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Great Lakes Business Network calls on lawmakers to hold fair hearings on Line 5 *Enbridge Energy, Canadian allies telling one-sided story on dangerous pipeline*

LANSING, Mich. – The **Great Lakes Business Network (GLBN)** today released an open letter to members of the Michigan Legislature regarding the operation of Line 5 beneath the Straits of Mackinac.

A full copy of the letter can be found on the [GLBN website](#).

“We are deeply concerned with the lack of consultation offered by our state Legislature to the very business interests that they have been tasked to represent,” said **Juliette King McAvoy**, vice president of sales and marketing for **King Orchards**. “With committees in both the House and Senate holding hearings on Line 5 featuring representatives from the Canadian Provincial Parliament, Canadian Labor interests, and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, we are deeply concerned that no time was allocated to the business interests of our state.”

This week, two committees in the Michigan Legislature continued hearings regarding the continuation of Line 5, including one on Wednesday.

“Bell’s Brewery had a front row seat into the underbelly of Enbridge’s behavior as a corporation during the 2010 Enbridge oil spill, which covered the Kalamazoo River and is the biggest inland water oil spill in U.S. history,” said **Larry Bell**, founder and president of **Bell’s Brewery**. “As a Michigander and a business owner, I think it’s shameful how the Republicans running these legislative hearings have acted. They have not invited a diverse group of residents and businesses in to testify on this issue and continue instead down this track of hearing only from one side.”

The GLBN letter referenced a report, '[Canadian Profits, Michigan Risk](#)' which found a massive oil increase since 2013 on Enbridge’s Line 6b and 5 pipelines has not been acknowledged as the company publicly worries about shortages.

Among other findings in that report:

- The Line 9 reversal finalized Enbridge’s public plan to move Canadian oil through Michigan to refineries in Montreal and Quebec, with Line 5 as a critical piece.

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- Enbridge's competitor TransCanada cancelled Energy East pipeline following Line 9 reversal, acknowledging that Enbridge had established the Michigan shortcut, and protecting Canada's interest in not risking their own waters.

“Enbridge Energy is a foreign company running an unsafe pipeline through the Great Lakes,” said **Larry Mawby**, founder and owner of **MAWBY Vineyards**. “As a business owner, I value our precious natural resources and the purity of our Great Lakes. Michigan lawmakers shouldn’t go on break until they hear the other side on Line 5.”

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