

Keystone XL Pipeline

Position Paper

April 2013



The proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would transport over 800,000 barrels of crude oil per day from Canada and the northern United States primarily to refineries in the Gulf Coast. In March 2013, the U.S. State Department released the Keystone XL Pipeline draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), the most recent of several reviews of the pipeline that have found no significant environmental impact, once again demonstrating that the project is safe and in the interest of the United States.

- The Canadian Energy Research Institute (CERI) projects that the pipeline could support 117,000 new American jobs over the next 25 years and add \$172 billion to America's gross domestic product by 2035.¹
- The pipeline would increase U.S. energy security by providing access to Canadian oil and by transporting oil from the Bakken formation in North Dakota and Montana. Rapid production growth from the Bakken has outpaced existing pipeline capacity and created a situation whereby oil must be transported by rail. Capacity on the Keystone XL pipeline for American producers would ease this bottleneck.
- TransCanada, the project proponent, has agreed to 57 special conditions over and above what is required by law to ensure the highest level of safety and environmental protection.²
- The U.S. and Canada have the largest trading partnership in the world. Canada already sends more than 99% of its oil exports to the United States, which is safely transmitted mainly to Midwestern refineries and other locations in the United States through pipelines.³ It is prudent to buy oil from environmentally responsible Canada rather than from unfriendly nations that do not meet basic environmental standards.
- America depends on 174,000 miles of existing pipelines to move energy and raw materials.⁴ Pipelines are the safest, most reliable, economical and environmentally favorable way to transport oil and other petroleum products throughout the U.S.
- Oil sands crude from Canada has been refined in the U.S. for decades and has similar greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to other heavy oils already refined in the U.S.⁵
- Two thirds of American voters support building the pipeline.⁶

It is time to move forward and approve the pipeline so that America can reap the benefits of more jobs and greater security through stronger energy integration with Canada.

¹ [Pacific Access: Part I – Linking Oil Sands Supply to New and Existing Markets](#), Canadian Energy Research Institute, July 2012.

² [Keystone XL Environmental Responsibility](#), TransCanada.

³ [Fact Sheet: Oil from Canada](#), American Petroleum Institute, May 9, 2012.

⁴ [America Depends on Liquid Pipelines](#), American Petroleum Institute, May 31, 2012.

⁵ [Keystone XL and the Oil Sands: Comparable GHG Emissions](#), IHS CERA and Jacobs Consulting, February 14, 2013.

⁶ [Poll: Keystone XL Attracting Majority Support, Except among Liberals](#), Pew Research Center, March 13-17, 2013.