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CEPA MEDIA STATEMENT

CEPA President and CEO, Chris Bloomer, on the U.S. approval of cross-border permit for Keystone XL

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The Canadian Energy Pipeline Association (CEPA) applauds today's decision from the United States government to approve a cross-border permit for the Keystone XL (KXL) pipeline project.

This is a vital step in a lengthy and detailed review and environmental assessment process. The Keystone XL project will be built and operated to the highest safety standards with world-class regulatory oversight throughout the entire lifecycle of the pipeline.

The United States is a key trading partner and major existing market for Canadian oil and gas. This project will deepen our important energy relationship with the U.S., while strengthening North America's energy security.

The project will also offer significant economic benefits to both American and Canadian businesses, creating over 6,600 construction jobs in Canada alone.

Today, Canada's pipelines are near capacity. New pipeline infrastructure is required to avoid the use of alternate forms of transportation that pose higher safety risks.

Transmission pipelines are proven to be the safest, most environmentally sound way to transport large quantities of liquids and natural gas. CEPA looks forward to the next steps in ensuring this important energy infrastructure project is built safely and securely.

About CEPA

CEPA represents Canada's transmission pipeline companies who operate about 134,000 kilometres of pipeline in Canada and the United States. In 2015, these energy highways moved approximately 1.2 billion barrels of liquid petroleum products and 5.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Our members transport 97 per cent of Canada's daily natural gas and onshore crude oil from producing regions to markets throughout North America.

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