Enbridge Line 5 Facts

- Owned by Enbridge Energy Limited Partnership, a Canadian-based multinational corporation; operated since 1953.

- Runs 645 miles from Superior, WI to Sarnia, ON, crossing over 100 tributaries in Michigan.

- Delivers 540,000 barrels per day or almost 23 million gallons of light/synthetic crude mostly from Canadian oil wells; 95% of which ends up at refineries in Canada for Canadian consumption or export.

- Line 5 delivery of propane to the Upper Peninsula can be addressed with viable alternatives.

- Twin 20” diameter pipes (13/16” thick steel) under the Straits of Mackinac for 4.1 miles; 30” diameter elsewhere (9/32” thick steel).

- There have been approximately 30 spills from Line 5 since 1970 of over 1.1 million gallons.

- Since 2002, 128 anchor supports have been installed due to erosion in the Straits of Mackinac crossing.

- 70 additional anchor supports are planned to be installed in 2018, a 55% increase.

- The 1953 Easement with the State of Michigan requires only $1 million of liability coverage.

What would we lose from a Line 5 rupture?

- A major rupture of Line 5 under the Straits of Mackinac cannot be contained due to fluctuating currents, and highly variable winds, waves or ice cover; potentially soiling at least 800 miles of shoreline which can never be completely remediated.

- Our surveys of shoreline property in the likely affected areas for northern lakes Michigan and Huron of a major spill indicate that property owners could lose between 25-60% of their market values totaling at least $1.4 billion; these market value declines will grossly decrease revenue to local communities.

- More than 70% of shoreline property in the likely affected spill area draw their drinking water from groundwater wells which could be permanently contaminated by crude oil residues; several municipalities including St. Ignace and Mackinac Island draw their drinking water from the open lake whose facilities would need to be shut down or could be permanently damaged.

- Analysis of Pure Michigan statistics indicate that over 25,000 jobs could be lost across Michigan in the tourism industry; additional job losses in the thousands are expected to be incurred by other local businesses.

- A major oil spill from Line 5 would cause a temporary shut-down of commercial shipping through the Straits of Mackinac, adversely affecting steel production, grain shipments and other commodities across the upper Midwest.

- Prior investigations have shown that public health damages can occur from exposure to toxic components in crude oil, including allergic reactions, respiratory distress and depression.

- Petroleum odors will persist for decades across the region regardless of clean-up actions.

- Significant environmental damages would occur to the fisheries, migratory and resident bird populations, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and plant communities that could last for decades.

- All in all, a major release from the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline into the waters of the Great Lakes could cause an economic disaster of over $6 billion and environmental and public health damages we can ill afford! Such a disaster would destroy approximately 10% of the world’s available freshwater resources.
What is the Straits of Mackinac Alliance?

The Straits of Mackinac Alliance is a group of shore property owners and representatives of local businesses, organizations and Native American communities concerned with protecting our waters from a Line 5 oil spill. Membership in the Straits of Mackinac Alliance is open to anyone willing to contribute.

What can you do to help?

The time is now for litigation to shut down Line 5! Funding is needed for attorney and expert witness fees to contest State and Federal decisions on 70 additional anchor supports under the Straits of Mackinac, without required environmental impact and alternative analyses. According to experts, adding these proposed additional anchor supports may, in fact, increase the risk of failure. We need your contributions to win this fight.

Donations to the Straits of Mackinac Alliance are tax-deductible. You can mail a check for $100 or more to become a voting member of the Straits of Mackinac Alliance; we’ll bring you a “No Oil in Our Waters” lawn sign so you can show your support. As a member, we will keep you informed about critical events related to our campaign. If you can only afford a lesser amount, please visit us on-line at: www.staitsalliance.org. We do appreciate any contribution to this worthy cause.

Upcoming Informational Meetings

Please join us at one of our informational meetings being organized for early this summer at the locations listed below. We will be conducting these meetings with special guest experts on this issue. We would love to meet you at one of these events. Please check your local newspapers for future announcements or let us know about your interests to attend and we’ll send you updates.

Petoskey – Thu, June 21st, 7:00 pm, Bay View Inn
Rogers City – Mon, July 2nd, 7:00 pm, Public Library
Bois Blanc Island – Fri, July 6th, 7:00 pm, Fire Hall
Cedarville – Mon, July 9th, 7:00 pm, Clark Township Community Center
Cheboygan – Mon, July 16th, 7:00 pm, High School Auditorium
St. Ignace – Wed, July 18th, 7:00 pm, United Methodist Church
Mackinaw City Annual Meeting – Mon, July 23rd, 6:00 pm, Audie’s
Alpena – Wed, Aug 1st, 7:00 pm, NOAA TB NMS
Harbor Springs – Date, time and location TBD
Traverse City – Date, time and location TBD

For a good perspective, visit: www.line5film.com

Become a Member of the Straits of Mackinac ALLIANCE and help to Shut Down Enbridge Line 5!