



May 21, 2013

The Honorable Lee Terry  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2331 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Terry:

I write to express the strong support of the American Exploration & Production Council (AXPC) for passage of H.R. 3, the Northern Route Approval Act – a bill to approve the construction, operation and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline.

AXPC is a national trade association representing 32 of America's premier independent oil and natural gas exploration and production companies and is committed to policies that encourage the responsible exploration, development and production of oil and natural gas to fuel the economy and meet consumer needs.

The Northern Route Approval Act would allow construction of the rerouted Keystone XL pipeline without presidential approval and would deem existing Keystone XL federal environmental impact statements, evaluations, and opinions sufficient for construction permitting.

AXPC is a strong proponent of the Keystone XL pipeline as it will further enhance U.S. energy and national security, create tens of thousands of construction jobs and facilitate as many as 500,000 new U.S. jobs in the decades ahead. In addition to providing a pathway for Canadian oil, the Keystone XL will provide a less expensive way for U.S. oil from the Bakken field to reach market.

AXPC member companies employ over 72,000 taxpayers and had a collective 2012 exploration and production budget of in excess of \$82 billion in support of our nation's continuing quest to become more energy independent. As noted this month by the International Energy Agency, the North American energy renaissance is reshaping the world oil market and will enhance global stability. It is promoting a rebirth of U.S. manufacturing and productivity and is a leading driver of the nation's economic recovery.

Policymakers should adopt the Northern Route Approval Act, the Keystone XL, and other pro-growth oil and gas policies that are making a positive difference for the nation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Bruce Thompson", written over a horizontal line.

V. Bruce Thompson  
President