



Interfaith Power & Light

A Religious Response to Global Warming

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

April 3, 2013

Dear President Obama,

We were gratified to hear your concern about climate change as expressed so eloquently in your inaugural address and State of the Union. As people of faith, we share your conviction that we are commanded by God to care for our planet and that the failure to respond to the threat of climate change would betray our children and future generations. It is in agreement with those statements that we, representing the broad and diverse faith groups who support you, write to share our concern over the proposed Keystone tar sands pipeline.

Tar sands oil is extracted in a resource-intensive process that destroys the boreal forests of Canada and emits three times the carbon pollution as conventional oil. Building this pipeline would facilitate the production of billions more gallons of tar sands oil, and poses an unnecessary risk to the communities along the nearly 1,000 miles through which the pipeline would pass.

According to the National Climate Assessment report, produced by thirteen federal agencies to advise the Administration and Congress in policy making, climate change will have severe impacts on ecosystems, infrastructure, and human health if we continue on the current path of heavy fossil fuel consumption. Numerous other studies produced by agencies from the National Academy of Sciences to the Pentagon, have found that global climate change represents an environmental and security threat to our nation.

The state department is charged with approving or denying the permit to build a pipeline based on whether it is in our national interest. According to your Administration's research as referenced above, it is not.

Therefore, we urge you to reject the proposed Keystone Pipeline and instead commit our nation to leading the global clean energy revolution. As you have said, we must not cede this leadership to other nations. Let this moment be a turning point in American history, when we reject the polluting and dangerous energy sources of the past and move decisively toward a bright and prosperous future. Let this be your lasting legacy.

We pray for you as you make your decision and ask that you consider our children's future, our climate, and all of God's Creation.

In good faith,

The Rev. Canon Sally G. Bingham, Interfaith Power & Light

A Campaign of The Regeneration Project

The Rev. Dr. Joel Hunter, Northland Church, Orlando, FL
The Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA
The Rev. Richard Cizik, New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good
Dr. Sayyid Syeed, Islamic Society of North America
The Rev. Fletcher Harper, Green Faith
Rabbi Moti Rieber, Lawrence Jewish Community Congregation, Lawrence, KS
The Rt. Rev. Frank Brookhart, Bishop of MT
The Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus, Bishop of CA
The Rev. Francis Hall Kieschnick, Palo Alto, CA
The Rev. Dr. Franklin Vilas, Hackettstown, NJ
The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Grace Church, Amherst, MA
The Rev. Pamela Abbey, Pittsburg United Methodist Church, Pittsburg, CA
The Rev. Nancy Allison, Holy Covenant United Church of Christ, Charlotte, NC
The Rev. John Auer, Fresno Wesley, Fresno, CA
The Rev. Doug Bland, Disciples of Christ, Tempe, AZ
The Rev. Dr. Bob Brizendine, Hillsborough Presbyterian Church, Hillsborough, NC
The Rev. John Chamberlin, Hayward First United Methodist Church, Hayward, CA
The Rev. Elizabeth Colton, St. Paul Congregational, Oskaloosa, IA
Rev Brian Cope, Congregational Church of Algonquin, Algonquin IL
The Rev. Linda Cutts, San Francisco Zen Center, Green Gulch Zen Center, Muir Beach, CA
The Rev. Craig Foster, St. John's Episcopal Church, Columbus, OH
Sister Eileen Gannon, Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, Sparkill, NY
The Rev. Richard Gilbert, Interfaith Impact of NYS Rochester, NY
The Rev. William Graves, Tacoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Tacoma, WA
The Rev. Deborah Hawkins, St. Elizabeth's South, San Francisco, CA
The Rev. Drew Henry, Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, Placitas, NM
Ruling Elder Janet Hubbell, North Como Presbyterian Church, Roseville, MN
Sister Loreta Jordan, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Hyattsville, MD
The Rev. Hilary Krivchenia, Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, Palatine, IL
The Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Kuan, Drew University Theological School, Madison, NJ
The Rev. Kara Markell, Lake Washington Christian Church, Kirkland, WA
The Rev. Mark Meeks, Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church, Denver, CO
The Rev. Kenneth W. Moore, Christian Church, Lincoln, NE
The Rev. Susan Mullin, Faith United Methodist Church, St. Anthony Village, MN
The Rev. Liane, Nichols St. Luke's, Cedar Falls, IA
Sister Joy Peterson, Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, Sinsinawa, WI
The Rev. Jason Reed, Wesley United Methodist, Naperville, IL
Rabbi Frederick Reeves, The Temple Atlanta, GA
Sister Gloria Rivera, IHM Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Detroit, MI
The Rev. R. Richard Roe, Ladera Community Church, Portola Valley, CA
The Rev. Joe Roos, Pastor Mennonite Church, USA
Rabbi Alexandria Shuval-Weiner, B'nai Jehudah, Overland Park, KS
The Rev. Jeffrey Spencer, Niles Discovery Church, Fremont, CA
The Rev. Susan Strouse, First United Lutheran Church, San Francisco, CA
The Rev. Jan Taddeo, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett, Lawrenceville, GA
Vicar Inge Williams, Luther Memorial Church, Seattle, WA
Elder Kate Wolfe-Jenson, North Presbyterian Church, Roseville, MN
Bishop Carroll Johnson, Maximum Life Church, Orlando, FL and Baltimore, MD
Chairman of the Local Spiritual Assembly, Anne Stanton, "Baha'is of East Lansing, MI
Co-Chair RSUCC, Marjorie Buscher, RSUCC, Williamsville, NY

Deacon Janet O'Mara, Christ Lutheran Church, Islip Terrace, NY
Pastor Jennifer Sanborn, Enfield American Baptist Church, Enfield, CT
Pastor Paul Metzloff, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Kingston, PA
The Rev. Izabella Hutzler, Memorial Christian Church, Ann Arbor, MI
The Rev. John Martin, Grace United Methodist Church, Winfield, KS
The Rev. Lucy Waechter Webb, Summit Church, Columbus, OH
The Rev. Mary Love, Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church, La Grange, KY
The Rev. Ruth Overdier, Bethany Lutheran Church, Traverse City, MI
Rev Dr. Richard Watson, St Andrew's, Bloomfield, CT
The Rev. Catherine Gammon, Green Gulch Farm Zen Center, Sausalito, CA
The Rev. Cricket Potter, Unitarian Universalist, Acton, MA
The Rev. Daniel Carlson, First Reformed Church of Schenectady, Schenectady, NY
The Rev. David Schlicher, Makawao Union Church, Makawao, HI
The Rev. Dennis Shock, Epworth United Methodist Church, Carmel, IN
The Rev. Gwin Pratt, St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Wayzata, MN
The Rev. Jim Healy, Wesley United Methodist Church, Fresno, CA
The Rev. Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings, Arizona Interfaith Power & Light, Tucson, AZ
The Rev. Nelson Bock, Colorado Interfaith Power and Light, Denver, CO
The Rev. Paul Burks, Marin Interfaith Council and EarthLight Magazine, San Rafael, CA
The Rev. Sharon VonBlohn, PA State contract chaplain, Milton, PA
The Rev. Sheri Hostetler, First Mennonite Church of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
The Rev. Stacey Gerhart, Calvary Episcopal Church, Sioux City, IA
Rev. Sister Terry Wasinger, Dominican Sisters of Peace, Pawnee Rock, KS
The Rev. Patricia Brennan, Follen Church, Jamaica Plain, MA
Seminarian Monica Whitaker, St. John's Episcopal Church, Berkeley, CA
Sister Alice McCoy, Sisters of St. Dominic, Jersey City, NJ
Sister Sheila Murphy, Diocesan Council of Religious, Justice & Peace Committee, Malone, NY
The Rev. Grace Burson, Church of the Holy Spirit, Plymouth, MA
The Rev. Dr. Myke Johnson, Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church, Portland, ME
The Rev. Craig Schaub, Parkway United Church of Christ, Winston Salem, NC
The Rev. Douglas Strong, Red River Unitarian Universalist Church, Sherman, TX
The Rev. R. Byron Breese, The United Church of Strafford, Strafford, VT
The Rt. Rev. Bishop Michael Vono, Bishop Rio Grande Episcopal Diocese, Albuquerque, NM
Sister Rose Marie Cecchini, Catholic Charities of Gallup Diocese, Gallup, NM
The Rev. Dr. Donna L. McNeil, Executive Director, New Mexico Conference of Churches
Sister Joan Brown, osf, Executive Director, New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light, NM
The Rev. Chester Topple, Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, NM
The Rev. Canon Raymond Raney, Rector, Church of the Holy Cross, Edgewood, NM
Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Minister, United Church of Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM
Sister Marlene Perrotte, Mercy Sister, Albuquerque, NM
Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Miller, Retired Disciples of Christ pastor, Albuquerque, NM
The Reverend David M. Cameron, Pastor, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, NM
Rev. Anita Amstutz, Albuquerque Mennonite Church, Albuquerque, NM
Rev. Lawrence G. Bernard, O.F.M., Pastor, San Diego Missions, Jemez Pueblo, NM
Rev. Sue Joiner, Assisting Clergy, St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, ABQ, NM
The Rev. Canon Daniel Webster, Baltimore, MD
The Rev. Josho Phelan, Chapel Hill Zen Center, Chapel Hill, NC
The Rev. Thomas Droppers, Episcopal Diocese of NC, Greensboro, NC
Rabbi Jen Feldman, Kehillah Synagogue, Chapel Hill, NC
The Rev. Tempe' Fussell, Sedgfield Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC

The Rev. Sally B. White, Unitarain Coastal Fellowship, Morehead City, NC
Sister Paula Gonzalez, Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
The Rev. Susan Guy, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Des Moines, IA
The Rev. Dr. George Clifford, Church of the Nativity, Raleigh, NC
The Rev. Steve Halsted, Community United Church of Christ, Raleigh, NC
The Rev. John Odom, Starmount Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC
Brother Dillon Culbreth, "Ashe Outreach Ministries, Clifton UMC", Creston, NC
Deacon Hugh Ashcraft, Park Rd. Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC
The Rev. Warren Pittman, All Saints Church, Greensboro, NC
The Rev. Christopher Webb, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Asheville, NC
The Rev. Seminarian Zachary Liibbe, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, OH
The Rev. Craig Foster, St. John's Episcopal Church, Columbus, OH
Da'e Eesaa Wood, The Islamic Center of Greensboro, Greensboro, NC
The Rev. Linda Voelker, St. John's Lutheran Church, Salisbury, NC
The Rev. Moksha Sharon Kolman, Sufi Ruhaniat International, Chapel Hill, NC
The Rev. Dr. Rick Jordan, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Winston – Salem, NC
The Rev. Dr. Kaye Crawford, Hillsborough United Church of Christ, Hillsborough, NC
The Rev. Lynn Michie, Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women, Asheville, NC
The Rev. Alexander McLean, First Presbyterian Church of Swannanoa, Swannanoa, NC
The Rev. Lou East, Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Greensboro, NC
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The Rev. Richard Edens, United Church of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
The Rev. Willaim Garrard, St. Lukes United Methodist Church, Hickory, NC
The Rev. Deacon Greg Erickson, St. Luke's Episcopal, Boone, NC
The Rev. Bruce Stahle, St. Luke's Episcopal, Asheville, N.C.
The Rev. Nancy Allison, Holy Covenant United Church of Christ, Charlotte, NC
The Rev. Cathy Tamsberg, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
The Rev. Joseph Mann, Duke Divinity School, Raleigh, NC
The Rev. Lisa Mullen, Konnoak Hills Moravian Church, High Point, NC
The Rev. Joe Hoffman, First Congregational UCC, Asheville, NC
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Rabbi Raachel Jurovics, Yavneh: A Jewish Renewal Community, Raleigh, NC
The Rev. Dr. Michael Frye, Grace Lutheran Church, Raleigh, NC
The Rev. Jane Silverman, Unity of Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
The Rev. Michelle Chappell, Central United Methodist Church, Charlotte, NC
The Rev. Jill Edens, United Church of Chapel Hill UCC, Chapel Hill, NC
The Rev. Dr. Robert Cook, Christ Episcopal Church, Walnut Cove, NC
Sister Alice McCoy, Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Jersey City, NJ
The Rev. Lyle McKee, St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Bloomington, IN
The Rev. Dr. Katharine Hinman, Decatur First United Methodist Church, Decatur, GA
Sister Genese Obiaga, Airport Church of Christ, Little Rock, AR
The Rev. Stephen Copley, United Methodist Church, Little Rock, AR
The Rev. Katie Preston, Presbyterian (USA), Richmond, VA
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The Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers, Mayflower Congregational Church, Oklahoma City, OK
The Rev. Andy Bell, United Methodist, Saint Petersburg, FL
The Rev. Nelson Bock, Lutheran (ELCA), Denver, CO
The Rev. Alexis Chase, Episcopal Church, Atlanta, GA
The Rev. Donna Martinson, Northeast United Methodist Church, Saint Paul, MN

The Rev. Dr. Clare Butterfield, Unitarian Universalist, Chicago, IL

The Rev. James Hobert, Sacred Heart Church, Tucson, AZ

The Rev. Janette Saavedra, Memorial United Methodist Church, Clovis, CA

Sister Mary Elizabeth Lawrence, Catholic, Scottsdale, AZ

The Rev. John Rosenberg, The Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd, Olympia, WA