



# *Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority*

179 W. Three Mile Road  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
Ph: 906-632-0043  
Fax: 906-632-1141

## **RESOLUTION 11-16-17**

### **OPPOSITION TO PLACING AN OIL PIPELINE IN TRENCHES OR TUNNEL BENEATH THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC**

WHEREAS, the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) exists for the purpose of managing the fishery resource under the Treaty of 1836, 7 Stat. 491, through regulation of treaty fishing activity by members of the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; and

WHEREAS, the right to fish under the 1836 Treaty is dependent upon the ability of the Great Lakes and inland ecosystems to support viable and stable fish stocks; and

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

WHEREAS, the Enbridge Inc. Line 5 extends through the 1836 Treaty-ceded lands of Michigan and beneath the Straits of Mackinac in an especially sensitive and vulnerable area; and

WHEREAS, in February, 2016, the State of Michigan, following a recommendation by the Michigan Petroleum Task Force, sought to commission "an independent, comprehensive analysis of alternatives to the existing Straits Pipelines, and the extent to which each alternative promotes the public health, safety and welfare and protects the public trust resources of the Great Lakes." (RFP Independent Alternatives Analysis for the Straits Pipelines); and

WHEREAS, one of the options promoted in the draft Alternatives Analysis (June 27, 2017) was to construct a new section of pipeline and place it in either trenches or a tunnel beneath the Straits of Mackinac; and

WHEREAS, both trenching and tunneling beneath the Straits of Mackinac will have significant adverse effects to the Treaty Fishery in that area including significant disruptive effects on the bottomlands, water quality, fish spawning shoals and will require disruption of tribal commercial and subsistence fisheries; and

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WHEREAS, construction of new pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac, be they in trenches or tunnels, will not eliminate the risks of an oil spill in the 1836 Treaty ceded lands and waters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes Resources Committee of CORA hereby rejects the suggested alternative of a new pipeline in the Straits of Mackinac to be placed in trenches or a tunnel and reaffirms its resolution calling for the decommissioning and removal of the current Enbridge Line 5 (CORA Resolution 01-28-16 A).

AND, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that CORA calls upon Governor Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette, Michigan's State Representatives, State Senators and U.S. Congress to take swift action to shut down Line 5.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as CORA Chairman and Board Member of the Great Lakes Resources Committee (GLRC) of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA), certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted and approved by telephone poll taken on November 16, 2017, with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining and 1 absent.



Aaron Payment, CORA Chairman  
Great Lakes Resources Committee of the  
Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority