

Jan. 8/2018  
Reconvened Enbridge  
Hearing.

## JOINT STATEMENT TO MVLWB

**CHIEF ANTOINE:** Madame Chair, we would like to thank you and the Board for encouraging the parties to use the time since the hearing adjourned, on October 28<sup>th</sup>, to address outstanding concerns before the hearing reconvened. The Parties have all worked hard to do so. We are happy this morning to report that LKFN and Enbridge are concluding a Participation Agreement and an Environmental Management Agreement that resolve our differences related to the Line 21 Segment Replacement Project.

LKFN entered this process with many concerns about how this replacement project impacts on Dene land and way of life. We needed to have assurances that Dene land and water would be protected and that Dene knowledge would be a key part of the decision-making process. We have a responsibility to protect the gift of this land and water for future generations and needed to have a respectful process that made sure this happened.

LKFN is pleased that Enbridge has committed to work with us in ways that address our specific concerns. We have agreed to how the Liidlii Kue Dene concerns about Enbridge's proposed use of water and temporary lands, as proposed in the applications to the MVLWB, will be addressed through those Agreements. Those Agreements provide for an environmental monitoring program that directly involves Dene, and put in place processes that assure us that Dene will benefit and not be harmed by the replacement project. We are pleased that Enbridge is willing to work together with us, and we have confidence that our concerns are now being addressed in a meaningful way.

**KEN:** Enbridge has been working together with all Dehcho First Nations to negotiate an Environmental Management Agreement relating to Line 21 and we have reached an agreement in principle with LKFN. That agreement is intended to provide a framework for environmental monitoring and management of activities on Line 21. It would provide for the establishment of an Environmental Management Committee to enable the parties to work together towards a set of joint objectives. Those objectives include respecting and protecting the land and water essential to the way of life and well-being of the Dene for present and future generations. Those objectives also include meaningfully engaging the Dene and creating a process to facilitate collaborative information sharing.

The first priority of the Environmental Management Committee will be to address the intervenors' environmental and socio-economic issues and concerns regarding the Line 21 Segment Replacement Project, including the following:

- Collaborating to finalize the Project engagement plan, communication protocols, and Indigenous monitoring plan;
- Recommending measures to address socio-economic concerns related to work camps; and

- Collaborating to review the Environmental Protection Plan to integrate Dene knowledge and review mitigation measures.

**CHIEF ANTOINE:** A key concern for the Liidlii Kue Dene about this project was the consultation and accommodation process. We are happy to now say that Enbridge has adequately consulted with us about the Project. Together we have developed a process and guarantees that accommodate Dene concerns about environmental impacts and impacts on our community members. With the implementation of these agreements, LKFN has no remaining concerns regarding the use of water and temporary land that Enbridge is applying for. With those assurances now in place, we support the Line 21 Segment Replacement Project and request that the Board grant timely approvals so that the Project can proceed to the mutual benefit of all parties. Thank-you Madame Chair for allowing us to make this joint statement.