

Appendix 2
FIRST DRAFT

The United States to adopt legislation, which would allow for the Keystone XL pipeline to be built.
[redacted]

A 1,179-mile oil pipeline between Hardisty, Alberta and Steele City, Nebraska, has struck an obstructive force, this force being: environmentalist critique. This critique has stagnated the multibillion-dollar business proposition between Canada and the United States. Since 2010, TransCanada and the United States had begun the construction of an oil pipeline that would transport oil from Alberta, Canada into the United States. As of 2015, the project has had 3 of the 4 phases completed of pipeline construction, yet the 4th phase seems to be sending environmentalists into a chaotic frenzy. Why is this phase such a dilemma for the environmentalists?

The proposed construction of the Keytone XL pipeline would directly travel under the Sand Hills in Nebraska, the home of the Ogallala Aquifer. This Aquifer is the lifeblood of the entire Great Plains, for it lays hundreds to thousands of meters below the Plains, and feeds the rivers and lakes as well as all the plant life on the surface. Opposition to the project worries that the construction will contaminate the Aquifer, leading to colossal environmental damage that would have drastic effects on the agricultural center. A research hydrologist and professor at University of Nebraska, James Goeke, stated, "A lot of people in the debate about the pipeline talk about how leakage would foul the water and ruin the entire water supply in the state of Nebraska and that's just a false". He argues that *if* there were a leakage, then it would not have the drastic effects as people claim. It would only be an isolated issue within the Aquifer and it would not create the environmental damages that are being falsely projected.

What we are looking at is the potential for opening up a vast employment market. Surely this country is looking for ways to lower the percentage of unemployment, according to TransCanada the Keystone XL pipeline is a project that will open up almost 9,000 jobs in construction alone. 9,000 open job opportunities in construction alone, but with projects as large as this come jobs from a variety of sectors: business, structural engineering, electrical engineering, legal responsibilities. A task, like this, yields many job opportunities for Americans; surely this project is not one that the United States would like to stray from.

The Keystone XL pipeline is also the most efficient means of importing of oil. The United States currently only produces 38% of its own oil, and imports the remaining 62%. The majority of imports

come from Canada, Latin America, Africa and Saudi Arabia. Creating a more efficient means of importation of resource from Canada will drastically help controlling of oil prices, because in the process of creating the pipeline, it eliminates the future transportation costs. And because we are rife with environmental critique, it is valuable to point out that the prevention of the pipeline will in fact increase the necessity for transportation of oil, which emits pollutants into the air. This will in turn lead to a greater and more immediate threat to environment because the risk of environmental destruction from the pipeline is a smaller percentage than that of the constant transportation of oil into the country.

It seems like a no brainer at this point in time. The United States and TransCanada have already completed 75% of the project, so there should be no reason why the project is stagnating. If the legislation is properly vetted, it will reflect how the completion of this project will in fact be posing minimal environmental threat as well as creating colossal job opportunities for Americans. The United States is now torn between two agendas, both political in nature, but one surely in business and the other, well, quite literally in "nature".

REVISED DRAFT

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[redacted]

A 1,179-mile oil pipeline between Hardisty, Alberta and Steele City, Nebraska, has struck an obstructive force, this force being: environmentalist critique. This critique has stagnated the multibillion-dollar business proposition between Canada and the United States. Since 2010, TransCanada and the United States had begun the construction of an oil pipeline that would transport oil from Alberta, Canada into the United States. As of 2015, the project has had 3 of the 4 phases completed of pipeline construction, yet the 4th phase seems to be sparking much debate throughout the nation.

The proposed construction of the Keytone XL pipeline would directly travel under the Sand Hills in Nebraska, the home of the Ogallala Aquifer. This Aquifer is the lifeblood of the entire Great Plains, for it lays hundreds to thousands of meters below the Plains, and feeds the rivers and lakes as well as all the plant life on the surface. Opposition to the project worries that the construction will contaminate the Aquifer, leading to colossal environmental damage that would have drastic effects on the agricultural center. A research hydrologist and professor at University of Nebraska, James Goeke, stated, "A lot of people in the debate about the pipeline talk about how leakage would foul the water and ruin the entire water supply in the state of Nebraska and that's just a false". He argues that *if* there were a leakage,

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What we are looking at is the potential for opening up a vast employment market. Surely this country is looking for ways to lower the percentage of unemployment, and according to TransCanada the Keystone XL pipeline is a project that will open up almost 9,000 jobs in construction alone. 9,000 open job opportunities in construction alone, but with projects as large as this come jobs from a variety of sectors: business, structural engineering, electrical engineering, legal responsibilities. A task, like this, yields many job opportunities for Americans; surely this project is not one that the United States would like to stray from.

The Keystone XL pipeline is also the most efficient means of importing of oil. The United States currently only produces 38% of its own oil, and imports the remaining 62%. The majority of imports come from Canada, Latin America, Africa and Saudi Arabia. Creating a more efficient means of importation of resource from Canada will drastically help controlling of oil prices, because in the process of creating the pipeline, it eliminates the future transportation costs. Environmental harm is important to keep in mind when discussing projects such as this, however it is also valuable to point out that the prevention of the pipeline construction will in fact increase the necessity for external surface transportation of oil. This surface transportation emits pollutants into the air at a more rapid rate than the pipeline would. This will in turn lead to a greater and more immediate threat to environment because the risk of environmental destruction from the pipeline is a smaller percentage than that of the constant transportation of oil into the country.

The United States and TransCanada have already completed 75% of the project, so there should be no reason why the project is stagnating. If the legislation is properly vetted, it will reflect how the completion of this project will in fact be posing minimal environmental threat. Overall, the construction of this project is beneficial to the entire economy and will have long-term benefits as well as the immediate ones proposed.