

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

April 17, 2012

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges your support for H.R. 4348, the Surface Transportation Extension Act.

Manufacturers, who use one-third of our nation's energy supply, support policies that expand energy supplies and lower costs for American companies and consumers. Access to competitively priced energy helps manufacturers compete in the global economy and preserves high-paying jobs here at home.

Title II of H.R. 4348 would require prompt approval of TransCanada's permit to build the Keystone XL pipeline. There is little doubt that this pipeline is in the national interest and would reduce our nation's need to import crude oil from less stable countries and regions of the world. Nevertheless, after numerous government studies, public hearings and hundreds of thousands of public comments, a final decision on TransCanada's permit (filed in September 2008) appears nowhere in sight.

Every day permits are delayed, high-paying manufacturing jobs are lost and manufacturers and their employees suffer. TransCanada estimates that building the Keystone pipeline will result in:

- More than \$20 billion in investment (\$13 billion from TransCanada);
- More than 118,000 "spin-off" jobs during construction; and
- 20,000 new jobs in construction and related manufacturing.

While manufacturers are concerned with a short-term approach to transportation investments and prefer a multi-year authorization that makes critical reforms and allows states to undertake projects that expand capacity and increase efficiency, approval of the Keystone pipeline remains paramount to securing more dependable and affordable sources of energy. We urge your support for H.R. 4348.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on H.R. 4348, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 112th Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote