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(Neb.)-TransCanada Says Pipeline Route Through State Is Still Valid

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 02/25/2014 10:26 AM

LINCOLN, Neb. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - The developer of the Keystone XL pipeline says its proposed route through Nebraska is still legally valid until a higher court decides whether the state's pipeline-siting law is constitutional.

A spokesman for Calgary-based TransCanada said Monday that last week's ruling to strike down the law can't be enforced while the case is on appeal. Company officials say the ruling shouldn't affect the federal project review.

Jane Kleeb, director of the anti-pipeline group Bold Nebraska, says the move is "a slap in the face to landowners, citizens and our state constitution."

President Barack Obama told a White House meeting of governors on Monday that he will make a decision on the pipeline in the next couple of months. Gov. Dave Heineman says he's pleased a decision will be made after years of delay.

A White House spokesman said he would not provide details of a private discussion with governors, and said review of the Canada-to-Texas pipeline remains at the State Department.

A Nebraska judge struck down the route through the state last week.