

SDAC

South Dakota Association of Cooperatives

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Cooperative Value ~ Unified Voice

July 27, 2015

Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st floor
500 E. Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE: The Recertification of the Keystone XL Pipeline, Docket Number HP14-001

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of South Dakota Association of Cooperatives, I want to thank you for taking the time to consider public comment on the increasingly important issue of the Keystone XL pipeline. SDAC urges the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission to support the recertification of Keystone XL within the state of South Dakota.

There has been strong support for the project by many South Dakota residents as they see the economic benefits that the project will bring to the state. Such benefits have already been seen in other states. Accordingly, an economic impact study conducted by the Consumer Energy Alliance in Texas and Oklahoma shows that construction of the Gulf Coast Pipeline, the southern leg of Keystone XL, has had an economic impact of over \$5.7 billion, bringing with it over 42,000 jobs, many of which were hired locally.

Reviews at many authorizing and permitting levels, including the Obama Administration, have concluded that this will be one the safest pipelines the United States has ever built, it will reduce gasoline and diesel prices, and it will support the creation of thousands of jobs.

Yet, Keystone XL still hangs in regulatory limbo. It is critical that South Dakota maintains support for the project and signals to Washington policy makers that the state wants to pave the way for job creation, economic growth, and improvements in safety and energy security that Keystone XL will bring.

Again, on behalf of the South Dakota Association of Cooperatives we urge you recertify the Keystone XL pipeline within the state of South Dakota. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Brenda R Forman

Brenda Forman, Executive Director