

The Honorable Jon Tester 311 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

January 20, 2021

Dear Senator Tester,

Construction of the Keystone XL pipeline is important for all of Montana. It is an especially welcome source of economic activity for communities in Eastern Montana, offering long term tax revenue and immediate term job creation.

The pipeline will generate more than \$2 billion in U.S. wages and add \$3.4 billion to the U.S. GDP during construction. Dozens of struggling small towns along its path will benefit exponentially from the significant economic lift Keystone XL brings with it.

This project has already experienced far too many unnecessary delays. Further delaying or canceling this project would also harm Montana by denying millions of dollars in annual property taxes that directly support schools, hospitals, and first responders at a time when this support is most needed.

COVID-19 has battered the U.S. economy, and Montana businesses are in no position to suffer additional unexpected turmoil and uncertainty. This is especially true for the rural communities in Eastern Montana.

The Montana Chamber of Commerce is the largest statewide business advocacy organization and strives for a strong, broad-based, and diverse economy. The Keystone XL helps achieve those goals and brings critical stability to our rural Montana communities.

We look forward to working with you to continue construction on the Keystone XL pipeline, supporting critical infrastructure, good-paying jobs, and important tax revenue to Montana.

Sincerely,

Todd O'Hair

President/CEO

Montana Chamber of Commerce