



environmental
defence

ENBRIDGE'S LINE 5 TUNNEL

ABOUT THE PROPOSED LINE 5 PIPELINE TUNNEL

There is a 70-year-old, deteriorating pipeline running through the heart of the Great Lakes. The Line 5 pipeline lies in “the worst possible place for an oil spill” in the Great Lakes, crossing right through the Straits of Mackinac. But Enbridge continues to offer a dangerous false solution: they want to partially encase Line 5 in a tunnel that would run through the Straits of Mackinac. This proposal is extremely dangerous, harmful, and shortsighted and must not be viewed as a solution in any way.

KEY FACTS ABOUT THE TUNNEL

1 It would take 5-10 years to build

Line 5 would continue to decay and threaten the Great Lakes, jobs, and the economy, while Enbridge takes 5-10 years to study, seek permits, and build an oil tunnel.

2 Disaster could strike at any time and Enbridge is clearly not in control

- 2018: pipelines struck & damaged by anchor despite “no anchor zone” being in place
- 2019: pipeline supports damaged by Enbridge contractors
- Ice cover in winter makes spill clean up nearly impossible

3 A terrifying best case scenario

Best case scenario, if Enbridge detects a leak immediately, they can turn off the pipeline in 13.5 minutes. In 13.5 minutes, between 285,000 to 361,000 gallons of oil could be released into the Straits, which have currents ten times the strength of Niagara Falls.

4 We are in a climate emergency

It's estimated the tunnel project & pipeline could generate \$41 billion in climate damages by 2070. We're in a climate emergency - we can't afford investments into new fossil fuel infrastructure that we don't need

5 Construction will be dangerous

More than 75 per cent of the tunnel boring area is in “very poor” or “poor” quality rock conditions. Experts have also warned about the potential for explosions due to the presence of methane gas.

6 The tunnel must undergo a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS)

The project meets all 10 of the “intensity” factors indicating “severity of impact” under federal law to warrant a full EIS. Meeting just 1 of these can warrant a full EIS.

7 It will destroy coastal wetlands

Over 90 percent of the roughly 200 fish species that occur in the Great Lakes are dependent on coastal wetlands.

8 Ancient Anishinaabeg artifacts

Evidence of submerged prehistoric sites of cultural significance for the Anishinaabeg people will require a full evaluation according to The State Historic Preservation Office