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# Great Lakes Michigan Jobs Statement on Need for Line 5 Tunnel

**Lansing, Mich** – The Great Lakes Michigan Jobs coalition today urged state regulators and public officials to move forward immediately with plans to build the Great Lakes Tunnel deep under the lakebed in the Straits of Mackinac.

The Great Lakes Tunnel project will move a section of the already safe Line 5 pipeline currently located along the lakebed, and will make it even safer by burying it deep under the lakebed in a state-of-the-art concrete tunnel.

*“The best next step for Line 5 is to build the Great Lakes Tunnel,” said Geno Alessandrini, Business Manager of the Michigan Laborers union, and a spokesperson for Great Lakes Michigan Jobs. “The Great Lakes Tunnel protects the Lakes, it protects fish and wildlife, and it protects tens of thousands of Michigan workers’ jobs. The Great Lakes Tunnel just makes sense, and we encourage the state to move forward with permitting right away.”*

*Said Jim Holcomb, Executive Vice President of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, and a member of Great Lakes Michigan Jobs: “Construction of a safe, modern, state-of-the-art Tunnel deep below the lakebed will protect the Great Lakes as well as the workers and job creators counting on Line 5. The pipeline is safe, but the Tunnel will make it even safer. It’s time for state government to end the delays, embrace the Tunnel, and protect the Great Lakes and Michigan jobs.”*

Leading Michigan voices from labor, business and industry have formed the Great Lakes Michigan Jobs coalition. They are speaking out together, encouraging state and federal agencies currently reviewing permit applications – and all Michiganders – to embrace the Tunnel project, and the lakes and jobs it protects.

The coalition is made up of diverse organizations, including:

- Lake Superior Community Partnership
- Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council
- Michigan Chamber of Commerce
- Michigan Chemistry Council
- Michigan Laborers Union
- Michigan Manufacturers Association
- Michigan Oil and Gas Association
- Michigan Petroleum Association
- Michigan Propane Gas Association
- Midland Business Alliance
- National Federation of Independent Business Michigan
- Operating Engineers 324
- Small Business Association of Michigan
- American Petroleum Institute

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The Line 5 pipeline safely delivers the fuel that homeowners and worksites count on to keep Michigan's economy moving. The Tunnel project was approved in 2018 by a bipartisan majority in the state legislature.

To learn more about the coalition, the Great Lakes Tunnel project or to join the coalition, visit [GreatLakesMichiganJobs.com](http://GreatLakesMichiganJobs.com).

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