



Bobby Hahn
Technical Manager,
Environment Projects (US)

tel 218-522-4751
bobby.hahn@enbridge.com

Enbridge
125 East Superior Street
Suite 313
Duluth, MN 55802

January 14, 2022

Senator John Marty
2301 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
jmarty@senate.mn

Subject: Response to January 7, 2022 correspondence

Dear Senator Marty:

Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (“Enbridge”) is in receipt of your January 7, 2022 letter requesting certain information related to construction of the Line 3 Replacement Project (“Project”). Enbridge takes the protection of the environment seriously and instills in its entire team—including contractors and subcontractors—the importance of environmental protection and compliance. The Project was a major construction project that spanned 340 miles across northern Minnesota, and the overall program, including planning, agency coordination, training, protocols, inspections, and third-party monitoring for the Project worked very well.

As you know, Enbridge worked closely with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (“MPCA”) and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources concerning avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the Project. Both agencies issued detailed permits with specific conditions concerning Project construction and restoration, including the use of independent environmental monitors (“IEMs”).

In your correspondence, you request certain information specific to the horizontal directional drills (“HDD”) used during Project construction. The HDD crossing method requires the use of drilling fluid, the content of which was approved for use by MPCA and is primarily water mixed with inert bentonite clay. The inadvertent release of drilling fluid during HDD crossings is a generally known and common risk associated with the HDD crossing method, a method which is typically understood to be the least degrading method for certain crossings, even with these risks. Further, Enbridge prepared for and complied with the MPCA-approved site-specific plans for each HDD crossing; each of these plans was prepared recognizing that inadvertent drilling fluid releases are a known risk of the HDD method, and the plans minimized the effects of any such release.

Enbridge and its contractors carefully monitored all aspects of the HDD activities during Project construction; however, there is no regulatory or permitting requirement to maintain or report the specific data you have requested.

Where inadvertent return of drilling fluid occurred, Enbridge made the required notifications, and the plans for containment and clean-up were implemented immediately and under the supervision of IEMs who were present on-site full-time during all phases of the HDD crossings. Accordingly, all Project HDD sites are compliant with agency requirements.

We appreciate your interest and the interest of your constituents in this matter and hope this response helps further illustrate Enbridge’s commitment to the protection of Minnesota’s natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bobby Hahn", enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Bobby Hahn
Technical Manager, Environmental Projects (US)
Line 3 Replacement Project

cc: : Attorney General Keith Ellison