“Allowing the Keystone pipeline to be built requires a finding that doing so would be in our nation’s interest. And our national interest will be served only if this project does not significantly exacerbate the problem of carbon pollution.”

—President Obama, June 25, 2013

**TAR SANDS**

**The Most Climate Polluting Source of Oil on Earth**

- Keystone XL is the lynchpin in the oil industry’s plan to expand the tar sands.
- The production of tar sands releases 22% more carbon pollution than conventional US oil.
- Tar sands are not inevitable: The United States has a choice about our energy future.

**Severe Health Threat**

- Tar sands contain 11 times more sulfur, 11 times more nickel, 5 times more lead, and more other heavy metals and poisonous chemicals than conventional oil.
- Toxins vaporize after a spill, contaminating the air with benzene and other carcinogens, while the heavy tar sands crude sinks in water and sticks to soil.

**We Must Not Betray Our Children on Climate**

- America is on track, cutting our oil use and developing new energy technologies.
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**KEystone XL = Climate Disaster**

[www.beyondoil.org](http://www.beyondoil.org)

[Sierra Club](http://www.sierraclub.org)
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KEYSTONE XL = CLIMATE DISASTER

www.beyandoil.org
The State Department’s environmental report on Keystone XL flunks the climate test. Wonder why? Maybe because the report was written by ERM, Inc. — a card-carrying member of the American Petroleum Institute.

Keystone XL = CLimate Disaster
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REJECT THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE
Filling Keystone XL with oil sands will cause a 36 percent increase from current oil sands production.”
— Pembina Institute, Alberta, Canada

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The higher upstream emissions alone will be equivalent to the annual emissions from 6.3 coal-fired power plants or over 4.6 million cars.”

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The State Department says carbon pollution from the electricity needed just to operate the pipeline pumps is equivalent to the annual emissions of 626,000 passenger vehicles.

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Oil Change International estimates that the annual carbon pollution from Keystone XL is equivalent to 37.7 million cars/year!

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The State Department and the Environmental Protection Agency conclude that tar sands are as much as 22 percent more carbon intensive than conventional crude.

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REJECT THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE
The fate of the Alberta’s tar sands mines — and the climate — may come down to the Keystone XL pipeline.

— Scientific American

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Turning tar sands into oil and burning it as fuel produce enormous amounts of carbon dioxide.”

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"If built, the Keystone XL pipeline will be a spigot that speeds tar sands production, pushing the planet toward its emissions limit."

— Scientific American

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The Keystone XL pipeline would cross more than a thousand U.S. rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands, including the Ogallala aquifer, which supplies 81% of water used in the Great Plains, drinking water for two million Americans, and one third of the water used for agriculture in the U.S.

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Tar sands have to be pumped through pipelines at higher pressures and hotter temperatures than conventional crude. Tar sands pipelines spill 3.6 times more often per pipeline mile than the U.S. average for pipeline failures. In 2010, an Enbridge tar sands pipeline ruptured, spewing a million gallons of tar sands into the Kalamazoo River, Michigan.

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Tar sands crude is heavier than conventional oil and sinks to the bottom of rivers and lakes. After two and a half years and almost $1 billion spent, the Kalamazoo River spill of 2010 still has not been fully cleaned up. This disaster has become the largest and most expensive on-shore oil spill in US history.

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Keystone XL = Climate Disaster

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**Reject the Keystone XL Pipeline**
In March 2013, Exxon’s Pegasus pipeline spilled more than 210,000 gallons of toxic tar sands into the yards and streets of suburban Mayflower, Arkansas.

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“We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that failure to do so would betray our children and future generations.” — President Obama

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reject The Keystone XL pipeLinewww.beyondoil.org
“Mr. President...we urge you to reject dirty fuels like tar sands. Specifically, reject the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, which is not in our national interest.”
— 75 Olympic Medalists and winter sports athletes

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REJECT THE KEYSSTONE XL PIPELINE
www.beyondoil.org
Tar sands development is destroying Canada’s pristine boreal forest. Because of its key role in carbon storage, Canada’s boreal forests are a life-support system for the planet. It makes up 11 percent of the planet’s terrestrial carbon storehouses, not including its tundra and wetlands!

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Tar sands development is destroying Canada's pristine boreal forest. The boreal is a complex ecosystem of forests, wetlands, and lakes that are home to a wide variety of wildlife such as bears, wolves, lynx and some of the largest populations of woodland caribou left in the world: 30% of North America’s songbirds and 40% of its waterfowl rely on Boreal lakes and wetlands.

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Carbon pollution per barrel of oil from tar sands is increasing because in situ mining is even more carbon intensive than open pit mining.

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The State Department is now reviewing more than 1.1 million comments opposing the pipeline. The climate impacts — as well as the risks to human health, private property rights, wildlife, drinking water, farms, and ranches — are not lost on Americans from all 50 states who oppose this pipeline.

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Keystone XL is critical to the Canadian oil industry’s extreme pursuit to reach 5.2 million barrels per day production of destructive tar sands by 2030 — a level that would effectively destroy any chance of limiting the increase in global temperature to 2° C, the maximum increase recommended by scientists to avoid disastrous climate disruptions.

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The Canadian tar sands are currently landlocked in Alberta, and all other possible export routes are facing strong resistance. Industry and financial analysts have debunked the claim that tar sands production would expand regardless of whether Keystone XL is built. Even Joe Oliver, Canada’s pro-KXL Natural Resources Minister, stated, “I don’t think anybody feels that [rail] could be a substitute for pipelines.”

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REJECT THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE
As the world's largest oil consumer, the United States has a choice about its energy future. We must do better, and we have the technology to do so. A nation as innovative as the United States can find a way to invest in alternatives to dirty fuels such as tar sands oil that exacerbate climate change and threaten our communities.

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Keystone XL Poses a Health Risk to Our Communities. Refining tar sands releases pollutants linked to acid rain, smog, haze and a host of health problems, including cancer, asthma and bronchitis. Tar sands contain, on average, 11 times more sulfur, 11 times more nickel, 6 times more nitrogen, and 5 times more lead than conventional oil.

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Air toxins in tar sands vaporize after a spill, contaminating the air with benzene and other carcinogens. Mayflower residents have reported headaches, sore throats, and stomachaches. Students at the local elementary school had to be sent home after they became ill breathing in the toxic air. Studies of the Kalamazoo River spill in 2010 have found health problems ranging from respiratory and immune system problems to memory loss.

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ERM, the consultant that wrote the latest State Department environmental review, is a card carrying member of the American Petroleum Institute, one of Keystone XL’s strongest supporters. The State Department not only failed to properly screen ERM for conflicts of interest, but attempted to conceal its ties to the oil industry by redacting ERM staff bios on documents posted on State’s website.

KEystone XL = CLIMATE DISASTER
www.beyondoil.org

TAR SANDS

The Most Climate Polluting Source of Oil on Earth
- Keystone XL is the lynchpin in the oil industry’s plan to expand the tar sands.
- The production of tar sands releases 22% more carbon pollution than conventional US oil.
- Tar sands are not inevitable: The United States has a choice about our energy future.

Severe Health Threat
- Tar sands contain 11 times more sulfur, 11 times more nickel, 5 times more lead, and more other heavy metals and poisonous chemicals than conventional oil.
- Toxins vaporize after a spill, contaminating the air with benzene and other carcinogens, while the heavy tar sands crude sinks in water and sticks to soil.

We Must Not Betray Our Children on Climate
- America is on track, cutting our oil use and developing new energy technologies.
- The true national interest lies in the security of our communities, the livelihood of our farmers and ranchers, and the safety of water supplies. National security and climate stability must come first.

REJECT THE KEYSToNE XL PIPELINE
Strip mining the tar sands requires up to four barrels of water per barrel of bitumen extracted and by 2010 created 68 square miles of toxic waste lakes, death traps for migratory birds that leak toxins into the Athabasca River and watershed. These toxic “tailings ponds” are so big they can be seen from space.

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Investors are telling us that Canadian producers are less interesting to invest in until Keystone is resolved.”
— Marcel Coutu, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Oil Sands, May 16 2013

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The logistics are critical in the development of the oil sands. If Keystone is delayed this year, I believe the industry will not be able to keep up with the current pace of development.”

— Andre Goffart, Managing Director, Total Exploration and Production, May 2013

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Canada’s Boreal Forest stores an estimated 186 billion tons of carbon, which represents 11 percent of global carbon or more than 27 years’ worth of current global greenhouse gas emissions.

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In 2008, Alberta Health confirmed a 30 percent rise of cancer rates between 1995–2006 in Fort Chipewyan, a community in Alberta, Canada.

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