Sample
Population: Michigan respondents
Size: n= 300-500 depending on feasibility

[Standalone intro screen]

Today we have a few questions about energy policy and pipelines. As always, there are no right or wrong answers. We’re just interested in hearing your honest opinion.

Q1.
Base=All
Single choice

First, do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the Governor of Michigan, Gretchen Whitmer?

Strongly approve
Moderately approve
Moderately disapprove
Strongly disapprove
Not sure

Q2. [NR2021 Q2]
Base=All
Rank

Thinking about energy policy in the United States – that is the rules and practices around generating energy to fuel our households, businesses, and communities – how would you rank the following priorities from most important to least important?

[Randomize]
Economic growth
Stability of supply
Not depending on other countries for energy/energy independence
Renewable energy
Protecting the environment

Q3. [NR2021 Q2]
Base=All
Single choice

Please look at the map below of the Line 5 pipeline. This pipeline begins in Superior, Wisconsin, before cutting across Michigan and ending in Sarnia, Ontario. Line 5 connects with pipelines carrying natural gas and oil from Western Canada and transports it to industries and consumers in Michigan and Ontario, Canada. The remainder of the supply is sent through other pipelines to Ohio and the Canadian province of Quebec.

The operator, Enbridge, is currently defying an order by the Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer to shut the pipeline down.

How closely, if at all, have you been following this issue?

Read/saw stories about it and discussed it with friends and/or family
Saw a story or two, and had the odd conversation about it
Just scanned/saw the headlines
Not read/seen anything at all until now
Q4. [NR2021 Q2]
Base=All
Single choice

[Rotate order of following two paragraphs]

Some people favour shutting down Line 5 because of the potential for an oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac, a channel linking Lake Huron and Lake Michigan.

Those opposed say closing the pipeline would disrupt economic activity in the U.S. and cause substantial shortages of oil and gas in Canada.

Suppose it was your decision to keep the pipeline open or shut it down. What would you choose to do?

Keep it open
Shut it down
Not sure/Can’t say

Q5.
Base=All
Single choice

How concerned are you about the possibility of a leak from Line 5?

Very concerned
Moderately concerned
Not that concerned
Not at all concerned

Q6.
Base=All
Single choice

Enbridge has proposed to privately fund and build a concrete tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac which would replace the existing pipeline. Enbridge says that this would eliminate the risk of the pipeline being damaged by passing ships and significantly reduce the risk of leaks.

In your view, does building this tunnel sufficiently addresses the possible environmental risks, if any, posed by the existing pipeline?

Yes
Q7. [NR2021 Q2]  
Base=All  
Single choice grid

The pipeline’s operator, Enbridge, says if the pipeline is closed, refineries in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Ontario, and Quebec would receive 45% less crude oil, and those states and Canadian provinces will experience a shortage of gas, diesel, and jet fuel representing about 45% of daily supply.

Based on this information, how much impact do you think shutting down Line 5 will have on each of the following?

[Rows]
To your state economy
To your local economy
To you personally

[Columns]
Massive impact
Significant impact
Small impact
No impact at all

Q8.  
Base=All
Single choice

The Canadian government has come out strongly in favor of keeping Line 5 open. It notes that there are no alternative pipelines within Canada and that the closure of Line 5 would have a significant impact on people and industries in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Regardless of your personal opinion about Line 5, do you think the Canadian government should have a say on the fate of the pipeline?

Yes
No
Not sure