



File Code: 1950; 2720
Date: December 7, 2016

Dear Forest Neighbor:

Please accept this letter as an invitation to share your thoughts on the Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (Enbridge) special use permit proposal to continue using, occupying, and maintaining a pipeline, pumping station and right-of-way (ROW) across National Forest System lands on the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Currently, Enbridge operates and maintains the pipeline that was constructed by, and first permitted to, Lakehead Pipeline Company, Inc. in 1953. No changes are proposed to their existing facilities, and Enbridge is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of their special use permit. No changes are proposed in the scope or intensity of their authorized activities, and no additional ground disturbing activity would occur due to this decision. The Region 9 Regional Forester will make the decision whether to authorize Enbridge's proposed use and, if so, under what conditions. If continued use is approved, the decision would be implemented by issuing a new special use authorization to Enbridge.

The proposal will continue to include an existing 50 foot wide ROW, pumping station, 30 inch crude oil pipeline, and associated improvements. The ROW is located north of US Highway 2 from the Iron River area east to Moquah in portions of Section 25, T48N, R8W; Sections 26-30, 35 & 36 in T48N, R7W; Sections 31-35 in T48N, R6W; and Section 2 in T47N, R6W Bayfield County, Wisconsin (see enclosed map). The ROW is approximately 11.5 miles long and covers roughly 71 acres. This pipeline section is part of a system known as Lakehead Line 5 that begins in Superior, Wisconsin and travels through the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to the Bay City area and to Sarnia, Ontario, Canada.

If Enbridge's use is approved, typical and routine operation and maintenance activities for the pipeline would continue to be permitted. All activity would be kept within the 50 foot ROW of the 30 inch pipeline or pumping station. Typical and routine activities include:

- Pipeline integrity testing using internal tool inspections, visual inspection and air patrols.
- Installing and/or repairing pipeline markers, global positioning system monuments, gates and/or fences to restrict unauthorized all-terrain vehicle traffic.
- Maintaining all above ground improvements.
- Snow plowing for access to the ROW and pumping station.

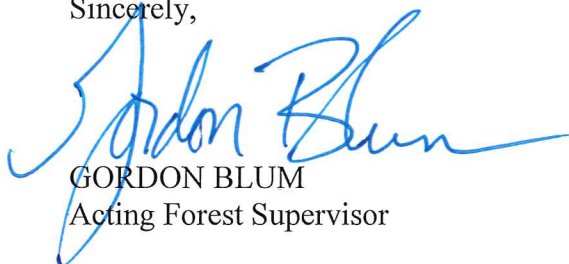


- Pipeline inspection, replacement, and repair including digging up sections to facilitate access.

This project is currently being evaluated for potential impacts from continued use by Forest resource specialists. The Forest will consider comments and the results of this environmental review to determine whether this proposed action may be categorical excluded from analysis and documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA).

A map of the project is attached. The map and additional information on the project can be found at www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44889. If you have comments or would like more information regarding this project, we would appreciate hearing from you. Please contact Project Lead Jonathan McNeill at phone number: (715) 762-5154, or email comments to comments-eastern-chequamegon-nicolet-washburn@fs.fed.us. Please provide us with any comments you may have by January 6, 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gordon Blum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gordon" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Blum".

GORDON BLUM
Acting Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Jennifer Maziasz, Gordon Blum, Linda Riddle, Spring Rosales, Jonathan McNeill, Adam Felts, Laura Hise, Kristine Vollmer, Leesha Howard-McCauley