## Citoyens au Courant ask the NEB if appropriate steps were taken to prevent accelerated corrosion on Enbridge pipeline 9B which has been empty for 17 months

Montréal, June 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 – Enbridge pipeline 9B is empty and has been inactive since January 2014 when the NEB gave the green light for the reversal of the other section of Enbridge's pipeline (line 9A) which goes from Sarnia to Westover in Ontario. This is what les Citoyens au Courant learned from Enbridge's responses provided during the NEB hearings for line 9B and in a letter sent to the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, dated November 14, 2014, which stated that the line has been inactive for almost a year. The NEB recently confirmed that the pipeline was empty, but no formal submission was made by Enbridge to temporarily deactivate the pipeline as required by the NEB Onshore Pipeline Regulation for pipelines that have not operated for 12 months or more. Moreover, there was no way to find out from publically available information whether the pipeline had been purged with nitrogen, a commonly used practice to prevent airinduced accelerated corrosion once the pipeline no longer contains oil. "This is a very serious situation that warrants a proper explanation" stresses Patricia Domingos, spokesperson on energy matters for the town of Ste-Justine de Newton, who supported the citizens' collective during its actions. "We have sent the NEB a formal request for information regarding enforceable regulations on Enbridge's inactive pipeline 9B", adds Lorraine Caron, a member of Les Citoyens au Courant. "When the pipeline was first reversed in 1997, it had been inactive for more than 12 months and they did a hydrostatic test to re-establish the maximum operating pressure. It should be done again this time", claims Katherine Massam from Citoyens au Courant.

— 30 —

SOURCE : Les Citoyens au Courant

## For information :

Lorraine Caron, Ph.D. Member of *Citoyens au Courant* Cell : 514-577-2644 lescitoyensaucourant@gmail.com