A Primer on the Status of the Keystone XL Pipeline Project
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2006 Keystone Pipeline Project
Presidential Permit Process

- Executive Order 13337
- Department of State has authority over facilities for import of fuels
- Project must serve “national interest”
- DOS must consult a variety of officials and appropriate governments
- National Environmental Policy Act requires an Environmental Impact Statement
Keystone Pipeline approved in 2008
2008 Keystone XL permit was rejected in 2012
2012 Keystone XL permit awaiting decision
- Most recently, the decision was delayed due to a decision by Nebraska’s Third District Court
- DOS has not announced an expected timeline for the decision
Concerns and Potential

Environmental Concerns
- Oil sands extraction process
  - Land disturbance, water usage and quality
- Pipeline safety
  - Oil spills, effects of oil sands crude on pipelines, Keystone XL’s operating parameters
- Climate change policy
  - Emissions of oil sands crude, development and usage of fossil fuels

Economic Potential
- Immediate economic impact
  - Construction and permanent jobs, tax impact
- Trade impact
  - Energy security, exports to other markets
- Existing pipeline constraints
  - Meeting demand of Gulf Coast refineries, access to the Bakken formation