

January 11, 2012

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The undersigned organizations urge you to approve the Keystone XL pipeline as soon as possible. With your approval, this shovel-ready project will provide 20,000 jobs in construction and manufacturing in the next two years, and add tens of thousands of additional jobs throughout the economy in other sectors including service, retail and distribution. With our nation's stubbornly high unemployment, it would be irresponsible to let such good-paying jobs slip away.

The Keystone XL pipeline has been under review for more than three years. The August 26, 2011 final EIS found that the project will have "limited adverse environmental impacts" during construction and operation. Additionally, the document concluded that the pipeline "would have a degree of safety greater than any typically constructed domestic oil pipeline system under current regulations." The State Department should be commended for its thorough and comprehensive environmental assessment, and for conducting more than 100 public meetings on the project, including nine hearings along the proposed pipeline route and in Washington, DC last summer.

The State Department's announcement that it was delaying a decision on Keystone XL cited a need to study an alternative route in Nebraska around the Sandhills region. The federal payroll tax legislation recently passed with strong bipartisan support and signed into law allows the State Department and Nebraska as much time as necessary to identify and review a new route, while allowing construction to begin elsewhere along the pipeline route.

The Keystone XL pipeline will also greatly enhance America's energy security. With the current situation in the Middle East, and tensions in the Strait of Hormuz continuing to rise, approving this pipeline is the right energy and national security policy for America. Canada is already our largest supplier of imported oil – almost 2.4 million barrels per day, or one fourth of our imports. With this proposed pipeline, our crude imports from Canada could reach 4 million barrels a day by 2020, twice what we currently import from the Persian Gulf. Enhancing our energy partnership with Canada will strengthen America's energy future.

In addition, studies show that fully utilizing Canada's oil sands crude, including the necessary pipeline infrastructure, can generate more than 500,000 new U.S. jobs and \$775 billion in GDP by 2035. Today there are already at least 2,400 American companies in 49 states supporting the development of oil sands by either providing supplies and services in Canada or for pipeline and refinery projects here in the U.S. In addition, it's important to note that for every dollar we spend on Canadian products, including oil, Canadians return up to 90 cents through purchases of U.S. goods and services.

Mr. President, the significant job creation, economic growth, energy security and national security benefits of this project make clear it is in the national interest. We strongly urge you to act swiftly to approve the Keystone XL pipeline.

Respectfully,

Alaska Oil and Gas Association  
American Chemistry Council  
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association  
American Council of Engineering Companies of Iowa  
American Exploration & Production Council  
American Foundry Society  
American Highway Users Alliance  
American Petroleum Institute  
American Rental Association  
Americans for Tax Reform  
Arkansas Environmental Federation  
Arkansas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association  
Arkansas Oil Marketers Association  
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers of Michigan  
Associated General Contractors of Minnesota  
Associated General Contractors of Missouri  
Associated General Contractors of Wisconsin  
Associated Industries of Florida  
Associated Industries of Missouri  
Association of Oil Pipelines  
Business Roundtable  
Chemical Industry Council of Illinois  
Consumer Energy Alliance  
Foundry Association of Michigan  
Hispanic Alliance for Prosperity  
Hispanic Leadership Fund  
Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers  
Illinois Association of Convenience Stores  
Illinois Chamber of Commerce  
Illinois Manufacturers Association  
Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association  
Illinois Trucking Association  
Independent Petroleum Association of America  
Indiana Cast Metals Association  
Industrial Supply Association  
International Foodservice Distributors Association  
International Warehouse Logistics Association  
Iowa Engineering Society  
Iowa Good Roads Association

Iowa Motor Truck Association  
Kansas Chamber of Commerce  
Louisiana Mid-Continent Association  
Mechanical Contractors Association of Chicago  
Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce  
Michigan Association of Convenience Stores  
Michigan Manufacturers Association  
Michigan Petroleum Association  
Michigan Railroads Association  
Michigan Trucking Association  
Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association of Oklahoma  
Mid-West Truckers Association  
Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
Montana Petroleum Association  
NAHAD – The Association for Hose & Accessories Distribution  
National Association of Convenience Stores  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Electrical Contractors Association  
National Federation of Independent Business  
National Federation of Independent Business/Illinois  
National Petrochemical & Refiners Association  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Taxpayers Union  
Natural Gas Supply Association  
New England Fuel Institute  
New Mexico Oil & Gas Association  
North American Equipment Dealers Association  
North Carolina Chamber of Commerce  
North Carolina Petroleum and Convenience Marketers  
North Dakota Petroleum Council  
Ohio Association of Convenience Stores  
Ohio Cast Metals Association  
Ohio Chamber of Commerce  
Ohio Chemistry Technology Council  
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants  
Ohio Oil and Gas Association  
Ohio Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association  
Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce  
Pennsylvania Foundry Association  
Petroleum Association of Wyoming  
Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association  
Petroleum Marketers Association of America  
Portland Cement Association  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
SouthWestern Equipment Dealers Association  
Southwestern Illinois Employers Association

Texas Cast Metals Association  
Texas Oil & Gas Association  
The Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce  
The FDA Motion & Control Network  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Oil & Gas Association  
U.S. Oil & Gas Association AL/MS Division  
West Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
West Virginia Manufacturers Association  
West Virginia Oil Marketers & Grocers Association  
Western States Petroleum Association  
Will County (IL) Center for Economic Development  
Wisconsin Association of General Contractors  
Wisconsin Cast Metals Association  
Wisconsin Engine Manufacturers & Distributors Alliance  
Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce  
Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association