UNITED STEELWORKERS



UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS

District 1

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Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee Senate Resolution 41 Written Testimony of Tiffany McKee June 8, 2021

My name is Tiffany McKee. I am the United Steelworkers District 1, Rapid Response Coordinator which covers the state of Ohio.

The issues surrounding Line 5 not only affect the members the Steelworkers we represent across Ohio, but economy of both Ohio & Michigan. These are families with sustaining jobs that rely on the safe operation of the line. Line 5 supplies crude oil to the BPF Toledo & BP-Husky refineries in Ohio where the USW represent nearly 700 working people. Without line 5, BPF Toledo workers' jobs are in jeopardy. Products from Line 5 supply a majority of jet fuel to the Detroit Metro Airport, 30% of Ohio's gasoline, & 40% of gasoline for southeastern Michigan. Refiners in northwest Ohio also supply energy to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Indianapolis, Indiana, Akron, Dayton, Columbus, and Cleveland, Ohio.

On an average day, the workers at the Toledo Refining Company produces

- Enough gasoline to fill 224,000 cars (15 gallons each)
- Enough diesel to drive a semi from NY to LA 2,700 times
- Enough jet fuel to fly around the world 42 times on a Boeing 737 loaded with 100 passengers
- Enough propane to fill 45,000 grill propane tanks
- Enough butane to fill 160,000,000 BIC lighters
- they produce 120,000 gallons of heavy fuel oil a day
- they produce 400,000 gallons of Petro-chemicals a day
- they produce 50 tons of Sulfer a day

I believe we all have the same goal, to remove the pipeline out of the Straits of Mackinac without crippling energy supplies & the economy. Federal DOT safety regulators have noted that pipeline continues to be the safest way to transport oil & gas. The pipeline was constructed in 1953 & we agree that it is time for it to be replaced. The proposed project to build a tunnel deep beneath the Straits and replacement line in the tunnel will both protect from the environmental risk & protect the high paying, family sustaining jobs for the members we are proud to represent at the BPF Toledo & BP-Husky refineries.

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Our members and their families have been fighting to sustain their jobs & livelihoods for years. A premature service shutdown of Line 5 would both end their fight & threaten their livelihoods as there is no feasible alternative to supply the crude products needed for these refineries. The shutdown of Line 5 deeply, adversely impacts Ohio refineries and puts more than 1,000 Ohioans out of work.

We are asking for your support in urging the Governor of the State of Michigan and the Director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to make all efforts to keep Enbridge Line 5 operating.

Tiffany McKee
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Rapid Response Coordinator

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