



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: April 16, 2025

Media Contact: Anna Marie Zorn

Great Lakes Business Network

Email: [ZornA@nwf.org](mailto:ZornA@nwf.org)

Cell: (734) 887-7136

**USACE Emergency Designation Draws Rebuke From Great Lakes Businesses**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (ACOE) decision to include the proposed Line 5 tunnel in the Straits of Mackinac among a list of projects eligible for an emergency permit has drawn sharp criticism from business leaders across the Great Lakes region. They argue that fast-tracking such a controversial project under the guise of an emergency sets a dangerous precedent.

The Line 5 tunnel was added to the ACOE's list of projects that may be expedited under a Trump Emergency Executive Order on Energy. This order directs the ACOE to use emergency procedures to approve projects. However, by fast-tracking this permit, the Corps is bypassing critical safeguards that will only harm protected resources, undermining the health and vitality of the Great Lakes. GLBN members expressed the following concerns:

"The protection of the Great Lakes for our communities, our businesses and for our health should be the focused emergency" said Juliette King, VP of Sales and Marketing for King Orchards.

"Economic experts agree that an orderly shutdown of Line 5 is not only feasible but would also have virtually no impact on regional energy prices. In fact, shutting down the pipeline would boost domestic energy production and create jobs, strengthening our local economies."

"Enbridge Energy has proven time and time again they do not share a commitment to protecting our Great Lakes" said Pete Laing, MAWBY Sparkling Wines. "There are alternatives to Line 5 that grow domestic energy sources and jobs. Helping a Canadian oil company expand a 72-year-old oil pipeline puts the drinking water for over 31 million people at risk when we know there are alternatives."

The Great Lakes Business Network is a coalition of businesses dedicated to preserving the integrity and vitality of the Great Lakes, fostering sustainable business practices, and advocating for policies that protect the environment and the economy of the Great Lakes region. It is co-managed by National Wildlife Federation and Groundwork for Resilient Communities.

Learn more at [glbusinessnetwork.com](http://glbusinessnetwork.com)