

## WOL Stands with Standing Rock

Water is life. No one has a right to deprive another human being of life. It is reported that 17 million Americans depend on the Missouri River as a source of clean drinking water. The North Dakota portion of a 1,172-mile gas pipeline was originally scheduled for completion by November 2016. In light of the explosion in Alabama on October 31, it is with extreme urgency that we appeal to WOL members and supporters to [take action](#) and stand for [Standing Rock](#) Sioux Tribe to halt any further development of the pipeline and provide safety for water protectors.

Within Our Lifetime (WOL) Network joins thousands who are standing with Standing Rock against the use of militarized police to protect corporate interests whose sole purpose is profit. The violent and inhumane treatment of peaceful protestors warrants immediate intervention from President Obama and the Department of Justice. On September 22 United Nations Expert, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, released a statement calling upon the United States to immediately halt the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, in recognition of dire and direct threats to the drinking water, burial grounds and sacred sites of the Standing Rock Sioux people.

Terrorist tactics such as strip-searching, tasing, shooting rubber bullets and caging are being deployed against Indigenous Americans. The people are telling their stories via social media and need to be seen and heard to prevent further violence against peaceful protesters. The militarized troops are paid with public dollars and being used to protect corporate interests rather than protecting human life and dignity. WOL supports Chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Dave Archambault II request that "the Department of Justice impose an injunction to all developments at the pipeline site to keep ALL citizens – law enforcement and protesters—safe." We further agree that "the DOJ should be enlisted and expected to investigate the overwhelming reports and videos demonstrating abuse of authority, strong-arm tactics, and unlawful arrests by law enforcement."

Please respond to the Sioux Tribe's urgent needs, listed below, and get the word out to your networks. Since many news agencies are not reporting on the protests and militarized police action, please share the videos and reports from the Camp of the Sacred Stones and the Red Warrior Camp on your social media: <https://nodaplsolidarity.org/media-and-outreach-materials/>

### **The Tribe urgently needs:**

(1) lawyers with civil rights expertise to provide pro bono legal assistance to the hundreds of protectors who have been arrested over the past week...to help please contact: [standingrocklegalconnect@gmail.com](mailto:standingrocklegalconnect@gmail.com) or call or text (701) 409-0550.

(2) monitors on the ground who can observe the conflict and ensure that the civil rights of protectors who are peacefully exercising their First Amendment rights are not violated by law enforcement. If you are able to provide the tribe with such assistance or know who can, please contact NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Pata at [jpata@ncai.org](mailto:jpata@ncai.org).

### **In addition, the Tribe is requesting calls to the Obama Administration, asking it to:**

*Direct the Department of Justice to send observers to safeguard the protectors' safety and their First Amendment rights.*

Contact:

Attorney General Loretta Lynch  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
[Tracy.Toulou2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Tracy.Toulou2@usdoj.gov)

*Direct the Army Corps to immediately issue an order to stop work on additional construction within a mile between Highway 1806 and the Missouri River to help reduce tensions until the Corps finalizes its decision regarding the Lake Oahe easement.*

Contact:

Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of Army (Civil Works)  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310  
[joellen.darcy@us.army.mil](mailto:joellen.darcy@us.army.mil)  
(703) 697-8986

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And to the Governor to:

*Call North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple to remove the National Guard. It is an inappropriate use of the United States military to interfere with a peaceful exercise of the First Amendment.*

Contact:

Governor Jack Dalrymple & Lt. Governor Drew Wrigley  
Office of Governor State of North Dakota  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505-0100  
governor@state.nd.us  
<http://www.governor.nd.gov/contact-us>  
(701) 328-2200

*And Environmental Quality action to protect clean water and land:*

Christy Goldfuss  
Managing Director at the White House Council on  
Environmental Quality  
[@Goldfuss44](#)  
[1776 I St NW](#)  
Washington, DC 20006  
Noreen Nielsen (CEO)  
[Press@ceq.eop.gov](mailto:Press@ceq.eop.gov)  
(202) 401-1576

### Excerpt from United Nations' Victoria Tauli-Corpuz Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

GENEVA (23 September 2016) - *Ms. Tauli-Corpuz's call comes after a temporary halt to construction and the recognition of the need to hold 'government-to-government consultations' made by the US Departments of the Army, Justice and of the Interior. The 1,172 mile (1,890 km) pipeline is being built by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Energy Transfer LLC Corporation.*

*"The tribe was denied access to information and excluded from consultations at the planning stage of the project and environmental assessments failed to disclose the presence and proximity of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation," the expert stressed.*

*"The United States should, in accordance with its commitment to implement the Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples\*, consult with the affected communities in good faith and ensure their free, and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands, particularly in connection with extractive resource industries," Ms. Tauli-Corpuz said.*

*The Special Rapporteur also warned that tribal leaders and community members who have turned to peaceful protests to halt the pipeline's construction have been reportedly intimidated, harassed and prosecuted. "The US authorities should fully protect and facilitate the right to freedom of peaceful assembly of indigenous peoples, which plays a key role in empowering their ability to claim other rights," she highlighted.*

*"I urge the United States Government to undertake a thorough review of its compliance with international standards regarding the obligation to consult with indigenous peoples and obtain their free and informed consent," the expert said. "The statutory framework should be amended to include provisions to that effect and it is important that the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Advisory Council on Historic Preservation participate in the review of legislation."*

*(\*) See the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IPeoples/Pages/Declaration.aspx>*

# within our lifetime

Take action to end racism.

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### Within Our Lifetime Network Members

Action Communication and Education Reform  
Alaska Native Policy Center at First Alaskans Institute  
Americans for Indian Opportunity  
Applegate Consulting Group  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Vote - Michigan  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC  
Asian Pacific Community in Action  
B Coaching and Consulting  
Bloomington (IN) Human Rights Commission  
Boston Mobilization  
Calhoun Race Impact Alliance  
California Alliance of African American Educators  
Center for Social Inclusion  
Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa  
Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School  
Children's Dental Health Project  
Community Change Inc.  
CTThompson Consulting  
Diane Goodman  
Don't Push the River  
Elemental Partners  
Encuentro Diaspora Afro  
Enlightened Initiative  
Everyday Democracy  
Government Alliance on Race and Equity  
Grand Rapids Urban League  
Guiding Change Consulting  
Initiatives of Change/Hope in the Cities  
It is Well With My Soul  
James E. Longhurst PLLC  
Jody Alyn Consulting  
JSBearce  
Just Communities  
King County  
Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance  
Leadership Learning Community  
Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations  
Matrix Center for the Advancement of Social Equity & Inclusion  
Michigan Humanities Council  
Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion  
Montana Budget and Policy Center  
MP Associates  
MS MOVE, Inc.  
My Brother's Keeper Michigan Alliance  
National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy  
National Legal Aid & Defender Association  
National Rites of Passage Institute  
New Detroit, Inc.  
New Life Birth Services  
New Mexico Asian Family Center  
Northern Economic Initiatives Corporation  
On Earth Peace  
One Voice  
One Love Global Inc.  
Presbyterian Peacemaking Program  
Psychologists for Social Responsibility  
Race Forward  
Rianna Moore Consulting  
Rosa Parks Institute  
Rothko Chapel  
SMOW Racial & Social Justice  
Social Justice Minor, U of MN  
Southern Coalition for Social Justice  
Starr Commonwealth  
Steps Coalition  
The American Conference on Diversity  
The SOURCE  
The Storytelling Project  
Think. Do. Repeat.  
Tracing Center on Histories and Legacies of Slavery  
Tunica Teens In Action, Inc.  
Urban Strategies  
Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement  
William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation