WHEREAS, Line 5 is a set of twin, 64-year-old pipelines owned by Enbridge that carry light crude oil and natural gas across Wisconsin; and

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

WHEREAS, agriculture, fisheries, shipping and industry depend on the health of the Great Lakes; and

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

WHEREAS, corrosion is the number one reason that pipelines fail; and

WHEREAS, Line 5 was built before the Great Lakes Submerged Lands Acts was adopted so it doesn’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, there is no plan for how to recover oil if there was a leak during the winter when the lakes are covered with ice; and

WHEREAS, as Wisconsinites, we have a responsibility to be wise stewards of the waters of our state for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of Wisconsin’s water supplies and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than by attempting to clean up contamination and restore degraded environments after the fact;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on the 27th day of August 2019, the Town of La Pointe Board of Supervisors supports stopping the transportation of oil under the Great Lakes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of La Pointe Board of Supervisors supports the lawsuit brought forth by the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians against Enbridge;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of La Pointe supports shutting down Line 5 and the flow of oil under the Great Lakes;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of La Pointe Board of Supervisors will send a letter to the Governor of Wisconsin, Attorney General, our State Representatives, State Senators and U.S. Senators calling on them to take swift action to shut down Line 5.

PASSED on this 27th Day of August 2019

James Patterson, Chairman
Mike Anderson, Supervisor
Sue Brenna, Supervisor
Glenn Carlson, Supervisor
John Carlson, Supervisor