
From: Barry Babcock [mailto:solaris@paulbunyan.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 11:09 AM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Enbridge Sandpiper pipeline comment

Dear Mr. Hartman;

I will formulate my comments on the Enbridge Sandpiper proposed route in bullet points:

* Although pipeline corridors already exist over the Mississippi River in Mississippi Headwaters State Forest (MHSF) and along a portion of Itasca State Park, the increased risk of a spill with the thirty inch diameter pipe of the Sandpiper greatly exacerbates the chance for spills in this region of the Mississippi. The river crossing near Coffee Pot is in the last remaining wilderness on the river. The upper portion of the Headwaters, in eight counties, is the only remaining river in Minnesota that is eligible for designation in the Federal Wild & Scenic River Act. Further degrading this relatively pristine section with Bakken oil jeopardizes the status of the Mississippi in this federal act. From where the Mississippi leaves Lake Itasca, the first 40 river miles lie entirely within Mississippi Headwaters State Forest.

The Mississippi Headwaters State Forest was established in 1943. Public lands within the Forest Boundary total 30,680 acres of which 8838 acres are state land and 21,843 acres are Beltrami, Clearwater, and Hubbard County lands. The forest contains 95 lakes and ponds. Sixty percent of the land is within 1000 feet of a stream or river. MHSF has highly erodable soils, its proximity to wetlands (60% is within 1000 ft of a river or stream) and also the cultural, historical, economic reasons are all reasons to re-route the pipeline around this last remaining wilderness on the Mississippi. We believe this is not asking too much to protect this special place on Earth. Mississippi Headwaters State Forest contains incredible diversity including plants and animals of threatened, endangered, or special concern. DNR inventory has identified resident Timber Wolves, Trumpeter Swans nests in MHSF (protected specie), Bald Eagle nests, Bog Adders Mouth (endangered specie in Iron Springs Bog in Clearwater County), Hump Bladderwort (rare), Ramshead Orchid (a threatened specie in Hubbard County), and two mussels of concern; the Creek Heel Splitter and Black Sand Shell Mussels. Clustered Burr Reed is a rare specie found here. A geologic feature unique to this area is the LaSalle Tunnel Valley. The prolific wetlands here are home to a plethora of wetland species like the Virginia Rail, which is of special concern and a wide variety of ducks and other waterfowl. Besides the mentioned species of special concern there are several Scientific and Natural Areas of special importance to the region; the Iron Springs SNA and the LaSalle SNA, both of which are geologically unique and contain a number of endangered or threatened species. This region identifies this part of the state, this is Headwaters Country. There was a long struggle by the people of Minnesota to protect this area. Itasca Park and the river are uniquely important to us.

- Wild rice – or Manoomin is a crucial component to N MN. Minnesota has, in acreage terms, the greatest amount of wild rice in the world and it also has the most genetic varieties of rice. Minnesota is the “land where food grows on water.” Manoomin has great importance to Ojibwe people, both within reservations and outside reservations on ceded lands. It is the “staff” of life for them and many whites like myself. Not only does manoomin provide food but excess harvest is sold and provides income for Ojibwe people to buy necessities needed for day-to-day activities. It behooves us to take special stock in this treasure that we have here. We, as a state, should take every precaution necessary to protect this reserve of manoomin as no where else does there

exist rice fields as we have in our state. Not only is manoomin important as food, it is part of an important ecosystem for a plethora of birds, fish, insects, and other plant and animal communities. Spills anywhere in this region will ultimately impact these rice fields. See attachment of map by “Friends of the Headwaters” illustrating the rice fields affected by the Sandpiper.

- I see the need to transport oil by both rail and pipelines but there are too many pipelines already in lake country. The Sandpiper should be re-routed south of lake region. The Interstate corridor of I 94 is a good alternative route. I have attached a map put together by Friends of the Headwaters siting another route that will deviate this oil pipeline away from the sensitive region of clean waters we have remaining in Headwaters Country. The short sighted gain of the route selected by Enbridge jeopardizes too much. The time is coming soon when water will be more valuable than oil.
- Thus far, Enbridge has not come close to demonstrating sufficient means to address impacts or clean-up. Their past record relating to spills is atrocious and negligent. The claims they make about their safety record do not hold water (no pun intended). Of all the Enbridge spills that I am aware of, the Kalamazoo is the worst for not only the quantity of oil that spilled but the deceptiveness, dishonesty and in my opinion, the criminality exhibited by Enbridge. If you have not already seen this video production, here it is; <http://www.mintpressnews.com/whistleblower-exposes-enbridge-coverup/174938/>
- Not only are we jeopardizing our watershed we are also gravely concerned about the explosiveness of the Bakken oil. “The Transporting safety Board of Canada – Engineering laboratory Report – Analysis of Crude Samples” found that the explosion capabilities of Bakken crude are:

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 The flash point obtained for the occurrence crude oil samples was significantly less than 23°C and the IBP determined using the ASTM D86 method ranged from 43.9 to 50.0°C. Consequently, the crude oil samples clearly met the federal regulatory criteria for being classified as a flammable liquid of Class 3, Packing Group II.

4.2 The occurrence crude oil samples gave low density (815.9 to 821.9 kg/m³), low total sulphur (0.096 to 0.117 mass %), low viscosity (2.882 to 3.259 cSt at 20°C), low pour point (<-65°C), low flash point (<-35°C) and high Reid vapour pressure (62.3 to 66.1kPa) results.

4.3 The occurrence crude oil’s properties were consistent with those of a light sweet crude oil, with volatility comparable to that of a condensate or gasoline product.

4.4 There was no indication that the occurrence crude oil's properties had been affected by contamination from fracturing process fluid additives.

4.5 The occurrence crude oil samples were taken at atmospheric pressure. This could lead to an underestimation of the crude oil's volatility due to evaporation loss of very light constituents.

⁶¹ Ibid,

To run such explosive crude through forested regions compounded by dry and fire prone conditions that do frequently occur is risking a catastrophe that should be avoided at all costs.

Oil pipelines should be routed away from lake country in N MN. Keep it away from wild rice regions.

Than you for reading my comments and I hope you will reject the current Sandpiper proposal and route;

Barry W. Babcock 38998

315th Ave

Laporte, MN 56461

218-224-2358

solaris@paulbunyan.net

From: Barry Babcock [mailto:solaris@paulbunyan.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 3:45 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Enbridge Sandpiper pipeline comment

Docket #: PPL-13-474

Dear Mr. Hartman;

I will formulate my comments on the Enbridge Sandpiper proposed route in bullet points:

* Although pipeline corridors already exist over the Mississippi River in Mississippi Headwaters State Forest (MHSF) and along a portion of Itasca State Park, the increased risk of a spill with the thirty inch diameter pipe of the Sandpiper greatly exacerbates the chance for spills in this region of the Mississippi. The river crossing near Coffee Pot is in the last remaining wilderness on the river. The upper portion of the Headwaters, in eight counties, is the only remaining river in Minnesota that is eligible for designation in the Federal Wild & Scenic River Act. Further degrading this relatively pristine section with Bakken oil jeopardizes the status of the Mississippi in this federal act. From where the Mississippi leaves Lake Itasca, the first 40 river miles lie entirely within Mississippi Headwaters State Forest.

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Barry W. Babcock

38998 315th Ave

Laporte, MN 56461

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ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
IN RED

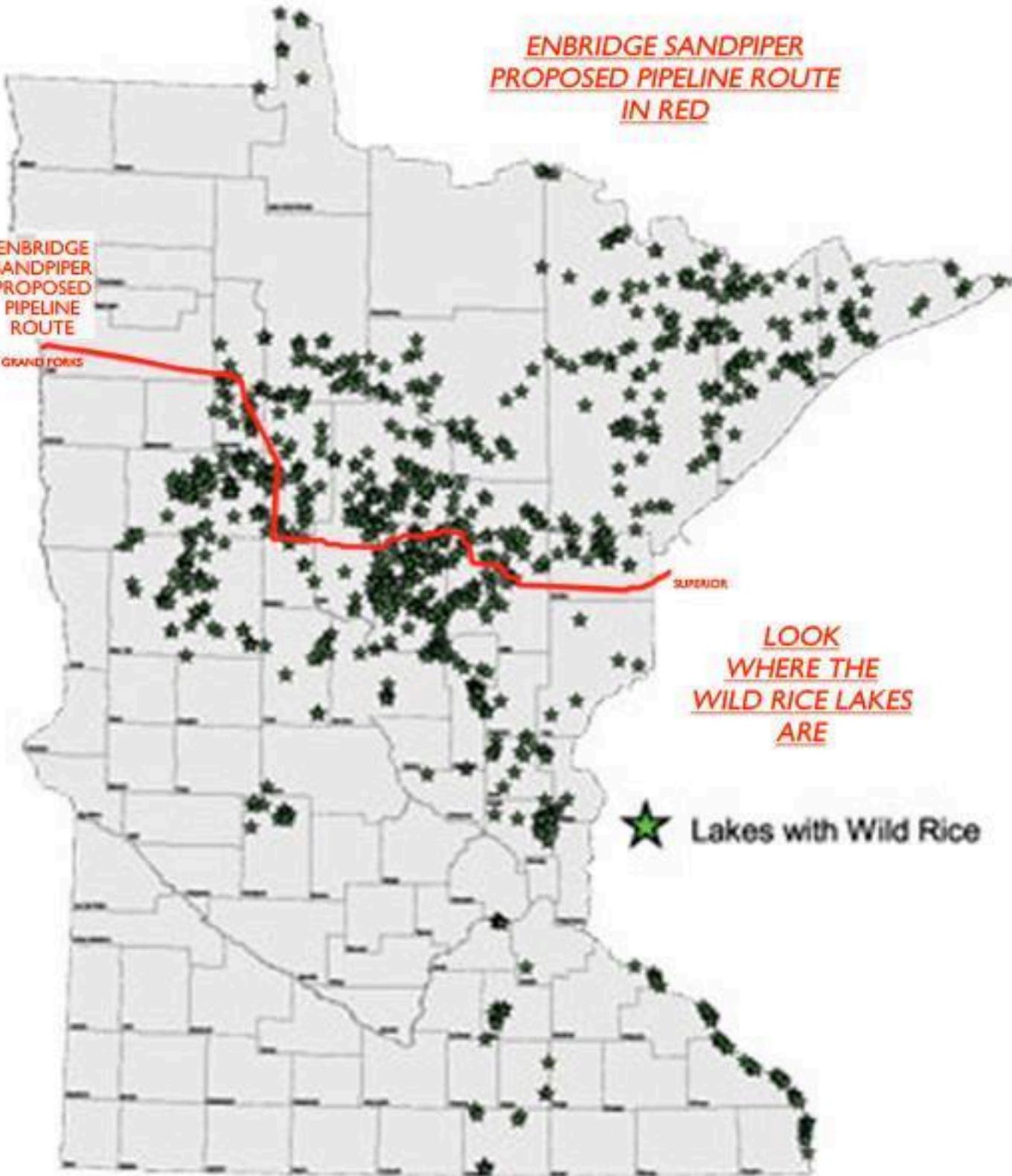
ENBRIDGE
SANDPIPER
PROPOSED
PIPELINE
ROUTE

GRAND FORKS

SUPERIOR

LOOK
WHERE THE
WILD RICE LAKES
ARE

★ Lakes with Wild Rice



Minnesota Lakes

ALTERNATE ROUTE FOR ENBRIDGE/NDPC
SANDPIPER PIPELINE TO AVOID
MINNESOTA LAKE COUNTRY

IN RED

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

FOLLOWS ROUTE OF ENBRIDGE-ALLIANCE
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE CORRIDOR FROM SHERWOOD, ND
ACROSS MINNESOTA, IOWA, ILLINOIS
TO CHICAGO AREA



From: Linda Babcock [mailto:linda_mae1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 2:43 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: RE: Sandpiper Pipeline Comment.

From: linda_mae1@hotmail.com
To: larry.hartman@state.mn.us
Subject: Sandpiper Pipeline Comment.
Date: Wed, 19 Mar 2014 19:36:38 +0000

I am sending my comment on the Sandpiper Pipeline.

We need a PUC Process extension as many people have not been able to hear all the facts about Enbridge and the Sandpiper Line.

As a U.S. citizen I will fight to uphold the Ojibwe (Anishinaabe) 1854, 1855, 1863, and 1889 Treaty Rights that our government made with them, to not do so is breaking our own laws. The safety regulations on Enbridge need to be far stronger than they are now. The question is not if there will be an oil spill, it is when, and the amount of damage it will cause. Any damage is too much damage! Is this the safest route? There are still so many questions to be answered. This whole process is moving way too fast. I do not believe that the importance of our land and water ways, that we all depend on, has really been taken in consideration.
Linda Mae Babcock, Hubbard county.

From: Logan Bailey [mailto:baile324@umn.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 2:13 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Public Comment to PUC on Docket # PLL-13-474

To:
Minnesota Public Utilities
Commission 121 7th Place East,
Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

From:
Logan Bailey
Re: Enbridge 'Sandpiper' Pipeline; Docket # 13-474
Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing to oppose the Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC's proposed southern route for the Sandpiper Pipeline, which create a new pipeline corridor in Minnesota across important environmental and agricultural regions in our state.

I am a resident of Duluth, and a graduate student of water resource science at the University of Minnesota Duluth. I understand full well the threat of pipeline construction and oil spills on our water resources, and as a local would be directly impacted by this pipeline. The ecological and aesthetic health of Lake Superior is heavily dependent on the streams and wetlands in the region - areas that the pipeline would cross. The growing local food economy in Duluth would be threatened by both the construction of the pipeline and by a possible oil spill in Carlton County, which is known as the breadbasket of Northeastern Minnesota. This pipeline poses a similar threat to wild rice lakes in Northern Minnesota threatening the economy and way of life of our ingenious people.

What especially concerns me is what this preferred southern corridor will look like in the future, if this route is approved. At the public hearing in Crookston, MN on March 4th, Enbridge representatives claimed they had no way of predicting if future pipelines would be constructed on the southern route. However, Enbridge's reasoning for not using their existing corridor (known as the "northern route") was due to congestion on this corridor, it is likely that Enbridge would use a newly established southern corridor for any future pipeline projects, as congestion along the northern corridor would remain. This is already coming into fruition: On March 5th (one day after Enbridge representatives stated they had no way to predict any future pipeline projects) Enbridge announced their plan to replace Line 3.

Enbridge spokesman Lorraine Little stated that the new Line 3 pipeline could follow the proposed Sandpiper route from Clearbrook, MN to Superior, WI (reported in the Duluth News Tribune, March 5th 2014).

The criteria for pipeline routing selection is defined by Minnesota Administrative Rule 7852.1900. Subparagraph 3, includes the following:

"In selecting a route for designation and issuance of a pipeline routing permit, the commission shall consider the impact on the pipeline of the following:

...

I. cumulative potential effects of related or anticipated future pipeline construction"

It is required by law that the PUC take into account the cumulative impacts of a pipeline route. It must investigate, or require information from Enbridge, the possibility and likelihood of future pipelines construction along the route and

the resulting impacts. Given Enbridge's reasoning behind the preferred route for the Sandpiper route, and Lorraine Little's comments on possible using this route for the Line 3 replacement, it is extremely likely that future Enbridge pipelines will be constructed along this route, if it is approved.

Line 3 originates from Alberta, Canada, thus it is possible that future pipelines constructed on this route could carry the heavy crude (also known as tar sands) that comes from the Alberta oil sands. This would create additional environmental threats to our waters due to the extreme difficulty in cleaning up tar sands oil spills. The cumulative impacts of approving this route extend beyond the scope of the Sandpiper pipeline. Again, this must be considered when evaluating routing options for the Sandpiper.

The PUC needs to act in the public interest of Minnesotans by eliminating risks to the environment, by supporting our growing local food economy, and by protecting the rights of its indigenous people and its private landowners. It must carefully consider the future consequences of establishing a new pipeline corridor. For these reasons, Enbridge's preferred "southern" route for the Sandpiper pipeline should be rejected by the PUC.

Very truly,
Logan Bailey
305 E 3rd St
Apt 53
Duluth MN 55805

From: Beth Baker-Knuttila [mailto:bbk@unitelc.com]
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 9:22 AM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Comments re: PUC Docket Number PL6668 / PPL-13-474

Dear Mr. Hartman,

Please note my attached comments in regard to the Sandpiper Pipeling Project proposed by Enbridge Pipeline Co, and North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC. I have also attached maps to illustrate points made in my letter. I have asked that you please acknowledge receipt of my letter. I may also send copy by mail to insure its receipt.

I plan to also send this same information to Governor Dayton. Thank you for consideration of my concerns regarding this pipeline.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Baker-Knuttila
Park Rapids, Minnesota

April 3, 2014

Elizabeth Baker-Knuttila
12029 Far Portage Drive
Park Rapids, Minnesota 56470

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

Re: Enbridge Pipeline Route, (North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC) Docket #
PL6668/PPL-13-474

Dear Mr. Hartman & Honorable Commissioners:

I am a resident of Hubbard County living on Portage Lake, a lake which is very near the proposed route of the Sandpiper Pipeline. Indeed, I am grateful to have lived for the past 36 years in this beautiful lake & forest covered area of Northern Minnesota. This proposed pipeline threatens the fragile ecosystems that my children were able to enjoy growing up, those that I want to be here for my grandchildren, their children and down through the coming generations. Because of this and other concerns outlined below, ***I am vehemently opposed to the present proposed route for the Sandpiper Pipeline.***

I have seen many changes in this area in the years that I have lived here. The beautiful lakes and rivers have made this area a wonderful destination for tourists who visit the many resorts, cabins, campgrounds and hotels & motels in the area. Many of those people who vacationed here as children, or who as parents brought their children here, have now retired in this area. We continue to draw large numbers of tourists/outdoorsmen every season, and this community bulges in the summer time. These seasonal residents and retirees have added much to our communities. We have a thriving arts culture in the area; plays, musical events, art fairs, and galleries are now a part of our small town. Restaurants that are closed over the winter open for the summer season and employ our youth and many adults.

This tourism industry brings money to our area, to the tune of \$29,995,194* in gross sales per season.

What would an unintentional release do to that tourism economy? Our lakes, wetlands and rivers are linked to one another. A spill in one area has the potential to contaminate many water bodies.

E. economies within the route, including agricultural, commercial or industrial, forestry, recreational, and mining operations;

I found it very interesting that in the Enbridge application for need and routing date November 2013, in the table on existing socioeconomic conditions in the Sandpiper Pipeline project area (Table 3.1-1, page 3 of the Minnesota Environmental Information Report), the major employment industries for Hubbard County, did not mention tourism. It in fact listed only Education, health, social services, retail trade and manufacturing. That is a glaring omission in my mind. In researching tourism in this area, I was able to find statistics for 2011 prepared for Explore Minnesota Tourism by the Tax and Research Division of the Minnesota Department of Revenue. This report showed that the total tax from all of the following tourism industries in Hubbard County was \$1,964,231 for the year 2011. (Those industries are; Performing Arts, Spectator sports, Amusement, Gambling and recreation, Accommodations, food services and drinking places, Leisure and hospitality as well as a category labeled "other".) As of 2011 there were 63 resorts in Hubbard County. Those 63 resorts had gross sales of \$6,585,653 with taxable sales of \$6,001,819 and total tax revenue of \$417,395.

B. the natural environment, public and designated lands, including but not limited to natural areas, wildlife habitat, water, and recreational lands:

The Park Rapids area contains the oldest (established in 1891) and most revered State Park in all of Minnesota, Itasca State Park. Itasca was also one of the first state parks in the nation. This park contains the lake that is the source of the Mississippi River, Lake Itasca. Itasca State Park alone has over 550,599 annual visits. (Minnesota DNR webpage on Itasca St. Park)

***2011 Annual Minnesota Sales Tax Statistics for the Leisure and Hospitality Industry, Minnesota Total, Tourism Regions, and Counties, Minnesota Department of Revenue.** It is one of the most famous Natural and Cultural Landmarks in North America. Itasca State Park contains over 100 lakes. Itasca was set aside to protect and

preserve virgin stands of Red Pine and to protect the entire basin around the Mississippi's source. This park holds the largest stand of Red Pine in the country. This area hosts the beginning of the Great River Road, which follows the Mississippi River from its source to the Gulf of Mexico. This stretch of the Mississippi near Itasca is the purest, most natural segment of this mighty river. The Sandpiper would cross the Mississippi twice, once between the Headwaters and Bemidji. A spill in this area could irreparably harm this section of the river.

Other treasured spots in this county include the newly acquired LaSalle Lake Recreation Area, one of the most pristine lakes in all of Minnesota. This resource was purchased with Legacy funds in 2011 and opened to the Public in 2012. The side slopes of the La Salle Creek glacial tunnel valley and La Salle Lake's bottom are very steep. The lake is Minnesota's deepest at 213 feet. A portion of La Salle Lake SRA has been designated as a scientific and natural area, in recognition of the high quality native communities and rare plant and animal species found there. In fact, the area was identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) as an area of "High and Outstanding Biodiversity Significance". Over 90 species of trees & shrubs and more than 140 species of herbaceous plants, including 12 species of orchids, have been surveyed and are recorded growing in the area. The same group, MCBS, has also identified numerous rare, threatened, endangered, and special concern species of plants and animals such as ram's head lady slipper, hair-like sedge, northern oak fern, two species of caddis fly and trumpeter swans. The shore land surrounding LaSalle Lake contains red pine and jack pine forests and woodlands as well as hardwood forest areas that include occasional large white pines, balsam fir and white spruce. In the north, where LaSalle Creek flows into the Mississippi River, a small but quality old-growth N. white cedar forest exists where springs emerge from the terraced slopes.

As the Mississippi River flows N. in its beginning stages, and it is flowing N. where the proposed Sandpiper would be placed. Should a leak or rupture occur in that spot, it would flow N. as well into the La Salle Lake Scientific Natural area. What would be the impacts of a sizable release in this area? Note that the proposal also has the pipeline crossing under La Salle creek just below Big La Salle Lake, that entire area seems at risk to me. Please consider the possible scenario of a rupture at this critical point along the pipeline. What would be the amount spilled from a 30 in pipe carrying diluted fracked oil and under high pressure? And how distant would this spot be from a shut off valve? And how much oil would flow out of the pipe prior to shutdown (which takes time) and during the shutdown process which must be done slowly to avoid any further rupture? And, given the rate of flow of the

Mississippi at that point, how fast and how far might that oil travel? We know in the Kalamazoo, Michigan area it traveled for 35 miles. (see attached map Headwaters)

The city of Park Rapids draws its drinking water from the Straight River Aquifer, recently found to be contaminated by nitrates caused by agriculture and irrigation. The city had to build a treatment plant which city residents had to help fund, thereby increasing city water rates. Imagine the impact to that aquifer should a release happen in the area of this aquifer. Please refer to the testimony and maps provided by retired hydrologist Bob Merritt at the March 12 hearing in Park Rapids. Edockets, Document ID 20143-97538-03 dated March 24. In his testimony he noted that the soil in this area is very susceptible to contamination, more susceptible than 80% of Minnesota aquifers. Note that the state of Minnesota has chosen this aquifer to be one of its 3 Groundwater Management Areas to ensure sustainable use of this at-risk groundwater. (See Groundwater Susceptibility Map attached.)

C. lands of historical, archaeological, and cultural significance.

In the early 1900's an early Native American Elk Lake Culture prehistoric site was discovered adjacent to La Salle Creek. This is near the outlet of La Salle Lake and was partially excavated in 1995. The date of 3,180 years ago obtained from charred residue on the inside of a ceramic shard at the LaSalle Creek Site is one of the earliest known dates for an Elk Lake Culture occupation in Minnesota. The northern headwaters of the Mississippi River are an important area for these early archaeological sites, and further cultural resource areas may be discovered nearby.

Another area of historic and cultural significance as well as the Natural environment, public and designated lands, including but not limited to natural areas, wildlife habitat, water, and recreational lands, and also economies within the route, would be the wild rice found in Upper Rice Lake Wildlife Management Area. While this area is not within my county of residence, I have great concern regarding the potential damage a release or rupture might pose to this sensitive area. This area has been set aside for migratory waterfowl as well as the wild rice beds it contains. The Anishinaabe members of the White Earth reservation harvest wild rice off the lake here. Wild rice not only serves as a food crop for them, but also a lucrative source of income.

The proposed Sandpiper Pipeline would traverse very near both Itasca State Park and the La Salle Lake Recreation Area and put

these resources at risk in the event of a spill from a large pipe (30") with high pressure and huge amounts of oil (375,000 bpd) moving through it every day. I believe that because of the pristine nature of these designated State areas and the rare plants living there, only a full Federal Environmental Impact Study can competently and completely address the possible environmental effects of this proposed pipeline.

I. Cumulative potential effects of related or anticipated future pipeline construction.....

There already exist four pipelines in the Southern Route. It is disconcerting to note that mention was made of the possibility of routing the proposed rebuilt "line 3" pipeline via the Southern route by an Enbridge employee. That likelihood seems ominous. Each additional pipeline increases the risks of a spill of a significant size and detrimental effects on our environment. Just yesterday in a meeting with investors Enbridge presented a drawing of the proposed Line 3 replacement, and it is along the S. corridor. According to a study done in relation to the Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska, it was stated that there is a 99.9% chance that one of the pipelines involved in that proposed project would fail during its lifetime (30 years).* The Kalamazoo spill (2010) happened in spite of a pipeline's compliance with all of the state and federal standards, yet today there remain toxins and oil from that spill not yet cleaned up and removed from the environment, nearly 4 years after that event. Are those state and federal standards adequate? Because of the probable near future request to route line 3 through the same Southern corridor as the Sandpiper, it seems prudent that a full federal environmental impact statement be completed to gauge the risks that pipeline proliferation presents to the environment, the economy and the people along that proposed route. Should both the Sandpiper and then the Line 3 rebuild be routed along the S. route, how much more land would be taken for Right of Way? This land would be from that point forward devoid of trees and subject to maintenance and inspection, as well as leaks or rupture. How much greater the risk given the number of pipes traveling along the corridor?

*Chapter 11: An Assessment of Potential Mining Impacts on Salmon Ecosystems of Bristol Bay, Alaska; Pipeline Failures. Final Version, USEPA's Bristol Bay Assessment Report: USEPA, January, 2014

http://www.epa.gov/ncea/pdfs/bristolbay/bristol_bay_assessment_final_2014_vol1_chapter11.pdf

I would ask that you utilize the methodology of the Pebble Mine study, which utilized an examination of potential “worst case scenario” looking at impacts one might expect were a release/rupture to occur in each of the most sensitive areas. In the area that my comments concern, I further would ask that the following “high value resources” within N. W. Minnesota be studied as regards the impact of an average size spill from a 30 inch pipe utilizing high pressure, (1,352 psig operating to 1,480 psig maximum) carrying at minimum 375,000 barrels of Bakken crude PER DAY, with a maximum potential amount of 711,000 bpd (and utilize both minimum amounts transported up to maximum amounts proposed for eventual shipment through the Sandpiper pipe.)

Those sensitive areas are:

1. Red River of the North
2. Wild Rice beds of Upper Rice Lake in Clearwater County
3. Headwaters of the Mississippi, area near Itasca State Park
4. Areas near La Salle Lake Recreation Area, La Salle Lake, Big La Salle Lake, and La Salle Creek.
5. Trout streams crossed by the Sandpiper, specifically the Straight River near Park Rapids and the cold water stream in La Salle Rec. area.
6. Hay Creek crossing which links to the Fish Hook River Watershed area as well as the two streams which run into Island Lake
7. The Straight River Aquifer: Identified by the MNDNR as an one of three aquifers in the state in need of management as it is already compromised by nitrate contamination from agriculture and irrigation.

(Straight River Pilot Groundwater Management Area Plan)

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gwmp/index.html>

Only by seriously weighing the environmental risks presented from a certain likelihood of a release somewhere along this pipeline route, and determining if, indeed, the risk of damage to these resources is worth the as of yet unproven value to either the citizens of Minnesota. or indeed the United States. As for me, I believe the value goes only to the pipeline company, the “shippers”, and perhaps the owners of the wells, with minimal benefit to the citizen.

I would also request that **GIS software be used to “optimize” and compare all reasonable and prudent alternative routes** so that one is chosen that offers the least environmental and human impacts.

Enbridge, or the North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC, should also be required to **maintain an escrow account** to pay for spill cleanup should such a rupture or release occur, and that account should be maintained by the company for the life of the pipeline. This account should also be used to remove the pipeline when its life has ended. It might also be noted that avoiding wetlands & areas of high environmental impact would also prevent said areas from being disturbed upon removal of the pipe. The removal of the pipe should be required at the end of the project.

As a citizen of the state of Minnesota I would also like to protest the burdensome process that this permit process via the PUC requires. The process is totally swayed to the advantage of the applicant. When ordinary citizens are asked to come up with alternate routes or segments, and then defend those routes, without the necessary education, expertise, or resources to do so, it is nothing less than ridiculous. (The public was not given access to the GIS shape files needed to analyze the route and potential alternate routes. It should be required of the *applicant to prove to the state of Minnesota* why their chosen route is the best and further that it impacts our environment and our population the least of any possible route. Also, given the volatile nature of the Bakken Crude, a compound that is as combustible as gasoline, (See the analysis of the oil that spilled at the Lac-Megantic, Quebec disaster in July of 2013)* again, *an Environmental Impact Statement should be completed for the entire region that the Sandpiper would traverse*. The analysis done by the Transportation Safety Board of Canada found the Bakken Crude carried on that train to be highly explosive.* Will this be the same crude traveling via the pipeline? The chemical composition of crude traveling through the pipeline is said to be different than that carried in rail cars. How different? What is its chemical composition, how volatile is it? These questions should be answered in your analysis.

In summary, I again am vehemently opposed to this Southern Route for the Sandpiper Pipeline. It would cross 16 water bodies in Hubbard County alone, crossing

*Transportation Safety Board of Canada, Operational Services Branch, Engineering Laboratory Report, LP148/2013, Analysis of Crude Oil Samples, Montreal, Maine Atlantic Railway, Train MMA-002, Date of Occurrence, 06-Jul-2013.&

<http://www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/enquetes-investigations/rail/2013/R13D0054/lab/20140306/LP1482013.asp>

the Mississippi River in its infancy, just N. of the source, Lake Itasca. It would cross two trout streams, La Salle Creek and Straight River. It would traverse the lovely Shell River 4 times within this county as well as the Crow Wing River. Also in Hubbard Co. it would be threateningly close to La Salle Lake Recreation Area. Throughout the entirety of its route in Minnesota it would cross 164.7 miles of highly wind erodible soils, 31 water bodies, 24.2 miles of state forest land, and 4.8 miles of state wildlife management areas. Please heed the many letters of appeal and consider that fragile environments that are put at risk. Do a full Environmental Impact Study instead of the less rigorous CER. Find an alternative route for this pipeline with fewer potential environmental impacts. The scope of your analysis must include the life long risks, project impacts at construction, potential for release or rupture, maintenance and removal of the pipe as well as clean-up of residual oil in the pipe and trench. History has shown pipelines to last for from 50 - 60 years.

I also respectfully request the posting of all letters sent to this docket, including the many, many sent by individuals and organizations requesting a delay or time extension. That request was made in order to allow those people who are seasonal residents of this area to learn about the Sandpiper project via public hearings and consultation with neighbors as well as opportunity to offer public comment. Whether or not the requests made for an extension is granted, those requests should be posted on the docket and available for the commissioners to review. The numbers of seasonal residents is high. According to the Hubbard County Assessors office, as of March 2014 there were 6,747 residents with full homestead status. There were 10,953 residential non-homesteads, and of that number, 8,549 were seasonal residential recreational non homestead properties. Clearly, there is almost a 2 to 1 ratio of non homestead to homestead. This provides ample reason to justify the extension of the comment period as well as the request to provide additional public hearings. Other counties in lake country along the proposed route likewise note an increase in population from May though September of seasonal residents, all essentially excluded from this process.

Thank you for considering my comments. Please make your decisions regarding the future of this area of our great state of Minnesota, Land of 10,000 lakes, with great care. Its people, here now as well as those of future generations, are depending on you.

Most sincerely,
Elizabeth Baker-Knuttila



STRAIGHT RIVER

PARK RAPIDS

STRAIGHT RIVER

SHELL RIVER

SHELL RIVER

CROW WING RIVER

CROW WING RIVER

PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE IN STRAIGHT RIVER WATERSHED
PIPELINE AND STREAM CROSSINGS
STRAIGHT, SHELL AND CROW WING RIVERS
(pink arrows)
RIVERS IN YELLOW
(yellow arrows direction of flow)
STRAIGHT RIVER WATERSHED INSIDE BLUE AREA
PARK RAPIDS AQUIFER INSIDE BLUE DOTTED AREA
PIPELINE IN RED

Minnesota Lakes

A View from Space

ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
IN RED

ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE

GRAND FORKS

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



Ground Water Contamination Susceptibility in Minnesota

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

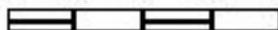
ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
IN BLACK

LOOK WHERE THE HIGHEST SUSCEPTIBILITY IS

Map Explanation

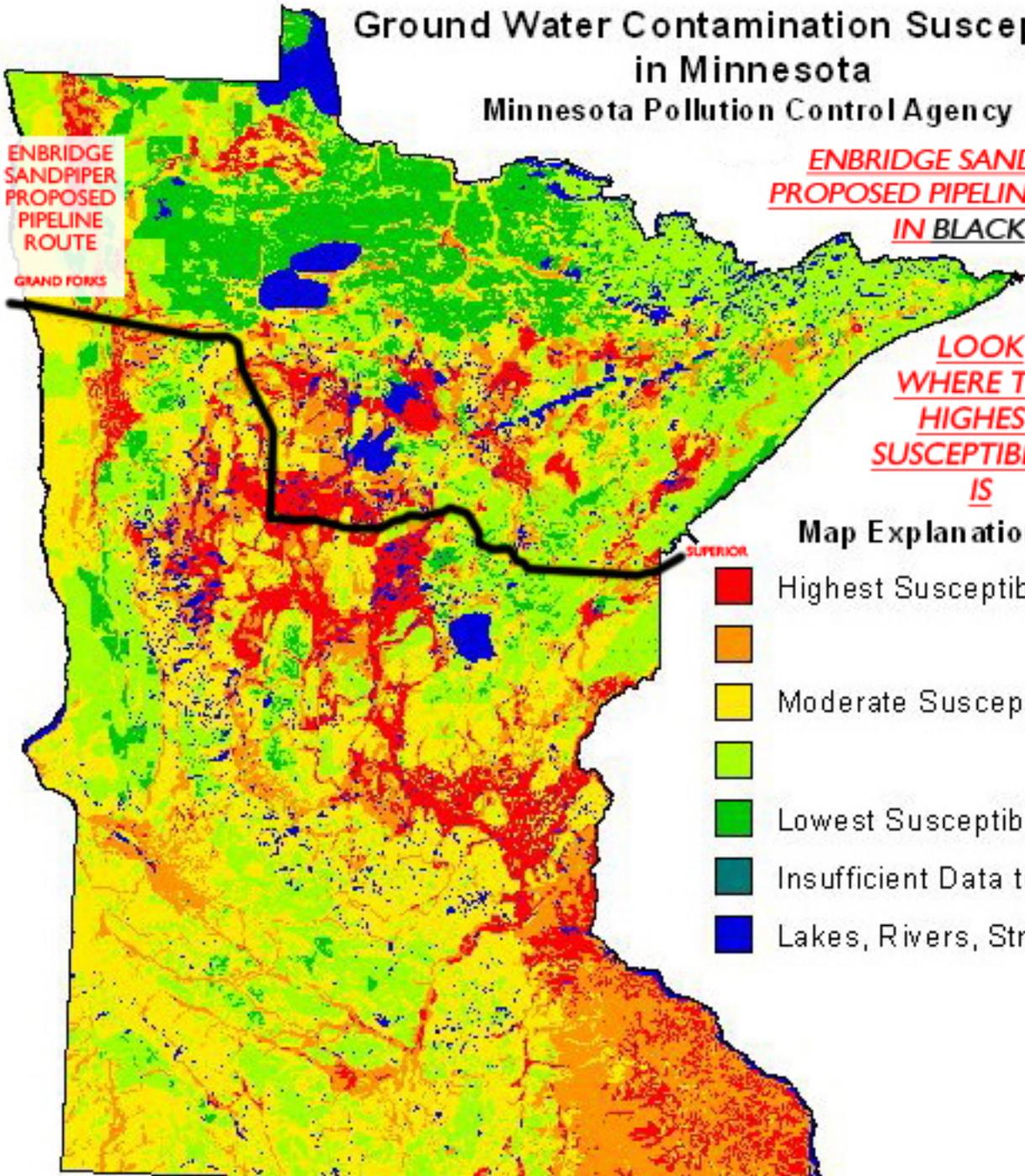
-  Highest Susceptibility
-  Moderate Susceptibility
-  Moderate Susceptibility
-  Lowest Susceptibility
-  Insufficient Data to Rank
-  Lakes, Rivers, Streams

0 20 40 60 80 Miles



ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
GRAND FORKS

SUPERIOR



Ground Water Contamination Susceptibility in Minnesota

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

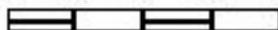
ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
IN BLACK

LOOK
WHERE THE
HIGHEST
SUSCEPTIBILITY
IS

Map Explanation

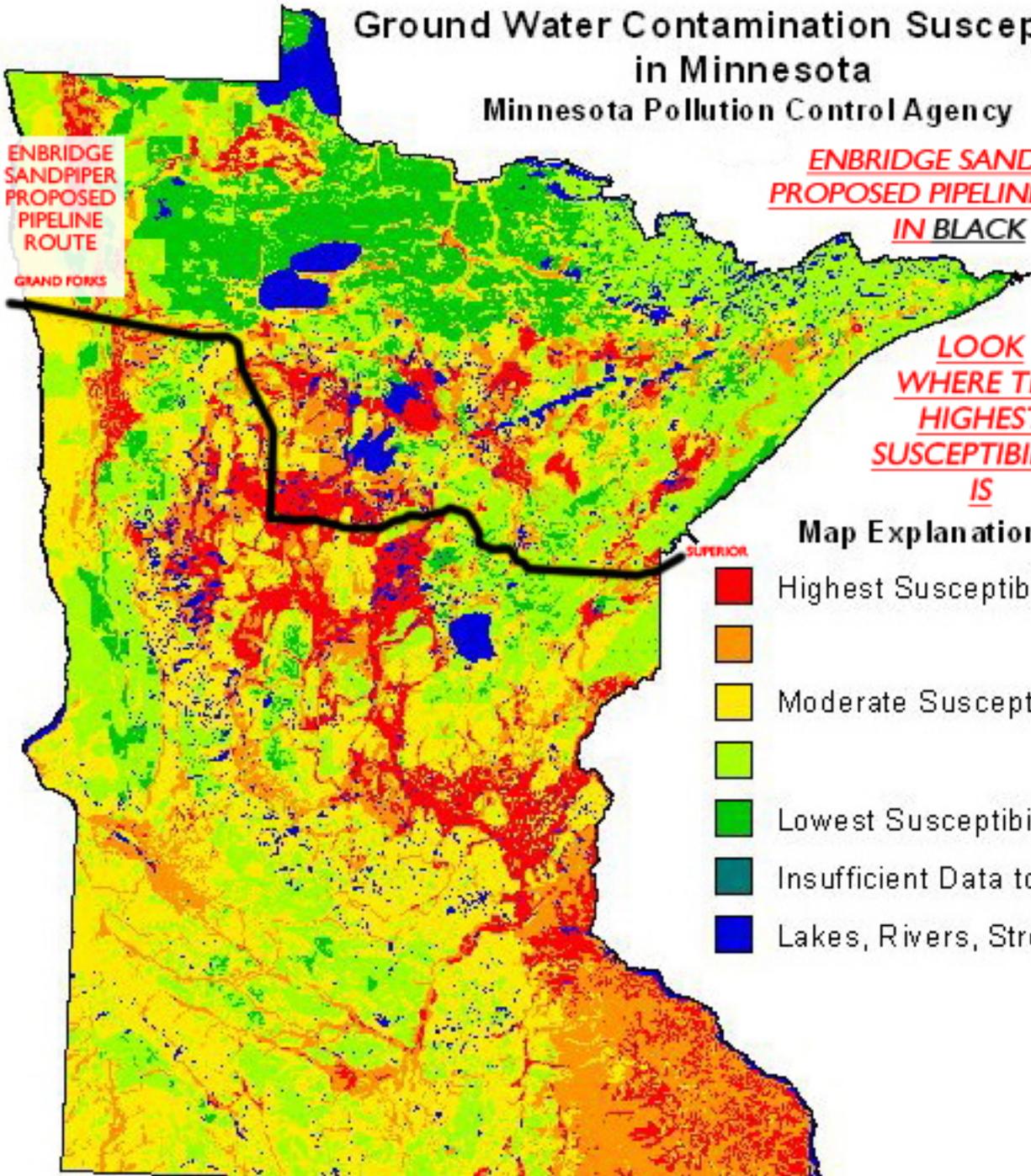
-  Highest Susceptibility
-  Moderate Susceptibility
-  Moderate Susceptibility
-  Lowest Susceptibility
-  Insufficient Data to Rank
-  Lakes, Rivers, Streams

0 20 40 60 80 Miles



ENBRIDGE SANDPIPER
PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE
GRAND FORKS

SUPERIOR



PRIME ANISHINAABE WILD RICE BEDS

Upper Rice Lake State Wildlife Management Area

30 INCH WIDE PIPELINE BORED UNDER THE MISS. R.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

LASALLE CREEK STATE SCIENTIFIC NATURAL AREA

LASALLE LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA

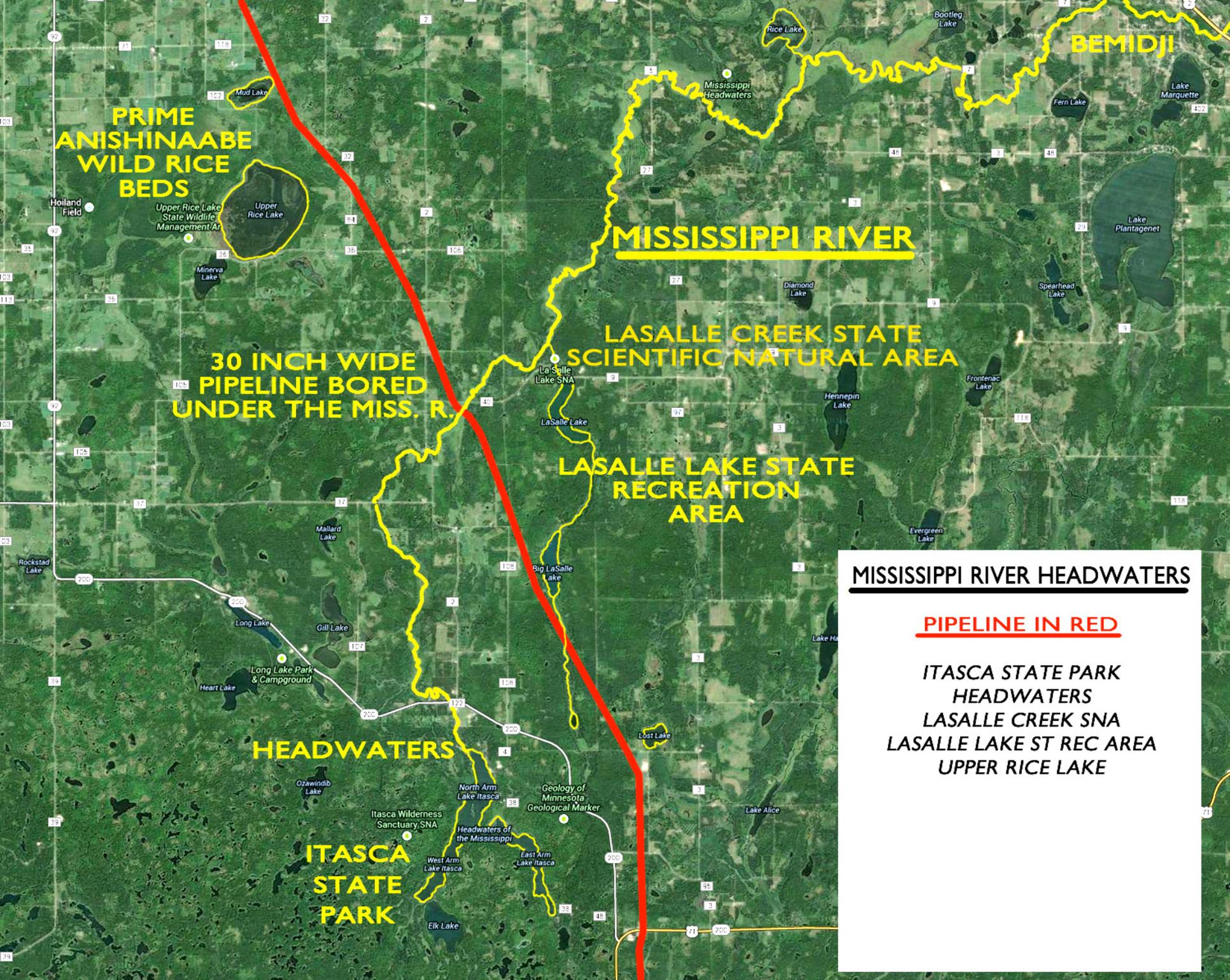
HEADWATERS

ITASCA STATE PARK

MISSISSIPPI RIVER HEADWATERS

PIPELINE IN RED

- ITASCA STATE PARK HEADWATERS**
- LASALLE CREEK SNA**
- LASALLE LAKE ST REC AREA**
- UPPER RICE LAKE**



From: Annie Morgan Banks [mailto:anniembanks@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:24 PM
To: Contact, Commissioner (COMM); Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Comment re: Sandpiper Proposed Pipeline Route

To the Minnesota Department of Commerce and Larry Hartman of the Public Utilities Commission,

I do not support this proposed pipeline and I feel that the commenting period was also too short, not allowing enough people to share their concerns. I am not interested in suggesting any "alternative routes" because there is no alternative that would be acceptable - the only answer is "No Pipelines".

The placement of this pipeline goes through numerous Indigenous peoples' territories, such as the White Earth Ojibwe on whose territories I am very grateful to be currently living on, and violates the treaty rights of numerous communities. I completely disagree with these violations of rights and I request that your governmental entity take action to deny the permit of Enbridge's proposed Sandpiper Pipeline in Northern Minnesota. This proposed line needs to be challenged as it threatens the people, lifeways, watersheds, and wildlife of greater Minnesota and beyond, as it also threatens areas in North Dakota by being the route by which fracked oil will be brought from there. The fracking of oil poses a serious risk to the North Country of North Dakota I also request that the comment period be extended and I support the call to deny Enbridge the permit for pipelines across the north. Without your approval, the pipeline expansion will not be allowed. I encourage you to deny the request, support a just and fair commenting process, and protect my family, community, and environment from the harm these pipelines would cause.

Sincerely,
Annie Banks

--

Annie Morgan Banks

From: Barb Barten [mailto:bbarten79@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 6:44 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Sandpiper pipeline comments Docket 13-474

Mr. Hartman,

Attached please find comments regarding the proposed Sandpiper pipeline project. Please let me know if you are unable to open the attached file, and I can copy them directly into an e-mail. Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this project.

John M. Barten [Sandpiper pipeline comments.doc](#)
120 Oak Ridge Drive
Delano, MN 55328

RE: Sandpiper Pipeline Project – Docket # 13474

My family and I own property on the shoreline of Roosevelt Lake, Crooked Lake Township in Cass County, approximately 1.5 miles south of the proposed pipeline route. For the record, we oppose the preferred route proposed to run north of Roosevelt Lake and recommend construction of the new line on the existing pipeline corridor. Wetlands, the forest community, soils, and wildlife habitat have already been impacted by the existing pipeline. In addition, the lakes and streams along the existing corridor are already threatened by a pipeline leak. It seems prudent from a natural resources management perspective to confine these impacts to an existing corridor rather than double the environmental impacts by creation of a new pipeline corridor.

We request that the comparative environmental assessment evaluate specific impacts as follows:

Wetland impacts along the existing and proposed pipeline routes. Since wetlands, especially vegetation and soils, along the existing route have already been disturbed by installation of the existing pipeline, the assessment specifically needs to compare the impact of construction on undisturbed wetlands on the preferred route relative to disturbing already impacted wetlands on the existing corridor. Potential for the introduction of aquatic invasive species from construction equipment needs to be part of the assessment.

Impacts to wildlife habitat along the preferred and existing pipeline routes. The information presentation for the project indicated that more than 75% of the preferred route will follow existing pipeline corridors, or other utility right-of-way. The environmental assessment needs to state which route impacts the greater amount of land not currently in a pipeline corridor or existing right-of-way and compare the wildlife impacts of the routes. The assessment also needs to indicate the type of wildlife habitat affected by each route (forest type, wetland, grassland), the current condition of the habitat (disturbed, undisturbed), and sensitive species found in the different habitat types.

The environmental assessment needs to compare the forest fragmentation that would occur on the preferred route relative to the existing corridor. In particular, the potential for introduction of invasive species into adjacent forest communities during and after construction should be addressed. In addition, long term vegetation management over the pipeline should be addressed.

The impacts of construction on soils in the existing corridor and the new preferred route need to be compared. Specifically, compaction issues, mixing of mineral and organic soils, and disruption of the soil horizons that would occur on the new proposed route need to be compared to the re-disturbance of the soils on the existing pipeline corridor. Impact of the soil disturbance on plant growth and potential for invasive species to colonize bare soils needs to be part of the analysis.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the pipeline planning process.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynn Beatty [<mailto:nssgbeatty@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 11:36 AM

To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)

Subject: PUC PL-6668/PPL-13-474

Mr. Hartman;

Ref. meeting 3/13/14 Carlton, MN. opinion; in this meeting most of the time was taken by the Carlton County Land Stewards group, they need to realize by the updated maps they are not now the on primary route.

Some of the comments were by the people in the western portion of the southern route and need to be heard. I had assumed there was to be a question and answer portion of the meeting, but the time had gone long beyond the planned meeting time.

I am located on the eastern portion of the northern route and believe the total process is incorrect, before the route is determined and the land owners are involved, the "Certificate of Need" for this pipeline should be filed and approved. Without the need there should be no pipeline.

The need for the pipeline is not there, the line needs to have several refinery's to process the crude oil. Or a line continuation to other refinery's to process the oil, which there is not at present. The Calumet refinery, Superior, WI, cannot handle the flow from the existing pipelines. The proposal Calumet had to have a dock to ship the crude by tankers, via Lake Superior, has been denied. But without a doubt that type of proposal shall be resurrected and should again be denied, as a oil spill would be drastic to St. Louis Bay and Lake Superior.

This oil, in the Bakken Flats, North Dakota, was only drilled for, because the need for the USA being forced to become energy self sufficient and for that reason this oil or its derived products should not be shipped to foreign country's. We cannot be foolish with our sources of energy, we need to protect our self and not make big oil companies bigger.

David Beatty

625 Cemetery Road

Wrenshall, MN 55797-9139

From: Carol Bechtel [mailto:cabechtel@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2014 3:18 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Cc: Sorensen Meg
Subject: Docket number 13-474

Dear Mr. Hartman,

My comment on the proposed Sandpiper pipeline through northern Minnesota is that fracked oil and temporary jobs are not worth any risk to the environmentally sensitive, historically important, and tourism (economic) rich headwaters of the Mississippi area. While the time I have resided in MN has been short, I have already made two trips to Itasca State Park and consider it a treasure. I grew up on the north side of Battle Creek, MI, not far from the Kalamazoo River, which experienced the consequences of what can go wrong with an Enbridge pipeline. I do not want to see this happen to my new beloved state of MN.

The pipeline should not be

approved. Sincerely,
Carol A. Bechtel
Minneapolis

From: Andrew Bell [mailto:andrewkbell@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:16 PM
To: Ek, Scott (PUC); staff, cao (PUC); PUC, Docketing (PUC); Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: I want an Environmental Impact Study!!

re: Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Docket Number: PL-6668/PPL-13-474

Dear Larry, Scott, Tracy and all -

The project, the Routing Permit and subsequent construction for the Sandpiper Pipeline will be devastating to the environment *when* an accident happens. I can understand the need for energy and bringing fracking oil to market is very important to some, but this is too high of a cost. Economy in the short run isn't worth the risk.

Time and time again evidence points to shortcuts in routing, construction and maintenance causes environmental disasters that are irreversible to not only native flora and fauna, but humans beings that are trying to peacefully co-exist and commune with nature.

The pipeline should go from Clearbrook to Bemidji and on to Duluth/Superior right along side of the existing pipeline. It should use the same right-of-ways and geographic infrastructure that has been set in place. **NO NEW RIGHT-OF-WAYS!** There is an Embridge Office in Bemidji!

At the very least, I request an environmental impact study and the need for someone from the State/PUC to walk the proposed route. Another intrusion into yet *another* State Park is intolerable! **Keep it north in tandem with the existing EEP Pipeline.** This will limit environmental impact and use safeguards efficiently.

Lastly, I condemn the way this was brought to light; in November, during the harshest months and before the end of April when seasonal folks will still be gone! **There needs to be an extension to the comment and study period.**

I request a return comment from each of you.

Thanks -

AB

Andrew Bell
Fifty Lakes, MN

From: Dianne Bell [mailto:dianne.k.bell@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:40 AM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Comment on PPL-13-474 Routing Permit for Sandpiper Pipeline

Dear Mr. Hartman,

I'm writing today concerning the proposed **North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC**- Routing Permit for the Sandpiper Pipeline, PPL-13-474.

I've reviewed Enbridge's presentation regarding this pipeline which is on the MN PUC website. I've also reviewed other information from the Star Tribune and Pioneer Press regarding this proposed pipeline.

I vigorously oppose this permit for several reasons which I outline below. To begin, my personal concern is based on the fact that my family owns and has owned property on Mitchell Lake in the Fifty Lakes township for over 75 years. This pipeline is proposed to run approximately two miles north of our family's property under Daggett Creek in northern Crow Wing County/southern Cass County.

1. Why was the comment period conveniently announced in November, just after most seasonal residents had left? And the comment period ends on April 4, before the seasonal residents return. Do they not have a voice and right to be informed of this and to be heard? I myself just learned of this last week!! It seems disingenuous to make the announced comment period coincidentally coincide with the timeframe when the LEAST number of residents are able to be made aware of and respond to this proposal. We have sent an email alert out to several property owners' associations who will potentially be impacted. The vast majority of people have heard nothing of this prior to our email, and are shocked to learn of this development and the few remaining days to comment.
2. Why is Enbridge not following the existing pipeline route already established by previous pipelines which is depicted on slides 20 & 21 of Enbridge's powerpoint presentation? Why create the potential for NEW environmental hazards and disruption to additional homeowners and the environment, when there is **already pipeline laid** along a route to Superior that passes near Bemidji, where there is already an Enbridge office? This makes no financial or environmental sense.
3. Why is there no Environmental Impact Study required? It is astounding that something as hazardous to the environment as a crude oil pipeline can be granted a permit without conducting an EIS!! At the VERY LEAST an Environmental Impact Study must be conducted.
4. Finally, I'd like to request that the MN PUC **delay its decision making beyond the April 4 deadline** to allow the permanent and seasonal residents to learn of this significant event which is proposed to happen in their backyards, and to give them time to comment on this and make their voices heard.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing your reply to my concerns.

Respectfully yours,
Dianne Bell
Mitchell Lake, Fifty Lakes, MN

Bell Marketing Group
+1.612.554.1331 phone
+1.612.822.9972 fax

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From: Micki Berg [mailto:mickib19@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2014 1:52 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: North Dakota Pipeline Co., Sandpiper Project

Mr. Hartman,

We are contacting you to voice our concerns related to the proposed Sandpiper Project and the building of a crude oil pipeline corridor through the Big Sandy Lake watershed. As homeowners in this area, we are very concerned about this proposal and the potential environmental and monetary ramifications it brings to the area. We are urging the MN PUC to **NOT APPROVE** the permit for Enbridge to build the Sandpiper pipeline. Enbridge should be limited to one corridor, the existing one which will offer more efficient maintenance, lower cost in the long run, and consolidated future environmental and monetary disasters to fewer counties.

Historical information on existing pipelines has proven that environmental and economical disasters are not a theoretical discussion but a **reality**. Enbridge Energy has had 800 oils spills over a period of 10 years which include 23 major spills in Minnesota since 1972 according to a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. At the recent public hearing in McGregor, MN, safety records for Enbridge were brought to the table and it is noted that not one of the points was discussed, countered or acknowledged in fact, largely ignored.

Our public meeting has created much skepticism stemming from the scheduling of the meeting. This meeting was quietly scheduled in the middle of the afternoon during working hours for most people, during a time when many Minnesotans who are land owners in the area are 'south' for the winter or not available for other reasons. This alone gives the appearance of an evasive, untrustworthy, and deceitful nature to this process. One could come to the conclusion that you and/or your commission are already in the deep pocket of Enbridge.

The economical argument for jobs is weak when you consider the astronomical cost of cleanup from these spills and the decreased property values. We are aware and believe it is purely short sightedness on the part of politicians who consider a few permanent Minnesota jobs outweighs the threat to our water shed and ultimately our water. We all need clean water. Contaminated water may be an acceptable cost of doing business to Enbridge, but we can't afford to ignore their irresponsible safety record. We do not want to be the next Kalamazoo.

We are aware of the MN PUC's mission "to create and maintain a regulatory environment that ensures safe, reliable and efficient utility services at fair and reasonable rates". This mission alone **requires you** to decline the proposed Sandpiper Project!

Please do the right thing for Minnesota, your state and your home. Please do not grant the permit to Enbridge for the proposed Sandpiper Project.

Kevin and Irene Berg
Big Sandy Lake, Aitkin County