

ENBRIDGE: BRINGING US A DIRTY ENERGY FUTURE?

Enbridge has asked for approval to reverse the flow of oil in its Line 9 pipeline in Ontario. This is part of a larger project that would carry tar sands oil through Ontario to Quebec and then to Portland, Maine where it would be shipped by tanker to the Gulf Coast. What are the risks?



SARNIA, ON // Sarnia already has the worst air quality in Canada, and it could get even worse if the refineries there shift to using more tar sands oil. Refining tar sands brings an increase in emissions of heavy metals, like lead, and sulfurs which trigger asthma attacks.



NORTH WESTOVER, ON // Enbridge's pipeline is made of the same material that ruptured in Michigan last year, and now Enbridge wants to increase the pressure that the oil is pumped through the pipeline in Ontario. On top of that, tar sands oil is more corrosive to ships, creating a greater risk of oil spills along the pipeline route.



TORONTO, ON // Ontario has made a commitment to reduce the global warming pollution in transportation fuels. Enbridge's plan would cut Ontario off from less polluting oil and force the province to rely more on carbon-heavy tar sands oil.



MONTREAL, QC // Montreal has the second worst air quality in Canada. Enbridge's plan would bring tar sands oil into Quebec for the first time, and some of it would likely be refined in Montreal. This brings increased air pollution and greenhouse gas emission in the province.



QUEBEC, QC // Quebec is making big investment in greener transportation and has set ambitious goals for tackling global warming pollution. Tar sands oil, with its higher carbon content, would undermine these goals.



VERMONT // Vermont is setting aggressive goals now to drastically reduce its own reliance on non-renewable energy sources like tar sands oil. The pipeline runs through thousands of acres of wildlife habitat, rivers and wetlands in the state that could be threatened by a leak or spill.



PORTLAND, ME // The Gulf of Maine is vital for Maine's fisheries industry. A single accident involving a tanker in Casco Bay could devastate the fishing and lobstering sectors



SEBAGO LAKE, ME // The pipeline would pass next to Sebago Lake, which serves as the drinking water supply for more than 15% of Maine's population.

A pipeline accident that leaked into Sebago Lake thus could result in a public health disaster.

