House Republicans hope they've struck gold — black gold — by marrying the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline to the president's payroll tax cut.

The White House and Speaker John Boehner's office spent much of Wednesday trading fighting words over Boehner's plan to wrap the pipeline into a massive year-end bill anchored by the tax cut.

Obama said he would "reject" any "effort to tie Keystone to the payroll tax cut," and Boehner spokesman Michael Steel countered with this: "If President Obama threatens to veto it over a provision that creates American jobs, that's a fight we're ready to have."

Read more: http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1211/70049.html#ixzz1iiaZOrEa