

## Kim Olson – Talkers on Keystone

- My name is Kim Olson, and I am speaking on behalf of U.S. Senator Mike Rounds of Fort Pierre, South Dakota.
- His Pierre office address is 111. W. Capitol Ave., Suite 210, in Pierre.
- Senator Rounds is a steadfast supporter of the Keystone XL pipeline project.
- As you know, the <sup>U.S.</sup> House and Senate passed legislation ~~last year~~ that would authorize construction of the pipeline, and it received strong bipartisan support in both chambers.
- Unfortunately, the president vetoed this legislation.
- Senator Rounds voted for the Keystone XL pipeline because it's good for South Dakota and it's good for our country.
- It was the first bill he cosponsored when he took office in January.
- Nationally, construction of the pipeline alone would contribute roughly \$3.4 billion into our economy.
- A Canadian Energy Research Institute report found that the production of oil flowing through the pipeline could support 72,000 to 81,000 jobs in the U.S. each year from 2021 through 2035.
- That is in addition to the 42,100 jobs the State Department found the pipeline will create, as soon as the permit is authorized.
- South Dakotans's slice of this would be received almost immediately.
- The increase in property taxes the pipeline is expected to generate in South Dakota would directly benefit our school systems and lessen the tax burden for many hard-working families.
- South Dakota farmers would be able to get their grain to market easier, as the pipeline would free up much-needed rail space currently being filled up by oil.
- The Keystone XL pipeline is also thought to be the safest pipeline ever constructed in the United States, if and when it is built, and have no effect on our environment, according to five EIS reports.
- Moving forward, Senator Rounds remains committed to moving the Keystone XL pipeline project across the finish line so our state and nation can begin to reap its many benefits.