



International Union Of Operating Engineers

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

For Immediate Release
November 6, 2015

Contact
Jay Lederer
(202) 778-2626
jlederer@iuoe.org

President Wrong to Reject Keystone XL

WASHINGTON, DC -- *The following statement was issued today by James T. Callahan, General President of the International Union of Operating Engineers, on President Obama's rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline permit:*

"After waiting seven long years for President Obama to act, his decision today to deny a permit for the Keystone XL pipeline is a big disappointment to Operating Engineers and hard working Americans everywhere.

This decision is simply politics over people. The hollow victory of stopping this pipeline from being built only cheers those who have no actual stake in the outcome. The people who counted in this equation – construction workers, truck drivers, small business owners and communities along the route – have been left behind by this President.

And the oil continues to move. Only now it will take more risky and more environmentally unsafe routes to market. We need to be building more modern and safe energy infrastructure, not less. That's the stuff of presidential legacy."

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The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) represents 400,000 working men and women across the United States and Canada. Members of the IUOE are primarily operating engineers, who work as heavy equipment and crane operators, mechanics, and surveyors in the construction industry, and stationary engineers, who work in operations and maintenance in building and industrial complexes, as well as a number of job classifications in the petrochemical industry.