



International Union Of Operating Engineers

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

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Operating Engineers Hail Permit Approval for Keystone XL Pipeline

WASHINGTON, DC — *The following statement was issued today by James T. Callahan, General President of the International Union of Operating Engineers, on the State Department's permit approval for the Keystone XL Pipeline:*

"Finally, the most studied and scrutinized pipeline in history is one step closer to being built. The Operating Engineers applaud issuance of the presidential permit and commend the State Department for finding that critical energy infrastructure projects like Keystone XL are in the national interest.

President Trump has made it clear that modernizing North America's energy infrastructure is vital work. We agree. Building Keystone XL means creating thousands of skilled construction jobs—jobs that feed families, pay mortgages, send kids to college—that will also benefit the businesses and communities along the route.

Building modern pipeline infrastructure also makes sense for the environment and public safety. By reducing the amount of crude oil currently traveling through our towns and upon our waterways by train, truck and barge, pipelines minimize the potential impacts to our air and water quality.

Members of the Operating Engineers in the U.S. and Canada are among the most highly skilled pipeline workers in the world. Through advanced training, modern construction methods and strict safety protocols, they will ensure that Keystone XL is built right, built safe and built to last."

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The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) represents 400,000 working men and women across the United States and Canada. Members of the IUOE are primarily operating engineers, who work as heavy equipment and crane 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.