

A Resolution in Solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe for Indigenous Sovereignty and Environmental Justice

Sponsored by Francisco Ferreryra, UC Student Association Environmental Sustainability Officer

Whereas, rises in anthropogenic greenhouse gasses have plunged our planet into climate catastrophe causing massive losses in species biodiversity, ocean acidification, sea level rise, disruptions in ecological cycles, and intensified natural disasters;

Whereas, University of California scientists urgently warn that we cannot afford to begin construction on new fossil fuel projects if we hope to avert the worst effects of climate catastrophe;

Whereas, over 300 tribal nations across the Americas have gathered in Standing Rock, North Dakota, to resist the culmination of 500 years of cultural genocide - the 1,172 mile Dakota Access Oil Pipeline (DAPL) that will burrow under the Missouri river and through native lands;

Whereas, the construction of the pipeline violates the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as well as the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 and the Supremacy Clause of the US Constitution;

Whereas, The initial decision to construct a pipeline through North Dakota's capital of Bismarck was revoked by the government, and shifted towards a lower populated region placed near Standing Rock Sioux Tribal lands, displaying again the attitudes that Indigenous Peoples are considered second-class citizens in this country;

Whereas, Native students across the University of California led prayer marches and rallies this Indigenous People's Day (in contrast to the nationally recognized Christopher Columbus Day) in solidarity with the #noDAPL movement; and

Whereas, the cities of Davis, Los Angeles, Berkeley, Oakland, and many other cities have adopted resolutions in opposition of the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Resolved, that the University of California Student Association stands in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, the International Indigenous Youth Council, and the #noDAPL movement;

Resolved, that the violation of human rights by law enforcement, the lasting destructive environmental impacts that another massive oil pipeline leak would have on the surrounding land, and the copious amount of atrocities carried out by the United States Government against Native American folks throughout the history of this country's foundation have provided a large sentiment in opposition of the construction of this corporate driven fossil fuel project;

Resolved, that the University of California Student Association calls on the North Dakota state government recall their armed forces, the Army Corps of Engineers to revoke construction permits, and the Obama Administration to keep the oil in the ground; and

Resolved, that the University of California Student Association encourages UC students and administration to raise awareness about this crucial battle for indigenous sovereignty and environmental justice.

SOURCES:

[Decision to change location of oil pipeline](#)

[City of Davis](#)

[City of Los Angeles](#)

[City of Berkeley](#)

[City of Oakland](#)