

preventing those incidents from happening again. We do not simply stop at punishing someone and keeping our fingers crossed. We are driven by the concept of hazard elimination and prevention. When it comes to the environmental impact of a release of a hazardous material this is the ultimate mindset, and again, one that we specialize in at the Toledo Refining Company. When called for, we execute high level and meaningful corrective actions to protect our neighbors, our communities, and our environment. Both the USW and the Toledo Refining Company (PBF Energy) are committed to environmental excellence. Neither entity would put its reputation on the line to support a project that did not have the same commitment. The Line 5 Tunnel Project is about more than just money to us. The future of Green Energy is an admirable goal but one that comes with a challenging and lengthy transition. Someone has to help keep our communities and our country moving forward until we reach those goals. To do this we need facilities that are committed to operating as cleanly and responsibly as possible during this transition. USW Local 912 and the Toledo Refining Company is a great example of the type of partnership and facility that our country needs to move forward.

Passage of Senate Resolution 41, supporting the Great Lakes Tunnel Project and line replacement while allowing the existing Line 5 to remain in operation will ultimately accomplish the goal of removing the current line from the Straits of Mackinac while continuing to deliver energy and jobs. While I support this project, I am also committed to holding Enbridge accountable to follow strong labor and environmental standards.

I urge you to pass Senate Resolution 41 to support the continued operation of Enbridge Line 5 and the completion of the Great Lakes Tunnel Project. This is a commonsense solution to further protect our environment and provide the energy that we all rely on with no additional cost to taxpayers and the added economic benefit of providing good, family sustaining jobs to Michigan and Ohio residents. Keeping the existing Line 5 operational during this project will directly secure hundreds of full-time jobs at the Toledo Refinery as well as thousands of secondary jobs in the surrounding communities and safeguarding the over 5 billion dollars of economic activity in the region that the Toledo Refining Company provides.

In closing, I urge this committee to pass Ohio Senate Resolution 41 and recommend its swift passage on the Senate floor. Thank you.

Matt Velker
USW Local 912
Vice President