

Mid American Indian Fellowships
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Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
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October 12, 2016

Osiyo (Greetings),

Let it be known that by consensus of the Mid American Indian Fellowships Council, meeting September 18, 2016, Mid American Indian Fellowships stands in support of and solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and with the indigenous communities of Protectors of Water and Land in the Cannonball area and elsewhere endeavoring to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Mid American Indian Fellowships is a network of American Indian spiritual groups that, since 1999, has served as a bridge connecting colonized American Indians and those of American Indian descent with their own tribal cultures that decolonization and indigenous cultural restoration may occur.

Understanding that water is the life-blood of the Earth, the streams and rivers the veins and arteries carrying that life blood, understanding that the same water that flows in the rivers also flows through the veins of our bodies, understanding that we are part of the Earth, not separate from nor separable from the Earth; we also understand that what happens to the Earth, what is done to the waters of the Earth, is done to us, each of us, whether we understand it or not.

We understand that pipelines always leak. There has, so far, never been an exception to this rule. An oil pipeline under the Missouri River or the Mississippi River or under any of the multitude of rivers the Dakota Access Pipeline is scheduled to cross, would be a catastrophic disaster waiting to happen; happen it will, if this pipeline is allowed, with horrible effect on all life, including human life.

We salute the Water and Land Protectors of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and of all all tribes and peoples standing together to say, "Enough is enough!" We look forward to a time when the so-called "dominant culture" of this country may grow up enough to stop being dominant and begin living in relationship with the Land. We look forward to a time when all understand we cannot drink crude oil, and we cannot eat money. For such growth and understanding to happen, ears, eyes, hearts and minds will have to open.

Mid American Indian Fellowships members have served and will continue to serve as Water and Land Protectors in the Cannonball area, at the Mississippi Stand Camp in Iowa and at organized rallies along the Missouri River in Kansas City and along the Mississippi River in St. Louis.

Council Members in attendance at the Mid American Indian Fellowships Council meeting of September 18, 2016 included Jay Redden and Bruce Redden representing the Indian Fellowship of Joplin, Missouri; Mike Rhynerson and Terry Haupt representing the Marais des Cygnes Indian Fellowship of LaCygne, Kansas and Butler, Missouri; Dwayne "Bud" Moellinger and Sheri Moellinger representing Kanalusguh Indian Fellowship of Hermann and Holts Summit, Missouri; Janice Owens and Ronald Owens representing Do'hi Soquili Indian Fellowship of Rayville, Missouri; Linda James and John James representing Equoni Uwohali Indian Fellowship of St. Louis, Missouri; Randy Whitley representing Walela Indian Fellowship of St. Joseph, Missouri; Denise Sloan and Rick Sloan representing White Spiral Indian Fellowship of Carthage, Missouri; Janet Francis secretary and Robert Francis presiding. Others in attendance included Susan Sykes, Daniel Copp, Sue Redden, Chuck Haupt and Peter Francis.

Do'hidv (Peace),
Robert Francis,