

Shelley Buck
President

Edward Buck
Secretary



Lucy Taylor
Vice President

Johnny Johnson
Treasurer

Audrey Bennett
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

August 17, 2016

Tribal Council
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Bldg. #1, N. Standing Rock Ave.
P. O. Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

Re: Offer of Support in Fight Against the Siting of the Dakota Access Pipeline

Dear Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council:

Hau from the Tribal Council of Tinta Wita. We write to offer our support to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe as you continue your brave fight against the siting of the black poisonous snake known as the Dakota Access Pipeline.

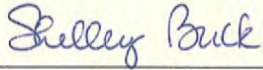
Enclosed is Resolution 2016-08-17-128, in which we formally proclaim our position in support of your efforts against the current location of the Dakota Access Pipeline Missouri River crossing. We also offer our prayers of safety for your community, your elders, your young ones and your warriors. You have been called to fight against our oppressors and shine a bright light on the centuries-old battle—for our lands, for our people, for our sovereignty—and this battle is very much alive today.

Furthermore, we wish you success in the litigation against the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). As expressed by at least three federal agencies, the USACE clearly failed to meet its obligations, and the consequences are unacceptable.

Your story is reminiscent of our own. In 1938, the USACE built Lock and Dam No. 3 on the Mississippi River downstream from the Prairie Island Indian reservation. Lock and Dam No. 3 devastated the Community's land, flooded burial mounds, and created an even larger floodplain which left our Community with only 300 livable acres. This Community is also under the constant threat of a catastrophic event at the nuclear power plant that was sited 600 yards from our Tinta Wita, making us even more sympathetic to, and outraged by, the events at Standing Rock.

Our Community is donating supplies in bulk, which will be delivered to the Standing Rock Spirit Camp in the coming days. Please let us know how else we can be of assistance to you. Please feel free to contact Tribal Council President, Shelley Buck, at 651-385-4108 or shelly.buck@piic.org. Mitakuye Oyasin.

Sincerely,



Shelley Buck
Tribal Council President



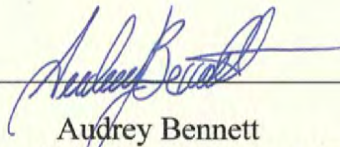
Lucy Taylor
Tribal Council Vice President



Edward Buck
Tribal Council Secretary



Johnny Johnson
Tribal Council Treasurer



Audrey Bennett
Tribal Council Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Shelley Buck
President

Edward Buck
Secretary



Lucy Taylor
Vice President

Johnny Johnson
Treasurer

Audrey Bennett
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

**Prairie Island Tribal Council
(A Tribal Government)**

RESOLUTION 16-08-17-128

**PRAIRIE ISLAND INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION
OF FULL SUPPORT OF THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE AND ALL
MISSOURI RIVER TRIBES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE SITING OF THE
DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE**

WHEREAS, the Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota (also known as the Prairie Island Mdewakanton Dakota Community) is a federally recognized tribe organized under 25 U.S.C. § 476, and is governed under the terms of a Constitution and Bylaws adopted by tribal members on May 23, 1936, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on June 20, 1936, as amended (the “Constitution and Bylaws”); and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and Bylaws provide in Article IV, Section 1 that the Community Council (sometimes referred to as the Tribal Council) shall be the governing body for the Prairie Island Indian Community; and

WHEREAS, the Prairie Island Community Council (sometimes referred to as “Tribal Council”) has the authority under the Constitution and Bylaws to promulgate resolutions; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is the duly elected body and the only entity authorized to act or speak on behalf of the Prairie Island Indian Community; and

WHEREAS, a battle is being waged against our relatives—the Oceti Sakowin—of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North Dakota, and several other Missouri River tribal communities, and the Tribal Council wishes to express its intent to stand in solidarity with Standing Rock and all other affected Native American communities; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline LLC wishes to construct a 1,172 mile pipeline with a potential capacity of 570,000 barrels of crude oil per day, to cross the Missouri River immediately above the mouth of the Cannon Ball River on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe rely upon the waters of the Missouri River for their continued existence and way of life, and the current site of the Missouri River crossing of the Dakota Access Pipeline poses a threat to this existence and way of life, as well as the water intake systems for the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, the Oglala, Rosebud, Crow Creek and the Lower Brule Sioux Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the potential for an oil spill from the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline poses unacceptable risk to the waters, fish and wildlife critical to the survival of our way of life; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline threatens the integrity of sacred sites and historic and archaeological resources; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline LLC once considered a route that would cross the Missouri River upstream of Bismarck, North Dakota, but that proposal was changed, according to sources, because the pipeline could potentially negatively impact drinking water for the (primarily Caucasian) people of Bismarck, so the route was relocated to place that risk upon the Standing Rock Oyate who also get their drinking water from the Missouri River; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for the environmental review of the Missouri River crossing of the Dakota Access Pipeline under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and, based on information and belief, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has not indicated an intention to comply with NEPA or the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in its oversight of the Missouri River crossing of the Dakota Access Pipeline; and

WHEREAS, based on information and belief the approval of the Dakota Access Pipeline Missouri River crossing is a significant action requiring consultation under applicable Treaties and under Executive Order 13175 on Government-to-Government Consultation, however, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has failed to engage in the requisite consultation on this destructive project; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Interior stated in its March 29, 2016 letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that “[t]he routing of a 12- to 30-inch crude oil pipeline in close proximity to and upstream of the Reservation is of serious concern to the Department . . . A spill could impact the waters that the Tribe and individual tribal members residing in that area rely upon for drinking and other purposes . . . We believe that, if the pipeline’s current route along the edge of the Reservation remains an option, the potential impact on trust resources in this particular situation necessitates full analysis and disclosure of potential impacts through the preparation of an [Environmental Impact Statement;]”; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Department of Interior, at least two other Federal Agencies, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, have criticized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a lack of consultation with the affected tribal nations and called for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to comply with its legal obligations; and

WHEREAS, the Prairie Island Indian Community is intimately familiar with destruction at the hands of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In 1938, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built Lock and Dam No. 3 approximately one-and-a-half miles downstream from the Prairie Island Indian Reservation. Lock and Dam No. 3 devastated the Community's land, flooding burial mounds, and creating an even larger floodplain which left the Tribe with only 300 livable acres. This Community is also under the constant threat of a catastrophic event at the nuclear power plant that was sited 600 yards from the Community's homeland, Tinta Wita, making us even more sympathetic to and outraged by the events at Standing Rock; and


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Council fully supports the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and the other Missouri River tribal communities, in the efforts to oppose the location of the Dakota Access Pipeline, and to challenge the improper actions of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through litigation and other means.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Council demands that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers comply with all Treaties, Executive Orders, government-to-government consultation mandates, and federal laws in connection with the Dakota Access Pipeline and the affected Native American communities.

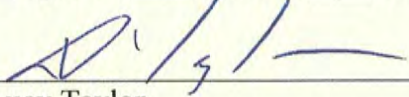
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Council calls on all United States' elected officials to speak out in opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline Missouri River crossing, to put those words into action, and to use all available resources to ensure that the United States upholds its federal trust responsibility to the affected Native American communities.

VOTE SUMMARY


President Shelley Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for, ___ against, ___ abstain, ___ absent
Vice President Lucy Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for, ___ against, ___ abstain, ___ absent
Secretary Edward Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for, ___ against, ___ abstain, ___ absent
Treasurer Johnny Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for, ___ against, ___ abstain, ___ absent
Asst. Sec./Treasurer Audrey Bennett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for, ___ against, ___ abstain, ___ absent




Shelley Buck
Tribal Council President



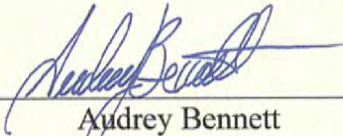
Lucy Taylor
Tribal Council Vice President



Edward Buck
Tribal Council Secretary



Johnny Johnson
Tribal Council Treasurer



Audrey Bennett
Tribal Council Assistant Secretary/Treasurer