



Foreign Affairs, Trade and      Affaires étrangères, Commerce  
Development Canada      et Développement Canada  
125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G2

Our File  
A-2013-01031 / JF2

OCT 18 2013

Dear Ms. Demerse:

This is in reply to your request under the *Access to Information Act* which was received on July 22, 2013, for the following:

**"All relevant records generated in advance of or in response to President Barack Obama's climate change speech (delivered on June 25, 2013). Time period: June 1 to July 18, 2013. "**

Enclosed are the documents that respond to your request. Please note that some of the information contained in the documents has been exempted or excluded pursuant to **paragraphs 13(1)(a), 14(b), 20(1)(b), 20(1)(d), 68(a) and subsection 15(1) - International**, of the Act. You may find details of the exemptions/exclusions invoked at the following website: <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/A-1/index.html>

Please be advised that you are entitled to complain to the Information Commissioner concerning the processing of your request within sixty days of the receipt of this notice. In the event you decide to avail yourself of this right, your notice of complaint should be addressed to: Information Commissioner of Canada, Tower B, Place de Ville, 112 Kent Street, 7th Floor, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1H3.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Ferguson at 613-944-1251 or by email at [Jennifer.Ferguson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Ferguson@international.gc.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Warren Mucci  
Acting Director  
Access to Information and Privacy Protection

Enclosures: 161 pages

Connors, Paul -WSHDC -EN

**From:** Connors, Paul -WSHDC -EN  
**Sent:** June 26, 2013 8:19 AM  
**To:** Doer, Gary -WSHDC -HOM/CDM  
**Cc:** Riordon, Sheila -WSHDC -GR; Godin, Catherine -WSHDC -EN; Gudinskas, Lukas -WSHDC -EN; Quigley, Sarah -WSHDC -GR; Plunkett, Chris -WSHDC -PA  
**Subject:** KXL

President Obama: *I put forward in the past an all-of-the-above energy strategy, but our energy strategy must be about more than just producing more oil. And, by the way, it's certainly got to be about more than just building one pipeline. Now, I know there's been, for example, a lot of controversy surrounding the proposal to build a pipeline -- the Keystone pipeline, that would carry oil from Canadian tar sands down to refineries in the Gulf. And the State Department is going through the final stages of evaluating the proposal. That's how it's always been done. But I do want to be clear. Allowing the Keystone pipeline to be built requires a finding that doing so would be in our nation's interest. And our national interest will be served, only if this project does not significantly exacerbate the problem of carbon pollution. The net effects of the pipeline's impact on our climate will be absolutely critical to determining whether this project is allowed to go forward. It's relevant.*

AMB

You will note that much media analysis is interpreting the President's "significantly exacerbate" metric to mean that KXL is likely to be approved given the some of the GHG work in the March draft SEIS that KXL does not make much difference to global emissions as oil sands are likely to be developed anyway.

So I believe that the jury is still out on KXL for this and another reason.

1) Note that the President is clear that the "significantly exacerbate" test comes as part of the national interest test, which is the National Interest Determination (NID) presumably occurring this fall following the release of the Final SEIS. The current draft SEIS found that Canadian heavy to be transported on KXL has 2-19% higher GHGs than the crude oils (Saudi, Mexican, Venezuelan) it would displace at the Gulf Coast. Much of the draft SEIS analysis is based on a 2008 DOE NETL report of GHGs of oil consumed in the USA.

2) The significant increase in US domestic production in recent years is light sweet crude which has lower GHGs than heavy crude. As US light sweet crude production has increased, it has backed out light sweet crude oil imports mainly from Nigeria, Angola and Algeria. It is expected that by 2014 or 2015, all light sweet crude imports to the US will have been backed out. Then what happens? Basically refineries are configured economically to process different types of crude; simplistically light sweet crude goes to light sweet crude refineries and heavy crudes go to heavy crude refineries. The US currently requires an export license for crude oil and its practice has been to grant an export license only to exports to Canada. If the US decides to maximize the economic value of its light sweet crude production, the US government will let US light sweet crude be exported to foreign light sweet crude refineries and continue to import heavy crude into the US Gulf Coast where many of the refineries are configured to run heavy oil. However if reducing US GHG emissions is the goal, the US could decline to export its light sweet crude surplus. Domestic light sweet crude would begin to back out heavy oil imports. While this is economically sub-optimal for the heavy oil refineries, it would make the mix of US crude oil lighter and less GHG intensive. When the President set the metric in the last two sentences of the extract above, I wonder if the metric is to be applied to global emissions or to U.S. emissions.

Best regards

Paul

**From:** Connors, Paul -WSHDC -EN  
**Sent:** June 12, 2013 4:19 PM  
**To:** 'Heath, Douglas'

**7. Comment:** The release date for President Obama's domestic climate change plan has not been set. That being said, persistent rumours in the media point to a release at the end of June or mid-July. [REDACTED] components identified thus far [REDACTED]

**Drafted:** WSHDC-EN/Gudinskas  
**Approved:** WSHDC-EN/Godin

**BCC List:** Johnson, Mollie; de Boer, Stephen [NCR]; Uppal, Sunny [NCR]; Blandford, Laurence [NCR]; Portatupl, Franck; Peddie, Jane [NCR]; Rohr, Beth [NCR]; Scott, Sandra [NCR]; Gelbman, Judith [NCR]; Henry, David; Allin, Byron; Crist, Thomas; Temorshutzen, Cindy -GPC -GPD; Chan, Kimman -GPC; Burnham, Neal -GGB; Tam, Sing-En -GGB; Dormehl, Andre -MDCE; Pringle, Gary -MDCE; Lucich, Shoshana -WSHDC -EN; Godin, Catherine -WSHDC -EN; Fairbairns, Marion -WSHDC -EN; Chen, Jennie -WSHDC -GR; Thibault, Marcus -GNB; Dadrian-Kassabian, Sabrina -WSHDC -EN

2013/07/26

**Thibault, Marcus -GNB**

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**From:** Thibault, Marcus -GNB  
**Sent:** June 25, 2013 2:17 PM  
**To:** Roy, Josée -GNB; Ahmad, Nadia -GNB; Tam, Sing-En -GGB; Burnham, Neal -GGB; Tessier, Marc -MDCE; Dormehl, Andre -MDCE; Pringle, Gary -MDCE  
**Subject:** Obama: KXL should not be approved if it will mean net increase in ghg emissions  
**Attachments:** Fw: Media item - Huffington Post - Obama: Keystone XL Should Not Be Approved If It Will Increase Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Fw: Energy Breaking News; Fw: Report: Obama To Call On Approval Of Keystone Pipeline If No Net Increase In Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Fyi

Must be in national interest and determined to not contribute to a net increase in ghg emissions. The Draft SEIS already confirmed the latter and the NID will confirm the former, so not a huge announcement and not a stumbling block.

**Thibault, Marcus -GNB**

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**From:** Godin, Catherine -WSHDC -EN  
**Sent:** June 25, 2013 2:06 PM  
**To:** Gudinkas, Lukas -WSHDC -EN; Stewart, Duncan -WSHDC -EN; Thibault, Marcus -GNB; Lucich, Shoshana -WSHDC -EN  
**Subject:** Fw: Media item - Huffington Post - Obama: Keystone XL Should Not Be Approved If It Will Increase Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Keep and eye pls.

**From:** Lyons, Deborah -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 25, 2013 02:03 PM  
**To:** Doer, Gary -WSHDC -HOM/CDM; Riordon, Sheila -WSHDC -GR; Connors, Paul -WSHDC -EN; Godin, Catherine -WSHDC -EN; Plunkett, Chris -WSHDC -PA; Horton, Deanna -WSHDC -WS; Hanson, Christine -WSHDC -WS; Moen, Martin -WSHDC -TD; Gauthier, Gilles -WSHDC -TD  
**Cc:** Quigley, Sarah -WSHDC -GR  
**Subject:** FW: Media item - Huffington Post - Obama: Keystone XL Should Not Be Approved If It Will Increase Greenhouse Gas Emissions

fyi

**Deborah Lyons**

**Deputy Head of Mission/ Chef de mission adjoint**  
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**From:** Torrente, Giovanni [<mailto:Giovanni.Torrente@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca>]  
**Sent:** June 25, 2013 1:45 PM  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients  
**Subject:** Media item - Huffington Post - Obama: Keystone XL Should Not Be Approved If It Will Increase Greenhouse Gas Emissions

**Obama: Keystone XL Should Not Be Approved If It Will Increase  
Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

**Posted: 06/25/2013 1:19 pm EDT**  
**Updated: 06/25/2013 1:34 pm EDT**

WASHINGTON -- President Barack Obama will ask the State Department not to approve the construction of the controversial Keystone XL pipeline unless it can first determine that it will not

**Thibault, Marcus -GNB**

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**From:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Sent:** June 26, 2013 2:26 PM  
**To:** Thibault, Marcus -GNB  
**Cc:** Roy, Josée -GNB  
**Subject:** FW: O'MINA doc  
**Attachments:** IB\_LBP-#4803852-v15-o\_MINA weekly North America briefing - GNB June 19.docx  
**Importance:** High

Do you have time to add a couple more lines to this? Sorry I don't have the IB, just the doc.

When you say it's being interpreted differently by both sides, could you add "on one hand this ... and on the other hand that....". And that at this stage it's very difficult to determine what the President meant.

**From:** Roy, Josée -GNB  
**Sent:** June 26, 2013 1:47 PM  
**To:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Subject:** O'MINA doc  
**Importance:** High

GNB contribution for your review.  
jr

Wendy Boudreau  
Congressional Liaison Officer  
Canadian Embassy  
501 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Tel: (202) 448-6585  
Fax: (202) 682-7794  
[wendy.boudreau@international.gc.ca](mailto:wendy.boudreau@international.gc.ca)

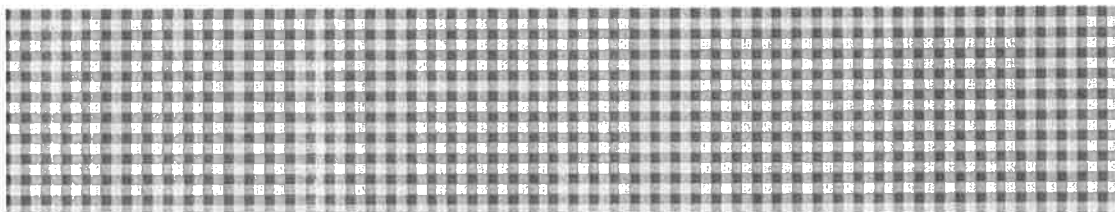
s.15(1) - International

**Thibault, Marcus -GNB**

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**From:** Thibault, Marcus -GNB  
**Sent:** June 26, 2013 2:44 PM  
**To:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Cc:** Roy, Josée -GNB  
**Subject:** Re: O'MINA doc

Am in a committee hearing so best I can do is provide text by BB:



Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

**From:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 02:26 PM  
**To:** Thibault, Marcus -GNB  
**Cc:** Roy, Josée -GNB  
**Subject:** FW: O'MINA doc

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**Importance:** High

GNB contribution for your review.  
jr



s.15(1) - International

**Thibault, Marcus -GNB**

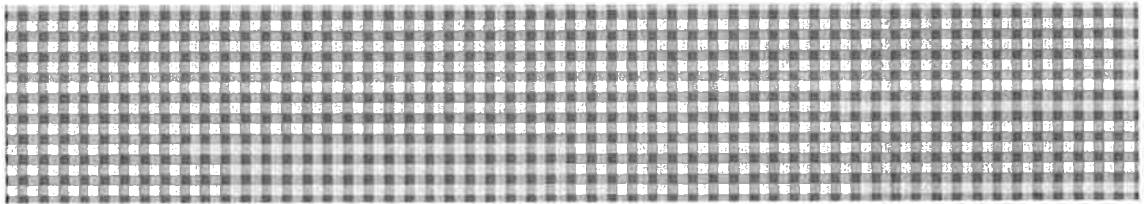
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**From:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Sent:** June 26, 2013 2:46 PM  
**To:** Thibault, Marcus -GNB  
**Cc:** Roy, Josée -GNB  
**Subject:** Re: O'MINA doc

Excellent! We'll integrate. Way to multi-task.

**From:** Thibault, Marcus -GNB  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 02:44 PM  
**To:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Cc:** Roy, Josée -GNB  
**Subject:** Re: O'MINA doc

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**Sent:** June 26, 2013 1:47 PM  
**To:** Ahmad, Nadia -GNB  
**Subject:** O'MINA doc  
**Importance:** High

GNB contribution for your review.  
jr

s.14(b)

s.15(1) - International

s.20(1)(d)

Last Updated: June 19, 2013

PROTECTED

#### **Columbia River Treaty (CRT)**

The U.S. Entity's decision to release its draft recommendation to the State Department as well as to the public has been postponed by a week and is now expected around June 27th.

#### **Richelieu River/Lake Champlain Plan of Study**

Later this week the IJC will release the "Plan of Study for the Identification of Measures to Mitigate Flooding and the Impacts of Flooding of Lake Champlain and Richelieu River", along with the IJC's recommendations to Governments for implementation of that Plan of Study. The plan of study contains three separate, individually scalable yet incremental options for study implementation, ranging from \$5 million to \$14 million and requiring 3-5 years to implement. The IJC is likely to recommend Option B, which would cost nearly \$11 million and would require approximately five years to implement.

#### **Windsor Hum**

#### **Pebble Mine**

#### **Zalinski**

A Canadian delegation led by GGD and including the Canadian Coast Guard, DND and Environment Canada is scheduled (tbc) to meet with a US Government delegation in Washington on July 2, 2013 to discuss next steps to address the threat of pollution from the wreck of the US Army vessel, Brigadier General M.G. Zalinski, which sunk in Canadian waters.

#### **KXL**

President Obama delivered a speech Jun 25 at Georgetown University setting out how he plans to meet his promise to tackle climate change. On KXL he announced that "allowing the Keystone pipeline to be built requires a finding that doing so would be in our nation's interest. And our national interest will be served only if this project does not significantly exacerbate the problem of carbon pollution. The net effects of the pipeline's impact... on our climate will be absolutely critical to determining whether this project is allowed to go forward." His comments are being interpreted in different ways by both sides of the debate.

Last Updated: June 19, 2013

PROTECTED

The National Academy of Sciences released a highly anticipated report Jun 25 entitled "Effects of Diluted Bitumen on Crude Oil Transmission Pipelines". Principle among its findings is that diluted bitumen is no more corrosive than crude oil, nor more likely to spill from a pipeline than any other type of crude oil. This finding refutes a key element of anti-oil sands rhetoric to date. The Minister of Natural Resources has issued a statement to this effect.

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Approved:  
GGD  
A/GND/Ahmad