

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 8, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President

We urge you to reconsider any actions that would hamper the United States' energy independence, weaken a vital relationship with our neighboring country and ally and inhibit our nation's ability to recover from the economic ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the last few days, your administration has issued Executive Orders that attack transparency in government, limit our economic recovery, and eliminates jobs. This is typified by the decision to discontinue the Keystone XL project and cease the issuing of new licenses for oil and gas drilling in certain areas pending review.

We believe that this decision is harsh and unnecessary, depriving citizens of vital jobs and our country of vital infrastructure, while also damaging a key relationship with Canada, our ally. Keystone XL would have supported nearly 60,000 jobs directly and indirectly with an additional 10,400 jobs in local contracting.¹ The outcome of such a decision could be economically ruinous and would substantially impede our country's drive for energy independence.

Throughout your campaign and repeated by your administration is the pledge to "build back better." Yet, killing over 70,000 jobs during a pandemic does the exact opposite. We believe that to be a worthy goal, our government must use every tool in its arsenal to empower Americans to rebuild the lives and the wealth that COVID-19 stole from them. We are happy to partner with this administration on solutions that utilize the free market, wisely steward our natural resources, and reward the incredible ingenuity and tenacity of the American people.

¹ <https://www.keystonexl.com/employment/>

We believe that your Executive Orders do just the opposite of that, prioritizing politically connected pressure groups and interposing government between the American people and the economic growth they need and expect. The American people are not a constituency that needs to be satiated or bought off, they are our true employers. Our primary responsibility is to them.

Further, we believe that the Executive Orders you signed also revoke vital checks on the power of the administrative state and efforts to promote transparency in government. American businesses should not be subject to the sanctions created by opaque administrative proceedings and reversing the previous administration's position would be a mistake. Additionally, this administration should only with caution remove constraints on the expansion of the federal budget via regulatory creep. We believe that a good government should recognize that regulation often hampers the individual initiative that is required to solve issues and achieve goals in this country.

Mr. President, we believe it is ultimately impossible to "build back better" if the first actions of your new administration constrain the engines of the American economy, mitigate transparency in the workings of our government, and callously deprives citizens of good jobs to curry favor with special interests.

Sincerely,



Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Jody Hice
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Trent Kelly
Member of Congress



Ted Budd
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Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
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Scott Perry
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August Pfluger
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Richard Hudson
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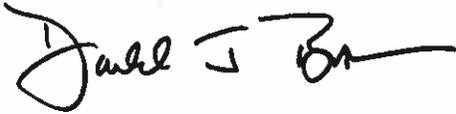
Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Ronny L. Jackson
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Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



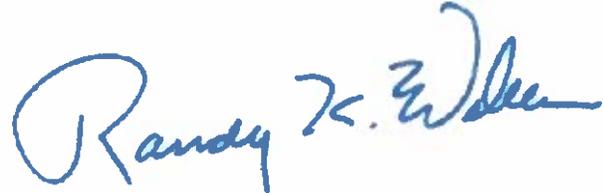
Don Bacon
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Adrian Smith
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Randy Weber
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Troy Nehls
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