



International Union of Operating Engineers

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

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IUOE Supports Approval of H.R. 3, Northern Route Approval Act

Washington, D.C. (April 10, 2013) – James T. Callahan, General President of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), issued the following statement regarding H.R. 3, the Northern Route Approval Act, which is scheduled for a public hearing in the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power on April 10, at 10am:

“The Operating Engineers appreciate Congressman Terry’s leadership on H.R. 3, the Northern Route Approval Act. The United States cannot afford further delay and uncertainty on the Keystone XL pipeline. It’s time to unlock the jobs this massive private investment will create and put Operating Engineers to work.

The uncertainty that looms over this project has gone on long enough. The United States cannot sit idly by while state-owned Chinese oil companies move aggressively to secure this North American resource and the oil industry looks for other ways to move this product – at the same time the unemployment rate in construction is at 15% and Operating Engineers are hungry for work. Let’s move forward!”

With the conclusion of Nebraska’s environmental review that rerouted the pipeline around the sensitive Sandhills area, all of the states along the route have now approved Keystone XL. According to the environmental reviews conducted by the State Department, Keystone XL would, literally, be the safest pipeline in the United States. The Final EIS said that Keystone XL “...would have a degree of safety greater than any typically constructed domestic oil pipeline system under current regulations.”

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The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) is a progressive, diversified trade union that primarily represents operating engineers, who work as heavy equipment operators, mechanics, and surveyors in the construction industry, and stationary engineers, who work in operations and maintenance in building and industrial complexes, as well as a number of job classifications in the petrochemical industry.