

Line 5

Resolution to Reaffirm Support for Decommissioning and Removing Enbridge Line 5

WHEREAS, Governor Whitmer and Attorney General Nessel were elected in 2018 advocating the need for decommissioning Enbridge Line 5 and the Attorney General has filed a lawsuit to terminate the 1953 Easement for Line 5 by enforcing the public trust doctrine which forbids encumbering or risking state lands or waters for private purposes;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party approved Resolution #1 entitled “Decommissioning the Enbridge Line 5 Pipeline” at the Spring 2018 Convention;

WHEREAS, Line 5 continues to pump nearly 23 million gallons of crude oil and natural gas liquids each day from western Canada through the Great Lakes basin with about 95% of the volume being delivered to Canadian refineries in Sarnia, Ontario for Canadian domestic consumption and export; Michigan has no obligation to permanently serve as a high-risk shortcut for Canadian energy deliveries;

WHEREAS, Governor Whitmer has established the U.P. Energy Task Force to recommend actions for reducing energy costs and identifying potential alternatives for energy supplies to the 12,000 Upper Peninsula propane users supplied from the Line 5 Rapid River facility through viable alternatives;

WHEREAS, reputable studies have indicated that U.P. propane users currently supplied by the Rapid River facility can be supplied by truck or rail alternatives for not more than a nickel per gallon;

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan sanctioned 2017 Alternative Analysis Report conducted by Dynamic Risk, Inc., established that shutting down Line 5 would cause a retail gasoline price increase of only one to two cents per gallon;

WHEREAS, the risk of a devastating oil spill or explosive rupture of natural gas liquids along the entire 645 miles of Line 5 is both real and unacceptable;

WHEREAS, the Line 5 Straits of Mackinac crossing is now more than 50% suspended above the bottom by support structures that were approved in violation of the Michigan Submerged Lands Act that requires a comprehensive environmental impact and alternative assessments and without an independent and impartial review of the failure risks associated with this new design;

WHEREAS, the Enbridge proposed tunnel project under the Straits of Mackinac has no firm completion date and can take longer than 5-7 years to complete due to technical and permitting issues and Enbridge insists on operating the dangerous elevated lines for an indefinite period until the tunnel would become a reality;

WHEREAS, the Governor has proposed that the 66-year old twin pipelines be removed from the Straits of Mackinac by June 2021 and Enbridge has failed to negotiate a fixed decommissioning

date for these lines and insists on an indefinite tunnel build schedule;

WHEREAS, for such an indefinite period, Michigan cannot continue to assume the grave risk of an anchor drag or other rupture of the existing twin pipelines under the Straits of Mackinac;

WHEREAS, Enbridge claims that construction of a Straits tunnel could occur within a two-year period after all design work is completed and that temporary jobs would be created for a few local laborers with most high-skilled tasks being performed by out-of-state contractors;

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of jobs would be lost across northern Michigan and at least \$6.3 billion in regional losses would occur if a worst-case spill of 2.5 million gallons of crude oil and natural gas liquids occurred as found by the 2018 Risk Assessment Study and other investigations conducted by regional universities;

WHEREAS, advanced planning for decommissioning and removal of the Straits pipelines would alleviate disruption to Michiganders in the delivery of refined petroleum products from alternative refinery sources;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Michigan Democratic Party supports the efforts of both Governor Whitmer and Attorney General Nessel to protect all that is "Pure Michigan" and its citizens from the unnecessary risk of a devastating oil spill or natural gas liquid explosion from the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline and that we fully support applying the rule of law and the Great Lakes Submerged Lands Act in these efforts.