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Karen Clark

State Representative

District 62A

Minneapolis



Minnesota House of Representatives

November 19, 2018

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Dear Mr. Wolf and Colleagues

I am writing to express my support for the Petitions for Reconsideration from the MN Department of Commerce to challenge the PUC decision to grant a Certificate of Need for the proposed Embridge Pipeline 3 Replacement Project.

I find it shocking that the Commission would grant this Certificate of Need in the face of several major failures of Embridge to comply with existing law governing PUC decision making processes. Since when do we allow the PUC to overlook the most basic requirement that a utility provide the PUC with a **demand forecast** for the energy that the pipeline proposes to provide? Does this have any precedent? In recent or past history? If so, please inform me. As far as I can tell this goes against Judge O'Riley's findings and is blatantly illegal.

I also want to express my deep concern about several other issues raised by Honor the Earth, the Mille Lacs Band, the Youth Climate Intervenors and many others. The PUC's decision **dismisses all discussion of treaty right's** as irrelevant. I find this is almost unimaginable in today's public policy climate of not being afraid to face our own state's legacies of inequities and racism, or as I testified before Judge Riley, our actual legacy of genocide toward our Indigenous Native peoples. As you may or may not know, I represent one of the largest concentrated urban Native American Indian populations in the U.S. in my South Minneapolis Legislative District. I listen to these constituents raise this issue and describe what it means to them, to every Minnesotan.

I have had the privilege of serving with several PUC Commissioners as colleagues in the MN State Legislature. As I complete my 38th year and head off to retirement, I really cannot do so without asking that each please consider the relevancy of the **irreversible toxic contamination of our waters** that will be the legacy of this Line 3 Pipeline decision. The extremely dirty and sticky tar sands oil that it will surely accidentally spill into our pristine waters reminds me of the PFC toxic pollution that was irreversibly spilled into our East Metro waters. But we have a chance to change that unacceptable environmental and human health risk here. There are alternatives. You've had those alternatives documented by Friends of the Headwaters and others, so I leave that to you to remind the PUC that **reasonable alternatives must legally be considered**.

Please know that I respect the PUC or I wouldn't ask Commissioners and staff to you do your best, to rise to be your better selves, to reverse course and embrace the opportunity to grant the Petitions for Reconsideration.

With hope and respect

Karen Clark

Rep. Karen Clark