



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 9, 2017

Annie Leonard
Executive Director
Greenpeace USA
702 H St., NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Leonard,

This letter responds to your letter of March 8, 2017. Secretary Tillerson has committed to full compliance with his ethics obligations and stressed the importance of ethical behavior in his initial speech to Department of State employees. In early February, Secretary Tillerson recused himself from working on issues related to TransCanada's application for a Presidential Permit for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. He has not worked on that matter at the Department of State, and will play no role in the deliberations or ultimate resolution of TransCanada's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine D. McManus".

Katherine D. McManus
Deputy Legal Adviser and Designated Agency
Ethics Official

Cc: David P. Huitema, Assistant Legal Adviser for Ethics and Financial Disclosure
Walter M. Shaub, Jr., Director, Office of Government Ethics