

Resolution Supporting the Straits of Mackinac Against Enbridge Crude Oil Pipeline

WHEREAS Line 5 is a set of twin, 63-year-old pipelines owned by Enbridge that carry light crude oil and natural gas under the Straits of Mackinac; and

WHEREAS the currents in the Straits of Mackinac at peak volumetric transport can be more than 10 times greater than the flow of Niagara Falls and switch bi-directionally from east to west every few days, and according to a 2014 University of Michigan study are the "worst possible place" for an oil spill in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes contain 20 percent of the world's fresh, available, surface water and are a drinking water source for over 35 million people; and

WHEREAS Enbridge has a track record that includes 1,244 reportable spills, leaks and releases from 1996 to 2013; and

WHEREAS Enbridge was in violation for their spacing requirements of its 1953 easement for Line 5 in 2014 and were responsible for a pinhole leak in a section of the pipeline north of the Straits in December 2014; and


WHEREAS Enbridge was responsible for one of the worst and most expensive oils spills in U.S. history when Line 6b ruptured near Kalamazoo in 2010 allowing almost 1 million gallons of tar sands oil to leak for 17 hours before shutting down the line; and


WHEREAS Line 5 was built before the Great Lakes Submerged Lands Act was adopted so it didn't have to obtain a permit and ensure that the pipeline wouldn't pose a threat to the waters or the public's use of the waters; and

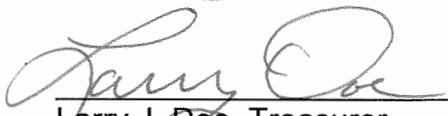
WHEREAS the Coast Guard Commandant testified before congress in 2015 that the Coast Guard would be unable to respond effectively to an open water oil spill in the heart of the Great Lakes; and


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Ypsilanti Township Board Members support stopping the transportation of oil under the Great Lakes and shutting down Line 5 and the flow of oil under the Great Lakes.

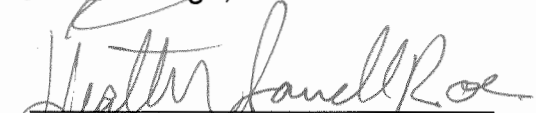
Signed and dated the 7th day of February, 2017 by Charter Township of Ypsilanti Board Members

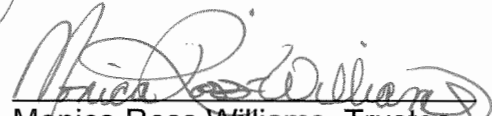

Brenda L. Stumbo, Supervisor


Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk


Larry J. Doe, Treasurer


Stan Eldridge, Trustee


Heather Jarrell Roe, Trustee


Monica Ross Williams, Trustee


Jimmie Wilson, Trustee