



March 4, 2022

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Line 5 EIS Comments (EA/7)
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53707

To Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

The Wisconsin Building Trades Council's (WBTC) members are dedicated to bringing opportunity and jobs to the men and women who work in the building trades in Wisconsin. On behalf of our member organizations, I am writing to you to ask that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) approve the permitting for the proposed Line 5 relocation project in Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron Counties. This proposed reroute will provide good jobs for many skilled trades professionals while delivering a much-needed energy source to our northern Wisconsin homes, schools, and businesses.

Our 14 member-trade unions represent 40,000 tradesmen and women who come from every corner of Wisconsin. We are optimistic that the construction of the Line 5 relocation will help spur economic opportunities by creating jobs for these tradespersons. It also will provide a significant economic boost to the state and to our northern Wisconsin communities through other economic activities associated with the construction such as jobs in hospitality, retail, and healthcare. This translates roughly into 700 family-sustaining construction jobs and will add \$135 million in direct and indirect economic activity.

We know that construction projects can be disruptive. We understand that, to address this concern, Enbridge evaluated multiple routes and believe that the proposed route will minimize environmental and human impacts while protecting critical resources and recreational and tourist areas. The selected route will avoid crossing National Wild and Scenic rivers and other recreational and tourist areas like Copper Falls State Park located on the longer route alternative.

One of the WBTC's priorities is to grow Wisconsin jobs that support Wisconsin communities. Investing in building, energy, water, and transportation infrastructure is

important to achieving this goal. On behalf of the WBTC, we ask that the WDNR promptly process and approve the permits needed for the Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration,

*The Wisconsin Building
Trades Council*