



January 25, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

On behalf of the 29 construction associations that make up the Council of Ontario Construction Associations (COCA), I'm writing in support of the Line 5 oil and gas pipeline, which is currently at risk of being shut down by the Governor of Michigan.

COCA's membership represents approximately 10,000 general and trade contractors who work in the industrial, commercial, institutional (ICI) and heavy civil construction sector in all regions of Ontario. Founded in 1975, COCA is the largest, most diverse and most representative voice for Ontario's non-residential construction sector. We work with our members and government officials to support success in the industry and to serve the people of our province effectively.

Shutting down Line 5, with no plan to replace the critical supply of energy it delivers to Eastern Canada, will do tremendous harm not only to Ontario's construction industry, but also to regional and provincial economies, as well as Canada's energy security. This crucial conduit delivers energy supply to Ontario and Quebec and enables our oil-producing provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to get their product to market. It delivers 53% of Ontario's crude oil and is a significant source of supply to Line 9, which transports about two-thirds of Quebec's crude oil.

In addition to ensuring a safe, affordable and reliable supply of gasoline, propane, diesel, jet fuel and other products, Line 5 supports thousands of well-paying, skilled trades jobs across Canada, including many in Ontario's construction industry.

Notwithstanding the fact that Line 5 has operated safely and reliably under the Straits of Mackinac for more than 65 years, we understand that Enbridge is prepared to invest US\$500 million in a long-term solution that will further protect the environment: a tunnel that will house Line 5 deep under the Straits.

In the meantime, Line 5 must remain open to ensure that households and businesses in Canada and the United States have a safe, affordable and reliable supply of energy. Line 5 is a vital component of the energy infrastructure that connects our two nations and is essential to our industry's role in building a strong Ontario. COCA urges the Government of Canada to work with the Biden Administration to keep Line 5 open.



Thank you for your attention this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Ian Cunningham
President

CC: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance

The Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources

The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

The Honourable Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines

The Honourable Bill Walker, Associate Minister of Energy

The Honourable François Legault, Premier of Quebec

The Honourable Jonatan Julien, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources