



Founded 1889

## **United Association** of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

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### **United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Applauds MN PUC Line 3 Project Decision**

Annapolis, MD - - The United Association (UA) is committed to providing and maintaining safe and reliable energy to consumers. The current pipeline through Minnesota that carries crude oil to refineries is over 50 years-old and epitomizes the need to update the infrastructure of America. Leaving it as is would have guaranteed countless band-aid repairs in the years to come jeopardizing the environment and the welfare of residents. We applaud the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for their approval of the Certificate of Need for this project and strongly believe that it is the right decision.

The suggested route for construction was done after considerable and intensive research and consultation with the community. This route would be the most environmentally sound course with the least amount of disruption. The Commission was also right to approve this plan so that the pipeline can be constructed in a manner that best ensures the utmost integrity, operation and capacity of the line. We understand the sensitive nature of this project and want the people of Minnesota to know that we are committed to respecting landowner and stakeholder rights along the route while ensuring the safest possible construction of the Line 3 pipeline.

This project will benefit the people of Minnesota in numerous ways beyond the safety and integrity of the pipeline itself. It will also create jobs during its construction and provide a financial benefit of over \$2 billion to the state's economy. The United Association is a North American labor organization representing 345,000 plumbers, pipefitters, sprinkler fitters, service technicians, and welders – including approximately 8,500 who reside in Minnesota. Further, UA Pipeliners Local 798 is a nationwide local of pipeliners who are the most highly-skilled and trained workers in their field. Our members are highly-trained and will ensure that the Line 3 Replacement Project is constructed according to the highest standards of craftsmanship, as they have on countless projects in the past.

This was a difficult and arduous decision for the PUC but one that they did not take lightly. Their approval of this project's need and most sensible path is one that is not only the right thing for the citizens of Minnesota but one that will support the long-term environmental impact of the State as well.

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Founded in 1889, the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters, Sprinklerfitters, Welders and HVAC Technicians (UA) is a multi-craft union whose members are engaged in the fabrication, installation and servicing of piping systems. There are over 345,000 members belonging to more than 275 local unions in the United States and Canada.

