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SCOPING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

BAGLEY - MAY 10, 2016 - 3:00 P.M.

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

In the Matter of the Application of North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project in Minnesota

PUC DOCKET NO: CN-13-473

In the Matter of the Application of North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC for a Pipeline Routing Permit for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project in Minnesota

PUC DOCKET NO: PPL-13-474

In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership for a Certificate of Need for the Line 3 Pipeline Replacement Project in Minnesota from the North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border

PUC DOCKET NO: CN-14-916

In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership for a Route Permit for the Line 3 Pipeline Replacement Project in Minnesota from the North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border

PUC DOCKET NO: PPL-15-137

Rice Lake Community Center
13830 Community Loop
Bagley, Minnesota

COURT REPORTER: Janet Shaddix Elling, RPR

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1 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Good afternoon,
2 everyone. It's loud.

3 Good afternoon, everyone. We're going to
4 get started. Is this better? A little better?
5 Okay. I have a loud voice so I will keep it down.

6 Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for
7 being here. Or is it better if I use the
8 microphone? Okay.

9 All right. My name is Barb Tuckner, I am
10 subcontracted with the Department of Commerce to
11 serve as a moderator for these meetings. This is
12 our 11th meeting out of 12. Last night we were in
13 St. Paul, we are here today, and tomorrow we are
14 going to McGregor.

15 The purpose of these meetings is to -- is
16 to get your input regarding the environmental impact
17 statement. As you know, an environmental impact
18 statement is being prepared and the Department of
19 Commerce is doing its due diligence, traveling
20 across the state to hear from you on specifically
21 what should be studied.

22 I'm going to ask people who are having
23 outside conversations if they could end them because
24 it's hard to hear. Thank you.

25 The lights are what's causing the

1 buzzing, right?

2 All right. So we have a few ground rules
3 that we're going to -- that I'd like to go through.
4 And I've posted it up here, it's not absolutely
5 convenient, but I thought the walls would be a
6 little far away.

7 Maybe before I go through that I'd like
8 to introduce a few people in the room. We have
9 several state departments from the state of
10 Minnesota here today.

11 We have people representing the Public
12 Utilities Commission. Can you show where you are?
13 Right here. Thank you.

14 So if you want to talk to some of these
15 people one-on-one afterwards, you certainly can do
16 that.

17 We have people from the Department of
18 Natural Resources. All right. They are sitting
19 together, those two.

20 We also have people from the Minnesota
21 Pollution Control Agency. Where are they? MPCA,
22 where are you folks? Okay. In the back of the room
23 by the cookies, there you go.

24 We also have people here -- who did I
25 miss? Commerce, where are my Commerce people?

1 Okay. And then Enbridge is in the back
2 of the room as well. They can answer your questions
3 regarding right-of-way, construction, and easement.

4 So I'm going to go through some ground
5 rules today. And, again, this is in the spirit of
6 creating an environment where we can hold a lot of
7 different opinions in the room at the same time.

8 What we're asking is for people to be
9 respectful and courteous and patient so that
10 everyone can express their thoughts and their
11 recommendations.

12 Again, the Department of Commerce and the
13 DNR and the MPCA are extremely interested in hearing
14 from you specifically about what should be included
15 in the environmental impact statement, what should
16 we study. Because this is the document that will go
17 forward and help decision-makers make their
18 decisions. So that's why that's critical.

19 We're also asking for just other basic
20 courtesies. We're asking that you don't interrupt
21 anyone when they're speaking. Again, that's so we
22 can fully hear the comments. But also we have a
23 court reporter in the room, Janet. And Janet needs
24 to be able to hear the speakers so that she can
25 report their information. Hence, the remaining

1 quiet so others can hear as well. You can tell this
2 is going to be a little challenging with the
3 microphones, you might have to slow down your
4 comments a little bit.

5 We're asking that you not obstruct other
6 people's views so that they can see people who are
7 speaking. And then we're asking you to manage your
8 cell phones, whatever that is for you, shut it off,
9 put it on vibrate, whatever.

10 Okay. And then we'll get to the comment
11 period. We will set the time for five minutes,
12 allowing you to deliver your comments in that period
13 of time.

14 All right. I think that's it for the
15 preliminary stuff.

16 What I want to do is introduce you to
17 Jamie MacAlister, who works for the Department of
18 Commerce. Her title is Environmental Review
19 Manager, and she's going to provide a brief
20 presentation in an oral context for this whole
21 project.

22 Jamie.

23 COURT REPORTER: I have to turn off my
24 cell phone.

25 MS. JAMIE MACALISTER: That was close.

1 We almost had a cell phone violation here. We can't
2 give Janet anything.

3 Okay. So hopefully everyone grabbed a
4 yellow folder when they came in. And in your folder
5 you should have a copy of this presentation. It's
6 primarily useful because it has all of my contact
7 information on the last page. So hang onto that, if
8 for no other reason than if you need to get in touch
9 with me.

10 There's also a comment form, which you
11 can fill out and leave with us today or take it home
12 and send it in at your leisure. We have some
13 guidance on how to suggest an alternative. That,
14 again, is merely some guidance, it is meant to help
15 provide some context on some things that might be
16 easier for you to help us understand the intent of
17 your alternative.

18 We also have some alternatives evaluation
19 criteria. And that will be helpful for us to get
20 your feedback on that criteria. And there's a
21 preliminary table of contents, which may also help
22 you provide some feedback on either what is missing
23 on that list or if there are things that we can add
24 more meat to on the list, we'll flesh that out.

25 And you should have some maps up your

1 folder. One is for the route alternatives and one
2 is for all of the system alternatives. And I would
3 just like to say that all of those system
4 alternatives and route alternatives are currently in
5 the mix for being evaluated in the EIS. The system
6 alternatives are still being referred to as
7 alternatives because there are a number of people
8 who are much more comfortable and familiar with
9 system alternative than for us to rename them at
10 this point.

11 So if you're missing any of those
12 materials, please see someone at the front desk and
13 they can make sure that you have everything that you
14 need.

15 I would also like to remind everyone that
16 has filled out a speaker card to please state and
17 spell your name for Janet when you come up. She
18 will appreciate that.

19 So this is scoping meeting's for the
20 Sandpiper and Line 3 pipeline replacement project.
21 We have two projects here so we will have two EISs,
22 one for each project, and each project will cover
23 the certificate of need and the route permit.

24 And as you may imagine, there is a lot of
25 regulation that goes along with these projects. We

1 have the statutes and rules for the certificate of
2 need; the statutes and rules for the routing of the
3 pipelines; as well as the environmental impact
4 statement rules, Minnesota Rules 4410, that will be
5 used to develop the EIS.

6 Once we get through the environmental
7 impact statement process there will be contested
8 case hearings and the project will roll into that
9 phase of the decision-making.

10 These scoping meetings are really
11 important for us to get your feedback on issues and
12 concerns that you would like to see analyzed in the
13 EIS. How to participate in the development of route
14 or segment alternatives if you should choose to do
15 so, and all of this, in turn, helps us define the
16 scope that will be used for creating the EIS.

17 As you may know, we've had a couple of
18 rounds of scoping previously. We had a round of
19 scoping for Sandpiper a couple years ago, a round of
20 scoping for Line 3 last summer, and we have appeared
21 here for scoping for the EIS for both of these
22 projects. And as we've been out here, some of the
23 main issues and concerns that we have heard relate
24 to concerns about spills, ground and surface water
25 resources, wild rice, and tribal resources, jobs and

1 local economies, and climate change. This is just a
2 big picture of items that we've heard consistently
3 throughout the scoping meetings.

4 So we have been working with the public,
5 state, and federal agencies, tribal governments, and
6 we're here to find out if there's anything that
7 we've overlooked in the preparation of the draft
8 scope.

9 I'd like to quickly run through some of
10 the EIS process that we'll be going through. We are
11 here in the information and scoping meetings. Once
12 we get through with these, we will be developing a
13 final scoping decision that will be sent to the
14 Commission for final approval and that will result
15 in an EIS preparation notice. From there we will be
16 developing the EIS, the draft EIS, which will be
17 followed by draft EIS public meetings and so you'll
18 likely see us again next spring. There will be a
19 final EIS determination at the state and, once
20 again, once we get through the EIS process, it will
21 move into the contested case hearings and then
22 ultimately a decision on the route permit and the
23 certificate of need by the Public Utilities
24 Commission.

25 It can be very complicated to figure out

1 who all of the agencies are that are involved in
2 this and how this EIS gets developed and who makes
3 the permitting decision. So the Department of
4 Commerce serves as the technical staff to the Public
5 Utilities Commission. And for this project we are
6 working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7 and the Minnesota DNR. They're helping us on the
8 technical issues. We've also been working with
9 state, local, and federal governments, tribal
10 governments, the public, and other interested
11 parties, and all the information we have is put into
12 the EIS. The EIS in turn helps inform the Minnesota
13 Public Utilities Commission, who is the responsible
14 governmental unit, or RGU, for this project. So
15 they will use all of the information in the EIS when
16 they consider their permitting decision.

17 Again, I'd just like to remind everyone
18 that the system alternatives and the route
19 alternatives are currently on the table for
20 evaluation for the EIS. And these are all the route
21 and system alternatives that have been proposed over
22 the last couple of years.

23 And the permitting schedule that we
24 anticipate would be to have the final scoping
25 decision sometime this summer. A draft EIS and

1 draft EIS public meetings in the spring of 2017. A
2 final EIS followed by the adequacy determination in
3 the summer of 2017. Contested case hearings and
4 potentially a permit decision by the fall of 2017.

5 We take your comments in a variety of
6 formats. You can provide verbal comment to us here
7 this afternoon. You can leave your comment form
8 here with us. You can send it in. You can also
9 email me or fax me. However, you need to get your
10 comment to me by May 26th, 2016. So as long as I
11 have your comment by then it will be put into the
12 record.

13 I would like to let everyone know that
14 there will be two different sets of comments that
15 will be posted online. Verbal comments will be on
16 the transcript that Janet is preparing and those
17 will be found by location. So if you gave your
18 comments at this meeting, you can look for your
19 comment at this location. If you spoke at Thief
20 River Falls, if you spoke at multiple places, you'll
21 be able to find your comments based on the location.
22 All of the written comments that we receive will be
23 scanned and they'll be alphabetically listed on the
24 website and on eDockets. So there's a couple places
25 to look for your comments once we get them all

1 posted. And we won't get them posted right away,
2 after the 26th it'll probably be a week or so before
3 we get them altogether.

4 So, with that, I would like to turn this
5 over to Barb and she will go through the speaker
6 cards that we have.

7 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thanks, Jamie.

8 So I have a total of four cards.

9 We're going to talk a little bit about
10 how the process works. Again, when you come up and
11 provide your commends, we'd like you to really focus
12 on what should be included in the environmental
13 impact statement. You're also welcome to express
14 your opinions about the pipeline itself, that's
15 fine, but we really came here for what should be
16 included in the statement. That's very helpful to
17 us.

18 And if you -- after we're done with the
19 four cards, we will open it up for someone else who
20 wants to come up. We're going to get done sooner, I
21 just know what we've done in situations like this,
22 and then we will reopen the open house. And so we
23 will be here until 6:00 either way.

24 So what we're going to do right now is go
25 into the public comment phase, which is going to be

1 for five minutes. The ground rules are posted up
2 here. And then the multiple ways that Jamie just
3 spoke about in regards to providing comments is also
4 posted here and in the back.

5 I'd ask if you can sit at this table and
6 then we will turn on the clock and count down your
7 five minutes.

8 So the first person on our list is Nikki
9 Allen.

10 State your name and spell it. And do you
11 want a one-minute or two-minute warning?

12 MS. NIKKI ALLEN: Okay. So it's really
13 loud.

14 Nikki Allen, N-I-K-K-I, A-L-L-E-N. I
15 live in Zim, Minnesota. If you ever heard of the
16 Sax-Zim Bog, that's where I'm from. And I have some
17 very technical sort of analysis suggestions and I'll
18 try and be as brief as I can so I don't get cut off.

19 The EIS should not limit the scope of the
20 proposed project to Minnesota's geographic borders,
21 evaluating whether the additional oil to be
22 transported is needed in Superior. The EIS must
23 consider the overall project goals for crude oil
24 whose need is not yet determined from western North
25 Dakota or Canada refineries and export facilities

1 that are spread all over the East Coast, Canada, and
2 the Gulf Coast.

3 All I can hear is myself. I'm sorry.

4 The EIS must consider connected and
5 phased actions for Administration Rules 4410-2000,
6 subpart 4, which outlines multiple projects and
7 multiple stages of a single project must be
8 considered in total. So multiple selections of
9 future elements must be logical in relation to the
10 design of the total system or network and must not
11 be made merely to divide a large system into
12 exempted segments.

13 The EIS must consider the impact on
14 adjoining states. Running pipelines through to
15 Superior has an effect on Lake Superior and all of
16 the scenic rivers. The Minnesota EIS should be done
17 in connection with the Wisconsin and federal EISs to
18 continue cumulative environmental impacts across
19 those states.

20 The EIS must consider the incremental
21 effects of the project in addition to other projects
22 and the environment in relevant areas at that point
23 where is it expected to affect us and environmental
24 resources including future projects in Chicago.

25 The EIS projects in Minnesota and

1 Wisconsin must be considered part of one project
2 regardless of ownership or timing. That's from
3 Administration Rules 4410-1000 and 4410-2000.

4 The EIS must also consider cumulative
5 impact. So these pipelines will go along for
6 hundreds of miles, we all know this for Line 3, this
7 means adding another pipeline to the corridor with
8 seven existing pipelines for both Sandpiper and
9 Line 3. This means adding lines alongside four Koch
10 pipelines for several miles.

11 This EIS needs to consider the corridor
12 fatigue which already is acknowledged, and the
13 impact of these projects on that bigger potential of
14 a likely spill if multiple lines are in place, and
15 the cumulative exposure to natural disasters,
16 whether it's forest fires or movement of the earth.

17 The EIS must also consider cumulative
18 potential effects. This must include not only
19 Line 3 and Sandpiper, but the likelihood of
20 additional pipelines going through that same
21 corridor. It's not just Line 3 that's aging, lines
22 1, 2 and 4 are all aging and Minnesota has no plans
23 from Enbridge as to where their pipelines for these
24 things will go.

25 Thank you for sticking it out with me as

1 I plowed through that.

2 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thanks, Nikki.

3 The next person up is Anita Reyes.

4 MS. ANITA REYES: I would like to wait.

5 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Would you like to
6 be second?

7 MS. ANITA REYES: Fourth.

8 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: You want to be
9 fourth?

10 The next person up is Willis Mattison.

11 MR. WILLIS MATTISON: I will pass. Thank
12 you.

13 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: The next person up
14 is Dawn Goodwin.

15 MS. DAWN GOODWIN: (Ojibwe.) My name is
16 Dawn Goodwin, D-A-W-N, G-O-O-D-W-I-N.

17 I just need a moment. I need to start
18 this off in a different way than I expected. There
19 are not as many people here as I really hoped to be.
20 And I'll give you a little background on maybe the
21 possibilities of why.

22 My people are struggling right now with
23 serious addictions. I recently stepped out of my
24 comfort zone to help to do something about these
25 addictions that our people are struggling with.

1 We don't have time to mess around with
2 this. But they knew I'd be here and so I'm speaking
3 for my people. And I've said this before to the
4 people that have commented that know I'll be here
5 here present, and I said to them, well, I guess you
6 guys trust me to speak on your behalf. And they
7 just looked at me and smiled.

8 This is a very emotional time. And I
9 think one thing that you do need to make sure you
10 consider is not only just our natural environment,
11 our animals, our water, but our people and the
12 impacts that a spill could have on our people. Not
13 just the Native community, but the entire community.
14 Just knowing that this possibility of this coming is
15 enough to create a lot of anxiety within you.

16 We have two pipelines that we worry about
17 and wonder about. We have high rates of cancer in
18 our area. We don't know why, but there are high
19 rates not only in Clearwater County, but Beltrami
20 County. We know that pipelines run through these
21 areas so there's a lot more to consider than those
22 things.

23 And many people have talked numerous
24 times about what's at stake. So that may be another
25 reason why people aren't here like we would like

1 them to be, our members. They feel like they've
2 spoken.

3 They don't want this running through this
4 1855 treaty area. We understand it's not cutting
5 through our reservation, but it's cutting through
6 our watershed and our 1855 treaty area, which is
7 intended to be a buffer zone for our reservations
8 and additional areas for us to hunt and gather, the
9 things we need for our culture and our spiritual
10 being. It's all --

11 We're here for a reason. We're here
12 because of the wild rice. We're here because it had
13 everything we needed to live our lives as Anishinabe
14 people.

15 And then this three-minute rule, I guess
16 maybe I'll have to talk for another five bouts of
17 three, I don't know. Anyway.

18 So the historical trauma our people are
19 suffering right now and we're trying very hard to
20 help our people.

21 Two things I need to mention is wetland
22 restoration and prairie restoration in Minnesota
23 and in our area. We have two pristine blue lakes,
24 one on the east side of the pipeline, and also one
25 on the west side of the pipeline in close proximity.

1 And the pristine blue lake is turned blue because it
2 is spring fed. Those are prize lakes. It's a park,
3 and swimming and fishing. And we know that spring
4 fed could very well ruin our lakes, especially these
5 prize lakes that everybody treasures. They have
6 even been scuba diving there for years, ever since I
7 was really young. So the clarity of that water is
8 pristine.

9 Am I up with my time? Keep going? Okay.

10 I'm part of a berry pickers group we
11 formed and I'm speaking on their behalf also. We
12 formed because our prime berry patches are in this
13 1855 area, which is state land, which we've always
14 known that that was areas set aside for the public
15 to use and for us also to be able to access.
16 Because we knew, our ancestors knew that the
17 reservation boundaries wouldn't be enough to sustain
18 our people and that eventually we would have to go
19 out further so that we could live our lives in a
20 cultural way that we want to.

21 And I'll share a little bit of something
22 with you. I went off to college. And I was
23 expected to get my college degree, get a job. But
24 something was turned in my life and I started to
25 realize what was most important was my culture. I

1 discovered what I wanted to be. Finally, after --
2 I'm 45 years old now, at 40 years old I finally
3 discovered what I wanted to be when I grew up. I
4 wanted to be Anishinabe. And these pipelines
5 infringe on my rights.

6 And I will leave you with this. When we
7 went to the capitol last year, we were all standing
8 and waiting for someone to come out and talk to us.
9 And above his door it said, and I wish I had the
10 exact quote, and I had a friend go up there to go
11 get the quote for me, but they're closed. But it
12 said along the lines of, "Enjoying and practicing
13 your rights, but not infringing on the rights of
14 others."

15 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Dawn.

16 The next person up is Steve Clark.

17 MR. STEVE CLARK: Steve Clark, S-T-E-V-E,
18 C-L-A-R-K.

19 On behalf of the White Earth Tribal
20 Council, I'm asking Enbridge to move their route for
21 our wild rice, our Anishinabe, our plants, our
22 animals, and our health, and the whole 1855 treaty
23 authority rights.

24 Because -- is there anybody here from
25 Enbridge? I would like them to come up and explain

1 the spill at Kalamazoo that happened so many years
2 ago, and today that they're still cleaning that
3 spill up, and this is what's going to happen to us.

4 So, miigwech.

5 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Steve.

6 The last card is Anita, and then we will
7 open it up to see if others want to speak.

8 MS. ANITA REYES: My name is Anita Reyes,
9 A-N-I-T-A, R-E-Y-E-S. I'm also chair of the Winona
10 County DFL Party.

11 On March 13th I had a caucus meeting, we
12 had decided to send a resolution to the state DFL
13 for our party to oppose the pipeline coming through
14 the reservation land, and at the state convention,
15 in which I will be involved in, and I will vote for.

16 When it comes to a pipeline spilling or
17 rupturing, it is not a matter of if it will happen,
18 it's a matter of where and when. When I think of
19 Kalamazoo or Mayflower, Arkansas, the spills in
20 North Dakota, the ones that we have here in
21 Minnesota, the ones in the Gulf Coast, I think about
22 how ineffective the cleanup has been. It's been
23 purely cosmetic on the Gulf Coast. Workers are told
24 to dig down two feet worth of sand and remove it.
25 The workers said they just didn't get all the oil.

1 In Kalamazoo I had a friend send me a
2 video he made last year. He took a single spade and
3 pushed it into the ground and he put the full spade
4 down and produced oil.

5 In Mayflower it was so powerful that they
6 were unable to stop and block the air space above
7 the area where the spill happened. The footage from
8 Mayflower was to the residents, the media was
9 prevented from going in. Those people were evicted
10 from their homes, yet still responsible for their
11 mortgage payments and their utilities.

12 I want the EIS to think about the
13 environmental impact, the impact on the life, human
14 life, wildlife. You look at the spills that
15 happened and, of course, the Gulf Coast, one of my
16 friends, she said it's like they squirted pink into
17 the water and it is worse and they used far more
18 toxins than the oil itself and it was like pouring
19 paint thinner into the water.

20 There have been people seriously ill with
21 neurological problems, also respiratory problems.
22 Their animals are very, very ill. They are
23 suffering from having health issues, along with
24 alcohol for the people there.

25 And I remember last year when Enbridge

1 came in, the first thing coming out of their mouth
2 was talk about the millions that come into the
3 community. And I thought, well, what does that --
4 what does that mean to life? Billions in profit.
5 And we're not being selfish ourselves, we are
6 thinking about future generations. We don't want
7 the animals or our great-grandchildren to just be a
8 part of the zoo, or pictures of six-legged frogs.

9 This area has had a high rate of cancer
10 for over 25 years. My sister has lung and bone
11 cancer. She is stage 4. Her husband she buried
12 last year from pancreatic cancer. Her neighbor has
13 cancer. I'm waiting for my turn.

14 And I don't know what the hell do you
15 think you are doing on my land putting those
16 pipelines in. I don't know who the hell it is that
17 gives that permission because your pipelines are
18 bad.

19 I don't have nothing more. Thank you.

20 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Anita.

21 We do have another card. Audrey, let me
22 see if I can say your last name.

23 MS. AUDREY TSINNIE: Tsinnie.

24 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Tsinnie.

25 MS. AUDREY TSINNIE: Good afternoon. My

1 name is Audrey Tsinnie, A-U-D-R-E-Y, last name,
2 T-S-I-N-N-I-E.

3 I'm from Nisswa, transplanted from New
4 Mexico. I'm a pipeliner. I've got 19 years
5 invested in my trade. I've worked on the road 360
6 days out of the year. I've worked for Enbridge and
7 I've worked for other gas companies as well.

8 I make it a point to go out and give
9 insight from a professional point of view of what my
10 experience has been. I've learned a lot through the
11 years. There's been a lot of nurturing and grooming
12 from Enbridge as far as out in the field, practices,
13 standards, with people that they employ that have
14 been of the highest caliber. They utilize some of
15 the best people in the trade and they do set the
16 highest standard, in my opinion, as far as dealing
17 with a lot of the regulatory agencies. DNR,
18 environmental agencies, state and tribal, federal
19 regulatory agencies.

20 From my personal perspective, I have seen
21 an example set by Enbridge. A lot of the other gas
22 companies that I worked for down in the south,
23 Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico,
24 compare themselves and try to set the precedent set
25 by Enbridge. That's my personal experience.

1 I'm going to tell you that I grew up in
2 New Mexico, you know, where we really appreciate
3 what pipelines do for us. It carries water. We use
4 a lot of the natural gas for heating our homes and
5 to cook with. And now we built water lines and also
6 carry crude. Maybe not as much as they do up here.
7 And I have worked really hard and am an appreciative
8 consumer of these products. They refine some of
9 these fuels for our use, for a lot of our day-to-day
10 products. And I think a lot of us use those
11 products.

12 We drive vehicles, we warm our houses, we
13 heat our water. And it just goes on and on. I
14 challenge you to look up the things that we use on a
15 daily basis. Being from New Mexico, we don't have
16 pipelines that we do here, like I say. We have to
17 haul our wood, we have to haul our water, we have to
18 haul water for animals, ourselves, and for crops.
19 You know, so we really appreciate pipelines where I
20 come from because we can flip the switch and warm
21 our house. We don't have to go haul wood and coal
22 and plan in advance. We don't have to spend days on
23 end chopping wood and bringing in wood and coal.
24 Where I come from, it's a reality.

25 I do not choose to spend my time hauling

1 coal, water, and wood. I feel like I try to involve
2 to the most of my time and try to contribute. I
3 just feel so strongly having to come out and say
4 that this is my land too. It's not just yours or
5 just mine, it's all of ours. And I feel like for me
6 I try to involve and share knowledge with people
7 that ask me. I try to share some of the things that
8 I've known in my culture, being my culture and from
9 professional experience, I will say that I have
10 learned a lot in the pipeline family.

11 We live on the road 360 days out of the
12 year. And it's hard. It's a hard, long day for us.
13 We're in the elements. And we don't take for
14 granted when we get to go home and wash up and get
15 in a warm room. And it is hard. Because we don't
16 see our families, we don't get home-cooked meals.

17 Unless we're outside, there's always
18 somebody wanting to talk about work no matter where
19 we go. That's one thing that impresses me about our
20 lifestyle, is our family of pipeliners constantly
21 try to be the best at our game, we constantly
22 research what we do. We try to keep up with the
23 newest standards. And I will say that Enbridge does
24 come out and train their people as much as possible.
25 They come out on the lines and they critique what we

1 do and see that we're implementing the latest that
2 they require. And for me, as a pipeliner, it's
3 really hard to sit there and listen to how evil the
4 pipelines are, you know. I was driving in and
5 realizing that there's so many roads all over the
6 United States and I wonder how many of these roads
7 are built using petroleum products? I was reading
8 this morning there's a lot of recycling that's
9 happening in northern Minneapolis. There's nitrate
10 found in the water because of the recycling plant.
11 Things like that are direct pollution, they know
12 where it's coming from, but yet the pipelines is
13 being generalized as the most evil. You know, we're
14 categorized, I feel like erroneously, with the
15 mining.

16 Now I understand, you know, it's a
17 different situation, and I don't appreciate it as a
18 pipeliner that we're polluters, that we wreak havoc.
19 I don't take that very well. Because 19 years of my
20 life I have sacrificed time away from my family,
21 away from my children, the comforts of my home, a
22 home-cooked meal, on and on and on.

23 My career is building these pipelines,
24 but yet we are made to feel that we're the most
25 evildoers out there. And I just have to share with

1 you that I totally disagree with that. I believe
2 what I do, I feel like I'm good at what I do, and I
3 feel like I work for reputable companies. And I
4 feel like we try to involve and work together and
5 share our knowledge.

6 I also feel like we open our hearts and
7 minds to hear and try to share our knowledge and
8 explain the best we can, but I don't feel like a lot
9 of environmentalists are open to hear us. And it's
10 too late to come and talk and share a little bit of
11 our lifestyle. You know, because we have long
12 hours. I know everybody works for a living, you
13 know. We don't have a lot of time. I spent 360
14 days on the road and a lot of pipeliners do, you
15 know. And it's not an easy lifestyle and it's not
16 easy to take when someone says, you know, our water
17 is contaminated.

18 You know, we're talking about the
19 Sandpiper right now. Has there been a spill? I
20 want to know. In my professional opinion, I know
21 that they do risk management, they audit a lot of
22 pipeline, and they check periodically. There's room
23 for improvement, I agree with that, you know, and I
24 just think that we need to challenge ourselves to
25 learn how to get involved and learn more about

1 what's behind building these, monitoring them. And
2 asking the legislature and the governments, whether
3 it be a federal, state, or tribal standard, so that
4 they can mandate more monitoring and more
5 instructors to come out and really look at what they
6 need to do to bring our standards up.

7 It was the best of my recollection, back
8 when there was an explosion in New Mexico, that I
9 was really aware of when the federal government
10 started looking at me to check these pipelines and
11 make sure that they were solid and up. Until then,
12 the best I could see, you know, they didn't really
13 have plans to keep up the monitoring. There's room
14 for improvement there.

15 But I think we need to work together to
16 be open-minded and open-hearted and honest. And I
17 feel like Enbridge is approachable. And I just ask
18 that, you know, we as citizens all over, you know,
19 be open-minded and willing to learn and meet
20 partway, you know. And I think keeping an open mind
21 helps the dialogue so that we can work together and
22 get our standards going and bring them up.

23 But I'm pro pipeline, I put my career
24 with them and I'm not going to change. I put a lot
25 of effort into it and I believe it's the best for me

1 and I appreciate everything.

2 So thank you for your time.

3 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thanks, Audrey.

4 Have we completed the cards? No, we
5 haven't, we've got two more.

6 All right. Don Wedll.

7 I'm timing people, but if it feels like
8 you've completed your message, I might just suggest
9 you wrap it up. If you haven't, then just let me
10 know.

11 MR. DON WEDLL: My name is Donald Wedll,
12 W-E-D-L-L.

13 I'd like to talk a little bit about the
14 process that we're going through.

15 First, I would like to say that I do not
16 believe that the Department of Commerce has the
17 expertise or the staffing to actually carry out the
18 idea behind an environmental impact assessment. The
19 Department of Commerce is involved in making sure
20 that businesses prosper. It's not the process of
21 the Department of Commerce to provide an evaluation
22 of the environment. And as a result of that, I
23 believe this process is flawed from the start.

24 What you are asking your partner, whose
25 sole goal is to create a business enterprise for the

1 state of Minnesota, to then turn around and become
2 the environmental department that is going to
3 evaluate whether this is good for Minnesota. And I
4 think that in itself is a substantial flaw in the
5 system that's being asked to be done.

6 It's not necessarily the Department of
7 Commerce's fault, but it is the fault of lobbyists
8 and legislators and governors who allow this to take
9 place. That is where it occurred. I think in this
10 process people need it to be explained as to what is
11 going on and why this is the wrong process for this
12 evaluation.

13 I have a large background in
14 environmental work. I've worked with the U.S. EPA,
15 I worked with tribal governments, I've written MEPA
16 documents. And because there's really limited time,
17 these are substantial documents and they shouldn't
18 be done with a very minimal amount of review and
19 understanding of what's being presented.

20 The cumulative impact, for example, is
21 what is the impact of a pipeline. And there's going
22 to be people who say, well, it's just the impact on
23 a little strip of land where the pipeline is laid.
24 It's not about what it carries, it's not about
25 anything like that, it's just this strip of land.

1 And it is not -- it's not what cumulative impact
2 means. Cumulative impact means what are the effects
3 of this entire activity. And it's more than just
4 the line in the ground, it's the material that is
5 going to get in the environment, and there's a wide
6 range of consequences of that and that all needs to
7 be reviewed and understood. So that's one thing
8 that needs to be done.

9 The second thing about an cumulative
10 impact that needs to be included in this is the idea
11 of what are you going to do when you end this
12 pipeline? Nobody is talking about abandoning the
13 pipeline today, you're all saying let's build it and
14 let's get this done because it means jobs and it
15 means important things. It means energy so we can
16 drive our cars.

17 Right now there's talk about abandoning
18 Line 3, which is in a corridor where it exists which
19 could be a corridor where this line could be placed,
20 but they don't want to do that, they want to create
21 a new corridor. There's a number of reasons for
22 that and that should be reviewed and understood
23 before any evaluation about whether you build a new
24 pipeline.

25 And so my one main issue about the

1 cumulative effects is there has to be regulations in
2 place of how abandonment will be taken care of so
3 that we don't dump this on our children. And that's
4 exactly what we're doing. We're going to create
5 something so that we can have a job or we can do
6 something better today, make a little money and the
7 stock market stays stable or whatever so that we can
8 dump this problem on our children.

9 And if you don't think that's happening,
10 our fathers, who allowed the building of Pipeline 3,
11 dumped that issue on us today and nobody wants to
12 talk about it, how to deal with it.

13 We're told it's okay, just leave it,
14 it'll be fine. And everybody who believes that, all
15 you have to do is look at the idea that, oh, we can
16 never pollute the atmosphere, the atmosphere in the
17 17 and 1800s, in the Industrial Revolution,
18 everybody was convinced you could never pollute the
19 earth because it was so huge. Wrong. We did
20 pollute it. And we're still polluting it. And
21 those are things that are going on.

22 So that's one of my comments. I'll
23 submit some other written comments, but I think that
24 you have to have it in your cumulative impact, a
25 procedure for abandonment, you can't allow the EIS

1 to move forward without that.

2 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Don.

3 The next person up is Rebecca

4 McCradie-Shanku.

5 MS. REBECCA MCCRADIE-SHANKU: Rebecca

6 McCradie, M-C-C-R-A-D-I-E, S-H-A-N-K-U:

7 I'm a member here in White Earth. I
8 don't claim to be a perfect speaker, but I am a
9 concerned citizen. I'm living in Fargo, North
10 Dakota and I'm very interested in our community.

11 First of all, I'm against this pipeline
12 not just on our lands, but on all lands. I really
13 like the guy who spoke last. So if this is going to
14 be something we're going to vote on or that's going
15 to take a long time, because my grandson has a
16 right, he has a voice. He's four years old. Just
17 give him a chance to have a voice on this. I really
18 appreciate you bringing up the events later in
19 years.

20 We're kind of talking about this pipeline
21 and the effects it's going to have on the
22 environment and the land by these things. If these
23 things don't get processed in a day or two, we also
24 got to think about the fact that just building the
25 pipeline, you know, is destroying of the land, the

1 lakes, polluting the air. This is all stuff going
2 into the pipeline.

3 Also, contaminations. Contaminations on
4 the groundwater, stuff is ultimately affected just
5 by building this pipeline. One of the issues on
6 this list was the wild rice, but it doesn't mention
7 anything about the other food sources and the other
8 medicines that are provided to us. And/or our
9 wildlife. We must also think of that.

10 Cultural concerns. I was wondering how
11 much the Commission knows about our cultural way of
12 life? And I'm not just talking about being a Native
13 or having some of our beliefs, but the traditional
14 ways. I'm Native and I'm just learning now who I am
15 now. I've been going to school. I've been really
16 studying, trying to follow the way of life. And
17 this is going to be a lifelong process for me to
18 understand it. So how much of our culture do you
19 know? It's taken me a lifetime already.

20 I don't believe the pipeline for any
21 state, we're just talking about this area here, and
22 if I have to talk somewhere else, I'll talk in North
23 Dakota, I live in Fargo. I don't want it at all. I
24 can't speak for everyone.

25 I don't want us to live our lives by the

1 almighty dollar. We should be living our lives by
2 the Almighty God. I feel sorry for the woman who
3 talked earlier and is working 360 days out of the
4 year. Our family needs us. It's not about the
5 money. You can't bring money with you. The story
6 of this land is we will be seeing our graves a lot
7 sooner than later.

8 So I don't know if I hit any of the
9 subjects that you wanted to hear, but these are the
10 things I feel. If we could just sit back and really
11 sit on this and what this is going to do. I really
12 appreciate the man speaking before me and saying
13 this isn't about right now, this is also about our
14 future. And, like I said, my four-year-old grandson
15 has a say in this.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Rebecca.

18 I have another card here from Winona
19 LaDuke.

20 MS. WINONA LADUKE: Hi again. Long time,
21 no see. Hello, Janet.

22 Winona LaDuke, W-I-N-O-N-A, L-A-D-U-K-E.

23 I testified last night but I was going to
24 state a couple different things today. And I wanted
25 to say a little bit of what I said last night so my

1 community can hear what I said.

2 So first, again, I am testifying under
3 duress. Like some of the people pointed out, we
4 believe this is the inappropriate forum. We asked
5 the Department of Commerce not to do this because we
6 don't think you have exercised good process
7 throughout this process. You were forced by the
8 Court to carry out environmental hearings. So that
9 was not something you wanted to do, but we
10 understand this is the process so we're here.

11 The second thing is I feel like I'm
12 sitting down and talking to a camel. You can sit
13 around and make whatever small talk you want, in the
14 end we know exactly what you're after.

15 So I'm going to tell you why it's a bad
16 idea to put this here, as many have already said.
17 Our community is under a great deal of duress. That
18 is what Dawn talked about. I am aware of that and
19 became finally aware of that after interviewing
20 about 300 members of my community in the process of
21 campaigning for office. In that process I did find
22 out the extent of the duress. And there are many
23 people who are not here because they're under
24 significant duress.

25 Putting a pipeline has added to that

1 duress. That's the fact of the situation. We've
2 already been screwed for 200 years by the State of
3 Minnesota. This is not 1989. This is not 1904.
4 This is not 1930 where you can drive us out by
5 gunpoint and burn our houses. This is 2016. You
6 cannot treat us like that anymore. But that is what
7 this process is attempting to do, to shove a
8 pipeline down our throats. Whether it is within the
9 watershed of Big Rice Lake or the 1855 treaty area.
10 That's what our ancestors reserved for us because
11 this is where our life is. This is where Anishinabe
12 people belong.

13 I submitted yesterday formally to you a
14 study which outlines at least 180 sacred sites,
15 cultural sites, exactly along the Sandpiper route.
16 That is why you cannot put a pipeline through here.
17 It's because this is our sacred area. And you
18 cannot put a pipeline through our sacred
19 territories. But if you bring something like that
20 in here, every study internationally indicates that
21 you will cause destruction and genocide of people.
22 That's what happened in Canada where they put the
23 dam, the big dam up. The Pimicikamak people, 16
24 suicides a couple months ago, in March. There were
25 about six youth suicides in three months. 190

1 people attempting suicide and a hundred kids on
2 suicide watch. That's what happens when you shove a
3 project down the throat of our people. The same
4 thing with a huge diamond mine, it happens time and
5 time again. I refuse to be a test case for
6 genocide.

7 What I will say is that in the bigger
8 cumulative impact you must consider that. The human
9 health impact for pipeline projects, that is part of
10 the environment and that is part of the larger
11 impact. We also feel that you should look at the
12 whole issue of need. Quite frankly, since this
13 project is driven largely by the Marathon Oil
14 Company, and there is actually no drilling rigs
15 operational by Marathon in the Bakken, we would like
16 to see exactly where the need would be for a
17 pipeline when they have no active drilling rights in
18 the Bakken. What would justify such a project and
19 so much death for our people?

20 In addition to that, as people have
21 stated, we believe that the front end impact should
22 be considered. If you poison the people in the
23 Bakken, someone has to pay for that. This pipeline
24 justifies poisoning the people of the Bakken. And
25 not only the people, everything that is out there.

1 There are now more lawsuits in the Bakken than
2 active drilling rigs. That is a problem that is a
3 part of this process. You can go to the tar sands
4 and we all know, because we have seen fires burning
5 and have seen the smoke in our villages. And we are
6 not stupid, we know that that smoke came from the
7 Alberta oil fields. And climate change. The fact
8 is that we all know the number of forest fires has
9 increased dramatically. This pipeline is also
10 responsible for that.

11 Finally, I'm going to reiterate a couple
12 of things. Audrey brought up some very good points.
13 The fact is, is that pipeline companies should be
14 responsible to the people that are there. So those
15 of you that are here for Enbridge, we ask you to be
16 responsible for the six lines that already cross our
17 territory. And what responsibility looks like is
18 that you don't get to make a new mess until you
19 clean up the old mess. What responsibility looks
20 like is that you have to fully disclose what is
21 going on with 900 structural anomalies. And the
22 line is basically weeping, there are holes in the
23 line all along, we have a right to full disclosure.

24 Enbridge has told us they cannot put a
25 new line in between all of their lines, they have

1 said that would be too complicated and too
2 difficult. But Audrey explained to me yesterday
3 that it is quite easy to do that. It's more
4 expensive. They're not completely unchallenged.
5 But if you can trench in the middle of a city to put
6 up a new gas main, you can trench in northern
7 Minnesota to take out a weeping line. That is what
8 we want.

9 And we want Enbridge to be responsible.
10 The company that Audrey says that you are, we want
11 you to act like that for our people throughout the
12 1855 territories. And within that what we want to
13 point out is that there is a severe danger that
14 there is already a huge Superfund site underneath
15 those weeping lines.

16 I believe it was in 2012 that they did
17 discover, after reporting in the 1980s, a small leak
18 in Hiawatha National Forest, right in the Upper
19 Peninsula of Michigan. The report was there. There
20 was a small leak and it was Enbridge's line. They
21 said this is a small leak, five gallons, ten barrels
22 in 2012. 32 years later, they had to remove 825
23 tons of contaminated soil. That is what we believe
24 is under Line 3. That is what we believe is under
25 Line 4. And that is what we want full disclosure

1 of.

2 So with all due respect, Jamie, we
3 believe that a full cumulative environmental impact
4 statement should, as my colleague has said, explain
5 why they cannot clean up and use the present line.
6 We would like a full disclosure of what is going on
7 on Line 3 at present and a full explanation as to
8 why they cannot use that exact line for their new
9 line. That should be part of it.

10 Thank you very much for your time.

11 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Winona.

12 We will open the floor for anyone else
13 who wants to come up.

14 If you'd state your name and spell it for
15 the court reporter.

16 MR. WILLIS MATTISON: My name is Willis
17 Mattison, W-I-L-L-I-S, M-A-T-T-I-S-O-N.

18 I wasn't going to speak tonight, or this
19 afternoon, until I heard you people speak. And I
20 believe you deserve to hear the truth.

21 Virtually nothing that you have told
22 these people tonight will make one iota of
23 difference in the environmental impact statement.
24 You may get a few paragraphs that repeat some of the
25 things you have said, but it will only do that.

1 The process you're participating in
2 tonight, or this afternoon, is virtually
3 counterfeit. It is moving through the process,
4 giving you the impression that you have an
5 opportunity to be heard. You will not be heard.

6 I have a 40-year experience with
7 environmental impact statements. I have suffered
8 the political consequences of attempting to tell the
9 truth in an environmental impact statement. Please
10 do not hold the Department of Commerce people who
11 are here today responsible for the outcome. They
12 are as much the victims of the process as you are.

13 The political machine that controls the
14 environmental impact statements is more powerful
15 than I am, is more powerful than you are, it's more
16 powerful than the Department of Commerce staff.
17 They have their careers on the line. If they speak
18 the truth, it'll be the last opportunity they have
19 to speak the truth. This environmental impact
20 statement will not address climate change. I'll
21 guarantee you. I would put my entire house and
22 property on the line if this environmental impact
23 statement tells the truth about the consequences of
24 this project. It will not.

25 I have been told it will not because this

1 is not the time to talk about that issue. This is a
2 pipeline. Climate change is a bigger issue that
3 we'll deal with somewhere else down the line because
4 it's someone else who will make that decision some
5 time later.

6 The water quality we have in Minnesota,
7 as Governor Dayton pointed out, is the sum total of
8 hundreds of thousands of little decisions to be made
9 over time that got us to this place. The climate is
10 a result of hundreds of thousands of individual
11 decisions that we've made over time, and each one of
12 those decisions, when we got them, we said, well,
13 this isn't the one that'll make the difference. Not
14 this one, maybe the next one, or there's some other
15 plan.

16 Jamie and I were having a conversation
17 before this meeting and she said we won't deal with
18 that here because the state has a plan. What was
19 the name of that plan? It is a plan of review of
20 climate change. And they will make that decision
21 over there. But this is a pipeline, so never mind.
22 You know, we need to get this done and then we'll go
23 on to the bigger issue of climate change and then it
24 might deal with the tribal issues of wild rice.

25 And, by the way, if your wild rice is

1 damaged, they will ship some in for you, so don't
2 worry, it's not a problem, it'll be taken care of.
3 Yeah, right.

4 So please don't be deceived. Stand with
5 me and stand up to these agencies and force them to
6 tell the truth. Because citizens support each and
7 every one of the agencies, not just the Department
8 of Commerce. We will have to prop up the Department
9 of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control, even
10 the Department of Health. We'll have to prop up the
11 Transportation Department. Every one of these
12 departments sits on the Environmental Quality Board.
13 And they can support each other if we support them
14 to tell the truth. Not only to Governor Dayton, but
15 to the legislature. And we just need to say do not
16 lie to us anymore. Let us all stand together and
17 speak the truth and say no more, not now, not ever
18 more, not after this. This is the one time we say
19 no.

20 But we have to say no together. If we
21 say it individually, they'll run over us. But if
22 you tribal members and we, the nontribal members,
23 get inside these agencies and say now is the time to
24 tell the truth. We don't want this pipeline. We
25 want wild rice, and I want culture, and I want

1 people. So please stand with me. I stand with you.

2 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you.

3 All right. Is there anyone else who
4 would like to speak who hasn't had an opportunity to
5 speak yet? Anyone else?

6 Okay. What we do at this time is we
7 reopen the open house. We will be here until 6:00.
8 There's many cookies over there. And we will answer
9 any questions you may have.

10 MS. WINONA LADUKE: So based on what
11 Willis just said, you know, I actually -- we will
12 know when the EIS comes out if our comments are
13 reflected. We will know that you listened. And
14 you're the person who's writing the report. And so
15 show me that our full comments will be reflected in
16 the document.

17 MS. JAMIE MACALISTER: Yes, that is the
18 purpose of these scoping meetings, is to get the
19 information to us so that we're addressing the
20 issues and concerns that we know that you have.

21 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Dawn has asked to
22 speak again.

23 MS. DAWN GOODWIN: (Ojibwe.) Dawn
24 Goodwin, D-A-W-N, G-O-O-D-W-I-N.

25 Just a few more comments I wanted to

1 make, being that we have a little extra time.

2 I attended a public meeting in Bagley
3 last year, was it, or not this last February, but a
4 year ago. And there was an Enbridge representative
5 there at the time, and it really concerned me. It
6 was right there at the meeting of the talk,
7 beginning of the talk. She said, well, let's, you
8 know, we're here to talk about the Enbridge, the
9 pipeline, and this is our proposed route and there's
10 some other routes here, but why should we stir up
11 these other communities?

12 So my statement I have, or maybe it's a
13 question also, is why are we worried about stirring
14 up these other communities? Why would they be
15 stirred up? And, also, I know that when we build a
16 skyscraper, you need to have a demolition plan.
17 Where is the demolition plan for these pipelines?
18 We need to get with the times.

19 Thank you.

20 MS. BARBARA TUCKNER: Thank you, Dawn.

21 Anyone else?

22 Okay. Thank you, everyone. Again, the
23 open house will be reopened. And there's plenty of
24 refreshments for you to take with you or to consume
25 here.

1 Thank you, everyone. And the people from
2 the DNR and MPCA, Commerce, and Enbridge, will be
3 here to field your questions. Thank you, everyone.

4 MS. DAWN GOODWIN: We also have a meal
5 after the meeting. We'll get that set up. We'll be
6 having a feast to honor the things that we're
7 protecting. We have our water, we have berries, and
8 we have our wild rice.

9 Thank you.

10 (Meeting concluded.)

11 (Private comments.)

12 MR. JOE PLUMER: Joe Plumer.

13 I have a couple of things that I wanted
14 to point out. One, that we definitely have to have
15 in the scoping alternative routes, you know, that go
16 south of our lake country.

17 Of course, this is a -- this place right
18 here, Rice Lake Community Center, is right near
19 Lower Rice Lake, which is a big ricing lake for the
20 White Earth tribe. It's the largest and most
21 consistently producing rice. There's zero margin
22 for error. We talk about all the precautions that
23 are taken, but there's zero margin for error. Rice
24 is a very sensitive plant and if you go and mess it
25 up, mess up the water, the hydrology is destroyed.

1 It takes a long time to come back.

2 The other point I wanted to make is the
3 abandonment. Nobody has been saying much of the
4 abandonment. And that's the Line 3 that is going
5 through the full length, the full 45 miles of Leech
6 Lake Reservation, one of the six pipes in the land.
7 And Enbridge has been, I believe, pushing the
8 envelope and trying to see how far they can go in
9 establishing a practice for the decommissioning of
10 pipelines. This will be the first one. And if they
11 can get this practice established by just leaving it
12 in and not saying too much about it, then that's
13 going to be the established track record for further
14 abandonments. So we have to pay particular
15 attention to that.

16 I'm a Leech Lake tribe member and I'm
17 disappointed that there were no hearings around
18 Leech Lake with the importance of this issue. I
19 informed everyone around Leech Lake about this
20 abandonment, what the plans are. And Commerce, I
21 don't think, understands the complexity of the
22 relationship between the Forest Service and the
23 Leech Lake Band, the Chippewa National Forest that
24 goes through there, and it was Leech Lake Band that
25 negotiated that permit that allows that main line to

1 go through there. It's not something that can be
2 easily upset. And I haven't heard anything out of
3 anybody from Commerce. I'm wondering if they can
4 just keep their mouth shut and nobody will know, but
5 I think this is an important issue.

6 MR. DANIEL WILSON: My name is Daniel
7 Wilson, D-A-N-I-E-L, W-I-L-S-O-N.

8 And I happen to be concerned about the
9 route that -- the proposed preferred route for
10 Enbridge. And I'm particularly concerned about the
11 proximity to Itasca State Park.

12 And so part of what is a great concern is
13 the potential for damage to something that is very
14 sacred to all of us, has been sacred to Native
15 peoples long before we arrived. But since the --
16 since, we have come to know that this was the
17 Headwaters of the great Mississippi River. This has
18 become a national treasure, and with 300,000 or more
19 people coming each year to see this national
20 treasure, it seems like this should be protected
21 without any compromise whatsoever.

22 I think of our Itasca State Park in the
23 same way that we think of our national state parks.
24 These are treasures not just for the state of
25 Minnesota, but in the case of Itasca, this is a

1 national treasure. In fact, people come from all
2 over the world.

3 When you mention that there's a proposed
4 pipeline in proximity to our Headwaters area, people
5 can't believe it. It's hard to explain that we
6 could even consider putting a route so close and run
7 the risk that there could be a spill at some point
8 in the future that would blemish our waterway for an
9 extended period of time.

10 When I speak today I have to acknowledge
11 that I don't represent anybody. I'm a neighbor to
12 the Headwaters area, we live a dozen miles to the
13 west. We're involved as volunteers to Itasca State
14 Park and provide some volunteer support. But I
15 would say that mostly it is something that all
16 Minnesotans have experienced, that we who have had
17 the opportunity to come to this park, it's a very
18 personal experience and something that we remember
19 from the time we were children and continue to be
20 part of us throughout our time and we want to
21 protect it.

22 Now that I'm retired and living in
23 proximity to the park, I've also become acquainted
24 with the economics and the impact of Itasca State
25 Park to the lives of so many people in the area, and

1 I become more and more acquainted with the citizens
2 of Park Rapids and their concerns as well.

3 So I simply offer that the route needs to
4 be reconsidered. That we have something special and
5 pristine to be protected, and that this is not
6 something to be compromised.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. PETER HOVDE: My name is Peter Hovde,
9 P-E-T-E-R, H-O-V-D-E.

10 And Daniel is a tough act to follow so
11 I'll try to be half as eloquent as he is.

12 I get involved in these things because I
13 see things that Enbridge puts out, for example. And
14 so much of it glosses over a lot of the details and
15 facts that would give quite a different impression.

16 I spent most of my career doing
17 scientific analyses of social problems and
18 environmental problems. And there's so much of
19 Enbridge, Enbridge's proposal, that doesn't meet the
20 facts or doesn't meet the scientific tests that one
21 could have.

22 I worry that apart from the Itasca
23 location, which is -- I'm just amazed that that
24 didn't raise a red flag right at the beginning and
25 scotch this thing. But one thing that I've

1 discovered from a Canadian journal, I'm sorry, I
2 forgot the name, it was an analyses of what's called
3 frost upheaval, and what happens to a pipeline is
4 one winter there will be water underneath the
5 pipeline and it freezes and that raises the pipeline
6 a bit. And come spring it doesn't go back down, but
7 the next season the same thing happens. So pretty
8 soon you have this pipeline stretching and bending
9 and going up.

10 Now, a lot of this research had to do
11 with Arctic tundra, but it also -- this frost
12 upheaval also happens here. In fact, the Honor the
13 Earth writers had pictures of the pipeline, the
14 existing pipeline coming out of the ground.

15 Now, these things will stretch, they may
16 break catastrophically, but they usually don't,
17 they just start leaking. It is like that pinpoint
18 leak, except it's a different process. And here
19 Enbridge wants to put two pipelines, replace one and
20 the new one, Sandpiper, carrying the most -- the
21 North Dakota crude, which is the most volatile crude
22 there is.

23 And you know what happened in that poor
24 Canadian town when the train blew up. And then
25 you've got the replacement, which is going to be

1 carrying tar sands crude, which is the heaviest,
2 most destructive should it ever leak. And you've
3 got bigger pipelines moving more oil, and I just
4 think that that is an invitation to disaster.

5 And ignoring the fact, the effects that
6 the construction will have on the ecosystem,
7 especially birds and so forth if it should not leak.
8 And then I think one thing that gets lost is what's
9 on the other end of the pipeline that is the source?

10 My father was born in Stanley, North
11 Dakota, which is the epicenter of the oil boom out
12 there. It's turned that community and those
13 surrounding communities into environmental and
14 social cesspools. And for that reason -- that
15 reason alone would be enough for me to scotch this
16 thing.

17 And then if you go to the tar sands, it's
18 even worse. Business Insider, a Canadian
19 publication, did a flyover with photos of what's
20 going on up there. And it's unbelievable, the
21 environmental destruction that occurs. And here's
22 Enbridge saying how they get the land back, restore
23 the land. What a bunch of nonsense. I mean, they
24 cut down a 100-year-old forest and plant a cornfield
25 or a grassland instead and say that this is

1 restoration. That's just nonsense.

2 You can tell I'm a little bit worked up
3 about this. But the more I think about it, the more
4 worked up I get.

5 And here we are in the 21st Century,
6 worried about global warming. We should be turning
7 more and more -- which we are, but not fast
8 enough -- to alternative energies. And here we want
9 to lay down this old pipeline idea, the old carbon
10 economy, which just to me makes no sense at all.
11 It's a throwback to the past that'll freeze us into
12 more of a carbon economy than we would have
13 otherwise.

14 So I'm afraid I could go on and on and
15 on, but I'll just let that go.

16 (Private comments concluded.)

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