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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Local Union Leaders and Pipeline Workers Support Good, Safe Jobs Building America’s Energy Future**

***Workers at Public Forum Underscore Their Skills and Training; Leaders Speak to Potential Growth of Family-Supporting Work***

**[City, Date]** – Workers hoping to build the [*name*] Pipeline and their representatives argued for good local jobs building our nation’s energy future at a public forum in [*city*] today.

The pipeline would [*insert details of pipeline such as what it would carry, the total investment, estimated work hours and route*].

“This is about fighting for America’s energy future and creating reliable family-supporting careers in our community,” [*name of local leader*] told the forum. “Pipelines are the key to making our country energy independent and addressing climate change.”

The pipeline will carry natural gas, which experts say emits significantly less carbon than other fuels and which can provide a bridge to the time when renewable energy sources have greater capacity.

[*name of local leader*] also cited a ProPublica special report which found that pipelines are 70 more times safe that transportation of fuel by truck. “With skilled workers and responsible contractors, pipelines are safe,” *s/he* said. “Safety is a cornerstone of our training.”

LIUNA operates more than 70 training centers across the country, include one in [*name of city*]. That training includes as much as 164 hours of pipeline specific skills, in addition to OSHA-approved safety training. The union’s workers have been safely building pipelines since 1949.

In advocating for the project, [*name of local leader*] also strongly encouraged the use of local workers “so that the communities where pipelines are built benefit the most.”

Also addressing the forum was [*name of worker*]. *S/he [details of pipeline career*].

“I know the pipelines we build are safe because I build them and we don’t cut corners or take any chances,” *s/he* said. “I’m a hunter. I fish. I care about the environment as much as anyone.”

*S/he* said having a pipeline career has made it possible to own a home and put children through school. “These are more than just pipelines. For me and my family, they are lifelines.”

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