

13-474

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Bonnie Beckel <jhbb@usiwireless.com>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:31 PM
To: staff, cao (PUC)
Subject: Say NO to the Sandpiper

Dear Public Utilities Commissioners,

The Enbridge Company wants to continue business as usual with their request to build the new Sandpiper pipeline and its requests to expand the capacity of the Alberta Clipper. The times we're in call for something different. I hope you can imagine a future where the generations that follow this first generation of climate instability will thank you and honor you for the decisions you make related to Enbridge's requests. The future is in your hands. The time to shift the trajectory of our human story on this planet has come. Say NO to all of Enbridge's proposals. Put a stop to the madness of continued expansion of fossil fuel development.

I'm sure you know that the Sandpiper could also carry tar sands, one of the most greenhouse gas emitting ways humans have yet devised to produce energy. I'm sure you know that fracking, used to extract natural gas in North Dakota, can poison the water used by humans and animals in entire watershed areas. Fracking produces very high carbon dioxide emissions and uses up a lot of clean water. I'm sure you know that Enbridge pipelines have leaked many times, spilling tremendous quantities of their toxic products, which are apparently impossible to clean up, especially when they settle into bodies of water. The Sandpiper would cross several rivers and watershed regions. A person looking at our process from another planet, watching the process of the decisions in your hands, the continued production of fossil fuels impacting our climate and the transport of gas and tar sands might say, "What? Are you people CRAZY?"

I am imagining what people have told me is impossible to expect of the PUC—that you will take a stand in opposition to business as usual and backing industry, in favor of life as we knew it, a return to a climate stable planet.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Beckel

3519 23rd Ave. So.

Minneapolis, MN 55407

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Valerie Coit <dineo89@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:28 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: No more pipelines! (docket number 13-474)

Hello,

I live along Highway 23 near Wrenshall, MN and have been playing close attention to news regarding expansion of pipeline activity in my area. I am writing to express my firm opposition to such measures.

It seems like every day I read a news article about some pipeline that has leaked causing irreparable damage to what used to be valuable land and perhaps even more importantly freshwater sources. When are we going to learn that water and land are more valuable than any amount of fossil fuels! Rather than expanding the amount of fossil fuels we mine from the earth, that inevitably leads to greater pollution, we need to focus our collective energies on the technologies that provide clean energy.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not under the assumption that we can all of a sudden transition from our reliance on fossil fuels to a world no longer dependent on them. It will take time. But we keep moving in the wrong direction. Until we start moving in the opposite direction we're headed, we'll continue to degrade the quality of our natural resources and as a result our quality of life.

To avoid being completely negative, I'll tell you what I'm in favor of:

- Transporting fossil fuels in the least damaging way possible and monitoring these methods with regulations that help to ensure public safety and the preservation of natural resources, wetlands, farmlands and water. I don't feel bad one bit about making things more difficult for energy companies because who are we kidding? they're making plenty of money off the backs of those of us with less clout in Washington.
- Pipeline expansion should at all costs be avoided but when pursued, utilize existing corridors to limit their scope and reach into new areas that could possibly be damaged in the event of a catastrophe. Why would we ever criss-cross a landscape with multiple potential problems vs. confining pipelines to smaller areas.

Thanks for your consideration,

--
Valerie Coit

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: cbackes <back3483@midco.net>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:29 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket Number PL-6668/PPL/PPL-13-374

Connie Kay Backes
22471 Fordham RD
Richmond MN 56368
04/04/2014

To

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA)
Mn Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St Paul MN 55101

Re: Enbridge Pipeline's (North Dakota Pipeline Company) Docket Number PL-6668/PPL/PPL-13-374

Honorable Commissioners:

I am opposed to Enbridge Pipeline's LLC's proposed southern route for the Sandpiper Pipeline. This route goes through an area of beautiful lakes, streams, natural habitat and farmland. Underground water is often only 7 to 10 ft below ground and subject to pollution. To have this pipeline so close to these areas is too risky. I have a cabin on Duck Lake enjoyed by family since the 1950's. Last year we added sand to our beach for the first time and filled out all forms, paid fees and had inspections. yet, now we learn a pipeline will be allowed within sight of the lake! I realize if there is no leak it may not be a problem but if there is the damage would be devastating and there have been numerous leaks in the past. Please find a path that does not endanger our lakes and rivers. Do not jeopardize the Mississippi Headwaters and the lakes, streams and rivers of Hubbard County and northern Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Connie K. Backes

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: melodee monicken <mmonicken@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:26 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments; Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Docket # 13-474

REGARDING THE ENBRIDGE/NORTH DAKOTA PIPELINE COMPANY (NDPC) LLC SANDPIPER PIPELINE PROJECT

PUC DOCKET NO. PL9/PPL-13-474. CERTIFICATE OF ROUTE APPLICATION

Melodee Monicken
17456 Half Moon Road
Park Rapids, MN 56470
April 4, 2014

Mr. Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA)
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: larry.hartman@state.mn.us

Dear Mr. Hartman,

As a long-time resident of Hubbard County I am writing the PUC/DOC to state my opposition to the Enbridge and North Dakota Pipeline Company's (NDPC) proposed Sandpiper pipeline route through Hubbard County.

I do not believe this pipeline (not to mention the recently announced Enbridge plans to include the Line 3 rebuild in the same proposed corridor) is at all beneficial to the long-term economic and environmental health of Hubbard County, adjacent counties and the Minnesota lake country in general. Four pipelines already exist along the west side of the county and 7 pipelines cross the northern corner of Hubbard County. These pipelines have leaked in the past. Adding two more pipelines of the dimensions Enbridge and NDPC are wanting is too dangerous to Minnesota's lake country and Hubbard County's water assets.

Besides being home to Itasca State Park, Minnesota's oldest state park, and the Mississippi River headwaters, this area also has some of the cleanest, clearest lakes in the state. To date no aquatic invasive species have been found in any Hubbard County lakes. That's testimony to the diligence and proactive efforts of local residents. But these pipelines represent the greatest invasive species we can imagine. A pipeline rupture of the magnitude seen in Enbridge's Grand Rapids, MN spill (1.7 million gallons), or its Kalamazoo, Michigan spill (nearly one million gallons), would devastate this area, destroy property values and decimate our tourism industry. The Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce states that over \$30 million tourism dollars a year are spent here. People come from all over the world to walk across the headwaters of America's famous river, the Mississippi. Families enjoy the swimming, fishing and boating on our area lakes, over 400 of them within 25 miles of Park Rapids.

Hubbard County also is home to one of the most important and sensitive ground water basins in the state, the Straight River aquifer. It's important enough that the MN DNR has initiated a ground water study of the Straight River. This shallow aquifer provides drinking water for the city of Park Rapids and numerous residents with private wells. It also supports the county's largest employer and revenue producer, LambWeston/RDO Industries' potato processing facility. If you like MacDonald's French fries, they probably came from potatoes grown over the Straight River aquifer. Locally, Lamb Weston/RDO employs 500 people and earns about \$500 million annually. As proposed, the Sandpiper pipeline would run through the heart of the Straight River aquifer, imperiling both the crops and our drinking water.

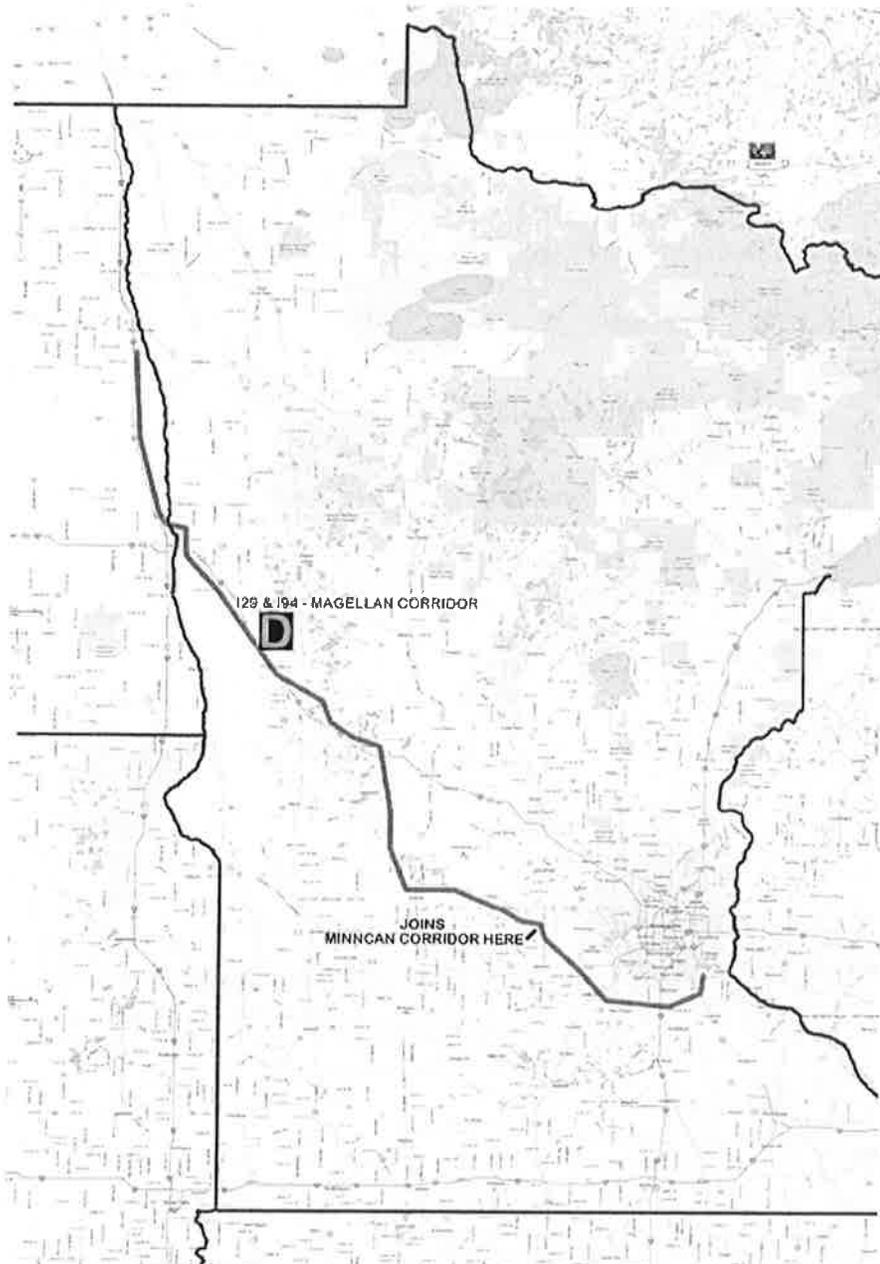
These pipelines also threaten one of Minnesota's prime brown trout streams, the Straight River. The trout thrive in the cold water springs that support the river. Imagine an oil spill in the porous, sandy soils of this shallow aquifer. How difficult would that be to clean up? Would the aquifer and our groundwater be permanently damaged? Could Park Rapids survive such a catastrophic hit to its prime water source?

Wild rice is another valuable crop to local residents and it grows on our numerous lakes. Besides being an important food source, wild rice is spiritually, culturally, and commercially critical to the Ojibwa Tribes in this region. As proposed, the Sandpiper corridor passes right through their best wild rice lakes.

Given these issues and Enbridge's history with spills here in Minnesota and elsewhere, I don't believe the "preferred southern route" is good for Minnesota or Hubbard County. Oil and water are a bad combination, and we have a lot of it here.

As I don't think Enbridge can keep lake country safe from oil spills, I suggest that the NDPC build this pipeline across a part of the state that is far less susceptible to the inevitable damage. Why do I say inevitable? One of the EPA's conclusions in the Bristol Bay EIS was this: "Thus, the probability of a pipeline failure occurring over the duration of the Pebble 2.0 scenario (i.e., approximately 25 years) would be 95% for each pipeline. In each of the three scenarios, there would be a greater than 99.9% chance that at least one of the three pipelines carrying liquid would fail during the project."

I have attached a map of my proposed alternative route.



As you can see, this pipeline route stays away from the lake country. It starts in eastern North Dakota near Grand Forks, follows the I-29 freeway corridor south, crosses the Red River downstream of Fargo, and bends around Moorhead until it merges with an existing pipeline corridor owned by the Magellan Company. The Magellan pipeline corridor parallels the I-94 freeway southeast until Alexandria, then bends south. At Willmar the corridor parallels MN Highway 12 east until intersecting the MinnCan corridor. At this point, my suggested alternate route follows MinnCan to the Flint Hills Refinery or the Saint Paul Park Refinery south of the Minneapolis-St. Paul.

I believe this is a much safer route for the Bakken crude oil than the currently proposed route across the lake country. The soils are heavier with more clay so any spill would not spread into the groundwater as it might in the porous Straight River soils. It's mostly farmland which even Enbridge/NDPC admits (in public, we were there) is easier to build on, inspect, access, and maintain. There aren't many wetlands along the route. Since it is south of lake country there is no risk to the wild rice lakes, our fragile aquifers, sensitive trout streams, and our best vacation lakes. It's still in Minnesota so Minnesota pipe fitters and labor unions will still have the opportunity for construction jobs.

Enbridge sometimes claims this oil will be for domestic use, but since they are refusing to tell the public where and to whom the Bakken oil is going, we don't know. I guess it's closely guarded "proprietary information"--like the names of carcinogens in fracking fluid. Many in Minnesota would like the idea that oil flowing through our state is ending up at a Minnesota refinery instead of Superior. Maybe we could fill our cars with gasoline made from North

Dakota Bakken crude oil-- instead of realizing, down the road, that Minnesota is absorbing all the risks of a pipeline that only serves the bottom line of those who are selling oil product to China.

Unlike many of my Hubbard County neighbors, I stay here for the winter so I'm really worried that those who winter elsewhere don't know how important this pipeline proposal is to the county's environment and water quality. I know that a number of our townships and even the county commissioners have sent resolutions asking the PUC to extend the public comment period on this pipeline route. WHY haven't those resolutions and letters of support been posted, as they arrived at the PUC? Some have been there for weeks. When the PUC solicits PUBLIC comment and the public provides it, surely it isn't the prerogative of staff as to when or whether they will post the public's commentary, just because that commentary includes the request for a longer comment period.

This was even more confusing to me when I saw that Enbridge was told by the PUC to make public the landowner list for the proposed Sandpiper route. They had until 3/31 to comply. Instead they wrote a letter stating that wouldn't comply and asked for a stay while they appealed the ruling. Pretty audacious. They ask for a "stay," but it doesn't affect any of their docket postings. People in Hubbard County request an extended comment period and PUC staff decides to hold back the supporting resolutions and letters from local townships, county government, and individuals. It's called the PUBLIC Utilities Commission. Why is the public treated so much worse than the corporation in this process?

When my "snowbird" friends return, they will be disturbed to learn the PUC has ignored these resolutions and letters of support requesting a longer comment period. They will also be angry (I know I am) that Enbridge and NDPC has refused to cooperate with requests to release their mapping information and landowner lists so that the public can learn exactly where they are planning to dig their pipes. People want to know exactly where the pipeline is, especially if it's near their homes. They want to know what will happen to their property values. They need to understand whether they will be liable if/when the oil leaks onto their land, lakeshore or river frontage. They need to understand whether construction traffic could impede or disturb their daily activities. Because Enbridge/North Dakota Pipeline Company, with PUC backing, didn't make shape files or landowner lists available, we don't know.

People always bemoan the electorate's apathy and our disengaged citizenry, but I think the PUC's process around pipeline routing could be one of the reasons for disengaged cynicism in our area. Many folks up here think it's hopeless to even speak up, that the "fix" is in, especially when they learn that Enbridge is already buying up easements, even before any state permits allowing the project have been issued.

You know, Mr. Hartman, I was at the public hearing in Park Rapids. I listened to what people said there. With one exception, everyone spoke against the pipeline coming through this area. I also heard what you had to say, and I wondered if you were listening to the people of this area. We are worried about this project. We don't think it's good idea to mix oil with Hubbard County's wetlands, lakes, rivers, and fragile aquifer. A little quick cash during the construction will never offset the potentially devastating economic and environmental effects of a spill on our lands or in our waters. And the thought of Enbridge adding the Line 3 Rebuild pipeline in the same corridor is even more disturbing because more lines will proliferate.

There is more oil flowing through Minnesota than water flowing in our rivers. Minnesota gets a few pennies in tax dollars from the pipeline companies while millions upon millions of dollars in oil go by every day.

So why is Minnesota paid so little for so great a risk? And why hasn't the PUC demanded an Enbridge escrow account that could immediately fund the clean-up of inevitable leaks and spills in Minnesota? Enbridge, a Canadian company, claims a stellar record with regard to the environment, but Canadian records tell a different story:

2000: 7,513 barrels. Enbridge reported 48 pipeline spills
2001: 25,980 barrels. Enbridge pipelines reported 34 spills and leaks
2002: 14,683 barrels. Enbridge reported 48 oil spills and leaks, totalling 14,683 barrels,
2003: 6,410 barrels. Enbridge pipelines had 62 spills and leaks, totalling 6,410 barrels,
2004: 3,252 barrels. Enbridge pipelines had 69 reported spills, totalling 3,252 barrels
2005: 9,825 barrels. Enbridge had 70 reported spills, totalling 9,825 barrels of oil.
2006: 5,363 barrels. Enbridge had 61 reported spills, totalling 5,363 barrels of oil,
2007: 13,777 barrels. Enbridge had 65 spills and leaks, totalling 13,777 barrels of oil,

2008: 2,682 barrels. Enbridge had 80 reported spills and leaks, totalling 2,682 barrels
2009: 8,441 barrels. Enbridge had 103 reported oil spills and leaks, totalling 8,441 barrels,
2010: 34,122 barrels. Enbridge had 80 reported pipeline spills, totalling 34,122 barrels,
Total: 132,715 barrels of oil, more than half the Exxon Valdez spill of 257,000 barrels

For Minnesota, the risks are far smaller if the route for this pipeline (and Line 3) is south and west of lake country.

Please make Enbridge and the North Dakota Pipeline Company build their pipelines on a route that doesn't jeopardize the economy and future of this area. Minnesota shouldn't sacrifice the Mississippi Headwaters, the Straight River aquifer, and some of Minnesota's cleanest lakes, rivers and streams just because Enbridge "prefers" a convenient southern route to Superior.

Melodee Monicken

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Sandy Sterle <ssterle777@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:25 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Comment on proposed Sandpiper pipeline route - Docket 13-474

April 4, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 – 7th Place East, Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: PL-6668/PPL-13-474 (Pipeline Route)

Dear Dr. Haar:

This letter is commenting on human social impacts with respect to the Application for Pipeline Routing Permit by North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC (NDPC/Enbridge) for the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline Project in Minnesota.

The human social impacts of this proposed pipeline began when Enbridge approached hundreds of landowners through their contracted right-of-way agents pushing landowners to sign survey contracts and giving the impression that landowners had no choice - that it was a “done deal” – otherwise, their property in part or in whole would be taken through eminent domain. This was in the summer of 2013 long before Enbridge’s application for a Certificate of Need and Routing Permit had been filed.

As my father would say, “The problem is...” We are good people, who have lived peacefully and privately in rural Minnesota. But, we are being *burdened* by the use of power plays upon us and not having our landowner rights respected. It was reported in the Pine Journal on November 1, 2013 by Wendy Johnson, “Carlton County Sheriff Kelly Lake stated that dispatch records show at least one formal complaint from a landowner about Enbridge survey crews coming on their land without permission”. Two days after sitting in open view of surveyors, we received a letter, in which Enbridge’s lawyer claimed rights that still now have not been granted

by the state, yet the letter attempted to pressure us into signing survey contracts with warnings of “formal proceedings”, if we did not comply at that time. Enbridge claimed publicly that landowners were supporting the proposed pipeline because they were signing survey contracts, but in reality, landowners were being pressured into compliance.

I have a Masters degree in Educational Psychology and have had a decade of experience working in the Chemical Dependency field. I experienced and confronted power plays on a daily basis. What is a power play? It is the use of power to gain a sense of control over the other in a relationship by using “manipulative or controlling behaviors directed at keeping the relationship partners in a “one-up, one-down” melodrama”. This is straight out of a pamphlet from Hazelden Educational Materials. The manipulation is directed to force the other person into an emotional state, so they have difficulty using their reasoning ability. Power plays are destructive behavior to a relationship. It prohibits building trust and circumvents honest and open communication. The concern is NDPC is pursuing landowners to sign easement contracts now even before the certificate of need is proven or the route decided, so all the facts are not available to them. And, by using power plays and offering a time-limited signing bonus, this effectively limits landowners’ choices to relieving their stress, instead of having the time and state of mind to make choices in their own best interest.

There is an interview of a federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration inspector, he said about building a home, “I wouldn’t build it on a pipeline, because they’re all industrial facilities. That’s just the reality.” In response to the question, but what if people are forced to have a pipeline through there property? He says, “that is unfortunate, and (pauses)...it’s unfair.”

<http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/20443-just-the-reality-pipeline-safety-official-admits-hed-avoid-buying-a-home-near-pipelines-like-keystone-xl>

When deciding on a route through Minnesota, please consider the social impact on how a whole new set of landowners are being treated. The Southern Preferred Route with the majority of the proposed route on private lands (76.6%) seems too great a sacrifice when the people are not given a fair opportunity to make choices with all the facts and time to assess what is best for their family.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sandy Sterle

2676 County Road 104

Barnum, MN 55707

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: jforland <jforland@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:23 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket # 13-474

To the Honorable Commissioners,

We would like an exact definition of the pinch points, their locations and the conflict they cause in the northern corridor.

Please provide alternatives around these issues.

We request that the you extend the public commenting period so the public has a chance to examine these issues in the northern route considering these were not previously disclosed.

Kind regards,

Jason Forland

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Smartphone

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Paul Schillo <schillop@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:04 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket Number 13-474 and 13-473

Paul Schillo RPh. BCOP
2480 Garthus Road
Wrenshall, MN 55797
218-428-9837

April 4, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket Number 13-474 and 13-473

Honorable Commissioners:

I would like to address the certificate of need for the SandPiper pipeline project. I was notified this past summer that the SandPiper Pipeline was potentially going to run thru my property on Garthus Road Southeast of Wrenshall MN. I have commented on the route but I would like to further comment on the need for this pipeline. America has not had any meaningful energy policy for decades. Some of my last conversations with my Father who passed away last November was in regards to the fact that he really thought that in his lifetime, he would have seen much better management of our resources and see many more viable forms of energy. I have been informed by many individuals from the start that challenging the Certificate of Need for any public utility project is very hard if not impossible. I am a realist and can face these recommendations but I would strongly disagree that this is the way it should be. I realize that the position the Public Utilities Commission is in when ruling on a Certificate of Need. The oil market is a global industry. Who sets the capacities and needs? What are acceptable energy prices? Without a clear cut energy policy that looks down the road for use by future generations, certainly this is a daunting task. Very simple mathematics and public knowledge will very quickly tell you that if you would look at this project from a regional standpoint-we are over supplied with crude oil compared to refining capacity. I will not alter my stance on this statement. So one must look at what is defined as need. Is the need to allow the Bakken Oil field to be drilled at very fast pace which includes by recent articles-the flaring off of 36 percent of natural gas while. Is the need to be looked at for the entire country? If Minnesota implements sound energy decisions-are they free to be undone by relaxed standards in other States. Do we look at the need on a global basis? Certainly I would not argue against the fact that oil market is a global market. We are often misled with promises that if we find oil in the United States it will be used exclusively in the United States and it will give us energy independence. Meanwhile there are plans that are easily found by large companies lobbying to make it possible to change the laws to have unrefined crude oil shipped overseas. There are prices to be paid both socioeconomically as well as environmentally. I have friends and family that live in or near the

Bakken Oil fields. While the economic benefits to the State of North Dakota and that specific region are high, I think you would be hard pressed to find anyone that would say the quality of life has not diminished in some capacity. The bottom line is that in the interest of the need for a pipeline-there are benefits to some and sacrifices and detriment to others. This is a fact the permeates many facets of our life. When deciding about the need for the pipeline, there are many questions that I feel the PUC must ask and consider. One of those is how much sacrifice landowners that are not willing to accommodate a pipeline on their land should incur. One also needs to look at the environmental effects. Oil leaks from pipelines. This is a fact. The leaks can be catastrophic large public leaks or small incidental leaks that are often never accounted for by the pipeline companies own admission. A certain amount goes in one end and a certain amount comes out the other end and I have read the public reports that acknowledge the discrepancy. Should a landowner that has devoted a lifetime to their land be forced to have a pipeline placed in their property or a structure tore down to benefit someone half a world away simply so the pipelines and oil companies profit margins can be so big. Should property owners have to worry about their wells being contaminated so that corporate executives get bonuses that are not realized by the common man ? Do the companies need to look at long range planning with energy corridors and compensation that is much more in line with the huge profits that will result to the companies ? I guess that is all up for debate. I certainly have my own feelings. What I would argue is that it is imperative for these to be factored into the decision process. I do feel that since the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission is part of Minnesota government-the rights of Minnesota landowners as well as the socioeconomic and environmental concerns for all of Minnesota need to be taken into account when the decision to move forward with projects like this and all the expected projects in the future. I currently do not feel that this is being done.

Regards

Paul Schillo

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Carter & Florence Hedeem <hedeencf@arvig.net>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:01 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Public comment on 13-473 & PL-6668/PPL-13-474

From:

Florence Hedeem
703 First St. West
Park Rapids, MN 56470
April 4, 2014

To:

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA)
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

I am opposed to the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline.

Access to heavily polluting fossil fuels doesn't negate the long-term damage that their use is causing to our environment into the foreseeable future. Global Climate Change exacerbated by human causes is our reality and will only be slowed or reversed as we make decisions to seek alternatives to an economy and life-style that requires the use of fossil fuels. Having them more readily available doesn't bode well for civilization as we know it.

I live in an area that will be directly impacted by the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline. The Straight River Watershed, through which the pipeline will pass, provides our potable water source. It is fragile and already heavily compromised by an agricultural industry that relies on fertilizers and pesticides that have contributed to the shut-down of four of our city wells and a \$1.3 million treatment facility, for which we, as property owners must pay.

For several months I have sat in on the Straight River Watershed Task Force meetings and understand better why run-off quickly reaches our water source and the lakes, rivers and streams that flow through our area. The contaminants they carry further compromise our fresh water sources and subsequently all the water sources into which they feed. The risk of a pipeline rupture in this fragile area is intolerable.

As a civilization we will only seek other solutions when fossil fuels are too costly an option. Here, in Park Rapids, MN they're already too costly for generations to come.

Thank you for giving my concerns your thoughtful consideration.

Florence Hedeem

Minnesota Lakes

A View from Space

ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE
IN RED

ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE
ROUTE

LOC
WHERE
CLEARER
AR

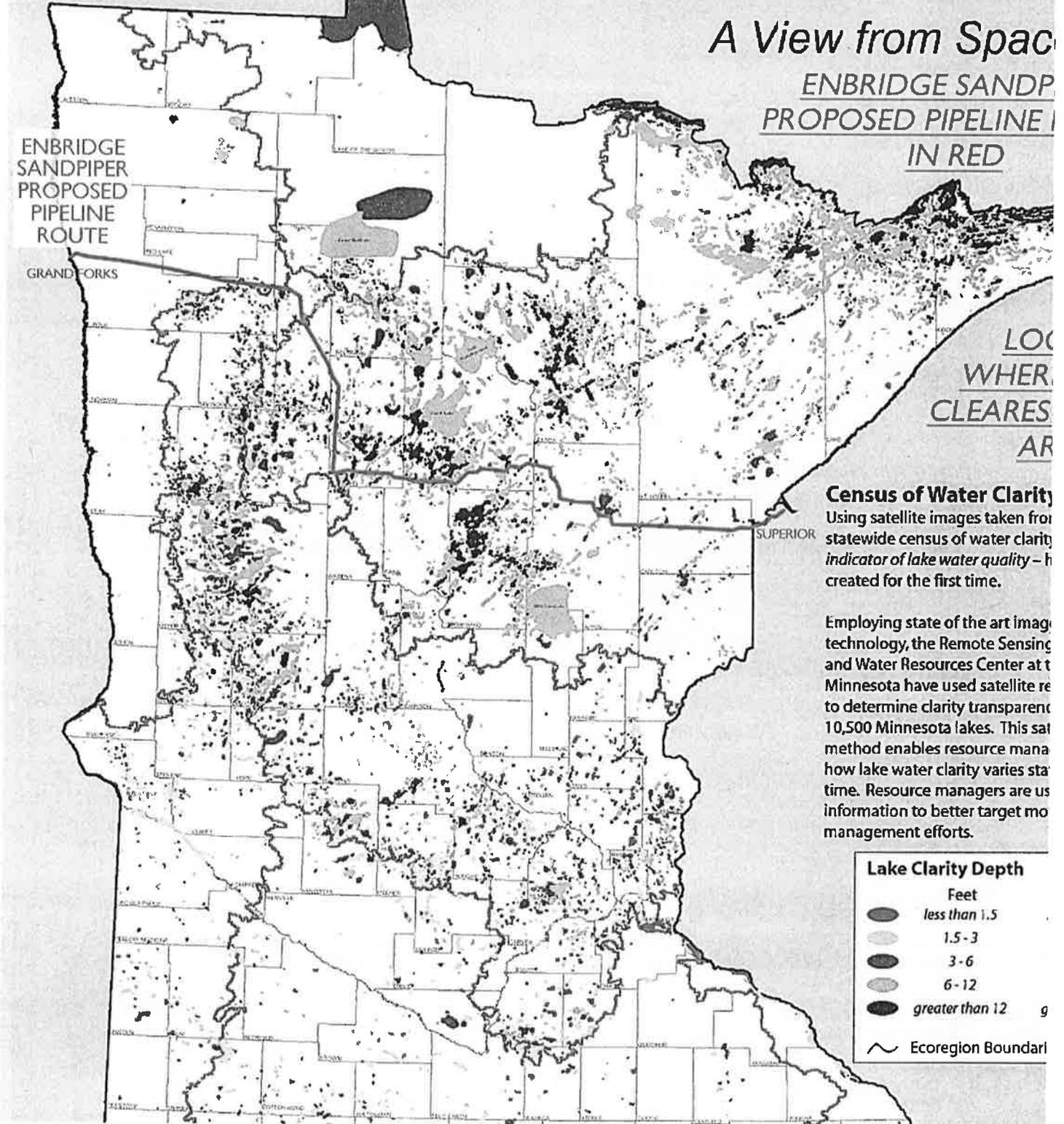
Census of Water Clarity
Using satellite images taken from
statewide census of water clarity
indicator of lake water quality - h
created for the first time.

Employing state of the art imagi
technology, the Remote Sensing
and Water Resources Center at t
Minnesota have used satellite re
to determine clarity transparent
10,500 Minnesota lakes. This sat
method enables resource mana
how lake water clarity varies sta
time. Resource managers are us
information to better target mo
management efforts.

Lake Clarity Depth

Feet	Color
less than 1.5	Lightest gray
1.5-3	Light gray
3-6	Medium gray
6-12	Dark gray
greater than 12	Black

~ Ecoregion Boundary



Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Mark Schultz <marks@landstewardshipproject.org>
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 3:44 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Cc: Mike McMahon
Subject: Comment on Routing Permit #13-474, Certificate of Need #13-473



821 East 35th Street,
Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55407
Phone: 612-723-6377

landstewardshipproject.org

April 4, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

Dr. Haar:

The Land Stewardship Project is writing to comment on the Certificate of Need and the Routing Permit for the Sandpiper pipeline (Routing Permit #13-474, Certificate of Need #13-473)

The Land Stewardship Project is a Minnesota-based membership organization of farm, rural and urban people who are committed to the advancement of stewardship of the land, sustainable agriculture and healthy communities.

The Land Stewardship Project opposes the construction of the Sandpiper pipeline and all pipelines that threaten human health and long-term care of the land. We urge the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to deny the permit because the pipeline is a threat to people, lifeways, watersheds, agricultural lands and wildlife. It is our position that the project proponents have not sufficiently demonstrated that this project is in the interest of the public.

Rural communities, especially rural indigenous communities, disproportionately bear the brunt of the corporate-led extreme energy extraction operations that are literally shattering the earth for short-term profit. The Sandpiper and other gas, oil and tar sand pipelines are part of the proliferation of a larger unsustainable energy system that includes fracking and mining for frac sand. It is an unstable and dangerous system that puts the short-term profits of major corporations ahead of the rights of people and the land.

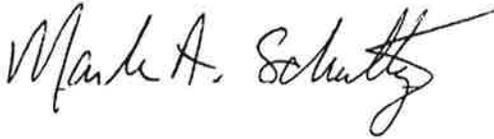
As a farm and rural organization, we have particular concerns related to the threat this project poses for agricultural land in northern Minnesota, including:

- Northern Minnesota cannot afford to lose scarce farmland to pipeline construction.
- Co-locating new pipelines with existing crude oil pipelines is most consistent with the principle of non-proliferation and minimizes damage to farms, the environment and members of the community that own land.

- Locating the pipelines along existing crude oil pipelines is preferable to the use of electrical transmission line rights of way. While using electrical line rights of ways is preferable to crossing greenfield areas, due to the massive disturbance of soil and the potential for pollution from new pipeline rights of way, the least damaging approach, should the pipeline project be built at all, is to follow the existing oil pipeline rights of ways.
- Organic farms are vulnerable to loss of certification, soil destruction and ecosystem damage. Routes should avoid organic farms.
- Wild, natural and forested areas not only provide essential ecosystem services to support sustainable farming, they are also valuable natural resources in themselves that provide critical wildlife habitat and protect the health of impaired rivers such as the Nemadji River in the Lake Superior Watershed.

The amended preferred route submitted by the pipeline proponents includes plans to follow existing pipelines for five miles in the eastern part of Carlton County. The Land Stewardship Project supports this change to the route, as it is an improvement for the people and the land in that portion of the state. However, we believe that the best decision in the interests of stewardship of the land and care for all people is to deny the permit for Sandpiper pipeline and urge the Commission to act accordingly.

Sincerely,



Mark Schultz, Associate Director/Policy Director
Land Stewardship Project

Mark Schultz
Associate Director/Director of Programs
Land Stewardship Project
612-722-6377

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: epsaunders@frontiernet.net
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 3:38 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket Number PL-6668/PPL/PPL-13-474

April 4, 2014

Eric Saunders
26237 Flint Court
Wyoming, MN 55092

To: Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA)
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

Honorable Commissioners:

I am opposed to Enbridge Pipeline's (North Dakota Pipeline Company) LLC's proposed southern route for the Sandpiper Pipeline.

Our family has owned property on Duck Lake in Hubbard County for over 40 years. This route will threaten the lake we reside on seasonally, the recreational river (Crow Wing River) we canoe on and the wildlife in the area. There is an active Osprey nest every year above this route along with grazing deer and wild turkeys routinely seen in this area. There are also a number of Eagle nests along the Crow Wing and Shell Rivers. A spill in the Crow wing would devastate miles and miles of a beautiful wild river that flows into the Mississippi.

For these reasons, if the Sandpiper Pipeline is deemed necessary, Enbridge should be required to route the pipeline through an area that will not jeopardize the Mississippi Headwaters and the lakes, streams and rivers of Hubbard County and Northern Minnesota.

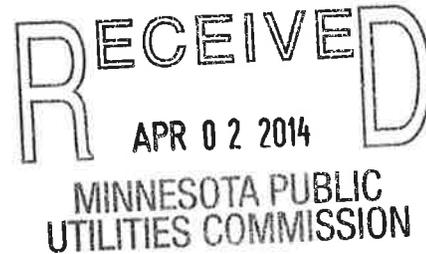
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Eric Saunders
651-428-9367

From: Elden Lindamood
1420 Jefferson Street
Duluth, MN 55805

3/29/2014

To: Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147



Re: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

My partner and I own a farm south of Wrenshall Minnesota, and although our property will not be crossed by Enbridge's proposed Sandpiper Pipeline, it is within a mile of our land. This letter is regarding the routing of the Sandpiper pipeline through the eastern portion of Carlton County.

I am in **STRONG** support of the route that directs the new pipeline along the existing utility Right Of Way (ROW), north of the originally proposed Sandpiper ROW. I believe Enbridge is calling this the "preferred route" now.

I have learned that there is little that can be done to counter Enbridge's contention that this pipeline is "necessary", or that there is a "need" for it. However I am sure, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that there is no "need" for a *new* ROW across eastern Carlton County.

Pipeline Right of Ways are destructive to the land they cross, and destructive to the communities they divide. They scar and devalue public and private land, and impose the risk of massive environmental damage, far exceeding the initial incursion, for generations to come. Despite Enbridge's claims of jobs and benefits all along their desired routes, when I pressed them, Enbridge could make no solid statement as to the benefit to the residents and farmers of Carlton County. Unless a community is at either end of a pipeline, which Carlton County is not, I can see no positive impact. Enbridge has no basis for any claims regarding benefits to the "in between" communities, other than broad generalizations about the "greater good". Most land owners, and especially the farmers I know, are altruistic and will selflessly sacrifice their own interests for the greater community good. The fact is, when the limited good of a new pipeline ROW is weighed against the potential for bad outcomes, any new pipeline ROW has no value whatsoever to our community.

In an effort to put lipstick on the ROW pig, Enbridge will generously offer "fair market value" as compensation for letting them cross our land. It is no surprise that Enbridge sees only the taxable physical value of what land IS rather than the intangible value of what it MEANS. Corporations such as Enbridge pacify their own

conscious' by providing monetary consolation prizes to the landowners whose properties they cross, but they turn a necessary blind eye to the dreams, ideals, the spiritual sense of well-being, and the connection to greater things that they plunder when they forcibly place an incompatible element into the landscape of our rural communities. That Enbridge must resort to the use of Eminent Domain for any portion of their proposed ROWs speaks to that fact.

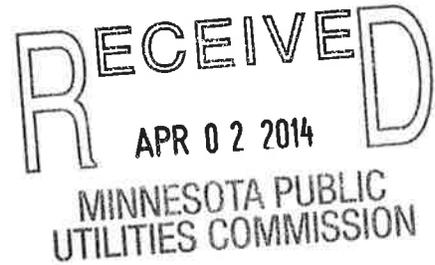
The use of Eminent Domain should be a LAST RESORT, not a means to a convenient end, or a tool, to ensure the free flow of corporate profits through the land of individuals who will see no benefit. The fact that the law favors corporate profits over land owner's rights, as long as they are thinly veiled with subjective need, is depressing. The arrogance with which Enbridge exercises this process, when there are other less divisive and less destructive alternatives at hand, is infuriating.

The PUC's ear is the only tool we have, as land-owning individuals, to say "NO" to Enbridge's arrogance and greed. Please tell Enbridge that they must use existing utility corridors to the maximum extent demonstrably possible, not to the extent they feel is convenient. Please, tell Enbridge that they must make do with what they have already taken, because it is plenty.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elden Lindamood', written in a cursive style.

Elden Lindamood



Dr. Burt Haar
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Sandpiper Pipeline Routing Permit 13-474
Honorable Commissioners:

I am writing in regards to Enbridge's proposed preferred Southern route for their new sandpiper pipeline (routing permit 13-474). Enbridge has stated that this preferred route would follow (mostly) existing utility corridors. However, much of this existing utility corridor is for electric transmission lines. My points below are concerned with the fundamental difference between electric utility line corridors and pipeline corridors:

1. Pipelines can leak into sensitive wetlands and soil and contaminate aquifers and agricultural land forever. These spills cannot be fully remediated.
2. Electric transmission lines can cross over wetlands and streams without digging into the streambed and wetland.
3. A pipeline corridor proposal contains no "buy the farm" provision: According to MN statute 216.E.12, if a landowner on a proposed powerline corridor decides he doesn't want to live with such a liability, there is a provision to make the utility buy his land at fair market value. No such protection exists for the landowner on a proposed pipeline corridor.
4. Pipeline construction involves digging up and overturning soil layers along its entire route with resulting soil structure damage, erosion and runoff into wetlands, and invasive plant species introduction. Soil between powerline poles is not as greatly impacted.
5. Inspection for problems is completely different for powerline and pipeline corridors. Powerlines are above ground and visible. Pipelines are underground and leaks, supposedly detected by distant operators, have been shown to continue for some time before detection. There are many examples of this problem with Enbridge pipelines. Any real inspection for leaks depends on the private landowner happening to observe leaks on his land.

According to Minnesota statute and state supreme court opinion, the PUC is charged to consider "non-proliferation" of any new utility corridor in its decisions. Enbridge's preferred Southern route would not follow the spirit of this non-proliferation criteria. Any new pipeline should follow an already established pipeline corridor. In this case that would mean the Northern route. Enbridge has stated that they have problems with the Northern route. As a citizen I don't have the resources that a corporation has and cannot finance an engineering and environmental study of the Northern route. But such studies were done for previous lines on the Northern route. The Northern route should not be removed from consideration by the PUC just because Enbridge says they have problems with it. I'm confident that the PUC will reach a decision that is in the best interests of all the citizens of Minnesota and not allow a new pipeline along Enbridge's proposed preferred Southern route. Thank you.

Betsy Dugan 909 County Road 4 Wrenshall, MN 55797

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Dugan".



Julie Kuehn <douliekn@gmail.com>

Comment docket #13-473 and docket #13-474

2 messages

Julie Kuehn <douliekn@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 28, 2014 at 6:44 AM

Draft To: "larry.hartman@state.mn.us;" <<larry.hartman@state.mn.us>

We are Doug and Julie Kuehn seasonal homeowners on Long Lake in Hubbard county. We oppose certification of the preferred southern route for the sandpiper pipeline and the Hubbard pump station. We oppose this route because it exposes an elemental precious water resources to possible oil leaks. We oppose it because of fire hazards of volatile fracked oil and it's toxic fumes. We oppose it because of questionable liability issues compounded by pipelines running in the same route but owned by competitors. We are not at all confident that protective safety and policy regulations are in place prior to approving these projects. We have not researched the northern route as a viable option but we are STRONGLY opposed to granting certification for the preferred southern route.

Thank you for taking comments,
Julie Kuehn
17159 Dreamcatcher Trail
Park Rapids, MN

Sent from my iPad

Julie Kuehn <douliekn@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 28, 2014 at 6:41 AM

To: "larry.hartman@state.mn.us;" <<larry.hartman@state.mn.us>

[Quoted text hidden]



PO Box 339 | Spring Valley, WI 54767 | Phone: 715.778.5775 | www.mosesorganic.org

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
 Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
 121 7th Place East, Suite 350
 Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147
 Re: Docket number 13-474
 March 28, 2014
 Dear Dr. Haar,



I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed sandpiper pipeline to run through the organic farm of John, Jane and Janaki Fisher Merritt, known as the Food Farm. Their farm is located near Cloquet, MN. My understanding is the Enbridge company has submitted a different route that does not cross the valuable and irreplaceable organic land owned by the Fisher Merritts and instead follows an existing pipeline route in the eastern part of Carlton County. The eastern Carlton County route is the preferred route and the one that your commission should approve.

The Fisher Merritts have held the title of "MOSES Organic Farmer of the Year", a high profile award given annually at the largest Organic Farming Conference in North America. They received this award for the outstanding land stewardship they perform on their working lands, as well as the help they provide to aspiring farmers. John Fisher Merritt has been a mentor in the yearlong MOSES farmer to farmer mentoring program, for each of the seven years that we have had this program. Numerous young farmers have developed a strong foundation in agriculture, due to his tutelage.

Agricultural production in Northern Minnesota is not easy, however, the Fisher Merritts have developed systems that provide fresh and stored vegetable crops to their community. They supply tons of carrots, squash, potatoes and other crops through the cold Minnesota winters in addition to fresh vegetables during the spring, summer and fall. They accomplish their exceptional yields of high quality produce through careful consideration that builds soil as well as protects biodiversity. The many decades of work to build their soil will be destroyed forever, by the digging and damage a pipeline would cause. In addition their organic certification, an important marketing tool, could be jeopardized by both the construction of the pipeline and any accidents that may occur in the future. It is their type of operation that should be cherished, and not destroyed, in order to have true homeland security. What is more important than having a stable, sustainable and healthy food supply? This agricultural gem of the North Country must not be compromised.

My understanding is that there is a mitigation agreement that requires the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and pipeline companies to do all they can to avoid running pipelines through organic lands. This agreement should be put in place now, to protect Food Farm for this generation, as well as future generations. John and Jane's son Janaki is taking over the family farm, and he should be able to continue the tradition of supplying organic vegetables and livestock products to thousands of consumers in Northern Minnesota for the next 50 years and beyond.

The Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) is an education-outreach organization working to promote sustainable and organic agriculture. MOSES serves farmers striving to produce high-quality, healthful food using organic and sustainable techniques. These farmers produce more than just food; they support thriving ecosystems and vibrant rural communities.

Sincerely,

Harriet Behar
 MOSES Organic Specialist
 Home office: 43299 Patton Road Gays Mills, WI 54631
harriet@mosesorganic.org

13-474

March 29, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East
Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2014
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Re: Routing Permit #13-474
Certificate of Need #13-473

Dear Dr. Haar:

Please do every one in the world the favor of denying Enbridge Energy the opportunity to create a new pipeline route through Carlton County. We do not all live near the land at issue here but the stories we hear more and more frequently about oil spills and the ensuing damage to lands, rivers, streams, wildlife and humans cut across geographical boundaries. If not immediately, this kind of activity threatens us all in the long run. There is no "Planet B."

Here's how you could support such a ruling. Rest it on the case for protecting Minnesota lands, ensuring the viability of the Lake Superior watershed, and protecting local wildlife. Make the argument for sustaining the property values of local landowners, securing the livelihoods of local farmers, encouraging and promoting best practices in the production of healthful and nutritious food. Offer the importance of respecting the local citizens who, in this case, have voted against new pipeline routes in Carlton County.

While not a resident of Minnesota, I am a deeply concerned bystander, inasmuch as some of my family members are Wrenshall residents and would be directly and adversely affected by the development of new pipeline routes. Much as you would do were you in my position, I am advocating on their behalf.

Beyond my personal interests, I write as a "citizen of the world," concerned about what we humans are doing to the earth and each other in the name of energy production.

Dr. Burl Haar

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Page Two

March 29, 2014

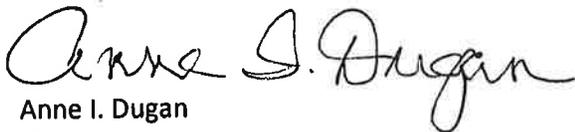
Ground contamination, air and water pollution, destruction of wildlife are not in our interest. Shall we leave it to the drug companies to create a pill to protect us from all this. Responsible people do not trash their houses. Why are we trashing our biggest house, the earth?

I do not envy you the burden of solving the problems this letter addresses. You and fellow commissioners are more educated than I on the science behind the issue. But even an average citizen such as myself can deduce from the daily news that we need to rethink the way we go about energy production and consumption.

I hope that you have received all the information, evidence and arguments that you need to vote for the people and land of Carlton County and against new pipeline routes for Enbridge Energy. I suspect that Enbridge knew that such a decision would be the best they could hope for anyway, so let's hope they'll just quietly go away. Guess that's unrealistic.

Good wishes and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Anne I. Dugan

P.O. Box 1207

Brooklandville, MD 21022-1207

Please excuse
smudges. Bad
printer! Printing
pollution!

13-474

7338 Harriet Avenue
Richfield MN 55423-3050
March 27, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2014
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Re: Oil Delivery
Docket #13-474

Dear Dr. Haar:

We are sure that you have seen them - the many articles in the newsprint about pipelines that deliver oil from one place to another. Many times the name **ENBRIDGE** is presented as a company that is in that type of business - the moving of oil.

Many of us Minnesota citizens are well aware of the importance of oil in our daily lives, as is the importance of the land on which the deliveries take place.

It is of great importance for you as Executive Director and the other members of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to retain as much as possible the areas of our state that currently are in use for transporting this commodity for the new pipeline and/or the future pipelines, and protect the lands that at present do not have existing pipelines. Much of these areas now being considered for a route are in Certified Organic agricultural use, tree farms, etc. and should not be dedicated to new or improved oil routes. A term heard recently for this matter is "nonproliferation" but we like to see it as: Keep oil transportation AWAY from agricultural areas, organic and non-organic as much as possible. If a present area for pipelines is in use, that is where new and additional lines should exist. On a bright side, we understand that Enbridge has recently agreed to some improvements in its current plans.

Thank you for your continued attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


WALTER C. VAVROSKY


DOROTHY L. VAVROSKY

13-474

17849 Jasmine Drive
Park Rapids, MN 56470
March 27, 2014

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2014
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place E.
Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket #PL 6668/PPL/PPL-13-474

Utilities Commissioners:

At the March 11, 2014 Annual Meeting of Clay Township in Hubbard County, the following motion was unanimously passed: "That Clay Township go on record as requesting more input time for the public to comment on the proposed oil pipeline through Hubbard County." The rationale was that many people involved are seasonal residents and have not had a chance to share their concerns.

Those at the township meeting stated that the environmental impact of the proposed pipeline potentially affects everyone, not just the year round residents of our township. People felt strongly that seasonal residents needed to have a longer comment period for this very important proposed change to the watershed area environment.

Sincerely,



Norman Leistikow
Clay Township Supervisor

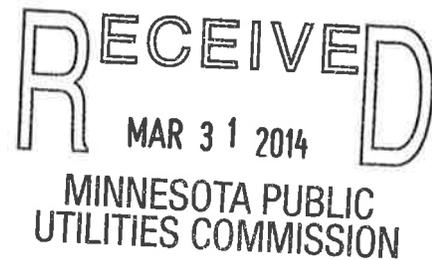
13-474

Larry A. Weber

2602 County Road 104

Barnum, Minnesota 55707

March 27, 2014



Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket Number 13-474

Sirs:

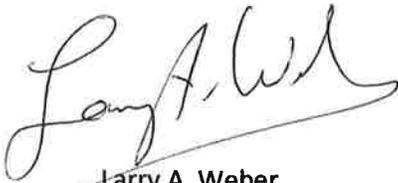
I am a resident of Blackhoof Township in Carlton County. I live on an old farm that has become forested with a thriving woods of maple, oak and basswood. The land of our neighbors is quite similar. And though it is hard to apply word pristine to any modern day environment, this region of Carlton County is very close. Wetlands of ponds, swamps and lakes are scattered through the land as well with trout streams that also flow through the scene.

Wildlife abounds here. We have a large and diverse number of birds and mammals living on our sites. Whether it is the white of a winter snow cover, the yellows of spring wild flowers, the greens of summer or the red-orange leaves of fall, the woods is a delight to behold. We are fortunate to live in such a place and we plan to leave it in this same untouched condition.

This ecosystem is not the place for an Enbridge oil pipeline and the wide corridor that comes with it. Such a project would have harmful effects on all of us that live here; be they humans or not. No, a new pipeline that is likely to become several more in the future is not needed or desired by those of us who call this place home. And we are not interested in the "fair market value" that Enbridge claims to be paying. Our land is worth far more than money.

No new pipelines in Blackhoof Township of Carlton County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry A. Weber". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Larry A. Weber

per JB

RECEIVED ^{PC 13-474}
MAR 31 2014
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

3/28/2014

Doug & Julie Kuhn
17159 Dreamcatcher Trail
Park Rapids, MN 56470

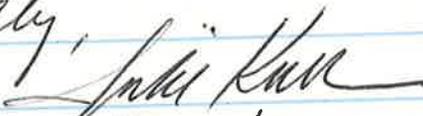
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission,

Doug and I are seasonal homeowners on Long Lake in Hubbard County.

We oppose certification of the preferred southern route for the sandpiper pipeline and Hubbard pump station. We oppose this route because it exposes elemental precious water resources to possible oil leaks. We oppose it because of the firehazards of volatile fracked oil and it's toxic fumes. We oppose it because of questionable liability issues compounded by pipelines running in the same route but owned by competitors. We are not at all confident that protective safety and policy regulations are in place prior to approving these projects. We have not yet

Researched the northern route as a viable option but we are STRONGLY opposed to granting certification for the preferred southern route.

I have tried to submit this comment online several times and the email address larry.hartman@state.mn.us comes back as delivery failure. This is quite unfortunate with the short window of time allowed for comments.

Sincerely,

JULIE KUEHN

PC-13-474

Frances Ann Weber
2602 County Road 104
Barnum, MN 55707

March 31, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Docket number 13-474

Sirs,

I am a resident of Blackhoof Township in Carlton County. I am very concerned about a pipeline that is proposed to come through this part of the county and I am writing to request that there be no new pipelines built in this area.

This part of the county is unique in its greenspace and organic farms. While organic farms are vulnerable to loss of certification and soil destruction, the ecosystem is critical for wildlife habitat. It is not the place for an Enbridge oil pipeline and the wide corridor that comes with it. Such a project would have harmful effects on all of us that live here, be they humans or not.

It isn't about money. I am not interested in the "fair market value" that Enbridge claims to be paying. My land is worth far more than money.

This is a chance to preserve sustainable agriculture and the health of the ecosystems surrounding Lake Superior. Therefore co-locating new pipelines with existing crude oil pipelines would minimize damage to farms, the environment and landowner's rights.

I hope you will recognize the value of wildlife, greenspace, and locally grown food. Please, no new pipelines in Blackhoof Township of Carlton County. Thank you.

Sincerely,

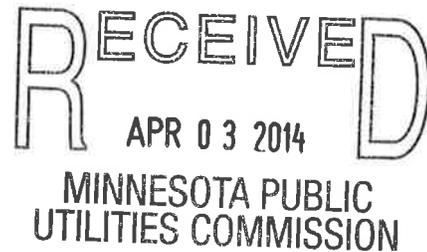
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Ann Weber". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Frances Ann Weber

PC 13-474

Larry A. Weber
2602 County Road 104
Barnum, MN 55707

March 31, 2014



Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket Number 13-474

Sirs:

We, the residents of rural Carlton County, Minnesota, live in a region of outstanding beauty. The forests of maturing trees blend with wetlands of ponds, swamps and lakes. This is the habitat for a large variety of animal and plant life. And though we are not wealthy in money, we find this as an ideal place to live.

Last summer, we were abruptly notified by Enbridge Pipeline Company that they chose our land to place the new Sandpiper Oil Pipeline to carry oil from North Dakota to Superior, Wisconsin. We were not asked about it, we were told.

Pipelines with their wide corridors do not fit into the ecological habitat that we live in; nor will they. While we were working to have this Sandpiper line rerouted further to the north onto an existing corridor, we got word of plans for another pipeline in coming years. There is no need for this. I urge the Public Utilities Commission to deny this Sandpiper route and further plans for additional pipelines to send oil through this beautiful part of Carlton County.

Other routes and methods of shipment can and must be found. Our homes and environment need not to be damaged by outside forces wanting to use us for their transportation of oil.

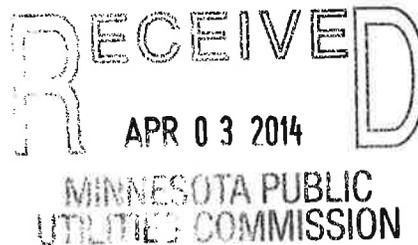
Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry A. Weber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Larry A. Weber

Brenda Schillo
2480 Garthus Road
Wrenshall, MN 55797
March 30, 2014



Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East
Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket number 13-474
Honorable Commissioners:

I grew up in the city limits of a small town, attended college in the twin cities, and always considered myself a "city girl."

When my husband approached me 18 years ago with his dream of living in the country and owning land, who was I to squelch his dream. One of his selling points to me was the fact that land is a finite resource and once you have it, land can never be taken from you.

Last summer, upon receiving a certified letter from Enbridge stating our property was on their proposed sandpiper crude oil pipeline route, I learned that legally obtained private property could be taken from an individual. Sadly, my view of the integrity of private land ownership has been tarnished.

Allowing a new crude oil pipeline corridor to cross Carlton County would be a breach of trust to many hardworking Minnesotans in this region. Co-locating new pipelines with existing crude oil pipelines is most consistent with the principle of non-proliferation and minimizes damage to farms, the environment and landowner rights. Please follow the Minnesota Statute regarding the principle of non-proliferation when determining a route for Enbridge's sandpiper crude oil pipeline.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Schillo".

Brenda Schillo

From: "Congressman Rick Nolan" <MN08RNIMA@mail.house.gov>
Subject: **Responding to your message**
Date: January 29, 2014 3:02:38 PM CST
To: ~~schillo@gmail.com~~



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3605

Dear Ms. Schillo,

Thank you for contacting me regarding your views on the routing of the Enbridge "Sandpiper" Pipeline. My apologies if there has been some delay in responding to you.

Please know I understand and share your concerns regarding the Southern Route proposal. The communities most likely to be affected by the Southern Route have already given a lot to energy infrastructure in the form of a crude oil pipeline, two natural gas corridors, and another pipeline carrying refined fuel products. Because of the associated soil damage that stems from the construction, testing, maintenance, and repair of such operations, many farmers have specifically chosen locations for their lands that are away from existing constructs. A new pipeline would be a breach of trust for these hardworking Minnesotans, and would limit the growing movement of new farmers planting crops in the region.

Because of the existence of alternative, less damaging proposals, as well as the severe negative impact that the Southern Route would have on local communities, I have expressed my support for the Northern Route and Soo Line proposals. Both of these proposals would preserve valuable tracts of farmland without disturbing acres of forests and wetlands.

Again, thank you for your advocacy. I appreciate your advice and counsel and hope that you will continue to stay in touch. Please let me know whenever I can be of assistance.

I encourage you to follow me on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and visit my website at nolan.house.gov to receive daily updates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard M. Nolan".

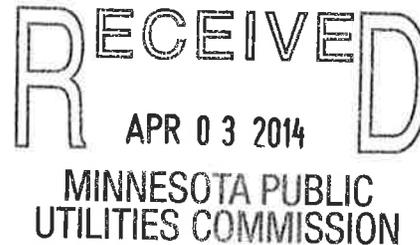
Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress

*Please do not reply to this email. The mailbox is unattended.
To share your thoughts please visit my webpage.*

PC-13-474

Ron and Shanon Thomsen
2604 Friendship Lane
Carlton, MN 55718

March 31, 2014



Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners,

Northern Minnesota residents, and Carlton County specifically, do not want any loss of valuable farmland and forest to another oil pipeline. We do not understand why another pipeline would need to be constructed on a new route. It would seem to make better sense to have this new Sandpiper line follow the existing route of the last pipeline that Enbridge constructed just a few years ago through Carlton County.

There are many of us in this area that believe in growing and providing food for our own families rather than having to buy from other sources. By taking away more of our precious and valuable land will only reduce our ability to provide for our families. This isn't just about money. This is about preserving our way of life and the healthy option that raising and growing our own supply of food provides us.

Combining any new pipelines with existing ones would be the best solution. This will provide the least amount of damage to farms, the environment and the rights of we landowners.

We respectfully request that you rule that the new Sandpiper pipeline should follow existing routes and to minimize the damage that would occur to our sustainable agriculture.

Sincerely,


Ron and Shanon Thomsen





13-474

FAX COVER SHEET

Steven Schulstrom
2631 County Rd 4
Carlton MN 55718

From: Steve S.

To: Dr. Burl Haar

Date: 04/03/14

Company Name: MNPVC

Office Location: Carlton MN

Attention: Docket #13-474

Fax Number: 651-297-7073

Total pages, including cover sheet: 36

Comments

Hello -

Please confirm 36 pages

have been received to

schul251@umn.edu

or

218.389.9850

Thank you

Steve

Steven Schulstrom
2631 County Rd 4
Carlton MN 55718

April 3, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket number 13-474

Dear Dr. Haar:

I am proposing that the Minnesota Public Utility Commission select the proposed option of the Northern Route for the Sandpiper pipeline. In examining the previously approved Alberta Clipper crude oil pipeline that was placed in Enbridge's current corridor (The Mainline) from the North Dakota/Minnesota border to the Minnesota/Wisconsin border there are no major constraints to building additional pipelines in an adjacent corridor along this route. Given that substantially all of the siting criteria remains the same as when the Alberta Clipper pipeline was approved by the Minnesota Public Utility Commission it seems only logical to place the Sandpiper pipeline (and all future pipelines) adjacent to the current Mainline in a new corridor. When one compares the approximately 42 additional miles for the Southern Route in comparison with the Mainline route, it is obvious that this is a compelling argument that would warrant prudent consideration.

There are several areas that constitute constructability "pinch points" near the current Enbridge Mainline corridor that would require "major re-route work" for another crude oil pipeline corridor to be placed adjacent. None of these re-routes would be as disruptive as the establishment of an entirely NEW corridor as the proposed "preferred" Southern Sandpiper route would be. There are small revisions that would be needed to avoid natural features and to accommodate landowners along the route, but these would not affect the constructability of the Northern Route. This proposal would co-locate an adjacent corridor essentially shadowing the current Mainline.

There are three identified areas of concern. These are the Pike Bay/Cass Lake isthmus, Cohasset/Grand Rapids area and Chub Lake in Carlton County.

Chub Lake in Carlton County:

The Carlton County revision submitted by Enbridge/North Dakota Pipeline Company from Sandpiper (13-474) mile about 582 (map 116 of 123 filed Jan. 31, 2014) just west of Interstate 35 to the Wisconsin border, Sandpiper (13-474) mile about 601 (map 123 of 123 filed Jan 31, 2014) resolves the congested area near Chub Lake by establishing a new corridor adjacent to the Mainline from Sandpiper (13-474) mile about 591.5 to about 601 (map 120-123 filed Jan. 31, 2014). This is novel solution in that it establishes a new corridor and co-locates current and proposed crude oil pipelines near each other.

By applying a comparable approach to the other areas along the Mainline route there is no reason that similar accommodations cannot be accomplished.

Cohasset/Grand Rapids Area:

Assuming the worst case scenario that would necessitate a complete re-route from Alberta Clipper (07-361) mile about 1003 to 1006 (map AC-100 4407910 filed 06/22/2007) and from Alberta Clipper mile about 1008 to 1011 (map AC-101 and AC-102 4407910 filed 06/22/2007). The total mileage for this would be 6 miles. It is likely that at least some of the new corridor could be co-located adjacent with the Mainline so the mileage would be less than the worst case 6 miles figure.

Pike Bay/Cass Lake Isthmus:

While it appears that the town of Cass Lake lies directly in the path of an additional co-located corridor, there are two alternatives. From Alberta Clipper (07-361) mile about 954 to 956 (map AC-082 4407909 filed 06/22/2007) there is the option of working with the railroad right-of- way to the south and co-locating the new corridor again at Alberta Clipper mile about 957 (map AC-083 4407909 filed 06/22/2007). This option would not add any additional miles. Another option would be to re-route around the town of Cass Lake by routing from Alberta Clipper mile about 954 (map AC-082 4407909 filed 06/22/2007) completely around Pike Bay and joining the Mainline at Alberta Clipper mile about 960 (map AC-083 4407909 filed 06/22/2007). This option would add approximately 11 miles.

Adding up the extra mileage from the above suggestions the worst case option for these combined areas would be 17 additional miles. This would be a much preferred solution to the current Southern "preferred" route based on mileage alone. Also, the principal of non-proliferation of pipeline corridors that has been affirmed by the MN Supreme Court would provide another persuasive reason to build the next pipeline in a corridor adjacent to the current Mainline. With these parameters in mind the preferred route for the Alberta Clipper should be the blueprint for a new corridor that would be the preferred route for the Sandpiper and all future pipelines from the Dakotas to Superior, WI.

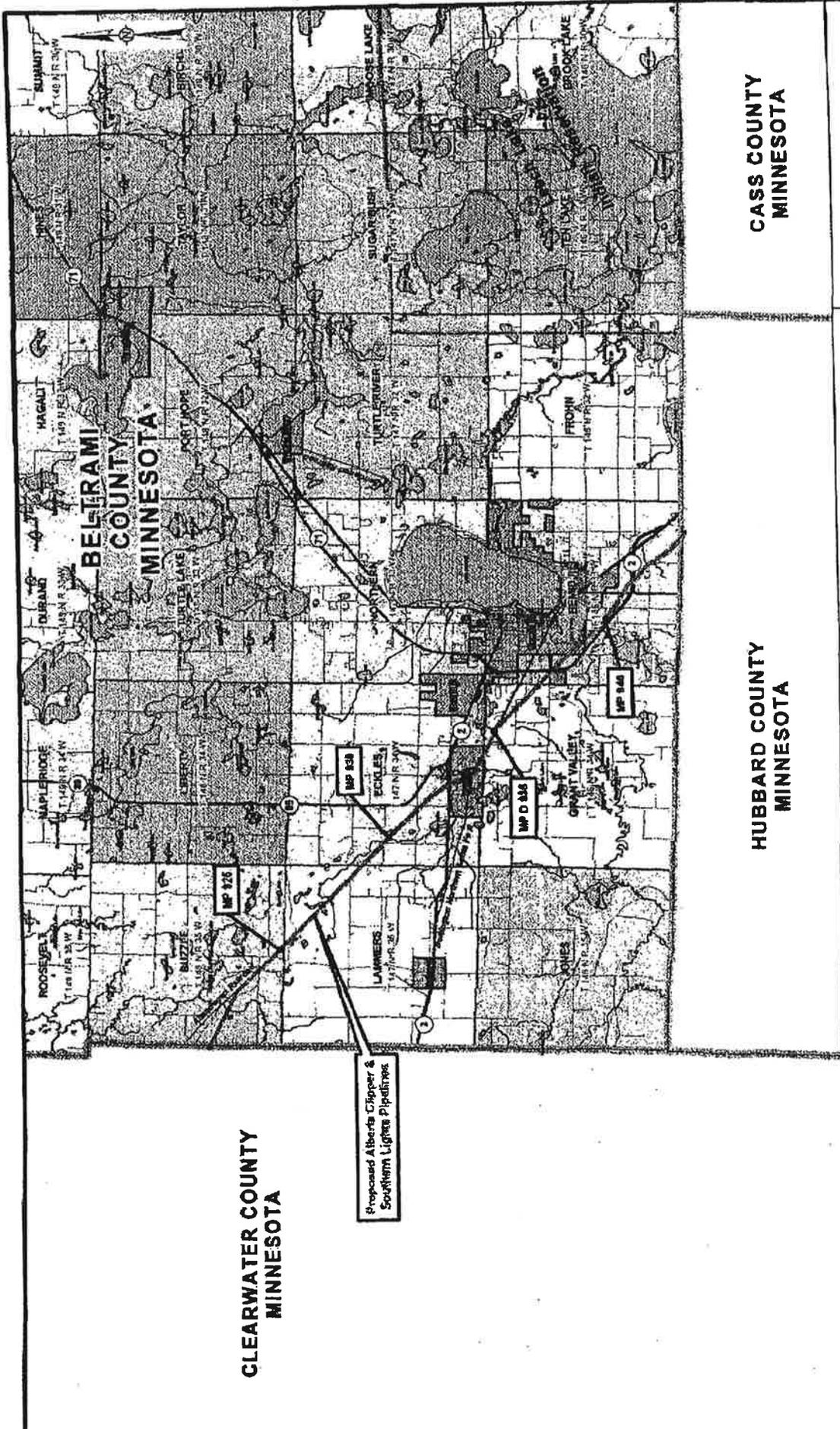
I have enclosed:

- 2 pages of explanation of proposal (this letter)
- 8 maps indicating the overview of the Alberta Clipper Route
- 10 pages that list land requirements for the Alberta Clipper with the Right-of-way configuration
- 9 pages of typical crossings that would be needed for the Sandpiper pipeline
- 6 pages of Alberta Clipper area maps for the areas of concern

Thank you for your consideration,



Steven Schulstrom



**CLEARWATER COUNTY
MINNESOTA**

**BELTRAMI COUNTY
MINNESOTA**

**HUBBARD COUNTY
MINNESOTA**

**CASS COUNTY
MINNESOTA**

Proposed Alberta Clipper & Southern Lights Pipelines

Legend
 Proposed Alberta Clipper & Southern Lights Pipelines
 Milepost



Map Prepared By:
**GLAY INTERIATIC
 ENGINEERING**

March 21, 2007

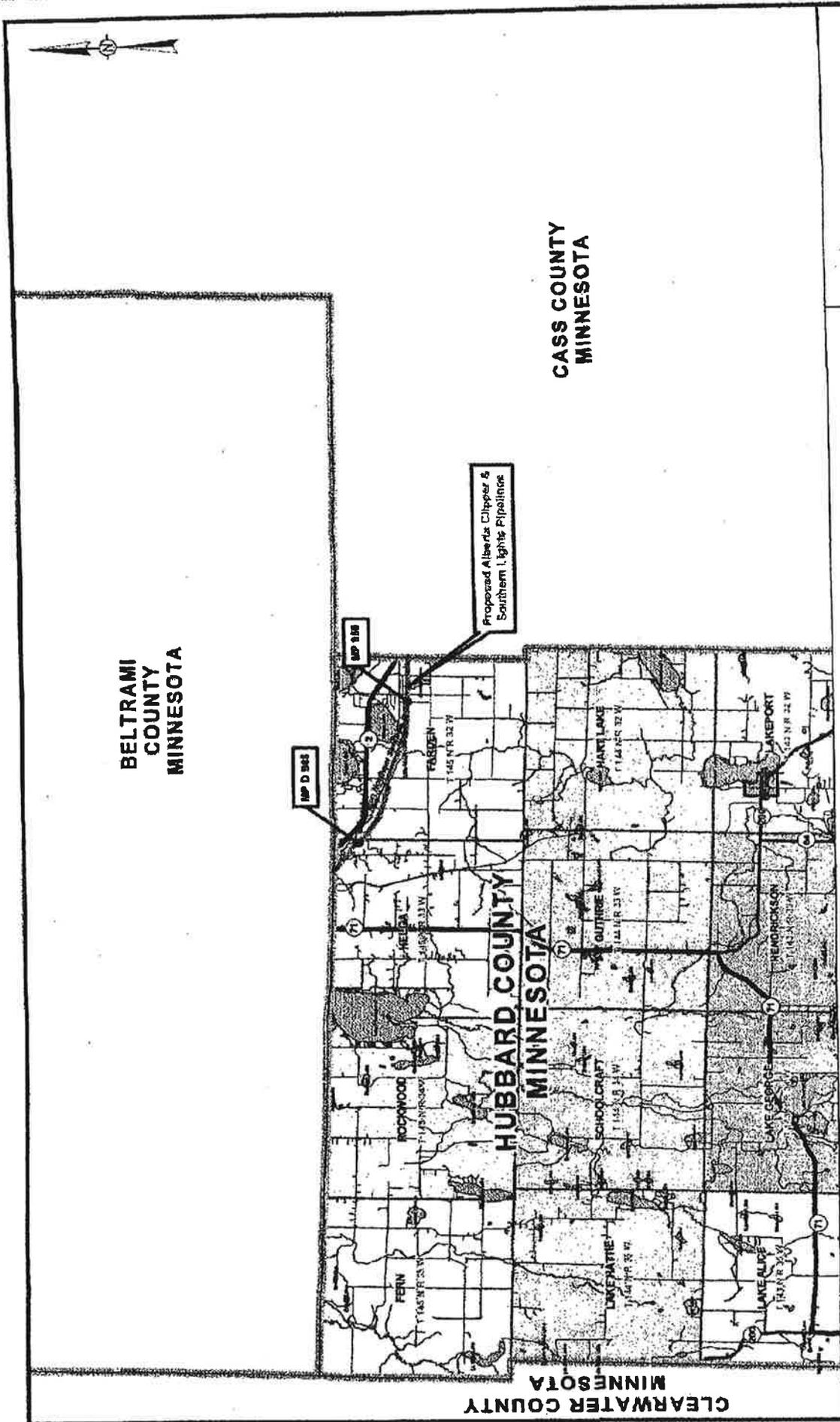
ENBRIDGE

Alberta Clipper Project & Southern Lights Diluent Project
 U.S./Canada Border to Superior, WI

PROJECT
AC-000 BELTRAMI

REVISION
A

H:_cnd\135\arm\p04\enb\EsU\Alberta Clipper\County Maps\AC-000-BE-1.mxd 4/2/2007



BELTRAMI COUNTY MINNESOTA

CASS COUNTY MINNESOTA

CLEARWATER COUNTY MINNESOTA

HUBBARD COUNTY MINNESOTA

Legend

Proposed Alberta Clipper & Southern Lights Pipelines

■ Milepost



Map Prepared By: TSE & WIEGART ENGINEERS

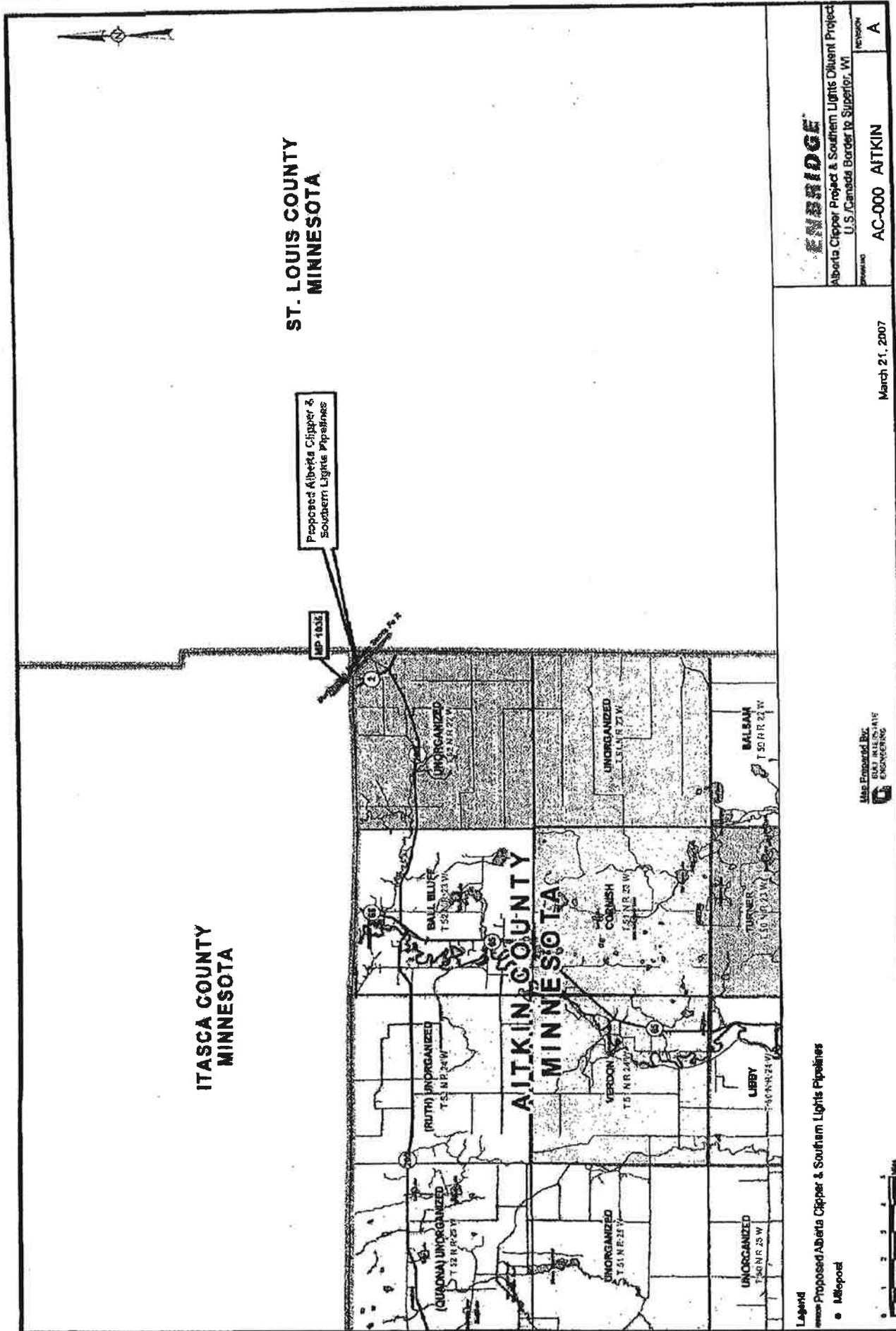
March 21, 2007

ENGINEER

Alberta Clipper Project & Southern Lights Diluent Project U.S./Canada Border to Superior, WI

AC-000 HUBBARD

A



Legend
 Proposed Alberta Clipper & Southern Lights Pipelines
 ● Milepost



Map Prepared By:
 BARRY M. LEINER
 ENGINEERING

March 21, 2007

AC-000 AITKIN



Alberta Clipper Project & Southern Lights Diluent Project
 U.S./Canada Border to Superior, WI

Revision
 A

H:_0011506\arcmap\arcgis\bas\Aitkin County Maps\AC-000-AI-1.mxd 3/21/2007

4415.0125 **LAND REQUIREMENTS**

For the proposed pipeline, the applicant shall provide the following information:

A. **permanent right-of-way length, average width, and estimated acreage:**

The Alberta Clipper Project and the Southern Lights Diluent Project will be constructed concurrently within the same construction footprint and will generally be located adjacent to the existing Lakehead System right-of-way. In Minnesota, the Lakehead System right-of-way corridor extends southeasterly in a contiguous manner from the Minnesota-North Dakota border near Bowesmont, North Dakota/Mattson, Minnesota to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border near Wrenshall, Minnesota/Oliver, Wisconsin. The Alberta Clipper Project will extend the length of this corridor from the Minnesota-North Dakota border in Kittson County to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border in Carlton County. The Southern Lights Diluent Project will extend from EELP's Clearbrook terminal facilities in Clearwater County to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border in Carlton County.

The existing right-of-way corridor consists of undefined and defined permanent easements. In locations where the right-of-way is held through undefined ("blanket") easements that do not limit the width of the right-of-way, new easements will not be required to install the pipelines. However, the Applicants will negotiate compensation with the landowner for exercising the existing multiple pipeline rights. Where the right-of-way is held through defined easements that limit the width of corridor, the Applicants will require new easements to install the pipelines and these will be negotiated on a tract-by-tract basis with each landowner. The actual right-of-way requirement for each tract will be determined on the basis of field surveys and final engineering designs. As identified in Tables 4415.125-A and 4415.125-B below, a significant portion of the existing right-of-way corridor is held through undefined easements.

Alberta Clipper/Southern Lights Diluent Projects
Pipeline Routing Permit Application – PUC Docket No. PL9/PPL-07-361

Section 4415.0125
Page 2

Minnesota County	Pipeline Crossed in County	Undefined Easements		Enbridge Fee Property		Unknown Further Title Work Required		Defined Easements	
		Miles	Percent	Miles	Percent	Miles	Percent	Miles	Percent
	Total (miles)								
Kitson	15.3	1.26	8.2%	0.52	3.4%			13.52	88.3%
Marshall	34.6	6.33	18.3%	0.30	0.9%	0.10	0.3%	27.87	80.6%
Pennington	19.7	1.97	10.0%					17.73	90.0%
Red Lake	15.5	1.89	12.2%	1.22	7.9%			12.40	80.0%
Polk	13.6	1.70	12.6%	0.37	2.8%			11.53	84.7%
Clearwater	9.0	1.23	14.1%					7.77	85.9%
Total	107.7	14.38	13.4%	2.42	2.2%	0.10	0.1%	90.51	84.3%

Minnesota County	Pipeline Crossed In County	Total Number of Tracts	Defined Easements By Tract		Undefined Easements By Tract	
			Miles	Percent	Miles	Percent
	Total (miles)					
Clearwater	11.6	83	71	86%	12	14%
Beltrami	22.7	169	147	87%	22	13%
Hubbard	7.8	40	36	90%	4	10%
Cass	34.4	171	142	84%	29	16%
Itasca	50.4	610	356	61%	254	39%
Aitkin	1.1	3	0	0%	3	100%
St. Louis	24.6	110	62	57%	48	43%
Carlton	24.6	121	87	72%	34	28%
Total	177.2	1,307	901	69%	406	31%

Right-of-Way Requirements – East of Clearbrook

Given the Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent pipelines will generally be installed in parallel adjacent to the southern boundary of the existing right-of-way corridor from the Clearbrook terminal to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border, Enbridge's design configuration and anticipated construction execution methods are intended to take advantage of the proximity of the pipelines to each other to minimize right-of-way requirements. This typically results in a maximum construction footprint of 140 feet for the combined projects for standard pipeline construction, with typically up to 75 feet of additional permanent easement for both pipelines and 65 feet of temporary workspace from Clearbrook to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border. Both the permanent

easement and the temporary workspace areas may be returned to uses by the landowners that do not impact the pipelines. A depiction of the typical configuration of the existing right-of-way corridor and the proposed configuration of the Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent pipelines and their construction footprint is provided in the attached figure, "Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects, Right-of-Way Configuration – East of Enbridge Clearbrook Terminal (Typical)." As depicted in this figure, up to 75 feet of additional permanent easement is necessary to accommodate a 25 foot offset between the existing and new pipelines and a 25 foot buffer zone to the newly located southern boundary of the right-of-way corridor.

In certain limited areas, the right-of-way corridor encounters environmental features (such as extended wetlands) that require special construction methods (such as winter construction). While the typical construction footprint will remain 140 feet in these areas, the Applicants will typically require up to 110 feet of additional permanent easement and 30 feet of temporary workspace to accommodate construction and installation. A depiction of the typical configuration in these limited special construction areas is provided in the attached figure, "Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects, Right-of-Way Configuration – East of Enbridge Clearbrook Terminal (Winter Construction Typical)." The Applicants have presently identified approximately 60 miles of right-of-way in the following areas that contain environmental features that will necessitate these special construction methods, which will consist primarily of establishing a winter construction working area between the pipelines by means of ice roads from which the pipelines will be installed concurrently:

- Existing milepost 974 to 992 (18 miles), upstream of Deer River Station (MP 992)
- Existing milepost 1019 to 1045 (26 miles), upstream of Floodwood Station (MP 1045)
- Existing milepost 1055 to 1071 (16 miles), downstream of Floodwood Station (MP 1045)

Right-of-Way Requirements – West of Clearbrook

From the Clearbrook terminal west to the Minnesota/North Dakota border, the Alberta Clipper pipeline will generally be constructed and installed adjacent to the existing Lakehead System right-of-way. The Southern Lights Diluent pipeline is not proposed to extend westerly beyond the Clearbrook terminal.

However, as filed in the pending application PL9/PPL-07-360, EELP has also proposed to install the LSr Project pipeline generally within or

immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of the existing right-of-way corridor of the Lakehead System. The LSr pipeline will be constructed prior to commencement of the Alberta Clipper pipeline construction. As proposed, the LSr pipeline right-of-way requirements include typically up to 50 feet of permanent easement and 50 feet of temporary workspace. The additional permanent easement is required to provide a 25 foot offset from the southernmost pipeline in the existing right-of-way to the LSr pipeline and a 25 foot offset to the newly located southern boundary of the right-of-way.

As the Southern Lights Diluent pipeline will not extend beyond Clearbrook, the right-of-way requirements west of Clearbrook are limited to the Alberta Clipper Project. In order to maintain a 25 foot of offset between the southernmost existing pipeline (which at the time of construction of the Alberta Clipper pipeline will be the LSr pipeline) and a buffer zone to the newly located southern boundary of the right-of-way, up to 25 feet of additional permanent easement and 65 feet of temporary workspace will typically be required to accommodate construction and installation. A depiction of the typical configuration of the existing right-of-way corridor west of Clearbrook and the proposed configuration of the Alberta Clipper and LSr pipelines and their construction footprint is provided in the attached figure, "Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects, Right-of-Way Configuration – West of Enbridge Clearbrook Terminal (Typical)." Similar to the design configuration east of Clearbrook, the Applicant's design configuration and anticipated construction execution methods are intended to take advantage of the proximity of the Alberta Clipper pipeline to the LSR pipeline west of Clearbrook to minimize right-of-way requirements.

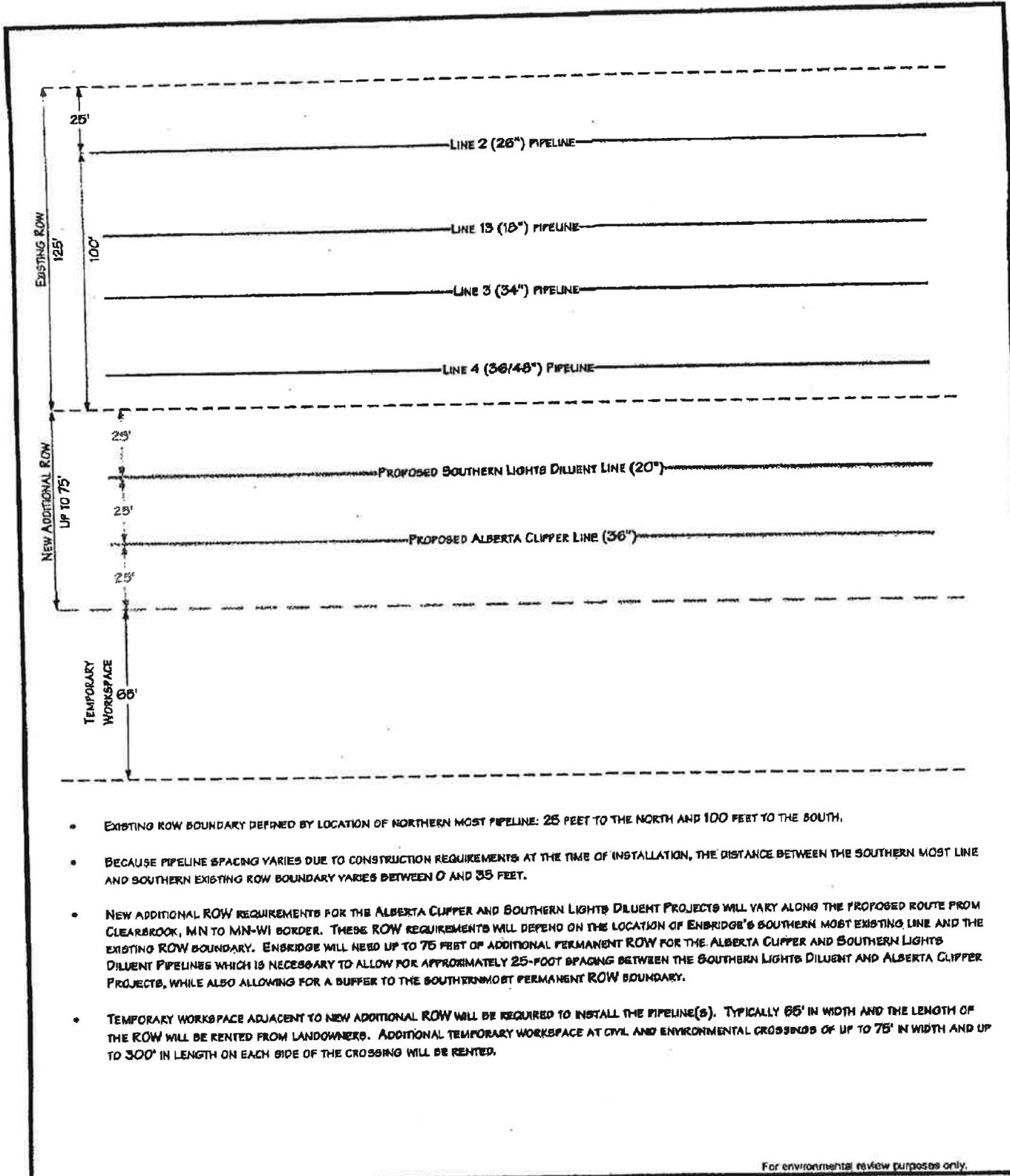
Right-of-Way Requirements – Acquisition Program

To achieve the right-of-way requirements of all proposed pipelines in a timely manner, the Applicants have implemented a right-of-way acquisition program that is intended to meet the needs of the previously filed LSr Project and the Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects in a coordinated and cost-effective manner. The intent of the program is to achieve this acquisition goal while at the same time simplify the process for affected landowners through one set of negotiations, which should reduce the complexity of the negotiations and minimize time and resource commitments on the landowners' part. To that end, acquisition efforts are directed at establishing a contiguous 140 foot construction corridor along the Minnesota right-of-way for typical standard construction methods. Regardless of the nature of the existing easements involved (defined or blanket), acquisition of the required permanent easement and temporary workspace will be on the basis of fair market value per acre.

Alberta Clipper/Southern Lights Diluent Projects
Pipeline Routing Permit Application – PUC Docket No. PL9/PPL-07-361

Section 4415.0125
Page 5

The Applicants acknowledge that any approvals issued in conjunction with this application will not include the LSR Project right-of-way requirements.

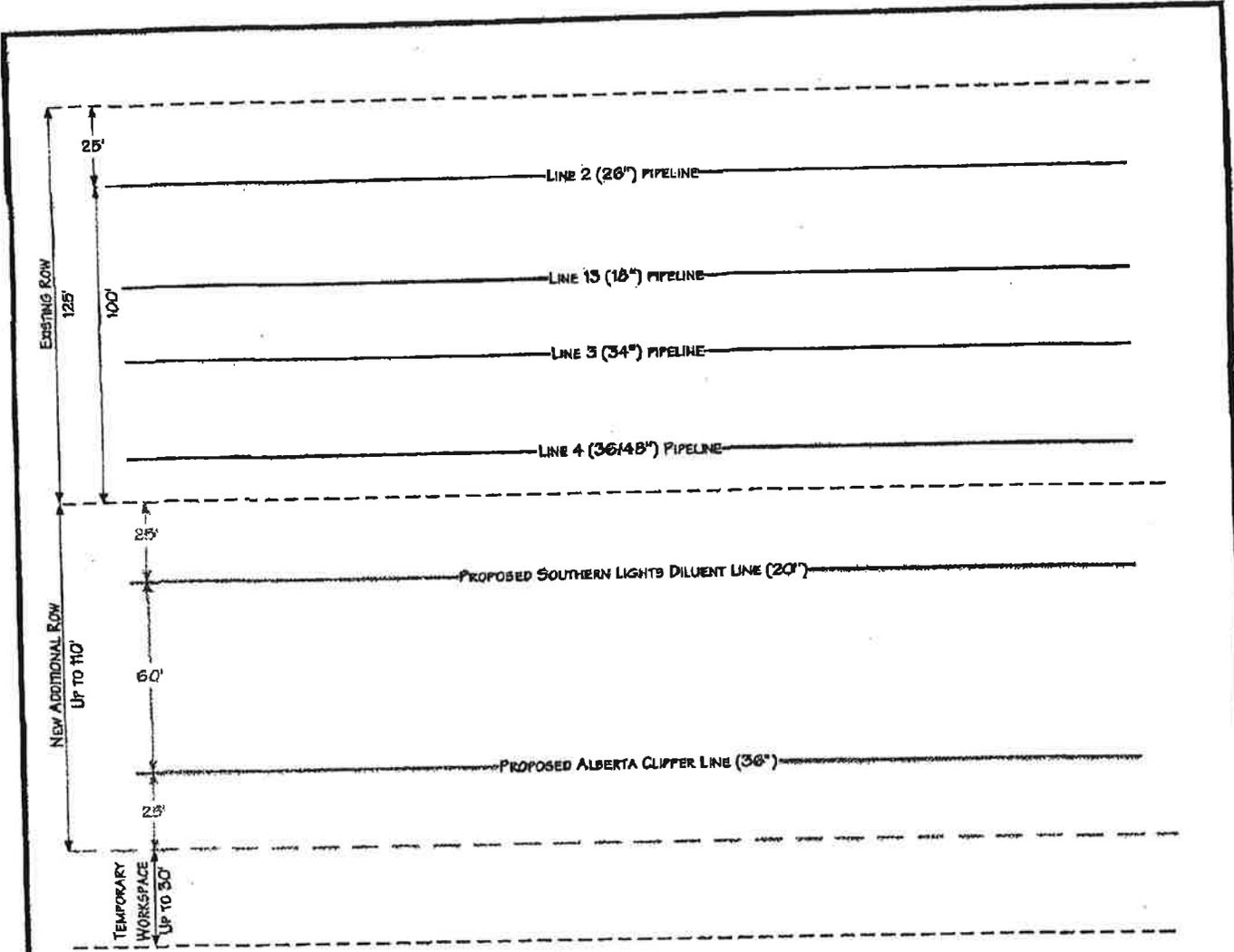


For environmental review purposes only.



**Alberta Clipper and
Southern Lights Diluent Projects
Right-of-Way Configuration
East of Enbridge Clearbrook Terminal
(Typical)**

DATE: 8/9/2006
REVISED: 6/21/2007
SCALE: NTS
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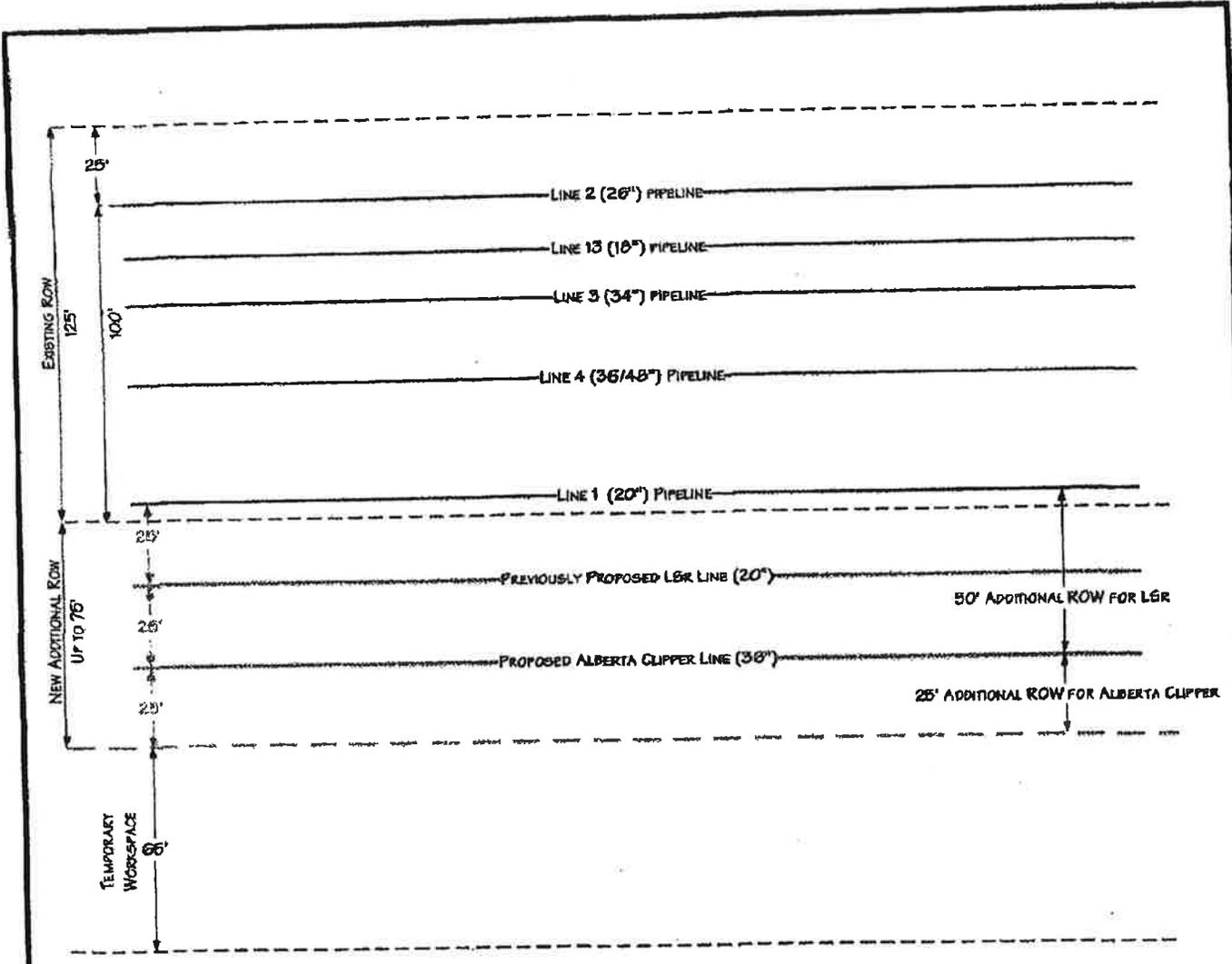
- EXISTING ROW BOUNDARY DEFINED BY LOCATION OF NORTHERN MOST PIPELINE 25 FEET TO THE NORTH AND 100 FEET TO THE SOUTH.
- BECAUSE PIPELINE SPACING VARIES DUE TO CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS AT THE TIME OF INSTALLATION, THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SOUTHERN MOST LINE AND SOUTHERN EXISTING ROW BOUNDARY VARIES BETWEEN 0 AND 35 FEET.
- NEW ADDITIONAL ROW REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ALBERTA CLIPPER AND SOUTHERN LIGHTS DILUENT PROJECTS WILL VARY ALONG THE PROPOSED ROUTE FROM CLEARBROOK, MN TO MN-WI BORDER. THESE ROW REQUIREMENTS WILL DEPEND ON THE LOCATION OF ENBRIDGE'S SOUTHERN MOST EXISTING LINE AND THE EXISTING ROW BOUNDARY. ENBRIDGE WILL NEED UP TO 110 FEET OF ADDITIONAL PERMANENT ROW FOR THE ALBERTA CLIPPER AND SOUTHERN LIGHTS DILUENT PIPELINES TO FACILITATE WINTER CONSTRUCTION METHODS THROUGH EXTENSIVE WETLAND AREAS AND IS NECESSARY TO ALLOW FOR APPROXIMATELY 25-FOOT SPACING BETWEEN THE ALBERTA CLIPPER PROJECT AND THE SOUTHERNMOST ADDITIONAL PERMANENT ROW BOUNDARY.
- TYPICALLY UP TO 30' OF TEMPORARY WORKSPACE ADJACENT TO NEW ADDITIONAL ROW WILL BE RENTED FROM LANDOWNERS.

For environmental review purposes only.



**Alberta Clipper and
Southern Lights Diluent Projects
Right-of-Way Configuration
East of Enbridge Clearbrook Terminal
(Winter Construction Typical)**

DATE: 8/9/2006
REVISED: 6/21/2007
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: MHN6795
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- EXISTING ROW BOUNDARY DEFINED BY LOCATION OF NORTHERN MOST PIPELINE: 25 FEET TO THE NORTH AND 100 FEET TO THE SOUTH.
- BECAUSE PIPELINE SPACING VARIES DUE TO CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS AT THE TIME OF INSTALLATION, THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SOUTHERN MOST LINE (LINE 1 (20")) AND SOUTHERN EXISTING ROW BOUNDARY VARIES BETWEEN 0 AND 35 FEET.
- NEW ADDITIONAL ROW REQUIREMENTS WILL VARY ALONG THE PROPOSED ROUTE FROM THE MINNESOTA/NORTH DAKOTA BORDER TO CLEARBROOK, MINNESOTA. THESE ROW REQUIREMENTS WILL DEPEND ON THE LOCATION OF ENBRIDGE'S SOUTHERN MOST EXISTING LINE AND THE EXISTING ROW BOUNDARY. ENBRIDGE WILL NEED UP TO 50 FEET OF ADDITIONAL PERMANENT ROW FOR THE L&R PROJECT, AND WILL NEED ANOTHER 25 FEET OF ADDITIONAL PERMANENT ROW FOR THE ALBERTA CLIPPER PROJECT. THIS ADDITIONAL 25 FEET OF THE PERMANENT ROW FOR THE ALBERTA CLIPPER PROJECT IS NECESSARY TO ALLOW FOR APPROXIMATELY 25-FOOT SPACING BETWEEN THE PROPOSED L&R AND ALBERTA CLIPPER PROJECTS, WHILE ALSO ALLOWING FOR A BUFFER TO THE SOUTHERNMOST PERMANENT ROW BOUNDARY.
- TEMPORARY WORKSPACE ADJACENT TO NEW ADDITIONAL ROW WILL BE REQUIRED TO INSTALL THE PIPELINE(S). TYPICALLY 65' IN WIDTH AND THE LENGTH OF THE ROW WILL BE RENTED FROM LANDOWNERS. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY WORKSPACE AT CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CROSSINGS OF UP TO 75' IN WIDTH AND UP TO 300' IN LENGTH ON EACH SIDE OF THE CROSSING WILL BE RENTED.

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**Alberta Clipper Project
Right-of-Way Configuration
West of Enbridge Clearbrook Terminal
(Typical)**

DATE: 8/9/2008
REVISED: 6/21/2007
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: MHN6795
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B. temporary right-of-way (workspace) length, estimated width, and estimated acreage:

The Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Projects will be constructed using a 140-foot-wide construction right-of-way consisting of existing or new easements and generally 65 feet of temporary work space. Additional temporary extra workspace of up to 75 feet in width and 300 feet in length will be required at feature crossings (e.g., roads, waterbodies). For the 285.1-mile-long portion of the route that will cross Minnesota, construction will affect approximately 4,743 acres of land. No pipe storage yards or private or new access roads have been identified at this time. This information will be filed when available, approximately July 2008.

C. estimated range of minimum trench or ditch dimensions including bottom width, top width, depth, and cubic yards of dirt excavated:

Trenches will be dug using a backhoe or crawler-mounted wheel type ditching machine. Typically, the ditch depth will be a minimum of 56 inches deep to allow for a minimum of 36 inches of ground cover to the top of the pipe. Trench width at the bottom will be a minimum of 4 feet and approximately 17 feet at the top for the Alberta Clipper Project and 2.7 feet at the bottom of the trench and approximately 13 feet at the top for the Southern Lights Diluent Project. The total excavation will comprise approximately 4.2 million cubic yards of soil for the Alberta Clipper Project and approximately 1.6 million cubic yards of soil for the Southern Lights Diluent Project.

D. minimum depth of cover for state and federal requirements:

In accordance with federal requirements (49 CFR Part 195.248), the depth of cover between the top of the pipe and the ground level, road bed, or river bottom will range between 18 to 48 inches, depending on the location of the pipe and the presence of rock.

State law requires that a minimum depth of cover of 54 inches be maintained in certain areas unless waived by the landowner.

Since the adjacent pipelines are buried in accordance with federal requirements, both safety and land use considerations have led the Applicants to propose the installation with a minimum 36-inch depth of cover. This approach will:

- minimize the amount of soil excavated and therefore reduce the total acreage temporarily impacted;

- avoid the potential perception by future excavators that all other parallel pipes are also at a depth of 54 inches;
- create no additional limits on deep plowing;
- facilitate crossings of pipelines at similar depths by other facilities;
- alleviates the potential for existing lines to subside during installation of the new pipelines by installing new lines at close to the same elevation.

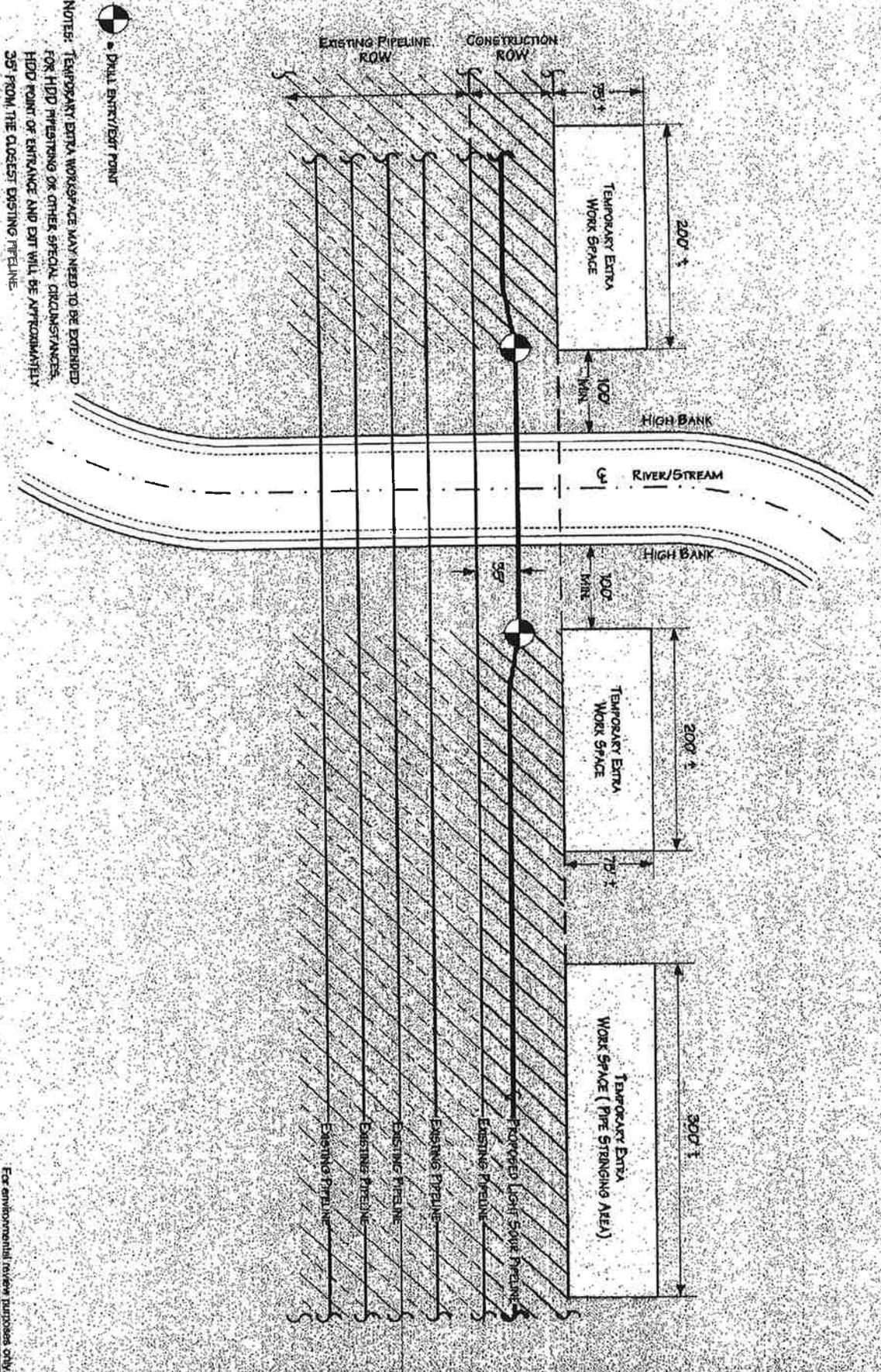
To implement the proposed depth of installation, where necessary, landowners will be asked to waive the 54-inch minimum cover requirement, as was done during the 1994, 1998, and 2002 expansion projects.

E. right-of-way sharing or paralleling: type of facility in the right-of-way, and the estimated length, width, and acreage of the right-of-way:

Generally, the Alberta Clipper and Southern Lights Diluent Project will be constructed within and/or adjacent to existing right-of-way and parallel to existing facilities described in Section 4415.0120 Subpart 3, Description of Proposed Pipeline and Associated Facilities. No other facilities owned by other parties share the existing route. However, the proposed route often parallels near by other railroads, pipelines, highways, and other utilities and is crossed by such facilities.



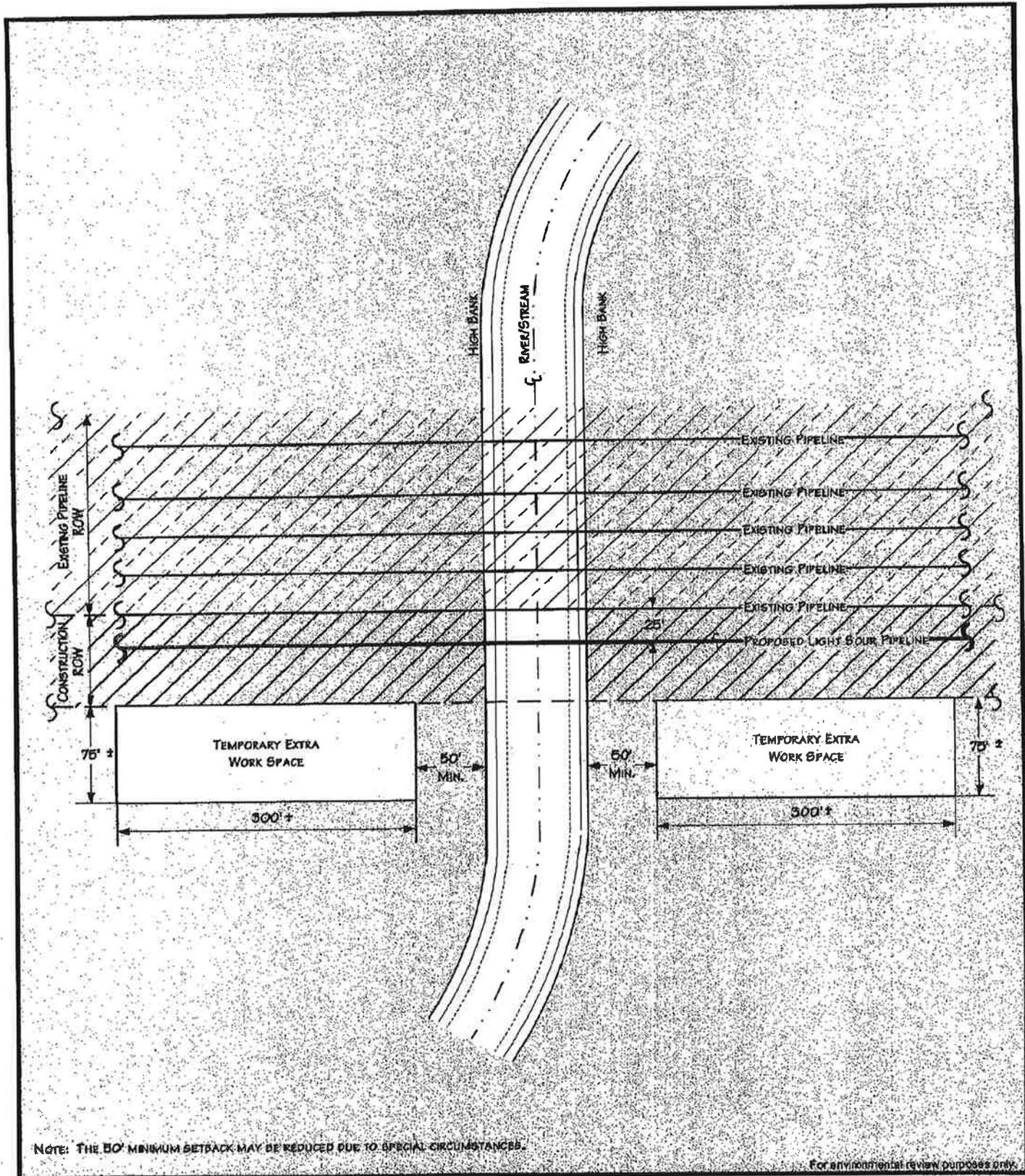
Typical Temporary Extra Workspace at Directionally Drilled Waterbody Crossings



NOTES: TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE MAY NEED TO BE EXPANDED FOR HDD PRESTING OR OTHER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES. HDD POINT OF ENTRANCE AND EXIT WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 35' FROM THE CLOSEST EXISTING PIPELINE.

For environmental review purposes only.

DATE:	3/2/2005
REVISED:	3/15/2007
SCALE:	NTS
DRAWN BY:	MHN/395
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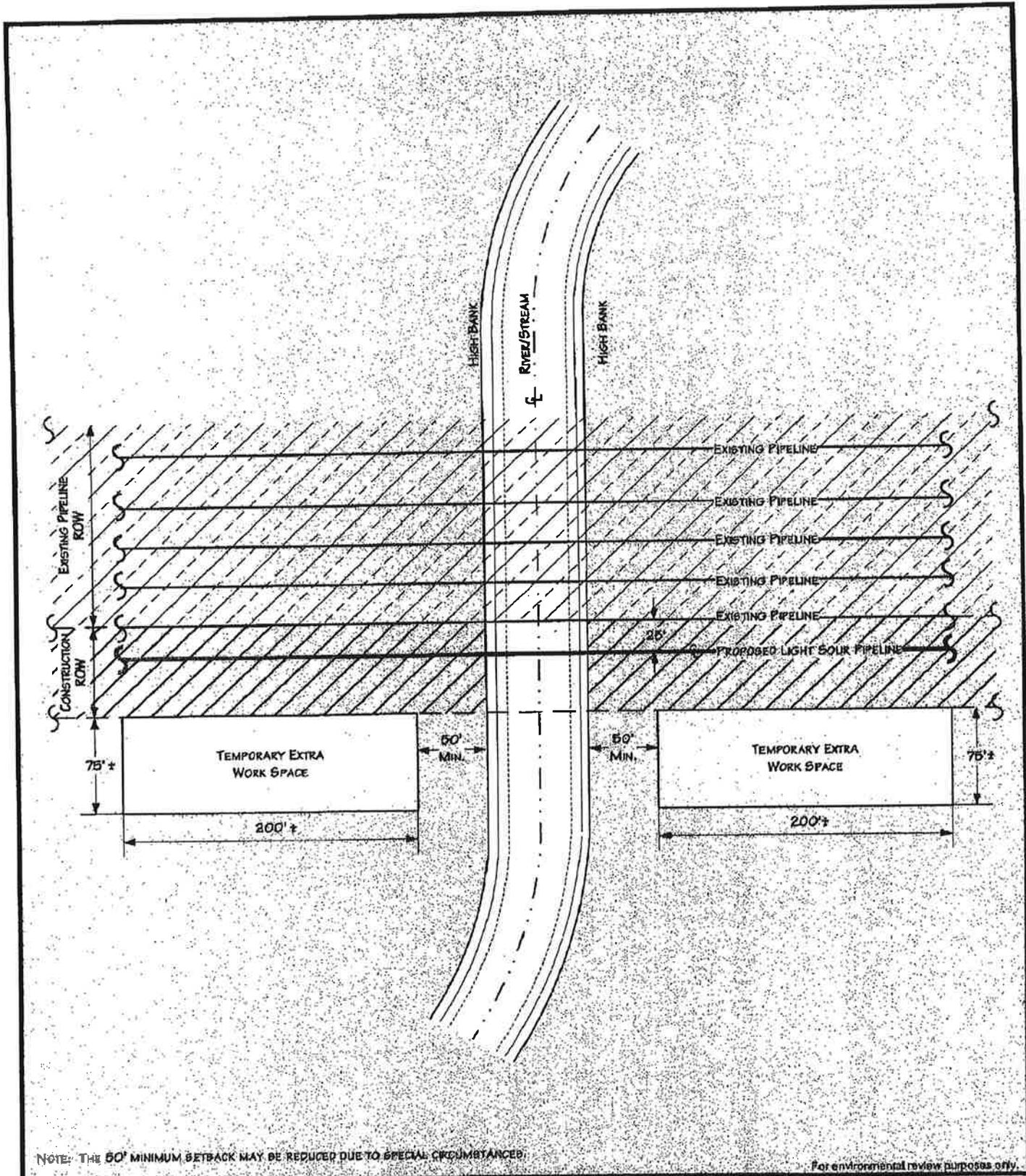
NOTE: THE 50' MINIMUM SETBACK MAY BE REDUCED DUE TO SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

For environmental review purposes only.



**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Waterbody Crossings
Greater Than 50 Feet Wide**

DATE: 11/2/2006
 REVISED: 3/15/2007
 SCALE: N.T.S.
 DRAWN BY: KJA336
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NOTE: THE 50' MINIMUM SETBACK MAY BE REDUCED DUE TO SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

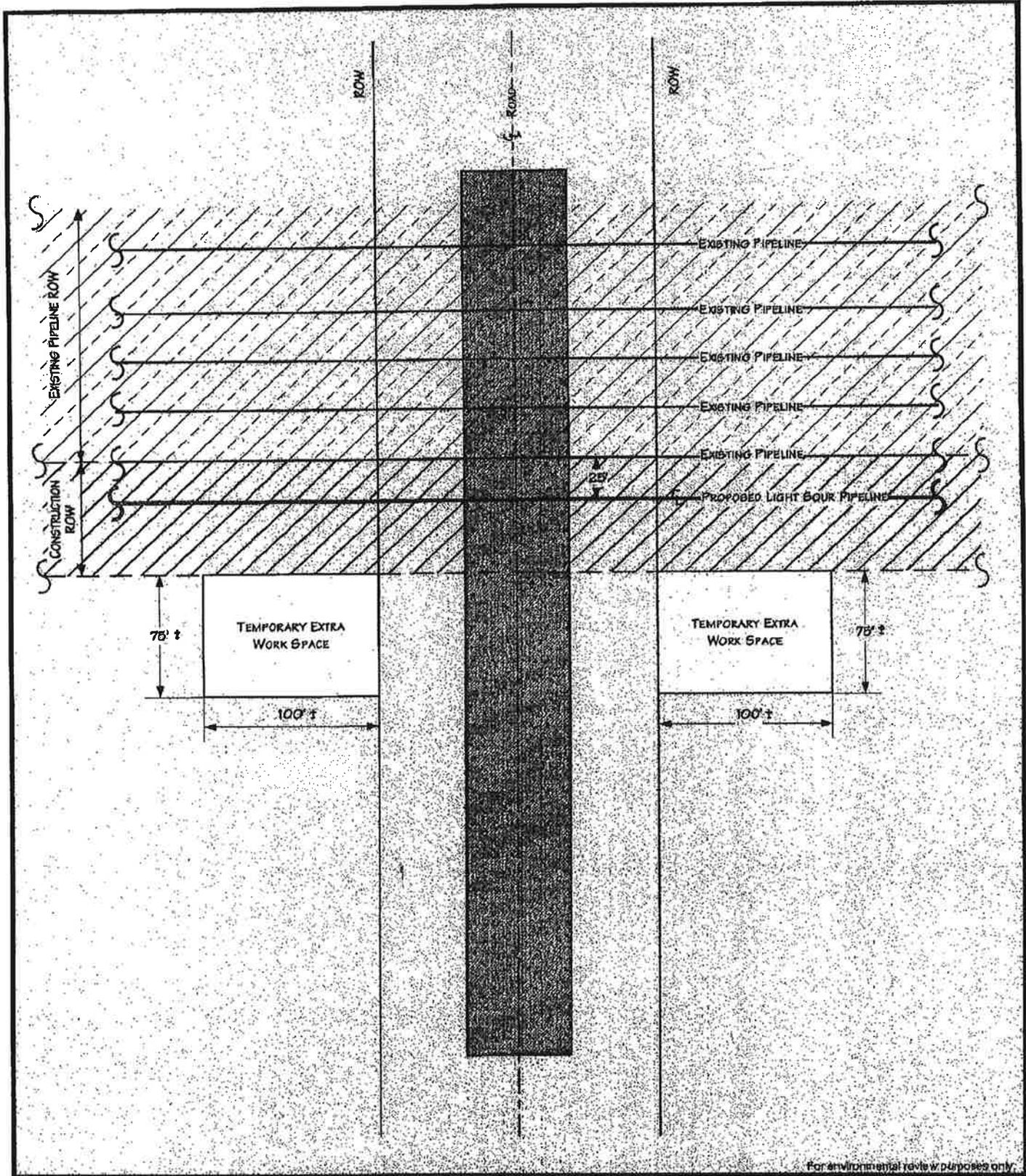
For environmental review purposes only.



**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Waterbody Crossings
Less Than 50 Feet Wide**

DATE: 11/2/2005
 REVISED: 3/15/2007
 SCALE: NTS
 DRAWN BY: KJA3351

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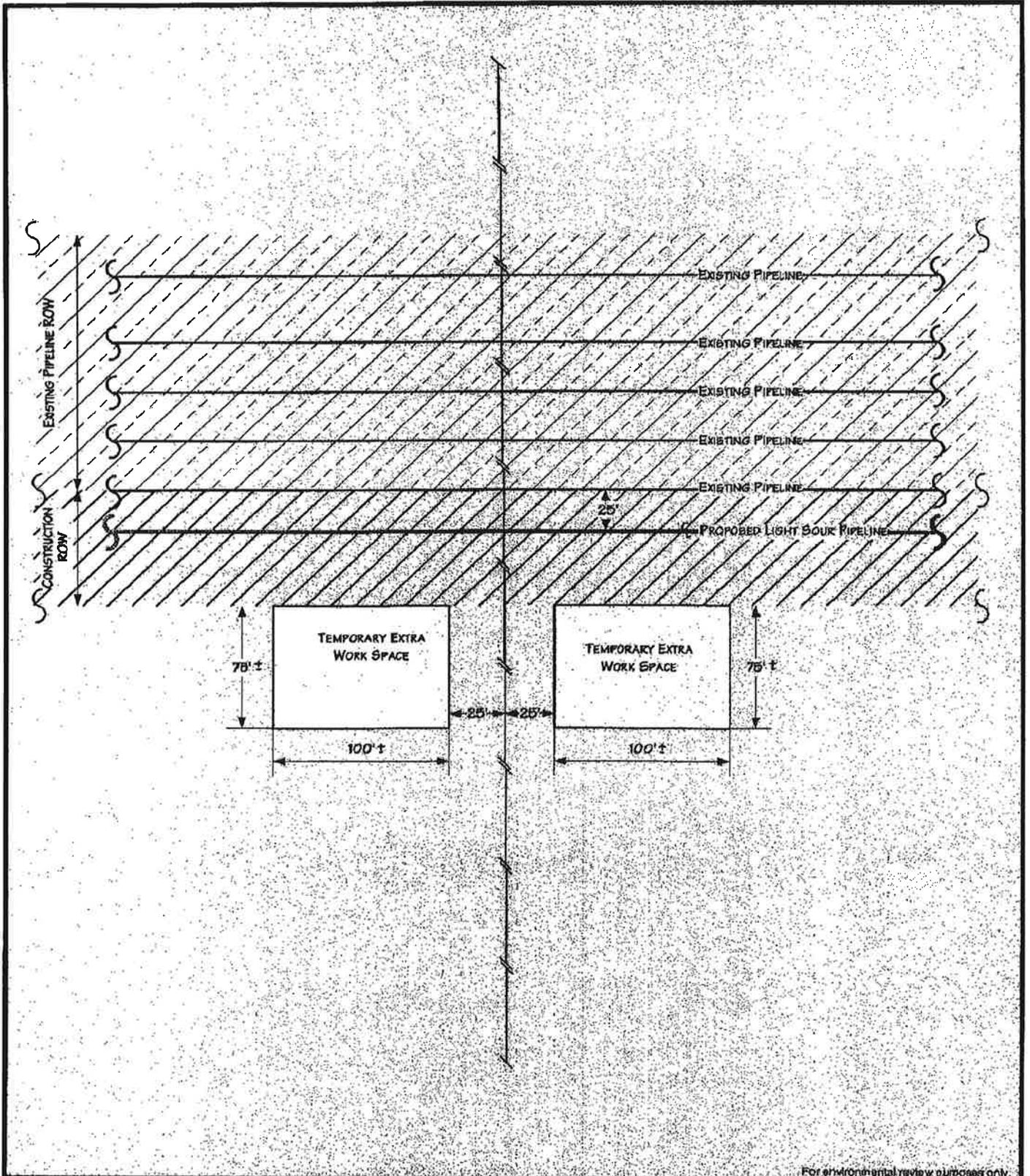


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**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Open-cut Crossings of County,
Township, and Private Roads**

DATE: 11/2/2005
REVISED: 3/16/2007
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: KJK/3361
KJK/3361/ROW_010012.dwg

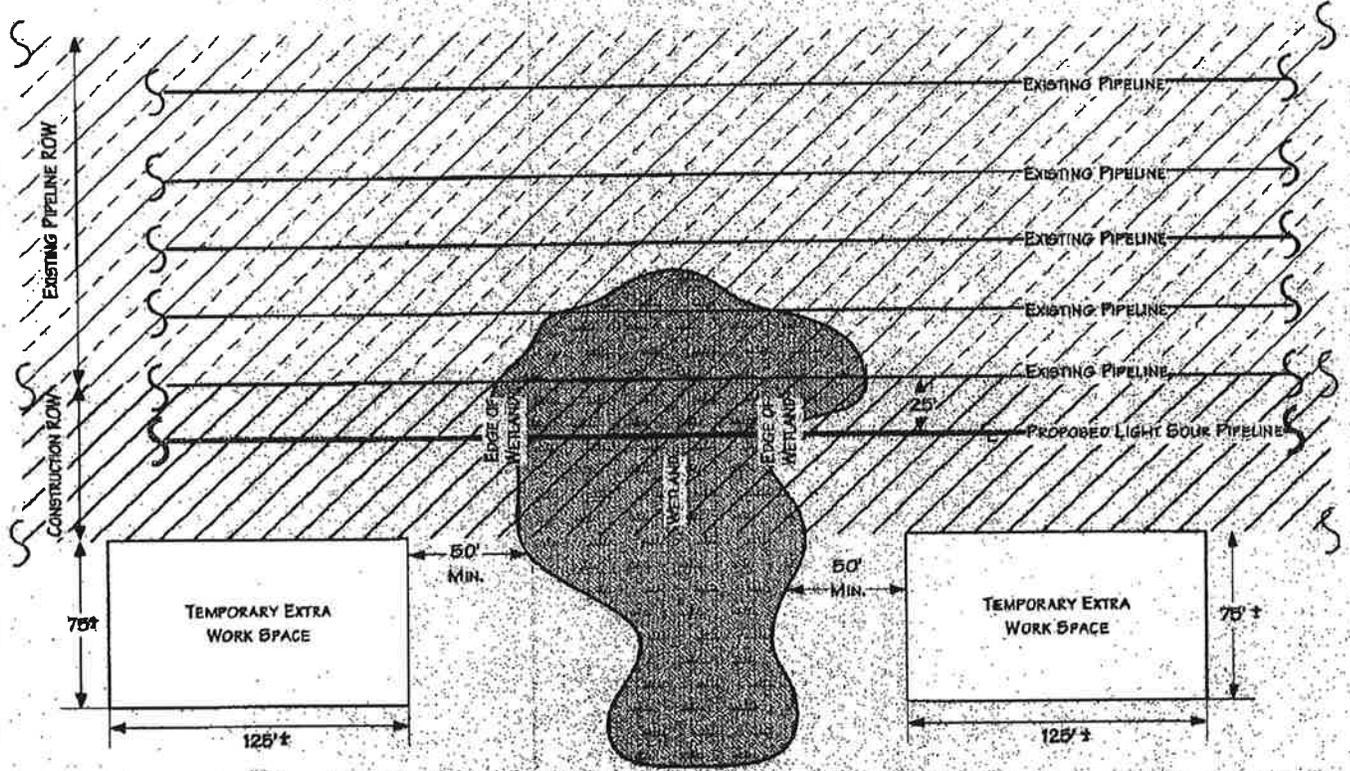


For environmental review purposes only.



**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Foreign Pipeline and Utility Crossings**

DATE: 11/2/2005
REVISED: 3/16/2007
SCALE: INTS
DRAWN BY: KJA3361
<small>KLINGSTUBBINS ASSOCIATES, INC.</small>



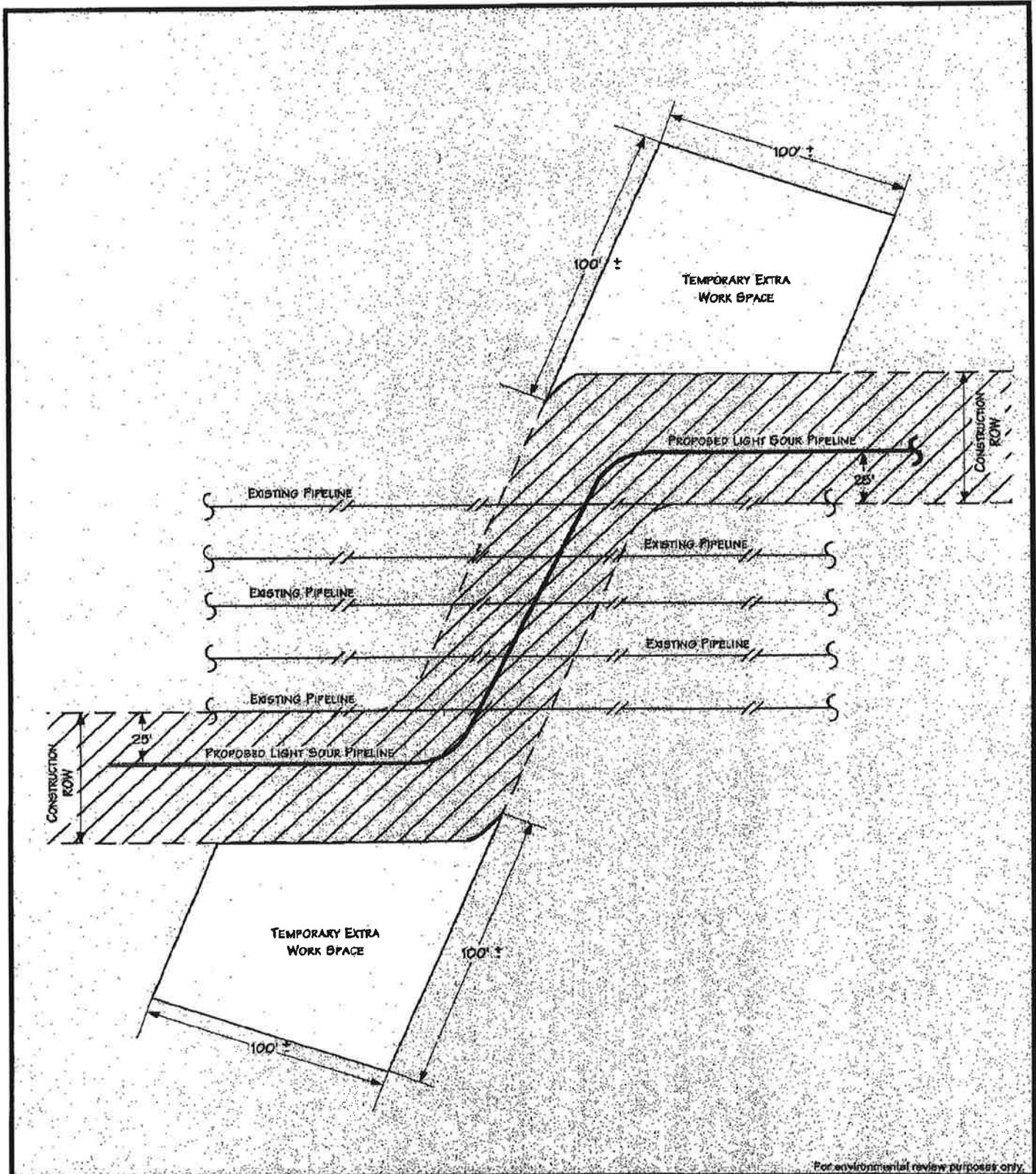
NOTE: TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE MAY NEED TO BE EXTENDED IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
 THE 50' MINIMUM SETBACK MAY BE REDUCED DUE TO SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

For environmental review purposes only.



**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
 for Push/Pull Wetland Crossings**

DATE: 11/2/2005
 REVISED: 3/15/2007
 SCALE: NTS
 DRAWN BY: KJA3381
 KMS34ROW_DRAWING33.DWG V02

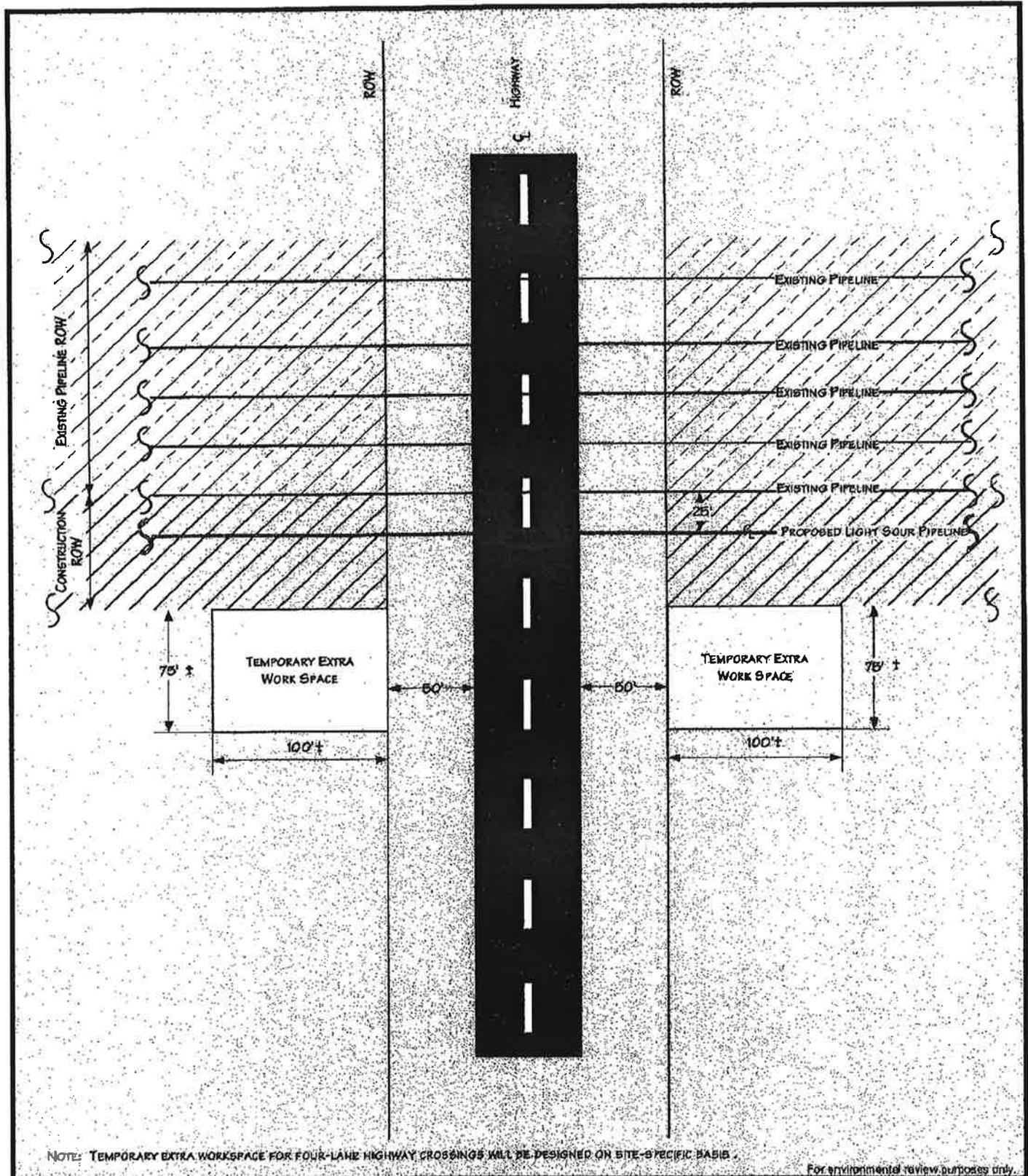


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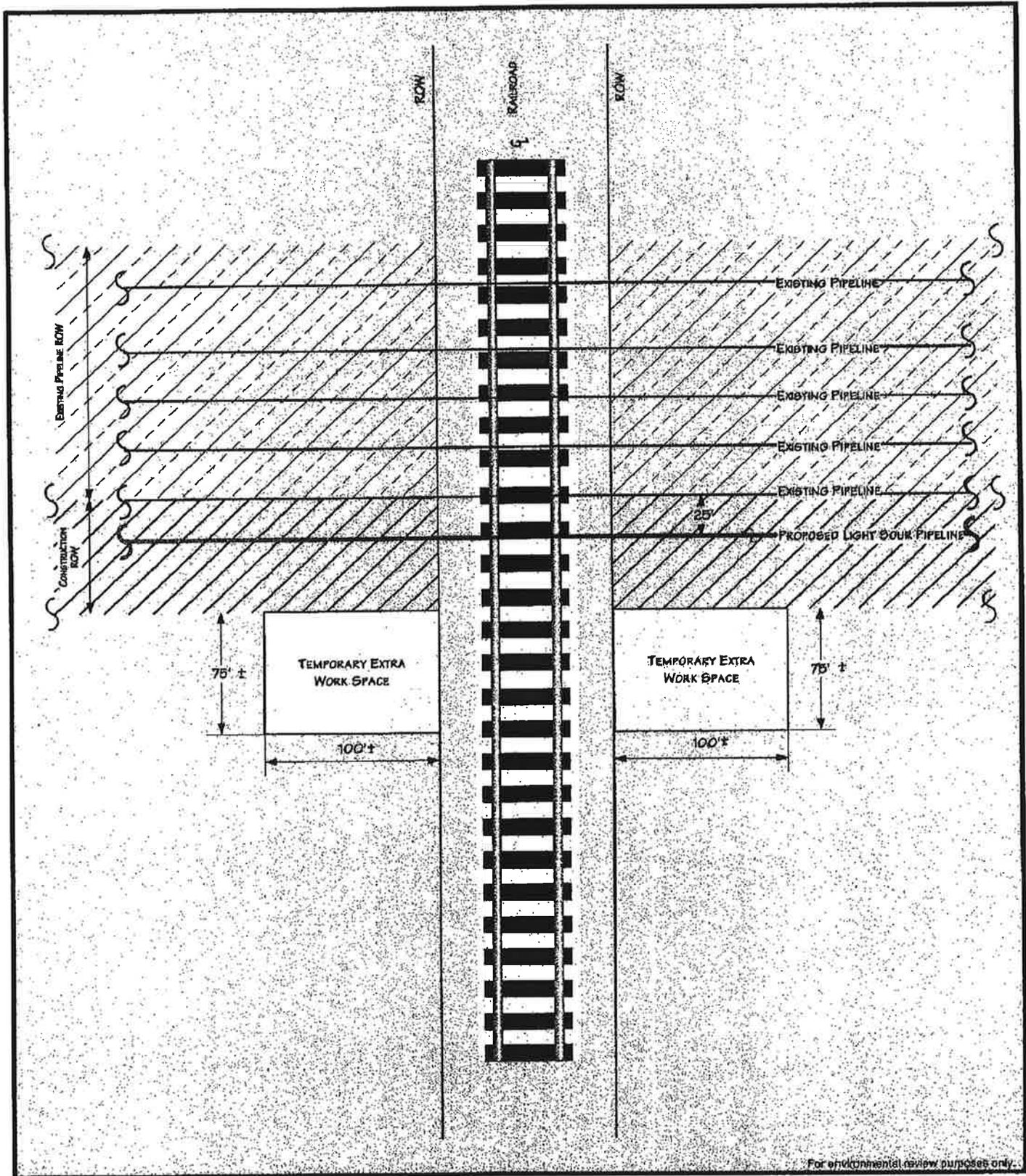
**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Pipeline Crossover**

DATE: 11/2/2005
REVISED: 3/15/2007
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: KJA361
CHECKED BY: [Signature]



**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Bored Highway Crossings**

DATE: 11/2/2005
REVISED: 3/15/2007
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: KJA3367
KJ336707_DRAWSWKS3367.DWG

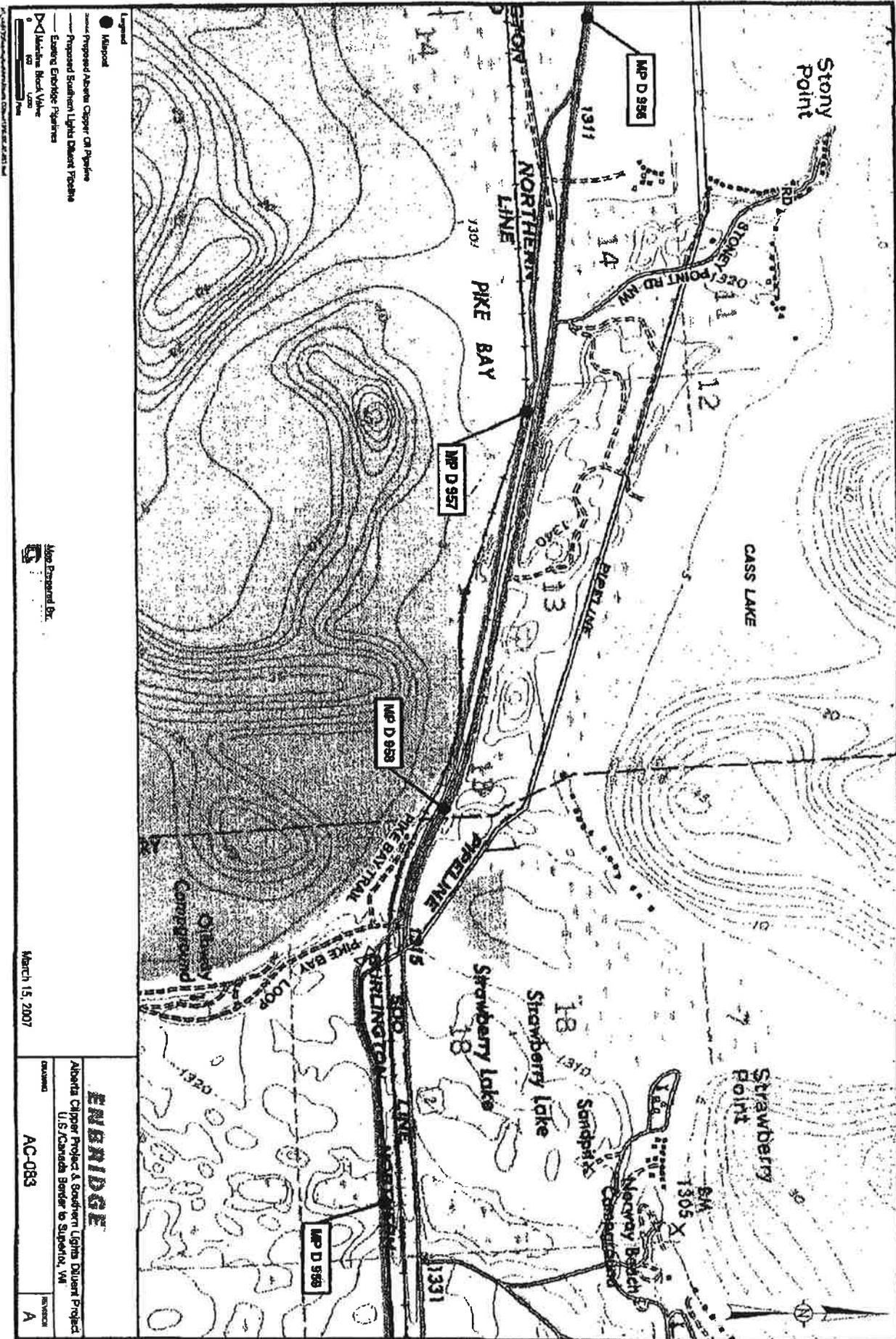


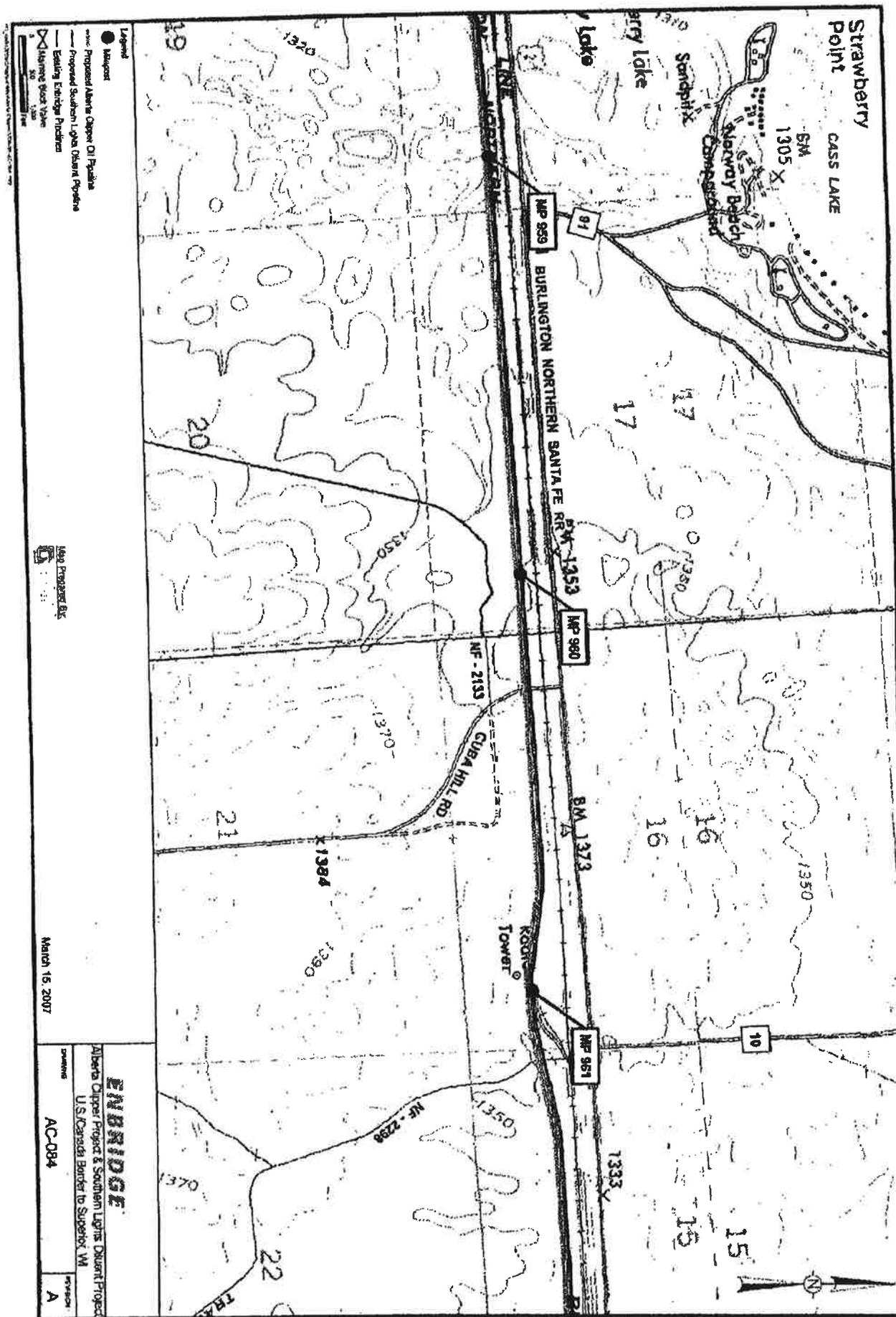
For environmental review purposes only.

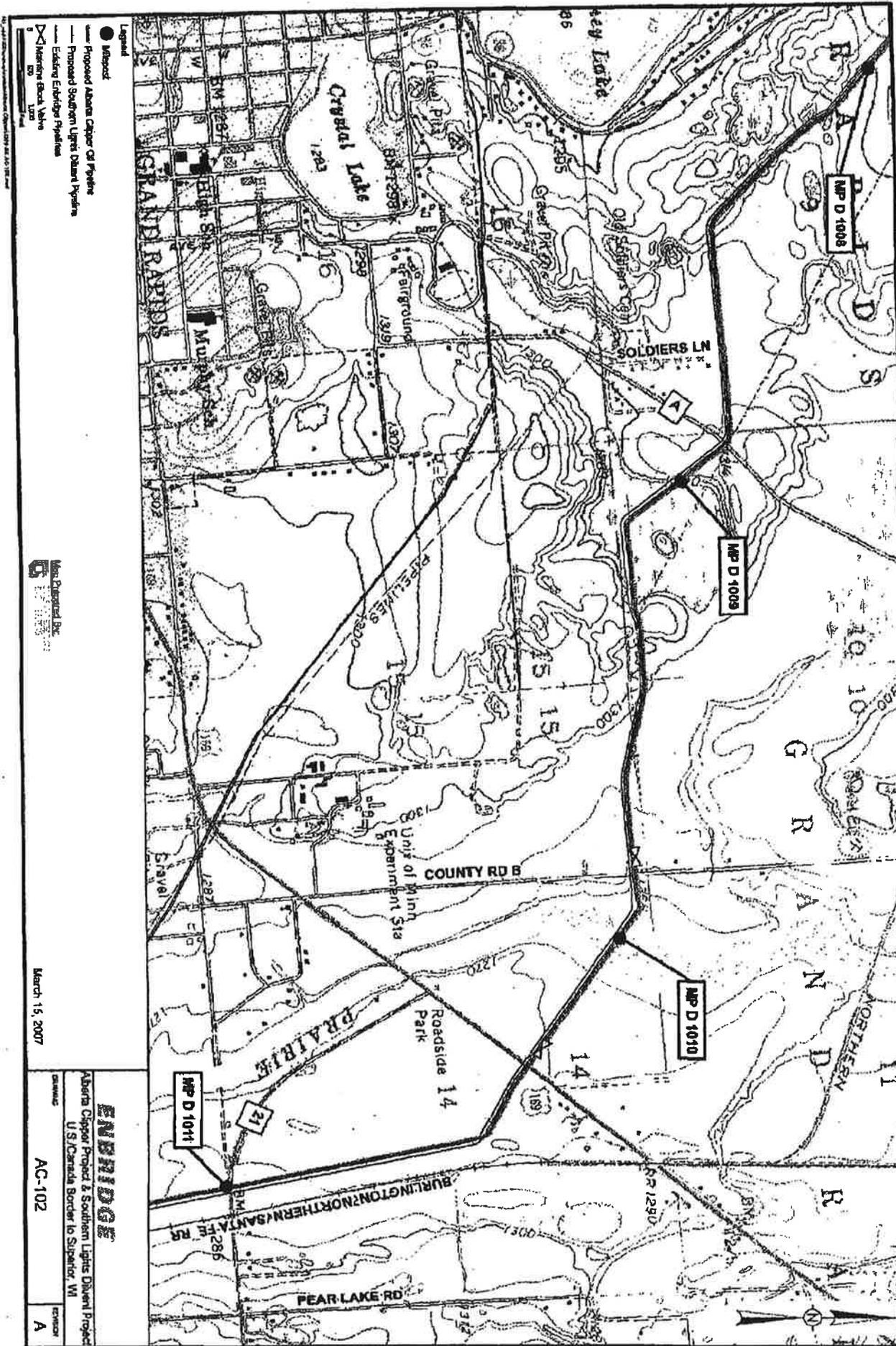


**Typical Temporary Extra Workspace
at Bored Railroad Crossings**

DATE: 11/2/2005
REVISED: 3/15/2007
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: KJA386J
K13290W.DRAWINGS.11.11.05





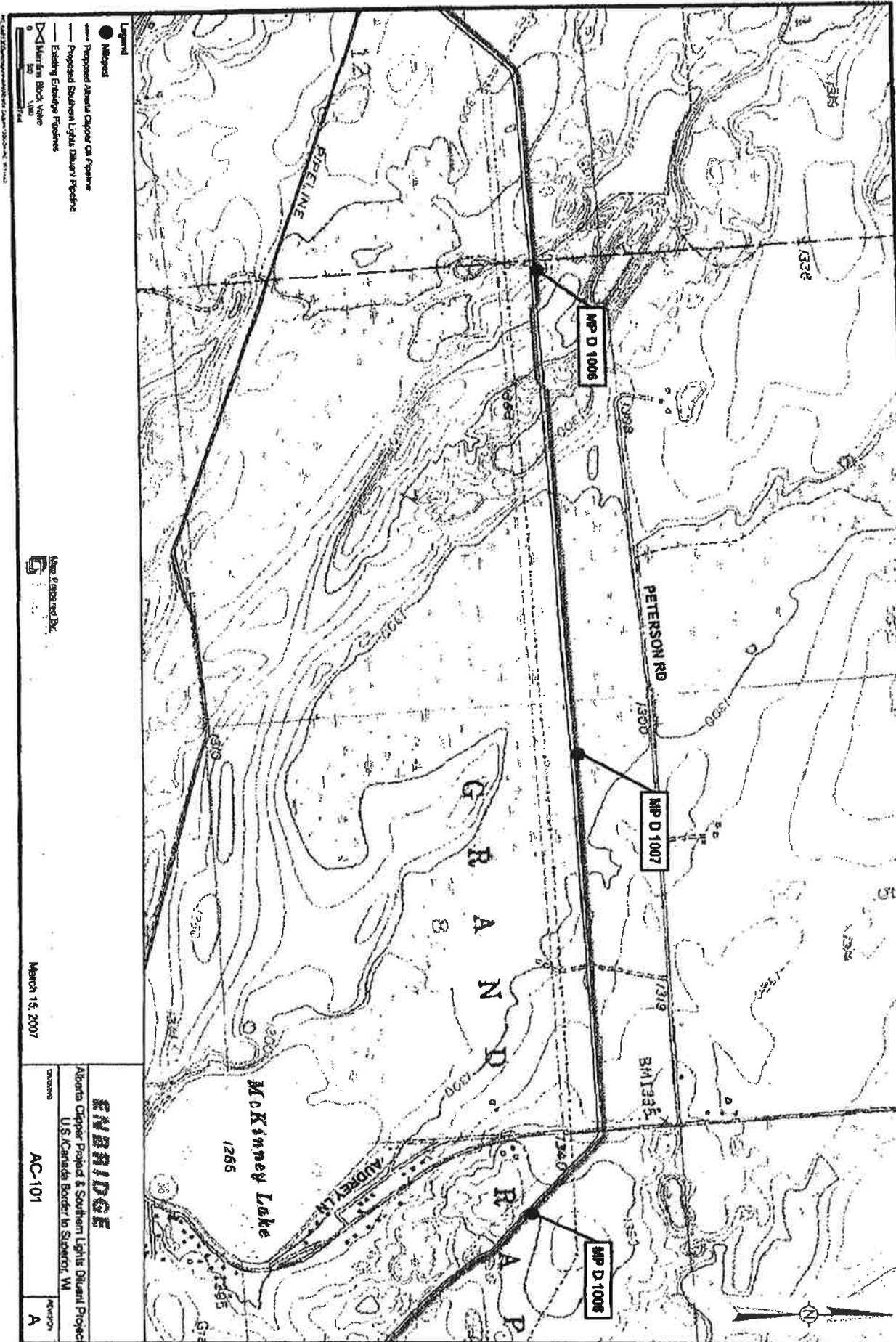


- Legend**
- Meter Station
 - Proposed Alberta Copper Oil Pipeline
 - Proposed Southern Lights District Pipeline
 - Existing Enbridge Pipelines
 - ⊠ Meter Station

Map Prepared By:

March 15, 2007

ENBRIDGE
 Alberta Copper Project & Southern Lights District Project
 U.S./Canada Border to Superior, WI
 Drawing: AC-102
 Revision: A

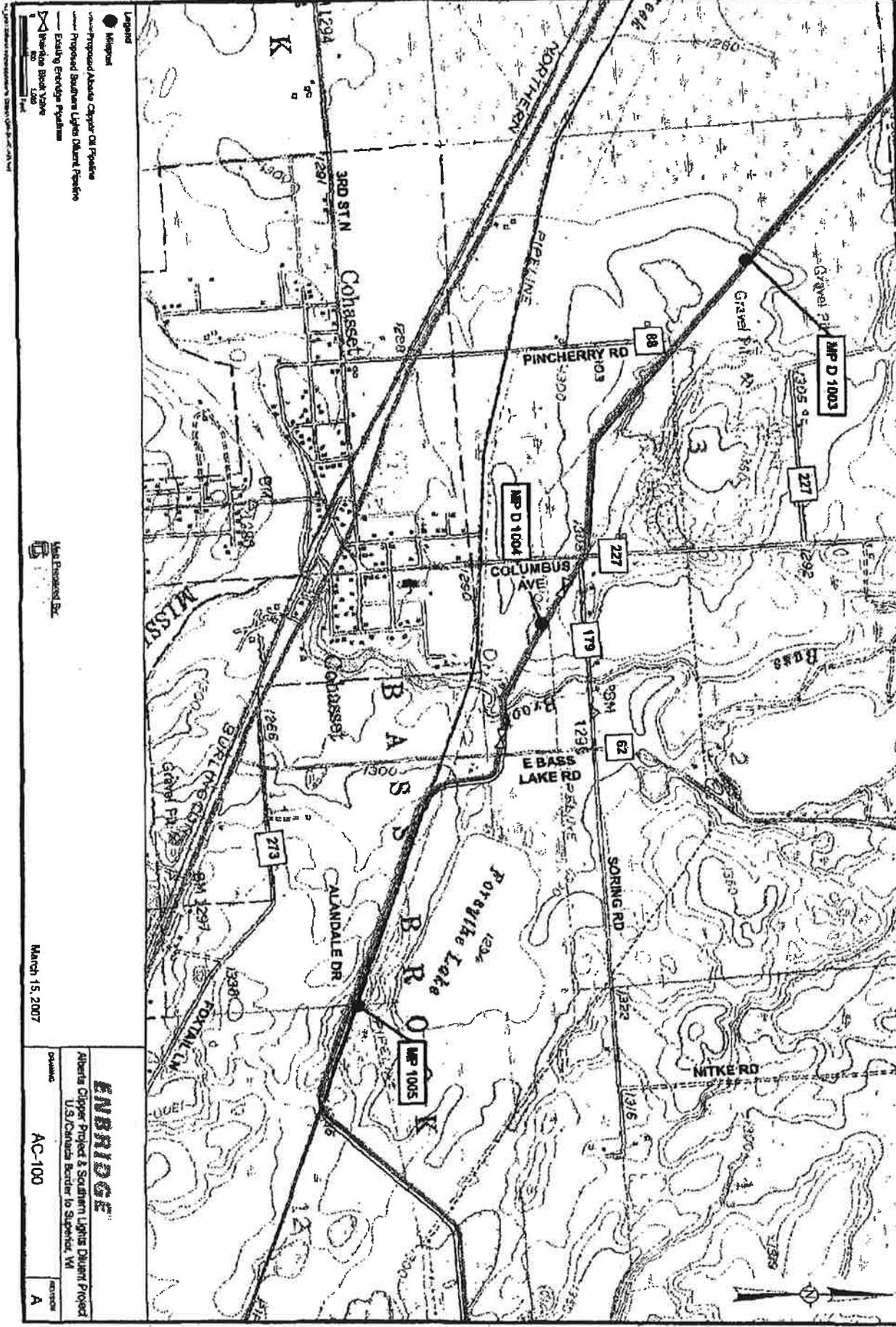


ENBRIDGE
 Alberta Copper Project & Southern Lights Diluent Project
 U.S./Canada Border to Superior, WI

Revision: A

AC-101

March 15, 2007



Map Enclosed In

March 15, 2007

ENBRIDGE
 Alberta Clipper Project & Southern Lights DuPont Project
 U.S./Canada Border to Superior, WI
 Drawn: AC-100
 Revision: A

13-374

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Allen Philo <AllenP@midwesternbioag.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 9:33 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket number 13-474
Attachments: Docket number 13-474.doc

Honorable Commissioners,

Please see the attached letter in regard to the Docket number indicated in the subject line.

Thank you,

Allen Philo

Allen Philo
5686 Griffiths Road
Dodgeville, WI 53533

April 3rd, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

My name is Allen Philo and I am a farmer as well as the Specialty Crop Consultant for Midwestern BioAg, a company that specializes in fertility consulting and soil health. In the past I was also the Field Operations Manager at Gardens of Eagan (GOE), a large organic vegetable farm near Northfield, MN. I mention this particularly as (GOE) also at one time faced the threat of a pipeline cutting through its farmland, but was able to have the pipeline diverted around the property. However, I saw with my own eyes what the pipeline did to the surrounding farmland, and the effects of the pipeline can still be seen to this day on those farms.

The reason for this has to do with how soil biology works, an especially important point in regards to an organic farm as organic farms rely on biology to make nutrients available to the crop. Soil biology lives in a stratified system in the soil as there are different environments in the soil as you move from one horizon to another. When any sort of major soil disturbance, such as digging for a pipeline, is done to the soil this results in an intermixing of layers and destruction of the soil environment. Also, there are very different chemistries between these areas so if the subsoil chemistry is introduced to the surface this can result in an environment that is unsuitable for recolonization by soil biology that would live in the top horizons. This can, and has in cases where it is done such as the pipeline around GOE, result in a great reduction in the productive capacity of the soils, and may even make them completely unsuitable for organic production. In addition to this, it may even result in the loss of organic certification for the farmer, leading to a further reduction in production options for the farmer.

In an area like Northern Minnesota, where optimal farmland for organic production, and optimal farmland in general is at a premium it seems to me that sacrificing this farmland in order for a new pipeline to be developed outside of existing corridors will result in the loss of a valuable asset to this area.

Co-locating the pipeline in question into the corridor of existing pipelines is the

better alternative to the development of a new corridor that will result in the disturbance/destruction of wild ecosystems and sustainable farming systems

In conclusion, I have written this letter to express my professional opinion about the very real damage that can and will occur if this pipeline is allowed to be built. I want to encourage you to listen closely to the farmers who's land is in jeopardy and express my support for their resistance to this pipeline.

Sincerely,

Allen Philo

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Becky Steinhoff <becksteinhoff@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 8:28 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Comment for Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket Number PL-6668/PPL-13-474
Attachments: MN Clearest Lakes Pipeline.pdf; Comment for DocketNo_PL-6668_PPL_13-474.doc

Dear Mr. Hartman and Commissioners,
Attached is my comment and a map I would like you to see.
The map depicts the clearest lakes in Minnesota and Enbridge is proposing to put a pipeline right through them.

Thank you so much for your time,
Rebecca Steinhoff

Minnesota Lakes

A View from Space

ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
IN RED

LOOK
WHERE THE
CLEAREST LAKES
ARE

Census of Water Clarity

Using satellite images taken from space, a statewide census of water clarity – a key indicator of lake water quality – has been created for the first time.

Employing state of the art image analysis technology, the Remote Sensing Laboratory and Water Resources Center at the University of Minnesota have used satellite remote sensing to determine clarity transparency for about 10,500 Minnesota lakes. This satellite-based method enables resource managers to analyze how lake water clarity varies statewide over time. Resource managers are using this information to better target monitoring and management efforts.

Lake Clarity Depth

	Feet	Meters
	less than 1.5	less than 0.5
	1.5-3	0.5-1
	3-6	1-2
	6-12	2-4
	greater than 12	greater than 4

 Ecoregion Boundaries



Rebecca Steinhoff
16141 Chokecherry Dr., Nevis, MN
Wednesday, April 02, 2014

To:

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA)
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket Number PL-6668/PPL:-13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

I am opposed to Enbridge Pipeline LLC's (North Dakota Pipeline Company) proposed southern route for the Sandpiper Pipeline.

I believe there are better alternatives to the proposed pipeline route. The route they want to use is going right through some of the most pristine land and waterways in North America! I realize that there are pipelines already in place, but this one just doesn't feel right. It's much larger and who is to guarantee that when the oil in the Bakken is depleted they won't start moving the tar sands from Alberta through this pipeline? And where, really, is that oil going after the refinery?

I realize that a different route would put it in someone else's backyard, but would there be less of an impact on the environment? There exists GIS software that by putting in point A and point B it would find the best route of least impact on the environment. Also doing a full in-depth Environmental Impact Study should be required. I do not understand why it's not being done.

A leak would be disastrous, not only for the waterways and marsh lands, but for the wildlife inhabiting the proposed path, the wild rice industry the Indians depend on, and our tourism industry to mention just a few! If you've ever fished the lakes up here you would realize what a treasure we have!

The soil here is sandy and porous. If there were a leak it would reach the aquifers that are already compromised by potato growers. The chemicals from the oil pushing through the pipeline are toxic, many are carcinogenic. Please realize that the swiftest way to poison the drinking water would be a leak from the pipeline!

I also wonder why the comment period is so that the summer residents aren't here to voice their opinions and make their comments. A lot of people have no idea what they're trying to push through. Also, the public hearings should be in the evening so those who work can be there too! A public hearing should have also been scheduled for the White Earth Indian Reservation. I believe they have a lot of rights according to treaties that were signed by both our ancestors!

An extension of the comment period would be fair and right, so that all of our residents can get all the information they should be entitled to and a full and complete Environmental Impact Study can be done.

I moved to this area 3 years ago. I fell in love with the beautiful lakes and forests when I was a kid vacationing up here in the "Northwoods". Believe me, there is no better place to be. It would be horrible to have this beautiful country ruined by a pipeline put in by a company with a less than perfect safety record.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Steinhoff

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Karen Gebhardt <kageb1@gvtel.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 8:20 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket numbers 13-473 13-474
Attachments: Public Comment for Sandpiper.docx

Please confirm receipt of the attached Public Comment letter regarding the Sandpiper project.

Karen Anderson Gebhardt
"Achin' Back Acres"
Leonard, MN 56652

K.A. Gebhardt
Achin' Back Acres
43901 253rd Avenue * Leonard, MN 56652
kageb1@gvtel.com

March 31, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Docket Number **13-474** PUBLIC COMMENT

Honorable Commissioners:

We are writing today to state our position on the proposed Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline project. As landowners on the Northern alternate route, with 6 Enbridge pipelines currently running across our land in a wide corridor, we are certainly familiar with the realities of pipeline construction, and the Eminent Domain process, the role of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and the position of Enbridge Energy in this respect.

We are in favor of domestic oil production, as with the Bakken oil reserves, and moving this domestic oil safely to refineries in the U.S. to help America toward greater energy independence.

However, we are not in favor of granting Enbridge Energy (or NDPC or any other of their named subsidiary companies) the Routing Permit for this project. It is our experience that Enbridge Energy has already demonstrated an inability to comply with MNPUC permitting rules; they have questionable authority in requesting use of Minnesota's Eminent Domain process for the taking of private property; and we question why a foreign company is given the rights to this project when it will mean the transfer of tremendous profits out of the U.S. to Canada, when there are American companies that can do this.

1.) Eminent Domain Authority:

Since Mark Curwin, of Enbridge, confirmed (in the Clearbrook, MN information meeting on March 4, 2014) that they move Canadian oil through Clearbrook, MN, then across to Superior, WI, *then back up to Canada*—how does Enbridge justify that this project has a “public benefit” to Minnesotans in which eminent domain is used to take private property? Certainly there is an obvious benefit to *Canadians* who can access their own oil without trampling the rights of private *Canadian* land owners to get it. But what justifies their taking of private property in the state of Minnesota or elsewhere in the U.S.? Are

there any restrictions in place to prohibit the international sales of this oil, when it is transported through private lands?

Additionally, because Enbridge is a “for profit” foreign company, trading on the NYSE as EEP, rather than a non-profit utility cooperative, for example, we do not understand how their profit-making is construed to mean a *public use or purpose* to Minnesotans.

Section 1. [117.012] PREEMPTION; PUBLIC USE OR PURPOSE.

Subd. 2. Requirement of public use or public purpose. Eminent domain may only be used for a public use or public purpose.

Does the phrase “public purpose” include *profits for foreign commercial industries*?

2.) Enforcement of MNPUC Routing Permit Rules

Also, as confirmed by Larry Hartmann, of the MNPUC at the March 4th informational meeting in Clearbrook, MN, was the fact that the extensive list of Rules & Regulations incorporated in the Pipeline Routing Permit are not enforced, and are in fact...not enforceable.

This means that Enbridge’s detailed “Agricultural Mitigation Plan” and “Environmental Mitigation Plan” are merely lengthy suggestions, or “guides” at best. The use of these guides by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission does NOT provide for any enforcement.

As confirmed by the MNPUC, there is no policy in place for enforcement, and there is no procedure in writing to force Enbridge into compliance with these plans. There has never been an independent agency charged with enforcement or oversight of these rules. In effect, this means that all of the so-called “Rules and Regulations” of construction and post-construction repairs would have more value as a coloring book for toddlers.

Landowners need to understand that they should have no expectation of Enbridge’s compliance with these rules, nor any support from the Public Utilities Commission in requiring Enbridge’s compliance with the terms of their own Routing Permit. There are no Fines; there are no Fees; there is no intervention on the project; no injunction from local law enforcement. *There are no consequences whatsoever when Enbridge disobeys the MNPUC Routing Permit “rules.”*

In our previous experiences with Enbridge construction projects, they will choose *expedience* and *budget* over the written “rules and requirements” of the permit. Without any policy in place to guarantee that Enbridge is required to obey these written terms, there is simply no incentive for them to comply.

Enbridge will readily comply with various rules and regulations set up by other state agencies, such as the DNR, or the MPCA, for instance. In fact, Enbridge has used our land outside of the ROW, without our permission, rather than risk a conflict with DNR rules, because the DNR will enforce their rules in or near public waters, and apparently has the power to take action against them.

There is, however, no person or agency in place to police Enbridge on their abuses of private landowners. Any landowner complaints to the MNPUC against the pipeline are referred directly back to Enbridge for their handling. This is something akin to calling the

Police to report a home invasion, and being told you are supposed to “work it out with the burglar.”

In past projects across our land, Enbridge has been required to pay an “Independent Monitor” to evaluate their compliance with construction and post-construction remediation processes. This Independent Monitor also has no authority to change anything that Enbridge does—only to report on it.

Additionally, any independent monitor is aware of who signs their paychecks (Enbridge) so we question whether true *independence* can be guaranteed. Enbridge is also required to pay a fee to each county for a local “inspector” in each county of construction. These “inspectors” appear to have less authority than the independent monitors, and also are unable to do anything to address landowner complaints against Enbridge.

To summarize, the MNPUC is responsible for making the rules—but no agency or individual is in charge of enforcing them.

3.) Legal Redress Fund

In Clearwater County, (ranked as the poorest county in the state) as well as many other northern Minnesota counties, there are landowners who simply do not have the financial means to legally defend their own land and financial interests against a multi-national behemoth like Enbridge. Enbridge has scores of attorneys working for them, and they have demonstrated their willingness to employ these attorneys to simply drag their feet through the court system, rather than address reasonable solutions to landowner complaints. Our best guess regarding two ongoing complaints from the 2009 Alberta Clipper/Southern Lights projects, is that Enbridge has probably spent nearly three times the amount of money on attorney fees than if they had simply put sincere effort into resolving these complaints. Outside of legal circles, this could be called “bullying.”

Regardless of where Enbridge puts the Sandpiper Pipeline, we believe that the MNPUC should require Enbridge—or any other pipeline company-- to set aside an amount of money (for instance, a bond in the amount of \$5,000 per landowner, or \$1,000 per numbered land Tract) that is for use by private land owners to pay for legal expenses in order to sue or mediate for such causes as: breach of contract, non-compliance with either the Agricultural Mitigation Plan or the Environmental Mitigation plan; incomplete restoration of private property to pre-construction condition; unintended construction or restoration damages; significant devaluation of property value or diminished use; and other financial damages that may not be specifically addressed in other documents, nor paid for in pre-construction easement payments.

If the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission can make the claim in their Mission Statement that it “provides a forum for resolving disputes between the public and utilities,” then this would actually provide that forum.

4.) NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard)

It has been interesting to note the many previous public comments from landowners on the Southern alternate route, stating that the pipeline would be much better located on the “northern alternate route” for some of the following paraphrased reasons:

because “that is where they have always gone before...”

because the northern alternate route land is already “debased” by the pipeline...

because it would disturb “those” people on the northern route a lot less than it would disturb us...

because our land is pristine (and apparently there is none of that on the northern alternative route?)

because we have pristine forests and numerous wild mammals on the Southern alternate route (as this is being written from about 20 miles North of the Headwaters of the Mississippi, perhaps we should notify state officials to shut down Itasca State Park, since it apparently doesn’t have any desirable flora and fauna that is only available in Eastern Minnesota?)

because I live on or near an Organic farm. (We also grow Organically on the Northern route.)

because we are on a protected watershed district. (Minnesota is the land of 10,000 lakes. Our farm is surrounded by 4 of these lakes. The entire state is divided into almost 50 watershed districts, and the aquifers move under all of us.)

because we have worked too hard to make this land our home/farm/business/etc. (Ditto for all of us on the Northern Alternate Route.)

because I fear for my safety (Interestingly, of all the people who have expressed their preference to use the northern alternate route, none has yet expressed any fears for the safety of the residents along *that* route...)

As a landowner on the northern alternate route, we can certainly understand why no one desires any industrial project of this scope going through their private property—but we would also like to clarify that the lands on the southern route are unique only to those people who own them and enjoy them. They are not so particularly pristine as to be listed as one of the World Heritage Parks...or Organic in such a sustainable manner that no one else in the state is able to duplicate elsewhere, or that the river(s) or lake waters are so exceptionally clean that this clarity simply doesn’t exist anywhere else in the world.

As farmers on the northern alternate route, we happen to believe that OUR lands are just as valuable, and just as *pristine* and enjoyed every bit as much for their natural resources, clean water, flora and fauna and agricultural bounty as all the lands that are currently being considered for the Southern Alternate route. The only thing that makes any lands unique to each of us is whether *we own it* or someone else does.

Additionally, many of us on the northern alternate route would agree that we have already given up enough land for Enbridge pipelines. There is a 300 foot wide corridor carved diagonally through our farm for their existing 6 pipelines. This swath of land crosses through our tree farm, our alfalfa field, our pastures and our grain fields and runs 250 feet from our homestead. From our perspective, we believe a “freeway-sized” easement for 6 pipelines are more than plenty. In other words...haven’t we given enough yet?

A final response to the many comments regarding a Minnesota policy of “non-proliferation of utility lines.” If we understand the meaning of the Minnesota non-proliferation clause for utilities correctly, it was intended to cluster large utility facilities and routes (specifically, high voltage overhead transmission lines) together along public access roads whenever possible. We don’t believe the intent of this clause was ever to create one *superhighway of petroleum pipelines* across private property—such as we now have on our land.

In conclusion, we believe that Minnesotans can benefit from additional access to domestic petroleum products, but NOT:

- at the expense of private property owners who lose property value, agricultural value, property use and more because of this project

- if eminent domain is used to seize private property for the transportation of Canadian oil across Minnesota and back up to Canada

- if the petroleum products are simply being shipped through Minnesota on their way to other states and other countries simply to profit Canadian industry

- if the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission has no mechanism in place to defend private property owners against violations of the rules of their own Routing Permit

Respectfully submitted,

Keith & Karen Gebhardt
Leonard, MN 56652

March 3, 2014

Kathy and Doug Rasch

43003 191st Ave

Clearbrook, MN 56634

TO:

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager

Energy environmental Review and Analysis

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St Paul, MN 55101

To:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

RE: Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket Number PL-6668/PPL-13-474

Dear Members of the Minnesota Public Utility Commission and Minnesota Department of Commerce,

Hello, we are landowners in Clearwater County along the southern route NDCP(Enbridge) is proposing for their new Sandpiper pipeline. We want to encourage you, the PUC, to evaluate the huge environmental and human impacts of the proposed southern route and consider an alternative route or system to transport the Bakken oil. You know we already have a Minnesota Pipeline Company easement running north to south across our 80 acres. The easement was expanded in 2007. North of our property that expansion cleared all the woodland up to the edge of a good sized wetland. The combined open area now exposed allows west and northwest wind to blow through our farmyard. The NDCP proposal would again increase that open area, cause more drifting, increase our heating bills, make our road more difficult and all in all diminish the livability of our farmyard. This point is a small consideration we know but one side effect among many that many rural Minnesotans would have to endure if this pipeline route permit is given. Adding another pipeline with an entirely separate company right next to the Minnesota Pipeline Company line will also seriously limit landowner's ability to negotiate least impact routes in the future because only one side of each easement could be expanded.

Our objections to the south route are many. To simplify them we will use the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) as a model to illustrate our concerns. Minnesota WCA Rule 8420, Chapter 354 was approved by the MN State legislature in 1991 to regulate construction and other activities to protect the environmental value of wetlands in Minnesota. This is generally considered to be for public benefit. WCA is intended to prevent negative environmental impact, specifically to wetlands, namely "No Net Loss" of wetlands and "avoid direct or indirect impacts from activities that destroy or diminish the quantity, quality, and biological diversity of wetlands". The basic WCA principle is called sequencing. It involves three basic simple steps; avoid, minimize, mitigate, which must be addressed in that order without skipping one step to get to the next. For private landowners it is implemented rather strictly, with little flexibility for construction activities impacting greater than 2,000 – 10,000 sq ft of wetland, depending on specific location and wetland type. NDCP(Enbridge) is a private for-profit company. Shouldn't they be held to the same standards as private citizens?

Back to the three simple steps, the first one being avoidance. Following the shorter Enbridge northern route identified on the attached map and avoiding the southern route will avoid impacts to nearly 700 acres, simply through 48 less miles of pipeline easement. This in itself is a huge reduction in impact. In addition, as the table 2.3.3-1 on page 2-12 of the Sandpiper MN EIR illustrates, the Northern route also crosses less greenfield areas, fewer NWI wetlands (a key factor in the WCA rules), less highly erodible soils, many less acres of prime agricultural land and fewer perennial waterbodies to bore under, all adding up to a marked reduction in environmental impacts by avoiding the southern route. It also means less infrastructure to maintain safely, less miles of pipes to leak and pollute our surface waters, ground water, and soils. While the southern route does apparently cross less State and National forest land, this seems a negligible consideration without any evidence presented of Native Plant Community Inventories, Ecological Assessments or other similar assessments completed to evaluate the quality of the public vs private forest land that would be crossed.

Another option in avoidance is trains. The infrastructure is already in place. Railroad tracks can haul much more than just oil and their safety record (barrel of oil spilled per volume shipped) is better. It is hard to get US data comparing the safety records, but we have Canadian data from Transport Canada that states the rate of spills by rail is .255 spills per cubic meter; by pipeline the rate is .352 spills per cubic meter. A significant difference if that oil is spilled into Minnesota lakes and streams, farmland, forests, and the Upper Mississippi Watershed. This safety record will only improve with Burlington Northern Santa Fe's (BNSF) recent announcement of the purchase of 5,000 new "Next Generation" tanker rail cars, built with safety designs which exceed even recent new safety design standards from 2011, and collaborative efforts between Railroad Companies and NDOT to adopt much stricter safety rules.

In the revised Route Permit Application, section 2.2.3 beginning on page 2-5 discussing the rail option, NDPC states that 2052 rail cars are needed to ship the oil as a pipeline alternative. BNSF's addition of 5,000 new cars will certainly meet that requirement. As for rails consumption of fossil fuels, and its subsequent impact to air quality, no clear comparison of energy used is presented which accounts for Enbridge's daily use, such as the daily airplane patrol of pipeline routes or the fleet of vehicles routinely used in pipeline maintenance. As for disrupted service, pipelines are routinely shut down for "pigging" the lines, checking for weak spots, digging up lines for repair and inspection. Considering Enbridge's spill record of over 800 spills in the last decade, it appears they should spend even more energy and time doing this.

The second step in sequencing is minimizing impact. Under the WCA model this can require private citizens, for public benefit, to modify their planned construction projects to minimize the environmental impacts. Modifications considered to achieve minimizing impacts include taking a shorter route, reducing the footprint of the project, or in some cases, even relocating. In the case of the Sandpiper project, the shorter route is the Northern route. We have already discussed numerous environmental benefits of the northern route. By NDPC's own admission their greatest obstacle with the northern route is tribal land. If NDPC's negotiations with the tribes were as fair as those with the counties, i.e. tax revenues from pipeline, the northern route is still viable. The Minnesota PUC, Department of Commerce or other State agency could help mediate these negotiations?

Environmental impacts could be further minimized by reducing the permanent easement and the temporary work space, which is anything but temporary. In our experience with Minnesota Pipeline Company's last expansion through our property in 2007, they were able to narrow their temporary workspace from 65ft to 45 ft throughout our property. They successfully completed the project within the reduced work space. NDPC wants 70 ft of temporary work space. Why would they need more than the 45 ft Minnesota Pipeline Company needed to complete their line? When Minnesota Pipeline Company expanded adjacent to the easement they already had, they asked for 25 ft additional permanent easement, as they could obviously utilize some of their current easement as work area. NDPC should be able to do the same by following their existing northern easement route. This reduction in easement and work area along the entire pipeline would further minimize environmental impact.

In summary, the greatest avoidance of environmental impact would be to utilize existing railroad infrastructure and not build the pipeline. Recognizing that this is a Routing Permit Application, the best route alternative to reduce environmental impact to prime farmland, greenfield areas, NWI wetlands and permanent water bodies is for NDPC to follow their current easements on the Northern Route.

Of course we understand that WCA does not apply to "public" utilities within the same parameters as it does to private landowners. But it is a model for responsible resource protection. The point is NDPC (Enbridge) shouldn't, as a private company, fall under the umbrage of public utility exception. If we truly want to protect water, wetland, soil, and forest beyond rhetoric, the pipeline, wherever it is built should be built with the greatest effort to protect the environment for all of us. It seems time that government entities like the MN PUC and the Department of Commerce stop being biased and truly help ensure these projects are built with the greatest care. Within that consideration the northern route would be the better choice and we should all work together to make it possible.

Thank you for your time and patience. We would appreciate some feedback from the PUC and Department of Commerce on the concerns and route alternative presented here.

Sincerely,

Doug and Kathy Rasch

43003 191st ave.

Clearbrook, MN 56634

horsehillgdn@gvtel.com

March 3, 2014

Kathy and Doug Rasch

43003 191st Ave

Clearbrook, MN 56634

TO:

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager

Energy environmental Review and Analysis

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St Paul, MN 55101

To:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

RE: Enbridge Pipeline Route, Docket Number PL-6668/PPL-13-474

Dear Members of the Minnesota Public Utility Commission and Minnesota Department of Commerce,

Hello, we are landowners in Clearwater County along the southern route NDCP(Enbridge) is proposing for their new Sandpiper pipeline. We want to encourage you, the PUC, to evaluate the huge environmental and human impacts of the proposed southern route and consider an alternative route or system to transport the Bakken oil. You know we already have a Minnesota Pipeline Company easement running north to south across our 80 acres. The easement was expanded in 2007. North of our property that expansion cleared all the woodland up to the edge of a good sized wetland. The combined open area now exposed allows west and northwest wind to blow through our farmyard. The NDCP proposal would again increase that open area, cause more drifting, increase our heating bills, make our road more difficult and all in all diminish the livability of our farmyard. This point is a small consideration we know but one side effect among many that many rural Minnesotans would have to endure if this pipeline route permit is given. Adding another pipeline with an entirely separate company right next to the Minnesota Pipeline Company line will also seriously limit landowner's ability to negotiate least impact routes in the future because only one side of each easement could be expanded.

Our objections to the south route are many. To simplify them we will use the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) as a model to illustrate our concerns. Minnesota WCA Rule 8420, Chapter 354 was approved by the MN State legislature in 1991 to regulate construction and other activities to protect the environmental value of wetlands in Minnesota. This is generally considered to be for public benefit. WCA is intended to prevent negative environmental impact, specifically to wetlands, namely "No Net Loss" of wetlands and "avoid direct or indirect impacts from activities that destroy or diminish the quantity, quality, and biological diversity of wetlands". The basic WCA principle is called sequencing. It involves three basic simple steps; avoid, minimize, mitigate, which must be addressed in that order without skipping one step to get to the next. For private landowners it is implemented rather strictly, with little flexibility for construction activities impacting greater than 2,000 – 10,000 sq ft of wetland, depending on specific location and wetland type. NDCP(Enbridge) is a private for-profit company. Shouldn't they be held to the same standards as private citizens?

Back to the three simple steps, the first one being avoidance. Following the shorter Enbridge northern route identified on the attached map and avoiding the southern route will avoid impacts to nearly 700 acres, simply through 48 less miles of pipeline easement. This in itself is a huge reduction in impact. In addition, as the table 2.3.3-1 on page 2-12 of the Sandpiper MN EIR illustrates, the Northern route also crosses less greenfield areas, fewer NWI wetlands (a key factor in the WCA rules), less highly erodible soils, many less acres of prime agricultural land and fewer perennial waterbodies to bore under, all adding up to a marked reduction in environmental impacts by avoiding the southern route. It also means less infrastructure to maintain safely, less miles of pipes to leak and pollute our surface waters, ground water, and soils. While the southern route does apparently cross less State and National forest land, this seems a negligible consideration without any evidence presented of Native Plant Community Inventories, Ecological Assessments or other similar assessments completed to evaluate the quality of the public vs private forest land that would be crossed.

Another option in avoidance is trains. The infrastructure is already in place. Railroad tracks can haul much more than just oil and their safety record (barrel of oil spilled per volume shipped) is better. It is hard to get US data comparing the safety records, but we have Canadian data from Transport Canada that states the rate of spills by rail is .255 spills per cubic meter; by pipeline the rate is .352 spills per cubic meter. A significant difference if that oil is spilled into Minnesota lakes and streams, farmland, forests, and the Upper Mississippi Watershed. This safety record will only improve with Burlington Northern Santa Fe's (BNSF) recent announcement of the purchase of 5,000 new "Next Generation" tanker rail cars, built with safety designs which exceed even recent new safety design standards from 2011, and collaborative efforts between Railroad Companies and NDOT to adopt much stricter safety rules.

In the revised Route Permit Application, section 2.2.3 beginning on page 2-5 discussing the rail option, NDPC states that 2052 rail cars are needed to ship the oil as a pipeline alternative. BNSF's addition of 5,000 new cars will certainly meet that requirement. As for rails consumption of fossil fuels, and its subsequent impact to air quality, no clear comparison of energy used is presented which accounts for Enbridge's daily use, such as the daily airplane patrol of pipeline routes or the fleet of vehicles routinely used in pipeline maintenance. As for disrupted service, pipelines are routinely shut down for "pigging" the lines, checking for weak spots, digging up lines for repair and inspection. Considering Enbridge's spill record of over 800 spills in the last decade, it appears they should spend even more energy and time doing this.

The second step in sequencing is minimizing impact. Under the WCA model this can require private citizens, for public benefit, to modify their planned construction projects to minimize the environmental impacts. Modifications considered to achieve minimizing impacts include taking a shorter route, reducing the footprint of the project, or in some cases, even relocating. In the case of the Sandpiper project, the shorter route is the Northern route. We have already discussed numerous environmental benefits of the northern route. By NDPC's own admission their greatest obstacle with the northern route is tribal land. If NDPC's negotiations with the tribes were as fair as those with the counties, i.e. tax revenues from pipeline, the northern route is still viable. The Minnesota PUC, Department of Commerce or other State agency could help mediate these negotiations?

Environmental impacts could be further minimized by reducing the permanent easement and the temporary work space, which is anything but temporary. In our experience with Minnesota Pipeline Company's last expansion through our property in 2007, they were able to narrow their temporary workspace from 65ft to 45 ft throughout our property. They successfully completed the project within the reduced work space. NDPC wants 70 ft of temporary work space. Why would they need more than the 45 ft Minnesota Pipeline Company needed to complete their line? When Minnesota Pipeline Company expanded adjacent to the easement they already had, they asked for 25 ft additional permanent easement, as they could obviously utilize some of their current easement as work area. NDPC should be able to do the same by following their existing northern easement route. This reduction in easement and work area along the entire pipeline would further minimize environmental impact.

In summary, the greatest avoidance of environmental impact would be to utilize existing railroad infrastructure and not build the pipeline. Recognizing that this is a Routing Permit Application, the best route alternative to reduce environmental impact to prime farmland, greenfield areas, NWI wetlands and permanent water bodies is for NDPC to follow their current easements on the Northern Route.

Of course we understand that WCA does not apply to "public" utilities within the same parameters as it does to private landowners. But it is a model for responsible resource protection. The point is NDPC (Enbridge) shouldn't, as a private company, fall under the umbrage of public utility exception. If we truly want to protect water, wetland, soil, and forest beyond rhetoric, the pipeline, wherever it is built should be built with the greatest effort to protect the environment for all of us. It seems time that government entities like the MN PUC and the Department of Commerce stop being biased and truly help ensure these projects are built with the greatest care. Within that consideration the northern route would be the better choice and we should all work together to make it possible.

Thank you for your time and patience. We would appreciate some feedback from the PUC and Department of Commerce on the concerns and route alternative presented here.

Sincerely,

Doug and Kathy Rasch

43003 191st ave.

Clearbrook, MN 56634

horsehillgdn@gvtel.com



Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: R Vavrosky <use.wear.make.do@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 7:51 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket 13-474
Attachments: Solomon Spectrum Farm Doc..docx; Zoe's Spectrum Farm Doc..docx

Please accept and post the attached two comments on the 13-474 docket.

Thank you.

SPECTRUM FARM

Solomon Parks
10241 McCamus Road
Brookston, MN 55711

4/2/14

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

I do not think that a pipeline should be put through Spectrum Farm. The space required for the pipelines to go through would damage the trees, soil, and the ecosystem. With the pipeline, there are occasional leaks/spills, so, the Farm could lose their organic certification. It would be hard for them to get it back. It would be best to avoid organic farms, and other agricultural land, when putting in a new pipeline.

It would be best to follow existing crude oil pipelines, to minimize damage to land and farms. We do not want to damage the small amount of farmland that we have in North Minnesota.

Thank you for taking time to read and consider this.

Sincerely,

Solomon Parks

Zoe Parks
10241 McCamus Rd.
Brookston, MN 55711

4/2/14

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Docket number 13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

Northern Minnesotan farmland is very precious, and many farmers work hard to nurture and preserve their land. Putting pipelines through these farms destroys forests, because large sections of trees are cut down, which fragments the forests. Also, when the pipeline is put through an agricultural field, often the restoration process is not performed properly, and the valuable topsoil doesn't end up on top. Instead, boulders cover the field, making it impossible to be cultivated.

Organic farms are at risk from the pipelines. They often lose their organic certification on hay, maple syrup, etc. Also, oil leaks could destroy soil, and the soil may suffer ecosystem damage. Whenever it is possible, the pipeline routes should avoid these organic farms.

Co-locating the new pipeline in the existing corridor minimizes the damage to farms and the environment. The land around the existing corridor is already disturbed, and the forests that it goes through are already fragmented. It is better to disturb and fragment the land in as few places as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. I deeply appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Zoe Parks

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lynn Sue Mizner <lynnsuem@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 5:34 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474
Attachments: wetzel letter.jpg

Attached please find a scanned image of a letter in support of an alternate route from one of my former interns, Katharine Wetzel.

--

Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.
Palisade MN 56469
(218) 232-4189

www.chengwatanafarm.com

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lynn Sue Mizner <lynnsuem@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 5:32 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474
Attachments: Penny Letter.docx

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Tracy Smetana 121 7th Place E., Suite 350 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us

Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474

Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)

Dear Ms Smetana,

I am writing to urge the MNPUC to deny the Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline route request. Enbridge has a shorter and more direct route to the Superior in place. Any expansion in capacity, if allowed, should follow the existing route. The "southern route" crosses prime farm and grazing land including an organic farm that I patronize, Chengwatana Farm in Palisade, MN.

Regardless of the Commission's viewpoint on climate change, preservation of arable land and water resources should be a priority for all public serving bodies. All predictions, with or without warming, point to increasing food and water shortages across the word. Oil pipelines are incompatible with both.

The rate of safety-related incidents on federally regulated pipelines in Canada doubled over the last decade, while the rate of reported spills and leaks was up threefold, according Reuters. The total number of incidents, everything from spills to fires, swelled from 45 in 2000 to 142 in 2011, CBC reported October 28, 2013 citing data from the National Energy Board (NEB) obtained through access-to-information requests.

Please note: 2013: A massive Tesoro Corp pipeline spill destroyed 7.3 acres of farmland in North Dakota. 2013: Exxon's Mayflower pipeline spilled 7,000 barrels in suburban Mayflower, Arkansas, forcing resident from homes. 2012: Enbridge Athabasca pipeline dumped 1400 barrels in the Peace River in Northeast Alberta. 2012: Plains Midstream Canada pipeline dumped 126,000 gallons into the Red Deer River in Alberta which then fouled the Gleniffer Reservoir, a main drinking water source for the region. 2011: Exxon pipeline beneath Montana's Yellowstone River released 63,000 gallons of oil into the river. 2010: Enbridge's Michigan pipeline spilled 20,000 barrels of crude into the Kalmazoo River. 2010 & 2009: Enbridge was fined for illegal discharges into wetlands and rivers in Minnesota. 2010: Chevron pipeline rupture and spills up to 21,000 gallons in to a creek in Utah.

Chengwatana Farm is in located in the flood plain of the Willow River. Chengwatana farm produces organically and sustainable grown produce, meat, and valued-added products. Demand for sustainable organic products is growing and serves to increase food security. It takes many years to produce an organic farm: farmers much clear their land of accumulated pesticides and rebuild the soil. Compaction of the soil by machinery, pipelines, and related infrastructure and equipment damages soil structure, killing the life and productivity of this carefully tended soil. As was evidenced in North Dakota, it takes only hours to destroy something that a family has spent years building. The biological diversity of this wetland-rich area of Aitkin County will be irreparably changed by this development. The history of the oil industry speaks for itself: spills are inevitable and not taken seriously.

Please deny the proposal and consider other alternatives that do not threaten critical food and water supplies.

Sincerely,

Christine Penney 9305
Congdon Blvd Duluth,
MN 55804

--
Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.
Palisade MN 56469
(218) 232-4189

www.chengwatanafarm.com

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Tracy Smetana 121 7th Place E., Suite 350 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us

Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474

Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)

Dear Ms Smetana,

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Please deny the proposal and consider other alternatives that do not threaten critical food and water supplies.

Sincerely,

Christine Penney 9305
Congdon Blvd Duluth, MN
55804

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lynn Sue Mizner <lynnsuem@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 5:29 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474
Attachments: johnson letter.docx

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Tracy Smetana

121 7th Place E., Suite 350

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us
Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474

Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)

Dear Ms Smetana,

I am writing on behalf of Lynn Sue Mizner, and Chengwatana Farm in Palisade, Minnesota. Chengwatana Farm is on the proposed “southern route” for the Sandpiper pipeline. Chengwatana Farm is located in the flood plain of the Willow River. Lynn farms organically to provide clean, healthy food to her community. She has devoted her life to sustainable natural resource management and farming, and has invested countless hours and resources in the improvement of the soil, water, pastures, and croplands of Chengwatana Farm. She raises a rare breed of sheep for conservation purposes, as well as grassfed lamb, beef, and poultry; and vegetables for sale to the surrounding community.

My family enjoys healthy lamb, poultry, eggs, and vegetables from Lynn’s farm. We value the opportunity to be part of this sustainable organic business that is working to increase the food security of our community and region. This proposed pipeline will without a doubt cause long-term harm to the soil and immediate surrounding wetlands, ponds, streams, and other ecological resources of Chengwatana Farm. I doubt this damage could be remedied for practical purposes.

The damage could include disruption and damage to soil structure and soil biology. The whole premise of organic farming is based upon the health of the soil’s biology. Compaction of the soil by machinery, pipelines, and related infrastructure and equipment will damage soil structure, killing the life and productivity of this carefully tended soil. Damage will include contamination of land by various materials involved in the installation and operation of the pipeline. The soil where this pipeline traverses Aitkin County farmland will be

contaminated; by the equipment used to install the pipeline and its support infrastructure, and/or by leaks in the pipeline. *History shows that the only question is when leaks will occur, not whether they will.*

The biological diversity of this wetland-rich area of Aitkin County will be irreparably changed by this development. Pastures, wetlands, ponds, and streams will suffer. Minnesota Statute 116D.02 subdivision 2 states that it is the State's responsibility to

“(10) preserve important existing natural habitats of rare and endangered species of plants, wildlife, and fish, and provide for the wise use of our remaining areas of natural habitation, including necessary protective measures where appropriate; and

(18) prohibit, where appropriate, flood plain development in urban and rural areas.”

Please do not allow this pipeline to cross Chengwatana Farm when viable alternatives exist.

Sincerely,

Craig and Jessica Johnson

43410 308th Pl., Palisade MN 56469

--

Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.
Palisade MN 56469
(218) 232-4189

www.chengwatanafarm.com

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Tracy Smetana
121 7th Place E., Suite 350
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us
Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474
Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)

Dear Ms Smetana,

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(18) prohibit, where appropriate, flood plain development in urban and rural areas."

Please do not allow this pipeline to cross Chengwatana Farm when viable alternatives exist.

Sincerely,

Craig and Jessica Johnson
43410 308th Pl., Palisade MN 56469

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lynn Sue Mizner <lynnsuem@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 5:24 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474
Attachments: Ellering letter.docx

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Tracy Smetana
121 7th Place E., Suite 350
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us

Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474

Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)

Dear Ms. Smetana,

I am writing on behalf of Lynn Sue Mizner, and Chengwatana Farm in Palisade, Minnesota. Chengwatana Farm is on the proposed "southern route" for the Sandpiper pipeline. Chengwatana Farm is located in the flood plain of the Willow River. Lynn farms organically to provide clean, healthy food to her community. She has devoted her life to sustainable natural resource management and farming, and has invested countless hours and resources in the improvement of the soil, water, pastures, and croplands of Chengwatana Farm. She raises a rare breed of sheep for conservation purposes, as well as grassfed lamb, beef, and poultry; and vegetables for sale to the surrounding community.

As an organic farming supporter, and natural resources professional, I am concerned about the negative impacts to Chengwatana Farm and other farms like it throughout the region. Of particular concern is the imminent damage to the soil and immediate surrounding wetlands, ponds, streams, and other ecological resources of Chengwatana Farm. I doubt this damage could be remedied for practical purposes.

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(18) prohibit, where appropriate, flood plain development in urban and rural areas."

Please do not allow this pipeline to cross Chengwatana Farm when viable alternatives exist.

Sincerely,
Amber Ellering

1484 Goodrich AVE

Saint Paul, MN 55105

amberellering@gmail.com

--

Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.
Palisade MN 56469
(218) 232-4189

www.chengwatanafarm.com

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Tracy Smetana
121 7th Place E., Suite 350
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us
Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474

Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)

Dear Ms. Smetana,

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Please do not allow this pipeline to cross Chengwatana Farm when viable alternatives exist.

Sincerely,
Amber Ellering
1484 Goodrich AVE
Saint Paul, MN 55105
amberellering@gmail.com

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lynn Sue Mizner <lynnsuem@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 5:19 PM
To: staff, cao (PUC)
Subject: Testimony from March13, 2014 meeting in McGregor
Attachments: Lynn Mizner testimony.docx

Dear Ms Smetana. I gave public testimony at the subject meeting. I didn't realize I could send in my testimony as well. Please include the attached written testimony in the record. Thanks for the great work you have been doing to allow the public to comment.

--
Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.
Palisade MN 56469
(218) 232-4189

www.chengwatanafarm.com

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Tracy Smetana
121 7th Place E., Suite 350
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Re: Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline proposed route(s)
PUC Docket Number 13-474

Dear Ms Smetana,

I am speaking as a farmer whose farm would be cut in half by the proposed Sandpiper pipeline route through Palisade, Minnesota; the proposed "southern route" for the Sandpiper pipeline. Chengwatana Farm is located in the flood plain of the Willow River. I farm organically to provide clean, healthy food to my community. I have devoted my personal and professional life to sustainable natural resource management including farming, and have invested countless hours and resources in the improvement of the soil, water, pastures, and croplands of Chengwatana Farm. I raise Black Welsh Mountain sheep, a breed listed as "threatened" by the Livestock Breeds Conservancy. I raise these rare sheep for conservation purposes, as well as raising crossbred sheep to produce 100% grassfed lamb. I also raise 100% grassfed beef, pastured poultry; and vegetables for sale to the surrounding community. All my farming practices are 100% organic and consistent with the National Organic Program. My farming mission is to educate the next generation of organic farmers and to provide affordable healthy food to members of my community. My holistic management philosophy includes rotational grazing that would be disrupted by the building of a pipeline across my land. The proposed route crosses existing fences, drainage ditches, wetlands, pastures, and tree plantings.

My customers enjoy healthy lamb, poultry, eggs, and vegetables from Chengwatana farm. They value the opportunity to be part of this sustainable organic business that is working to increase the food security of our community and region. This proposed pipeline will without a doubt cause long-term harm to the soil and immediate surrounding wetlands, ponds, streams, and other ecological resources of Chengwatana Farm. I doubt this damage could be remedied for practical purposes. I host interns and volunteers every year in my home. They travel from all over the United States and Europe to learn sustainable living practices and organic growing and livestock husbandry practices. This is a service I provide not only to these young people, but to the future of family farming in the United States.

The damage caused by the bisection of my farm by the proposed pipeline could include disruption and damage to soil structure and soil biology. The whole premise of organic farming is based upon the health of the soil's biology. Compaction of the soil by machinery, pipelines, and related infrastructure and equipment will damage soil structure, killing the life and productivity of this carefully tended soil. Damage will include contamination of land by various materials involved in the installation and operation of the pipeline. The soil where this pipeline traverses Aitkin County farmland will be contaminated; by the equipment used to install the pipeline and its support infrastructure, and/or by leaks in the pipeline. ***History shows that the only question is when leaks will occur, not whether they will. This is supported by reporting from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.***

The biological diversity of this wetland-rich area of Aitkin County will be irreparably changed by this development. Pastures, wetlands, ponds, and streams will suffer. Minnesota Statute 116D.02 subdivision 2 states that it is the State's responsibility to

“(10) preserve important existing natural habitats of rare and endangered species of plants, wildlife, and fish, and provide for the wise use of our remaining areas of natural habitation, including necessary protective measures where appropriate; and

(18) prohibit, where appropriate, flood plain development in urban and rural areas.”

Please do not allow this pipeline to cross Chengwatana Farm when viable alternatives exist.

I propose an alternate route that would veer south and southeast from the intersection of U.S. Highway 169 and CSAH 3 west of Palisade. Enbridge engineers have indicated to me that private landowners on that route would be willing to host a pipeline project because it would not interfere with their use of their land. That is definitely not the case for the Mizner family and Chengwatana farm.

Sincerely,

Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.,
Palisade MN 56469

(218) 232-4189

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lynn Sue Mizner <lynnsuem@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 5:17 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Landowner comments on Sandpiper Route PUC Docket Number PL-6668/PPL-13-474
Attachments: Willow R. Route Alt_2.pdf; Mizner Route comments final.pdf

Attached please find my comments as a PDF file; the map of my preferred route is also attached.

--

Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Pl.
Palisade MN 56469
(218) 232-4189

www.chengwatanafarm.com



O Milepost
 • Willow River Route Alternative
 January 31, 2014 Filed Route
 0 750 1,500 Feet

Figure 6
North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC
Sandpiper Pipeline Project
Willow River Route Alternative

ENBRIDGE

Lynn Sue Mizner
Chengwatana Farm
47513 334th Place, Palisade MN 56469-2264

April 2, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN -55101-2147

Sent VIA Email: PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us
Re: Docket number PL6668/PL-13-474

Dear Mr. Haar,
I farm according to the National Organic Protocol and am working toward organic certification for the 100% grassfed lamb and beef, pastured poultry, free-range eggs, and vegetables that I produce. I am submitting these comments as a farmer whose farm would be cut in half by the proposed Sandpiper pipeline route through Palisade, Minnesota; the proposed "southern route" for the Sandpiper pipeline. Chengwatana Farm is located in the flood plain of the Willow River. Less than 1 mile from my farmhouse, the Willow joins the Mississippi River. People in my town call it "Palisade on the Mississippi". We are very concerned about the effect the proposed pipeline through the farm will have on water quality when the inevitable leaks and spills associated with pipeline construction and operation occur.

I participate in the Conservation Security Program and the Forest Stewardship Council certification program, both of which give recognition to the conservation principles I apply to my farming and forest management activities.

I am going on record as preferring that Enbridge use the existing northern route if they can demonstrate the need for these additional pipelines. If the State of Minnesota determines that an alternative to the northern route is needed, then the attached "Willow River Alternate Route" submitted by Enbridge is the one I prefer. I will demonstrate the reasons why that route is better for my community.

The Applicant believes that the project will have little more than a temporary impact on the productivity of agricultural sites. This may or may not be true for traditional farmers that depend on petroleum based herbicides and fertilizers. The same cannot be said for organic farmers that depend on the inherent soil fertility of their topsoil, and the microorganisms that inhabit the natural soil structures to maintain the fertility. They also depend on the surrounding ecosystem to provide pollinators, and predators that help control pests. These

relationships are forever disrupted when a major project such as ROW construction through their farm destroys that delicate balance. This damage has been well-documented in the MinnCan case (PUC docket #05-2003) from 2006, including in the expert testimony provided by Dr. Deborah Allen in support of the Gardens of Eagan farm.

Since that time, conventional farmers have also started to recognize that the soil health and microbial activity that is essential to provide proper growing conditions in organic systems is also beneficial to their own farming systems. Soil health has also become a major focus of mainstream programs by the USDA, NRCS and University of MN Extension because of its role in making farming systems more resilient to flood, drought, insect damage, and disease suppression. Farmers are encouraged through mainstream ag programs such as the USDA Conservation Security Program to develop long-term crop rotation systems that involve a variety of crop mixes including annuals and perennials. Construction activities cause significant medium-term damage to these crop rotations. Significant long-term damage is also likely since this route will likely be chosen for future pipelines, such as the Line 3 replacement program, and ongoing maintenance and repair operations frequently require periodic construction activity that disrupts the normal course of agricultural activity. For example, a number of farmers along the current mainline route in Wrenshall, Minnesota have had some type of pipeline construction, mitigation, repair, or maintenance activities on their property each year for nearly 10 years. This represents serious disruption to these agricultural systems. Northern Minnesota is in short supply of Class I prime farmland, and any damage to new parcels that have not previously seen pipeline construction should be taken very seriously. Prime and organic farmland are valuable natural resources that must be protected. Damage to these resources cannot be compensated for monetarily, and there is no way to damage it in one place and replace it elsewhere.

Finally, agricultural production, particularly organic farming and particularly in sensitive areas such as northern Minnesota, is heavily reliant on a network of other farmers and supportive institutions, businesses and consumers to be successful. The most successful hubs of organic production are formed when a critical mass of these factors come together to promote each other and the wider goals of food and community. The Brainer/Aitkin/Staples area near my farm is one of those burgeoning hubs of activity, with new farmers supported by a network of existing farmers, retail businesses, non-profits, restaurants and local governments that all value the principles of local food and the community and connection that develops when a critical mass of rural residents is able to make a living from their own land. Because there is limited supply of land suitable to this type of production, this critical mass is endangered by new pipeline proposals, particularly those that seek routes that do not follow existing pipelines. It is not simply the agricultural system that is degraded, but also the social fabric of rural

communities when proposals like that of the applicant are introduced with no regard to the impacts specific to each area and the special qualities of each property.

Integral to my farm management philosophy is the use of holistic management and high-intensity managed rotational grazing to improve the fertility of the soil and reduce the impacts of farming on the landscape. Imagine how inconceivable it is to me to be doing daily pasture rotations of livestock around a swath of denuded land that bisects my pasture with a pipeline corridor. I am surrounded by wild lands, forest and wetlands. Predators of every kind have their homes there. The only way I can successfully raise lambs and poultry on pasture is to maintain Livestock Guardian dogs. These partners in my farm enterprise roam freely around the 200 acres they guard as their territory. They are alert to every intruder from skunks to timber wolves, coyotes, and cougars. Imagine the impact on their ability to successfully guard “their” livestock with the frequent and unannounced intrusion of Enbridge land staff and construction staff to do construction, inspection, and maintenance. I am very much concerned about the safety of my guard dogs as they are likely to try to chase these folks away from their territory during the daytime, which is when they normally rest.

My farm and pastures are made up of several classes of wetland, riparian areas, and wet forest. There are several artesian wells within a mile of my farm, but most people in the area depend on surficial aquifers for water for daily life. These aquifers are underlain by bedrock which would make it difficult to put pipeline in the ground at a depth consistent with best practices. Also, the hydric soils on my farm are extremely sensitive to compaction by even the lightest machinery. Because I have a B.S. degree in aquatic biology, I am more aware of these issues than most people. I can see tracks for years when there is the slightest unwise incursion with machinery or vehicles across my fields. I understand the profound impact this has on drainage and soil biology. This is one of the reasons I follow no-till and holistic and organic practices. The presence of wetlands, ground water, and the river is before me all the time.

My farm is the only farm on the Aitkin County Sandpiper route that produces organic food for the local community. I have worked very hard and invested all my time and resources in Chengwatana Farm to build it into a resource that supplies my family, friends, community, and the broader communities of Aitkin and Crow Wing Counties with healthy, local food products. I am a supplier farmer for the Sprout Food Hub in Brainerd, and participate on a Local Foods Committee that is seeking to get locally produced food into the schools and institutions of Aitkin County. I sincerely ask that you make certain that this pipeline doesn't go through my farm, to the detriment of my community.

Chengwatana Farm also hosts interns and volunteers every year. These people are so hungry for information about sustainable living and organic farming. Many of them go on to find agricultural employment after they have gained some basic skills here. This kind of training is

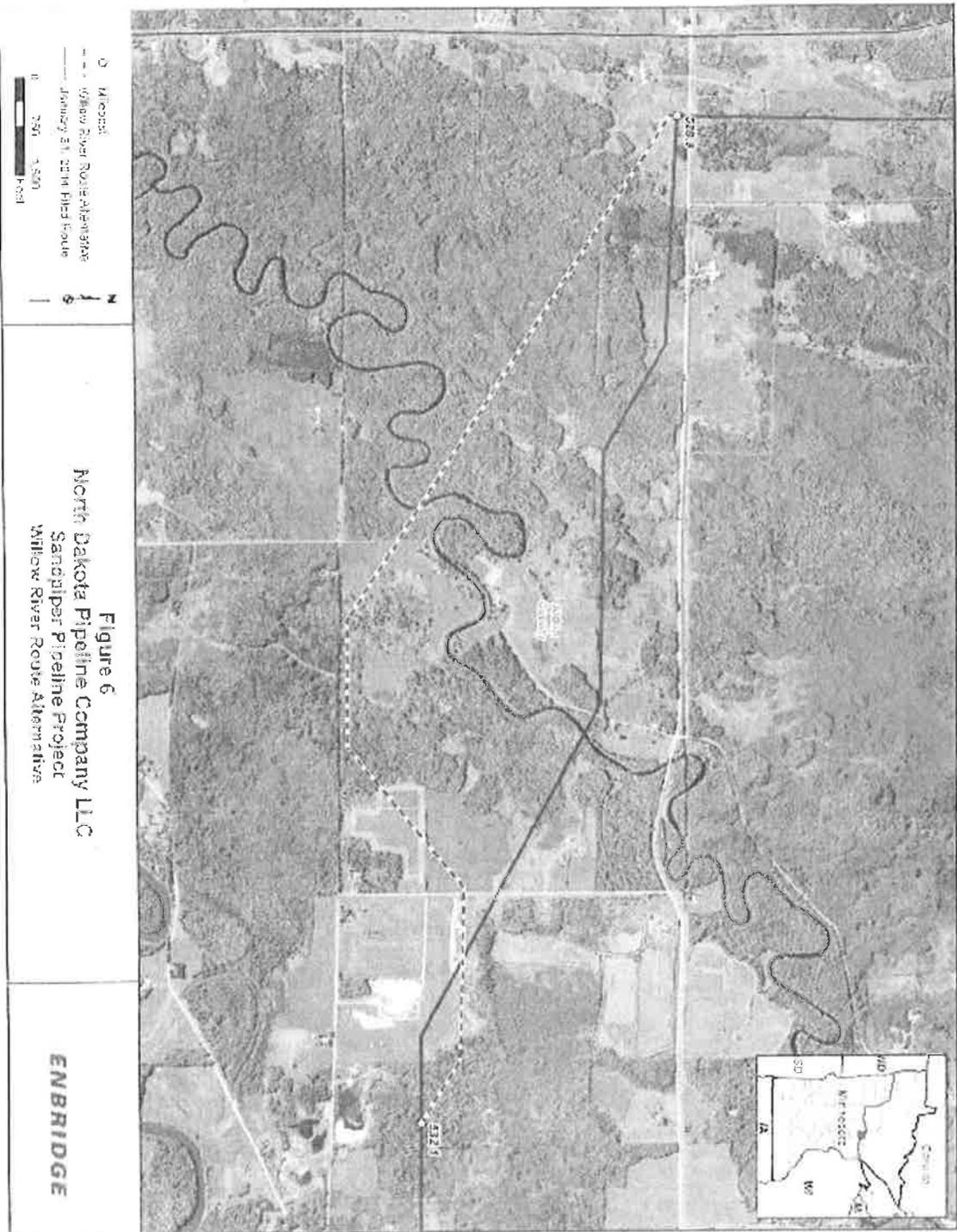
creating skills, knowledge, and disciplines that are transferable to many other jobs, and to healthy lifestyles in general. The loss of this opportunity for local young people would be a loss to our whole community.

The Willow River Alternate Route (pictured below) goes to the west of my farm and would not impact my ability to farm or the integrity of my pastures and tree plantings. All the private landowners along the alternate route have either agreed to sign, or have already signed contracts with Enbridge to allow easements (Barry Simonson, Enbridge major projects engineer, personal communication). The alternate route also avoids the 90-degree turn in the existing Sandpiper proposed route; I understand that this kind of turn in the pipeline predisposes it to problems during operation.

Yours in health,

Lynn Sue Mizner

(Map on next page)



Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Patricia Clure <pclure@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 3:15 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: RE: Docket #13-474
Attachments: April 2 (1).docx

Please add my attached comments to your Docket #13-474.

Thank you.

Patricia Clure

4/2/2014