PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

March 5, 2014

The Honorable John Kerry
U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Energy Resources, Room 4843
Attn: Keystone XL Public Comments
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Re: Support for Keystone XL Pipeline – National Interest Determination

Dear Secretary Kerry:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Keystone XL pipeline and to urge you to approve the project by granting the Presidential Permit needed for construction to begin. After five years and five environmental reviews, I have confidence that the pipeline is absolutely in our nation’s best interest.

North America is in the midst of an energy renaissance. Yet, the United States lacks sufficient energy infrastructure to fully realize the benefits of this remarkable surge in oil production. Keystone XL will help solve our infrastructure constraints. By transporting more than 830,000 barrels of oil each day from domestic and Canadian resources, this pipeline will dramatically reduce our reliance on oil from unreliable and often unfriendly sources.

Keystone XL also has incredible economic potential. With unemployment stubbornly high throughout many parts of the country, the pipeline is expected to support approximately 42,000 manufacturing and construction jobs in the United States. In total, the project will add $3.4 billion to the U.S. economy, including over $2 billion in salaries.

The Keystone XL pipeline is clearly in the nation’s interest and will be a valuable tool in strengthening our national security and energy security. Therefore, I respectfully request that upon completion of this review period, the Department of State and the Obama Administration move expeditiously to approve the pipeline and grant TransCanada the Presidential Permit it needs to proceed.

Sincerely,

Phil Bryant
GOVERNOR

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