

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS

7500 ODAWA CIRCLE

HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740

DECLARATION

Statement of Support of Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel Filing of a Lawsuit that Seeks to Decommission the Enbridge Line 5 Oil Pipeline

A Declaration is a formal written public statement in support or opposition of an issue or matter. Declarations shall be approved by Tribal Council motion.

The Waganakising Odawak is a nation of citizens with inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance; and

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under Public Law 103-324, and is a party to numerous Treaties with the United States the most recent of which being the Treaty of Washington of March 28, 1836 (7 Stat. 491) and the Treaty of Detroit of 1855 (11 Stat. 621); and

In accordance with the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Constitution:

“ IN THE WAYS OF OUR ANCESTORS, to perpetuate our way of life for future generations, we the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, called in our own language the WAGANAKISING ODAWAK, a sovereign, self-governing people who follow the Anishinaabe Traditions, Heritage, and Cultural Values, set forth within this Constitution the foundation of our governance.

We will work together in a constructive, cooperative spirit to preserve and protect our lands resources and Treaty Rights, ... In keeping faith with our Ancestors, we shall preserve our Heritage while adapting to the present world around us... ” and

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Government and staff have been active in work to protect the environment for both our present citizens and coming generations through approval and implementation of a body of tribal laws and regulations; and

The Tribe has concerns about the potential impact that Enbridge pipeline, if that pipeline were to leak or rupture, will have on land and water impacting the resources and treaty rights of the Tribe; and

The Enbridge line 5 pipeline runs below the water's surface, west of the Mackinac Bridge, on the lake bottom of the Straits of Mackinac. The pipeline transports about 20 million gallons of crude oil and natural gas from Superior, WI to Sarnia, Ontario each day. Line 5 was constructed in 1953, making it 66 years old this year (2019). The pipeline is 30 inches in diameter except where it crosses the Straits; there it splits into two 20-inch pipelines.

Such natural occurrences such as underwater currents, external water pressure, and changing water temperatures cause the pipeline to deteriorate. The Tribe is concerned about the age of the pipeline and the lack of transparency on the part of Enbridge and the lack of regulatory reforms that would reduce the risks of leaks or ruptures.

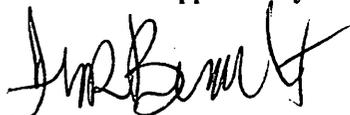
Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel filed a lawsuit in Ingham County Circuit Court on June 27, 2019, that seeks to decommission the Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline across the environmentally sensitive Straits of Mackinac.

If successful, the suit would block plans by Enbridge Inc. to dig a tunnel beneath the straits, and would eliminate "a continuing threat of grave harm to critical public rights in the Great Lakes."

The undersigned Tribal Councilors and Tribal Chair declare that they understand the sacred relationship between the Tribe's the lands and waters of their Ancestors and are in support of Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel filing of a lawsuit that seeks to decommission the Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline and for the reasons set forth in this Declaration.

A copy of this Declaration is on file at the Tribal Council Legislative Office.

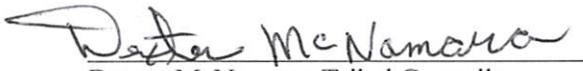
Motion approved by Tribal Council on August 8, 2019 and signed on this date by:

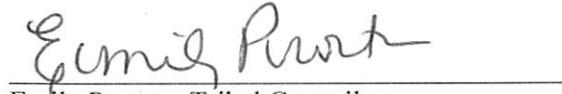


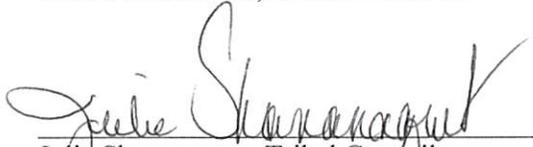
Frank Bernard, Tribal Councilor

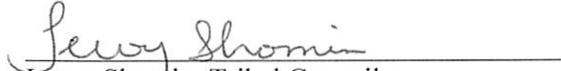


David Harrington, Tribal Councilor

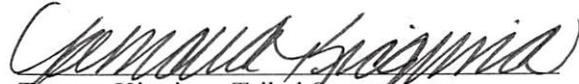

Dexter McNamara, Tribal Councilor


Emily Proctor, Tribal Councilor

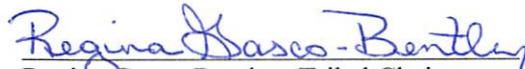

Julie Shananaquet, Tribal Councilor


Leroy Shomin, Tribal Councilor


Marcella Reyes, Tribal Treasurer


Tamara Kiogima, Tribal Secretary


Fred Harrington, Jr., Legislative Leader


Regina Gasco Bentley, Tribal Chair

