## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Clinton Secretary of State 2201 C Street, N.W. Washington D.C. 20520

Dear Madam Secretary,

In June of this year, dozens of members of the House of Representatives sent you a letter expressing serious concern regarding the permitting process for TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline. Since then, we have become increasingly concerned that the State Department is inadequately evaluating the pipeline's lifecycle environmental impact. We urge the State Department to undertake a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Keystone XL project in order to ensure that an objective evaluation is conducted.

We are concerned about your recent comments that the State Department is "inclined to approve" the project, given the significant criticism the State's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has generated. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found the State Department's assessment to be inadequate and asked that a new EIS be conducted. In fact, EPA gave the draft EIS its lowest possible rating.

The Keystone XL pipeline poses a number of major environmental and public health hazards. Not only does tar sands oil have a higher lifecycle for greenhouse gas emissions, but it also has an environmentally destructive extraction process and environmentally precarious transportation system. Given the environmental sensitivity of building an oil pipeline across many of our nation's most economically and environmentally important aquifers, natural lands, and wetlands, we believe that the State Department should heed EPA's recommendations.

The decision of several Canadian provinces to condemn Alberta's push to construct a tar sands pipeline only adds to the serious environmental concerns with this project. We share these environmental concerns with this proposed project and request that State Department carefully consider the environmental and climate repercussions of the project. We urge you to honor the recommendations of the EPA and conduct a SEIS with a public comment period for the Keystone XL project.

Sincerely,

Steve Cohen

Member of Congress

Jay Inslee

Member of Congress

Peter Welch

Member of Congress

John Lewis Member of Congress

Hank Johnson Member of Congress

Lois Capps Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Raul Grijalva Member of Congress

Joe Courtney Member of Congress Jim McDermott Member of Congress

Dennis Kucinich Member of Congress

Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress

David Wu Member of Congress

Mike Honda Member of Congress

Albio Sires

Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Lynn Woolsey Member of Congress

Sam Farr

Member of Congress

John Olver Member of Congress

Donna Edwards Member of Congress

Rush Holt Member of Congress Barbara Lee

Member of Congress

Pete Stark Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Jim Himes

Member of Congress

Betty McGollum
Member of Congress