



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Wayne Stenebjerg
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

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Industrial Commission Supports Keystone XL Pipeline

Bismarck - The North Dakota Industrial Commission is asking Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to approve construction of the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline that could carry more than 100,000 barrels of Williston Basin oil to major downstream markets.

"We are encouraged by TransCanada's willingness to accept the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's 57 special safety conditions above and beyond the existing stringent regulatory requirements," said the commission members in a letter to Clinton. "It is important that this pipeline be constructed and operated in a manner that will protect the citizens of the United States."

The commission authorized the letter at its regular meeting last week. Justin Kringstad, director of the North Dakota Pipeline Authority, will deliver it today, September 27, to U.S. State Department representatives during a public forum in Glendive, MT. The federal officials are making stops along the pipeline route gathering input from residents and interested parties.

"As North Dakota continues to expand its oil production, we must also expand the distribution system," said Gov. Jack Dalrymple, the Industrial Commission chairman. "It's important that we have a system that can handle our growing Williston Basin production and the Keystone pipeline can help do just that."

"By signing and sending this letter, we're letting the Department of State and others know how important the Keystone XL pipeline is to the continued development of the Williston Basin," said Commission member and Attorney General Wayne Stenebjerg.

"We see the Keystone XL as a major artery and transportation system for our nation, and we want to see it constructed and operated in the safest way possible for our citizens," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. "Pipeline transportation is the cleanest, safest and most efficient method of moving petroleum commodities."

The letter is on the Industrial Commission website at www.nd.gov/ndic under press releases.

The 1,959-mile Keystone XL is a 36-inch crude oil pipeline starting at Hardisty, Alberta and moving southeast through Saskatchewan, Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska. It will link up with a portion of the Keystone Pipeline that has been built through Kansas to Cushing, OK, and continue through Oklahoma to a delivery point near existing terminals in Nederland, TX. Petroleum from North Dakota would enter the pipeline at Baker, MT.

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Gov. Jack Dalrymple, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenebjerg and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, oversees the North Dakota Pipeline Authority.

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