

## EXCLUSIVE: Milwaukee Based Company Faces Major Layoffs Because Of Keystone XL Cancellation

By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

One of the companies hardest hit by President Biden's cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline is Michels Corporation, the giant pipeline contractor based in Brownsville with a major new corporate headquarters in Milwaukee.

Michels is one of the prime contractors of the massive pipeline which runs from central Canada to the Gulf of Mexico on a route that moves through the central US. It's not immediately clear how many jobs will be cut but it's safe to say that all of the workers on the project will no longer be needed. The contract was a major win for Michels when the company got it. The firm is one of the largest builders of pipelines, underground tunnels and similar construction in the world.

Despite the fact that the firm's workforce is largely unionized and the majority of jobs lost by the cancellation are union jobs, there hasn't been a peep of opposition from Wisconsin Democrats to the decision.

Keystone is critical to the development of the massive energy fields in Canada because without a pipeline there is no practical way to get the oil from the Canadian barrens to the massive refineries in the southern US. Biden's decision will not only cost jobs but is likely to once again make America reliant on foreign energy sources.

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