

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator Cathy Giessel Senate District P

July 17, 2012

Secretary Hillary Clinton
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

RE: Comments on Presidential Permit Application for Keystone XL

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I am writing in support of TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL pipeline. I urge the U.S. Department of State to **expeditiously approve the Presidential Permit** necessary for this project to move forward and begin building a prosperous future for all Americans.

The Keystone XL has undergone rigorous environmental assessment. The three-year National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review found that the project would not pose any significant impact to the environment. **I urge you to use the data that has already been gathered and examine only those new issues that are associated with the Nebraska re-route.**

The Keystone XL pipeline project's positive contributions to U.S. energy security and the U.S. economy are estimated to be valued at over **\$20 billion**. The construction of the \$7 billion Keystone XL pipeline project will generate more than 13,000 jobs. Throughout the life of the pipeline **over 20,000 high-wage manufacturing and construction jobs** will be created across the U.S., stimulating significant economic activity. During construction, states along the pipeline route are expected to receive \$585 million in state and local taxes and an **additional \$5.2 billion in property taxes** over the operating life of the pipeline.

Access to a stable and affordable petroleum supply is crucial to our national security and economic future. Supporting domestic production and oil imports from our ally Canada helps to ensure a consistent energy supply that can be delivered over an extended period.

The construction of the Keystone XL pipeline is **critical** to improving American energy security and boosting our economy. I respectfully request that the Department of State expeditiously review the new route through Nebraska, using the existing environment analysis from the project's Final Environmental Impact Statement in its NEPA review. Americans will greatly benefit from the Presidential Permit that will allow TransCanada to begin building this pipeline.

I support the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline and believe that it is in the best interest of all Americans.

Respectfully,


Senator Cathy Giessel