

Know the facts: Why Shutting Down Line 5 is the Right Decision for Michigan

A Line 5 rupture in the Straits of Mackinac would impact **700 miles of Great Lakes shoreline**, take years to clean up and devastate our Great Lakes economy

THE LINE 5 DUAL PIPELINES UNDER THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC ARE DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR AND ARE NO LONGER SAFE TO OPERATE¹

- **Enbridge Energy is responsible for the largest inland oil spill in U.S. history** — the Kalamazoo River oil spill. In 2010, Enbridge's Line 6B Pipeline ruptured, spilling more than a million gallons of oil into the Kalamazoo River.²
- In June 2020, **Line 5 was temporarily shut down due to significant damage to anchor supports** on the pipeline caused by an anchor strike and Enbridge failed to inform state officials about the damage and condition of the line.³
- **Enbridge has consistently failed to properly anchor the pipeline to the lakebed**, letting it sway uncontrolled in the strong Straits currents.⁴

SHUTTING DOWN LINE 5 WOULD NOT IMPACT ENERGY PRICES OR THE UPPER PENINSULA'S ENERGY NEEDS

- Line 5 only provides propane to roughly 12,000 homes and businesses in the U.P. and **the state is already implementing ways to ensure the U.P. gets an adequate supply of propane** without the Line 5 pipeline.⁵
- In court filings, **Enbridge Energy's own experts testified that a Line 5 shut down would only impact fuel prices less than 1 cent.**⁶
- The U.P. Energy Task force determined 3-4 truckloads or 1-2 train cars of propane per day could **replace the U.P.'s reliance on Line 5 propane.**

ENBRIDGE ENERGY CAN'T BE TRUSTED TO SAFELY OPERATE LINE 5 IN THE GREAT LAKES AND CANNOT BE HELD FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR AN OIL SPILL

- In recent years, Enbridge has continuously **failed to demonstrate proper care for the pipeline**, violating its agreement with the state of Michigan.
- Enbridge Energy does not have the financial assets or insurance to cover the cost of a Line 5 oil spill — **taxpayers would be on the hook for Enbridge's mess.**
- **Enbridge, Inc. would not be held financially responsible for a Line 5 oil spill** since the pipeline operates under its subsidiary company, Enbridge Energy, to skirt accountability for the parent company.

A LINE 5 RUPTURE WOULD DEVESTATE OUR ECONOMY AND COST HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF JOBS

- **More than 214,000 Michigan jobs** are supported by tourism alone, which **are at risk if Line 5 ruptures.**
- **Enbridge only employs 116 people in Michigan**, including contractors.⁷
- An independent 2017 study by Dynamic Risk found decommissioning and **removing Line 5 would create 2,188 jobs.**⁸

¹Revocation of Easement p. 11-12

²Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

³Up North Live: "Enbridge ordered to cease operations of Line 5 following damage" June 25, 2020

⁴Bridge Magazine: "Enbridge Line 5 shut down after anchor support incurs 'significant damage'" June 19, 2020

⁵Upper Peninsula Energy Task Force Committee Recommendations Appendix 3, April, 2020

⁶MLive: "Line 5 shutdown would hike gas prices a half-cent per gallon, court filing reveals" June 8, 2022

⁷Enbridge Energy Website

⁸"Alternative Analysis for the Straits Pipelines" Oct. 2017



Line 5

Key Talking Points

Line 5 is a ticking time bomb in our Great Lakes, and Governor Whitmer is working to protect our water by shutting it down.

- Enbridge Energy is the company responsible for the 2010 Kalamazoo River oil spill, the largest inland oil spill in U.S. history, that spewed 1 million gallons of oil into the Kalamazoo River.
- The damaged 69-year-old Line 5 pipeline is not safe to operate, and Enbridge has violated its easement agreement with the state of Michigan by committing numerous safety violations and putting our Great Lakes at risk.
- A Line 5 oil spill would damage 700 miles of Great Lakes shoreline and threaten hundreds of thousands of jobs.

Line 5 only provides a small fraction of the propane used in Michigan, and the U.P. Energy Task Force has found solutions for the U.P. that will keep costs low while maintaining access.

- Line 5 was built to be a shortcut through Michigan to transport crude oil from Canadian tar sands to Canadian refineries. It is not a propane pipeline and there are numerous alternative sources of propane for the U.P.
- This isn't about heating homes. This is about a Canadian oil company trying to protect its profits at the risk of our Great Lakes.
- Enbridge Energy's own experts testified in court that a Line 5 shut down would only impact fuel prices less than 1 cent.

A Line 5 rupture will risk hundreds of thousands of jobs in Michigan and devastate our economy, far outweighing the small number of jobs Enbridge provides in Michigan.

- A Line 5 rupture would devastate our economy and shutting it down is the only way to prevent a catastrophic oil spill.
- Enbridge has admitted themselves that the company only supports 116 jobs in Michigan, while a rupture would threaten more than 214,000 Michigan tourism jobs alone.
- According to the state's Dynamic Risk Alternatives Analysis, decommissioning Line 5 would create 2,188 jobs.

For more information, contact us at info@michiganlcv.org. To donate and help us fight to shut down Line 5, scan the QR code.

