



## LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

November 13, 2014

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Oppose HR.5682, a bill to approve the dirty Keystone XL pipeline**

Dear Representative:

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the National Environmental Scorecard, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The Scorecard is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R.5682, a dangerous bill that would automatically approve the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, even though it currently has no legal route through the state of Nebraska. H.R.5682 short circuits the approval process, eliminating the State Department's ability to assess whether the pipeline is in the national interest and the President's authority to ultimately approve or reject the project.

With booming domestic oil production, falling crude oil prices, pipeline constraints, and limited rail traffic, the Keystone XL pipeline will lead to a significant expansion of tar sands development, which would unleash massive amounts of carbon pollution for years to come. Construction of this pipeline clearly fails President Obama's climate test and conflicts with the vision laid out in his climate action plan. Furthermore, given TransCanada's terrible safety record and the particularly toxic nature of tar sands oil, Keystone XL would seriously threaten surrounding communities, ecosystems, and watersheds including the vital Ogallala aquifer, which provides drinking water for millions of Americans.

Despite these real threats, Keystone XL provides no tangible benefits to the United States. The pipeline is intended to ship refined tar sands oil overseas, so it will not enhance America's energy independence. Nor will it provide a boost to our economy, creating only 35 permanent jobs.

We urge you to vote NO on H.R.5682, yet another attempt to disregard due process and endanger public health and the environment by forcing approval of the dirty and dangerous Keystone XL pipeline. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2014 Scorecard. If you need more information, please call Tiernan Sittenfeld, Sara Chieffo, or Alex Taurel in my office at (202) 785-8683.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski  
President