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PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FOR THE
LINE 5 TUNNEL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

September 8, 2022

St. Ignace, Michigan

Little Bear Arena
275 Marquette Street
St. Ignace, Michigan 49781

One-On-One Public Comments

LT. COL. BRETT BOYLE, Commander

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District

ABBEY NESS, Facilitator

KERRIE KUHNE, Chief Permit Evaluation, Western Section

Regulatory Branch

KATIE OTANEZ, Regulatory Project Manager

COURT REPORTER: Mary F. Wisneski, CSR-231

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are one-on-one not held in
presentation room)

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1 St. Ignace, Michigan
2 Thursday, September 8, 2022
3 5:48 p.m.

4 (The following public commenters
5 are one-on-one, not held in
6 presentation room).

7 SUSAN BOUCHARD. S-u-s-a-n,
8 B-o-u-c-h-a-r-d.

9 Part of the Corps' mission is
10 to deliver vital engineering solutions and
11 reduce disaster -- disaster risk.

12 I hope that the Corps will deny
13 this project; instead, please come up with an
14 environmentally safe way to remove or fill
15 and cap the existing structure. The Mackinac
16 Straits are precious to the whole world. They
17 are not a pipe trough.

18 Thank you.

19 KATHRYN VAUGHT: My name is Kathryn,
20 K-a-t-h-r-y-n, Vaught, V-a-u-g-h-t, and I'm
21 retired.

22 I'm here for my own concerns, and
23 I never thought that this day would come, that
24 it would come to this. I am totally against
25 Line 5 -- Line 5 and Enbridge.

1 I live in Eaton Rapids. I have well
2 water, and I have family and friends that live
3 along the Kalamazoo River, and I've seen the
4 total devastation there and don't want to see
5 any more.

6 And Enbridge has shown that they
7 don't care and that it's all greed, and the
8 people here today who are saying, this is my
9 job and energy, in my opinion, they've been
10 brainwashed, they don't understand that it
11 really isn't benefiting us. And in today's
12 employment climate there are many, many jobs.
13 And as many people have said, if we change over
14 to clean energy there will be even more jobs.
15 So, again, I am totally against Line 5 and
16 hope that it is completely shut down.

17 Thank you so much.

18 SUSAN WHEADON: Susan Wheadon,
19 S-u-s-a-n, W-h-e-a-d-o-n.

20 Thank you for the opportunity to
21 comment today on behalf of 20 percent of
22 the world's fresh surface water at a time
23 when we have a worldwide water crisis.

24 We know that a pipeline's rupture
25 could contaminate our surface, ground and

1 drinking water supplies and death or disease
2 of fish, aquatic insects, birds, and other
3 wildlife.

4 We need to remember that Line 5 has
5 spilled at least 1.1 million gallons of oil
6 in the past 50 years. What is dangerous is
7 that this pipeline will continue to run while
8 a tunnel is being built.

9 And then there are the consequences
10 because of climate change. Thankfully in
11 September 2021 four expert witnesses, according
12 to the Michigan Climate Action Network,
13 discovered that it was undeniably that allowing
14 this oil tunnel to be built will exacerbate
15 the climate crisis resulting in an estimated
16 27 million metric tons of CO2 emitted every
17 year and will cost tens, if not hundreds of
18 billions of dollars, in net climate impacts as
19 a result of the added emissions. In view of
20 the catastrophic climate incidents this year,
21 how can there be any other choice but to shut
22 it down and forego the tunnel? Our children,
23 grandchildren and future generations are
24 counting on this.

25 Thank you.

1 BARBARA SCHNEIDER: My name
2 is Barbara Schneider, B-a-r-b-a-r-a,
3 S-c-h-n-e-i-d-e-r.

4 Okay. I live in Maple City,
5 Michigan. I came to St. Ignace on a bus with
6 a group from Traverse City to limit our carbon
7 footprint and comment on the proposed tunnel.
8 I am not an engineer but I do believe that we
9 have learned that disrupting Mother Nature is
10 not always a good idea.

11 I'm a retired -- I'm retired from
12 the school system and one of the 70 percent
13 of Michiganders that want Line 5 shut down.

14 I do know about Enbridge's 2010 oil
15 spill in Kalamazoo River that flowed into the
16 Talmadge Creek, one of the largest inland
17 spills in U.S. history. I'm fortunate to
18 have been able to live by these beautiful
19 Great Lakes and with that a responsibility
20 to protect them.

21 Enbridge does not own our Straits
22 of Mackinac. The millions of dollars this
23 Canadian company has made from Line 5 should
24 be sufficient. The original life span of
25 this pipe was 50 years. There are viable

1 alternatives to moving this oil product not
2 through an almost 70-year old pipe or trying
3 to build an experimental tunnel.

4 Enbridge's own analysis says the
5 price of gas would raise a half a cent if
6 Line 5 were shut down. This does not justify
7 the environmental risk of boring into the
8 Straits of Mackinac, a very sensitive
9 ecological area.

10 There are many other ways to
11 produce energy other than fossil fuel.
12 Pushing 22 million gallons of oil through
13 this compromised pipe every day is just a
14 disaster waiting to happen.

15 If humanity is going to exist on
16 earth we are going to have to wean ourselves
17 off this polluting fuel that heats the planet
18 to unbearable temperatures, damages the air
19 we breathe and the water we drink. We must
20 decommission Line 5 where we are talking about
21 protecting 20 percent of the world's fresh
22 water. There is no alternative to this.
23 Water is life.

24 STEVE BURGI: Steve Burgi,
25 S-t-e-v-e, B-u-r-g-i.

1 I'm a welder member of Pipeliners
2 Local Union 798 and we strongly support the
3 Line 5 tunnel project.

4 I've worked for Enbridge on many
5 projects over the years and they have been
6 one of the best, most sound gas companies I
7 have worked for. And the people that work for
8 Enbridge are all good, hard-working people,
9 and everybody should be thanking them for the
10 energy they continue to provide our country.

11 We definitely need continued energy
12 delivery to -- for our nation to be independent
13 from foreign oil and gas, and we just strongly
14 support this project, and the people it will
15 employ, the local unions that will work on the
16 project -- and we're just all for it.

17 BARBARA STAMIRIS: My name
18 is Barbara Stamiris, Barb, B-a-r-b,
19 Stamiris, S-t-a-m-i-r-i-s.

20 I came a second time to have a
21 recorded comment because -- I came out of sheer
22 frustration, not only for myself, but for all
23 the other people who came all the way up here
24 and are not going to get to have a chance to
25 speak publicly.

1 This has been so poorly planned, or
2 the amount of time -- whatever, that -- we are
3 now on -- we have an hour and five minutes --
4 no, an hour and seven minutes left of what
5 the allotted time was to end at 8:00 clock.
6 I'm not going to speak to the fact that I've
7 been told the building is opened till 10:00
8 and that you'll stay until 10:00; that still
9 doesn't solve it.

10 We're going in alphabetical groups,
11 which makes good sense. It's -- you know, it's
12 a good way to know how soon your turn is coming
13 up, but when we have basically an hour left --
14 and I think we're on the letter -- because I
15 keep checking -- I think we're on the letter,
16 H, possibly I. Now we're supposed to get
17 through the rest of the whole alphabet of --
18 you know, we would be here till 2:00 in the
19 morning if you gave everybody who signed up a
20 chance to speak.

21 For that reason -- I mean, I'm in
22 the Group K, and so I may or may not squeak
23 in before our bus leaves at 8:00, but I'm --
24 I care so deeply about a process that is so
25 flawed that this happens to -- I'm not the

1 only one -- you know, you spend a week getting
2 ready for it. You don't want to just make your
3 comment privately or in writing, you want to
4 make it publicly, in person. And that's what
5 we were told, and that's what you owe us, is
6 till everybody who came and signed up today
7 has another chance to speak so they don't have
8 to go home without doing that. And I'm sorry
9 I get keyed up but it means a lot to me.

10 Thank you.

11 JAMES LINK: My name is James Link,
12 J-a-m-e-s, L-i-n-k.

13 My comments were provoked by the
14 field hearing on Straits of Mackinac Pipeline
15 Issues, posted by Senator Gary Peters on
16 August 20th, 2018.

17 Arriving fifteen minutes before the
18 beginning of the scheduled hearing I found the
19 nearest Northwestern Michigan College parking
20 lot filled to capacity. I walked quickly from
21 a distant lot while the steady beat of drums
22 filled my ears. How appropriate I thought,
23 prior to the hearing that would elicit an
24 Enbridge Line 5 issues for the International
25 Citizens of the Great Lakes Basin who are,

1 "on the war path", over the risk of a
2 60-plus-year-old pipeline designed and built
3 for a 50-year life span transporting petroleum
4 liquids across the lake bed of the Straits of
5 Mackinac. Coincidentally -- "Coincidentally,
6 the adjacent high school marching band
7 members were practicing outside that morning".
8 Attendees of the hearing continued to file in
9 the auditorium as the opening gavel sounded.

10 Senator Peters began with an
11 overview of the reasons for this U.S. Senate
12 Field Hearing in Traverse City, Michigan,
13 August 20th, 2018. He related the importance
14 of -- as well as the precariousness of this
15 international natural treasure that all
16 Michiganders and adjacent state and Canadian
17 citizens hold dear requiring our vigilant
18 stewardship: Source of over one fifth or
19 (20 percent) of the planet's life-sustaining
20 fresh water for over 40 million people.

21 Am I going too fast?

22 COURT REPORTER: No, sir. You can
23 go --

24 JAMES LINK: Okay.

25 COURT REPORTER: -- I just missed a

1 word, so you can -- you don't have to go slow
2 for me.

3 JAMES LINK: All right.

4 COURT REPORTER: I did miss a word.

5 JAMES LINK: And then; part of the
6 Great Lakes ecosystem that provides -- excuse
7 me, produces fish for the surrounding inhabitants;
8 the economic impact of water-based recreation and
9 tourism, (camping, fishing, kayaking and other
10 kind of sports, and sailing), that generates
11 billions, with a b, dollars each year; the
12 spectacular views of the land/water interface;
13 And the strategic importance of shipping raw
14 materials and products economically to the rest
15 of the world through their connection with the
16 St. Lawrence Seaway.

17 He then explained he would introduce
18 and convene questioning with two different
19 panels, giving an hour of question and response
20 time to each. The first panel members were
21 Howard Elliott, Administrator of Pipeline &
22 Hazardous Materials Safety Administration;
23 Rear Admiral, Joanna Nunan, N-u-n-a-n,
24 Commander of U.S. Coast Guard's Ninth District;
25 Scott Lundgren, Agency Response Division Chief,

1 Office of Response and Restoration of the
2 National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration,
3 and one other gentleman.

4 Senator Peters was exacting in the
5 formulation of his questions from which he
6 expected honest answers. He began eliciting
7 comments about the time line surrounding the
8 alleged anchor strike of April 1st, 2018,
9 from Mr. Elliott, and then Admiral Nunan.

10 The second panel convened after a
11 short intermission and included David Bryson,
12 Enbridge Energy Vice-President of Operations;
13 Dr. Mike Shriberg, that's S-h-r-i-b-e-r-g,
14 Regional Executive Director of the National
15 Wildlife Federations Great Lakes Regional
16 Center; Larry Bell, Founder of Bell's Brewery
17 in Kalamazoo, and two other gentleman.

18 Through both sessions the Senator
19 asked tough questions, often taking a different
20 tack in order to arrive at answers he felt
21 appropriate to his questioning. He was
22 relentless, in italics. "No one got off the
23 hook". Occasionally, cheers of support for
24 the demise of Line 5 erupted by proponents of
25 the inactivation and removal of the "ticking

1 time bomb", beneath the Straits of Mackinac.
2 Other than when clearly evident answers
3 incriminated the panel member, the auditorium
4 crowd was attentive and respectful. Far from
5 what I imagined would be the audience behavior
6 at this hearing. When directly asked if the
7 federal agencies represented by the panel
8 members were, indeed, currently capable of
9 cleaning up an oil spill resulting from a Line
10 5 rupture, their best answer from panel members
11 was, and italics: "Hopefully". I don't know
12 about you, but hopefully, it's not acceptable!
13 Not acceptable is in bold with an exclamation
14 mark.

15 Let me tell you why: According to
16 NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research
17 Laboratory, that's NOAAS, commercial fishing
18 began around 1820. The most recent figures
19 indicate about 65 million pounds of fish are
20 harvested each year contributing more than one
21 billion dollars to the Great Lakes economy.
22 Believe it or not, sport fishing within the
23 Great Lakes Basin contributes four billion
24 dollars to the economy.

25 Primary commercial catches include:

1 Lake white fish, smelt, walleye, and perch.
2 Most important to a sport fisherman are:
3 Salmon, steel head, walleye, lake trout, perch,
4 and bass. Unfortunately, the commercial
5 fishery in this -- in the region has been
6 declining for many decades due to over-fishing,
7 water pollution by human-caused toxic wastes,
8 habitat destruction, and the introduction of
9 invasive species.

10 Industrialization of the Great Lakes
11 region began in the early 1900s and has caused
12 many harmful impacts that went unnoticed at
13 the time due to general ignorance of
14 environmental degradation by stakeholders
15 in the region. Fortunately, thanks to the
16 voices of Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin,
17 Barry Commoner and other progressive
18 environmental advocates, the first Earth Day
19 celebration April 21st of 1970, began a
20 rethinking of our relationship to our only
21 human habitat.

22 The Clean Water Act of 1971 followed,
23 and in 1972 President Richard M. Nixon signed
24 a presidential executive order for the
25 preservation of wilderness in the national

1 parks, national wildlife refuges, and the
2 national forest systems. The executive order
3 set aside thousands of acres of forests and
4 other public lands across the U.S. to remain
5 as pristine wilderness areas in perpetuity.

6 Most of the environmental problems
7 we face as a state and nation can only be
8 attributed to human arrogance, human
9 ignorance, and corporate human greed. These
10 characteristics have always been in conflict
11 with our innate common sensibilities.

12 Studying the historical record, we
13 find communities that chose sustainability in
14 favor of plunder. They realize the future of
15 their tribe depended upon sound living, hunting
16 fishing practices that would continue to
17 provide for the needs -- for their needs --
18 and the needs of their descendants into the
19 uncertain future. Then came the European
20 invasion and the devastation that has followed
21 ever since: Over-hunting, over-fishing,
22 over-grazing, over generation of waste,
23 rampant dumping of sewage and garbage into
24 areas from which we harvest our food, (like
25 fish-spawning habitat in our waterways

1 and wetlands). The fouling of any beaches
2 within the Great Lakes Basin is unacceptable,
3 in bold. The loss of fishery ecosystems and
4 associated habitats is unacceptable -- also
5 involved.

6 Working for the Alaska Department
7 of Fish & Game in its Fishery Rehabilitation
8 Enhancement Division as a Salmon Culturist
9 during the early 1980s, provided insight into
10 many prominent issues facing commercial and
11 sport fisheries in Alaska at that time.
12 However, no Alaskan was prepared for what
13 occurred four minutes after midnight
14 March 24th, 1989, when the Exxon Valdez,
15 in italics, ran aground on Bligh Reef after
16 leaving the southern terminus of the Alaska
17 Pipeline loaded with 53 million gallons of
18 Prudhoe Bay crude oil. Due to the ruptured
19 hull, 11 million gallons quickly spilled from
20 the damaged oil tanker into Prince William
21 Sound.

22 Like most of you, I remember where
23 I was and what I was doing when I first heard
24 of the tragic events of our time: The
25 assassinations of John F. Kennedy, his

1 brother Bobby Kennedy, Martin Luther King,
2 explosion upon takeoff of the NASA space
3 shuttle Challenger, and the oil spill of
4 the Exxon Valdez.

5 I walked into my shift at the
6 Specimen Processing Lab of Anchorage's --
7 S-p-e-c-i-m-e-n, Specimen Processing Lab
8 of Anchorage's Providence Hospital and saw
9 the four-inch black headlines of the morning
10 edition of the Anchorage Daily News spread
11 over one of the lab countertops. Fellow lab
12 employees were ringing their hands and didn't
13 know what to do.

14 Now I ask you, "could anything be
15 worse for Michigan citizens than waking one
16 morning to four-inch headlines announcing yet
17 another Enbridge oil spill event, this time
18 at the Straits of Mackinac?"

19 Initial attempts to contain the oil
20 failed and in the months that followed, the
21 oil slick spread, eventually covering over
22 1,300 miles of coastline. Hundreds, perhaps
23 thousands of commercial fisherman and their
24 families took staggering losses for many years.
25 In the months following Exxon Valdez oil spill

1 Exxon employees federal responders and more
2 than 11,000 Alaska residents worked to clean
3 up the oil. Cleanup workers skimmed oil from
4 the water's surface, sprayed oil dispersant
5 chemicals in the water and on shore, washed
6 oiled beaches with hot water, and rescued and
7 cleaned birds and mammals coated with -- coated
8 in crude oil. Tragically, the casualties
9 were devastating. Figures tallied at the
10 time indicate over 250,000 sea birds, 3,000
11 sea otters, 300 seals, 250 bald eagles, and
12 22 killer whales were unwary victims. Over
13 30 years later, pockets of crude oil remain
14 in many locations.

15 Economies of shoreline towns and
16 villages, including Valdez, Cordoba, and Seward
17 suffered in the years following the oil spill.
18 Some reports estimate the total economic loss
19 from the Exxon Valdez oil spill to be more than
20 2.8 billion dollars.

21 A 2001 study found oil contamination
22 remaining at more than half of the 91 beach
23 sites tested in Prince William Sound. The
24 oil spill also may have played a role in the
25 collapse of salmon and herring fisheries

1 in the Sound in the early 1990s. To date,
2 herring stocks have never fully rebounded.
3 The spill killed an estimated 40 percent
4 of all sea otters living in the Sound.
5 The sea-otter population did not recover
6 to pre-spilled levels until 2014, 25 years
7 after the spill.

8 As noted earlier, thousands of
9 citizens were mobilized for cleanup efforts:
10 Containing oil with floating booms, cleaning
11 fouled and soiled sea birds and marine mammals,
12 absorbing oil along shorelines and on
13 rock-bound coasts. 32 years later, the
14 effects of the accidental "Hazelwood tan"
15 still linger. (Joe Hazelwood was the errant
16 captain of the tanker that went aground).

17 "An Enbridge tan" has already
18 impacted Michigan's Kalamazoo River and
19 the citizens along its course, quotation marks
20 and bold, "Spill oil on us once, shame on you;
21 spill oil on us twice, shame on us."

22 No one living today should have --
23 should have to experience a preventable
24 environmental catastrophe like an oil spill,
25 especially when commonsense tells most

1 of us, in italics: "You don't do anything
2 that might jeopardize the source of the water
3 you drink or the fish you eat."

4 As residents of the Great Lakes
5 Basin, we are called to be faithful stewards
6 of the land and water resources provided us
7 here; not only for the residents of the
8 Great Lakes Basin and their progeny, but
9 for every citizen on the planet who chooses
10 to visit this uniquely spectacular, in italics,
11 region.

12 Further investigation has led me
13 to information regarding the human impact
14 of oil-spill cleanup activities.

15 An article by Patrick Shinnefield,
16 that's, S-h-i-n-n-e-f-i-e-l-d, "Cleanup of
17 the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill," speaks to the
18 ill effects of detergents, dispersants and
19 degreasers used by oil-spill cleanup workers
20 in their battle to contain and clean up
21 spilled oil.

22 "Documented health effects among
23 cleanup workers in past events include both
24 acute and chronic ailments, including
25 headaches, nausea, skin rashes, long-term

1 chemical sensitivity, ongoing dizziness,
2 central nervous system damage, dermatitis,
3 leukemia and other blood diseases, fetal
4 defects, skin cancers, liver damage, damage
5 to kidneys, and chronic respiratory tract
6 infection. One of the most common harms
7 to cleanup workers is back injury".

8 "What may turn out to be an even
9 larger problem are the unknown, long-term
10 effects of the dispersants. Not knowing what
11 chemicals are in the dispersants, or what the
12 long-term effects will be since their exact
13 makeup is kept secret under competitive trade
14 laws. Studies performed on organisms exposed
15 to these chemicals after the Exxon Valdez
16 cleanup found the dispersants accumulated in
17 living organisms at very high concentrations
18 and harmed the developing hearts of both
19 Pacific herring and pink salmon embryos.

20 One theory is that the oil dispersant
21 emulsifies the oil droplet to such a small
22 size that it seems to disappear. Hence, the
23 oil industry's patented name, "Corexit,
24 C-o-r-e-x-i-t. ("out of sight, out of mind").
25 With the aid of the dispersant, the fraction of

1 the oil droplet becomes a floating component of
2 the water column and is easily ingested by, or
3 attached to, developing and mature organisms.
4 Oil mist exposure was twelve times higher than
5 government-approved limits; those who washed
6 beaches with hot water experienced the maximum
7 exposure of 400 times the limits. In 1989,
8 1,811 workers filed compensation claims,
9 primarily for respiration system damage,
10 according to the NIOSAH, N-I-O-S-A-H, and that
11 is the ("National Institute of Occupational
12 Safety & Health").

13 Even if an oil spill could be
14 cleaned up, the personal health risk to our
15 fellow citizens engaged in active cleanup
16 procedures are unacceptable -- and
17 unacceptable in bold.

18 Clean, fresh water is our heritage
19 and heritage, italics. It's also the reason
20 we have life. We are charged to leave it in
21 pristine condition for those who follow us
22 on this journey we call life on Planet Earth.
23 The extreme risk far outweighs the perceived
24 benefit.

25 As most adults among us realize:

1 "History has an ugly habit of repeating
2 itself". Exxon Valdez was not the first oil
3 spill, nor will it be the last. The effects
4 continue to linger, longer than anyone
5 imagined. Similarly, here in Michigan, the
6 effects of the Kalamazoo River oil spill will
7 be evident for years into the future. An oil
8 spill at the Straits of Mackinac would likely
9 devastate Michigan's Great-Lakes based fresh
10 water economy for decades: Soiling beaches,
11 falling drinking water, decimating the
12 reproduction of commercial and sport fishing
13 species; canceling tourist itineraries, and
14 discouraging other water-based recreational
15 sports. Again, the extreme risks far outweigh
16 the perceived benefit.

17 Enbridge's reality, in italics, is
18 detrimental to the drinking water, economy,
19 fishery, health, water-based recreation,
20 and well-being of the citizens of Michigan,
21 Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Ontario, and
22 Wisconsin. The extreme risk far outweighs
23 the perceived benefit.

24 I would like to personally thank
25 Senator Gary Peters for his persistence in

1 providing the International Citizens of
2 the Great Lakes Basin an educated, informed,
3 and logical path to concluding the Enbridge
4 Line 5 insanity. And my name at the bottom,
5 G. James Link, (Cadillac, Michigan).

6 GEORGE DUCHON: My name is
7 George G-e-o-r-g-e, Duchon, D-u-c-h-o-n.

8 I'm here to speak on behalf of
9 Line 5, Pipeliners Local 798 and Operating
10 Engineers Local 324.

11 Line 5 supplies 330,000 homes with
12 propane in this state. People have forgotten
13 about these people. What are they going to
14 do when we shut down Line 5? Are we just not
15 going to give them propane anymore and they're
16 going to freeze? We live in artic conditions
17 here. The price of gas, it will go up. Some
18 people say five cents, some people say two
19 dollars in the State of Michigan.

20 Nobody's talked about where Detroit
21 Metro Airport gets their jet fuel. It comes
22 directly out of Line 5 and refined out of
23 Line 5 and goes to Detroit Metro, almost
24 90-plus percent of their jet fuel supplied
25 comes from Line 5. What is that going to

1 do to our travel cost for our vacations and
2 our families?

3 I keep hearing temporary jobs,
4 temporary jobs; I have 26 years almost of
5 temporary jobs in pipeline. This young man
6 that's with me today is starting his career
7 in that field. I hope he can get thirty
8 years in it just as I plan to. These aren't
9 temporary jobs, these are jobs that we supply
10 our families, our children with. My dad did
11 the same and so did my grandpa.

12 I find that the hypocrisy of the
13 people that come here and speak against it
14 as they all drove, but one, an electric vehicle
15 to this meeting -- one EV vehicle -- in the
16 whole parking lot of people speaking against
17 Line 5 there was one.

18 Everybody's out there drinking
19 out of water bottles made out of petroleum
20 products, probably refined out of oil from
21 Line 5. The dye in their clothes, nobody
22 talks about the safety factors and the millions
23 Enbridge has spent on safety control valves,
24 so if there's a pressure drop it automatically
25 shuts down the computers to -- shut down Line 5

1 to reduce any oil spill. The best thing we can
2 do is put this pipeline 200 feet below the
3 Straits of Michigan and Huron and let the oil
4 continue to flow for the use.

5 We all know green energy is coming,
6 but as of right now we are less than 10 percent
7 in this nation relying on green energy. It
8 will get greater in numbers as the day goes
9 on, but Enbridge also deals heavily in wind
10 and solar. This is not only going to be a
11 tunnel for Line 5 and propane and light crude
12 oils, this is going to be a tunnel for green
13 energy, I would think, in the future, plus
14 it's bringing natural gas to the UP to
15 lessen their dependency on propane.

16 All the oil wells in northern
17 Michigan, from Cadillac north all flow into
18 Line 5 and go to the refineries in Detroit.
19 Yes, some of that oil gets shipped to Canada
20 and then it re-enters back into the United
21 States even further down the line.

22 We need to get this shovel-ready
23 project underway and going before we do have
24 a catastrophe. We need to get Line 5 up and
25 running, we need to replace the whole Line 5,

1 which I know Enbridge is looking at, but they
2 need to get the tunnel built. Once we get the
3 tunnel built the rest of Line 5 is a cakewalk.
4 We do it every day. We hydrotest them with
5 the best welders, the best laborers, the best
6 operators, period. Nobody lays pipelines
7 better than us.

8 And if we do not get this tunnel
9 approved I do feel we will have catastrophic
10 events happen in the Straits of Mackinac.
11 I do feel that. But once it's approved it's
12 going to be one of the largest and greatest
13 engineering marvels in the western hemisphere.
14 And I say we support Line 5. That's it.

15 (The Public Comments were concluded
16 at 8:13 p.m.)

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