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**From:** Karen Harbert [globalenergy@uschamber.com]  
**Sent:** 12/18/2018 4:35:38 PM  
**To:** Gunasekara, Mandy [Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** America Can't Afford to Keep It In the Ground

Billions in revenue and thousands of jobs are at stake



Dear Mandy:

America's newfound status as a global energy superpower has created economic opportunities here at home and stability around the world. In order to continue to harness our abundant natural resources and spur innovation, **we must build energy infrastructure.**

Unfortunately, a small but vocal group of activists is battling against energy infrastructure projects across the nation. These anti-energy "Keep It In The Ground" (KIITG) activists have worked to derail projects by filing countless lawsuits, organizing protests and even vandalizing private property with the goal of delaying or outright killing projects. **While these efforts have been reported on over the years, their aggregate economic impact has never been calculated, until now.**

Today, we released a new analysis, *"Infrastructure Lost: Why America Cannot Afford To 'Keep It In the Ground'"*, which quantifies the impacts of delayed and cancelled energy infrastructure projects. **The anti-energy movement's opposition to vital energy infrastructure comes with a real cost: lost job opportunities and billions in prevented domestic economic activity.**

To quantify the economic impact of the KIITG movement, GEI analyzed select projects that were either cancelled or delayed by protests, lawsuits or legislation. While the universe of targeted projects is vast, the report focuses on 15 projects including pipelines, power plants, transmission lines and export facilities as well as the statewide hydraulic fracturing ban in New York.

**Without these projects, the energy industry loses the opportunity to enhance American consumers' access to abundant, affordable energy and to provide hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs.**

Our analysis highlights the economic damages being shouldered by the communities and hard working men and women who build and support our nation's energy infrastructure.

The KIITG movement means significant costs in the form of fewer job opportunities for American workers, potential challenges to energy reliability, higher energy prices, and foregone tax revenue.

Simply put Americans cannot afford to “keep it in the ground.”

Sincerely,



Karen A. Harbert  
President & CEO  
Global Energy Institute  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

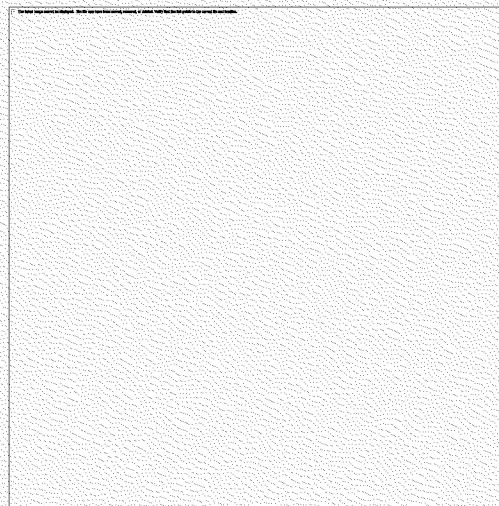
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