

Enbridge Line 5 Tunnel Project Environmental Impact Statement

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Detroit District, is reviewing an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit by Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (Enbridge) to construct a tunnel (the Line 5 Tunnel Project) that would house a replacement segment of Enbridge’s Line 5 pipeline crossing the Straits of Mackinac (Straits) in Lake Michigan. The Line 5 Straits crossing currently consists of two 20-inch diameter pipelines that rest on or are anchored to the lakebed of the Straits.

Under the Proposed Action, Enbridge would construct a tunnel underneath the lakebed of the Straits (see back of Factsheet) to house a new 30-inch single pipeline for light crude oil, light synthetic crude oil, light sweet crude oil, and natural gas liquids, replacing the existing, dual pipelines crossing the Straits. Upon completion, the tunnel would be operated by Enbridge and owned by the Mackinac Straits Corridor Authority.

Portions of the project over which the USACE has regulatory jurisdiction include the structures and work associated with tunnel construction under the Straits, water intake structures in the Straits, and the discharge of fill material into wetlands.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to provide transportation of light crude oil, light synthetic crude oil, light sweet crude oil, and natural gas liquids between Enbridge’s existing North Straits Facility and Mackinaw Station, and to maintain the existing capacity of the Line 5 pipeline while minimizing environmental risks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Please visit the Project website for latest updates and to sign up for Project notifications:

<https://www.line5tunneleis.com/>

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In response to Enbridge’s application, the USACE, Detroit District, published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Line 5 Tunnel Project. Publishing the NOI also initiated the scoping and consultation processes consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The EIS scoping process, along with past comments received from the USACE Public Notice comment periods and input from Cooperating Agencies and Tribal governments, will be used to identify resource issues and concerns for consideration in the EIS. General concerns in the following categories have been identified to date: potential direct effects to waters of the United States including wetlands; water and sediment quality; aquatic species and fisheries; threatened and endangered species; archaeological and cultural resources, including the Straits as a Traditional Cultural Landscape; Tribal treaty rights and interests; recreation and recreational resources; waste management; aesthetics; noise; air quality; climate change, including greenhouse gas emissions and the social cost of greenhouse gases; public health and safety during construction and operations; navigation; erosion; invasive species; energy needs; environmental justice; needs and welfare of the people; and cumulative effects.

GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the EIS and DA Permit application review process, the USACE, Detroit District seeks input from federal, state, and local government agencies, Tribal governments, and affected communities.

The USACE, Detroit District, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Tribal governments, is also preparing an Ethnographic/Cultural Landscape Study as part of its EIS and its responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

TIMELINE



