



NEWS RELEASE



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Local Environmental Groups Applaud Dane County Zoning Decision on Enbridge Permit

MADISON: Local environmental groups were thrilled when the Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee approved a Conditional Use Permit with a requirement for Environmental Impairment Liability insurance on the Enbridge Line 61 Waterloo/Marshall pump station. This permit was the last permit needed for Enbridge to expand Line 61 to an unprecedented 1.2 million barrels per day. The vote was unanimous.

Elizabeth Ward, Conservation Programs Coordinator of the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter stated, "We are so happy to see the Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee stand up for the concerned communities near the pumping station. Given the Department of Natural Resources' decision not to conduct a full Environmental Impact Statement, we're happy to see the in-depth analysis the Zoning Committee undertook. This decision shows that the committee recognized the threats posed by a potential tar sands spill and acted accordingly to protect our natural resources."

Unfortunately, the world learned about the significant damage a pipeline disaster can cause in 2010 with the Kalamazoo tar sands spill. The clean-up of that spill has exceeded \$1.2 billion and continues 4.5 years later. Mary Beth Elliott of 350 Madison said, "The Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee did their duty and diligently listened to their constituents. Enbridge's record demonstrates their clean-ups are half-hearted, incomplete, and prolonged. The Environmental Protection Agency had to continually insist that Enbridge finish the Kalamazoo clean-up, while Enbridge resisted every step of the way."

Lori Van Caster, a resident in Marshall, located near the pumping station said, "Though many of us are still concerned about the risks this pipeline poses to our community, we are pleased to see that if a spill does occur there won't be years of uncertainty over when and if a clean-up will occur."

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Founded in 1892 by John Muir, the Sierra Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. The Sierra Club's mission is to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out those objectives. The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter is made up of 15,000 members and supporters working to promote clean energy and protect water resources in Wisconsin.

Madison 350 is the local branch of 350.org, an international grassroots organization that is mobilizing a global climate movement. 350 parts per million (ppm) of CO2 is the number that leading scientists say is the safe upper limit for carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. To get there, we need a different kind of ppm - a "people powered movement."