

International Forum on Globalization

Collection of Koch quotes denying interest in the Keystone XL pipeline

March 2014

“Koch Industries have absolutely nothing to do with Keystone XL (KXL).”ⁱ

Kochs’ reiteration of this statement occurs every time anyone points out that Koch and its subsidiaries could benefit from Keystone XL.

Ignoring industry projections that KXL will increase profits for tar sands oil producers (which Koch is), Koch focuses on the fact that it is not involved in shipping its oil via, or building the pipeline.

The Kochs currently hold +1.1million acres of tar sands land at the very least.ⁱⁱ They would certainly benefit from the building of the pipeline, though their tactic thus far is to be deceitful: Koch Industries doesn’t have an interest – does that mean that Koch Oil Sands Operating ULC does? They “aren’t currently a shipper” – but will they be after it’s built and bidding opens up?

The fact is that throughout the hearings and investigations into the Koch’s interest in KXL, Koch Industries has repeated that they have no interest in the pipeline, which is false. Being one of the largest land holders in the tar sands, providing money to pro-KXL congress people, spending millions funding groups who lobby for the pipeline, and by ignoring the most pointed criticisms in favor of reiterating falsehoods all point to a substantial interest in the pipeline.

May 2011:

In response to Rep. Henry Waxman’s investigation:

“We have stated publicly and repeatedly, including last week when questioned by staff of Congressman Waxman that we have no financial stake in the pipeline that is the subject of the reporting and we are not party to its design or construction. We are not a proposed shipper or customer of oil delivered by this pipeline. We have taken no position on the legislative proposal at issue before Congress and we are not cited in any way in that legislation.”ⁱⁱⁱ

October 2011:

In response to Pulitzer Prize-winning “Inside Climate News” David Sassoon:

“A rudimentary fact check by any legitimate investigator or reporter would reveal the clear difference between “intervening” in an application in Canada’s National Energy Board hearings, and “having an interest” in the pipeline. By definition, an intervener is anyone who wants to learn more about a project. In this case, interveners included individuals, environmental groups, businesses and many others.”^{iv}

“We have made it explicitly clear for the better part of a year now to *InsideClimate* that Koch has no financial interest whatsoever in the Keystone project.”^v

May 2012:

“Pine Bend is also among the top processors of Canadian oil in the U.S. and a leader in providing... gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, propane and butane as well as other petroleum products such as asphalt. The Canadian oil we process is shipped to the refinery via pipeline systems that have been in operation for decades.”^{vi}

October 2013:

In response to IFG’s report:

“The representations concerning our Koch Exploration business and its “ownership” of oil sands land are not accurate. We do not own 2 million acres in Northern Alberta. Koch is not engaged in the type of exploration the report attributes to us. In fact, we have very limited active production”^{vii}

In response to Michigan Live:

“Koch Industries have absolutely nothing to do with Keystone XL (KXL). They are neither a shipper nor a receiver on KXL and this has been confirmed repeatedly and publicly many times.”

“Pipelines are by far the safest and environmentally responsible way of transporting oil and natural gas and TransCanada has one of the best safety records of any pipeline operator in the entire industry.”^{viii}

i" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/a-letter-to-the-editor-of-michigan-live-by-transcanada/>

ii <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5QmKjeo6OCiRjdhZXM4YVpwbTA/edit?usp=sharing>. [Private googledoc. Email Michael.pineschi@gmail.com for access.]

iii" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/reuters-misleads-readers-on-koch-industries-and-the-keystone-xl-pipeline-we-respond/>

iv" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/setting-the-record-straight-on-keystone/>

v" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/continuingfalsehoods/>

vi" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/kochpresenceincanada/>

vii" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/addressing-multiple-errors-in-flawed-analysis-of-keystone-xl/>

viii" <http://www.kochfacts.com/kf/a-letter-to-the-editor-of-michigan-live-by-transcanada/>