

Office of the Prime Minister
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To: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau,

We are asking your government to stop making climate change worse.

On January 26 the National Energy Board gave approval to a 35 kilometre pipeline expansion project across rural lands from the village of Westover to the Enbridge junction at Nebo Road. This Line 10 project lies entirely within the city of Hamilton, Ontario.

The installation of such new fossil fuel infrastructure is directly opposed to the scientific consensus demanding rapid reductions in the burning of fossil fuels. This will be challenging, but **the absolute minimum first step required of your government, and all other governments, is to stop making the climate crisis worse.** That requires opposing all new fossil fuel infrastructure – including both extraction and transportation.

During the 2015 election campaign, you agreed that the National Energy Board process was broken and promised to replace it. You specifically pointed to the failure of the NEB to consider climate change, and to respect indigenous rights. That remains the case today, both generally and with respect to its review and approval of the Line 10 project. And this is despite the fact that this proposal was only accepted for review by the NEB several months after your government assumed office.

Prime Minister Trudeau, **you need to overrule the NEB decision and stop the Line 10 project.** It should not be reconsidered until the reformed NEB and CEAA processes are in place, including a science-based evaluation of the impacts of this project on climate change, and appropriate treatment of indigenous rights.

We understand that a panel is working on proposed NEB reforms, but that is too late for Hamilton and its residents. The old broken process is what the NEB used to approve the Line 10 project. This is unreasonable. Climate impacts were not considered. The broken indigenous consultation process was denounced by the Haudenosaunee Development Institute. And the highly restrictive public participation rules imposed by the previous federal government prevented appropriate participation by residents.

The Line 10 expansion project is part of a 143 km pipeline running from Enbridge's Line 9 hub in the Village of Westover across the Niagara River and international boundaries to New York State. By conducting its expansion of Line 10 in pieces less than 40 km in length, Enbridge avoided examination of its project under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. This avoidance loophole must be corrected as part of the reforms your government has promised to CEAA.

Sincerely,

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