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(Regional)-Obama: Keystone XL Pipeline Not Major Jobs Creator



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 03/14/2013 05:33 AM

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama has told House Republicans he's still weighing a decision on the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada to Texas. At a closed-door gathering with the Republicans on Wednesday, Obama said jobs numbers and other benefits touted by supporters are probably exaggerated, but he did not rule out a decision to approve the pipeline, according to participants.

Nebraska Republican Rep. Lee Terry said Obama appeared "conflicted" on the pipeline, saying many of the promised jobs would be temporary, and that much of the oil would likely be exported. But Terry said Obama also indicated that dire environmental consequences predicted by pipeline opponents were exaggerated.

Terry, who supports the pipeline, said he wished Obama's comments were less negative, but he was still hopeful the project would be approved.