



January 30, 2012

The Honorable Ted Poe (TX-2)
Member of Congress
430 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Poe:

On behalf of the American Supply Association (ASA), the national organization serving wholesale distributors and their suppliers in the plumbing, heating, cooling and industrial and mechanical pipe, valves and fittings industries, we would like to thank you for your efforts in bringing energy independence to the United States. **Specifically, we support the development of the Keystone XL Pipeline and appreciate your leadership by introducing H.R. 3811, the Keystone for A Secure Tomorrow (K-FAST) Act.**

The Plumbing, Heating, Cooling and Piping (PHCP) and industrial and mechanical Pipe, Valves and Fittings (PVF) channel encompasses nearly 3,600 corporations with 5,300 outlets and 75,000 employees nationwide. The men and women of the ASA are primarily multi-generation, independent wholesale distributors who are highly dependent on a healthy residential and commercial construction sector along with the oil and gas industry. With our economy continuing to show few signs of certainty or recovery, we thank you for pursuing this much-needed infusion in industrial development that will bring thousands of new jobs which America urgently needs.

Like you and millions of Americans, there is nothing we want more than an energy independent United States. The reality is that we are not yet there. Likewise, our use of petroleum isn't likely to contract in the near term to reduce our reliance on this form of energy. With the opportunity to securely import much of our energy needs from our friends to the north rather than those who may not have our best interests at heart, we support developing a new pipeline with our allies in Canada.

The American Supply Association prides itself on safely transporting gases and liquids to the benefit of the American economy every day. Whether it is the fabrication of valves or fittings that serve as vital instruments in various industries, to meeting the needs of the contractors installing such equipment, our members provide essential services and employ thousands of Americans both directly and indirectly. We appreciate your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Daniel Hilton
Director of Government Affairs
American Supply Association

