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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Post Hearing Brief of Informal Intervenor was served to all formal parties via U.S. Postal Service postmarked 14th of September, 2017; and via email and U.S. Postal Service postmarked on 14th of September, 2017, upon the following:

Nebraska Public Service Commission
c/o Michael Hybl
1200 N Street, Suite 300
Lincoln, NE 68509-4927
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AND

All intervenors using the service list provided by the Commission.

By: 

Barry L. Kennedy
President
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry
1320 Lincoln Mall, Suite 201
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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF NEBRASKA

In the matter of the Application of)	
TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P.,)	Application No. OP-0003
Calgary, Alberta, for route approval)	
of the Keystone XL Pipeline Project)	POST HEARING BRIEF OF
Pursuant To The Major Oil Pipeline)	INFORMAL INTERVENOR
Siting Act.)	

Pursuant to Neb. Admin. Code Title 291, Chpt 1, §015.02, the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry (State Chamber) hereby submits to the Nebraska Public Service Commission the following comments with regard to the application by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. for route approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline Project pursuant to the Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act.

The Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry supports the route approval of TransCanada’s proposed Keystone XL pipeline (KXL) project. The State Chamber is the only statewide, broad-based business association, representing the interests of nearly 2,000 businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, and is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and defending Nebraska’s free enterprise system. State Chamber’s members range from sole proprietorships to larger corporations, as well as local chambers of commerce and statewide trade and industry associations, all of which conduct business and own property in Nebraska. Our members rely on the availability of secure sources of energy – the backbone of industry and sustainable growth.

For the foreseeable future, Nebraskans, as well as the entire nation, will need all forms of energy. Expanding pipeline capacity from Canada to the United States Gulf Coast via the KXL

pipeline is critical toward providing much needed energy and more flexibility to the United States energy supply network.

The State Chamber believes that construction of TransCanada's KXL pipeline project is in our nation's best interest, and that the Nebraska Public Service Commission's decision will have a long-term, lasting impact on the future of businesses, industry, workers and consumers not only in Nebraska, but throughout the country. The State Chamber believes that the economic value of this proposed pipeline presents a safe, effective and efficient way to move large volumes of energy from where it is produced to where it is needed.

The review process for TransCanada's proposed pipeline route for the KXL pipeline through Nebraska has been extensive. We believe that TransCanada has listened to Nebraskans' concerns about the pipeline route and have worked closely with Nebraska state officials to make route changes to avoid environmentally sensitive areas including the Sandhills region.

The economic and job benefits of the KXL project should not be understated. By the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality's own estimates, published in its Keystone XL Draft Evaluation Report of October, 2012, hundreds of jobs would be created in Nebraska by the pipeline. In addition, workers would contribute \$31.4 million in new economic activity from spending, and local property tax revenue would increase between \$11 million and \$13 million as a result of pipeline construction.

The United States Department of State's own Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement of January, 2014 (FSEIS), construction of the KXL pipeline arrived at similar conclusions about the economic benefits of the KXL for Nebraska. According to the FSEIS, the KXL will support 4,400 jobs in Nebraska, generate \$739 million in economic activity, and create

\$149.4 million in earnings. Construction will also expand Nebraska's Gross State Product by \$244.3 million.

The FSEIS also concluded that while the KXL is being constructed, Nebraska will realize an additional \$16.5 million in sales taxes, and construction camps will add \$420,000 in state property taxes to state coffers. In addition, during its first year of operation, the KXL will generate an estimated \$11.780 million in Nebraska state property taxes.

The jobs, tax revenue and economic benefits from the KXL project will have a significant long-term impact on Nebraska. New wage earners would help stimulate the economy without costs to taxpayers. New tax revenue could be used for state and local projects and infrastructure at a time when state and local political subdivision budgets are tight and revenues are scarce.

Furthermore, Canada is our greatest trade partner and one of our most and trusted allies. The 830,000 barrels of oil a day supplied by KXL from Canada and the Bakken region would strengthen America's energy security and improve stability.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission's decision has high importance for the improved prosperity of many Nebraska families and businesses, and for American economic and energy security. The State Chamber urges you to approve the KXL pipeline project.

DATED this 14th day of September, 2017.

By: 

Barry L. Kennedy
President
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry