



Associated Students of Western Washington University
Board of Directors

A Resolution Standing in Solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
November 2016

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, a federally recognized tribe located in North and South Dakota, has determined that the proposed route of the Dakota Access oil pipeline creates a potential threat to the only source of drinking water for their people; and,

WHEREAS, Dakota Access originally considered two possible routes of construction: a northern route near Bismarck, North Dakota, a predominately white town, and the southern route that would take the pipeline to the border of the Standing Rock Sioux Indian reservation and chose the latter; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed pipeline would carry as many as 570,000 barrels of hydraulically-fractured crude oil per day for more than 1,170 miles from the Bakken oil fields of North Dakota to Illinois, passing over sensitive landscapes including Treaty-protected land containing recognized cultural resources, and run across or beneath 209 rivers, creeks and tributaries, including the Missouri River; and,

WHEREAS, in July 2016, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a permit allowing construction of the fracked oil pipeline without Tribal consultation or meaningful environmental review as required by federal law; and,

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2016, a lawsuit was filed against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for not consulting the Standing Rock Sioux or other parties that would be affected; and,

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2016, a federal appeals court rejected a bid by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to permanently halt construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, allowing construction to continue on private lands; and,

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council led by Tribal Chairman David Archambault II called on Tribal nations and Indigenous people around the world to issue resolutions in support of the Standing Rock Sioux and the Sacred Stone Camp; and,

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of Western Washington University understand the importance of historical and current struggles of indigenous populations and honoring their contributions symbolized by the Resolution Recognizing Indigenous Peoples Day on October 5, 2016; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Associated Students of Western Washington University support the efforts of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to preserve Native burial grounds, to maintain cultural heritage and to preserve Treaty Rights against the harmful transport of fossil fuels across vulnerable and protected lands.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the Associated Students of Western Washington University stand in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in opposition of the construction of the Dakota Access pipeline.

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