

**TOWNSHIP OF TUSCARORA
COUNTY OF CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN**

February 2, 2016

**Resolution of Support for an Independent Study
Of Line 5 in Tuscarora Township**

WHEREAS, Pipeline 5, now owned by Enbridge, which began operation in 1953, has transported Alberta crude oil and natural gas liquids from Superior, Wisconsin through 18 Michigan Counties to a refinery in Sarnia, Ontario a distance of 645 miles crossing numerous wetlands, 20 rivers, including the Indian River in Tuscarora Township, the Straits of Mackinac and the St. Clair River at Marysville, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan and Enbridge are parties to an Easement Agreement requiring Enbridge to operate in a reasonable and prudent manner and guarantee payment of all damages and costs from its operation of said line; and

WHEREAS, the history of pipeline leaks shows that there is a significant risk of severe damage and economic loss to government entities, individuals, businesses, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, line 5 is sited in Tuscarora Township between Burt and Mullet Lakes, crossing the Indian River just north of the I75 interchange, and experts have identified the Indian River area as a higher risk failure point which would have devastating consequences for the health and safety of our residents and the Inland Waterway, and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Petroleum and Pipeline Task Force has recommended an independent risk analysis, adequate financial assurances, independent analysis of alternatives to the existing Straits pipelines, together with disclosure of inspection data and other information; which recommendations have not yet been satisfied, and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has the legal authority to manage the bottomlands and waters of the Great Lakes and the rivers within Michigan to protect the natural resources of the State; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Township Board of Tuscarora in Cheboygan County hereby requests that Governor Snyder utilize the State's authority by acting immediately have an independent panel of pipeline experts verify that Line 5 is safe in the areas as called out in this Resolution and to take any action necessary to ensure the safety of this pipeline through Tuscarora Township.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tuscarora Township will send a copy of this resolution to Governor Snyder, Attorney General Schuette, our State Representatives and State Senator.

AYES: McGinnis, Balazovic, Ridley, Fisher, Waldron

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Susan Fisher, Township Clerk



The Indian River is a Federally recognized navigable waterway maintained by the Army Corps of Engineers. There should be an easement or other agreement where the pipe crosses the river. So far such documents have not been disclosed

Encroachment of habitation on the Line 5 Right of Way raises significant questions about whether adequate safety factors exist to prevent loss of life in these areas. I-75 was built after the pipeline was buried as well as the housing development where the pipeline crosses the Indian River

From an original capacity of 120,000 bbl/d with no pump stations in Michigan to a maximum of 565,000 bbl/d with 19 pump stations to its current 540,000 bbl/d with 12 pump stations and using drag reduction technology, Line 5 has been extensively reconfigured. Line 5 can now be considered as twelve separate pipelines that have not faced outside review since 1963.

The Governor's Pipeline Task Force and Advisory Board are not looking at the risk of a Line 5 rupture anywhere but the Straits of Mackinac. The 45 or so water crossings of the non-Straits sections of Line 5 are off the agenda – including the Indian River Crossing where a small leak there would destroy the Indian River wetlands and Mullet Lake