



## Construction Industry Round Table

## Business News

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### **3/04/2013 – Keystone XL Pipeline Project Clears Another Hurdle [UPDATE]**

The State Department this week released a draft review of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline from Canada finding it “very unlikely” that the project would affect water quality in any of the areas it crossed or would have any “significant impact” on global warming concerns/claims. The most recent “clean bill of health” is actually the second one issued by the State Department (the earlier one concluding “the pipeline posed minimal environmental risk(s)”) and is the fourth overall environmental review, not to mention the 57 specific safety standard requirements the project has met or exceeded – to make the proposal one the most closely examined infrastructure endeavors in the nation’s history. Notwithstanding the extensive and intensive examination, the process is it not over for final approval – which has become a political football with the White House reserving to itself the ultimate say. There will now be a 45-day comment period in which certain groups opposed to the project can apply maximum pressure to the Administration to have the President kill the deal – regardless of even the State Department’s acknowledgement that the project would support some 42,100 jobs during a one - two year period, as well as adding tax revenues to state and federal treasuries.