

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2013

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

Dear Mr. President:

As members of the Blue Dog Coalition, we write to express our strong support for the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline. This long overdue project will reduce our dependency on foreign sources of oil and create thousands of much needed jobs. We appreciate your judicious review of this project, but we believe the time to approve the Keystone XL pipeline has come.

Construction of the Keystone XL pipeline will provide a positive impact to a broad spectrum of the American economy. An estimated 13,000 direct jobs will be created, with an additional 7,000 direct jobs needed to keep it operational. If the recent jobs report shows us anything, it's that Americans are still in need of the highly-skilled, good-paying jobs that are created by a project of this magnitude. In addition, the positive, indirect impact of this pipeline will reach suppliers, contractors, and local and state governments along the route as the pipeline pumps an estimated 830,000 barrels of oil per day. Studies have indicated that up to 250,000 indirect jobs will be created in support industries along the pipeline's route.

The security risks we will avoid by construction of this pipeline are notable. In 2012, America imported approximately 900,000 barrels of oil from Venezuela, one of the numerous, unstable countries we rely on for our energy needs. Construction of this pipeline gives us the opportunity to displace a significant portion of the oil we import from these less-than-friendly nations, whose instability causes severe fluctuations in our gas prices here at home.

The American people are ready for this project, and they are calling on us to act. The states through which the Keystone XL pipeline will pass have given their approval, and the U.S. Department of State has found the project would not harm the environment and would have little impact on climate change. In fact, the Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Department of State says that this pipeline "would have a degree of safety greater than any typically constructed domestic oil pipeline."

The Blue Dog Coalition agrees with the broad alliance of business, labor, and community leaders that the time for this pipeline has come. The economic impact and national security benefits indicate

that this project is clearly in the national interest. We urge the Administration to move swiftly to approve the construction of this pipeline for the benefit of the entire country.

Sincerely,

Jon Baucus

Mark Udall

Glenn

Paul Ryan

Jim Matheson

Mike McIntyre

Amodeo Boring

Jim Hahn

Henry Allen

Colin Allred

David Scott