



Sierra

Newsletter of the Coulee Region Group

NOVEMBER 2015

NOVEMBER MEETING

**Tuesday,
November 24**

7pm at the
**Ho-Chunk
Three Rivers House
at 8th & Main**

6pm Board Meeting

Coulee Region Transportation Study

**Presenters: Coulee Region Transportation Team,
Wisconsin Department of Transportation**

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is undertaking a comprehensive transportation study in the region in 2015, named the Coulee Region Transportation Study. The purpose of the study is to create a transportation plan that looks to the year 2050 and addresses all modes of transportation over that period. The objective of the study is to provide a plan that not only address the reliability, conditions and safety of our roadways, but takes into account the regions land use plans and the environment. The DOT's Coulee Region Transportation Team will present an overview and the study's current status. The team will be available to listen to any concerns and answer any questions after the presentation. This is a great opportunity to find out more about this study, which will have a long-term effect on transportation, land use, and the environment in the Coulee Region.



Coulee Region Transportation Public Input

The next round of public information meetings for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Coulee Region Transportation Study is in early November. The study is scheduled to be completed in 2015, so this is nearing the end. Please attend the Sierra Club November program, or one of the Public Involvement Meetings, or both. These meetings will present alternative solution strategies, to be narrowed down further before year end.

There are two opportunities to attend the meeting:

Tuesday, November 10, 5-7 p.m. at Onalaska High School - Commons 700 Hilltopper Place, Onalaska

Thursday, November 12, 5-7 pm. at La Crosse Central High School - Rm 124 1801 Losey Boulevard South, La Crosse

For more information, go to www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov.

Enbridge's proposed massive tar sands expansions in the Great Lakes Region

Article from Sierra Club John Muir Chapter

While Sierra Club activists have been fighting the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, Enbridge Energies has proposed expanding an entire tar sands network in our own backyard. This network severely threatens the climate and our Great Lakes and is sneaking in under the radar.

Enbridge Energy has proposed doubling the capacity of their pipeline, (Enbridge Line 67), which runs from Alberta, Canada to Superior, Wisconsin from 450,000 to 800,000 barrels of oil per day if permitted. Given Enbridge's poor environmental track record, citizens are worried about the impacts of a potential spill on Lake Superior and other waters.

In addition to the concerns of additional
continued on page 2

Save the date for our annual Holiday Party!

This year's holiday party will be on **Tuesday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m.** at the home of Barb & Don Frank (as in previous years). This is always a great way to meet new like-minded folks and catch up with old friends. Details to follow next month.



Coulee Region Sierra Club

Maureen Kinney
620 South 23rd Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

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Proposed Enbridge tar sands expansion continued from page 1

pipeline capacity, Enbridge 67 will lead to other tar sands pipelines, projects, and refinery stations:

1. More Pumping Units:

In order to get more tar sands oil through the pipeline, the project will require additional pumping units and more horsepower at current pumping stations in Minnesota.

2. Storage Tanks on Lake Superior:

Enbridge plans to build two additional storage tanks in Superior. This means that thousands of gallons of this crude oil will be resting on the shores of our most precious water resource.

3. Additional pipelines:

Enbridge is proposing to expand or is currently expanding a few additional lines. Lines 5, 6B, 61, and 3 are all being expanded and are part of the Lakehead System, the pipeline system that runs through the Great Lakes region. Line 6B is the line that ruptured and resulted in the devastating Kalamazoo spill.*

For more information, see <http://www.thedailycall.org/?p=59564>. Contact

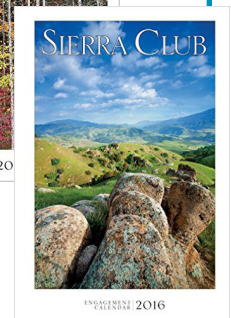


the Wisconsin DNR (<http://dnr.wi.gov/contact/>) to prepare a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement for Enbridge's proposed pipeline expansions!

* The Kalamazoo River oil spill occurred in July 2010 when a pipeline operated by Enbridge (Line 6B) burst and flowed into Talmadge Creek, a tributary of the Kalamazoo River. A six-foot break in the pipeline resulted in the largest inland oil spill, and one of the costliest spills in U.S. history. Thirty-five miles of the Kalamazoo River were closed for clean-up until June 2012

Support the environment with 2016 Sierra Club calendars

The 2016 Sierra Club calendars, our group's primary fundraisers, are now available. These gorgeous calendars (wall for \$13.95 and desk for \$14.95) have been best sellers for 30-plus years featuring photos worth framing. They will be available at Sierra Club meetings. Or, you can order from Maureen Kinney: 784-9324 (H), 784-5678 (work) or maureen@johnsflaherty.com.



This Changes Everything movie planned for La Crosse

If the goal of 70 tickets sold by November 10 is met (we're close!), the documentary, THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING, will be shown at the Ward Avenue Cinema on **Wednesday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m.**

This new film is based on the highly acclaimed book, *This Changes Everything: Capitalism versus the Climate*, by Naomi Klein. ("The most momentous and contentious environmental book since *Silent Spring*." —Rob Nixon The New York Times Book Review)

Tickets are available at <https://www.tugg.com/events/56146> for \$11, and must be purchased through the website.

If questions: cathyvanmaren@yahoo.com