

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2305

February 5th, 2019

Office of Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan
130 State Capitol
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to express my opposition to Enbridge, Inc.'s Line 3 Replacement Pipeline Project. Over the past several years, opposition to the pipeline has grown exponentially, uniting and mobilizing Native American tribes across the state, landowners, environmentalists and concerned citizens. Due to the expected impacts to the fragile wetland ecosystem, the threat of substantial increases in carbon emissions and opposition from Tribal governments, I urge your Administration not to back away from the Department of Commerce's appeal of the Certificate of Need permit for the proposed project.

The Line 3 Replacement Pipeline Project is inconsistent with the state's overall energy needs and the social cost of carbon resulting from the project is too high to justify it. Expanding this tar sands pipeline will bring a host of unacceptable risks to Minnesota at a time when we should be investing in the technology and infrastructure that will carry us away from fossil fuels. In fact, in the company's own proposal for this project, Enbridge Inc. was unable to demonstrate that Minnesota needs this pipeline to meet our future oil demands and in fact, according to the same proposal, most of the product flowing through our state would go to supply other states and countries.

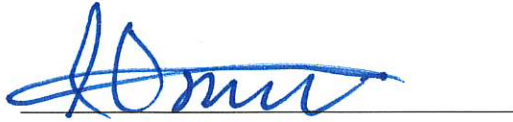
Additionally, the proposed project would cross treaty territories of the Ojibwe, where they maintain land use-rights guaranteed by treaties between Ojibwe bands and the US government, protected by the US Constitution, and affirmed by the US Supreme Court. Several of Minnesota's Ojibwe Bands have intervened in the state's Public Utilities Commission docket and continue to express their concerns with the project – including the fact that proposed route would run through areas rich with wild rice beds, which are beneficial and sacred to tribal communities. I ask that you consider the impact this project could have on the tribes' harvesting rights, which are guaranteed in several treaties, and how those rights and overall respect for sovereignty would be threatened if this pipeline project is approved. Ignoring or avoiding the key concerns of Indigenous communities will serve to exacerbate the disparities and environmental justice issues that exist in our state.

When weighing projects that promise of short-term economic development opportunities for our state, it is our duty as public officials to give equal consideration to the impact on our environment, our communities and the long-term direction of our economy. I urge you to heed

the Department of Commerce analysis that this project is not needed in Minnesota and ask you to support their appeal of the Certificate of Need permit for the proposed project.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress