

## LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS

7500 ODAWA CIRCLE  
HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740

### DECLARATION

#### **Statement of Concern regarding the Enbridge Pipeline Under the Mackinaw Straits Because of the Potential Devastating Impact on Tribe's Resources and Treaty Rights**

*A Declaration is a formal written public statement in support or opposition of an issue or matter. One or more Tribal Councilors may sign onto a Declaration as individual Councilors, along with the Tribal Chair. A Declaration shall not obligate or commit the Tribe in any manner. Declarations do not require formal action by the Tribal Council.*

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 61 years old this year (2014). 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; and declare the following actions:

Request the federal government specifically identify gaps in regulations and enforcement authority and focus on regulations and oversight that attempt to prevent oil spill from occurring.

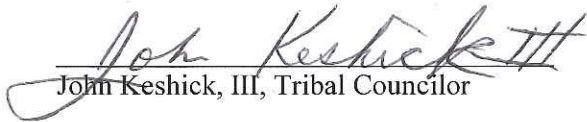
Increase staffing level at the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and have a permanent staff stationed in the Mackinaw Straits region.

Request a meeting with Enbridge to discuss Best Management Practices (BMPs) and standards by industry.

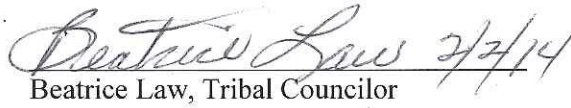
The undersigned Tribal Councilors and Chair declare that they understand the sacred relationship between the Tribes the lands and waters of their Ancestors and are concerned of the potential devastating effects of a leak or rupture of the Enbridge line 5 pipeline and set forth in this Declaration the specific identified action items.

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

Signed on this date:

  
John Keshick, III, Tribal Councilor

 2/2/14  
Bill Denemy, Tribal Councilor

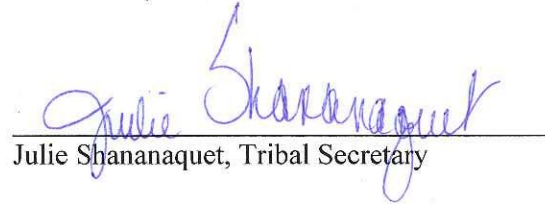
 2/2/14  
Beatrice Law, Tribal Councilor

 2/2/14  
Winnay Wemigwase, Tribal Councilor

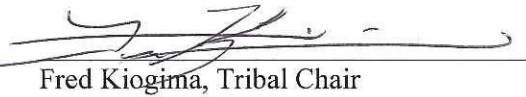
 2/2/14  
Mike Naganashe, Tribal Councilor

 2/2/2014  
Aaron Otto, Tribal Councilor

  
Marcie Reyes, Tribal Treasurer

  
Julie Shananaquet, Tribal Secretary

  
Regina Gasco Bentley, Legislative Leader

  
Fred Kiogima, Tribal Chair