

United States Department of State

Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs OES/ENV Room 2657 Washington, D.C. 20520

August 26, 2011

Subject: Keystone XL Project - Final Environmental Impact Statement

To: All interested parties

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) has issued a final environmental impact statement (final EIS) for the Keystone XL Project (the Project) for public review. DOS is the lead federal agency for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Eleven federal agencies and one state agency served as cooperating agencies in the development of the EIS.

The proposed action is to construct and operate a crude oil pipeline and related facilities at the international border and continuing into the United States to transport Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin (WCSB) crude oil and other crude oils to a proposed tank farm in Cushing, Oklahoma, and to delivery points in the Port Arthur and east Houston areas of Texas. The proposed pipeline would traverse Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas, with localized facilities constructed on an existing segment of pipeline in Kansas.

DOS issued a draft EIS for public review on April 16, 2010 and a supplemental draft EIS on April 15, 2011. The final EIS was prepared and circulated consistent with the Council on Environmental Quality and DOS regulations for implementing NEPA. The final EIS includes responses to substantive comments on the draft EIS and supplemental draft EIS and revisions to the EIS based on comments and additional information received. It describes the proposed Project and alternatives to the proposed Project, the potential impacts of construction and normal operation of the proposed Project and alternatives, cumulative impacts, the agency-preferred alternative, and issues related to potential spills from the proposed Project.

The final EIS is available for download from the DOS Keystone XL Project-related website (<u>www.keystonepipeline-xl.state.gov</u>). Paper copies of final EIS are available at public libraries along the proposed route. A list of the libraries that have received a copy of the final EIS is attached to this letter.

For further information on the Keystone XL Project final EIS please contact me using the contact information provided below.

Sincerely,

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