



1020 20th Avenue SW  
PO Box 940  
Minot, North Dakota 58702-0940

Telephone: 701.852.6000  
Facsimile: 701.838.2488  
e-mail: chamber@minotchamber.org  
www site: minotchamber.org

January 20, 2011

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North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Re: **Bakken Pipeline Project (PU-10-612)/Beaver Lodge Loop Project (PU-10-613)**  
**Letter of Support from Minot Area Chamber of Commerce**

Dear Commissioners Clark, Cramer and Kalk:

On behalf of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and its more than 700 business members, I am writing to express our support for two pipeline projects being proposed by Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC: The **Bakken Pipeline Project** and the **Beaver Lodge Loop Project**.

Created in 1923, the Chamber exists to promote, develop and serve business, industry and community. We are *Partners in Progress* for the Minot area and for the State of North Dakota and are actively involved in important public policy issues that impact both. The Chamber represents many types of businesses including agriculture, retail, industrial, manufacturing, professional, and home based. We are a non-profit, membership driven organization, accredited through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Enbridge Pipelines is an important member of the Chamber and a *Partner in Progress*. The company maintains its North Dakota headquarters in Minot, with 70 employees calling the area home. Enbridge Pipelines is also active in the Minot area, supporting the Souris Valley United Way, the Mid-Dakota Chapter of the American Red Cross, Trinity Medical Foundation, The Salvation Army, The Minot Area Homeless Coalition and many other programs that focus on health & safety, education, environment and culture & community.

Like many communities in North Dakota, the increased development of the Bakken Formation has provided tremendous benefits to the Minot area. We have seen significant economic growth as a result: Companies like Enbridge have opened offices, hired employees, become corporate citizens, and made investments in their communities. In order to ensure these benefits continue through the prudent development of the Bakken Formation, North Dakota's existing energy infrastructure and capacity to deliver crude oil to markets needs to be expanded.

The proposed pipeline projects would meet this critical need by increasing pipeline takeaway capacity from North Dakota by an additional 145,000 barrels per day (bpd). This would mean greater access to refineries for our producers, new tax revenues for the state and for local governments, increased investments in our communities, and more jobs for North Dakotans. From the standpoint of the Chamber, the proposed pipeline projects would mean *progress* for North Dakota and for the Minot area!

The Chamber encourages the North Dakota Public Service Commission to support both the Bakken Pipeline Project and the Beaver Lodge Loop Project.

Sincerely,

L. John MacMartin, CCE  
President

*Partners In Progress*

*The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and You!*

