March 23, 2017

Mary D. Hassell
NEPA Coordinator
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, NW, Room 2727
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Ms. Hassell:

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement for Enbridge’s Line 67 expansion.

These comments are on behalf of the Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance (EEIA), a non-profit organization representing many thousands of local and regional businesses and hundreds of thousands of skilled workers throughout North America who build the infrastructure and supply equipment, products and services for oil and gas operations, including both energy production and midstream infrastructure development.

We urge the Department to issue, at the earliest possible date, the Presidential Permit to transport 800,000 barrels per day via the Line 67 U.S. – Canada border segment, especially given that the draft SEIS finds no significant adverse environmental impacts.

Conversely, not issuing the Permit would in fact have adverse environmental impacts. Alternative means of transport for crude oil, such as by rail or tank truck, would subject the affected crude oil to significantly higher levels of safety risk, greater greenhouse gas emissions, and surface transportation capacity congestion and restraint.

In addition, Line 67’s added throughput capacity and transportation efficiencies will create many new jobs and protect even more existing ones in the energy infrastructure supply chain. This includes thousands of companies and tens of thousands of workers that provide construction, equipment, services and supplies to midstream and downstream infrastructure construction and operations that will be enabled by the products shipped via the expanded Line 67.

The additional finished petroleum products that will be refined from additional crude oil shipped because of this added capacity will ensure more reliable and affordable energy available to industries and consumers. This adds to American manufacturing competitiveness as well as American consumers’ disposable income after their energy costs have been covered.

The economic activity generated by companies and workers dependent on Line 67’s added capacity will contribute to local businesses’ economic activity and job creation, and to the affected communities’ prosperity and municipal tax coffers.
Finally, America’s overall energy security will be enhanced by reducing our reliance for imports on sources outside North America, most of which are adverse to America’s economic and security interests.

Instead, we will enhance the historically beneficial trading partnership with our best sovereign friend, closest neighbor and most reliable ally, who shares our most important principles and values: Canada.

In the interest of American jobs, our environment, our economic prosperity and our national security, we urge you to expedite the issuance of the Presidential Permit to Enbridge for Line 67.

Sincerely,

Toby Mack
President & CEO