

December 16, 2020

The Hon. Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan
PO Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909
USA

RE: Continued Operation of Enbridge's Line 5

Dear Governor Whitmer,

For more than a century, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) has supported economic growth in Ontario by advocating for business priorities on behalf of our diverse 60,000 members, including local chambers of commerce and boards of trades in over 135 communities.

The economic ties between Ontario and Michigan run deep. We are each other's largest trading partners and many businesses have interests and operations on both sides of the border.

On behalf of the OCC, I would like to express our support for the continued operation of Enbridge's Line 5. Shutting down Line 5 – even temporarily – would have a major and immediate impact on supply for refineries.

In Michigan, this would eliminate thousands of jobs in the skilled trades and significantly increase energy costs for residents and businesses. Line 5 also minimizes the use of other transportation methods such as rail, marine, and truck delivery, which reduces the strain on regional infrastructure as well as the safety risks and environmental impacts associated with moving these products.

The pipeline is also a critical piece of energy infrastructure for Ontario. It enables the domestic production of gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and other petroleum products, a far more cost-effective solution than relying on imports from refineries in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Line 5 supplies crude oil to the Sarnia Petrochemical Manufacturing Complex, which directly employs over 4,900 people and is responsible for an additional 23,500 jobs (approximately one-third of the region's employment).

In addition to petroleum products, Line 5 is also important for the production of natural gas liquids (NGL) at the Sarnia NGL facility. Sarnia's NGL output helps maintain storage levels and peak winter deliverability of propane for heating in Michigan and Ontario.

The OCC urges you to support the continued operation of Line 5 as an economic imperative for both the State of Michigan and the Province of Ontario. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the issue further.

Sincerely,



Rocco Rossi
President and CEO
Ontario Chamber of Commerce

CC:

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Hon. Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, Government of Ontario

Hon. Bill Walker, Associate Minister of Energy, Government of Ontario

Right Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada

Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Canada

Hon. Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources, Government of Canada