



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Issued: July 27, 2007



**Notice
of
Pipeline Routing Permit Application Acceptance
and
Public Information Meetings
On the
Enbridge Pipeline Projects**

**PUC Docket Number PL9/PPL-07-360
And
PUC Docket Number PL9/PPL-07-361**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) will hold public information meetings at the locations listed below, concerning proposals by Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership and Enbridge Pipelines (Southern Lights) L.L.C., referred to collectively as “Enbridge,” to expand its existing crude oil pipeline system in Minnesota. The three new expansion pipeline projects are referred to as the LSr, Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects and will cross northern Minnesota in close proximity to Enbridge’s existing pipeline rights-of-way.

This notice provides important information about DOC public information meetings, how the public may participate in the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) proceedings, the Enbridge projects, persons to contact for additional information and where project information is available.

**PUC CERTIFICATE OF NEED AND PIPELINE ROUTING PERMIT
REQUIREMENTS**

Enbridge filed two Certificate of Need (CON) and two Pipeline Routing Permit (PRP) applications with the PUC. On July 30, 2007 the PUC accepted the CON and PRP applications as filed by Enbridge. Acceptance of the applications initiates the regulatory review process requirements for the CON and the PRP.

Certificate of Need (CON) Process — determines the size, type and timing of the proposed pipeline and determines whether there is a better alternative for meeting the Applicant’s identified need.

Pipeline Routing Permit (PRP) Process — designates the route for the pipeline and associated facilities, conditions for right-of-way preparation, construction, clean-up and restoration. This process examines alternative routes and route segments for the pipeline. Interested persons may propose alternative routes or route segments as described below.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS/OPEN HOUSE DATES

The DOC will hold information meetings on the applications for pipeline routing permits. DOC staff will review the state's permitting process for pipelines and how the public may be involved. Other state and federal agencies may be present at and participate in the public information meetings.

In conjunction with the DOC information meetings, Enbridge will hold open houses in the locations listed below, prior to each public information meeting, to answer questions and provide the public with information about the projects.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Enbridge is seeking authorization to build three different petroleum pipelines as described below and as shown on the accompanying map. The purpose of the proposed projects is to increase crude petroleum transportation services between the oil sands in Western Canada and refineries in the Midwest. These proposed projects are a part of Enbridge's system expansion plans in Canada and the United States.

LSr Project (Docket Number PL9/PPL-07-360)

The LSr Project is the subject of the first applications for both a Certificate of Need (Docket Number PL9/CN-07-464) and a Pipeline Routing Permit (Docket Number PL9/PPL-07-360). The LSr Project involves construction of approximately 136 miles of new 20-inch-diameter pipeline and associated facilities from the United States-Canada border near Neche in Pembina County, North Dakota to the existing Enbridge tank farm in Clearbrook, Minnesota for the transportation of petroleum. The Minnesota portion of this project, approximately 108 miles in length, will cross portions of Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk and Clearwater counties as shown on the accompanying map. Enbridge proposes to construct the pipeline generally along its existing pipeline right-of-way. The LSr Project will be capable of transporting approximately 186,000 barrels of oil per day.

Alberta Clipper/Southern Lights Diluent Projects (Docket Number PL9/PPL-07-361)

The Alberta Clipper and the Southern Lights Diluent Projects are the subjects of the second set of applications for a Certificate of Need (Docket Number PL9/CN-07-465) and a Pipeline Routing Permit (Docket Number PL9/PPL-07-361).

The Alberta Clipper Project is a 990-mile-long, 36 inch outside diameter crude oil pipeline. It will start in Hardisty, Alberta, Canada and end at an Enbridge terminal facility in Superior, Wisconsin. Enbridge is proposing to construct the United States portion of this pipeline and associated facilities parallel to the LSr pipeline, between the United States-Canada borders near Neche, in Pembina County, North Dakota to Clearbrook, Minnesota, and continue on to

Superior, Wisconsin, generally along Enbridge's existing pipeline right-of-way. The Alberta Clipper Project, approximately 285 miles in length in Minnesota will cross 13 counties. From west to east they are: Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Clearwater, Beltrami, Hubbard, Cass, Itasca, Aitkin, St. Louis and Carlton as shown on the accompanying map. This line will transport approximately 450,000 barrels per day of heavy crude oil from the Canadian oil sands to refineries in the Midwest.

The Southern Lights Diluent Project will consist of approximately 175 miles of new 20-inch outside diameter pipeline in Minnesota extending from Enbridge's tank farm in Clearbrook to Superior, Wisconsin. The Southern Lights Diluent Project requiring new pipeline construction in Minnesota, will cross the counties of Clearwater, Beltrami, Hubbard, Cass, Itasca, Aitkin, St. Louis and Carlton as shown on the accompanying map. Enbridge is also proposing to construct the Southern Lights Diluent Project generally along or adjacent to its existing pipeline right-of-way.

When completed, this new pipeline will begin in the Chicago area and end at the Enbridge tank farm in Clearbrook, Minnesota. At Clearbrook, Enbridge will reverse the flow on one of its existing 18-inch liquid petroleum pipelines, designated as Line 13, by reversing the flow for 136 miles between Clearbrook, Minnesota and the Canada border near Neche, North Dakota.

The Southern Lights Diluent Project will transport liquids (condensate or diluent) north from refineries in the Chicago area to the oil sands of Alberta, Canada. The oil extracted in Alberta has a tar-like consistency and must be diluted before it can be moved through a pipeline. One of the best substances for that purpose is a light hydrocarbon byproduct of the refining process.

Enbridge plans to construct the Alberta Clipper Project in conjunction with the Southern Lights Diluent Project, so the second route permit application covers both the Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects.

Land and Right-Of-Way Requirements

These pipelines will be placed alongside of existing easements/right-of-way in most areas. Collectively, these Projects will require approximately 75 feet of additional permanent right-of-way space next to Enbridge's four (south of Clearbrook) or five (north of Clearbrook) existing pipelines.

In addition to new permanent right-of-way, additional temporary work space is required to store excavated soil, store pipe sections as they are added to the line, move equipment and vehicles and to provide a safe work area to install the pipelines. Temporary work space requirements will vary in width, but are expected to be between 90 and 140 feet.

ENBRIDGE'S PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE

Minn. Rules, Chapter 4415 require the applicant to identify a preferred route. Minn. Rules 4415.0010 Subp. 32 defines route as having a variable width from the minimum required for the pipeline right-of-way (approximately 50-75 feet) up to 1.25 miles. Subpart. 33 of that rule defines route segment as a portion of a route.

Enbridge has identified a proposed route, approximately 150 feet in width from generally the south side of Enbridge's existing pipelines. In congested areas and around pumping stations Enbridge will deviate from its existing right-of-way where necessary; otherwise it is the intent of Enbridge to use, follow or parallel its existing pipelines and rights-of-way where possible. Enbridge has identified a preliminary location alignment, which is subject to change throughout the permitting process and public hearings. The permitting process will take several months to complete.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Opportunities for public involvement in this proceeding include participating in the information meetings, suggesting alternative route or route segments and commenting at public hearings.

Opportunities to Propose Alternate Routes or Route Segments

Any person may propose an alternate route or route segment. If you would like to make a proposal (new route or route segment) that is different from Enbridge's proposal, you should contact the staff at the DOC identified in this notice for guidance on how to submit a proposal. Please note the deadline for submitting proposals below.

If you are interested in only a minor location change or alignment modification within the route as proposed by Enbridge you are also encouraged to submit them by the deadline noted below. If you cannot submit your proposed recommendations by the deadline they may be presented at the public hearings which will be held later this year.

All new route proposals must be approved of by the PUC for consideration at the public hearings on the Projects. New route or route segment proposals offered at the public hearing will not be accepted because they will not have been authorized by the PUC.

Persons may submit written or faxed (651-297-1959) new route or route segment proposals any time on or before 4:30 p.m. on October 8, 2007. Please include the PUC docket number (PL9/PPL-07-360 or PL9/PPL-07-361) on the submittal. Written submittals should be directed to: Sharon Ferguson, Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198.

Opportunities to Comment and Participate at the Public Hearings

The public is also encouraged to participate in the hearing to be held on the Projects. There will be formal public hearings presided over by an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The ALJ will listen to all of the testimony and review all of the evidence that comes into the record. The ALJ will then prepare a report and make recommendations to the PUC about the Certificate of Need Applications and the Pipeline Routing Permit Applications.

You are encouraged to attend the public hearings and present testimony about the Enbridge Projects or ask questions of the witnesses. Persons on the project mailing lists will receive notice of the public hearings and notice will also be published in local newspapers. Other information will be available over the course of the next several months at the places and websites identified in this notice.

Prehearing Conference

A prehearing conference will be held by Administrative Law Judge Eric L. Lipman on Tuesday, August 7, 2007.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to address procedural matters such as: deadlines for intervention, prefiled testimony, contested case and public hearing dates and other administrative issues associated with the public evidentiary hearings for the proposed Enbridge projects, which will be held later this year. The DOC will provide information about the remainder of the project schedule at the information meetings that are the subject of this notice.

PROJECT CONTACTS

PRP Contacts Department of Commerce. DOC staff member Larry Hartman (Tel: 651-296-5089 or larry.hartman@state.mn.us) is the project manager and Deborah Pile (Tel: 651-297-2375 or deborah.pile@state.mn.us) is the public advisor for the pipeline route permit proceedings. You may contact them at: Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198. Other contact information: Toll-Free: 1-800-657-3794, Fax: 651-297-7891 or TTY: Minnesota Relay Services, 800-627-3529, and ask for the Department of Commerce.

CON Contact Public Utilities Commission. Bret Eknes (Tel: 651-201-2236 or bret.eknes@puc.state.mn.us) of the PUC staff is its project manager and public advisor for the Certificate of Need proceedings. He may be contacted in writing at: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place E., Suite 350, Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147.

Enbridge. Contact Enbridge's toll-free public information number for the projects at (866) 410-4356, or contact Enbridge's representative: Kevin O'Connor (Tel: 612-347-7879 or kgoconnor@nrginc.com). Natural Resource Group, 80 S. 8th St., Suite 1000, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

U.S. Department of State (DoS). The Department of State has also published two separate Notices of Intent (NOI) in the Federal to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the LSr Project and the Alberta Clipper Project. These Notices include information on the federal review process for these projects and also provide contact information for the Department of State staff.

Written comments on the scope of the EA for the LSr Project or Alberta Clipper Project should be addressed to: Elizabeth Orlando, OES/ENV Room 2657, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520. Additionally, comments may be submitted electronically on the LSr Project to southernlights@state.gov or on the Alberta Clipper Project to albertaclipper@state.gov. Comment deadline for the LSr Project is 45 days from publication of the NOI in the Federal Register. Comment deadline for Alberta Clipper is 45 days from publication of the NOI in the Federal Register.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Because Enbridge’s pipeline proposals will involve placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the U.S., the Projects will require authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (Corps) pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Section 404) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

The Corps intends to use the comments gathered by the State of Minnesota’s permitting process as necessary to satisfy Section 404 and Section 10 review requirements. The Corps invites public comment regarding the potential impacts to Waters of the U.S.

Comments may be submitted to Leo Grabowski, in the Brainerd Field Office, 10867 East Gull Lake Drive NW, Brainerd, MN 56401-9051, or to Tamara Cameron, St. Paul District Regulatory Branch, at 190 E 5th Street, St. Paul, MN 55101, or via email at tamara.e.cameron@usace.army.mil

PROJECT MAILING LISTS

If you would like to have your name added to the PUC route permit proceeding mailing list for the Enbridge pipeline projects (PUC Docket PL9/PPL-07-360 or PL9/PPL-07-361), you may register at either of the two sites listed below or by contacting the DOC staff at the address above.

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19203>;

or

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19133>

The PUC maintains a separate service list for the CON proceedings. To be placed on that list for the PUC CON Dockets PL9/CN-07-464 or PL9/PPL-07-465 mail, fax, or email Robin Benson at Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place E., Suite 350, Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147 or fax: 651-297-7073 or robin.benson@state.mn.us

PROJECT INFORMATION AVAILABILITY

PUC Online Information Locations

Information regarding the PUC proceedings on these Enbridge Projects will be available on several websites. Information on the route permit proceeding will be available at the web sites identified above or on eDockets at: <http://www.edockets.state.mn.us/>. Type in 07-360 or 07-361 for information on the route proceedings or 07-464 or 07-465 for information on the CON proceedings.

Enbridge Projects Online Information

Enbridge project information is also available online at (<http://www.enbridge-expansion.com>).

Application Availability

Enbridge has provided a copy of its applications (CON and PRP) to each regional development commission, soil and water conservation district, watershed district, auditor of each county, and to the clerk of each township and city crossed by the proposed pipeline. Please contact the appropriate office or person to review the applications.

Additionally, a copy of each CON, PRP and a set of aerial photographs are also available for review at the public libraries in the cities of Hallock, Warren, Thief River Falls, Red Lake Falls, Fosston, McIntosh, Bagley, Bemidji, Park Rapids, Cass Lake, Walker, Bovey, Coleraine, Grand Rapids, Marble, Aitkin, McGregor, Duluth, Carlton and Cloquet.

More information on Enbridge's applications, including associated maps and drawings, is available for review and download at www.enbridgeus.com/publicinfo. Enbridge will also provide a CD or hard copy of these applications upon request. See contact information above.

MINNESOTA LAWS AND RULES GOVERNING PIPELINES

All applicable statutes and rules are on the State of Minnesota website at:

<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/statutes.asp>

Certificate of Need. The proposed project falls under the definition of "large energy facility" in Minnesota Statutes, section 216B.2421, subd 2 (4). Therefore, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.243, subd. 2, the facility cannot be sited or constructed in Minnesota unless the PUC issues a Certificate of Need to the Applicant.

The Certificate of Need rules pertinent to this filing are Minn. Rules, Parts 7853.0010 to 7853.0800. More specifically, the application requirements for petroleum pipeline facilities are given by Parts 7853.0230 to 7853.0270 and 7853.0500 to 7853.0640.

Pipeline Routing Permit. The proposed project falls under the definition "pipeline" in Minn. Stat., section 216G.02 subd.1. Therefore, in accordance with Minn. Stat, section 216G.02, the proposed pipeline facilities cannot be sited or constructed unless the PUC issues a Pipeline Routing Permit to the Applicant.

The pipeline routing rules are in Minn. Rules, Chapter 4415. More specifically, the route permit application is being reviewed pursuant to Minn. Rules, parts 4415.0045 to 4415.0100.

Eminent Domain. In the event that Enbridge cannot reach an agreement with a landowner for an easement, Enbridge will have the authority upon issuance of a certificate of need and a pipeline routing permit under Minnesota laws (Minn. Stat, section 117.48) to use eminent domain to acquire the right-of-way necessary to construct and operate the proposed pipelines and associated facilities.

Pipelines are also regulated by numerous other federal laws and regulations, state laws and rules and local ordinances

FEDERAL LAWS AND RULES GOVERNING PIPELINES

Presidential Permit for Cross-Border Crossing. The proposed pipeline project falls under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of State as designated by Executive Order and explained on their website under the Energy Policy, Pipeline Permits, Non-Agricultural Commodities portion of the website (<http://state.gov/e/eeb/c9982.htm>).

Section 404 and Section 10 Authorization. The proposed projects are subject to jurisdiction by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Additional information on these permit programs is available on the Corps of Engineers website (<http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/regulatory/>).

OTHER REQUIRED PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Enbridge has also filed other required permit applications with the U.S. Department of State for Presidential Permit for Cross-Border Crossing, the United States Army Corps of Engineers for wetland and waterbody crossing permits, the U.S. Forest Service for an amended Special Use Permit, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for a License to Cross Public Waters. In addition, Enbridge is consulting with the Corps of Engineers and State and Tribal historic Preservation Officers regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service regarding compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Enbridge has also consulted with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding state threatened and endangered species. Enbridge will be consulting with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) regarding Section 401 water quality certifications.

The Minnesota Department of Commerce is an agency of the state of Minnesota with statutory authority to represent the public interest in certificate of need and other proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission. The Department provides two separate and distinct roles with two separate and distinct staffs. The Department's Energy Planning and Advocacy function and staff serve as the state agency charged with advocating for the public interest in CON proceedings. The Department's Energy Facilities Permitting function and staff serve as the facilitators of the processes required in route permitting proceedings as well as ensuring that the route permitting record is complete for the Commission's decision.

INFORMATION MEETING & OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

**A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PRESENTATION WILL BEGIN
APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES AFTER THE START OF EACH OPEN HOUSE**

COUNTY	CITY	MEETING LOCATION	DATE AND TIME
Kittson	Kennedy	VFW & Café 102 5 th St. E.	Monday, August 13 11:00 a.m-2:00 p.m.
Marshall	Stephen	Stephen Community Center 319 5 th Street	Monday, August 13 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Pennington	Thief River Falls	Best Western Meeting Room 1060 Highway 32 South	Tuesday, August 14 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Red Lake	Oklee	Oklee Community Hall 2 nd Ave. between fire hall and gas station (no physical address listed on building)	Wednesday, August 15 11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.
Polk	Gully	Gully Community Center 120 S. Main St.	Wednesday, August 15 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Clearwater	Clearbrook	City Hall Gym 200 Elm St. SE	Thursday, August 16 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Beltrami/Hubbard	Bemidji	Holiday Inn Express Conference Center 2422 Ridgeway Ave.	Monday, August 20 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Beltrami/Hubbard	Bemidji	Holiday Inn Express Conference Center 2422 Ridgeway Ave.	Monday, August 20 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Cass/Hubbard	Cass Lake	Cass Lake Palace Casino and Hotel 16599 69 th Ave NW	Tuesday, August 21 11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.
Itasca/Aitkin	Cohasset	Cohasset Community Center 305 NW 1 st Ave	Tuesday, August 21 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
St. Louis/Aitkin	Floodwood	St. Louis County Fair Building 107 W 7 th Ave	Wednesday, August 22 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Carlton	Carlton	Black Bear Hotel- Lake Hall Room 1789 Highway 210	Thursday, August 23 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Enbridge Expansion Projects

-  Existing Enbridge pipelines
-  Existing Enbridge pipeline reversed to transport diluent
-  Southern Lights Diluent Project (north of Superior, Wis.)
-  Southern Lights Diluent Project (south of Superior, Wis.)
-  Southern Lights 20-inch Crude Oil Line (LSr)
-  Alberta Clipper Project
-  Fond du Lac alternate route
-  Leech Lake Indian Reservation
-  Fond du Lac Indian Reservation
-  National forest

