

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

October 26, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to notify you that we have made a request to Deputy Inspector General Geisel at the U.S. Department of State for a full and thorough investigation of the State Department's handling of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and National Interest Determination (NID) for TransCanada Corporation's proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

Many serious concerns have been raised regarding conflicts of interest in the State Department's process for conducting its federally-mandated review of this project. Fundamentally, on a decision of such consequence, with a project that could have a fifty-year lifespan and that presents tremendous environmental and safety risks, we believe it is critical that the American people have confidence that all the facts have been presented in an objective and unbiased manner, and that the State Department and all private parties have fully complied with the letter and spirit of all federal laws and regulations.

We agree with and applaud your commitment to transparency and to "creating an unprecedented level of openness in government." In keeping with that commitment, we respectfully request that your administration hold off on any final decision on the Keystone XL pipeline permit application until an independent Inspector General investigation is completed, made public and fully evaluated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



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BERNARD SANDERS  
United States Senator



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STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress



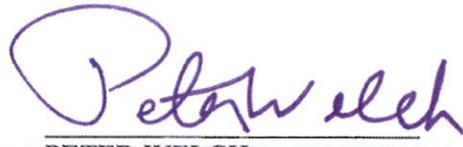
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RON WYDEN  
United States Senator



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SHELDON WHITEHOUSE  
United States Senator



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PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress



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EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress



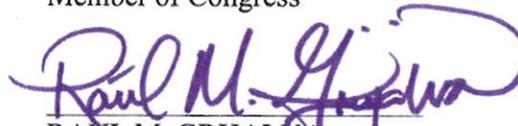
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CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress



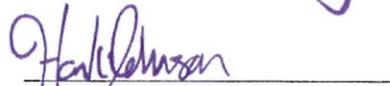
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MAZIE K. HIRONO  
Member of Congress



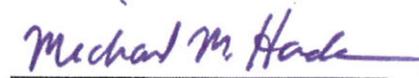
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RAUL M. GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress



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HANK JOHNSON  
Member of Congress



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MICHAEL M. HONDA  
Member of Congress



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DENNIS J. KUCINICH  
Member of Congress



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TIM RYAN  
Member of Congress

Page Three  
The Honorable Barack Obama

  
MIKE QUIGLEY  
Member of Congress

Page Four  
The Honorable Barack Obama

Addendum



BARBARA LEE  
Member of Congress