## Out on the Tar Sands Mainline: Mapping Enbridge's Dirty Web of Pipelines May 2010 The Polaris Institute

Spills, leaks and ruptures that have occurred on Enbridge pipelines over the past ten years. Between 1999 and 2009, across all of Enbridge's operations there were 713 spills that released close to 134,000 barrels (21.3 million litres) of hydrocarbons into the environment.

These figures were compiled from Enbridge's own Environmental, Health and Safety and Corporate Social Responsibility Reports, <a href="http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/csr-reports.php">http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/csr-reports.php</a>

From 2007-2008, the **Wisconsin Wetlands Association**, a civil society organization, reviewed the violations on a daily basis, reporting that, "Enbridge's environmental compliance has been poor, particularly early in the construction cycle...[These] poor pipelineconstruction management practices degrade wetland quality and pollute rivers andstreams. "151 Requests by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources included letters calling on Enbridge to cease construction activities pending resolution of their environmental oversights, and retraining of crews. A few of the many critical incidences include:

- 60 violations from July 30-September 9th, 2007 related to erosion control, wetland restoration, land clearing, trenching, dewaters, and lack of compliance with "Best Management Practices";
- Over 29, 000 gallons of oil were spilled in Clark County, WI on January 2nd, 2007 when a pipeline ruptured, contaminating farmers' fields;
- Over 150,000 gallons of crude oil spilled into a farm field and seeped into the groundwater table in Rusk County, WI on February 2nd when Enbridge Construction crews struck an existing pipeline.152 In May 2008, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources referred the case of Enbridge Energy Partners' repeated failure to comply with its wetland and waterway to the Department of Justice (DOJ). In January 2009, Enbridge Energy Partners paid the State of Wisconsin \$1.1 million (USD) to settle claims under Wisconsin's waterway and wetland protection and storm water control laws.153 The case documented more than 500 violations of the company's permits, including 282 wetland violations (soil mixing, rutting, unauthorized clearing, improper restoration), and 176 land disturbance and erosion control violations near navigable waters and wetlands.154 This settlement is one of the largest in the history of the Wisconsin DOJ Environmental Unit.155

150 Wisconsin Wetlands Association, Update (September 2007) www.wisconsinwetlands.org/enbridge.htm

151 Wisconsin Wetlands Association, Issue Summary (November 8 2006) www.wisconsinwetlands.org/enbridge.htm

152 Wisconsin Wetlands Association, Updates (2007) www.wisconsinwetlands.org/enbridge.htm

153 Wisconsin Department of Justice

www.doj.state.wi.us/absolutenm/templates/template share.asp?articleid=24&zoneid=3

154 Wisconsin Wetlands Association, www.wisconsinwetlands.org/enbridge.htm

155 Wisconsin Wetlands Association, Update: (January 2 2009) www.wisconsinwetlands.org/enbridge.htm

Between 1999 and 2009, across all of Enbridge's operations there were 713 spills that released close to 134,000 barrels (21.3 million litres) of hydrocarbons into the environment.159 This amounts to approximately half of the oil that spilled from the oil tanker the Exxon Valdez after it struck a rock in Prince William Sound, Alaska in 1988.

159 These figures were compiled from Enbridge's own Environmental, Health and Safety and Corporate Social Responsibility Reports, http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/csr-reports.php

**Total Spills on Enbridge Pipelines, 1999 - 2009** 

Year	Number of spills	Quantity of barrels	
1999	54	28670	
2000	48	14683	
2001	34	25980	
2002	48	14683	
2003	62	6410	
2004	69	3252	
2005	70	9825	
2006	67	5363	
2007	65	13777	
2008	93	2682	
2009	103	8441	
TOTALS	713	133,856 (Approximately 21.3 million litres, or 5,6 million gallons)	

Location	Date	Cause	Barrels lost
Saskatchewan,201Innes	2000	n.a.	1500
Ontario,202 Binbrook	2001-09-29	n.a.	598
Alberta,203 Hardisty	2001-01-17	n.a.	23900
Saskatchewan,204 Kerrrobert	2002-01-18	Leaking gasket	6133
Manitoba,205 Glenboro,	2002-05-08	Seam failure	598
Saskatchewan,207 Willmar,	2006-03-18	Pump failure	613
Manitoba,208 Cromer	2008-01-23	Gasket failure	629
Saskatchewan, Weyburn,	2008-02-23	Human error, tap left open	157
Alberta, Fort McMurray	2008-03-29	Drain line failure	252
Alberta, Cheecham	2009-01-03	Vent valve failure	5749
Saskatchewan, Kisbey,	2009-02-09	n.a.	704

<sup>201</sup> http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/pdf/2001-ehs-report.pdf 202 http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/pdf/2002-ehs-report.pdf

<sup>203</sup> Ibid

<sup>204</sup> http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/pdf/2003-ehs-report.pdf

<sup>205</sup> Ibid
206 2005, Corporate Social Responsibility Report, http://www.enbridge.com/corporate/pdf/2005-csr.pdf
207 Enbridge 2007 Corporate Social Responsibility Report, http://www.enbridge.com/csr2007/pdf/enbridgecsr2007.pdf
208 Enbridge 2009, Corporate Social Responsibility Report, http://www.enbridge.com/csr2009/downloads/Enbridge-2009-CSR-Report.pdf