



PRESS RELEASE

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No Excuse Can Justify President Obama's XL Pipeline Decision

We are strongly disappointed with President Obama's decision to withhold approval of the Keystone XL pipeline project. There is no excuse that this Administration can provide that justifies the delay. The U.S. government has been reviewing the Keystone XL pipeline since 2008. Delay-delay-delay is keeping 20,000 workers from a paycheck.

The development of the pipeline is in the national interest and would provide much needed jobs and a secure supply of oil. The Keystone XL project calls for the 1,700-mile expansion of an existing energy pipeline from Alberta, Canada to refineries in the United States. Construction of the pipeline would directly employ some 20,000 workers and if indirect jobs are included, could result in more than 100,000 jobs. The nearly 1 million barrels of oil per day would go a long way to reduce our energy dependence on volatile nations.

The President's decision today will threaten the loss of these potential new jobs and leave us dependent on foreign oil supply. Indecision does not solve our country's unemployment problem.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading Manufacturing companies with \$700 billion in annual sales and with more than 650,000 employees nationwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through research, advocacy, and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: plastics, cement, paper, food processing, brick, chemicals, fertilizer, insulation, steel, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, aluminum and brewing.