**PLG Consulting Identifies Alternatives to Line 5**

**Contact:** Anna Marie Zorn
**Phone**: 734 – 887 – 7136
**Email**: zorna@nwf.org

A new industry report from PLG Consulting, a leading oil and logistics consultancy in logistics and supply chains, provides critical data that should reframe the public debate surrounding Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline. The findings demonstrate that the market is fully capable of adjusting to a Line 5 closure without causing energy shortages or significant price shocks, and that such a closure would, in fact, boost U.S. energy exports.

For years, the debate has been dominated by Enbridge's unverified claims of economic catastrophe if the line is shut down. The latest PLG report, "Prospective Line 5 Closure Boosts US Energy Dominance," offers a fact-based counterpoint that reporters can use to ground their coverage. The report is a follow-up to PLG's 2023 analysis and concludes that the energy market is dynamic and resilient.

The key findings are clear and definitive:

- Rapid Market Adjustment: Within just three months, existing infrastructure can supply 87% of Line 5's current oil volume at comparable costs. Within 18 months, 100% of the supply can be replaced via other pipelines, rail, and waterborne transport from the Gulf Coast.
- Boost to U.S. Energy Dominance: Crucially, a Line 5 shutdown would substitutes Canadian oil with American crude. U.S. exports to Canada would increase by up to 200,000 barrels per day, creating new market opportunities for American producers. The report states, "The vast majority of the replacement crude supply could come from U.S. sources."
- Minimal Consumer Impact: The impact on gasoline prices would be less than one cent per gallon.
- Propane Needs Met: For propane, which is derived from Line 5's natural gas liquids (NGLs), the market would directly supply Michigan, Wisconsin, and Canada. The U.S. has the capacity to supply all replacement demand for propane and butane.

These facts directly challenge the necessity of Enbridge's expensive and unproven replacement projects, particularly the proposed oil tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac. It is telling that Enbridge has consistently fought permit processes that would require a formal review of the fundamental question: Is this pipeline needed? The company has worked to block state and federal agencies from scrutinizing whether alternatives exist because the facts uncovered by PLG do not support their project. A genuine review of need and alternatives would likely conclude that a multi-billion-dollar tunnel is not in the public's interest.

An orderly shutdown of Line 5 is not just an economic or environmental issue; it is a matter of upholding fundamental legal and sovereign principles. Closing the pipeline honors the federal court order obtained by the Bad River Band, affirming Tribal sovereignty over their reservation lands where easements have expired. It respects state sovereignty, as the State of Michigan is acting to protect the Great Lakes from a catastrophic spill in the heart of the Straits. And it reinforces Great Lakes laws designed to protect the world's largest freshwater system from an unacceptable risk.

When covering this story, the PLG findings should be treated as established facts from an industry expert. The narrative that Line 5 is indispensable is collapsing under the weight of this objective market analysis. The real story is how an orderly transition away from Line 5 protects the Great Lakes, respects sovereign rights, and surprisingly, strengthens America's energy position.

https://plgconsulting.com/prospective-line-5-closure-boosts-us-energy-dominance/