



Wisconsin Environmental Groups Ask DNR to Require Enbridge Energy to Provide More Details on Proposed Line 5 Construction Plans

DNR Urged to Hold Controversial Pipeline Project to Higher Level of Scrutiny

For immediate release: October 8, 2021

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Madison, WI— Today, Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) submitted a [formal request](#) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) asking the agency to require Enbridge Energy to provide more detailed information about how its controversial plan to construct a new segment of Line 5 in Northern Wisconsin will impact the region’s wetlands and waterways.

MEA submitted the request jointly with League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, Sierra Club – Wisconsin Chapter, and 350 Madison.

Enbridge has applied for a general storm water permit for a construction project that would allow the company to continue operating the pipeline in environmentally sensitive areas including the Bad River, Lake Superior, and Lake Michigan watersheds. Given the scale of the project and the significant harm it could cause to the many waterways and wetlands along the proposed route, the groups are asking the DNR to require Enbridge to obtain an individual storm water permit instead.

Requiring Enbridge to apply for an individual permit would hold the Line 5 construction proposal to a higher level of scrutiny by requiring the company to submit more detailed information about its plans. It would also give members of the public a chance to weigh in during a public hearing or comment period, opportunities which are not part of the general permitting process.

“If ever there was a reason for DNR to exercise its discretion to require a more detailed permit application, this is it,” said MEA Staff Attorney Rob Lee. “Line 5 pipeline construction would stretch for more than 40 miles and cross nearly 200 waterbodies. It only makes sense that Enbridge be required to submit more information about storm water-related erosion and other potential harm this project would cause.”

Midwest Environmental Advocates is a nonprofit law center that combines the power of law with the resolve of communities facing environmental injustice to secure and protect the rights of all people to healthy water, land, and air. Learn more at www.midwestadvocates.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/midwestadvocates

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