STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA



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August 9, 2013

The Honorable John F. Kerry Secretary of State Harry S. Truman Building 2201 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

Currently, the United States Department of State is reviewing the Presidential Permit application relating to the expansion of the Keystone Pipeline project. The enclosed Petition, signed by the Attorneys General of 21 states, encourages you to recommend issuance of that permit.

The project, when approved, will bolster the nation's economy, modernize the country's energy infrastructure, and strengthen our national security.

The pipeline will significantly serve our national energy needs by providing primary transportation for the development of Canadian oil reserves. It will also facilitate the safe transport of oil from the burgeoning Bakken oil field in North Dakota and Montana. Each attribute will add to the country's energy independence and to the economy of the entire midsection of this nation.

Thank you for your consideration of the enclosed Petition.

Sincerely,

Wayne Stenehjem Attorney General State of North Dakota

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Chris Koster Attorney General State of Missouri

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PETITION

A Petition by the undersigned American Attorneys General in support of the transportation by pipeline of North American produced crude oil to American refineries, urging John Kerry, United States Secretary of State, to recommend approval of the Keystone XL pipeline project ("Keystone").

WHEREAS, more than 36% of the oil that the United States imports comes from countries like Venezuela which are politically unstable and hence our dependence on them constitutes a threat to national security; and

WHEREAS, by doing business with such countries, the United States funds and thereby strengthens regimes which may or do have anti-democratic and anti-American agendas; and

WHEREAS, despite federal subsidies designed to encourage the production and use of renewable energy, the United States, as it economy rebounds, is years away from ending its utilization of nonrenewable resources; and

WHEREAS, Canada, with which country the United States has a long term friendly relationship, possesses vast oil reserves contained in the sands located in its Province of Alberta; and

WHEREAS, there is not sufficient existing pipeline capacity to carry crude oil from Alberta and the states, as well as other North American sources, to American refineries; and

WHEREAS, increasing pipeline capacity through the construction of Keystone would substantially reduce the United States' dependence on crude oil sources outside of North America; and

WHEREAS, the energy infrastructure of the United States and Canada, including their electricity grids and oil and gas pipeline networks, is integrated and Keystone would make it even more efficient; and

WHEREAS, the granting of Keystone's permit application would, in addition to creating untold long-term employment, constitute an immediate boost to the American economy by opening up thousands of construction and manufacturing jobs, and thus causing our unemployment rate to decline; and

WHEREAS, a significant amount of the money used by American corporations to buy Canadian oil would likely end up being spent by Canadians, their companies and governments, on United States' goods and services, thereby further boosting our national economy; and

WHEREAS, approval of Keystone would thus reduce dependence on oil imports from suppliers which are inherently unstable, shield our country from threats to its security, and assure and sustain America's economic recovery;

WE, the undersigned American Attorneys General, petition John F. Kerry, United States Secretary of State, to move expeditiously to recommend approval of the Keystone XL pipeline project, which has been seeking a presidential permit since 2008.

Wayne Stenehjem

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Bill Schuette

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Mike DeWine

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Oklahoma Attorney General

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