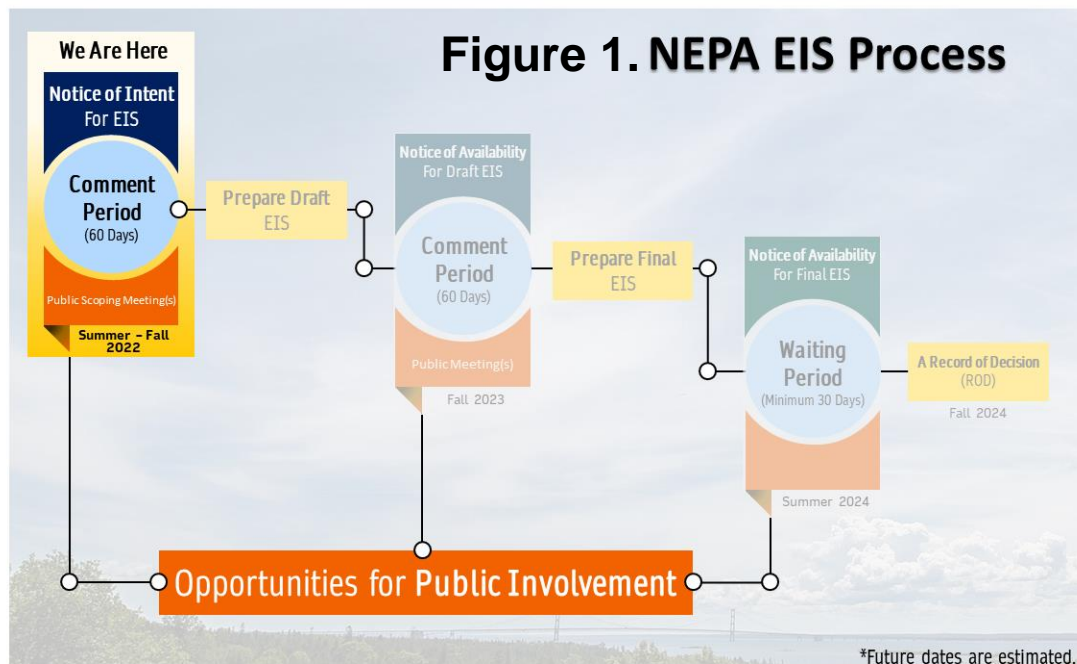


# Enbridge Line 5 Tunnel Project Environmental Impact Statement

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

Consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Detroit District will prepare the Line 5 Tunnel Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Under NEPA, the term “environment” encompasses the natural and physical environment (air, water, biological resources, geology, and soils) as well as the relationship of people with that environment (health and safety, jobs, housing, schools, transportation, cultural resources, noise, and aesthetics). Congress enacted NEPA to ensure that federal agencies consider the potential environmental impacts of their Proposed Action and Alternatives before deciding on a course of action. Figure 1 shows the major steps in the USACE, Detroit District NEPA process for preparing an EIS and identifies the multiple opportunities for public input. With publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register on August 15, 2022, USACE, Detroit District has officially initiated the first of the depicted phases of the EIS process.



## NOTICE OF INTENT AND SCOPING PROCESS

USACE, Detroit District published an NOI to prepare an EIS for the Line 5 Tunnel Project on August 15, 2022 to initiate the scoping and consultation processes consistent with NEPA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The NOI describes the Proposed Action and Alternatives the agency is considering and the scope, or the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts, to be considered in the EIS. The 60-day scoping period will occur from August 15, 2022 to October 14, 2022. (FR Volume 87, Number 156, August 15, 2022). In the process known as scoping, the public provides comments directly to the federal agency on the scope of the EIS.

The USACE, Detroit District is holding an in-person public scoping meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2022 from 3:00 to 8:00 PM Eastern and virtual public scoping meetings on Thursday, September 1 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM Eastern and Thursday, October 8 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM Eastern to allow the public to learn more about the Proposed Action and to allow the public to provide useful input during the scoping comment period. The public will have an opportunity to provide verbal comments during these meetings. Other methods for submission of scoping comments include a website ([www.line5tunneleis.com](http://www.line5tunneleis.com)) and U.S. mail (Line 5 Tunnel EIS, 16501 Shady Grove Road, P.O. Box 10178, Gaithersburg, MD 20898). The USACE, Detroit District will consider comments received within a 60-day scoping comment period (ending on October 14, 2022) in the preparation of the Draft EIS.



# Enbridge Line 5 Tunnel Project Environmental Impact Statement

## TIPS FOR SUBMITTING EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

A comment can express simple support or dissent for a regulatory action. However, a constructive, information-rich comment that clearly communicates and supports its claims is more likely to have an impact on regulatory decision making. Please review the following guidance to help you craft an effective comment for USACE, Detroit District to consider while preparing the Line 5 Tunnel Draft EIS. Comments can be provided verbally during one of the public scoping meetings, submitted via the project website ([www.line5tunneleis.com](http://www.line5tunneleis.com)), or submitted by U.S. (Line 5 Tunnel EIS, 16501 Shady Grove Road, P.O. Box 10178, Gaithersburg, MD 20898).

### SUMMARY

- ✓ **Comment periods close at 11:59 pm eastern time on the date comments are due.** Begin work well before the deadline.
- ✓ **Read and understand the regulatory document on which you are commenting.** Attempt to fully understand each issue; if you have questions or do not understand a part of the regulatory document, you may ask for help from the agency contact listed in the document.
- ✓ **Be concise but support your claims.** Clearly identify the issues within the regulatory document on which you are commenting. If you are commenting on a particular word, phrase or sentence, provide the page number, column, and paragraph citation from the Federal Register document.
- ✓ **Base your justification on sound reasoning, scientific evidence, and/or how you will be impacted.** Agency reviewers look for sound science and reasoning in the comments they receive. When possible, support your comment with substantive data, facts, and/or expert opinions. Comments on the economic effects that include quantitative and qualitative data are especially helpful. You may also provide personal experience in your comment, as may be appropriate. By supporting your arguments well, you are more likely to influence the agency decision making process.
- ✓ **Identify credentials and experience that may distinguish your comments from others.** If you are commenting in an area in which you have relevant personal or professional experience, say so. Consider including examples of how the proposed agency action would impact you negatively or positively.
- ✓ **Address trade-offs and opposing views in your comment.** Include the pros and cons and trade-offs of your position and explain them. Your position could consider other points of view and respond to them with facts and sound reasoning.
- ✓ **If you disagree with a proposed action, suggest an alternative.** This may include taking no action at all. Include an explanation and/or analysis of how the alternative might meet the same objective or be more effective.
- ✓ **There is no minimum or maximum length for an effective comment.** Although agencies receive and appreciate all comments, constructive comments (either positive or negative) are the most likely to have an influence.
- ✓ **The comment process is not a vote – one well-supported comment is often more influential than a thousand form letters.** The government is attempting to formulate the best policy, so when crafting a comment, it is important that you adequately explain the reasoning behind your position.

**Disclaimer:** This document is intended to serve as a guide; it is not intended and should not be considered as legal advice. Please seek counsel from a lawyer if you have legal questions or concerns.