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Both sides vow to continue pipeline fight

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WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's official rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline Wednesday means new hurdles for the controversial project, both at the federal and state levels, and casts doubt over its future.

Pipeline supporters and opponents both vowed to continue what has become a national political battle royal.

TransCanada announced that it would submit a new permit application and continue to work with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to identify an alternative route around the state's environmentally sensitive Sand Hills.

"TransCanada remains fully committed to the construction of Keystone XL," Russ Girling, TransCanada's president and chief executive officer, said in a statement. "Plans are already under way on a number of fronts to largely maintain the construction schedule of the project."

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