



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
DENNIS DAUGAARD, GOVERNOR

July 6, 2015

Chris Nelson, Chairman  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Chairman Nelson,

I am writing to urge your approval of TransCanada's Certification of Permit request for the Keystone XL pipeline. Because of the project's economic and energy security benefits, I supported the initial permit approved by the Public Utilities Commission, and I urge your consideration of its reauthorization.

Having a reliable source of affordable energy is what powers our economy and allows people in the United States to enjoy a high quality of life. If this project fails to come to fruition we will continue to rely on potentially hostile energy sources to meet our needs, and we will remain vulnerable to global disruptions that can cause sudden price increases. Simply put, every barrel of oil we produce domestically or obtain from close allies, such as Canada, is a benefit to our economy and our national security.

We must be sensitive to the environmental impacts of such projects. The State Department's Environmental Impact Statement has determined the pipeline does not pose any significant environmental concerns. The South Dakota Underground Pipeline Task Force, formed by the South Dakota Legislature, has determined that existing state laws and regulations are adequate to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the pipeline.

This project has been studied and analyzed as thoroughly as any project in our nation's history. I urge your approval of this permit. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis Daugaard".

Dennis Daugaard

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