



United States Department of State
*Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs*
OES/ENV Room 2657
Washington, D.C. 20520

April 15, 2011

Subject: Keystone XL Project – Supplemental Draft EIS

To: All interested parties

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) has issued a supplemental draft environmental impact statement (SDEIS) for the Keystone XL Project (the Project) for public review and comment. DOS is the lead federal agency for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Cooperating agencies include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the U.S. Department of Agriculture –Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, and Rural Utilities Service; the U.S. Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration; the U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Office of Pipeline Safety; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

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 environmental impact statement (EIS) for public review on April 16, 2010. After the draft EIS was issued, additional information became available related to the proposed Project and its potential environmental impacts. To provide the public with the opportunity to review this information and to ensure openness and transparency in the NEPA environmental review process of the proposed Project, DOS has issued an SDEIS.

The SDEIS has been prepared and circulated consistent with requirements of the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations and DOS guidelines (*Using Existing Environmental Analyses*). It includes copies of new reports and other documents relevant to the proposed Project and revisions to portions of the draft EIS. To focus public attention on the topics that DOS determined would be of value for additional review, the SDEIS provides only information directly or indirectly related to those reports and other new information and does not include all sections that were presented in the draft EIS. However, the SDEIS incorporates the draft EIS by reference consistent with CEQ NEPA regulations. Both the draft EIS and SDEIS are available for download from the DOS Keystone XL Project-related website (www.keystonepipeline-xl.state.gov). Paper copies of these documents are available at public libraries along the proposed route, and include maps and figures.

A list of libraries that have received a copy of the SDEIS is attached to this letter. If your local library does not have a copy and would like one, please contact the undersigned.

DOS invites interested parties to comment on this SDEIS during the 45-day comment period which will begin on April 22, 2011 when EPA publishes a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register and will end on June 6, 2011. DOS requests that comments be limited to the subject matter addressed in the SDEIS. Commenters do not need to resubmit their earlier comments on the draft EIS. DOS will consider all comments received during the comment period in preparation of the final EIS. Comments postmarked after the close of the comment period will be considered to the extent practicable.

DOS prefers that comments be submitted to the Project website: <http://www.keystonepipeline-xl.state.gov>. At that site, click on the "How To Get Involved" link on the left side of the webpage for directions on submitting comments. Comments may also be submitted using any of the following methods:

- Email: kestonexl@cardno.com
- U.S. mail: Keystone XL EIS Project, P.O. Box 96503-98500, Washington, D.C. 20090-6503
- Fax: 206-269-0098

Individual names and addresses (including e-mail addresses) received as part of comment documents on this SDEIS normally are part of the public record. Anyone who wishes to have his/her name, address, or other identifying information withheld from the public record must state this request prominently at the beginning of any comment document. DOS will honor the request to the extent allowable by law. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

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

Sincerely,



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