



Construction Industry Round Table

Business News

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

1/22/13 – Keystone XL Back in the Policy Spotlight

Speculation is rampant that with President Obama's second term now officially underway it's time to turn back to a decision on the long delayed Keystone XL pipeline project. The pipeline approval could happen if several U.S. governors and Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall get their way – both as an important thoroughfare for North American oil heading south to Houston's refinery row, and as a way to kick-start a major infrastructure project that will generate good paying jobs. The final decision is expected to come soon, especially after the original route was modified and additional tests have suggested the Ogallala aquifer in Nebraska is not at serious risk. Some 70 "green" groups urged the President to kill the project (by having the State Department veto the northern portion of the pipeline that crosses the Canadian border) and instead speak out on climate change, imposing emissions limits on existing coal-fired power plants, and focusing on creating clean-energy jobs.