 spell your name to get us started.

1 MS. KAREN HELLER: I hope you  
2 all know that the preferred new Line 3 will  
3 not go through Staples. It would cut off up  
4 at Hubbard, go through Huntersville Forest,  
5 and on through the lakes to Superior where no  
6 pipeline has ever been before.

7 Some lucky people were paid a lot  
8 of money to develop and produce all these signs  
9 and papers. They've been working for months,  
10 gathering data for these 5,000 pages, and were  
11 paid very well for it, I'm sure.

12 Some people here will make a  
13 little money selling diesel to truckers, but  
14 it's probably not from Enbridge Energy oil.

15 Who from central Minnesota will  
16 actually get a job from this project? Option 3  
17 will go through Staples.

18 In 2008, a fourth pipeline was  
19 installed through Staples, where MTM is already  
20 planning an expansion.

21 And I have seven questions that  
22 you guys need to answer or send in the answers  
23 of these questions.

24 One, did any local people  
25 actually work on the installation or get work

1           because of it? This is in 2008, I'm asking.

2                       Did any businesses here receive  
3           increased income from it?

4                       Three, was there less  
5           unemployment in the area because of the  
6           pipeline construction?

7                       Four, are we getting more  
8           business income or jobs because the pipeline is  
9           here?

10                      Five, how much in taxes do our  
11           counties receive from the pipeline company for  
12           using the land? And what are they doing with  
13           it?

14                      Six, did the lump sums paid to  
15           the landowners truly offset their loss of  
16           productivity?

17                      Seven, in 1954, when this  
18           pipeline first cut across the country, how did  
19           the land values change; and also, for each  
20           additional line after that.

21                      Please send your answers to these  
22           questions to the Department of Commerce on  
23           these forms before July 10th.

24                      Thank you.

25                      FACILITATOR: Thank you.

1 Andrew Struss.

2 MR. ANDREW STRUSS: Hello, my  
3 name is Andrew Struss. I'm an Air Force  
4 veteran of eight years, honorably discharged,  
5 and have traveled across five different  
6 continents, a dozen different countries.

7 I was a national park ranger at  
8 Wind Cave in Kid National Park when I separated  
9 from the military, and I have a vested interest  
10 in our national parks, our state parks, our  
11 wildlife and our natural resources.

12 I think if Teddy Roosevelt were  
13 here, he would argue that we should be  
14 conservative with our national resources and we  
15 should protect these beautiful places for  
16 future generations to be able to be inspired  
17 and then be able to appreciate their natural  
18 beauty.

19 We have these pipelines which  
20 really are unnecessary, and they are taking the  
21 path of least resistance.

22 They're taking the path of least  
23 financial burden. They're really buying out  
24 our people and our people are being coerced.  
25 They're being threatened and they're being



1       forced to sell.

2                   And I encourage every person here  
3       to stand for the highest integrity, to tell  
4       them no, to tell your public utility  
5       commissions to say no to this project, that it  
6       is injurious to public interest; that our  
7       drinking water in this watershed is part of our  
8       tourism, is part of Minnesota's economy, and it  
9       grows our commerce by having people come here  
10      to see this beautiful part of the world.

11                  We have the crossroads of fresh  
12      water here. We have the Saint Lawrence Seaway,  
13      we have the Mississippi River. This is  
14      literally the crossroads of fresh water.

15                  This is where drinking water  
16      comes from the earth, and we have several lines  
17      zig-zagging, criss-crossing, going  
18      unnecessarily repeatedly over bodies of water.

19                  When it comes to energy and  
20      things like that, we have -- look at the water.  
21      We have hydroelectric power at our disposal  
22      here. None of this oil is actually for  
23      Minnesotans.

24                  So as Minnesotans, this Minnesota  
25      sky-colored water, it is our intention to keep

1       it that way. All of this oil will be exported.  
2       None of this is domestic. This is coming from  
3       a foreign company, right.

4               So let's keep in consideration  
5       who is trying to push this through. It is not  
6       Minnesotans. This is not benefiting our  
7       economy. This is not creating jobs, right.

8               The reason they want a pipeline  
9       is so that it will reduce the number of jobs in  
10      the oil industry, right, so they can have a  
11      more expeditious method of transferring this  
12      oil.

13              And all they want to do is get it  
14      out to the Saint Lawrence Seaway. We can't  
15      afford to have an Exxon Valdez-like spill in  
16      Lake Superior. 10 percent of the world's  
17      drinking water that's not blocked from the  
18      (indiscernible) is their, right.

19              Our Great Lakes and the whole  
20      thing stands in jeopardy. Minnesotans have the  
21      greatest -- they have the most to lose.

22              We have excellent trade  
23      opportunities. We have excellent -- these are  
24      old waterways. We have trade partners all the  
25      way down the Mississippi. This is stuff you

1 can revitalize, revive; not to mention our  
2 renewable sustainable ways to create and  
3 produce energy.

4 We have God's sun above us that  
5 can power everything that we could possibly  
6 need.

7 We have renewable crops like hemp  
8 that we've grown as buffer crops to help  
9 remediate existing damage that's been done.

10 And to abandon this and to allow  
11 a rerouting and more pipelines is just to  
12 repeat the same mistakes of the past.

13 Have we not learned from all of  
14 these anomalies that we're going to relive and  
15 revisit this again, and it will be seven  
16 generations that pay for this.

17 So if you are so short-sighted as  
18 to not understand the immediate and the  
19 long-term ramifications for our actions, you're  
20 selling out your soul, you're selling out your  
21 people, you're selling out your children's  
22 future.

23 What we have here is -- we have  
24 what's already needed here in Minnesota. We  
25 have the water. We have the arable farmland.

1 We have what we need. We can produce  
2 everything that we need. We can create  
3 plastics from hemp that are biodegradable. We  
4 can run on hemp as Henry Ford had the model.

5 This is common sense, and to  
6 really produce jobs and really grow our  
7 economy, we plant seeds for our future  
8 generations' prosperity. That's what we do  
9 here in Minnesota. We honor the earth.

10 We look at the state -- we look  
11 at our flag. We have a native American on  
12 horseback and we have a farmer tilling the  
13 land.

14 To be a good steward of the land  
15 is doing God's work. So let's respect what the  
16 Creator has given us, right, and not be so  
17 short-sighted as to sell ourselves out. And to  
18 give up our sovereignty to a public utilities  
19 commission to make a decision for all of us, I  
20 think is absurd.

21 We all should take a vested  
22 interest in this. If you're a Minnesotan and  
23 you live here, this is where you fish, this is  
24 where you hunt, this is where you live. This  
25 is where you can live off the fat of the land.

1                   And you should be able to reap  
2                   the fruits of your labor. We should not have  
3                   all of this greed -- it's greed. They're  
4                   trying to make an infinite profit off of a  
5                   finite resource.

6                   The business model will collapse  
7                   upon itself; if not today, sometime in the  
8                   future.

9                   Eventually there's going to have  
10                  to be a shift. If not immediate, through  
11                  attrition. So by removing a pipeline here  
12                  through attrition, one pipeline at a time, we  
13                  can remediate the soil. We can restore  
14                  this, right.

15                  If they want the soil, they can  
16                  send it in a different direction. Why don't  
17                  they refine it in North Dakota where they get  
18                  it from, right?

19                  No, because it's for export.  
20                  It's to be refined in Texas or wherever or  
21                  shipped abroad, right. We have public meetings  
22                  and these same companies are on an  
23                  international scale. We're talking pipelines  
24                  from Minnesota to Afghanistan. And I've been  
25                  there and I've seen it.

1 Don't tell me we're still there  
2 for other reasons. It's really greed.

3 And that's only a symptom of the  
4 real larger problem. Oil is a quick fix. The  
5 government -- if there was a greedier way, if  
6 there was a way to make more money, believe me,  
7 the politicians would do it.

8 So we need to realize that the  
9 oil is just a quick fix to the financial  
10 problem. It is just a quick injection to the  
11 economy, and it's not going to sustain itself.

12 Because as the debt continues --  
13 and this financial debt-based currency,  
14 financial reserve system has got our country  
15 bent over a barrel.

16 We have federal agencies now that  
17 are going to try to trump over our state's  
18 rights, our 10th Amendment rights.

19 None of this is outlined in the  
20 constitution. Nowhere does it say the federal  
21 government's allowed to run pipelines through  
22 our national forests, our state parks, and  
23 trample over our state's rights.

24 So I would encourage our governor  
25 and people within the government to take a

1 stand or we will secede from the Union, if we  
2 have to. Not for the reasons of old, but so  
3 that the federal government cannot come in and  
4 trample over our state's rights.

5 If we have to do so and enact  
6 that and revert back to the Republic of  
7 Minnesota, so help me, we will work with the  
8 Native American communities here and we will  
9 show the rest of the world a new way, a  
10 sustainable way.

11 People will come from all over  
12 the world to see this.

13 Thank you.

14 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

15 Bill Paulson.

16 MR. BILL PAULSON: Bill Paulson,  
17 B-I-L-L, P-A-U-L-S-O-N. (Ojibwe.)

18 Thanks everybody for being here.  
19 Thanks to everybody for being so polite and  
20 let everybody get in their comments.

21 There's a couple of issues that  
22 I'd like to address today. On page 11, we  
23 talk about how do tribal and federal approvals  
24 affect the route decision?

25 The pipeline crossing two

1       reservations with the pipeline 3 replacement;  
2       what they're not acknowledging is that they're  
3       going through ceded territory. 1855 treaty,  
4       almost the entire thing.

5               The thing that concerns me is it  
6       says they'll get tribal permission, but  
7       they're not talking about the individuals  
8       covered underneath the treaty.

9               My one concern is that I believe  
10       this should go up for public vote for everybody  
11       concerned on the ceded territory and the  
12       reservation boundaries.

13              We're listed under Minnesota  
14       Chippewa tribes. That means we recognize the  
15       six bands tied together. We are six bands tied  
16       together within our own treaty rights.

17              The White Earth Nation is under  
18       the 1855 treaty and has control, according to  
19       the treaty, of our waterways, our fish, our  
20       game, and our right to survive.

21              We need to be consulted. It is  
22       not a suggestion. It is not a request. It is  
23       a demand that the people of the 1855 Treaty are  
24       considered underneath this (indiscernible)  
25       across from the table.



1                   The other thing I'd like to point  
2                   out is on page 16, they give us a nice little  
3                   graph, shows how many incidences that we've had  
4                   by truck, by railway, and by pipeline. And  
5                   they did a pretty good job making it look like  
6                   this.

7                   What we're not looking at when  
8                   we're looking at the blue line there, the  
9                   railways really show they have very few  
10                  incidences but the incidences are highly  
11                  volatile.

12                 The spills on the pipelines are  
13                 not detected. They are putting in detectors up  
14                 along the pipeline, but they are not in working  
15                 condition time and time again. We see that the  
16                 pipelines are leaking and that the response  
17                 time is not enough.

18                 We're also looking at what kinds  
19                 of tar sand oils that they are pushing through  
20                 these pipelines. We are looking at highly  
21                 volatile liquids being forced through a  
22                 pipeline.

23                 Currently pipeline Line 3 was  
24                 splash welded. I am an engineer. I work in  
25                 the manufacturing industry. I'm a six-year

1 military vet, heavy equipment operator, diesel  
2 mechanic, and welder/driver.

3 Do we need oil? Unfortunately,  
4 currently, yes. We can't just shut 'em down.  
5 But we have the alternative of renewable  
6 energy. We're looking at all the billions that  
7 we're spending on this pipeline.

8 And the reason we're spending all  
9 this money on a pipeline is because it's going  
10 to cost too much for a company or an industry  
11 or a corporation to transfer all of the money  
12 they've made into creating renewable energy.  
13 That's the fear.

14 They've got money in the banks,  
15 they've got money in the politicians' pockets  
16 that want to push this through, but creating a  
17 new corridor will not do it.

18 I would request that you look at  
19 the EIS on environmental impact by having the  
20 unions of Minnesota do any work that is  
21 transpiring.

22 I would say that if we want to  
23 create jobs in Minnesota or when we're talking  
24 about creating jobs, that we demand 30 percent  
25 of the work force be Minnesotan; that we turn

1 around and we take that work force and we  
2 remove the existing Line 3. It is a time bomb  
3 waiting to happen.

4 If they want to put the new one  
5 anywhere, put it next to the sticks that are  
6 traversing northern Minnesota, so that when we  
7 do have a leak, they know where to go.

8 Why (indiscernible), everybody  
9 looking around for leaks? Why don't we turn  
10 around, put it into the trucking industry and  
11 transport it? Because it is proven that the  
12 trucking industry can transport it more safely  
13 than the pipeline.

14 When we talk about the railway  
15 being dangerous, it's because they transport so  
16 much oil on faulty carriers, faulty equipment.  
17 That has been changed. They're now coming out  
18 to higher standards.

19 When we look at the EIS, we need  
20 to actually consider the impact to the people  
21 who are learning to live sustainably, the  
22 people that are waking up to the GMO  
23 destruction, to the realm of destruction, to  
24 the corporation destruction, to the world  
25 destruction; telling them we need to grow more

1 food, to provide more food to feed the hungry.

2 In reality, we're growing  
3 something that is not sustainable and it's  
4 killing our people.

5 So as we return to nature to look  
6 for a way to survive, as they look to a natural  
7 diet to learn how to survive, when they finally  
8 get there and realize there's a better way of  
9 life, then we have to deal with pipelines.  
10 Then we have to deal with oil contamination.

11 It's not about doing what's best  
12 for the United States of America. It's doing  
13 what's best for the corporations, and that  
14 needs to also be looked at.

15 We need to take a look at our  
16 people, the people that are here, the treaty  
17 rights that gave us the right to live, and we  
18 need to figure out how to do this together.

19 But we need to take that money  
20 out of their pocket as a corporation, and  
21 actually take a look at this EIS and understand  
22 it is not about us.

23 It is about a corporation and a  
24 government control system that wants to tell us  
25 that it is about us. But they're not bringing

1       us out to the table. The EIS needs to be  
2       thrown out and started again.

3               They want help -- they need to  
4       sit down with people, the citizens, the groups  
5       that are going forward. My own gathering  
6       (indiscernible) Honor the Earth, union loggers,  
7       everybody, the tribal entities, bring us all to  
8       the table. Miigwech.

9               FACILITATOR: Dan Brady.

10              MR. DAN BRADY: Dan Brady,  
11       D-A-N, B-R-A-D-Y. I'm with the Laborers Local  
12       563. I represent approximately 10,000  
13       members. Of those 10,000 members, I've had a  
14       couple conversations of whether or not it  
15       should be built and built locally.

16              It'll have approximately  
17       50 percent of the local Minnesotans building  
18       this pipeline. This isn't just about a  
19       pipeline. This isn't just about big oil.

20              My members build solar farms,  
21       winds farms and everything in between. My  
22       members get enough work maintaining broken  
23       pipelines. This isn't about a new pipeline.  
24       This is about replacing a pipeline that is  
25       broken.

1                   For too long in this state all  
2                   we do is put bandaids over bridges, over roads  
3                   that have a breakdown. A year later, two  
4                   years later, more problems and more road work.

5                   For once, we're talking about  
6                   brand new technology, best possible to move  
7                   oil from point A to point B. No longer will  
8                   we be chasing down leaks on a bad pipeline  
9                   through bad areas. Thank you.

10                  FACILITATOR: Wendy Ulrich.

11                  MS. WENDY ULRICH: My name is  
12                  Wendy Ulrich, W-E-N-D-Y, U-L-R-I-C-H. We, as a  
13                  nation, have a history, right up to this  
14                  current time, of not honoring our pacts,  
15                  agreements, and treaties.

16                  We are learning that when this  
17                  happens, our consciences compel us to take out  
18                  of the ordinary action to turn around policies  
19                  and decisions that we don't agree with and are  
20                  not right.

21                  I am not of indigenous heritage  
22                  so I do not speak for the original people on  
23                  this land.

24                  I speak as a citizen and a  
25                  benefactor of our collective history who is

1 learning about and observing our native  
2 neighbors' historic relationship with Federal  
3 and Minnesota government.

4 In Table ES-1 titled,  
5 "Certificate of Need, Alternatives and  
6 Criteria," of the DEIS, a series of questions  
7 are shown at the top which the Public Utilities  
8 Commissioner will use in making the decision  
9 whether to grant a Certificate of Need to  
10 Enbridge, and if granted, to decide on method  
11 of oil.

12 So then this process is about  
13 granting a Certificate of Need, and if that  
14 need is granted, then to decide how oil will be  
15 transported.

16 One final question at the top of  
17 this table asks, "Does the project comply with  
18 other laws?"

19 At this point there is an  
20 omission in this table. It does not include  
21 the similarly important question, "Does the  
22 project comply with state and federal  
23 governments -- does the project comply with  
24 state and federal treaties with affected  
25 indigenous groups?"

1                   Our nation, in this case by way  
2                   of Minnesota government, must abide by the 1855  
3                   Treaty signed by the federal government with  
4                   the Ojibwe people.

5                   From Honor the Earth -- we saw  
6                   their stand near the back of the room -- from  
7                   their organization's, "What we need to know,"  
8                   Line 3 resource. The pipeline, "threatens  
9                   critical resources on Ojibwe treaty lands where  
10                  tribal members retain the right to hunt, fish,  
11                  gather, and hold ceremony, and travel." That  
12                  is in the treaty.

13                  Destruction of forested and  
14                  wetland habitat and lakes within the 1855  
15                  Treaty area will result from oil spills,  
16                  habitat fragmentation due to the construction  
17                  which affects animals, birds, and vegetation  
18                  and develops micro-climates.

19                  This is stated in the booklet  
20                  that we've all gotten here today called the,  
21                  "Guide to the Line 3 Public Meetings for the  
22                  DEIS - Executive Summary," and it's on page 32.

23                  All of Enbridge's proposed routes  
24                  and virtually all of their preferred routes go  
25                  through the 1855 treaty lands of



1 north-central -- and that spans all the way  
2 from the east to the western border of our  
3 state -- northern and all northeastern  
4 Minnesota above Lake Superior.

5 All these areas include pristine  
6 wild rice lakes important to our neighbors'  
7 culture.

8 I'm going to ask this question:  
9 Is it right to construct a treaty back in 1855  
10 saving hunting, fishing, gathering, wild ricing  
11 for indigenous people, then alter the land,  
12 rivers, lakes, and wetlands by practices that  
13 leave them less useful ecologically and  
14 culturally -- sorry -- that leave them less  
15 useful ecologically and culturally and  
16 environmentally harmful?

17 I support the Ojibwe people in  
18 opposing the Line 3 oil pipeline.

19 I believe there is an omission in  
20 Table ES-1 of the DEIS used in the  
21 decision-making criteria granting a Certificate  
22 of Need for Enbridge's Line 3 tar sands oil  
23 project.

24 We must honor our treaty with the  
25 Ojibwe people.

1 Thank you.

2 FACILITATOR: Lisa Kajer.

3 MS. LISA KAJER: I represent  
4 Fish Trap Lake Property Owners Association.  
5 Fish Trap Lake is one of the open water  
6 sources on one of the proposed alternatives.  
7 As an association, we are concerned about our  
8 lake.

9 We also have railroad tracks  
10 running near them with many oil trains running  
11 daily.

12 If the pipeline proposed  
13 alternative goes by Fish Trap Lake, we  
14 increase our chance of an environmental  
15 disaster.

16 We are concerned about the  
17 safety of people on the lake and protection of  
18 our water.

19 Thank you.

20 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

21 Peter Klick.

22 MR. PETER KLICK: Peter Klick,  
23 P-E-T-E-R, K-L-I-C-K. I came up here today  
24 trying to get information about this and see  
25 what was going on.

1                   To be honest with you, I've  
2                   learned a lot of things, but I did have one  
3                   question. Is there anybody here that didn't  
4                   drive here today? One person -- two?  
5                   Probably live in Staples, right.

6                   I really think -- I mean, if we  
7                   look at what's going on, we need oil in this  
8                   country and that's what this country runs on.  
9                   Until we come up with a better idea, we're  
10                  going to need oil.

11                  And granted, this pipeline,  
12                  we're not going to get any oil from it, but if  
13                  we don't take -- we use oil, and if this oil  
14                  goes somewhere else -- if it doesn't, those  
15                  people are going to need oil that we need.

16                  So I look at all this, and, you  
17                  know, the least damage that we can do is by  
18                  running it in a pipeline. It's the safest  
19                  way, and I think a new pipeline has a lot  
20                  better technology than the old pipeline has.

21                  And, you know, we can transport  
22                  it by truck, which then we hear about this  
23                  truck turned over and it did all this  
24                  environmental damage; and we can transport it  
25                  by train, and we hear about the derailment and

1           it did all of this damage.

2                       And the pipeline, I know if you  
3           got a spill, you have more oil that spills out.  
4           But I think there's a lot more safeguards  
5           nowadays in the pipelines than we're used to.

6                       I think fuel keeps our country  
7           running. And we do have alternative fuels. I  
8           heard a lot of people mention alternative  
9           fuels.

10                      So if we look at them, we've got  
11           electric, hydroelectric mentioned, and I'd be  
12           all in favor of damming rivers and having  
13           hydroelectric power. But I got news for you.  
14           If we try damming a river in this country  
15           nowadays, it would never happen.

16                      It's just like if we want to  
17           build a nuclear power plant. It don't happen.

18                      So I looked at the route here,  
19           and I'm color blind, so maybe I'm missing  
20           something. Maybe these people can tell me if  
21           I'm wrong. But it looks like this route turns  
22           south at Clearbrook and goes over towards  
23           Backus, Palisade, Cromwell into Carlton.

24                      If that's the new route that's  
25           proposed, I don't see that going through any

1 native American land. I don't see it going  
2 through any state parks.

3 And the old pipeline does go  
4 through quite a bit of the Native American  
5 land.

6 I talked with a gentleman here  
7 about removing the old pipeline, because, to  
8 me, that seems like a good alternative. But  
9 then when you find out all the statistics about  
10 it, you find out that the old pipeline runs  
11 along other existing pipelines.

12 So we got the problem, what  
13 happens if we cut one of the other pipelines?  
14 We have oil spills.

15 And we also have the problem,  
16 environmental problem of taking that old  
17 pipeline out, we disturb all (indiscernible),  
18 and that's going to cause environmental  
19 problems.

20 So for me, I think -- I mean, I  
21 look at the new route. The one I see here is  
22 right. I don't see a problem with that, and I  
23 think it's a better alternative. If we run a  
24 new pipeline, it's got better technology than  
25 what we have right now.

1 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

2 Amy Bond.

3 MS. AMY BOND: My name is Amy  
4 Bond, A-M-Y, B-O-N-D.

5 And to me, replacement means  
6 take out the old and put in new. Keep it in  
7 the same place. If that's not possible,  
8 because it's in the middle of two other  
9 pipelines, put it on the side. You've already  
10 taken 750 feet.

11 Now you want to move it down to  
12 another area, disturb more farmland, woods,  
13 lakes, and rivers and highways to put in a  
14 different route down south.

15 If you can stick with the same  
16 route, maybe a third of the way, stick with it  
17 the whole way, go alongside of it.

18 People don't want to give up  
19 their land and their woods, because then what  
20 happens? They get shoved off on eminent  
21 domain. Whether they want to lose their land  
22 or not, they take it. The rail company takes  
23 it.

24 So they don't have a lot of  
25 choice when it comes right down to it. You

1       either sell it or you lose it, one way or the  
2       other.

3               In Iowa a lady got shoved off of  
4       her land. They arrested her and removed her  
5       because she didn't want to give it up after  
6       eminent domain.

7               Another thing; we have a lot of  
8       lakes and rivers, and if this pipeline or any  
9       other pipeline leaks or spills, then you're  
10      losing fish, you're losing wildlife, all of the  
11      environment around it is damaged.

12              And there is an example. Back in  
13      2010, Enbridge had the biggest oil leak ever in  
14      the Kalamazoo River. It was a six-foot split  
15      under the river. It did so much damage, it  
16      took 'em four years to clean it up so the EPA  
17      would even approve that.

18              I just think replacement means  
19      take out the old and put in the new. Stop  
20      taking people's lands and damaging their farms  
21      and their timber.

22              And also, the more oil they ship  
23      from Canada, it comes across all of our lands  
24      and goes to Lake Superior and Duluth. It gets  
25      shipped over to China. We only use maybe

1           10 percent of the oil that we're digging out of  
2           Canada.

3                       So I say it's time to put a stop  
4           to this. If they want to replace it, replace  
5           it in the same spot.

6                       Thank you.

7                       FACILITATOR: Thank you.

8                       Tony Wicken.

9                       MR. TONY WICKEN: Tony Wicken,  
10          T-O-N-Y, W-I-C-K-E-N.

11                      I'd like to thank everybody for  
12          being here today. Obviously, we all have our  
13          own reasons for being here. Some of us work on  
14          the pipeline, some of us respect the land and  
15          other things like that.

16                      I grew up about an hour from  
17          here, so I know the waterways and native  
18          people. I myself am an avid outdoorsman.

19                      The union put a lot of people to  
20          work on the pipelines. No matter if we're  
21          building them, replacing them, maintaining  
22          them, so forth.

23                      Bear with me a moment, I'm sorry.  
24          Stop and realize Line 3 is roughly 63 years  
25          old. Think of the technology when that was



1 first put in versus the technology that will be  
2 put in a new line today.

3 So you gotta stop and think about  
4 the impacts, new versus old.

5 Everywhere this pipeline runs is  
6 already mandated -- local jobs, local labor  
7 (indiscernible) union jobs, local communities  
8 for the people out of work -- possibly getting  
9 a life-long career.

10 Biggest thing I would like to  
11 say, the State can't afford to sit and wait any  
12 longer on this line. Replacing Line 3 is  
13 critical to the safety and reliability of  
14 Minnesota pipeline infrastructure. We need to  
15 keep the process moving forward so the  
16 Commission can make a decision.

17 FACILITATOR: That's all of the  
18 sign-ups we had, but we still have others.

19 Start by saying your name and  
20 spelling it. Thanks.

21 MR. PHILLIP WALLACE: Phillip  
22 Wallace, P-H-I-L-L-I-P, W-A-L-L-A-C-E, and I'm  
23 here today to speak in support of Line 3  
24 replacement.

25 First of all, is there a need

1       for this pipeline, and I say yes. There is a  
2       need to get this old pipeline out of service,  
3       you know, everybody -- you know, we don't want  
4       another Kalamazoo River.

5                       We want this old pipeline out of  
6       service and a brand new pipeline.

7                       Do we need that? Yes, we do  
8       need that. Minnesota has benefited from the  
9       since 1963. This Canadian crude has been  
10      coming through here since 1963 in this  
11      pipeline. So we need to get that one out of  
12      service.

13                      You know, this creates an  
14      opportunity in Minnesota -- any good. That's  
15      not clear. It comes back to you as gasoline  
16      diesel fuel, jet fuel, heating fuel, and many  
17      other products that's byproducts of crude oil.

18                      There's a lot of concern about  
19      the old pipeline being decommissioned and  
20      removed. I've been in the pipeline and welding  
21      business for 41 years. I've taken out many  
22      lines; lines that were out of date -- and the  
23      way we decommission these lines, the first  
24      thing we do is we run pigs through the  
25      pipeline.

1                   This is a cleaning tool, and we  
2                   pressurize them with air pressure behind them  
3                   and we push all the fluids out of the pipeline,  
4                   you know, until it's completely cleared of all  
5                   fluids.

6                   And then we will put a nitrogen  
7                   purge on this to push out all the explosive  
8                   gases, and we will fill this line with a low  
9                   pressure nitrogen.

10                  Then we will take the mainline  
11                  valves that you see above ground. The pipeline  
12                  comes up, you see the valves. We dig that up.  
13                  We cut those valves out. We remove those  
14                  valves. We weld plates on the open ends.  
15                  Where there's no open ends, they're buried.

16                  The road crossings, the road  
17                  crossings are dug up on each side. We cut  
18                  those, oscillate that road section, the section  
19                  that goes underneath the roads and the creeks  
20                  and the water pumps.

21                  We cut those, oscillate 'em, fill  
22                  'em with concrete or grout, so they will not  
23                  corrode and cave in in these areas.

24                  As far as taking the line up,  
25                  yes, I agree that thing needs to be taken up,

1 but I do know there is some sensitive areas,  
2 that it's more unsafe to try to get it removed  
3 than it is to leave it in place, in certain  
4 areas.

5 So there's a lot of concern about  
6 these jobs. But, you know -- well, these are  
7 temporary jobs. For people like myself and  
8 many others in this room that are pipeline  
9 construction workers from all trades, this is  
10 not a temporary job. This is our lifetime  
11 career.

12 This is my 41st year of being a  
13 pipeliner, and I've done that from the Alaska  
14 pipeline all the way down to the oil fields of  
15 Venezuela in my career, and I'm pretty proud of  
16 that. It's not a temporary job to me.

17 We have over 2,000 UA skilled  
18 pipe trades members in the state of Minnesota.  
19 And these -- you know, our members here in  
20 Minnesota, they make their living working for  
21 Enbridge, not just on pipelines, but tank  
22 farms, pump stations, facility work.

23 But they make their living with  
24 Enbridge and they have their whole career, and  
25 there's not a lot of work in Minnesota right

1       now. Most of these people are up in the  
2       northeastern states. We need to get this  
3       pipeline approved for Minnesotans to come back  
4       to work at home.

5               That's pretty much -- Enbridge  
6       has committed their work to the skilled union  
7       laborers here and in all the work on all the  
8       pipelines.

9               And like I said, this Kalamazoo  
10      thing, that was a terrible tragedy. We don't  
11      want that here. So let's get rid of this Line  
12      3 and get a brand new pipeline in its place.

13              Thank you.

14              FACILITATOR: Anyone else?

15              MR. ANDY PEARSON: My name is  
16      Andy Pearson, A-N-D-Y, P-E-A-R-S-O-N.

17              One comment today, but first a  
18      thought that's been, I guess, bubbling up for  
19      me over this and other meetings is that, I  
20      think we all know this, if we think about it,  
21      that abolitionists still wore shirts made from  
22      cotton picked by slaves.

23              And yet, if you listen to some of  
24      the comments I've been hearing, which reminds  
25      me I do in fact own a car, believe me, I

1 haven't forgotten that, I think you might hear  
2 between the lines that we should still have  
3 slavery.

4 I want to remind everybody that  
5 existing outside of the system, trying to  
6 change that system, usually is impossible and  
7 says to me the system shouldn't still be  
8 changed. So I'll leave it at that.

9 I want to talk about external  
10 costs for just a second. We know external  
11 costs are costs that are not borne by  
12 essentially the party that has caused them to  
13 be incurred by society, but borne by the  
14 societies at large.

15 One of the biggest external costs  
16 with this project is the cost to our earth's  
17 climate system. And that cost is listed in  
18 this document as \$287 billion over 30 years of  
19 climate damages, and that's a cost that there's  
20 no assumption in this DEIS that Enbridge is at  
21 any point going to potentially pick up any of  
22 that cost to society.

23 I ask, as a person who's younger  
24 than many in this room, why we would ever  
25 consider building a project under those

1       circumstances, when we know those costs are  
2       going to be incurred in a way they're being  
3       passed onto future generations.

4               And one way the EIS could improve  
5       on this would be to run those costs out over a  
6       timeline that's longer than 30 years. If you  
7       look at the document, it says 30 years is the  
8       shortest imagined life span for the project.

9               Now, that's per Enbridge. So I'm  
10       a little bit surprised that the DOC decided to  
11       take the shortest possible time estimate and  
12       only calculate the costs out to that point,  
13       when we know there's pipelines operating in  
14       Minnesota right now on the main line corridor  
15       that have been in place for over 60 years and  
16       still operating, still pumping oil.

17               We should see, at a minimum, a  
18       60-year timeline for the social process.

19               Another externalized cost is that  
20       of abandonment that the DEIS lists a number of  
21       \$1.28 billion total cost to remove this  
22       pipeline. Now, if they're able to list a cost,  
23       that does seem to indicate that it is a  
24       possible thing to do, that it is possible to  
25       remove this pipeline, if you're able to get a

1       roughly accurate number, a cross number put on  
2       removable.

3               I don't see an assumption of the  
4       DEIS that Enbridge is expected to bear that  
5       cost of abandonment in any way, not on the old  
6       Line 3, because they're planning to leave in  
7       place instead of removing it, which is what the  
8       figure refers to is removal.

9               And I don't see that worked into  
10       estimates about the new line that they would  
11       build, and that should be built in as an  
12       additional cost down the road, right.

13              Because we know it's going to  
14       have to be incurred at some point. I think  
15       many of us are probably not under the delusion  
16       that these lines will permanently, for the life  
17       of the earth, stay in the ground and either  
18       harmlessly disintegrate or just stay put, stay  
19       in place.

20              I think we know that at some  
21       point these lines are likely to be removed,  
22       whether it's now, whether it's several years  
23       down the road, maybe several decades down the  
24       road, in case of the new line that they want to  
25       build.



1                   Doesn't mean the costs are not  
2                   going to have to be borne by somebody, and in a  
3                   fair society we should ask that the costs are  
4                   borne by the party that caused it to be  
5                   incurred, which in this case is Enbridge  
6                   Energy.

7                   So we should be making processes  
8                   to hold Enbridge accountable, and the DEIS  
9                   should be quantifying those costs and setting  
10                  an expectation that they be included in  
11                  Enbridge's responsibility.

12                  And I wish I saw it in the  
13                  document, and I hope the final version puts it  
14                  up more clearly.

15                  Finally, I question where this  
16                  oil is going once it is the end of the line in  
17                  Superior, the end of the projected -- project  
18                  that Enbridge has proposed.

19                  We know that there's pipelines  
20                  that run from Superior across Wisconsin, Line  
21                  61, at least two others.

22                  But those pipelines are  
23                  relatively full right now. Enbridge has  
24                  ultimately proposed and then walked back the  
25                  proposal to build a twin line that would also

1 cross down through Wisconsin to carry this oil.

2 Now, currently that project is  
3 off the table. But if you add up the oil flow  
4 numbers, they don't appear to have enough  
5 capacity to put the oil from an expanded Line 3  
6 on their current lines across Wisconsin.

7 Now, there's some oil that will  
8 flow across the upper peninsula of Michigan,  
9 Line 5, and across and straight to that line,  
10 crossing this. Absolutely terrifying, if you  
11 have underwater footage, because it's in such  
12 bad shape because the pipe isn't down there.

13 Thank God it hasn't had a major  
14 leak because it would contaminate three great  
15 lakes if it did.

16 A few points there, if Line 66,  
17 this proposed twin pipeline across Wisconsin is  
18 part of the Line 3 plan, it must be disclosed  
19 and it must be considered in the DEIS as a  
20 connected project, because that's the law that  
21 the DEIS is operating under, is connected  
22 projects need to be considered in the DEIS.

23 If it is not on the table as a  
24 project, we need a better explanation from  
25 Enbridge where exactly this oil is going once

1       it leaves Superior, because this may be an  
2       attempt to just avoid having to consider a  
3       connected project.

4               It creates substantial impacts in  
5       Wisconsin that would otherwise be included in  
6       the DEIS.

7               Another option, of course, is  
8       putting some of that on Line 5, but I will note  
9       that right now on Line 5 Michigan is working  
10      very hard to shut down that pipeline.

11              There's a very solid chance that  
12      that line would be shut down or scheduled to be  
13      shut down before Line 3 ever becomes  
14      operational, and I didn't see any consideration  
15      of that in the DEIS.

16              What happens if one of the  
17      Superior take-away lines that right now is  
18      carrying a substantial volume ends up not being  
19      able to carry that volume?

20              Because the most plausible  
21      scenario right now in Michigan is showing that  
22      line is leaking or being shut down.

23              And the last thing I want to say  
24      is that the other option would be moving this  
25      on boats from Superior. We know Enbridge has

1 had a proposal to do this on the table and they  
2 have taken that proposal off the table for now.

3 Will it come back? Will they be  
4 putting tar sands in our Great Lakes? I don't  
5 think that any of us wants that. So we need  
6 answers on where this oil is going.

7 Thank you so much.

8 FACILITATOR: In the back --  
9 state your name and spell it.

10 MR. MEL DANIELS: My name is Mel  
11 Daniels, D-A-N-I-E-L-S, from Staples.

12 I live north of Staples and the  
13 pipeline, and my comment is oil is going  
14 through town on railroad. At times you see  
15 six, seven oil trains in here, plus two or  
16 three old trains in here.

17 What really concerns me is if we  
18 had an issue here, it would literally melt the  
19 town of Staples. To me, that was more scary  
20 than living next to the pipeline. Thank you.

21 FACILITATOR: One comment up  
22 there.

23 MS. KYLIE LEMLEY: Hi, I'm  
24 K-Y-L-I-E, L-E-M-L-E-Y.

25 So first of all, I heard the

1       technology comparison time and time again  
2       between the old Line 3 and the proposed new  
3       project.

4                   When we talk about leaks here,  
5       we are not solely talking about leaks from the  
6       60-some-year-old Line 3.

7                   We're including leaks from brand  
8       new pipelines with the same brand new  
9       technology that you continue spouting, and in  
10      fact, compared to other decades, we are  
11      currently on track to become the decade with  
12      the highest amount of pipeline spills ever in  
13      the U.S.

14                  So keeping in mind that around  
15      half of all pipelines today were built in the  
16      '50s, and that these new lines that we're  
17      building today can hold double the capacity  
18      that the old ones that are currently running,  
19      we're set to double the amount of oil running  
20      through Minnesota.

21                  I'd like to say that I for one  
22      am not okay with the 40 percent reduction in  
23      spill risk that I heard with new technology.  
24      I am not okay with just a 40 percent promise  
25      that maybe it will leak a little bit less.

1                   If we want to keep our waters  
2                   and lands safe here, we need to have no risks  
3                   of spill.

4                   I'd also like to speak on the  
5                   issue of abandonment. I would like to mention  
6                   if we want to actually replace the old  
7                   pipeline -- this is being called a replacement  
8                   project -- we can't just abandon the old line  
9                   and create an entirely new route and an  
10                  entirely new corridor. That's not at all  
11                  replacement. I don't see how that's  
12                  sustainable.

13                  So if you are talking about  
14                  abandonment, the cost of cleaning up the  
15                  alleged line is estimated at \$1.28 billion.  
16                  Obviously, I'm not going to pay for that.

17                  I hope to God you are planning  
18                  on paying for that. Enbridge should  
19                  absolutely have to pay for that.

20                  So 14 pages in the DEIS are what  
21                  have been given to the topic of abandonment.  
22                  Fourteen pages out of 6,000. That's  
23                  absolutely insane. This has never been done  
24                  before. We don't just abandon our pipelines.

25                  We need to have an entirely

1 separate Environmental Impact Statement on  
2 abandonment. We deserve to know what happens  
3 to our land, the risks we're willing to accept  
4 if we decide to put this project through.

5 I'd also like to mention that  
6 even if we didn't have oil today, et cetera,  
7 we all drove here today, blah, blah, blah.  
8 Even if we do need oil, we have 20 or 30 years  
9 to figure out how to move away from it before  
10 we can't extract oil portably anymore here in  
11 the U.S.

12 Let me let you in on a secret.  
13 The reason that Line 3 is represented in DEIS  
14 as running for maybe 30 years is because  
15 that's all the amount of time we have left in  
16 terms of extraction, okay.

17 The reason they're extracting  
18 tar sands, which are the most expensive to  
19 extract, are because we're scraping the bottom  
20 of the barrel. There's nothing left for us.  
21 There's nothing we can do here.

22 So what do we do when we run out  
23 in 30 years? Do we have just have no options  
24 to move forward, because we spent the previous  
25 70 years knowing that we're running out of

1 time, milking the earth for every last drop of  
2 dirty oil we can scrape from it?

3 We have jobs, welding jobs,  
4 electrician jobs, skilled labor jobs in a  
5 renewable energy economy. The technology  
6 exists.

7 As you've also heard people say  
8 today, electric cars, cars that run on things  
9 like vegetable oil or hemp oil, they exist,  
10 the technology is all there. We just need to  
11 make it available for people like you and me.

12 There are also more than double  
13 jobs in the renewable resources than there are  
14 in the oil and natural gas industry nationwide  
15 right now.

16 The only reason we need  
17 petroleum to exist is because a corporate  
18 giant has distorted facts to make things seem  
19 that way.

20 We are moving forward, whether  
21 people want to or not. Do we as Minnesotans  
22 want to be left behind? And lastly, I'd like  
23 to pose a question for you all to consider  
24 privately.

25 As mentioned earlier today, the



1 DEIS specifically states that indigenous  
2 communities will be adversely impacted  
3 disproportionately.

4 The DEIS has also acknowledged  
5 that native peoples are already very much  
6 economically depressed. I think  
7 (indiscernible), the very sensitive natural  
8 rice beds and kill the water. We absolutely  
9 are going to be killing the native people,  
10 too.

11 Ask yourself why pipelines seem  
12 to snake through reservations, seem to go  
13 through the 1855 ceded territory, which is  
14 currently a law still in effect, by the way.

15 Ask yourself why when Bismarck  
16 residents said they didn't want the Dakota  
17 Access pipeline near their water sources out  
18 of fear (indiscernible), the pipeline was  
19 rerouted to the Standing Rock reservation.

20 Ask yourself why if this Line 3  
21 doesn't affect you or your family personally,  
22 you just are not interested.

23 Those are my comments, and thank  
24 you for listening.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a

1 couple of questions. First, I look around this  
2 room and this is a project that will be  
3 affecting every person in several counties. I  
4 see only a handful of people.

5 How much information is being put  
6 out so the people know this meeting is going  
7 on? I, by chance, found out no one that I  
8 talked to knew that this meeting was happening.

9 My other question is tar sands do  
10 not flow. They're thick, they're heavy. What  
11 are you mixing? What other chemicals are going  
12 to be in our waters when that pipeline breaks?

13 And I'm not saying if, I'm saying  
14 when, because they do break. The old one has  
15 broke several times here.

16 Thirdly, what is your spill --  
17 what is the reaction time on a spill? How long  
18 before you show up? How long before it's  
19 stopped? How long before it's repaired if it's  
20 running into our lands and waters?

21 FACILITATOR: Were there any  
22 others?

23 MS. JUNE WEITEMIER: Hi, I'm June  
24 Weitemier, J-U-N-E, W-E-I-T-E-M-I-E-R.

25 I'm from Long Prairie, and I did

1 drive here. But I also worked in Texas over 20  
2 years, and a lot of those oil fields have been  
3 shut down and they should not have been. It  
4 cost a lot of guys, engineers, their jobs and  
5 that was not a good thing.

6 We should be independent of  
7 foreign oil. I am against foreign oil. We  
8 need to take care of our people here. We also  
9 need to take care of the water, yes.

10 One of the things is -- well, you  
11 can tell I'm older, but I have been recycling  
12 for 48 years on my own; trying to keep the  
13 water clean, watching my garbage, watching what  
14 I use and what I don't use, and passing that on  
15 to my children.

16 And that's me, my individual  
17 responsibility, but I pass on to my  
18 grandchildren.

19 I said to someone here today I  
20 represent at least 75 people just in my family,  
21 70 for the pipeline, five against.

22 In my family my father worked for  
23 the First Nation people. We had a lot of  
24 people that lived in the Staples area. My dad  
25 lived at (indiscernible) Prairie, and so we

1 respectfully -- with hunting and the fishing,  
2 and I love to fish.

3 But there again, I feel I'm  
4 responsible for keeping the waters around me  
5 clean and not to pollute it. And I started  
6 that 48 years ago, how I wash my clothes and  
7 what I wash my clothes in to keep our waterways  
8 clean.

9 You go further down the  
10 Mississippi, it's really dirty, and people need  
11 to start to be responsible for what they use it  
12 for in their homes, to keep it clean, and pass  
13 it on to our children.

14 But if you're talking about  
15 quantifying cost, I think that's an excellent  
16 thing. We need to do that with all our  
17 resources, whatever we use.

18 I am for solar. I am not for the  
19 wind mills. They do not quantify the costs  
20 that you're going to have to do to replace it.

21 Now, the other thing is oil.  
22 What are we going to do when the oil runs out?  
23 The United States of America is coal wealthy.  
24 We are also engineer wealthy, and it's time for  
25 our young people, some of whom are very

1 brilliant, to start learning the chemistry.

2 In my family on my mother's side,  
3 it was through uranium, and that chemistry was  
4 kept secret in how to use and make all types of  
5 uranium.

6 Even out of the Saturday mornings  
7 with the channels that they have to teach our  
8 young people, I found it was very interesting.  
9 I did not realize that the telegraph was sent  
10 from England to the United States of America  
11 somewhere in the 1800s or before that, and it's  
12 all piped under ground and had to have the most  
13 excellent copper.

14 Michigan has copper and the best  
15 copper in order for that telegraph to be able  
16 to transmit and resonate underneath the water.

17 So you can understand, some of  
18 you will remember, but the young ones won't.  
19 The Woodstock music festival out northeast,  
20 pretty riotous, and they had a lot of fun,  
21 right.

22 It's costing them almost 50 years  
23 to clean up that mess. And I called and  
24 asked -- I think it's okay to have fun, but how  
25 much does it cost everybody else to clean it

1 up?

2 Another thing is, do you know the  
3 plants and trees need the carbon dioxide we  
4 give off? It is for their life. I believe  
5 that we are personally responsible for  
6 everything, and we do have coal, we have great  
7 engineers.

8 And I think it's time for the  
9 young people in college to learn how to take  
10 care of these things and to use their  
11 brilliance toward this.

12 And I'd be right out there,  
13 because there's anarchists running in our  
14 country. We need to keep them out. We need to  
15 keep extreme socialism out of our country.  
16 This is the United States of America we were  
17 founded on the constitution.

18 We need to respect all of our  
19 peoples, and I'm saying be careful, be  
20 cautious, but like they say, be careful who you  
21 allow in your fox hole.

22 Thank you.

23 FACILITATOR: Do we have other  
24 comments? Anyone who hasn't spoken? If you  
25 can spell your name again.

1 MR. BILL PAULSON: Thank you.

2 Bill, B-I-L-L, Paulson, P-A-U-L-S-O-N.

3 Just a couple things that came to  
4 mind while I'm sitting here, listening to  
5 everybody. Maybe we need to look at also one  
6 thing I'm not seeing in the DEIS is past  
7 history performance.

8 When we go back and average out  
9 what has happened in the past with the  
10 pipelines, then we could give them perspective  
11 of what we can look at in the future. We have,  
12 what is very well stated, 40 some years in the  
13 pipeline industry. We have new safety measures  
14 and everything, Dakota Access to the pipeline  
15 in North Dakota, and prior to even getting it  
16 fully implemented had a leak.

17 We keep stating these lines are  
18 safer, stronger; they're still leaking, so  
19 where's the quantification on that?

20 When they are connected to the  
21 other pipelines, we need to look at all the  
22 connecting issues. As was stated, where is it  
23 going?

24 When he said that none of these  
25 pipelines are touching the reservation, that is

1        untrue. According to the 1855 Treaty, ceded  
2        territory, these pipelines go directly through  
3        our controlled areas for our right to fish,  
4        hunt, and be sustainable. That is a given  
5        right. That's a federal law, law of the land.

6                        So when you look at that, they're  
7        going through, directly through lands that are  
8        controlled by the Native Americans of  
9        Minnesota, Wisconsin, and further on.

10                      So those things need to be  
11        addressed. We need to look at the  
12        qualification of the pipeline, where are the  
13        materials coming from.

14                      If it was U.S. made, stringent,  
15        stringent, stringent guidelines to create this  
16        thing, and we -- we just had an administration  
17        say come from Canada, Russian ties, inferior  
18        metal. What are the anomalies in this metal?  
19        Who is going to foot the bill when it comes to  
20        cleanup and everything else?

21                      We're looking at who is going to  
22        foot the bill. You're outsourcing jobs to  
23        Minnesota and other states. Minnesota will not  
24        receive the money.

25                      When you are not paying taxes in



1 Minnesota, Minnesotans do not get a benefit.

2 Miigwech.

3 FACILITATOR: One more.

4 MS. AMY BOND: Amy Bond, A-M-Y  
5 B-O-N-D.

6 One thing I forgot to mention is  
7 not only did Enbridge have the worst oil spill  
8 ever recorded, they also have -- are going to  
9 put in the longest pipeline ever recorded.  
10 That's another problem.

11 Another thing is all the oil is  
12 coming from Canada. Why don't they pipeline  
13 their own country, instead of destroying  
14 America? And we are sending all this oil  
15 mostly out of country. 10 percent stays here.  
16 90 percent goes to China or whatever country is  
17 needing it. Then we turn around and buy some  
18 back.

19 Why is that? It's more taxes for  
20 the people and more money for the companies.

21 Thank you.

22 FACILITATOR: Sir, if you can  
23 repeat your name and spell it.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I  
25 just want to add one thing here I want to

1 comment on. We gotta have this crude to  
2 survive. I want my grandchildren to live in a  
3 sustaining green world, but, you know, we're  
4 not there yet. We're working on it.

5 And as far as the comments I've  
6 been hearing, even last night in St. Paul,  
7 there's a lot of people -- you know, let's just  
8 move it on a train, move it on a truck. That's  
9 the -- you talk about safe transport here, you  
10 know.

11 If you got laptops, I want you to  
12 go home and research this. July the 6th, 2013,  
13 I can't remember the name of the town in  
14 Quebec, Canada. There was 74 car-loads of  
15 crude. It was hauling actually oil out of  
16 North Dakota that crashed in that town at  
17 1:15 a.m. and killed 42 people.

18 It burnt -- it was a runaway  
19 train. It had parked on the side rail a few  
20 miles out of town, bricks gave way. And that  
21 train crashed in that town and just totally  
22 destroyed the whole town, 42 people, and there  
23 was five more unaccounted for.

24 So you know what, let's do the  
25 smart thing here, let's put in the pipeline,

1 keep it off the railroads. Because the  
2 railroads -- I grew up in a town. All small  
3 towns are built around the railroads. These  
4 railroads pass right by your houses.

5 Let's keep it off the railroad.  
6 Don't even consider that being a safe way to  
7 travel.

8 Thank you.

9 FACILITATOR: I really  
10 appreciate -- we have one more. We have had a  
11 really good, civil conversation. I appreciate  
12 people being respectful and listening to each  
13 other's point of view, sharing your views.

14 We'll take one more comment and  
15 close out the public comment.

16 MS. NANCY TERHARK: My name is  
17 Nancy, N-A-N-C-Y, Terhark, T-E-R-H-A-R-K. I  
18 live in the city of Park Rapids just north of  
19 here.

20 I have many concerns with the  
21 Enbridge relocated and expanded Line 3  
22 pipeline, but my testimony today will be  
23 primarily about the part of the pipeline that  
24 goes through the Pineland Sands Straight River  
25 Aquifer.

1                   The water from this already  
2                   compromised aquifer is the main source of water  
3                   for the City of Park Rapids as well as the  
4                   source of many private wells, much agricultural  
5                   and irrigation and various industries in the  
6                   area.

7                   Enbridge hopes to relocate and  
8                   expand Line 3 and bring tar sands/build  
9                   this/coal lake blend oil not only through the  
10                  lakes, rivers, and waters that make Park Rapids  
11                  the destination of many tourists, fishermen,  
12                  and outdoor enthusiasts, but also through the  
13                  source of drinking water the Park Rapids  
14                  residents consider vital to their lives.

15                  Those of us who live in Park  
16                  Rapids have been through changes in our water  
17                  quality and the cost of treatment for these  
18                  changes have been added to our water bills for  
19                  the past two years.

20                  The Pineland Sands Straight River  
21                  Aquifer has recently come under study by the  
22                  Minnesota DNR and ECA.

23                  In February of 2015, the DNR  
24                  Commissioner Tom Landwehr said he was ordering  
25                  the study of water and wildlife impacts in the

1 Pineland Sands Aquifer.

2 A quote from the Star Tribune on  
3 February 5th, 2015, he says, "We simply have  
4 to get a better handle on what's happening with  
5 the water use and quality of this very, very,  
6 very important aquifer."

7 He also spoke about the already  
8 compromised aquifer and how some municipalities  
9 were having to invest in deeper wells, and the  
10 area was home to a number of unique species.

11 In October of 2016, another Star  
12 Tribune article quotes MPCA Commissioner John  
13 Linc Stine, "What we do to our land, we do to  
14 our water."

15 The article, "Minnesota's  
16 Threatened Rivers," talks about the dangers of  
17 continuing to pollute the upper Mississippi  
18 watershed, which includes the Pineland Sands  
19 Straight River Aquifer, which feeds into the  
20 Crow Wing River and continues onward to the  
21 Mississippi River.

22 Most recently, the Minnesota DNR  
23 has designated the Straight River groundwater  
24 management area that's one of three compromised  
25 areas that the DNR put at the top of their list

1       for a plan to be sure that the groundwater  
2       aquifers remain sustainable.

3               Sustainable cities included in  
4       the mapping area include Park Rapids, Osakis,  
5       and Hansford.

6               My questions, to go along -- a  
7       couple to go along with that and a couple that  
8       don't -- with all the studies being done by the  
9       Minnesota DNR and Minnesota Pollution Control  
10      Agency, I'm just wondering if any of the  
11      information was included in the DEIS? Were the  
12      DNR and the MPCA truly involved in it, and if  
13      so, in what capacity?

14              Why was the Pineland Sands  
15      Aquifer, an already compromised at risk aquifer  
16      system, passed over when selecting the still  
17      study sites? There were seven still study  
18      sites, but that was not one of them, and a more  
19      thorough analysis of different locations is  
20      needed.

21              There's some horizontal drilling  
22      under streams and river beds that contain  
23      additives that are toxic to aquatic wildlife  
24      and vegetation.

25              The Straight River, a nationally

1 known brown trout stream, suffered a frac-out  
2 during (indiscernible) four project. The  
3 public needs to be given a list of these  
4 additives to adequately comment.

5 BAR Engineering, here to testify  
6 as an advocate for Enbridge during the  
7 Sandpiper hearings. They referred to the  
8 groundwater south of Park Rapids as  
9 insignificant because it was already polluted.

10 How can they be trusted to be  
11 objective and to behave differently? Enbridge  
12 and their contractor prepared the entire report  
13 on oil releases and pinhole leaks.

14 Obviously it works to their  
15 benefit to downplay risks and damages. How can  
16 we trust them to write an objective report?  
17 Why was this not done by an independent expert  
18 reviewer?

19 More questions: Who are the  
20 private contractors used to compile the EIS?  
21 Do they have a work history with the applicant  
22 who hired them, State of Minnesota or Enbridge?

23 And last, but not least, this  
24 came to my computer yesterday, I believe it  
25 was. It's the definition of regulatory

1 capture, which is a question I have in the  
2 Minnesota DOC.

3 And the definition is:

4 "Regulatory capture is a theory associated with  
5 George Stigler, a Nobel Laureate economist. It  
6 is the process by which regulatory agencies  
7 eventually come to be dominated by the very  
8 industries they were charged with regulating.  
9 Regulatory capture happens when a regulatory  
10 agency, formed to act in the public's interest,  
11 eventually acts in ways that benefit the  
12 industry it's supposed to be regulating, rather  
13 than the public."

14 And I ask the Minnesota DOC if  
15 they have become a regulatory agency that has  
16 fallen victim to Enbridge.

17 Thank you for your time.

18 FACILITATOR: Thank you.

19 MS. NICOLETTE SLAGLE: Hi,  
20 Nicolette Slagle, N-I-C-O-L-E-T-T-E,  
21 S-L-A-G-L-E, Honor the Earth research  
22 director.

23 I just have a suggestion for you  
24 guys for the Final EIS in disseminating  
25 information a little bit more.



1                   We as Honor the Earth, have  
2                   started a website called stopline3.org, and on  
3                   that we have just a simple Google Earth map  
4                   with some of the information that we've  
5                   collected about this project.

6                   And I think that that might be a  
7                   very helpful way for people to be able to look  
8                   into the information that the DOC and you guys  
9                   have compiled.

10                  Because I know I personally have  
11                  a lot of questions of people about like where  
12                  is this pipeline going. I want to see a more  
13                  detailed map, and those map books are pretty  
14                  hard to navigate through.

15                  So if you had something that was  
16                  interactive posted on the website, you can  
17                  zoom in and see some of these different  
18                  analyses and just where different routes go.

19                  Especially when people are  
20                  concerned about how close to the property or  
21                  their lakes or their different options and  
22                  those kind of things. That's it; thanks.

23                  FACILITATOR: Thank you.

24                  So I want to thank you all,  
25                  again, for being here. The displays, the

1 posters will still be here, and the staff will  
2 be here.

3 If you have additional  
4 questions -- some people ask questions during  
5 the session -- there are some staff members  
6 who may be able to answer some of those  
7 questions so feel free to go back and talk to  
8 them.

9 As you heard, public comments  
10 are accepted through July 10th. If you want  
11 to review further, there are copies of the  
12 EIS. They're very long. We have them there.  
13 They're on jump drives as well as on CDs at  
14 the registration table.

15 So if you'd liked to grab a copy  
16 to bring home, you can do that.

17 And thank you again to everyone  
18 for being here and for your participation.  
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<b>§</b>	<b>27:20;28:21;54:6; 66:15</b>	<b>Alaska (1)</b> 44:13	<b>appreciate (4)</b> 8:2;16:17;67:10,11	<b>back (16)</b> 7:9;10:5;12:8,14; 23:6;32:6;33:9;39:12; 42:15;45:3;49:24; 52:3,8;63:8;65:18; 74:7
<b>\$1.28 (2)</b> 47:21;54:15	<b>add (2)</b> 50:3;65:25	<b>alleged (1)</b> 54:15	<b>appreciation (1)</b> 9:9	
<b>\$287 (1)</b> 46:18	<b>added (1)</b> 68:18	<b>allow (3)</b> 7:17;19:10;62:21	<b>approvals (1)</b> 23:23	
<b>A</b>	<b>additional (5)</b> 8:22,23;15:20; 48:12;74:3	<b>allowed (1)</b> 22:21	<b>approve (1)</b> 39:17	<b>Backus (1)</b> 36:23
<b>abandon (3)</b> 19:10;54:8,24	<b>additives (2)</b> 70:23;71:4	<b>almost (2)</b> 24:4;61:22	<b>approved (1)</b> 45:3	<b>bad (3)</b> 30:8,9;50:12
<b>abandonment (6)</b> 47:20;48:5;54:5,14, 21;55:2	<b>address (1)</b> 23:22	<b>along (5)</b> 5:12;25:14;37:11; 70:6,7	<b>approximately (2)</b> 29:12,16	<b>bandaids (1)</b> 30:2
<b>abide (1)</b> 32:2	<b>addressed (1)</b> 64:11	<b>alongside (1)</b> 38:17	<b>aquatic (1)</b> 70:23	<b>bands (2)</b> 24:15,15
<b>able (11)</b> 6:17;13:20;16:16, 17:21;1;47:22,25; 51:19;61:15;73:7; 74:6	<b>adequately (1)</b> 71:4	<b>alter (1)</b> 33:11	<b>Aquifer (9)</b> 67:25;68:2,21;69:1, 6,8,19;70:15,15	<b>banks (1)</b> 26:14
<b>abolitionists (1)</b> 45:21	<b>administration (1)</b> 64:16	<b>alternative (6)</b> 26:5;34:13;36:7,8; 37:8,23	<b>aquifers (1)</b> 70:2	<b>BAR (1)</b> 71:5
<b>above (3)</b> 19:4;33:4;43:11	<b>administrative (2)</b> 5:6,9	<b>Alternatives (2)</b> 31:5;34:6	<b>arable (1)</b> 19:25	<b>barrel (2)</b> 22:15;55:20
<b>abroad (1)</b> 21:21	<b>advance (1)</b> 11:15	<b>Amendment (1)</b> 22:18	<b>area (8)</b> 15:5;32:15;38:12; 59:24;68:6;69:10,24; 70:4	<b>Bear (2)</b> 40:23;48:4
<b>Absolutely (4)</b> 50:10;54:19,23; 57:8	<b>adversely (1)</b> 57:2	<b>America (5)</b> 28:12;60:23;61:10; 62:16;65:14	<b>areas (7)</b> 30:9;33:5;43:23; 44:1,4;64:3;69:25	<b>beautiful (2)</b> 16:15;17:10
<b>absurd (1)</b> 20:20	<b>advocate (1)</b> 71:6	<b>American (4)</b> 20:11;23:8;37:1,4	<b>argue (1)</b> 16:13	<b>beauty (1)</b> 16:18
<b>accept (1)</b> 55:3	<b>affected (1)</b> 31:24	<b>Americans (2)</b> 13:19;64:8	<b>around (10)</b> 27:1,9,10;30:18; 39:11;53:14;58:1; 60:4;65:17;67:3	<b>become (2)</b> 53:11;72:15
<b>accepted (1)</b> 74:10	<b>affecting (1)</b> 58:3	<b>amount (3)</b> 53:12,19;55:15	<b>arrested (1)</b> 39:4	<b>becomes (1)</b> 51:13
<b>Access (2)</b> 57:17;63:14	<b>affects (1)</b> 32:17	<b>Amy (5)</b> 38:2,3,3;65:4,4	<b>article (2)</b> 69:12,15	<b>beds (2)</b> 57:8;70:22
<b>according (2)</b> 24:18;64:1	<b>affirmative (1)</b> 9:9	<b>A-M-Y (2)</b> 38:4;65:4	<b>assistance (1)</b> 4:21	<b>begin (2)</b> 5:7;7:9
<b>accountable (1)</b> 49:8	<b>afford (2)</b> 18:15;41:11	<b>analyses (1)</b> 73:18	<b>associated (1)</b> 72:4	<b>behave (1)</b> 71:11
<b>accurate (1)</b> 48:1	<b>Afghanistan (1)</b> 21:24	<b>analysis (1)</b> 70:19	<b>Association (2)</b> 34:4,7	<b>behind (2)</b> 43:2;56:22
<b>acknowledged (1)</b> 57:4	<b>Again (10)</b> 3:6;13:23;19:15; 25:15;29:2;53:1;60:3; 62:25;73:25;74:17	<b>anarchists (1)</b> 62:13	<b>assumption (2)</b> 46:20;48:3	<b>benefactor (1)</b> 30:25
<b>acknowledging (1)</b> 24:2	<b>against (4)</b> 7:1;13:21;59:7,21	<b>Andrew (3)</b> 16:1,2,3	<b>attempt (1)</b> 51:2	<b>benefit (3)</b> 65:1;71:15;72:11
<b>across (9)</b> 15:18;16:5;24:25; 39:23;49:20;50:6,8,9, 17	<b>agencies (4)</b> 4:16;9:24;22:16; 72:6	<b>ANDY (2)</b> 45:15,16	<b>attrition (2)</b> 21:11,12	<b>benefited (1)</b> 42:8
<b>act (1)</b> 72:10	<b>Agency (6)</b> 4:18,19;10:8;70:10; 72:10,15	<b>A-N-D-Y (1)</b> 45:16	<b>available (1)</b> 56:11	<b>benefiting (1)</b> 18:6
<b>action (1)</b> 30:18	<b>ago (2)</b> 12:2;60:6	<b>animals (1)</b> 32:17	<b>average (1)</b> 63:8	<b>bent (1)</b> 22:15
<b>actions (1)</b> 19:19	<b>agree (2)</b> 30:19;43:25	<b>anomalies (2)</b> 19:14;64:18	<b>avid (1)</b> 40:18	<b>best (4)</b> 28:11,13;30:6; 61:14
<b>acts (1)</b> 72:11	<b>agreements (1)</b> 30:15	<b>anymore (1)</b> 55:10	<b>avoid (1)</b> 51:2	<b>better (9)</b> 9:23;13:14;28:8; 35:9,20;37:23,24; 50:24;69:4
<b>actually (7)</b> 14:16,25;17:22;	<b>agricultural (1)</b> 68:4	<b>appear (1)</b> 50:4	<b>away (1)</b> 55:9	<b>big (1)</b> 29:19
	<b>Air (2)</b> 16:3;43:2	<b>applicant (1)</b> 71:21	<b>B</b>	<b>biggest (3)</b> 39:13;41:10;46:15
		<b>appointed (2)</b> 12:10,14		<b>Bill (7)</b> 23:15,16,16;63:1,2; 64:19,22
				<b>B-I-L-L (2)</b>

<p>23:17;63:2  <b>billion (3)</b>  46:18;47:21;54:15  <b>billions (1)</b>  26:6  <b>bills (1)</b>  68:18  <b>biodegradable (1)</b>  20:3  <b>birds (1)</b>  32:17  <b>Bismarck (1)</b>  57:15  <b>bit (6)</b>  10:20;11:3;37:4;  47:10;53:25;72:25  <b>blah (3)</b>  55:7,7,7  <b>blend (1)</b>  68:9  <b>blind (1)</b>  36:19  <b>blocked (1)</b>  18:17  <b>blue (1)</b>  25:8  <b>boats (1)</b>  51:25  <b>bodies (1)</b>  17:18  <b>body (1)</b>  7:6  <b>bomb (1)</b>  27:2  <b>Bond (5)</b>  38:2,3,4;65:4,4  <b>B-O-N-D (2)</b>  38:4;65:5  <b>booklet (1)</b>  32:19  <b>books (1)</b>  73:13  <b>border (1)</b>  33:2  <b>borne (4)</b>  46:11,13;49:2,4  <b>bottom (1)</b>  55:19  <b>boundaries (1)</b>  24:12  <b>box (2)</b>  6:10;8:19  <b>Brady (3)</b>  29:9,10,10  <b>B-R-A-D-Y (1)</b>  29:11  <b>brand (5)</b>  30:6;42:6;45:12;  53:7,8  <b>break (1)</b>  58:14  <b>breakdown (1)</b>  30:3</p>	<p><b>breaks (1)</b>  58:12  <b>bricks (1)</b>  66:20  <b>bridges (1)</b>  30:2  <b>brilliance (1)</b>  62:11  <b>brilliant (1)</b>  61:1  <b>bring (4)</b>  10:24;29:7;68:8;  74:16  <b>bringing (2)</b>  10:22;28:25  <b>broke (1)</b>  58:15  <b>broken (2)</b>  29:22,25  <b>brown (1)</b>  71:1  <b>bubbling (1)</b>  45:18  <b>buffer (1)</b>  19:8  <b>build (5)</b>  29:20;36:17;48:11,  25:49:25  <b>building (4)</b>  29:17;40:21;46:25;  53:17  <b>built (5)</b>  29:15,15;48:11;  53:15;67:3  <b>bunch (1)</b>  12:16  <b>burden (1)</b>  16:23  <b>buried (1)</b>  43:15  <b>burnt (1)</b>  66:18  <b>business (3)</b>  15:8;21:6;42:21  <b>businesses (1)</b>  15:2  <b>buy (1)</b>  65:17  <b>buying (1)</b>  16:23  <b>byproducts (1)</b>  42:17</p>	<p>5:22;34:23;63:3;  71:24  <b>can (44)</b>  6:8,9,10,11;8:21;  9:2,22,25;10:7,12,25;  11:1,16;13:19,24;  18:10;19:1,5;20:1,2,4,  25:21;13,13,15;  27:12;35:17,21,24;  36:20;38:15;41:16;  53:17;55:21;56:2;  59:11;61:17;62:25;  63:11;65:22;71:10,  15;73:16;74:16  <b>Canada (5)</b>  39:23;40:2;64:17;  65:12;66:14  <b>Canadian (2)</b>  12:4;42:9  <b>capacity (3)</b>  50:5;53:17;70:13  <b>capture (3)</b>  72:1,4,9  <b>car (1)</b>  45:25  <b>carbon (1)</b>  62:3  <b>care (3)</b>  59:8,9;62:10  <b>career (4)</b>  41:9;44:11,15,24  <b>careful (2)</b>  62:19,20  <b>car-loads (1)</b>  66:14  <b>Carlton (1)</b>  36:23  <b>carriers (1)</b>  27:16  <b>carry (2)</b>  50:1;51:19  <b>carrying (1)</b>  51:18  <b>cars (2)</b>  56:8,8  <b>case (4)</b>  5:5;32:1;48:24;  49:5  <b>cause (1)</b>  37:18  <b>caused (2)</b>  46:12;49:4  <b>cautious (1)</b>  62:20  <b>Cave (2)</b>  16:8;43:23  <b>CDs (1)</b>  74:13  <b>ceded (4)</b>  24:3,11;57:13;64:1  <b>cell (2)</b>  10:13,13  <b>central (1)</b></p>	<p>14:15  <b>ceremony (1)</b>  32:11  <b>certain (1)</b>  44:3  <b>Certificate (5)</b>  4:11;31:5,9,13;  33:21  <b>cetera (1)</b>  55:6  <b>chance (8)</b>  3:25;8:7,17;9:16;  10:6;34:14;51:11;  58:7  <b>change (2)</b>  15:19;46:6  <b>changed (2)</b>  27:17;46:8  <b>changes (2)</b>  68:16,18  <b>channels (1)</b>  61:7  <b>charged (1)</b>  72:8  <b>chasing (1)</b>  30:8  <b>check (1)</b>  3:23  <b>chemicals (1)</b>  58:11  <b>chemistry (2)</b>  61:1,3  <b>children (2)</b>  59:15;60:13  <b>children's (1)</b>  19:21  <b>China (2)</b>  39:25;65:16  <b>Chippewa (1)</b>  24:14  <b>choice (1)</b>  38:25  <b>circumstances (1)</b>  47:1  <b>cities (1)</b>  70:3  <b>citizen (1)</b>  30:24  <b>citizens (1)</b>  29:4  <b>city (2)</b>  67:18;68:3  <b>civil (1)</b>  67:11  <b>clarify (1)</b>  6:3  <b>clean (7)</b>  39:16;59:13;60:5,8,  12;61:23,25  <b>cleaning (2)</b>  43:1;54:14  <b>cleanup (1)</b>  64:20</p>	<p><b>clear (1)</b>  42:15  <b>Clearbrook (1)</b>  36:22  <b>cleared (1)</b>  43:4  <b>clearly (1)</b>  49:14  <b>climate (2)</b>  46:17,19  <b>close (3)</b>  11:5;67:15;73:20  <b>clothes (2)</b>  60:6,7  <b>coal (2)</b>  60:23;62:6  <b>coerced (1)</b>  16:24  <b>collapse (1)</b>  21:6  <b>collected (1)</b>  73:5  <b>collective (1)</b>  30:25  <b>college (1)</b>  62:9  <b>color (1)</b>  36:19  <b>coming (6)</b>  3:14;18:2;27:17;  42:10;64:13;65:12  <b>comment (12)</b>  3:5,19;4:3;5:1;  7:10;45:17;52:13,21;  66:1;67:14,15;71:4  <b>comments (24)</b>  3:21;5:3,9,21,23;  6:8,13,17,20,24,25;  7:19;8:9,24;9:2,11,  21;10:2;23:20;45:24;  57:23;62:24;66:5;  74:9  <b>Commerce (5)</b>  3:11,16;4:6;15:22;  17:9  <b>Commission (5)</b>  4:9;5:12;7:7;20:19;  41:16  <b>commissioner (4)</b>  12:6;31:8;68:24;  69:12  <b>commissions (1)</b>  17:5  <b>committed (1)</b>  45:6  <b>common (1)</b>  20:5  <b>communities (3)</b>  23:8;41:7;57:2  <b>companies (3)</b>  12:15;21:22;65:20  <b>company (5)</b>  13:2;15:11;18:3;</p>
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26:10;38:22 <b>compared (1)</b> 53:10 <b>comparison (1)</b> 53:1 <b>compel (1)</b> 30:17 <b>compile (1)</b> 71:20 <b>compiled (1)</b> 73:9 <b>completely (1)</b> 43:4 <b>comply (3)</b> 31:17,22,23 <b>compromised (4)</b> 68:2;69:8,24;70:15 <b>computer (1)</b> 71:24 <b>concern (3)</b> 24:9;42:18;44:5 <b>concerned (4)</b> 24:11;34:7,16; 73:20 <b>concerns (3)</b> 24:5;52:17;67:20 <b>conclude (1)</b> 8:15 <b>concrete (1)</b> 43:22 <b>condition (1)</b> 25:15 <b>connected (4)</b> 50:20,21;51:3; 63:20 <b>connecting (1)</b> 63:22 <b>consciences (1)</b> 30:17 <b>conservative (1)</b> 16:14 <b>consider (6)</b> 27:20;46:25;51:2; 56:23;67:6;68:14 <b>consideration (2)</b> 18:4;51:14 <b>considered (3)</b> 24:24;50:19,22 <b>constable (3)</b> 12:23,25;13:5 <b>constitution (2)</b> 22:20;62:17 <b>construct (1)</b> 33:9 <b>construction (3)</b> 15:6;32:16;44:9 <b>consulted (1)</b> 24:21 <b>contain (1)</b> 70:22 <b>contaminate (1)</b> 50:14 <b>contamination (1)</b>	28:10 <b>contested (1)</b> 5:5 <b>continents (1)</b> 16:6 <b>continue (1)</b> 53:9 <b>continues (2)</b> 22:12;69:20 <b>continuing (1)</b> 69:17 <b>contractor (1)</b> 71:12 <b>contractors (1)</b> 71:20 <b>Control (4)</b> 4:18;24:18;28:24; 70:9 <b>controlled (2)</b> 64:3,8 <b>conversation (1)</b> 67:11 <b>conversations (1)</b> 29:14 <b>copies (1)</b> 74:11 <b>copper (3)</b> 61:13,14,15 <b>copy (1)</b> 74:15 <b>cordless (1)</b> 11:4 <b>corporate (1)</b> 56:17 <b>corporation (4)</b> 26:11;27:24;28:20, 23 <b>corporations (1)</b> 28:13 <b>corridor (3)</b> 26:17;47:14;54:10 <b>corrode (1)</b> 43:23 <b>cost (15)</b> 26:10;46:16,17,19, 22;47:19,21,22;48:5, 12;54:14;59:4;60:15; 61:25;68:17 <b>costing (1)</b> 61:22 <b>costs (11)</b> 46:10,11,11,15; 47:1,5,12;49:1,3,9; 60:19 <b>cotton (1)</b> 45:22 <b>counties (2)</b> 15:11;58:3 <b>countries (1)</b> 16:6 <b>country (12)</b> 12:13;15:18;22:14; 35:8,8;36:6,14;62:14,	15;65:13,15,16 <b>couple (10)</b> 7:13;8:3;10:19; 11:24;23:21;29:14; 58:1;63:3;70:7,7 <b>course (1)</b> 51:7 <b>court (2)</b> 7:19,24 <b>covered (2)</b> 11:10;24:8 <b>crashed (2)</b> 66:16,21 <b>create (5)</b> 19:2;20:2;26:23; 54:9;64:15 <b>creates (2)</b> 42:13;51:4 <b>creating (5)</b> 7:20;18:7;26:12,16, 24 <b>Creator (1)</b> 20:16 <b>creeks (1)</b> 43:19 <b>criss-crossing (1)</b> 17:17 <b>Criteria (2)</b> 31:6;33:21 <b>critical (2)</b> 32:9;41:13 <b>Cromwell (1)</b> 36:23 <b>crops (2)</b> 19:7,8 <b>cross (2)</b> 48:1;50:1 <b>crossing (2)</b> 23:25;50:10 <b>crossings (2)</b> 43:16,17 <b>crossroads (2)</b> 17:11,14 <b>Crow (1)</b> 69:20 <b>crude (4)</b> 42:9,17;66:1,15 <b>culturally (2)</b> 33:14,15 <b>culture (1)</b> 33:7 <b>currency (1)</b> 22:13 <b>current (2)</b> 30:14;50:6 <b>currently (7)</b> 4:25;25:23;26:4; 50:2;53:11,18;57:14 <b>cut (6)</b> 14:3;15:18;37:13; 43:13,17,21	<b>D</b> <b>dad (1)</b> 59:24 <b>daily (1)</b> 34:11 <b>Dakota (5)</b> 21:17;57:16;63:14, 15;66:16 <b>dam (1)</b> 12:19 <b>damage (5)</b> 19:9;35:17,24;36:1; 39:15 <b>damaged (1)</b> 39:11 <b>damages (2)</b> 46:19;71:15 <b>damaging (1)</b> 39:20 <b>damming (1)</b> 36:12 <b>damning (2)</b> 12:16;36:14 <b>Dan (3)</b> 29:9,10,10 <b>D-A-N (1)</b> 29:11 <b>dangerous (1)</b> 27:15 <b>dangers (1)</b> 69:16 <b>DANIELS (2)</b> 52:10,11 <b>D-A-N-I-E-L-S (1)</b> 52:11 <b>data (1)</b> 14:10 <b>date (1)</b> 42:22 <b>daughter (1)</b> 12:9 <b>deal (2)</b> 28:9,10 <b>debt (1)</b> 22:12 <b>debt-based (1)</b> 22:13 <b>decade (1)</b> 53:11 <b>decades (2)</b> 48:23;53:10 <b>decide (3)</b> 31:10,14;55:4 <b>decided (2)</b> 13:9;47:10 <b>decision (8)</b> 4:7;5:13;7:2,7; 20:19;23:24;31:8; 41:16 <b>decision-making (3)</b> 7:4,6;33:21	<b>decisions (2)</b> 5:15;30:19 <b>decommission (1)</b> 42:23 <b>decommissioned (1)</b> 42:19 <b>deeper (1)</b> 69:9 <b>defend (1)</b> 13:12 <b>definition (2)</b> 71:25;72:3 <b>DEIS (18)</b> 31:6;32:22;33:20; 46:20;47:20;48:4; 49:8;50:19,21,22; 51:6,15;54:20;55:13; 57:1,4;63:6;70:11 <b>delusion (1)</b> 48:15 <b>demand (2)</b> 24:23;26:24 <b>Dennis (3)</b> 11:17,21,22 <b>D-E-N-N-I-S (1)</b> 11:22 <b>Department (5)</b> 3:10,15;4:6,17; 15:22 <b>depressed (1)</b> 57:6 <b>derailment (1)</b> 35:25 <b>deserve (1)</b> 55:2 <b>designated (1)</b> 69:23 <b>destination (1)</b> 68:11 <b>destroyed (1)</b> 66:22 <b>destroying (1)</b> 65:13 <b>destruction (5)</b> 27:23,23,24,25; 32:13 <b>detailed (1)</b> 73:13 <b>detected (1)</b> 25:13 <b>detectors (1)</b> 25:13 <b>determine (1)</b> 4:10 <b>develop (1)</b> 14:8 <b>develops (1)</b> 32:18 <b>died (1)</b> 12:7 <b>diesel (3)</b> 14:13;26:1;42:16 <b>diet (1)</b>
---	---	--	--	--

28:7 <b>different (9)</b> 11:4;16:5,6;21:16; 38:14;70:19;73:17, 18,21 <b>differently (1)</b> 71:11 <b>dig (1)</b> 43:12 <b>digging (1)</b> 40:1 <b>dioxide (1)</b> 62:3 <b>direct (1)</b> 10:2 <b>direction (1)</b> 21:16 <b>directly (2)</b> 64:2,7 <b>director (1)</b> 72:22 <b>dirty (2)</b> 56:2;60:10 <b>disaster (1)</b> 34:15 <b>discharged (1)</b> 16:4 <b>disclosed (1)</b> 50:18 <b>disintegrate (1)</b> 48:18 <b>displays (1)</b> 73:25 <b>disposal (1)</b> 17:21 <b>disproportionately (1)</b> 57:3 <b>disseminating (1)</b> 72:24 <b>distorted (1)</b> 56:18 <b>disturb (2)</b> 37:17;38:12 <b>DNR (6)</b> 68:22,23;69:22,25; 70:9,12 <b>DOC (4)</b> 47:10;72:2,14;73:8 <b>document (7)</b> 4:2;6:6;7:4,5; 46:18;47:7;49:13 <b>domain (2)</b> 38:21;39:6 <b>domestic (1)</b> 18:2 <b>dominated (1)</b> 72:7 <b>done (7)</b> 4:8;11:19;19:9; 44:13;54:23;70:8; 71:17 <b>double (3)</b> 53:17,19;56:12	<b>double-check (1)</b> 7:25 <b>down (20)</b> 6:21;18:25;26:4; 29:4;30:8;38:11,14, 25;44:14;48:12,23, 23;50:1,12;51:10,12, 13,22;59:3;60:9 <b>downplay (1)</b> 71:15 <b>dozen (1)</b> 16:6 <b>Draft (8)</b> 3:7,22;4:7,20;5:1, 21,24;6:23 <b>drilling (1)</b> 70:21 <b>drinking (4)</b> 17:7,15;18:17; 68:13 <b>drive (2)</b> 35:4;59:1 <b>drives (1)</b> 74:13 <b>drop (1)</b> 56:1 <b>drove (1)</b> 55:7 <b>due (1)</b> 32:16 <b>dug (1)</b> 43:17 <b>Duluth (1)</b> 39:24 <b>during (3)</b> 71:2,6;74:4	17:8;18:7;20:7; 22:11;56:5 <b>effect (1)</b> 57:14 <b>effective (1)</b> 7:15 <b>eight (1)</b> 16:4 <b>EIS (20)</b> 3:22;4:7,20;5:1,4, 21;6:1,2;7:3,4,9;6,23; 26:19;27:19;28:21; 29:1;47:4;71:20; 72:24;74:12 <b>either (2)</b> 39:1;48:17 <b>electric (2)</b> 36:11;56:8 <b>electrician (1)</b> 56:4 <b>else (5)</b> 6:5;35:14;45:14; 61:25;64:20 <b>em (4)</b> 26:4;39:16;43:21, 22 <b>email (1)</b> 6:12 <b>eminent (2)</b> 38:20;39:6 <b>enact (1)</b> 23:5 <b>Enbridge (24)</b> 13:21;14:14;31:10; 39:13;44:21,24;45:5; 46:20;47:9;48:4;49:5, 8,18,23;50:25;51:25; 54:18;65:7;67:21; 68:7;71:6,11,22; 72:16 <b>Enbridge's (3)</b> 32:23;33:22;49:11 <b>encourage (2)</b> 17:2;22:24 <b>end (4)</b> 9:11;10:18;49:16, 17 <b>ends (3)</b> 43:14,15;51:18 <b>Energy (7)</b> 14:14;17:19;19:3; 26:6,12;49:6;56:5 <b>engineer (2)</b> 25:24;60:24 <b>Engineering (1)</b> 71:5 <b>engineers (2)</b> 59:4;62:7 <b>England (1)</b> 61:10 <b>enough (4)</b> 4:2;25:17;29:22; 50:4	<b>enthusiasts (1)</b> 68:12 <b>entire (2)</b> 24:4;71:12 <b>entirely (3)</b> 54:9,10,25 <b>entities (1)</b> 29:7 <b>environment (1)</b> 39:11 <b>Environmental (8)</b> 3:7;4:14;26:19; 34:14;35:24;37:16, 18;55:1 <b>environmentally (1)</b> 33:16 <b>EPA (1)</b> 39:16 <b>equally (1)</b> 6:21 <b>equipment (2)</b> 26:1;27:16 <b>ES-1 (2)</b> 31:4;33:20 <b>Especially (1)</b> 73:19 <b>essentially (1)</b> 46:12 <b>estimate (1)</b> 47:11 <b>estimated (1)</b> 54:15 <b>estimates (1)</b> 48:10 <b>et (1)</b> 55:6 <b>even (7)</b> 39:17;55:6,8;61:6; 63:15;66:6;67:6 <b>Eventually (3)</b> 21:9;72:7,11 <b>everybody (16)</b> 7:17;8:4,6,17;11:7; 23:18,19,20;24:10; 27:8;29:7;40:11;42:3; 46:4;61:25;63:5 <b>everybody's (1)</b> 9:19 <b>everyone (4)</b> 3:2,13,20;74:17 <b>Everywhere (1)</b> 41:5 <b>exactly (1)</b> 50:25 <b>example (1)</b> 39:12 <b>excellent (4)</b> 18:22,23;60:15; 61:13 <b>Executive (1)</b> 32:22 <b>exist (2)</b> 56:9,17	<b>existing (4)</b> 19:9;27:2;37:11; 46:5 <b>exists (1)</b> 56:6 <b>expand (1)</b> 68:8 <b>expanded (2)</b> 50:5;67:21 <b>expansion (1)</b> 14:20 <b>expectation (1)</b> 49:10 <b>expected (2)</b> 5:14;48:4 <b>expeditious (1)</b> 18:11 <b>expensive (1)</b> 55:18 <b>expert (1)</b> 71:17 <b>explanation (1)</b> 50:24 <b>explosive (1)</b> 43:7 <b>export (1)</b> 21:19 <b>exported (1)</b> 18:1 <b>express (1)</b> 9:12 <b>external (3)</b> 46:9,10,15 <b>externalized (1)</b> 47:19 <b>extract (2)</b> 55:10,19 <b>extracting (1)</b> 55:17 <b>extraction (1)</b> 55:16 <b>extreme (1)</b> 62:15 <b>Exxon (1)</b> 18:15
<b>F</b>				
<b>FACILITATOR (22)</b> 3:1;7:11;13:22; 15:25;23:14;29:9; 30:10;34:2,20;38:1; 40:7;41:17;45:14; 52:8,21;58:21;62:23; 65:3,22;67:9;72:18; 73:23 <b>facility (1)</b> 44:22 <b>fact (2)</b> 45:25;53:10 <b>facts (1)</b> 56:18 <b>fair (1)</b>				

<p>49:3 <b>fairly (2)</b> 8:5;11:5 <b>fallen (1)</b> 72:16 <b>family (4)</b> 57:21;59:20,22; 61:2 <b>far (2)</b> 43:24;66:5 <b>farmer (1)</b> 20:12 <b>farmland (2)</b> 19:25;38:12 <b>farms (4)</b> 29:20,21;39:20; 44:22 <b>fat (1)</b> 20:25 <b>father (1)</b> 59:22 <b>faulty (2)</b> 27:16,16 <b>favor (1)</b> 36:12 <b>fear (2)</b> 26:13;57:18 <b>February (2)</b> 68:23;69:3 <b>federal (9)</b> 22:16,20;23:3,23; 31:2,22,24;32:3;64:5 <b>feed (1)</b> 28:1 <b>feeds (1)</b> 69:19 <b>feel (6)</b> 9:12,16;10:3,14; 60:3;74:7 <b>feet (1)</b> 38:10 <b>festival (1)</b> 61:19 <b>few (5)</b> 3:17;10:12;25:9; 50:16;66:19 <b>fields (2)</b> 44:14;59:2 <b>figure (3)</b> 28:18;48:8;55:9 <b>fill (2)</b> 43:8,21 <b>final (3)</b> 31:16;49:13;72:24 <b>finalizing (1)</b> 5:4 <b>finally (2)</b> 28:7;49:15 <b>financial (4)</b> 16:23;22:9,13,14 <b>find (3)</b> 4:20;37:9,10 <b>fine (1)</b></p>	<p>3:3 <b>finite (1)</b> 21:5 <b>first (10)</b> 4:10;11:23;15:18; 41:1,25;42:23;45:17; 52:25;58:1;59:23 <b>fish (9)</b> 20:23;24:19;32:10; 34:4,5,13;39:10;60:2; 64:3 <b>fishermen (1)</b> 68:11 <b>fishing (3)</b> 13:16;33:10;60:1 <b>Five (4)</b> 15:10;16:5;59:21; 66:23 <b>fix (2)</b> 22:4,9 <b>flag (1)</b> 20:11 <b>floor (2)</b> 5:18,20 <b>flow (3)</b> 50:3,8;58:10 <b>fluids (2)</b> 43:3,5 <b>focus (2)</b> 9:22,25 <b>Folks (2)</b> 10:8;13:19 <b>following (1)</b> 4:22 <b>food (2)</b> 28:1,1 <b>foot (2)</b> 64:19,22 <b>footage (1)</b> 50:11 <b>Force (3)</b> 16:3;26:25;27:1 <b>forced (2)</b> 17:1;25:21 <b>Ford (1)</b> 20:4 <b>foreign (3)</b> 18:3;59:7,7 <b>Forest (1)</b> 14:4 <b>forested (1)</b> 32:13 <b>forests (1)</b> 22:22 <b>forgot (1)</b> 65:6 <b>forgotten (1)</b> 46:1 <b>formed (1)</b> 72:10 <b>former (1)</b> 12:1 <b>forms (1)</b></p>	<p>15:23 <b>forth (1)</b> 40:22 <b>forward (4)</b> 29:5;41:15;55:24; 56:20 <b>found (2)</b> 58:7;61:8 <b>founded (1)</b> 62:17 <b>Four (3)</b> 15:7;39:16;71:2 <b>Fourteen (1)</b> 54:22 <b>fourth (1)</b> 14:18 <b>fox (1)</b> 62:21 <b>frac-out (1)</b> 71:1 <b>fragmentation (1)</b> 32:16 <b>free (3)</b> 9:12;10:14;74:7 <b>fresh (2)</b> 17:11,14 <b>front (2)</b> 10:24;12:20 <b>fruits (1)</b> 21:2 <b>fuel (4)</b> 36:6;42:16,16,16 <b>fuels (2)</b> 36:7,9 <b>full (1)</b> 49:23 <b>fully (1)</b> 63:16 <b>fun (2)</b> 61:20,24 <b>further (4)</b> 6:3;60:9;64:9; 74:11 <b>furthermore (1)</b> 7:3 <b>future (6)</b> 16:16;19:22;20:7; 21:8;47:3;63:11</p>	<p><b>gathering (3)</b> 14:10;29:5;33:10 <b>gave (2)</b> 28:17;66:20 <b>generations (3)</b> 16:16;19:16;47:3 <b>generations' (1)</b> 20:8 <b>gentleman (1)</b> 37:6 <b>George (1)</b> 72:5 <b>gets (3)</b> 8:6,17;39:24 <b>giant (1)</b> 56:18 <b>Gibbs (1)</b> 12:7 <b>given (4)</b> 20:16;54:21;64:4; 71:3 <b>GMO (1)</b> 27:22 <b>goal (1)</b> 7:16 <b>God (2)</b> 50:13;54:17 <b>God's (2)</b> 19:4;20:15 <b>goes (8)</b> 7:25;34:13;35:14; 36:22;39:24;43:19; 65:16;67:24 <b>Good (8)</b> 3:1,12;20:14;25:5; 37:8;42:14;59:5; 67:11 <b>Google (1)</b> 73:3 <b>gotta (2)</b> 41:3;66:1 <b>government (7)</b> 22:5,25;23:3;28:24; 31:3;32:2,3 <b>governments (1)</b> 31:23 <b>government's (1)</b> 22:21 <b>governor (2)</b> 12:9;22:24 <b>grab (1)</b> 74:15 <b>grandchildren (2)</b> 59:18;66:2 <b>grant (1)</b> 31:9 <b>granted (3)</b> 31:10,14;35:11 <b>granting (2)</b> 31:13;33:21 <b>graph (1)</b> 25:3 <b>great (5)</b></p>	<p>10:14;18:19;50:14; 52:4;62:6 <b>greatest (1)</b> 18:21 <b>greed (3)</b> 21:3,3;22:2 <b>greedier (1)</b> 22:5 <b>green (1)</b> 66:3 <b>grew (2)</b> 40:16;67:2 <b>ground (5)</b> 7:13;8:3;43:11; 48:17;61:12 <b>groundwater (3)</b> 69:23;70:1;71:8 <b>group (1)</b> 8:5 <b>groups (2)</b> 29:4;31:25 <b>grout (1)</b> 43:22 <b>grow (2)</b> 20:6;27:25 <b>growing (1)</b> 28:2 <b>grown (1)</b> 19:8 <b>grows (1)</b> 17:9 <b>guess (1)</b> 45:18 <b>Guide (1)</b> 32:21 <b>guidelines (1)</b> 64:15 <b>guys (4)</b> 14:22;59:4;72:24; 73:8</p>
				<b>H</b>
				<p><b>habitat (2)</b> 32:14,16 <b>half (1)</b> 53:15 <b>hand (3)</b> 3:9;10:8;13:3 <b>handful (2)</b> 4:15;58:4 <b>handle (1)</b> 69:4 <b>hands (2)</b> 8:22;13:6 <b>Hansford (1)</b> 70:5 <b>happen (3)</b> 27:3;36:15,17 <b>happened (1)</b> 63:9 <b>happening (2)</b> 58:8;69:4</p>

<b>happens (6)</b> 30:17;37:13;38:20; 51:16;55:2;72:9 <b>hard (2)</b> 51:10;73:14 <b>harmful (1)</b> 33:16 <b>harmlessly (1)</b> 48:18 <b>hauling (1)</b> 66:15 <b>headwater (1)</b> 12:21 <b>headwaters (2)</b> 12:4,17 <b>hear (6)</b> 10:11,13;11:7; 35:22,25;46:1 <b>heard (6)</b> 7:16;36:8;52:25; 53:23;56:7;74:9 <b>hearing (2)</b> 45:24;66:6 <b>hearings (2)</b> 5:6;71:7 <b>heating (1)</b> 42:16 <b>heavy (2)</b> 26:1;58:10 <b>Heller (2)</b> 13:23;14:1 <b>Hello (1)</b> 16:2 <b>help (7)</b> 4:20;5:13;10:21; 11:8;19:8;23:7;29:3 <b>helpful (6)</b> 8:1;9:5,24;11:2,7; 73:7 <b>helps (1)</b> 7:5 <b>hemp (4)</b> 19:7;20:3,4;56:9 <b>Henry (1)</b> 20:4 <b>heritage (1)</b> 30:21 <b>Hi (3)</b> 52:23;58:23;72:19 <b>higher (1)</b> 27:18 <b>highest (2)</b> 17:3;53:12 <b>highly (2)</b> 25:10,20 <b>highways (1)</b> 38:13 <b>hired (1)</b> 71:22 <b>historic (1)</b> 31:2 <b>history (4)</b> 30:13,25;63:7;	71:21 <b>hold (7)</b> 9:10;11:3,4;13:24; 32:11;49:8;53:17 <b>hole (1)</b> 62:21 <b>home (4)</b> 45:4;66:12;69:10; 74:16 <b>homes (1)</b> 60:12 <b>honest (1)</b> 35:1 <b>honor (6)</b> 20:9;29:6;32:5; 33:24;72:21;73:1 <b>honorably (1)</b> 16:4 <b>honoring (1)</b> 30:14 <b>hope (3)</b> 14:1;49:13;54:17 <b>Hopefully (1)</b> 3:22 <b>hopes (1)</b> 68:7 <b>hoping (1)</b> 5:22 <b>horizontal (1)</b> 70:21 <b>horseback (1)</b> 20:12 <b>hosted (1)</b> 3:8 <b>hour (1)</b> 40:16 <b>houses (1)</b> 67:4 <b>Hubbard (1)</b> 14:4 <b>hungry (1)</b> 28:1 <b>hunt (3)</b> 20:24;32:10;64:4 <b>Huntersville (1)</b> 14:4 <b>hunting (3)</b> 13:15;33:10;60:1 <b>hydroelectric (3)</b> 17:21;36:11,13	27:20;55:1 <b>impacted (1)</b> 57:2 <b>impacts (3)</b> 41:4;51:4;68:25 <b>implemented (1)</b> 63:16 <b>important (5)</b> 6:19;9:18;31:21; 33:6;69:6 <b>impossible (1)</b> 46:6 <b>improve (1)</b> 47:4 <b>improved (1)</b> 6:6 <b>incidences (3)</b> 25:3,10,10 <b>include (3)</b> 31:20;33:5;70:4 <b>included (4)</b> 49:10;51:5;70:3,11 <b>includes (1)</b> 69:18 <b>including (2)</b> 4:16;53:7 <b>income (2)</b> 15:3,8 <b>increase (1)</b> 34:14 <b>increased (1)</b> 15:3 <b>incurred (4)</b> 46:13;47:2;48:14; 49:5 <b>independent (2)</b> 59:6;71:17 <b>Indian (1)</b> 13:14 <b>indicate (1)</b> 47:23 <b>indigenous (4)</b> 30:21;31:25;33:11; 57:1 <b>indiscernible (12)</b> 13:7,18;18:18; 24:24;27:8;29:6; 37:17;41:7;57:7,18; 59:25;71:2 <b>individual (1)</b> 59:16 <b>individuals (2)</b> 10:2;24:7 <b>industries (2)</b> 68:5;72:8 <b>industry (8)</b> 18:10;25:25;26:10; 27:10,12;56:14; 63:13;72:12 <b>inferior (1)</b> 64:17 <b>infinite (1)</b> 21:4	<b>inform (1)</b> 5:13 <b>information (12)</b> 4:2,20;5:23;6:1,2, 23;34:24;58:5;70:11; 72:25;73:4,8 <b>informational (1)</b> 7:5 <b>informed (1)</b> 12:18 <b>infrastructure (1)</b> 41:14 <b>injection (1)</b> 22:10 <b>injurious (1)</b> 17:6 <b>insane (1)</b> 54:23 <b>inside (1)</b> 9:15 <b>insignificant (1)</b> 71:9 <b>inspired (1)</b> 16:16 <b>installation (1)</b> 14:25 <b>installed (1)</b> 14:19 <b>instead (2)</b> 48:7;65:13 <b>integrity (1)</b> 17:3 <b>intention (1)</b> 17:25 <b>interactive (1)</b> 73:16 <b>interest (4)</b> 16:9;17:6;20:22; 72:10 <b>interested (1)</b> 57:22 <b>interesting (1)</b> 61:8 <b>international (1)</b> 21:23 <b>interrupt (1)</b> 9:8 <b>into (9)</b> 3:18;5:5;26:12; 27:10;36:23;48:9; 58:20;69:19;73:8 <b>invest (1)</b> 69:9 <b>invite (1)</b> 3:2 <b>involved (1)</b> 70:12 <b>Iowa (1)</b> 39:3 <b>irrigation (1)</b> 68:5 <b>issue (4)</b> 4:11,12;52:18;54:5	<b>issues (4)</b> 9:22,25;23:21; 63:22 <b>Itasca (4)</b> 12:2,4,11;13:12
<b>J</b>				
<b>Jamie (6)</b> 3:11,12,14;5:19; 7:12,17 <b>jeopardy (1)</b> 18:20 <b>jet (1)</b> 42:16 <b>job (4)</b> 14:16;25:5;44:10, 16 <b>jobs (17)</b> 15:8;18:7,9;20:6; 26:23,24;41:6,7;44:6, 7;56:3,3,4,4,13;59:4; 64:22 <b>John (1)</b> 69:12 <b>judge (2)</b> 5:6,9 <b>July (3)</b> 15:23;66:12;74:10 <b>jump (1)</b> 74:13 <b>JUNE (2)</b> 58:23,23 <b>J-U-N-E (1)</b> 58:24				
<b>K</b>				
<b>Kajer (2)</b> 34:2,3 <b>Kalamazoo (3)</b> 39:14;42:4;45:9 <b>Karen (2)</b> 13:23;14:1 <b>keep (17)</b> 8:8,24;9:15;13:17; 17:25;18:4;38:6; 41:15;54:1;59:12; 60:7,12;62:14,15; 63:17;67:1,5 <b>keeping (2)</b> 53:14;60:4 <b>keeps (1)</b> 36:6 <b>kept (1)</b> 61:4 <b>Kid (1)</b> 16:8 <b>kill (1)</b> 57:8 <b>killed (1)</b> 66:17 <b>killing (3)</b>				



<p>12:21;28:4;57:9 <b>kind (1)</b> 73:22 <b>kinds (1)</b> 25:18 <b>Klick (3)</b> 34:21;22,22 <b>K-L-I-C-K (1)</b> 34:23 <b>knew (1)</b> 58:8 <b>knowing (1)</b> 55:25 <b>known (1)</b> 71:1 <b>KYLIE (1)</b> 52:23 <b>K-Y-L-I-E (1)</b> 52:24</p>	<p>6:11;13:11;30:3,4 <b>Laureate (1)</b> 72:5 <b>law (6)</b> 5:6,9;50:20;57:14; 64:5,5 <b>Lawrence (2)</b> 17:12;18:14 <b>laws (1)</b> 31:18 <b>leak (5)</b> 27:7;39:13;50:14; 53:25;63:16 <b>leaking (3)</b> 25:16;51:22;63:18 <b>leaks (7)</b> 27:9;30:8;39:9; 53:4,5,7;71:13 <b>learn (2)</b> 28:7;62:9 <b>learned (2)</b> 19:13;35:2 <b>learning (4)</b> 27:21;30:16;31:1; 61:1 <b>least (6)</b> 16:21;22;35:17; 49:21;59:20;71:23 <b>leave (6)</b> 6:9;33:13,14;44:3; 46:8;48:6 <b>leaves (1)</b> 51:1 <b>left (3)</b> 55:15,20;56:22 <b>LEMLEY (1)</b> 52:23 <b>L-E-M-L-E-Y (1)</b> 52:24 <b>Leslie (1)</b> 10:21 <b>less (5)</b> 8:9;15:4;33:13,14; 53:25 <b>life (4)</b> 28:9;47:8;48:16; 62:4 <b>life-long (1)</b> 41:9 <b>lifetime (1)</b> 44:10 <b>liked (1)</b> 74:15 <b>likely (1)</b> 48:21 <b>Linc (1)</b> 69:13 <b>Line (43)</b> 3:7;14:2;15:20; 25:8,23;27:2;32:8,21; 33:18,22;40:24;41:2, 12,12,23;43:8,24; 45:11;47:14;48:6,10,</p>	<p>24;49:16,20,25;50:5, 9,9,16,18;51:8,9,12, 13,22;53:2,6;54:8,15; 55:13;57:20;67:21; 68:8 <b>lines (11)</b> 17:16;42:22,22,23; 46:2;48:16,21;50:6; 51:17;53:16;63:17 <b>liquids (1)</b> 25:21 <b>Lisa (2)</b> 34:2,3 <b>list (3)</b> 47:22;69:25;71:3 <b>listed (2)</b> 24:13;46:17 <b>listen (2)</b> 10:10;45:23 <b>listening (4)</b> 10:10;57:24;63:4; 67:12 <b>lists (1)</b> 47:20 <b>literally (2)</b> 17:14;52:18 <b>little (6)</b> 11:3;14:13;25:2; 47:10;53:25;72:25 <b>live (10)</b> 20:23,24,25;27:21; 28:17;35:5;52:12; 66:2;67:18;68:15 <b>lived (2)</b> 59:24,25 <b>lives (1)</b> 68:14 <b>living (3)</b> 44:20,23;52:20 <b>local (6)</b> 14:24;29:11,17; 41:6,6,7 <b>locally (1)</b> 29:15 <b>locations (1)</b> 70:19 <b>loggers (1)</b> 29:6 <b>logging (1)</b> 13:2 <b>logistics (1)</b> 10:12 <b>long (6)</b> 30:1;58:17,18,19, 25;74:12 <b>longer (3)</b> 30:7;41:12;47:6 <b>longest (1)</b> 65:9 <b>long-term (1)</b> 19:19 <b>look (23)</b> 3:23;17:20;20:10,</p>	<p>10;25:5;26:18;27:19; 28:5,6,15,21;35:7,16; 36:10;37:21;47:7; 58:1;63:5,11,21;64:6, 11;73:7 <b>looked (2)</b> 28:14;36:18 <b>looking (8)</b> 6:23;25:7,8,18,20; 26:6;27:9;64:21 <b>looks (1)</b> 36:21 <b>lose (3)</b> 18:21;38:21;39:1 <b>losing (2)</b> 39:10,10 <b>loss (1)</b> 15:15 <b>lost (1)</b> 12:2 <b>lot (17)</b> 14:7;35:2,19;36:4, 8;38:24;39:7;40:19; 42:18;44:5,25;59:2,4, 23;61:20;66:7;73:11 <b>love (1)</b> 60:2 <b>low (1)</b> 43:8 <b>lucky (1)</b> 14:7 <b>lumber (1)</b> 12:15 <b>lump (1)</b> 15:14</p>	<p><b>Many (12)</b> 12:2;13:17;25:3; 34:10;42:16,21;44:8; 46:24;48:15;67:20; 68:4,11 <b>map (3)</b> 73:3,13,13 <b>mapping (1)</b> 70:4 <b>material (1)</b> 3:24 <b>materials (1)</b> 64:13 <b>matter (1)</b> 40:20 <b>may (2)</b> 51:1;74:6 <b>maybe (10)</b> 4:2;10:6;36:19,20; 38:16;39:25;48:23; 53:25;55:14;63:5 <b>mean (3)</b> 35:6;37:20;49:1 <b>means (3)</b> 24:14;38:5;39:18 <b>measures (1)</b> 63:13 <b>mechanic (1)</b> 26:2 <b>meeting (9)</b> 3:5,8,19;7:10,14, 15;10:18;58:6,8 <b>meetings (5)</b> 5:2;6:16;21:21; 32:21;45:19 <b>MEL (2)</b> 52:10,10 <b>melt (1)</b> 52:18 <b>members (9)</b> 10:6;29:13,13,20, 22;32:10;44:18,19; 74:5 <b>mention (5)</b> 19:1;36:8;54:5; 55:5;65:6 <b>mentioned (3)</b> 3:14;36:11;56:25 <b>mess (1)</b> 61:23 <b>metal (2)</b> 64:18,18 <b>method (2)</b> 18:11;31:10 <b>mic (1)</b> 13:24 <b>Michigan (4)</b> 50:8;51:9,21;61:14 <b>micro-climates (1)</b> 32:18 <b>microphone (2)</b> 10:22;11:3 <b>middle (1)</b></p>
<p><b>L</b></p>				
<p><b>labor (3)</b> 21:2;41:6;56:4 <b>laborers (3)</b> 12:25;29:11;45:7 <b>lady (1)</b> 39:3 <b>Lake (9)</b> 18:16;33:4;34:4,5, 8,13,17;39:24;68:9 <b>lakes (11)</b> 14:5;18:19;32:14; 33:6,12;38:13;39:8; 50:15;52:4;68:10; 73:21 <b>land (16)</b> 15:12,19;20:13,14, 25;30:23;33:11;37:1, 5;38:19,21;39:4; 40:14;55:3;64:5; 69:13 <b>landowners (1)</b> 15:15 <b>lands (7)</b> 32:9,25;39:20,23; 54:2;58:20;64:7 <b>Landwehr (1)</b> 68:24 <b>laptops (1)</b> 66:11 <b>large (1)</b> 46:14 <b>larger (1)</b> 22:4 <b>last (4)</b> 51:23;56:1;66:6; 71:23 <b>lastly (1)</b> 56:22 <b>late (1)</b> 5:8 <b>later (4)</b></p>				
			<p><b>M</b></p>	
			<p><b>MacAlister (4)</b> 3:11,12,15;5:19 <b>mail (1)</b> 6:12 <b>main (2)</b> 47:14;68:2 <b>mainline (1)</b> 43:10 <b>maintaining (2)</b> 29:22;40:21 <b>major (1)</b> 50:13 <b>makes (2)</b> 7:1;10:3 <b>making (6)</b> 4:6;7:25;9:21;25:5; 31:8;49:7 <b>management (1)</b> 69:24 <b>manager (2)</b> 3:10;12:7 <b>mandated (1)</b> 41:6 <b>manufacturing (1)</b> 25:25</p>	

<p>38:8 <b>might (3)</b> 10:20;46:1;73:6 <b>Miigwech (2)</b> 29:8;65:2 <b>miles (1)</b> 66:20 <b>military (2)</b> 16:9;26:1 <b>milking (1)</b> 56:1 <b>mills (1)</b> 60:19 <b>mind (2)</b> 53:14;63:4 <b>minimum (1)</b> 47:17 <b>Minnesota (39)</b> 3:9,15;4:5,9,16,17; 12:12;14:15;17:24; 19:24;20:9;21:24; 23:7;24:13;26:20,23; 27:6;31:3;32:2;33:4; 41:14;42:8,14;44:18, 20,25;47:14;53:20; 64:9,23,23;65:1; 68:22;69:22;70:9,9; 71:22;72:2,14 <b>Minnesotan (2)</b> 20:22;26:25 <b>Minnesotans (8)</b> 17:23,24;18:6,20; 29:17;45:3;56:21; 65:1 <b>Minnesota's (2)</b> 17:8;69:15 <b>minutes (4)</b> 8:9,13,15,25 <b>missing (2)</b> 6:1;36:19 <b>Mississippi (5)</b> 17:13;18:25;60:10; 69:17,21 <b>mistakes (1)</b> 19:12 <b>mixing (1)</b> 58:11 <b>mode (1)</b> 10:10 <b>model (2)</b> 20:4;21:6 <b>moment (2)</b> 10:8;40:23 <b>money (10)</b> 14:8,13;22:6;26:9, 11,14,15;28:19; 64:24;65:20 <b>months (1)</b> 14:9 <b>more (28)</b> 9:22;15:7;18:11; 19:11;22:6;27:12,25; 28:1;30:4,4;36:3,4;</p>	<p>38:12;39:22;44:2; 49:14;52:19;56:12; 65:3,19,20;66:23; 67:10,14;70:18; 71:19;72:25;73:12 <b>morning (2)</b> 3:1,13 <b>mornings (1)</b> 61:6 <b>most (6)</b> 18:21;45:1;51:20; 55:18;61:12;69:22 <b>mostly (1)</b> 65:15 <b>mother's (1)</b> 61:2 <b>mouth (1)</b> 11:5 <b>move (8)</b> 3:18;5:4;30:6; 38:11;55:9,24;66:8,8 <b>moving (3)</b> 41:15;51:24;56:20 <b>MPCA (2)</b> 69:12;70:12 <b>MTM (1)</b> 14:19 <b>much (11)</b> 7:11;15:10;26:10; 27:16;39:15;45:5; 52:7;57:5;58:5;61:25; 68:4 <b>municipalities (1)</b> 69:8 <b>music (1)</b> 61:19 <b>must (4)</b> 32:2;33:24;50:18, 19 <b>myself (2)</b> 40:18;44:7</p>	<p>16:7,8,10,14;22:22 <b>nationally (1)</b> 70:25 <b>nationwide (1)</b> 56:14 <b>native (9)</b> 20:11;23:8;31:1; 37:1,4;40:17;57:5,9; 64:8 <b>Natural (6)</b> 4:17;16:11,17;28:6; 56:14;57:7 <b>nature (1)</b> 28:5 <b>navigate (1)</b> 73:14 <b>near (3)</b> 32:6;34:10;57:17 <b>Need (58)</b> 4:11,21;5:25;6:3,5; 8:4;10:15,23;14:22; 19:6;20:1,2;22:8; 24:21;26:3;27:19,25; 28:15,18,19;29:3; 31:5,9,13,14;32:7; 33:22;35:7,10,15,15; 41:14,25;42:2,7,8,11; 45:2;50:22,24;52:5; 54:2,25;55:8;56:10, 16;59:8,9;60:10,16; 62:3,14,14,18;63:5, 21;64:10,11 <b>needed (2)</b> 19:24;70:20 <b>needing (1)</b> 65:17 <b>needs (4)</b> 28:14;29:1;43:25; 71:3 <b>negative (1)</b> 9:13 <b>neighbors' (2)</b> 31:2;33:6 <b>new (26)</b> 14:2;23:9;26:17; 27:4;29:23;30:6; 35:19;36:24;37:21, 24;38:6;39:19;41:2,4; 42:6;45:12;48:10,24; 53:2,8,8,16,23;54:9, 10;63:13 <b>news (1)</b> 36:13 <b>next (2)</b> 27:5;52:20 <b>nice (1)</b> 25:2 <b>NICOLETTE (2)</b> 72:19,20 <b>N-I-C-O-L-E-T-T-E (1)</b> 72:20 <b>night (1)</b> 66:6</p>	<p><b>nitrogen (2)</b> 43:6,9 <b>Nobel (1)</b> 72:5 <b>None (4)</b> 17:22;18:2;22:19; 63:24 <b>North (5)</b> 21:17;52:12;63:15; 66:16;67:18 <b>north-central (1)</b> 33:1 <b>northeast (1)</b> 61:19 <b>northeastern (2)</b> 33:3;45:2 <b>northern (2)</b> 27:6;33:3 <b>note (1)</b> 51:8 <b>noticed (1)</b> 10:20 <b>nowadays (2)</b> 36:5,15 <b>Nowhere (1)</b> 22:20 <b>nuclear (1)</b> 36:17 <b>number (7)</b> 4:25;10:5;18:9; 47:20;48:1,1;69:10 <b>numbers (1)</b> 50:4</p>	<p>55:6,8,10;56:2,9,9,14; 59:2,7,7;60:21,22; 65:7,11,14;66:15; 68:9;71:13 <b>oils (1)</b> 25:19 <b>Ojibwe (5)</b> 23:17;32:4,9;33:17, 25 <b>old (22)</b> 12:5;18:24;23:2; 35:20;37:3,7,10,16; 38:6;39:19;40:25; 41:4;42:2,5,19;48:5; 52:16;53:2,18;54:6,8; 58:14 <b>older (1)</b> 59:11 <b>oldest (2)</b> 12:12,13 <b>omission (2)</b> 31:20;33:19 <b>once (4)</b> 5:2;30:5;49:16; 50:25 <b>one (33)</b> 4:3;6:14;10:21; 14:24;21:12;24:9; 27:4;31:16;34:5,6; 35:2,4;37:13,21;39:1; 42:11;45:17;46:15; 47:4;51:16;52:21; 53:21;58:7,14;59:10; 63:5;65:3,6,25;67:10, 14;69:24;70:18 <b>ones (3)</b> 11:4;53:18;61:18 <b>one's (1)</b> 11:3 <b>online (1)</b> 6:18 <b>only (7)</b> 22:3;39:25;47:12; 56:16;58:4;65:7;68:9 <b>onto (1)</b> 47:3 <b>onward (1)</b> 69:20 <b>open (4)</b> 3:4;34:5;43:14,15 <b>operating (3)</b> 47:13,16;50:21 <b>operational (1)</b> 51:14 <b>operator (1)</b> 26:1 <b>opportunities (1)</b> 18:23 <b>opportunity (3)</b> 3:23;9:3;42:14 <b>opposing (1)</b> 33:18 <b>Option (3)</b></p>
			<b>O</b>	
			<p><b>objective (2)</b> 71:11,16 <b>observing (1)</b> 31:1 <b>Obviously (3)</b> 40:12;54:16;71:14 <b>October (1)</b> 69:11 <b>off (10)</b> 14:3;20:25;21:4; 38:20;39:3;50:3;52:2; 62:4;67:1,5 <b>office (1)</b> 12:8 <b>offset (1)</b> 15:15 <b>oil (60)</b> 14:14;17:22;18:1, 10,12;22:4,9;26:3; 27:16;28:10;29:19; 30:7;31:11,14;32:15; 33:18,22;34:10;35:7, 10,12,13,13,15;36:3; 37:14;39:13,22;40:1; 42:17;44:14;47:16; 49:16;50:1,3,5,7,25; 52:6,13,15;53:19;</p>	
	<b>N</b>			
	<p><b>name (21)</b> 10:23;11:12,14,15, 18,20,22;12:23,24; 13:25;16:3;30:11; 38:3;41:19;45:15; 52:9,10;62:25;65:23; 66:13;67:16 <b>named (1)</b> 12:7 <b>names (1)</b> 8:19 <b>NANCY (2)</b> 67:16,17 <b>N-A-N-C-Y (1)</b> 67:17 <b>Nation (4)</b> 24:17;30:13;32:1; 59:23 <b>national (5)</b></p>			

14:16;51:7,24 <b>options (2)</b> 55:23;73:21 <b>oral (3)</b> 3:18;6:17;7:10 <b>orally (1)</b> 6:9 <b>order (1)</b> 61:15 <b>ordering (1)</b> 68:24 <b>ordinary (1)</b> 30:18 <b>organization (1)</b> 10:1 <b>organization's (1)</b> 32:7 <b>original (1)</b> 30:22 <b>Osakis (1)</b> 70:4 <b>oscillate (2)</b> 43:18,21 <b>others (5)</b> 9:8;41:18;44:8; 49:21;58:22 <b>other's (1)</b> 67:13 <b>otherwise (1)</b> 51:5 <b>ourselves (1)</b> 20:17 <b>out (53)</b> 3:23;9:19;10:15; 12:20;16:23;18:14; 19:20,20,21;20:17; 25:2;27:17;28:18,20; 29:1,2;30:17;36:3; 37:9,10,17;38:6; 39:19;40:1;41:8;42:2, 5,11,21,22;43:3,7,13; 47:5,12;54:22;55:9, 22,25;57:17;58:6,7; 60:22;61:6,19;62:12, 14,15;63:8;65:15; 66:15,20;67:15 <b>outdoor (1)</b> 68:12 <b>outdoorsman (1)</b> 40:18 <b>outlined (1)</b> 22:19 <b>outside (1)</b> 46:5 <b>outsourcing (1)</b> 64:22 <b>over (25)</b> 3:3,9,17,24;7:9; 12:5,9;17:18;22:15, 17,23;23:4,11;30:2,2; 35:23;36:22;39:25; 44:17;45:19;46:18; 47:5,15;59:1;70:16	<b>own (6)</b> 24:16;29:5;40:13; 45:25;59:12;65:13 <b>Owners (1)</b> 34:4  <b>P</b>  <b>pacts (1)</b> 30:14 <b>page (3)</b> 23:22;25:2;32:22 <b>pages (4)</b> 4:1;14:10;54:20,22 <b>paid (3)</b> 14:7,11;15:14 <b>Palisade (1)</b> 36:23 <b>papers (1)</b> 14:9 <b>parallel (1)</b> 13:24 <b>park (18)</b> 12:1,2,6,7,11,12,13, 14;13:12;16:7,8; 67:18;68:3,10,13,15; 70:4;71:8 <b>parked (1)</b> 66:19 <b>parks (4)</b> 16:10,10;22:22; 37:2 <b>part (5)</b> 17:7,8,10;50:18; 67:23 <b>participation (1)</b> 74:18 <b>particular (1)</b> 12:24 <b>partners (1)</b> 18:24 <b>party (2)</b> 46:12;49:4 <b>pass (3)</b> 59:17;60:12;67:4 <b>passed (2)</b> 47:3;70:16 <b>passing (1)</b> 59:14 <b>past (4)</b> 19:12;63:6,9;68:19 <b>path (2)</b> 16:21,22 <b>Paul (2)</b> 12:18;66:6 <b>Paulson (5)</b> 23:15,16,16;63:1,2 <b>P-A-U-L-S-O-N (2)</b> 23:17;63:2 <b>pay (3)</b> 19:16;54:16,19 <b>paying (2)</b> 54:18;64:25	<b>PEARSON (2)</b> 45:15,16 <b>P-E-A-R-S-O-N (1)</b> 45:16 <b>peninsula (1)</b> 50:8 <b>people (58)</b> 8:19,23;9:16;10:3; 14:7,12,24;16:24,24; 17:9;19:21;22:25; 23:11;24:23;27:20, 22:28;4,16,16;29:4; 30:22;32:4;33:11,17, 25;34:17;35:15;36:8, 20;38:18;40:18,19; 41:8;44:7;45:1;56:7, 11,21;57:9;58:4,6; 59:8,20,23,24;60:10, 25;61:8;62:9;65:20; 66:7,17,22;67:12; 73:7,11,19;74:4 <b>peoples (2)</b> 57:5;62:19 <b>people's (1)</b> 39:20 <b>per (1)</b> 47:9 <b>percent (8)</b> 18:16;26:24;29:17; 40:1;53:22,24;65:15, 16 <b>performance (1)</b> 63:7 <b>period (1)</b> 5:1 <b>permanently (1)</b> 48:16 <b>permission (1)</b> 24:6 <b>permit (1)</b> 4:12 <b>permitting (1)</b> 4:7 <b>person (4)</b> 17:2;35:4;46:23; 58:3 <b>personally (3)</b> 57:21;62:5;73:10 <b>perspective (1)</b> 63:10 <b>Peter (3)</b> 34:21,22,22 <b>P-E-T-E-R (1)</b> 34:23 <b>petroleum (1)</b> 56:17 <b>phase (1)</b> 5:5 <b>PHILLIP (2)</b> 41:21,21 <b>P-H-I-L-L-I-P (1)</b> 41:22 <b>phone (1)</b>	10:14 <b>phones (1)</b> 10:13 <b>pick (1)</b> 46:21 <b>picked (1)</b> 45:22 <b>pigs (1)</b> 42:24 <b>pine (3)</b> 12:3,5,5 <b>Pineland (5)</b> 67:24;68:20;69:1, 18;70:14 <b>pinet (2)</b> 13:10,10 <b>pinhole (1)</b> 71:13 <b>pipe (2)</b> 44:18;50:12 <b>piped (1)</b> 61:12 <b>pipeline (76)</b> 14:6,18;15:6,8,11, 18;18:8;21:11,12; 23:25;24:1;25:4,14, 22,23;26:7,9;27:13; 29:18,19,23,24;30:8; 32:8;33:18;34:12; 35:11,18,19,20;36:2; 37:3,7,10,17,24;39:8, 9;40:14;41:5,14;42:1, 2,5,6,11,19,20,25; 43:3,11;44:8,14;45:3, 12;47:22,25;50:17; 51:10;52:13,20; 53:12;54:7;57:17,18; 58:12;59:21;63:13, 14;64:12;65:9,12; 66:25;67:22,23;73:12 <b>pipeliner (1)</b> 44:13 <b>pipelines (27)</b> 16:19;19:11;21:23; 22:21;25:12,16,20; 28:9;29:23;36:5; 37:11,13;38:9;40:20; 44:21;45:8;47:13; 49:19,22;53:8,15; 54:24;57:11;63:10, 21,25;64:2 <b>place (6)</b> 38:7;44:3;45:12; 47:15;48:7,19 <b>places (1)</b> 16:15 <b>plan (2)</b> 50:18;70:1 <b>planning (3)</b> 14:20;48:6;54:17 <b>plant (2)</b> 20:7;36:17 <b>plants (1)</b>	62:3 <b>plastics (1)</b> 20:3 <b>plates (1)</b> 43:14 <b>plausible (1)</b> 51:20 <b>Please (6)</b> 9:8,10;10:1,4; 11:17;15:21 <b>plus (1)</b> 52:15 <b>pocket (1)</b> 28:20 <b>pockets (1)</b> 26:15 <b>point (10)</b> 10:9;25:1;30:7,7; 31:19;46:21;47:12; 48:14,21;67:13 <b>points (1)</b> 50:16 <b>policies (1)</b> 30:18 <b>polite (1)</b> 23:19 <b>politicians (1)</b> 22:7 <b>politicians' (1)</b> 26:15 <b>pollute (2)</b> 60:5;69:17 <b>polluted (1)</b> 71:9 <b>Pollution (2)</b> 4:18;70:9 <b>portably (1)</b> 55:10 <b>portion (4)</b> 3:5,19;7:10,15 <b>pose (1)</b> 56:23 <b>possible (5)</b> 30:6;38:7;47:11,24, 24 <b>possibly (2)</b> 19:5;41:8 <b>posted (2)</b> 6:15;73:16 <b>posters (2)</b> 3:23;74:1 <b>potentially (1)</b> 46:21 <b>pounds (1)</b> 13:6 <b>pour (1)</b> 4:1 <b>power (4)</b> 17:21;19:5;36:13, 17 <b>practices (1)</b> 33:12 <b>Prairie (2)</b>
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58:25;59:25 <b>prefer (1)</b> 6:12 <b>preferred (2)</b> 14:2;32:24 <b>prepare (1)</b> 5:10 <b>prepared (3)</b> 4:15;7:22;71:12 <b>preparing (1)</b> 5:2 <b>pressure (2)</b> 43:2,9 <b>pressurize (1)</b> 43:2 <b>pretty (5)</b> 25:5;44:15;45:5; 61:20;73:13 <b>previous (1)</b> 55:24 <b>primarily (1)</b> 67:23 <b>prior (1)</b> 63:15 <b>pristine (1)</b> 33:5 <b>private (2)</b> 68:4;71:20 <b>privately (1)</b> 56:24 <b>probably (3)</b> 14:14;35:5;48:15 <b>problem (7)</b> 22:4,10;37:12,15, 16,22;65:10 <b>problems (2)</b> 30:4;37:19 <b>process (7)</b> 4:23;5:5;9:20; 31:12;41:15;47:18; 72:6 <b>processes (1)</b> 49:7 <b>produce (4)</b> 14:8;19:3;20:1,6 <b>productivity (1)</b> 15:16 <b>products (1)</b> 42:17 <b>profit (1)</b> 21:4 <b>Project (26)</b> 3:7,10;4:13;5:15; 6:25;7:1;14:16;17:5; 31:17,22,23;33:23; 46:16,25;47:8;49:17; 50:2,20,24;51:3;53:3; 54:8;55:4;58:2;71:2; 73:5 <b>projected (1)</b> 49:17 <b>projects (2)</b> 4:8;50:22	<b>promise (1)</b> 53:24 <b>pronounce (1)</b> 11:15 <b>Property (2)</b> 34:4;73:20 <b>proposal (3)</b> 49:25;52:1,2 <b>proposed (8)</b> 32:23;34:6,12; 36:25;49:18,24; 50:17;53:2 <b>prosperity (1)</b> 20:8 <b>protect (1)</b> 16:15 <b>protection (1)</b> 34:17 <b>proud (1)</b> 44:15 <b>proven (1)</b> 27:11 <b>provide (3)</b> 4:3;6:8;28:1 <b>provided (1)</b> 6:17 <b>public (17)</b> 3:5;4:9;5:3,11;7:6, 19;17:4,6;20:18; 21:21;24:10;31:7; 32:21;67:15;71:3; 72:13;74:9 <b>public's (1)</b> 72:10 <b>pull (3)</b> 11:11;13:7,9 <b>pulled (1)</b> 13:1 <b>pulls (1)</b> 13:3 <b>pump (1)</b> 44:22 <b>pumping (1)</b> 47:16 <b>pumps (1)</b> 43:20 <b>purge (1)</b> 43:7 <b>push (4)</b> 18:5;26:16;43:3,7 <b>pushing (1)</b> 25:19 <b>put (24)</b> 8:10,19;13:6;27:4, 5,10;30:2;38:6,9,13; 39:19;40:3,19;41:1,2; 43:6;48:1,18;50:5; 55:4;58:5;65:9;66:25; 69:25 <b>puts (1)</b> 49:13 <b>putting (3)</b> 25:13;51:8;52:4	<b>Q</b> <b>qualification (1)</b> 64:12 <b>quality (2)</b> 68:17;69:5 <b>quantification (1)</b> 63:19 <b>quantify (1)</b> 60:19 <b>quantifying (2)</b> 49:9;60:15 <b>Quebec (1)</b> 66:14 <b>quick (3)</b> 22:4,9,10 <b>quickly (2)</b> 3:18;4:23 <b>quite (1)</b> 37:4 <b>quote (1)</b> 69:2 <b>quotes (1)</b> 69:12 <b>R</b> <b>rail (2)</b> 38:22;66:19 <b>railroad (3)</b> 34:9;52:14;67:5 <b>railroads (4)</b> 67:1,2,3,4 <b>railway (2)</b> 25:4;27:14 <b>railways (1)</b> 25:9 <b>raise (1)</b> 10:7 <b>ramifications (1)</b> 19:19 <b>ranger (2)</b> 12:1;16:7 <b>rangers (1)</b> 12:15 <b>Rapids (7)</b> 67:18;68:3,10,13, 16;70:4;71:8 <b>rather (1)</b> 72:12 <b>reaction (2)</b> 9:13;58:17 <b>reading (1)</b> 7:22 <b>real (1)</b> 22:4 <b>reality (1)</b> 28:2 <b>realize (4)</b> 22:8;28:8;40:24; 61:9 <b>realized (1)</b>	13:8 <b>really (15)</b> 9:15,18,24;11:7; 16:20,23;20:6,6;22:2; 25:9;35:6;52:17; 60:10;67:9,11 <b>realm (1)</b> 27:23 <b>reap (1)</b> 21:1 <b>reason (5)</b> 18:8;26:8;55:13,17; 56:16 <b>reasons (3)</b> 22:2;23:2;40:13 <b>receive (3)</b> 15:2,11;64:24 <b>recently (2)</b> 68:21;69:22 <b>recognize (1)</b> 24:14 <b>record (1)</b> 5:12 <b>recorded (2)</b> 65:8,9 <b>recycling (1)</b> 59:11 <b>red (3)</b> 12:3,5;13:10 <b>reduce (1)</b> 18:9 <b>reduction (1)</b> 53:22 <b>referred (1)</b> 71:7 <b>refers (1)</b> 48:8 <b>refine (1)</b> 21:17 <b>refined (1)</b> 21:20 <b>refreshments (2)</b> 10:16,17 <b>registration (1)</b> 74:14 <b>regulating (2)</b> 72:8,12 <b>regulatory (6)</b> 71:25;72:4,6,9,15 <b>relationship (1)</b> 31:2 <b>relatively (1)</b> 49:23 <b>released (1)</b> 12:19 <b>releases (1)</b> 71:13 <b>reliability (1)</b> 41:13 <b>relive (1)</b> 19:14 <b>relocate (1)</b> 68:7	<b>relocated (1)</b> 67:21 <b>remain (1)</b> 70:2 <b>remarks (1)</b> 7:23 <b>remediate (2)</b> 19:9;21:13 <b>remember (4)</b> 6:19;12:23;61:18; 66:13 <b>remind (3)</b> 3:20;8:11;46:4 <b>reminds (1)</b> 45:24 <b>removable (1)</b> 48:2 <b>removal (1)</b> 48:8 <b>remove (4)</b> 27:2;43:13;47:21, 25 <b>removed (4)</b> 39:4;42:20;44:2; 48:21 <b>removing (3)</b> 21:11;37:7;48:7 <b>renewable (6)</b> 19:2,7;26:5,12; 56:5,13 <b>repaired (1)</b> 58:19 <b>repeat (2)</b> 19:12;65:23 <b>repeatedly (1)</b> 17:18 <b>replace (4)</b> 40:4,4;54:6;60:20 <b>replacement (6)</b> 24:1;38:5;39:18; 41:24;54:7,11 <b>replacing (3)</b> 29:24;40:21;41:12 <b>report (3)</b> 5:10;71:12,16 <b>reporter (2)</b> 7:19,24 <b>represent (3)</b> 29:12;34:3;59:20 <b>represented (1)</b> 55:13 <b>Republic (1)</b> 23:6 <b>request (2)</b> 24:22;26:18 <b>rerouted (1)</b> 57:19 <b>rerouting (1)</b> 19:11 <b>research (2)</b> 66:12;72:21 <b>reservation (4)</b> 13:15;24:12;57:19;
--	---	---	--	---

63:25 <b>reservations (2)</b> 24:1;57:12 <b>reserve (1)</b> 22:14 <b>residents (2)</b> 57:16;68:14 <b>resistance (1)</b> 16:21 <b>resonate (1)</b> 61:16 <b>resource (2)</b> 21:5;32:8 <b>Resources (6)</b> 4:17;16:11,14;32:9; 56:13;60:17 <b>respect (3)</b> 20:15;40:14;62:18 <b>respectful (2)</b> 9:7;67:12 <b>respectfully (1)</b> 60:1 <b>response (2)</b> 9:4;25:16 <b>responsibility (2)</b> 49:11;59:17 <b>responsible (3)</b> 60:4,11;62:5 <b>rest (1)</b> 23:9 <b>restore (1)</b> 21:13 <b>restrooms (1)</b> 10:15 <b>result (1)</b> 32:15 <b>retain (1)</b> 32:10 <b>return (1)</b> 28:5 <b>revert (1)</b> 23:6 <b>review (1)</b> 74:11 <b>reviewer (1)</b> 71:18 <b>revising (1)</b> 9:6 <b>revisit (1)</b> 19:15 <b>revitalize (1)</b> 19:1 <b>revive (1)</b> 19:1 <b>rice (2)</b> 33:6;57:8 <b>ricing (1)</b> 33:10 <b>rid (1)</b> 45:11 <b>Right (31)</b> 8:18;18:3,7,10,18; 20:16;21:18,21;	24:20;28:17;30:13; 20;32:10;33:9;35:5; 37:22,25;38:25; 44:25;47:14;48:12; 49:23;51:9,17,21; 56:15;61:21;62:12; 64:3,5;67:4 <b>rights (6)</b> 22:18,18,23;23:4; 24:16;28:17 <b>rings (1)</b> 10:14 <b>riotous (1)</b> 61:20 <b>risk (2)</b> 53:23;70:15 <b>risks (3)</b> 54:2;55:3;71:15 <b>River (13)</b> 17:13;36:14;39:14, 15;42:4;67:24;68:20; 69:19,20,21,23;70:22, 25 <b>rivers (6)</b> 33:12;36:12;38:13; 39:8;68:10;69:16 <b>road (7)</b> 30:4;43:16,16,18; 48:12,23,24 <b>roads (2)</b> 30:2;43:19 <b>Rock (1)</b> 57:19 <b>room (5)</b> 10:17;32:6;44:8; 46:24;58:2 <b>Roosevelt (1)</b> 16:12 <b>roughly (2)</b> 40:24;48:1 <b>route (9)</b> 4:12;23:24;36:18, 21,24;37:21;38:14, 16;54:9 <b>routes (3)</b> 32:23,24;73:18 <b>rules (2)</b> 7:13;8:3 <b>run (8)</b> 20:4;22:21;37:23; 42:24;47:5;49:20; 55:22;56:8 <b>runaway (1)</b> 66:18 <b>running (10)</b> 34:10,10;35:18; 36:7;53:18,19;55:14, 25;58:20;62:13 <b>runs (4)</b> 35:8;37:10;41:5; 60:22 <b>run-through (1)</b> 4:24	<b>Russian (1)</b> 64:17  <b>S</b>  <b>sacred (1)</b> 13:15 <b>safe (4)</b> 9:16;54:2;66:9; 67:6 <b>safeguards (1)</b> 36:4 <b>safely (1)</b> 27:12 <b>safer (1)</b> 63:18 <b>safest (1)</b> 35:18 <b>safety (3)</b> 34:17;41:13;63:13 <b>Saint (2)</b> 17:12;18:14 <b>same (6)</b> 19:12;21:22;38:7, 15;40:5;53:8 <b>sand (1)</b> 25:19 <b>Sandpiper (1)</b> 71:7 <b>sands (9)</b> 33:22;52:4;55:18; 58:9;67:24;68:20; 69:1,18;70:14 <b>sands/build (1)</b> 68:8 <b>Saturday (1)</b> 61:6 <b>saved (1)</b> 13:10 <b>saving (1)</b> 33:10 <b>saw (2)</b> 32:5;49:12 <b>saying (5)</b> 11:18;41:19;58:13, 13;62:19 <b>scale (1)</b> 21:23 <b>scary (1)</b> 52:19 <b>scenario (1)</b> 51:21 <b>scheduled (2)</b> 5:7;51:12 <b>scrape (1)</b> 56:2 <b>scraping (1)</b> 55:19 <b>screen (1)</b> 8:10 <b>seat (1)</b> 10:25 <b>Seaway (2)</b>	17:12;18:14 <b>secede (1)</b> 23:1 <b>second (3)</b> 4:11;12:13;46:10 <b>secret (2)</b> 55:12;61:4 <b>section (2)</b> 43:18,18 <b>seeds (1)</b> 20:7 <b>seeing (1)</b> 63:6 <b>seem (4)</b> 47:23;56:18;57:11, 12 <b>seems (1)</b> 37:8 <b>selecting (1)</b> 70:16 <b>sell (3)</b> 17:1;20:17;39:1 <b>selling (4)</b> 14:13;19:20,20,21 <b>send (5)</b> 4:3;6:11;14:22; 15:21;21:16 <b>sending (1)</b> 65:14 <b>sense (1)</b> 20:5 <b>sensitive (2)</b> 44:1;57:7 <b>sent (2)</b> 5:11;61:9 <b>separate (1)</b> 55:1 <b>separated (1)</b> 16:8 <b>September (1)</b> 5:8 <b>series (1)</b> 31:6 <b>serious (1)</b> 13:9 <b>service (3)</b> 42:2,6,12 <b>session (1)</b> 74:5 <b>set (1)</b> 53:19 <b>setting (1)</b> 49:9 <b>seven (9)</b> 8:9,12,14,25;14:21; 15:17;19:15;52:15; 70:17 <b>several (5)</b> 17:16;48:22,23; 58:3,15 <b>shape (1)</b> 50:12 <b>share (1)</b>	7:18 <b>shared (1)</b> 6:14 <b>sharing (1)</b> 67:13 <b>shift (1)</b> 21:10 <b>ship (1)</b> 39:22 <b>shipped (2)</b> 21:21;39:25 <b>shirts (1)</b> 45:21 <b>shortest (2)</b> 47:8,11 <b>short-sighted (2)</b> 19:17;20:17 <b>shot (1)</b> 13:4 <b>shoved (2)</b> 38:20;39:3 <b>show (4)</b> 9:9;23:9;25:9; 58:18 <b>showing (1)</b> 51:21 <b>shown (1)</b> 31:7 <b>shows (1)</b> 25:3 <b>shut (6)</b> 26:4;51:10,12,13, 22;59:3 <b>side (4)</b> 38:9;43:17;61:2; 66:19 <b>sides (1)</b> 6:22 <b>signal (1)</b> 8:14 <b>signed (1)</b> 32:3 <b>signs (1)</b> 14:8 <b>sign-ups (1)</b> 41:18 <b>silence (1)</b> 10:13 <b>similarly (1)</b> 31:21 <b>simple (1)</b> 73:3 <b>simply (1)</b> 69:3 <b>sit (2)</b> 29:4;41:11 <b>sites (2)</b> 70:17,18 <b>sitting (1)</b> 63:4 <b>Six (4)</b> 15:14;24:15,15; 52:15
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				T
<b>six-foot (1)</b> 39:14	36:22;38:14;71:8	52:11,12,19;59:24	69:19,23;70:25	<b>table (12)</b> 24:25;29:1,8;31:4, 17,20;33:20;50:3,23; 52:1,2;74:14
<b>six-year (1)</b> 25:25	<b>sovereignty (1)</b> 20:18	<b>Star (2)</b> 69:2,11	<b>stream (1)</b> 71:1	<b>tables (1)</b> 3:3
<b>skilled (3)</b> 44:17;45:6;56:4	<b>span (1)</b> 47:8	<b>start (7)</b> 8:12;11:13,17,19; 41:19;60:11;61:1	<b>streams (1)</b> 70:22	<b>take-away (1)</b> 51:17
<b>sky-colored (1)</b> 17:25	<b>spans (1)</b> 33:1	<b>started (5)</b> 7:14;13:25;29:2; 60:5;73:2	<b>stringent (3)</b> 64:14,15,15	<b>talk (7)</b> 10:1;23:23;27:14; 46:9;53:4;66:9;74:7
<b>SLAGLE (2)</b> 72:19,20	<b>speak (15)</b> 7:17;8:6,7,17,20, 23;9:17;10:6,25;11:1, 8;30:22,24;41:23; 54:4	<b>State (20)</b> 3:8;4:16;10:8;12:1, 2,12,12;13:12;16:10; 20:10;22:22;30:1; 31:22,24;33:3;37:2; 41:11;44:18;52:9; 71:22	<b>stronger (1)</b> 63:18	<b>talked (2)</b> 37:6;58:8
<b>S-L-A-G-L-E (1)</b> 72:21	<b>SPEAKER (3)</b> 5:17;57:25;65:24	<b>stated (3)</b> 32:19;63:12,22	<b>Struss (3)</b> 16:1,2,3	<b>talking (7)</b> 21:23;24:7;26:23; 30:5;53:5;54:13; 60:14
<b>slavery (1)</b> 46:3	<b>species (1)</b> 69:10	<b>States (7)</b> 28:12;45:2;57:1; 60:23;61:10;62:16; 64:23	<b>studies (1)</b> 70:8	<b>talks (1)</b> 69:16
<b>slaves (1)</b> 45:22	<b>specifically (1)</b> 57:1	<b>state's (3)</b> 22:17,23;23:4	<b>study (4)</b> 68:21,25;70:17,17	<b>tank (1)</b> 44:21
<b>slowly (1)</b> 11:8	<b>spell (5)</b> 11:14;13:25;52:9; 62:25;65:23	<b>stating (1)</b> 63:17	<b>stuff (1)</b> 18:25	<b>tar (6)</b> 25:19;33:22;52:4; 55:18;58:9;68:8
<b>small (2)</b> 8:5;67:2	<b>spelling (3)</b> 11:18,19;41:20	<b>stations (1)</b> 44:22	<b>substantial (2)</b> 51:4,18	<b>taxes (3)</b> 15:10;64:25;65:19
<b>smart (1)</b> 66:25	<b>spending (2)</b> 26:7,8	<b>statistics (1)</b> 37:9	<b>substantive (1)</b> 9:23	<b>teach (1)</b> 61:7
<b>smother (1)</b> 11:6	<b>spent (1)</b> 55:24	<b>stay (4)</b> 3:3;48:17,18,18	<b>suffered (1)</b> 71:1	<b>technology (10)</b> 30:6;35:20;37:24; 40:25;41:1;53:1,9,23; 56:5,10
<b>snake (1)</b> 57:12	<b>spill (7)</b> 18:15;36:3;53:23; 54:3;58:16,17;65:7	<b>stays (1)</b> 65:15	<b>suggestion (2)</b> 24:22;72:23	<b>Teddy (1)</b> 16:12
<b>social (1)</b> 47:18	<b>spills (6)</b> 25:12;32:15;36:3; 37:14;39:9;53:12	<b>step (1)</b> 10:15	<b>Summary (1)</b> 32:22	<b>telegraph (2)</b> 61:9,15
<b>socialism (1)</b> 62:15	<b>splash (1)</b> 25:24	<b>steward (1)</b> 20:14	<b>sums (1)</b> 15:14	<b>telling (1)</b> 27:25
<b>societies (1)</b> 46:14	<b>split (1)</b> 39:14	<b>stick (2)</b> 38:15,16	<b>sun (1)</b> 19:4	<b>temporary (3)</b> 44:7,10,16
<b>society (3)</b> 46:13,22;49:3	<b>spoke (1)</b> 69:7	<b>sticks (1)</b> 27:5	<b>superintendent (2)</b> 13:2,8	<b>TERHARK (2)</b> 67:16,17
<b>soil (2)</b> 21:13,15	<b>spoken (1)</b> 62:24	<b>Stigler (1)</b> 72:5	<b>Superior (9)</b> 14:5;18:16;33:4; 39:24;49:17,20;51:1, 17,25	<b>T-E-R-H-A-R-K (1)</b> 67:17
<b>solar (2)</b> 29:20;60:18	<b>spot (1)</b> 40:5	<b>still (14)</b> 8:21,24;22:1;41:18; 45:21;46:2,7;47:16, 16;57:14;63:18; 70:16,17;74:1	<b>support (3)</b> 9:9;33:17;41:23	<b>terms (3)</b> 9:23;11:24;55:16
<b>solely (1)</b> 53:5	<b>spouting (1)</b> 53:9	<b>stine (1)</b> 69:13	<b>supposed (1)</b> 72:12	<b>terrible (1)</b> 45:10
<b>solid (1)</b> 51:11	<b>St (2)</b> 12:18;66:6	<b>stood (1)</b> 13:5	<b>sure (6)</b> 7:14;8:6,16;12:19; 14:11;70:1	<b>terrifying (1)</b> 50:10
<b>somebody (3)</b> 9:10,14;49:2	<b>Stacie (2)</b> 3:14;7:9	<b>Stop (4)</b> 39:19;40:3,24;41:3	<b>surprised (1)</b> 47:10	<b>territory (4)</b> 24:3,11;57:13;64:2
<b>someone (1)</b> 59:19	<b>staff (3)</b> 4:19;74:1,5	<b>stopline3org (1)</b> 73:2	<b>survive (4)</b> 24:20;28:6,7;66:2	<b>testify (1)</b> 71:5
<b>sometime (3)</b> 5:8,15;21:7	<b>stand (8)</b> 8:13;10:23;11:1; 13:19,20;17:3;23:1; 32:6	<b>stopped (1)</b> 58:19	<b>sustain (1)</b> 22:11	<b>testimony (2)</b> 5:10;67:22
<b>somewhat (1)</b> 11:8	<b>standards (1)</b> 27:18	<b>straight (6)</b> 50:9;67:24;68:20;	<b>sustainable (7)</b> 19:2;23:10;28:3; 54:12;64:4;70:2,3	<b>Texas (2)</b> 21:20;59:1
<b>somewhere (2)</b> 35:14;61:11	<b>Standing (1)</b> 57:19		<b>sustaining (1)</b> 66:3	<b>Thanks (4)</b> 23:18,19;41:20;
<b>sorry (2)</b> 33:14;40:23	<b>stands (1)</b> 18:20		<b>system (7)</b> 22:14;28:24;46:5,6, 7,17;70:16	
<b>soul (1)</b> 19:20	<b>Staples (8)</b> 14:3,17,19;35:5;			
<b>sound (1)</b> 10:19				
<b>source (3)</b> 68:2,4,13				
<b>sources (2)</b> 34:6;57:17				
<b>south (3)</b>				

73:22 <b>theory (1)</b> 72:4 <b>thick (1)</b> 58:10 <b>third (1)</b> 38:16 <b>Thirdly (1)</b> 58:16 <b>this/coal (1)</b> 68:9 <b>thisright (1)</b> 21:14 <b>Thompson (4)</b> 11:17,21,22,23 <b>T-H-O-M-P-S-O-N (1)</b> 11:23 <b>thorough (1)</b> 70:19 <b>thought (1)</b> 45:18 <b>thousands (3)</b> 4:1;6:24,25 <b>threatened (2)</b> 16:25;69:16 <b>threatens (1)</b> 32:8 <b>Three (4)</b> 15:4;50:14;52:16; 69:24 <b>thrown (1)</b> 29:2 <b>tied (2)</b> 24:15,15 <b>ties (1)</b> 64:17 <b>tilling (1)</b> 20:12 <b>timber (2)</b> 12:16;39:21 <b>timeline (2)</b> 47:6,18 <b>timer (3)</b> 8:10;11:12,19 <b>times (3)</b> 13:17;52:14;58:15 <b>titled (1)</b> 31:4 <b>today (21)</b> 3:21;4:3;6:9;12:4; 21:7;23:22;32:20; 34:23;35:4;40:12; 41:2,23;45:17;53:15, 17:55;6:7;56:8,25; 59:19;67:22 <b>together (4)</b> 8:4;24:15,16;28:18 <b>told (2)</b> 12:25;13:9 <b>Tom (1)</b> 68:24 <b>Tony (3)</b> 40:8,9,9	<b>T-O-N-Y (1)</b> 40:10 <b>took (2)</b> 12:9;39:16 <b>tool (1)</b> 43:1 <b>top (3)</b> 31:7,16;69:25 <b>topic (1)</b> 54:21 <b>total (1)</b> 47:21 <b>totally (1)</b> 66:21 <b>touching (1)</b> 63:25 <b>tourism (1)</b> 17:8 <b>tourists (1)</b> 68:11 <b>toward (1)</b> 62:11 <b>towards (3)</b> 8:12;10:2;36:22 <b>town (8)</b> 52:14,19;66:13,16, 20,21,22;67:2 <b>towns (1)</b> 67:3 <b>toxic (1)</b> 70:23 <b>track (1)</b> 53:11 <b>tracks (1)</b> 34:9 <b>trade (2)</b> 18:22,24 <b>trades (2)</b> 44:9,18 <b>tragedy (1)</b> 45:10 <b>train (4)</b> 35:25;66:8,19,21 <b>trains (3)</b> 34:10;52:15,16 <b>trample (2)</b> 22:23;23:4 <b>transcript (2)</b> 7:20;8:1 <b>transcripts (1)</b> 6:16 <b>transfer (1)</b> 26:11 <b>transferring (1)</b> 18:11 <b>transmit (1)</b> 61:16 <b>transpiring (1)</b> 26:21 <b>transport (6)</b> 27:11,12,15;35:21, 24;66:9 <b>transported (1)</b>	31:15 <b>Trap (3)</b> 34:4,5,13 <b>travel (2)</b> 32:11;67:7 <b>traveled (1)</b> 16:5 <b>traversing (1)</b> 27:6 <b>treated (1)</b> 6:21 <b>treaties (2)</b> 30:15;31:24 <b>treatment (1)</b> 68:17 <b>treaty (16)</b> 13:18;24:3,8,16,18, 19,23;28:16;32:3,9, 12,15,25;33:9,24;64:1 <b>trees (2)</b> 12:21;62:3 <b>tribal (4)</b> 23:23;24:6;29:7; 32:10 <b>tribes (1)</b> 24:14 <b>Tribune (2)</b> 69:2,12 <b>trout (1)</b> 71:1 <b>truck (4)</b> 25:4;35:22,23;66:8 <b>truckers (1)</b> 14:13 <b>trucking (2)</b> 27:10,12 <b>truly (2)</b> 15:15;70:12 <b>trump (1)</b> 22:17 <b>trust (1)</b> 71:16 <b>trusted (1)</b> 71:10 <b>try (4)</b> 11:7;22:17;36:14; 44:2 <b>trying (6)</b> 13:12;18:5;21:4; 34:24;46:5;59:12 <b>turn (5)</b> 7:8;26:25;27:9; 30:18;65:17 <b>turned (1)</b> 35:23 <b>turns (1)</b> 36:21 <b>twelve (1)</b> 8:18 <b>twin (2)</b> 49:25;50:17 <b>two (7)</b> 23:25;30:3;35:4;	38:8;49:21;52:15; 68:19 <b>types (1)</b> 61:4  <b>U</b>  <b>UA (1)</b> 44:17 <b>Ulrich (3)</b> 30:10,11,12 <b>U-L-R-I-C-H (1)</b> 30:12 <b>ultimately (1)</b> 49:24 <b>unaccounted (1)</b> 66:23 <b>unclear (1)</b> 6:2 <b>uncomfortable (1)</b> 10:3 <b>under (9)</b> 24:13,17;39:15; 46:25;48:15;50:21; 61:12;68:21;70:22 <b>underneath (4)</b> 24:8,24;43:19; 61:16 <b>underwater (1)</b> 50:11 <b>unemployment (1)</b> 15:5 <b>Unfortunately (1)</b> 26:3 <b>UNIDENTIFIED (3)</b> 5:17;57:25;65:24 <b>Union (5)</b> 23:1;29:6;40:19; 41:7;45:6 <b>unions (1)</b> 26:20 <b>unique (1)</b> 69:10 <b>United (4)</b> 28:12;60:23;61:10; 62:16 <b>unnecessarily (1)</b> 17:18 <b>unnecessary (1)</b> 16:20 <b>unsafe (1)</b> 44:2 <b>untrue (1)</b> 64:1 <b>up (43)</b> 3:4;6:21;8:13; 10:24,24;11:1,12; 12:3,15,17,22,24; 13:19,20;14:3;20:18; 24:10;25:13;27:22; 30:13;34:23;35:9; 38:18;39:5,16;40:16; 43:12,12,17,24,25;	45:1,18;46:21;49:14; 50:3;51:18;52:21; 54:14;58:18;61:23; 62:1;67:2 <b>upon (1)</b> 21:7 <b>upper (2)</b> 50:8;69:17 <b>uranium (2)</b> 61:3,5 <b>use (11)</b> 10:15;31:8;35:13; 39:25;59:14,14; 60:11,17;61:4;62:10; 69:5 <b>used (3)</b> 33:20;36:5;71:20 <b>useful (2)</b> 33:13,15 <b>using (1)</b> 15:12 <b>usually (1)</b> 46:6 <b>Utilities (5)</b> 4:9;5:11;7:6;20:18; 31:7 <b>utility (1)</b> 17:4  <b>V</b>  <b>Valdez-like (1)</b> 18:15 <b>values (1)</b> 15:19 <b>valves (4)</b> 43:11,12,13,14 <b>various (1)</b> 68:5 <b>vegetable (1)</b> 56:9 <b>vegetation (2)</b> 32:17;70:24 <b>Venezuela (1)</b> 44:15 <b>version (1)</b> 49:13 <b>versus (2)</b> 41:1,4 <b>vested (2)</b> 16:9;20:21 <b>vet (1)</b> 26:1 <b>veteran (1)</b> 16:4 <b>victim (1)</b> 72:16 <b>view (1)</b> 67:13 <b>views (2)</b> 9:19;67:13 <b>virtually (1)</b> 32:24
--	--	---	---	---

<b>vital (1)</b> 68:14	3:6,13	13:8	73:17	55:13;57:20;67:21; 68:8
<b>volatile (2)</b> 25:11,21	<b>weld (1)</b> 43:14	<b>wondering (1)</b> 70:10	<b>1</b>	<b>30 (7)</b> 26:24;46:18;47:6,7; 55:8,14,23
<b>volume (2)</b> 51:18,19	<b>welded (1)</b> 25:24	<b>woods (2)</b> 38:12,19	<b>1:15 (1)</b> 66:17	<b>32 (1)</b> 32:22
<b>vote (2)</b> 6:22;24:10	<b>welder/driver (1)</b> 26:2	<b>Woodstock (1)</b> 61:19	<b>10 (3)</b> 18:16;40:1;65:15	<b>4</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>welding (2)</b> 42:20;56:3	<b>wore (1)</b> 45:21	<b>10,000 (2)</b> 29:12,13	<b>40 (3)</b> 53:22,24;63:12
	<b>wells (2)</b> 68:4;69:9	<b>work (20)</b> 8:4;14:25,25;20:15; 23:7;25:24;26:20,25; 27:1;29:22;30:4; 40:13,20;41:8;44:22, 25;45:4,6,7;71:21	<b>10th (3)</b> 15:23;22:18;74:10	<b>41 (1)</b> 42:21
<b>wait (1)</b> 41:11	<b>Wendy (3)</b> 30:10,11,12	<b>worked (3)</b> 48:9;59:1,22	<b>11 (1)</b> 23:22	<b>41st (1)</b> 44:12
<b>waiting (1)</b> 27:3	<b>W-E-N-D-Y (1)</b> 30:12	<b>workers (1)</b> 44:9	<b>110 (1)</b> 13:6	<b>42 (2)</b> 66:17,22
<b>waking (1)</b> 27:22	<b>western (1)</b> 33:2	<b>working (5)</b> 14:9;25:14;44:20; 51:9;66:4	<b>114 (1)</b> 13:11	<b>48 (2)</b> 59:12;60:6
<b>walked (1)</b> 49:24	<b>wetland (1)</b> 32:14	<b>works (1)</b> 71:14	<b>14 (1)</b> 54:20	<b>5</b>
<b>WALLACE (2)</b> 41:21,22	<b>wetlands (1)</b> 33:12	<b>world (5)</b> 17:10;23:9,12; 27:24;66:3	<b>16 (1)</b> 25:2	<b>5 (3)</b> 50:9;51:8,9
<b>W-A-L-L-A-C-E (1)</b> 41:22	<b>what's (5)</b> 19:24;28:11,13; 35:7;69:4	<b>world's (1)</b> 18:16	<b>1800s (1)</b> 61:11	<b>5,000 (1)</b> 14:10
<b>wants (3)</b> 8:6;28:24;52:5	<b>where's (1)</b> 63:19	<b>worst (1)</b> 65:7	<b>1855 (9)</b> 24:3,18,23;32:2,14, 25;33:9;57:13;64:1	<b>50 (2)</b> 29:17;61:22
<b>wash (2)</b> 60:6,7	<b>wherever (1)</b> 21:20	<b>write (2)</b> 6:9;71:16	<b>1906 (2)</b> 12:8,14	<b>50s (1)</b> 53:16
<b>watching (2)</b> 59:13,13	<b>whichever (1)</b> 6:12	<b>writing (1)</b> 4:4	<b>1954 (1)</b> 15:17	<b>563 (1)</b> 29:12
<b>water (26)</b> 12:20;17:7,12,14, 15,18,20,25;18:17; 19:25;34:5,18;43:20; 57:8,17;59:9,13; 61:16;68:1,2,13,16, 18,25;69:5,14	<b>white (6)</b> 12:3,5;13:10,14,16; 24:17	<b>written (1)</b> 7:23	<b>1963 (2)</b> 42:9,10	<b>5th (1)</b> 69:3
<b>waters (9)</b> 13:3,7,7,16;54:1; 58:12,20;60:4;68:10	<b>whole (4)</b> 18:19;38:17;44:24; 66:22	<b>wrong (2)</b> 11:15;36:21	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>watershed (2)</b> 17:7;69:18	<b>who's (1)</b> 46:23	<b>Y</b>	<b>2,000 (1)</b> 44:17	<b>6,000 (1)</b> 54:22
<b>waterways (4)</b> 18:24;24:19;40:17; 60:7	<b>Wicken (3)</b> 40:8,9,9		<b>20 (2)</b> 55:8;59:1	<b>60 (1)</b> 47:15
<b>way (24)</b> 18:1,25;22:5,6; 23:9,10;28:6,8;32:1; 33:1;35:19;38:16,17; 39:1;42:23;44:14; 47:2,4;48:5;56:19; 57:14;66:20;67:6; 73:7	<b>W-I-C-K-E-N (1)</b> 40:10	<b>year (2)</b> 30:3;44:12	<b>200 (1)</b> 12:5	<b>60-some-year-old (1)</b> 53:6
<b>ways (2)</b> 19:2;72:11	<b>wild (2)</b> 33:6,10	<b>years (23)</b> 12:2,5;13:11;16:4; 30:4;39:16;40:24; 42:21;46:18;47:6,7, 15;48:22;55:8,14,23, 25;59:2,12;60:6; 61:22;63:12;68:19	<b>2008 (2)</b> 14:18;15:1	<b>60-year (1)</b> 47:18
<b>wealthy (2)</b> 60:23,24	<b>wildlife (4)</b> 16:11;39:10;68:25; 70:23	<b>yesterday (1)</b> 71:24	<b>2010 (1)</b> 39:13	<b>61 (1)</b> 49:21
<b>website (3)</b> 6:15;73:2,16	<b>willing (1)</b> 55:3	<b>young (4)</b> 60:25;61:8,18;62:9	<b>2013 (1)</b> 66:12	<b>63 (1)</b> 40:24
<b>WEITEMIER (2)</b> 58:23,24	<b>Wind (2)</b> 16:8;60:19	<b>younger (1)</b> 46:23	<b>2015 (2)</b> 68:23;69:3	<b>66 (1)</b> 50:16
<b>W-E-I-T-E-M-I-E-R (1)</b> 58:24	<b>winds (1)</b> 29:21	<b>Z</b>	<b>2016 (1)</b> 69:11	<b>6th (1)</b> 66:12
<b>Welcome (2)</b>	<b>Wing (1)</b> 69:20	<b>zig-zagging (1)</b> 17:17	<b>2018 (1)</b> 5:16	<b>7</b>
	<b>Wisconsin (6)</b> 49:20;50:1,6,17; 51:5;64:9	<b>zoom (1)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>70 (2)</b> 55:25;59:21
	<b>wish (1)</b> 49:12		<b>3 (25)</b> 3:7;4:25;14:2,16; 24:1;25:23;27:2;32:8, 21;33:18,22;40:24; 41:12,23;45:12;48:6; 50:5,18;51:13;53:2,6;	<b>74 (1)</b> 66:14
	<b>within (3)</b> 22:25;24:16;32:14			<b>75 (1)</b> 59:20
	<b>woman (1)</b>			



750 (1) 38:10				
9				
90 (1) 65:16				