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April 9, 2013

U.S. Department of State Attn: Genevieve Walker, NEPA Coordinator 2201 C Street NW, Room 2726 Washington, DC 20520

[RE: Comments on Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Keystone XL Project]

Dear Ms. Walker,

The State Department recently issued a Draft SEIS for the Keystone XL project. The good news is that the State Department concluded the Keystone XL project would have minimal environmental impact due to extensive mitigation efforts planned by TransCanada. The State Department needs to finalize the SEIS in order to complete a second National Interest Determination as quickly as possible.

Keystone XL will improve American energy security and boost the national economy. As the draft SEIS outlines, the project will support over 42,100 jobs during the construction phase and will generate over \$5 billion in economic activity, including \$2.05 billion in worker salaries.

Despite the recent increases in domestic oil production, about 60 percent of the nation's supply is still imported from foreign countries. The Keystone XL Pipeline will transport up to 830,000 barrels per day of crude oil to refineries on the Gulf Coast, where it can displace much of the higher-priced foreign oil.

Pipelines are traditionally the safest and most reliable form of transport for hydrocarbons. That is why pipelines, like the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, carry nearly two-thirds of the oil and petroleum products in the United States.

The Keystone XL project offers the most efficient, safest and least intrusive method for transporting Canadian and Bakken crude oil the Gulf Coast region.

By supporting domestic production and oil imports from our ally Canada, instead of politically unstable countries, we will strengthen both our national security and energy security. Access to affordable, stable supplies of petroleum remains one of the most vital components for a growing economy.

Construction of the Keystone XL pipeline is in the best interest of all Americans and I respectfully request that the State Department finalize the Draft SEIS and grant TransCanada the Presidential Permit necessary to begin building the pipeline.

Sincerely,

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