

Energy and Commerce Committee Approves Legislation to Save Job-Creating Keystone XL Pipeline With Bipartisan Vote

Republican Members Fight for Jobs As Ranking Member Waxman Calls Pipeline Jobs Not "Real Jobs"

WASHINGTON, DC – The Energy and Commerce Committee today approved legislation to save the job-creating Keystone XL pipeline, a shovel-ready jobs and energy security project that President Obama delayed and ultimately rejected. H.R. 3548, the North American Energy Access Act, will finally put an end to years of bureaucratic delays and expedite construction of the pipeline that would create tens of thousands of American jobs and displace less stable energy imports with millions of barrels of safe and secure Canadian oil supplies.

H.R. 3548, authored by Rep. Lee Terry (R-NE), takes politics out of the pipeline decision by removing the president's authority over the pipeline's permit and giving it to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The legislation instructs FERC to approve the pipeline within 30 days if the permit remains in compliance with State Department's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), which concluded building the pipeline was the "preferred" option. The legislation also gives FERC 30 days to approve the Nebraska re-route once the environmental review is complete and the state's governor has approved it.

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