

Dale Lueck
State Representative
District 10B
Aitkin and Crow Wing Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

August 19, 2020

Senator Paul Gazelka
Senate Majority Leader
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg,
Saint Paul MN 55101

Senator Gary Dahms
Chair, Commerce Consumer
Protection Finance & Policy
Committee

Senator Dave Osmek
Chair, Energy and Utilities
Finance & Policy Committee

(Transmitted Electronically)

Dear Senators, Gazelka, Dahms & Osmek,

As you prepare for Commissioner Kelley's job performance hearing scheduled for Friday August 21, please find concerns that Senator Ruud and I share with respect to his unsatisfactory performance. His persistent effort to block replacement of aging Enbridge Pipeline #3 is especially troubling.

By continuing the frivolous appeal of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's (PUC) decision to authorize the certificate of need and route permit for the replacement of aging Enbridge Pipeline 3, Mr. Kelley is acting contrary to the best interests of Minnesotans, and in particular the citizens of the Senate District 10 and House District 10B, which we represent. Those concerns include:

- Delaying the Enbridge Line #3 replacement project continues to put the environment in Northern Minnesota at unnecessary risk. Line 3 is roughly 60 years old and operating at half capacity due to its poor condition.
- This project will create about 8,600 jobs (6,500 of them local) in Minnesota over a two-year period. That includes 4,200 union construction jobs, half of which likely be filled locally.
- Minnesota's economy will receive an almost \$3 billion boost, the majority of that investment will go into northern Minnesota, which continues to suffer from high unemployment rates.
- The project will provide increased property tax revenue across Minnesota's northern counties and townships. This project is projected to provide an additional \$2 million in new annual property tax revenue for the affected local governments units within the district we represent.
- Replacing aging Enbridge Line #3 will reduce the need to transport crude oil by rail, which is several orders of magnitude more accident prone than transporting crude oil by pipeline.
- This effort is a gross waste of Minnesota taxpayer dollars at a time when the state faces a huge deficit due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

We respectfully request that our concerns be addressed during the joint committee hearing on Commissioner Kelley's job performance. Completion of this project is long overdue and has been unnecessarily delayed by Commissioner Kelley's arbitrary actions with respect to continuing to contest the PUC's well-reasoned decision. Thank you for consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dale K. Lueck in black ink.

Dale K. Lueck, House District 10B

Handwritten signature of Carrie Ruud in black ink.

Carrie Ruud, Senate District 10

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