

During the recent occupation of Westover by protestors specific concerns were brought to the attention of Enbridge Inc.

We thought it appropriate to address these concerns with you – our neighbours - so that confusion around them may be minimized.

One of the primary concerns brought to Enbridge by residents were of the Beverly Swamp. The Beverly Swamp is a local pristine Class 1 wetland.

Local Enbridge facilities, and line 9, sit and run through the middle of this essential wetland. While it is true that a spill here would be devastating to local drinking water sources and wildlife, it is equally true that a full cleanup & recovery would not be possible.

Line 9 also runs throughout Southern Ontario, crossing most major waterways and having the potential to contaminate over 6 million people's drinking water.



The Beverly Swamp in Autumn

Awards & Recognition

Worst 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada

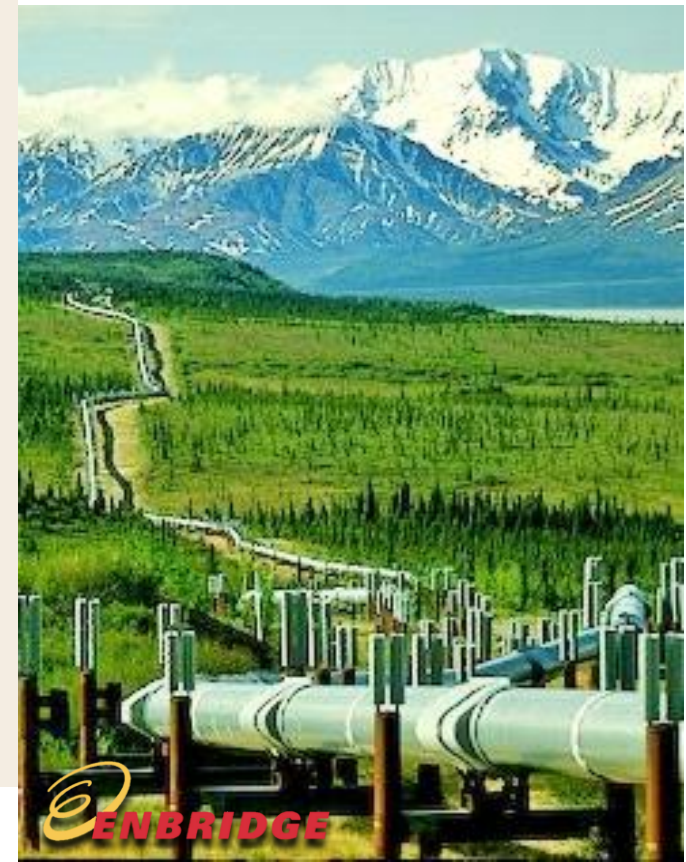
Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business – FAIL level Certification

Forbes 100 Least Trustworthy Companies in America

Canada's Worst 100 Employers

2012 Canada's Most Greenwashed Employers

Dow Jones UnSustainability Index



Encouraging Constructive Dialogue

A response to the Westover occupation





Enbridge believes in having honest and open communications with the communities they are a part of – as long as it suits their image.

The Alberta Tarsands & Climate Change

The Alberta Tarsands are often framed by the oil industry as the ethical choice. This is not true, and the imagery has been driven from a profit-driven perspective.

The tarsands are the most environmentally destructive project on earth. The amount of carbon emitted by the tarsands is Over 100,000 tonnes per day – more than every commercial building in Canada combined. This contributes heavily to climate change, and we are fast approaching a stage where the effects of carbon levels in our atmosphere will cause irreversible changes.

For every one barrel of sweet crude, the extraction process permanently contaminates 4 barrels of fresh water. This water can never be put back into the ground or used in any way.

Q & A

Here you will find real answers to the most commonly avoided questions

What is the Spill Risk?

The risk of a spill in Westover and into the Beverly Swamp is very real, and here's why;

In 2009, 80 of 89 (90%) reportable Enbridge spills happened at, in or near pumping stations and terminals. This rate has held steady.

Corrosion is also more likely and more serious in conditions where soil is always damp. Westover has a high water table, and line 9 runs through wetlands.

In North America alone, Enbridge has a spill serious enough to require reporting approximately every 5 days.

Enbridge's line 9 is also nearly 40 years old. Construction standards today require pipelines to be at least 3/4" thick – line 9 is only 1/4" thick. Additionally the company is only mandated to repair cracks or degradation that is greater than 40% of the original pipeline thickness.

What if there is a Spill?

When a spill occurs area residents will be subject not only to the oil itself but the toxic chemicals that crude is combined with, like toluene.

In other instances, individuals

have been subject to headaches, seizures and other neurological, gastrointestinal and respiratory system effects.

In Kalamazoo, rivers are thought to be permanently contaminated, despite Enbridge having been ordered to dredge the waterways.

Cleanup is still ongoing after two years & nearly 1-billion in cleanup costs. In the Mayflower oil spill residents were kicked out of their homes and, along with media, kept out of the area.

Is DilBit More Corrosive?

Diluted bitumen does not have the same physical or chemical properties as light

For every barrel of oil from the tarsands, at least 4 barrels of fresh water are permanently contaminated.

sweet crude which is what has been pumped through line 9 until now.

Dilbit is heavy crude with the viscosity of peanut butter and sand

which sinks in water. Toxic chemicals are then added to the mixture to pump it through the line, changing its pH. These physical & chemical properties make the product more corrosive.



Not Just a Reversal

Though Enbridge continues to frame this project as a simple "reversal" project this isn't actually the case.

Enbridge intends to reverse the line, add capacity from 240,000 BPD to 300,000 BPD and begin shipping Alberta tarsands East. There are no refineries along the line capable of handling dilbit, so it becomes obvious the product will be for export. This was Enbridge's intent with their previous "Trailbreaker" proposal for the same pipeline just a few years ago. Additionally - the U.S. is already receiving over 1.3 million BPD from the Alberta tarsands.

If it made financial sense for industry to keep Alberta crude in Canadian oil companies would already be doing it.

Treatment of First Nations & Indigenous People

Despite claims otherwise, Enbridge has a long history of not consulting with indigenous people about their pipeline projects. In some cases Enbridge has even tried to force or threaten compliance from First Nations people by threatening lawsuits, using force or even manipulation or subversion. Many of these incidents have been captured on video but have not been carried by mass media.

The Alberta tarsands projects have been developed around reservations and in treaty land. The hydrocarbons and other toxins released by these projects – particularly through the release of contaminated waste water into waterways – have created an epidemic of cancers and other illnesses in surrounding communities. Additionally, animals which have never previously been known to develop cancer are now developing cancers in the areas of the tarsands.