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November 18, 2019

The Honorable Michael Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20520

**Re: Comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Keystone XL Pipeline (Docket Number: DOS-2019-0033);**

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

I am pleased to submit comments supporting TC Energy's (formerly, TransCanada) Keystone XL (KXL) pipeline and the findings of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS) for the Proposed KXL Pipeline published in October 2019. This critical energy infrastructure project is clearly in the nation's interest.

Canada is an important and reliable trading partner and is by far the largest foreign supplier of crude oil and natural gas to the United States<sup>1</sup>. Stable, long-term supplies of Canadian energy would help ensure U.S. energy and economic security.

When completed, the KXL pipeline would have the nominal capacity to supply more than 830,000 barrels per day of heavy Canadian crude oil to U.S. refineries that were built to process that type of crude oil. It would also create new market access and improved distribution to Gulf refineries for 100,000 barrels per day of U.S. domestic crude produced in the Bakken region of Montana and North Dakota.

The Draft SEIS is consistent with the conclusions of multiple previous Environmental Impact Statements in confirming that construction, operation and

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA) 2019, Petroleum & Other Liquids, [U.S. Imports by Country of Origin](#)

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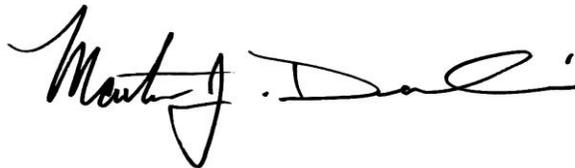
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maintenance of KXL, including along the Mainline Alternative Route (MAR) in Nebraska, would have minimal risk to the environment along the route. The Draft SEIS also reaffirms that the long-term benefits of the KXL pipeline to our energy and economic security are significant.

TC Energy has agreed to include in the written design, construction, operating and maintenance plans and procedures for KXL an additional 59 project-specific special safety conditions developed by the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) that exceed current federal regulatory standards. The Department of State, in consultation with PHMSA, concluded that industry standards and practices combined with the adoption of the additional 59 special safety measures “would result in a degree of safety over any other typically constructed domestic oil pipeline system under current code.”

KXL would help ensure stable, long-term energy supplies from a reliable trading partner. It would do so with minimal risk to the environment while enhancing U.S. economic and energy security. It is time to move forward and allow KXL construction to begin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin J. Durbin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a distinct "J" and "D".

Martin J. Durbin

cc: The Honorable Rick Perry, Secretary of Energy  
The Honorable Mitch Mulvaney, White House Chief of Staff

