



# Protecting the Heart of the Great Lakes from a Disastrous Oil Spill



# Keeping Oil Out of the Great Lakes.

FLOW is a leader of the Oil & Water Don't Mix campaign aiming to stop the flow of oil in Line 5 in the Mackinac Straits. The campaign is supported by a growing number of groups, communities, tribes, businesses, and citizens across Michigan and the nation dedicated to keeping oil out of the Great Lakes.

FLOW'S TEAM OF LAWYERS, SCIENTISTS, AND COMMUNICATORS HAS HELPED GUIDE THIS PUBLIC MOVEMENT BY:

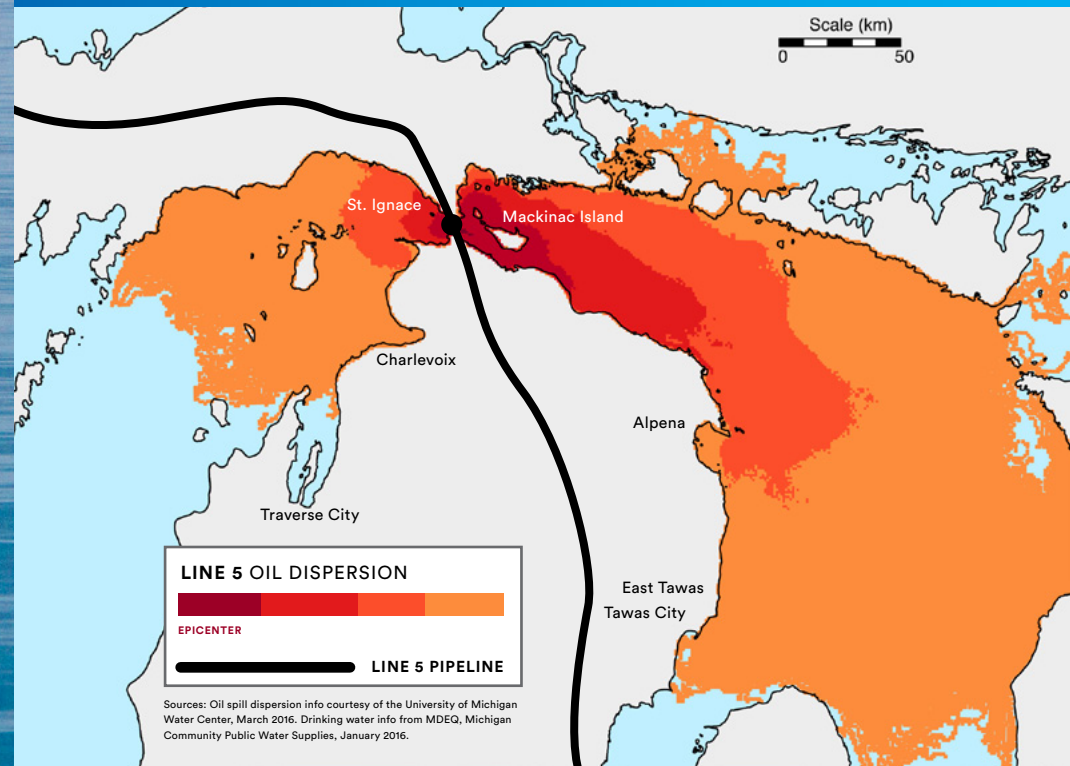
- Identifying the State of Michigan, not the federal government, as the chief steward charged with protecting the Great Lakes from a Line 5 oil spill under public trust law.
- Concluding the Line 5 oil pipelines suffer from neglect and deterioration that presents an imminent hazard to the Great Lakes, and revealing that Enbridge therefore has broken its easement agreement with the state and is operating illegally.
- Determining that there is available capacity and flexibility in the North American oil pipeline system to meet demand without using the Great Lakes as a high-stakes shortcut.

## The Enbridge "Line 5" Oil Pipelines Threaten the Mackinac Straits, Drinking Water Supplies, and Shoreline Communities.

MICHIGAN COMMUNITIES WHOSE GREAT LAKES DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IS AT DIRECT RISK FROM A LINE 5 OIL SPILL: Charlevoix, Mackinac Island, St. Ignace, Alpena, East Tawas, and Tawas City.

NEARBY COMMUNITIES WHOSE WATER SUPPLY ALSO COULD BE THREATENED: Bay City, Saginaw, Midland, and Traverse City.

TOTAL POPULATION  
More than 400,000 residents and other customers with their water supply at direct risk or potentially threatened.







# A BLACK STAIN ON THE PURE MICHIGAN BRAND.



The Great Lakes are the pride and joy, and economic lifeblood, of the Midwest. These magnificent freshwater seas also are the drinking water supply for 40 million people. But did you know that about two miles west of the Mackinac Bridge, a pair of Canadian pipelines more than 60 years old transport nearly 23 million gallons of oil every day through the powerful currents in the Mackinac Straits?

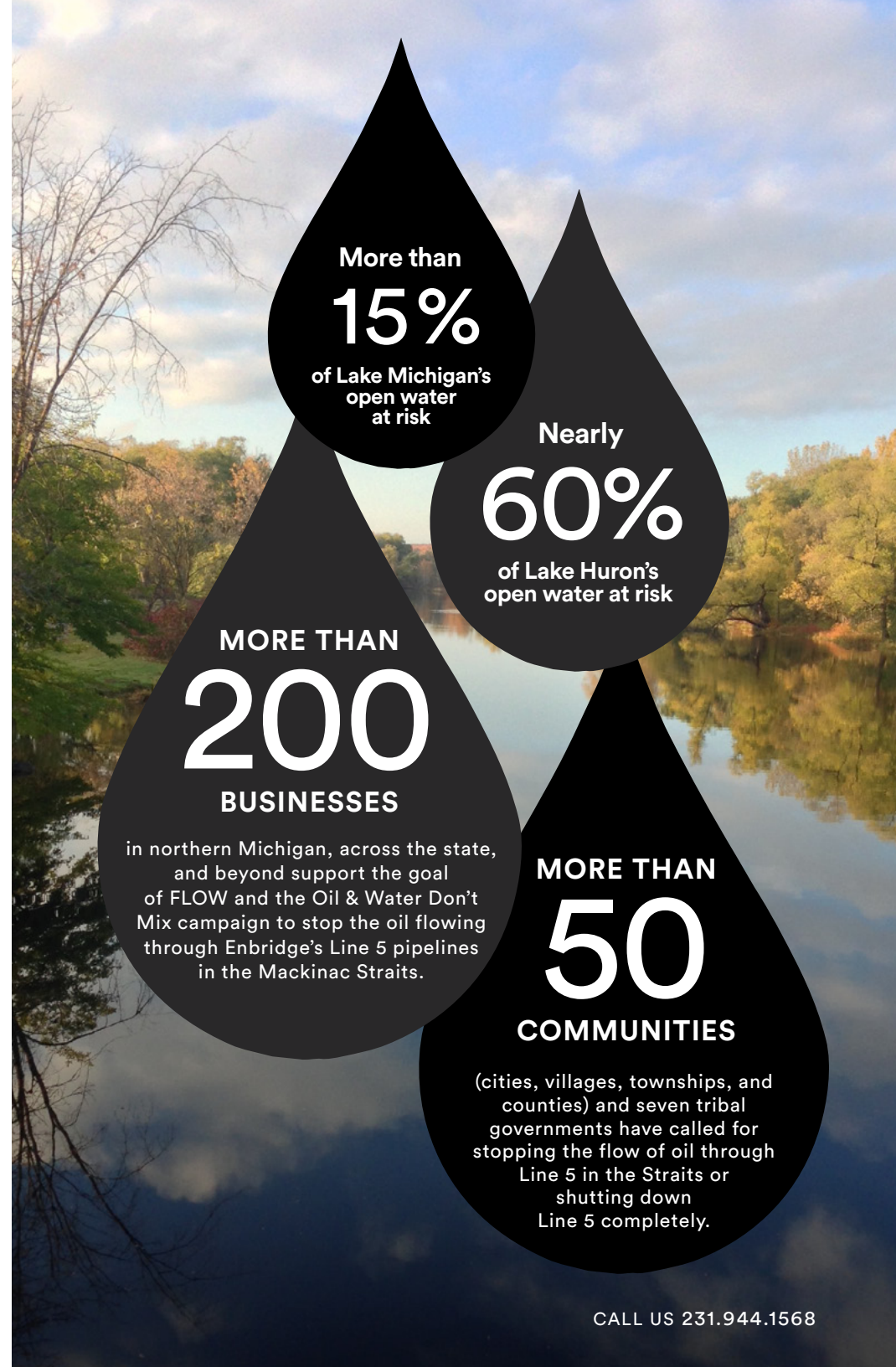
Built in 1953 during the Eisenhower administration, the “Line 5” oil pipelines lie exposed along the public bottomlands of the Mackinac Straits. The aging infrastructure threatens lasting harm to the Great Lakes, community drinking water supplies, vital fisheries, local businesses, public recreation, and the region’s tourist-driven Pure Michigan economy stretching from Lake Michigan’s Grand Traverse Bay to Mackinac Island and down the Lake Huron coast to Alpena and Saginaw Bay.

# Businesses and Communities Unite to Keep Oil Out of the Great Lakes

More than 700 miles of Great Lakes coastline in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas and Ontario could be polluted by visible oil from a spill in the Mackinac Straits.

Business owners in shoreline communities and elsewhere know that an oil spill in the Great Lakes would drive away tourists, cripple commercial and sport fishing, damage shipping and manufacturing, and wipe out our Pure Michigan economy.

Enbridge says its statewide operations support roughly 250 employees and contractors, but one in five Michigan jobs – more than 700,000 jobs in all – is tied to having high quality and plentiful water, according to the state Office of the Great Lakes. Overall, the Great Lakes provide drinking water to more than 40 million people, support a fishery worth \$4-7 billion annually, and supply the foundation for a \$30 billion tourism economy.





# The Great Lakes Belong to the People

The Great Lakes Belong to the People, Not Private Interests. FLOW and our partners are working together to urge the State of Michigan as the public trustee of our waters to act immediately to prevent a catastrophic oil spill from Line 5 in the Great Lakes. Without the State of Michigan's 1953 easement, Canadian energy transporter Enbridge could not have built the Line 5 oil pipelines in public waters and on public bottomlands about two miles west of the Mackinac Bridge. In the six decades since, the state has largely forgotten about its perpetual duty to evaluate the likely impacts to the ecosystem, waters, and public uses from a potential oil spill in the powerful currents at the Mackinac Straits. A leading freshwater research scientist at the University of Michigan has called it "the worst possible place for an oil spill" in the world's largest freshwater basin.

The Great Lakes are a public trust, and they are ours to use and defend. The State of Michigan acts as our trustee of these shared resources for the benefit of current and future generations, protecting public uses that include fishing, swimming, recreation, drinking, sanitation, commerce, and navigation. When the state fails to fulfill its role as an effective steward of the Great Lakes, it is our civic duty – as individuals, organizations, communities, tribes, and businesses – to stand up for these treasured lakes and demand accountability.

FLOW and our partners have determined Enbridge is violating its easement with the State of Michigan in eight different ways related to pipeline design and structural integrity. We are calling on the state to enforce the 1953 agreement and shut down Line 5's oil flow.

Our public campaign to shut down these underwater oil pipelines owned by Enbridge – infamous for causing the nation's largest ever inland oil spill into Michigan's Kalamazoo River in 2010 – exemplifies how citizens can petition their state and provincial governments to exercise their public trust duties and ensure the protection of our common public waters from a devastating threat. It's our water, our bottomlands, and our public trust rights to uphold. With so much at stake, we ask:

## WHY RISK THE GREAT LAKES?

"Since founding Cherry Republic, I have linked my company's brand and mission to celebrating and protecting the landscape of northwest Michigan. Like so many small businesses 'Up North,' we continue to thrive because of the beauty and bounty of the region, the Sleeping Bear Dunes, and the Lake Michigan shoreline. Now all that my family and I love about this magical place could be ruined by an oil spill from a pair of rusty old pipes in the Mackinac Straits. With all my heart, I believe we must keep oil out of the Great Lakes so that future generations can share the joy and awe and prosperity that we have known."



**Bob Sutherland**  
Owner, Cherry Republic





# Top 5 Reasons To Shut Down Line 5

## 1. ENBRIDGE IS OPERATING ILLEGALLY

Enbridge has violated its easement with the state in eight different ways related to pipeline design and structural integrity.

## 2. LINE 5 POSES A HIGH RISK TO THE GREAT LAKES

Enbridge's data reveals cracks, dents and corrosion, including an on-shore portion of the 63-year-old pipeline in the Straits that has lost 26 percent of its wall thickness to corrosion. Enbridge's emergency spill response plan was not approved by the federal government, as law requires.

## 3. WE CANNOT AFFORD A CATASTROPHIC OIL SPILL IN THE GREAT LAKES

A catastrophic oil spill threatens not only our regional economy but our drinking water. One in five Michigan jobs – more than 700,000 jobs in all – is tied to having high quality and plentiful water, including shipping, advanced manufacturing, agriculture, fishing, and more than 80 other water-using industry subsectors.

## 4. ENBRIDGE HAS A TERRIBLE TRACK RECORD IN MICHIGAN

In July 2010 Enbridge caused the nation's largest inland oil spill in Kalamazoo. Enbridge's Line 6B burst and dumped more than a million gallons of heavy tar sands oil for 17 hours. Clean up costs exceeded \$1.2 billion and took over five years.

## 5. ALTERNATIVES TO LINE 5 EXIST

FLOW's December 2015 expert report shows only 5-10 percent of the oil in Line 5 is used in Michigan and that decommissioning the 63-year-old oil pipelines to prevent a disastrous spill in the Mackinac Straits would not disrupt Michigan's or the Midwest's crude oil and propane supply.

Available capacity and flexibility to meet energy demand in the Great Lakes region already exists in the North American pipeline system operated by Enbridge and its competitors without threatening our public waters and Pure Michigan economy.



# FLOW AND THE OIL & WATER DON'T MIX CAMPAIGN URGE YOU TO ACT NOW TO SHUT DOWN ENBRIDGE LINE 5.

## HERE'S HOW:

### SIGN & SHARE

Sign our petition calling on Michigan Governor Snyder and Attorney General Schuette to enforce the easement that Enbridge is violating:

Text **ENFORCE** to 231-480-4112 or go to [www.OilandWaterDontMix.org/enforce\\_the\\_easement](http://www.OilandWaterDontMix.org/enforce_the_easement)

### PLANT A YARD SIGN

Spread the message. Contact FLOW to purchase a "Shut Down Line 5" yard sign.



### BUILD SUPPORT

In your community and among local groups and businesses. Look under "Supporters" on the campaign website for details:

[www.OilandWaterDontMix.org/supporters](http://www.OilandWaterDontMix.org/supporters)



### DONATE

FLOW will turn your donation into action to protect the Great Lakes for current and future generations.

### SPEAK UP

Call or email your State of Michigan Representative and Senator.

Find your Senator here:  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/fysbyaddress.html](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/fysbyaddress.html)

Find your Representative here:  
[www.house.michigan.gov/mhrpublic](http://www.house.michigan.gov/mhrpublic)



JOIN OUR MOVEMENT

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## Donate

Your tax-deductible  
gift will help  
**FLOW** continue to  
grow as a leading  
policy center  
protecting  
the Great Lakes.

Visit [flowforwater.org/donate](https://flowforwater.org/donate)

TO SUPPORT  
OUR WORK

JOIN OUR MOVEMENT

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## Volunteer

We strive to connect our  
volunteers' skills with  
**FLOW's** needs so we can  
make the greatest impact.  
You can help us with our  
outreach and educational  
efforts as an event volunteer,  
office helper, or  
**FLOW** representative.

Email [info@flowforwater.org](mailto:info@flowforwater.org)

FOR VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES, PROGRAMS,  
AND EVENTS.





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