

## **WAPOA to Host Pipeline Information Meeting on August 5 Regarding the Enbridge Sandpiper and More Pipelines**

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You likely have heard of the Sandpiper Pipeline. Have you heard about Line 3, Line 67 and other proposed pipelines?

The Whitefish Area Property Owners Association (WAPOA) has invited Richard Smith, President of Friends of the Headwaters (FOH), a local environmental group based in Park Rapids, to inform lake associations and groups, private property owners, and local governments about the impacts of pipelines – Sandpiper, Line 3, Line 67 and more - proposed to go through our lake country in northern Crow Wing, Aitkin, Cass and Hubbard Counties. **The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 5 at 2:00PM at the Fifty Lakes Foundation Building (1 block north of the intersection of County Rd 1 and County Rd 3) in Fifty Lakes.**

WAPOA is taking this opportunity again as we did last summer to coordinate and encourage lake associations, private property owners, and local governments in our area and along the proposed Enbridge route to hear the latest news about the pending proposals for routing the Enbridge Sandpiper, Line 3, Line 67 and more pipelines through this area. It is our understanding that the petroleum raw material being proposed for pipeline transport through our area will not be directly available to US residents and thus will not make us less dependent on foreign sources.

WAPOA is not opposed to pipelines as a method of transporting crude oil and tar sands, although that proposition is questionable. WAPOA is opposed to routing pipelines through a region of Minnesota that has some of the finest quality waters in the Midwest and creates a threat to a local and regional economy. This economy, based largely on tourism and seasonal and recreational uses, driven by the high quality public waters in this area, is being threatened by a Canadian company (Enbridge) with a documented record of over 800 pipeline breaches in the past ten (10) years seeking State of Minnesota approval to route multiple pipelines through our area. At more than one breach per week including major oil pipeline breaks like the Kalamazoo River in Michigan, the multi-million dollar local economy that depends on quality public water is placed at risk. Enbridge has submitted applications to route and obtain a certificate of need for a replacement Line 3, in addition to the proposed Sandpiper pipeline, with an expanded Line 67 (Alberta Clipper) and more pipelines “in the works”.

To learn more about the FOH about Enbridge and the Sandpiper Pipeline, and about the alternate route proposal(s), please go to <http://www.friendsoftheheadwaters.org/index.html>

County maps that show the pipeline route through your county are available on the WAPOA website at <http://minnesotawaters.org/whitefishareapropertyowners/>. On these websites, you can view the proposed route for the Sandpiper Pipeline through all the northern Minnesota counties.

If you know persons or lake groups that might be interested, please invite them. If you have questions about the meeting, please contact Ken Neihart, WAPOA Director of Outreach [kjneihart@aol.com] or Tom Watson, WAPOA President [twatson@iphouse.com].