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March 3, 2014

The Honorable John F. Kerry
United States Secretary of State
United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I write in support of the approval and construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline. I support this project based on Missouri's experience with similar pipeline systems, and our shared commitment to North American energy independence and economic growth.

Missouri is already home to a portion of the Keystone Pipeline system. Since 2010, Phase 1 of the Keystone Pipeline system has carried Canadian oil sands across ten counties in Missouri on its way from Canada to Illinois with 30- and 36-inch pipe, buried approximately four feet underground, much like the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline. Both my Department of Natural Resources and my Department of Public Safety oversee and coordinate the necessary safeguards to ensure the safe and efficient operation of this pipeline.

In addition to TransCanada's Phase 1 Keystone Pipeline, another company, Enbridge, is currently constructing a similar pipeline through Missouri (the Enbridge Flanagan South Pipeline), with completion anticipated later this year. During the planning process for the Enbridge Flanagan South Pipeline, my emergency management and public safety professionals reviewed the company's safety protocols and emergency plans, while our natural resource experts fully vetted the proposal to ensure that this project protects the surrounding air, water, and land. It has been our experience that with vigorous review and oversight, projects like the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline can be constructed and operated without jeopardizing public health or the environment.

These pipeline projects also demonstrate how major investments in American energy independence create skilled construction jobs and contribute to the state and national economy. The Phase 1 Keystone Pipeline, according to the Missouri State Tax Commission, generates nearly \$11 million in property taxes annually in Missouri, supporting schools and other local services in the ten counties through which it runs. In addition, the Keystone XL Pipeline will create thousands of jobs along its route and at suppliers across the country. Both the Phase 1 Keystone Pipeline and the ongoing construction of the Enbridge Flanagan South Pipeline have had a positive impact on our state's economy during my administration. It is my belief that the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline would yield similarly positive results for our country.

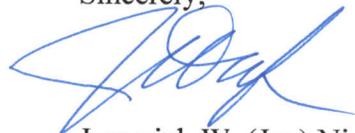
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Moreover, construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline is consistent with our shared goal of promoting North American energy independence in an environmentally responsible way. Meeting America's energy needs demands a diverse energy portfolio, including renewable and alternative sources of energy, traditional sources of energy, and measures to promote efficiency. That is why I was proud to sign landmark legislation in 2009 that gives electric utilities an incentive to increase energy efficiency, as well as an executive order directing state agencies to reduce energy use by two percent annually.

Traditional sources of energy also diversify and strengthen our energy portfolio, while making us more energy independent. The North American energy supplies carried by the Keystone XL Pipeline will reduce our reliance on energy produced elsewhere. And transporting these much needed energy sources by pipeline, rather than by other means, is a safe and efficient way to bring them to market.

In conclusion, the approval and construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline will strengthen our economy, create jobs, and promote North American energy independence. Our experience in Missouri demonstrates that with the proper oversight and safeguards, these projects can help meet our energy needs, without compromising our responsibility to protect the environment.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor