

March 5, 2014

Submitted electronically to: <http://www.regulations.gov>

Ms. Robin L. Dunnigan
Director
Office of Europe, the Western Hemisphere & Africa
Bureau of Energy Resources
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St., NW
Washington, DC 20520

U.S. Construction Industry: The Keystone XL Pipeline Serves the National Interest

Dear Ms. Dunnigan:

The undersigned organizations representing American construction workers, contractors, and suppliers believe the Keystone XL pipeline is unequivocally in the national interest and should be approved immediately.

As the final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) makes clear, the negative environmental effects of the Keystone XL pipeline will be minimal while the project will provide significant economic and national security benefits for the country. By bringing an extra 830,000 barrels of oil per day to U.S. refineries, the pipeline would create American jobs and enhance our national security by reducing U.S. reliance on energy resources from less stable regions. Continued volatility in those regions only reinforces the urgent need to tap into new energy sources and the Keystone XL pipeline is a safe, secure way to ensure the nation's long-term energy security.

During the project's construction, the Keystone XL pipeline would support more than 42,000 jobs across the country, translating to \$2 billion in earnings for workers. A large number of new jobs created by this project would be in the construction sector. The State Department also concluded that the pipeline's construction would contribute approximately \$3.4 billion (or 0.02 percent) to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP). Additionally, many state and local governments will see the benefit of significant tax revenues as a result of the increased economic activity.

Following the project's completion, the Keystone XL pipeline operations will continue to employ American workers and generate economic activity. Importantly, property tax revenue during operations would be substantial for many counties, with an increase of 10 percent or more in 17 of the 27 counties with proposed project facilities, directly benefiting local communities.

Put simply, pipeline offers a safe, practical way to bring more Canadian oil to U.S. refineries, while improving our energy and economic security. The final Supplemental EIS makes clear that Keystone XL serves our national interest and should be approved without delay.

Sincerely,

American Concrete Pavement Association
American Concrete Pipe Association
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Council of Engineering Companies
American Rental Association
American Road & Transportation Builders Association
American Supply Association
Associated Equipment Distributors
Associated General Contractors of America

Keystone XL Pipeline is in the National Interest

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Association of Equipment Manufacturers

Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute

Distribution Contractors Association

Energy Equipment & Infrastructure Alliance

National Asphalt Pavement Association

National Electrical Contractors Association

National Ready Mixed Concrete Association

National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

National Utility Contractors Association

Portland Cement Association

Steel Manufacturers Association