

Fighting for America's Energy Future

Sample Points for Public Forum or Hearing Comments

- Thank you for the opportunity to appear before this body on behalf of the [NAME COUNCIL/LOCAL UNION] and the half-million skilled, dedicated members of Laborers' International Union of North America.
- We are here today because fighting for America's energy future is critical for our city, for our country and for working men and women.
- We are advocates for *[name of project]* for many of the same reasons a broad array of groups are – because our nation needs less reliance on energy from nations and regions that want to destroy our country.
- We are advocates because energy extraction technologies, particularly in natural gas, help reduce climate change and can be a bridge to no- or low-carbon fuels.
- We support this project because hundreds of thousands of families – including thousands of LIUNA families in our community and across the country – depend on energy work.
- These are not just jobs and this is not just a pipeline. Constructing energy infrastructure is a career which can lead to steady, reliable work and opportunities for advancement. It is a lifeline to the middle class.
- We believe approval of this project will benefit thousands of working men and women who rely on a steady, affordable supply of fuel for transportation and for their homes.
- We are advocates for a safe network of pipelines to lower the risk of transporting fuels by other means. Many of our members live in proximity to rail lines and believe pipelines reduce the risk of moving fuel by trains. Pipelines do contribute to public safety – in fact, according to a recent Pro-Publica special report, transporting fuels through pipelines is 70 times safer than by truck.
- Because we have the experience, skills and dedication to make sure energy work is done safely and protects communities and workers, we can help this industry continue to grow.
- LIUNA members have safely built pipelines since 1949. Our organization invests more than \$100 million a year on skills training, including 164 hours of training alone on pipeline construction.