

BUILDING A NEW LINE 3 TAR SANDS PIPELINE IS NOT ABOUT SAFETY

Enbridge does not need to replace the existing Line 3. A new, expanded pipeline would not protect Minnesota's land and water.

There is no evidence that the current Line 3 pipeline is leaking and Enbridge is unable to maintain it.

- According to Enbridge reports to the US government, in the past decade Line 3's old pipe leaked just once spilling less than one gallon of crude oil. This single leak was caused by an improperly performed repair. During this same time, other Line 3 equipment, such as seals on valves, pumps and sending traps, leaked four times, spilling a total of 65 gallons, but all of these spills were inside pump stations and terminals. In comparison, in the past decade other Enbridge pipelines spilled over 1.5 million gallons of crude oil in the US.
- The last major oil spill from existing Line 3 in the US was in 2002 - 18 years ago. The last major spill in Canada was in 2005.
- To comply with a federal consent decree, Enbridge has conducted annual inline inspections of existing Line 3, such that it has years of high-resolution imagery for the entire pipeline that allow it to track and repair corrosion before it causes a spill.

Would the newer line be safe? Not Necessarily.

- A comprehensive study that spanned decades found that old pipes did not fail more than new pipes on a per mile basis. New pipelines may leak due to improper construction, maintenance and operation.
- Since beginning operation in 2010, TC Energy's original and relatively "new" Keystone Pipeline System (not XL), spilled 23 times and released 503,037 gallons of crude oil. Of these spills, 5 were from mainline pipe manufactured between 2007 and 2009, and they released a total of 484,092 gallons. The remaining 18 spills were inside pump stations and terminals and totalled 18,945 gallons
- Since beginning operation in 2017, the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) leaked 10 times spilling a total of 1,177 gallons. The largest of these spills was a 561-gallon leak from a valve in Illinois.

Safety is not related to age as much as it is to operator commitment to safety.

- Enbridge has testified that it is fully capable of indefinitely maintaining and operating existing Line 3 in compliance with federal standards.
- Pipeline safety is far more dependent on Enbridge's commitment to frequent inspections, preventative maintenance and safe operation than it is to pipe age. In fact, Enbridge's Lines 1 and 2 are both older than existing Line 3, yet Enbridge has not proposed to replace them.
- Enbridge has testified that if it did not want greater capacity then it would be less expensive to continue using and maintaining existing Line 3.
- The "new" Line 3 will eventually age and become obsolete, too, another pipeline left in the ground to rot.

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