



Keystone XL: Project Update

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CONSUMER ENERGY ALLIANCE





Who is Consumer Energy Alliance?

Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) is a 501c4 nonprofit, nonpartisan organization – comprised of more than 160 affiliate members representing every sector of the US economy – that supports the thoughtful utilization of energy resources to help ensure improved domestic and global energy security and stable prices for consumers.

CEA supports the Keystone XL pipeline because it means greater energy security and more stable prices for American consumers.



What is the Keystone XL pipeline?



- 700,000 barrels of Canadian and domestic crude oil from Alberta, Canada to refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast
- Part of the existing Keystone Pipeline System
- Keystone XL will go through six states: Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.
- Phase 3 (OK to the Gulf Coast) will be built first to relieve the glut in Cushing, OK.
- Once approved, construction can begin almost immediately.



Project Benefits

- \$7 billion investment in America's energy infrastructure
- \$5.2 billion generated in tax revenue to state and local governments in corridor states
- Approximately 20,000 jobs created
- Increased energy security and reduced dependence on oil from unstable countries and regions
- Strengthened trade relationship with Canada – key ally and largest trading partner
- In Texas alone:
 - \$2.3 billion in new spending for the Texas economy
 - Additional \$48 million in state and local tax revenues
 - \$1.9 billion in increased gross state product





Final EIS and National Interest Determination

- KXL crosses an international border so it must get approval from the State Dept.
- Final EIS released in August and was generally positive toward project
- Release triggered National Interest Determination public comment period
- 9 public meetings: Port Arthur, TX; Topeka, KS; Glendive, MT; Lincoln, NE; Austin, TX; Pierre, SD; Atkinson, NE; Midwest City, OK; and Washington, DC
- Asked public to weigh in on whether or not KXL is in the national interest
- Public comment period ended October 9th
- Agency review period is ongoing



Port Arthur, Texas (September 26th)

- Several hundred in attendance
- Strong support from local elected officials, labor unions, and veterans
- 68 spoke in favor of the pipeline, 46 opposed





Topeka, Kansas (September 26th)

- Kansas is a little unique in that the portion of Keystone XL that will run through the state has already been built.
- Governor Brownback kicked off the Topeka meeting with supportive comments.
- 88 people spoke at the Topeka meeting – approximately 63 supported the pipeline and 25 opposed it.





Glendive, Montana (September 27th)

- Opposition to the pipeline was minimal in Glendive, Montana.
- Supporters outnumbered opposition by a ratio of 6:1
- Labor unions made up the majority of supporters and spoke in favor of the pipeline.



Lincoln, Nebraska (September 27th)

- Opposition to the pipeline has been the strongest in Nebraska.
- Speakers opposed to the pipeline outnumbered supporters, but the supportive comments were substantive.
- Support from labor was very helpful in Lincoln.





Austin, Texas (September 28th)

- Significant opposition in Austin was expected
- A rally opposing the pipeline was held during the meeting
- Comments were split about 50/50
- Large labor turnout was critical to making this meeting balanced. Veterans for Keystone showed strong support for the pipeline as well.





Pierre, South Dakota (September 29th)

- Support for Keystone XL far outnumbered opposition in Pierre, South Dakota.
- Keystone XL is very beneficial to the state because it will increase capacity from the Bakken.
- Approximately 125 spoke in favor of the pipeline and 35 opposed it.
- Majority of opposition came from Native Americans.





Atkinson, Nebraska (September 29th)

- Atkinson, Nebraska is in the Sand Hills region of the state. This is where opponents of the pipeline have raised the most concerns regarding pipeline safety and its impact on the Ogallala Aquifer.
- There were approximately 1000 attendees, with opponents outweighing supporters. Many locals showed up for this meeting and spoke against the pipeline. Labor turned out in support.
- Despite being outnumbered the press coverage was fairly even.





Midwest City, Oklahoma (September 30th)

- Despite being held on a Friday night, turnout for the Oklahoma meeting was higher than expected. Over 400 people were in attendance.
- Approximately 70 people spoke in support of the pipeline and 40 were opposed.
- Engineering students from Oklahoma State University had a strong presence at the meeting.
- Labor unions had a strong showing as well.





Washington, DC

- Occupy DC movement and environmental opposition merged their groups to protest the event and slept outside the venue the night before.
- Since they were in line first, the majority of the speakers opposed the pipeline.
- A handful of supportive trade associations were able to speak on behalf of the pipeline.





Grassroots Support

- In addition to the public comment meetings, the State Department also accepted written comments.
- Working in coordination with organizations like Ports-To-Plains, CEA was able to generate over 480,000 grassroots comments during the public comment period in support of Keystone XL.





Conclusion

Keystone XL is vital to the nation's interest because it will:

- Strengthen our Energy Security and Stabilize our Supply
- Create Jobs and Grow the Economy
- Generate Government Revenue

The State Department is expected to make a decision on the pipeline by the end of the year.





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