
From: Lois Norrgard [mailto:Lnorrgard@lnmn10.com]
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:04 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Comments - Sandpiper PUC Docket Number (13-474)

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager,

I am a concerned citizen, live in Bloomington MN, and enjoy northern Minnesota as a tourist every year. I am urging a denial of the Sandpiper pipeline.

It is only a matter of time until this pipeline breaks and sends dangerous toxins into Minnesota's environment and water resources. Oils are very dangerous to transport.

In response to two of the questions posed by the request for comments:

- What human and environmental impacts should be studied in the comparative environmental analysis?
- Are there any specific methods to address these impacts that should be studied in the comparative environmental analysis?

The full effects of this pipeline and the product that it will transport must be studied regarding climate change, increase in CO₂, and how this addresses, or doesn't, Minnesota's Next Generation Energy Act. The human and environmental impacts of climate change should very much be a part of this environmental analysis – and it must be an Environmental Impact Statement comprehensive analysis.

Carbon emissions are a cause of global climate change, and have recently exceeded 400ppm

The changing climate should not be taken lightly. It may be hard to wean ourselves off of oil – a step that we must take, but it would be far harder to wean ourselves off of water. Water is one of our most precious resources, along with clean air and our soils and ecosystems. Carbon emissions are a cause of global climate change, and have recently exceeded 400ppm. Recent comprehensive reports have come out in the last two weeks – all of the data in these documents should be included in this analysis:

The IPCC's **Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)**

The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) will provide a clear view of the current state of scientific knowledge relevant to climate change. It will comprise three Working Group (WG) reports and a Synthesis Report (SYR). The outline and content can be found in the AR5 reference document and SYR Scoping document.

Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability is the second in a series of four reports prepared by hundreds of the world's top climate scientists through the IPCC.

<http://ipcc.ch/report/ar5/index.shtml>

American Association for the Advancement of Science Report: What We Know,
(whatweknow.aaas.org)

The overwhelming evidence of human-caused climate change documents both current impacts with significant costs and extraordinary future risks to society and natural systems. The scientific community has convened conferences, published reports, spoken out at forums and proclaimed,

through statements by virtually every national scientific academy and relevant major scientific organization — including the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) — that climate change puts the well-being of people of all nations at risk.

The environmental effects on Minnesota's natural environment, waters and wildlife must be analyzed.

The Sandpiper pipeline passes through sensitive ecosystems and over countless rivers, including the Mississippi River. Many of these rivers and waterways provide drinking water to millions of people. We need to do a comprehensive EIS on both the construction and the future risks that will be the result of this project.

The risk of a spill should be quantified and analyzed (although I believe even a 1% risk is a risk too great).

Age of a pipeline does not matter – new pipelines are breaking and spilling. Again there is not an IF, it is a known fact that there will be accidents and spills whenever and wherever there are pipelines. Enbridge has a flawed track record. There were 800 spills from Enbridge pipelines between 1999 and 2010. In Minnesota alone, Enbridge has spilled almost 1.5 million gallons of oil. Kalamazoo MI is still suffering and struggling to get the Enbridge spill from 2010 cleaned up. We do not “NEED” to be in this same situation here in Minnesota. Granted that was a different substance passing through that line, but the record of Enbridge's spill response says it all – 17 hours of pouring oil until a local resident spotted the leak and called the company. Then lying and slow response rates and low percentage of recovery rates. Let's prevent catastrophe before it happens.

Things we should be doing to build a better world are also things we should be doing to protect against climate change. Ongoing efforts to improve energy efficiency, switch to cleaner energy sources, make cities "greener" and reduce water consumption will make life better today and will help reduce our effect on climate change in the future.

We are all connected to the biosphere, what we dump on it we dump on ourselves. The CO₂, the toxic oil spills, this must stop.

We do not Need this expansion in Minnesota, I know that we – all of us here – love the planet, it is time to start behaving like we do.

Please consider the immense implications of any expansion - toxic lands and waters, and runaway climate change will be your legacy.

We are all in this together, let us do the right thing and reject this permit.

Lois Norrgard

10368 Columbus Circle, Bloomington MN 55420

From: Jerry Novak [mailto:jjane@emily.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 29, 2014 10:24 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Oil Pipeline

I don't see any sense in bringing a pipeline through MN. The question is, who will it benefit. Surely not the people. Not if but when the pipe starts to leak who will pay for the clean-up? In my lifetime I have seen a lot of good intentions, but the oil companies are in business to make money. I bet the price of gas at the pump will not go down. They will say they have to recover from the cost in laying the pipeline. There is always an excuse. The law Federal mandate says that all companies have to make money for their investors, therefore the cost will never go down but the environment will suffer. I oppose the construction of a pipeline on MN state land--for that reason!

"Don't forget your working for the people and not for the oil companies"

Jerry Novak
41602 East Eagle Lake Rd.
Fifty Lakes, MN

From: Alan Olander [mailto:aolander@arvig.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:22 AM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Sandpiper pipeline comment

Dear Mr. Hartman,

I am a lifetime resident of Hubbard County. I know many people who live elsewhere during the winter months who may not be aware of the pipeline schedule. Since most of these people live on our area lakes, I know they would be concerned about the pipeline. Because of this, I believe the pipeline comment period should be extended until later this year.

Enbridge seems intent on pushing this project through as fast as possible. Because it has a great potential for harming our lakes and rivers, this pipeline should not be a "rush job".

Regards,
Alan Olander, DVM
25998 277th Avenue
Nevis, MN 56467

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

From: joneill@goldengate.net [<mailto:joneill@goldengate.net>]

Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 11:45 AM

To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)

Subject: PUC Docket number 13-474

Dear Mr. Hartman,

Will there be oil tankers on Lake Superior? The water level is too high and shoreline damage is being done. Could the dam at Sault Sainte Marie let some water out and stop the damage?

Regards,

John O'Neill

Phone 612 724 2226

From: [Hartman, Larry \(COMM\)](#)
To: [Nelson, Casey \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: FW: Enbridge Pipeline Route, PUC Docket #13-474
Date: Friday, April 04, 2014 6:24:50 PM

Larry B. Hartman
Environmental Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

larry.hartman@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-539-1839
800-657-3794
Fax: 651-539-0109
Cell: 612-210-4810
mn.gov/commerce/energy/facilities

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

From: Becky Palmer [<mailto:rebeccaapalmer@earthlink.net>]
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 6:23 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM); #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Enbridge Pipeline Route, PUC Docket #13-474

April 3, 2014

Rebecca Palmer
2807 Dean Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55416

Dear Honorable Public Utilities Commissioners:

I am opposed to Enbridge Pipeline LLC's proposed southern route for the Sandpiper Pipeline.

I have visited the Park Rapids region annually since I was born in 1953. Itasca State Park is a priceless resource that my family has enjoyed both summer and winter. My family currently owns a cabin on Duck Lake, a lake that is close to the proposed southern pipeline route. Duck Lake and the surrounding lakes near Park Rapids are some of the cleanest lakes in Minnesota. Furthermore, the proposed route runs through the Straight River watershed, an already compromised aquifer. The pipeline could also jeopardize the Fishhook chain of lakes if an oil spill occurs.

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. These are irreplaceable resources that should be vigilantly protected. I strongly urge the Public Utilities Commission to conduct more than an environmental review; I support a Full Environmental Impact Statement. I am very concerned about the proposed pipeline, and am shocked and disheartened by the glib responses that the Enbridge representatives have offered when challenged about environmental concerns at public meetings and in the press.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Palmer

March 31, 2014

State of Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147
PublicComments.PUC@State.MN.US

PUC Docket No: PL-6668/PPL-13-474
Re: Proposed Sandpiper Pipeline Route

Dear Commissioners:

It is our understanding that the company Enbridge (aka North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC) is seeking permission for a new pipeline route (Sandpiper) through an area that includes a large part of the watershed for Big Sandy Lake, which, in turn connects to the Mississippi River. The pro-posed Sandpiper pipeline would run between Big Sandy Lake and the town of McGregor, underneath a wetlands area and under the Prairie River.

The possibility of a leak or a “release” as the pipeline company refers to it (Section 8.4.2 of Enbridge Minnesota Environmental Information Report, January 2014), whether through the construction process or during operation of the pipeline, in the Big Sandy Lake watershed would be disastrous to the small community of McGregor, to the residents of Big Sandy Lake area and to the downstream Mississippi communities. The watershed is highly fragile, already having succumbed to months of flooding in spring and summer of 2012. Big Sandy Lake is a recreational lake, which recently achieved Star Lake status. Its area resorts, small businesses, and campgrounds bring much needed tourist dollars into this otherwise poor area. Given the recent oil spills in North Dakota (www.huffingtonpost.com/tag/north-dakota-oil-spill), this kind of occurrence is not out of the question. Recovering from such a spill would take years because of damage to the economy and the pristine environmental image of Big Sandy Lake.

In the meantime, many local residents would be forced into foreclosure and small businesses, like many local families, already teetering on the edge of financial viability would be forced to close. The lasting effect would be enormous, and given the unwillingness of other oil companies to take real and complete responsibility for spills in terms of mitigating long-term environmental and economic effects, we have little faith that this company would do better here.

Enbridge already has several pipelines in place about 40 or so miles north of this area (the Northern Route) and they do have the ability, as well as the infrastructure already existing, to put the new pipeline in the same grouping. It appears the big hurdle for the Northern Route addition is tribal land avoidance. Yet the cost in environmental damage for the southern route build may far outweigh the impact of the work needed to re-route. They "prefer" to run a new pipeline through our watershed. We imagine that it might be more convenient and/or less expensive for Enbridge to run the proposed new line, but at what cost to the purity of the lake and to the residents of McGregor, Big Sandy Lake and downstream communities? At what cost to us, our families, our friends, and our tight-knit community if there is a leak? The cost would be devastating and irreparable.

This area has a very delicate ecology and economy and we request that the Minnesota Public Utilities refuse this permit as it is too risky to the quality of our lake and to our community. Enbridge cannot be allowed to decide they don't want to use the northern corridor because it's not as easy for them as a new one through our flood plain.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,
Joni & Dale Phillips

612-720-5235
djphillips@q.com

Russell Pollak

Kari-joy Pollak

3048 Painted Lane

Carlton, MN 55718

March 13, 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:

First, let me say that I am not opposed to a new pipeline. I am opposed to a new route for one. The route of the existing petroleum pipeline is a better choice for all involved other than the pipeline company themselves. This established line would save many acres of private wooded areas, fields, creeks and rivers from permanent damage a new line would cause. In our backyard we have a pond which is home to mallards, wood ducks, geese, and kingfishers. Our wooded area behind the pond houses deer, turkeys, owls, muskrats, otter and mink. There is also oak, white pine, norway, spruce, maple, birch, ash, and diamond willow which is used for furniture, canes, walking sticks, etc.

I feel the main reason they want to open a new southern route is to avoid the power of the native american tribes that the existing northern route crosses over. It is easier for the corporations to bargain with the common man who doesn't have the resources to hire the lawyers to defend their rights and causes. They can take our lands by eminent domain, per MN statute 117.48, (attached) and we have no say in it. I have worked for twenty years on this piece of ground, establishing it the way I want it. I own this land and pay my taxes every year to keep this land. I should have the right to say what is done to it.

My proposed alternative route as shown on my maps is the existing petroleum pipeline that is on the otherside of Hwy. 61, which I also own land on. I have offered Enbridge an easement there, which they originally approached me on. I feel it is in the best interest of the land owners, myself included, to keep these utility corridors together, instead of dividing private landowners lands into smaller and smaller blocks because of them. If the MPUC does decide to grant this route, I would implore the MPUC to at least keep these routes along current right of ways.

The route they want to take would put the pipeline 140 yds from my door, 300 feet from my pond. I feel this would be detrimental to the privacy I have come to enjoy. The Executives from Enbridge would be the first to complain if someone would put a pipeline through their front yard. Any rupture from the pipe would devastate many more acres of land, because of the steep drainage between here and highway 61. There are at least three small tributaries that run off this hill down to Hwy.61. Therefore I feel it would be more environmentally safe to run on the ground where the existing petroleum line is, north of Hwy 61. The proposed route follows this existing line for a quarter mile anyway.

The money they offered in no way would compensate the losses I would incur. The trees heat my house in

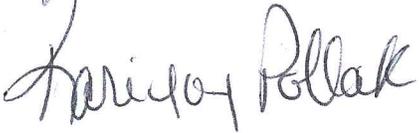
the winter, the pond irrigates my garden in the summer, and the view from the front deck would be radically altered. The value of my land would drastically diminish with a pipeline running through my front yard. Enbridge does not feel it effects any of my concerns. They are basically not willing to negotiate in good faith, in my opinion, because they know they can just take it by eminent domain per MN statute 117.48.

On a final note, I was wondering if Enbridge is breaking the law by buying easements, (according to **216G.03 PIPELINE PROPOSAL; EASEMENT ACQUISITION.**

Subdivision 1. Compliance; penalty. Any person proposing to construct or operate a pipeline shall comply with the provisions of this section before negotiating or acquiring any easement or right-of-way agreement for that purpose. Any person who negotiates or acquires an easement without complying with the provisions of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.)

or has the commission already sided with Enbridge and will grant whatever route they request? It is my understanding that the PCU has not selected ANY official route for the pipeline as of this date!

Sincerely,

Russell Pollak

Kari-joy Pollak



Google earth

feet
km



Pink - Enbridge proposed route to top of Ridge.

Red - my alternative route.



CR 244

Johnson Rd

Journal Rd

Brenfield Rd

Wagner Rd

TWHY 76

ALT-9

TWHY 76

Eye Green Rd

CR 4

CR 4

Swanson Rd

TWHY 310

Ext 227

Reason Rd

Swanson Rd

CR 130



Public Comment Sheet

North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC Sandpiper Pipeline Project

PUC Docket No. PL-6668/PPL-07-13-474

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: Rodney D. Porter

Representing: Darrel & Grace Porter Family

Address: 2610 County Road 61
Carlton, MN. 55718

Email: _____

Tel: (218) 389-3417

COMMENTS

We the Porter Family do not support the Sandpiper pipelines preferred southern route! The pipeline should follow the existing northern route! In the event that the southern route should be approved we would like to submit a line segment change. This line segment is directly west of Interstate 35 and east of Mahtown in Carlton county.

We ask that the line continue to be co-located within the existing powerline corridor. By staying with the powerline the environmental impact will be lessened, fewer trees will need to be removed. Less farm fields will be destroyed, there will be less erosion of soil because it is considerably flatter. the amount of wetlands crossed is essentially the same, and it would require less pipe with fewer turns.

This segment change would also damage less prime land for future Residential and Agricultural use - Thank You-

Rodney D. Porter March 29th 2014

Please submit comments at meeting to EERA staff or send to:

Larry B. Hartman
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis
Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: larry.hartman@state.mn.us
Toll Free: 800-657-3794
Voice: 651-538-1839
Fax: 651-539-0109

Electronic Submittal: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/publicComments.html?projectId=33599>

»»If mailing, fold along dotted line in sequence noted and tape closed ««

From: Gordon Prickett [mailto:gordmett@crosbyironton.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 3:55 PM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Sandpiper Pipeline Project: An Alternative Route Segment
Importance: High

Larry B. Hartman, Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
St. Paul, MN

Mr. Hartman:

I testified at the Public Information Meeting on March 13th in McGregor, MN. Some of my original questions were answered by Enbridge Energy officials.

I have serious reservations about the history of Lakehead Pipeline and the renamed Enbridge parent company. Their pipeline spills and cleanup attempts in recent years have left the environment of the Upper Midwest in damaged condition.

Aitkin County is a global birdwatchers' destination. We have many clean lakes and rivers that attract families looking for recreational beauty. We also have developed a thriving sustainable forest products industry. This scenic county is threatened by a future of crude oil pipelines operated by companies with a record of accidental leaks and spills.

Installing a pipeline and operating it here in Aitkin County, crossing the Mississippi River and passing through rich wetlands habitat and woodlands, will greatly disturb wildlife and people living here.

The damage to the organic farming operations of my friend Lynn S. Mizner is of serious concern to me. At her Chengwatana Farm in Section 30, of Logan Township, Aitkin County, the "preferred route" of the Sandpiper Pipeline will cut across her 138 acres bordering on the Willow River. I would definitely prefer that Enbridge choose a route that avoids this farm, where she grows lamb, beef, poultry, and vegetables.

Thank you for receiving and considering my opinion and comments.

Sincerely,

Gordon Prickett, P.E.
President, Aitkin County Lakes And Rivers Association (ACLARA)
38639 337th Lane
Aitkin, MN 56431
218-927-2267 gordmett@crosbyironton.net

From: Gordon [mailto:gordmett@crosbyironton.net]
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 9:32 AM
To: Hartman, Larry (COMM)
Subject: Fw: Sandpiper Pipeline Project: PUC Docket No. PL-6668/PPL-07-13-474
Importance: High

North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC; Comment by Gordon Prickett added docket # to yesterday's email, -Gordon

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

From: [Gordon Prickett](mailto:gordmett@crosbyironton.net)
To: larry.hartman@state.mn.us
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 3:55 PM
Subject: Sandpiper Pipeline Project: An Alternative Route Segment

Larry B. Hartman, Environmental Review Manager Minnesota
Department of Commerce
St. Paul, MN 55101

Mr. Hartman:

I testified at the Public Information Meeting on March 13th in McGregor, MN. Some of my original questions were answered by Enbridge Energy officials. I have serious reservations about the history of Lakehead Pipeline and the renamed Enbridge parent company. Their pipeline spills and cleanup attempts in recent years have left the environment of the Upper Midwest in damaged condition.

Aitkin County is a global birdwatchers' destination. We have many clean lakes and rivers that attract families looking for recreational beauty. We also have developed a thriving sustainable forest products industry. *This scenic county is threatened by a future of crude oil pipelines operated by companies with a record of accidental leaks and spills.*

Installing a pipeline and operating it here in Aitkin County, crossing the Mississippi River and passing through rich wetlands habitat and woodlands, will greatly disturb wildlife and people living here.

The damage to the organic farming operations of my friend Lynn S. Mizner is of serious concern to me. At her Chengwatana Farm in Section 30, of Logan Township, Aitkin County, the "preferred route" of the Sandpiper Pipeline will cut across her 138 acres bordering on the Willow River. I would definitely *prefer* that Enbridge choose a route that avoids this farm, where she grows lamb, beef, poultry, and vegetables.

Thank you for receiving and considering my opinion and comments.

Sincerely,

Gordon Prickett, P.E.
President, Aitkin County Lakes And Rivers Association (ACLARA)
38639 337th Lane
Aitkin, MN 56431

218-927-2267 gordmett@crosbyironton.net

From: foxlodge@tds.net [<mailto:foxlodge@tds.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 12:40

PM To: Contact, Commissioner (COMM)

Subject: Sandpiper pipeline

Jeanne Quillen

10927 County Rd. 16

Pequot Lakes, MN. 56472

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/PPL-13-474

Honorable Commissioners:

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

I am concerned that the "preferred southern route" is at odds with your PUC selection criteria. This land provides food, water, recreation and wildlife habitat. A pipeline through this area would damage existing and planned future land use for the natural environment – including the air, water, plants, animals, and recreation opportunities for citizens. Economies within the route are already sustainable economies, with jobs in agriculture, forest and wetland management, and recreation filled by people who live and raise families in the area. Jobs for installation will be filled by workers who come from afar and move on to the next location. We should be minimizing the disturbances to our precious forests, wetlands and water as natural resources and features. Clear cutting 120 foot wide right-of-ways and excavating trenches sixty feet wide and six feet deep to lay pipe goes against sustainable practice. Management plans should be for sustainable land management, nurturing soil, forests and wetlands as living organisms with life-producing power, instead of maintaining pipelines and waiting for toxic spills. Sustainable environmental activity means preserving long term growth, minimizing disturbance. A pipeline along an environmental route would mean disrupting natural areas, clear cutting in perpetuity.

Instead of opening a new right of way through private land, why not use sustainable right-of-way, including existing rights-of-way, or including replacing existing obsolete line, adding line on an existing right-of-way, or using a former transportation right of way? Surely these would show a more reasonable and prudent alternative.

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 a vulnerable aquifer, the Mississippi Headwaters and the lakes, streams, and rivers of Hubbard County and Northern Minnesota.

Sincerely, Jeanne Quillen