



Stop DAPL 2023 Toolkit

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*****UPDATE: Comment deadline extended 30 days to December 13, 2023*****

→ **ADDITIONAL GUIDE/ TALKING POINTS:** [2023 DAPL EIS Public Comment Guide 4](#)

Background

The **Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL)** is a risky oil pipeline that threatens drinking water and was built without adequate environmental analysis or Tribal consultation. We currently have a critical opportunity to shut it down once and for all!

Between now and December 13th, the Army Corps of Engineers has a comment period. On November 1 & 2nd there are public hearings in Bismarck, ND. We need you to join us to Stand with Standing Rock again and call on the Biden Administration to shut down DAPL.

The Dakota Access Pipeline has been operating for several years but is still being contested by the Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribes. DAPL faced immense international opposition during construction, with tens of thousands of people joining in resistance on the ground. This new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was ordered by the Courts and is as a result of the Cheyenne River Tribe's continuing legal fight against the project.

In 2016, communities across the world protested in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) and the threat it posed to the Tribes' drinking water supply.

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In 2017, the Obama Administration correctly recognized the Corps' obligation to evaluate DAPL in an EIS before approval. Trump reversed course, ignored the law, and quickly pushed the project through before the courts were able to confirm that an EIS was required.

Just a couple years later, DAPL expanded capacity from 570,000 barrels/day (one of the biggest pipelines in North Dakota) to 1.1 million barrels per day (one of the biggest pipeline capacities in the whole country). In 2021, the D.C. Circuit Court affirmed the Corps violated environmental protection laws due to a lack of federal environmental review for DAPL, revoked the easement, and ordered the Corps to complete an EIS -- but fell short of stopping the flow of oil through the pipeline.

Throughout this fight water protectors have been resisting this risky pipeline and all of the harm that comes with it running through their communities. From destroying sacred sites, putting drinking water at risk, increasing the problem of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) that comes with fossil fuel project construction, and exacerbating climate change, DAPL has already caused real harm and should be shut down.

In September 2023, the Army Corps released a draft EIS with a comment period that we can take part in right now through December 13, 2023 (extended 30 days from original November 13th deadline).

Army Corps will also hold two public hearings in Bismarck, ND on November 1 and 2nd, 2023

- Where: The Radisson Hotel, 605 E Broadway Ave, Bismarck, ND 58501
- When: November 1 and 2, 2023, Public Meeting 6-9 p.m. CST
- How: Join a bus from Minnesota's Twin Cities (DONE/[RSVP](#))

This is an opportunity for us to raise the ongoing risks of the still-operating DAPL -- it is a threat to drinking water for millions of people when it spills, it was built without adequate Tribal consultation with the Standing Rock Sioux and the Cheyenne River Sioux, and this oil has a huge impact on the climate. This comment period ends November 13th, so the time is now to amplify our opposition to this risky project and shut it down once and for all!

Additional Resources:

- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe EIS public comment page: <https://standingrock.org/dapl-eis/>
 - [Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Rejects DAPL Environmental Impact Statement, Native News Online article from September 2023](#)
 - ['Furious' at Army Corps. Tribe Calls for Public Support to Shut Down Dakota Access Pipeline, Common Dreams article from September 2023](#)
- NDN Collective Public Comment Toolkit:
 - ☰ [DAPL EIS Public Comment Toolkit - PUBLIC](#)
- [Army Corps release on 2023 DEIS Public Comment Period](#)
- [Army Corps project page](#)

How to submit a public comment

Comments are due by 11:59pm EST on Wednesday, December 13

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****Please draft your own original comments based on the talking points below and other resources linked above. They can be short and heartfelt, but please do not just copy and paste language from this toolkit – duplicate comments will be counted by the Army Corps as a signal comment, so be sure to make it your own.***

Public comments can be sent to USACE by US Postal Service or Emailed with subject line: "Comments on the DAPL DEIS" to: NWO-DAPL-EIS@usace.army.mil or at the following address:

Attn: Brent Cossette

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CENWO-ODT-N

1616 Capitol Avenue

Omaha, NE 68102

For more information:

<https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Dam-and-Lake-Projects/Oil-and-Gas-Development/Dakota-Access-Pipeline/>

Again, comments are due by December 13, 2023

Talking Points

- **Key Ask: President Biden must shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL).**
 - **Army Corps must restart the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and consider the risks of climate, environmental justice and oil spills, and ultimately deny the permit.**
 - The DEIS is fundamentally flawed. Its findings should be immediately invalidated and the Army Corps should prepare a new EIS that complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
 - The DEIS is the latest example of the Army Corps failing to evaluate DAPL's full scope of impacts. **The Army Corps should require the pipeline to be permanently decommissioned once and for all.**

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- DAPL is a nearly 1200 mile pipeline carrying 1.1 million barrels of crude oil per day extracted from the Bakken oil fields of North Dakota, with much of the crude oil destined for export.
- DAPL is one of the largest oil pipelines in the country with lifecycle emissions of 190.4 million tonnes of CO₂e each year. DAPL is 21 times the annual emissions of the Willow drilling project in Alaska and equivalent to the emissions from more than 42.4 million gas-powered cars or 51 coal-fired power plants.
- DAPL continuing to operate is a threat to drinking water for millions of people when it spills, 17 million people drink water from sources that are downstream of DAPL. A leak could quickly become a major environmental and public health catastrophe affecting huge swathes of the country. We need to shut it down before that happens!
- The Army Corps must acknowledge that DAPL is simply incompatible with the Biden Administration's climate reduction goals, and would lock us into decades of increased oil extraction and end-use burning. Transporting and burning all that oil has a major impact on global emissions impacting climate change.
- We know ditching fossil fuels and transitioning to clean, renewable energy alternatives cannot wait – shutting down DAPL is an important step in the fight for a just and sustainable future.
- DAPL was built without meaningful Tribal consultation with the Standing Rock Sioux and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribes and to this day there has not been a “full and fair discussion of impacts” with the Tribes. That must include sharing with Tribal leadership the unredacted emergency and facility response plans for the pipeline. To date, the Army Corps has refused to provide this critical information.
- DAPL jeopardizes Tribal hunting and fishing and water rights that are protected by the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty. An oil spill would put at risk treaty protected waters in addition to jeopardizing public health, drinking water access, and safety.
- This EIS was prepared by Big Oil -- a company that is a member of the American Petroleum Institute, Environmental Resources Management (ERM), was brought in by the Corps to produce the draft EIS. This is a clear conflict of interest leading to a biased result.

Key Accounts to tag

President Biden: @POTUS

US Army Corps of Engineers: @USACEHQ @omahausace

Hashtags

Main hashtag: #NoDAPL



Additional hashtags:

#ShutDownDAPL

#MniWiconi

#Waterislife

#PeoplevsFossilFuels

#EndFossilFuels

#NoFalseSolutions

#ConsultationIsNotConsent

Social Posts: Sample Text, Graphics, & Video

[Download file here](#)

Stop Dakota Access Pipeline

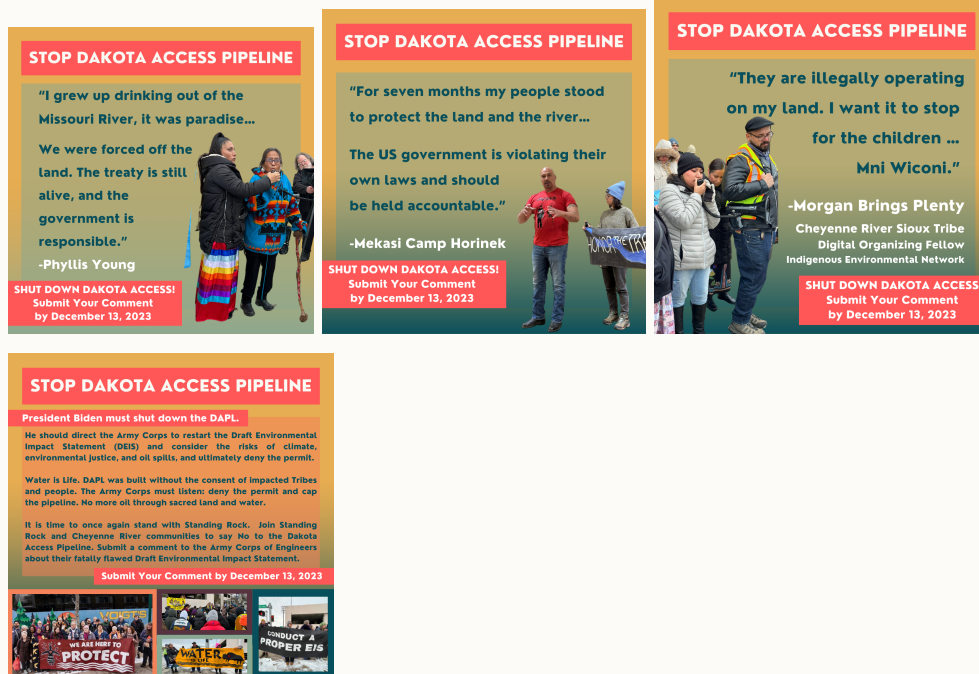
From the Frontlines
Help #ShutDownDapl by
Sending Public Comment to USACE
NW0-DAPL-EIS@usace.army.mil
<https://tinyurl.com/2023-StopDAPL>
Public Comment Period **Deadline: November 13 2023**

#NoDAPL
#MniWiconi
#Waterislife
#peoplevsfossilfuels
#endfossilfuels
#NoFalseSolutions
#ConsultationIsNotConsent

[PLEASE CREDIT WHEN YOU SHARE: Artwork by Morgan BringsPlenty](#)

[Additional Social Graphics for instagram and twitter here.](#)

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Post #1

We have until December 13th to once again Stand with Standing Rock on call on @POTUS to say #NoDAPL once and for all. Comment here [Link to comment alert]

Post#2

Take action now to demand the Biden administration shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline: [LINK to comment alert]. We have the power together to end this risky project once and for all #NoDAPL #WaterIsLife

Post #3

A biased process looks like a member of the American Petroleum Institute doing the environmental analysis for an oil pipeline. Tell @USACEHQ to do better and shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline! #NoDAPL

Post #4

There are only X days left to tell the Biden administration to Shut Down DAPL, join thousands of others here. #NoDAPL #ShutDownDAPL
#MniWiconi
#Waterislife

Post #5



The Dakota Access pipeline jeopardizes Tribal hunting and fishing and water rights. An oil spill would risk treaty protected waters drinking water for millions. Tell the Biden Admin #WaterIsLife today! #NoDAPL

Post #6

Ditching fossil fuels and transitioning to clean, renewable energy cannot wait – shutting down DAPL is an important step in the fight for a just and sustainable future. #NODAPL #ShutDownDAPL #MniWiconi

Sample Outreach Email to Generate comments

The Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and grassroots water protectors have led the resistance against the dirty Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) since the beginning. Now, thanks to their continued resistance and leadership, thousands of us have a chance to go on the record with our support and submit official public comments with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers against this dirty oil pipeline.

Following mass Indigenous-led protests and international outcries against the pipeline in 2016 and 2017, the Obama Administration correctly recognized the Corps' obligation to evaluate the project in an environmental impact statement (EIS) process before approval. Soon after taking office, the Trump Administration reversed course, ignored the law, and pushed the project forward.

Now, following a 2021 court order, the Army Corps is taking public comments on its recently released Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the pipeline -- providing us with an important opportunity to continue to Stand with Standing Rock and demand the shutdown of a pipeline that never should have been built to begin with.

Submit your official written comment to the Army Corps of Engineers and make sure you personalize it -- tell them why it's time to shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline once and for all!

Public Comment “virtual comment party” share pack

When: December 7, 2023 11am PT/ 12pm MT/ 1pm CT 2pm ET

Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/stopDAPL-comment-party>

Blurb:

PEOPLE VS FOSSIL FUELS

Join us Dec 7 2023 for a *comment writing party* to submit public comments against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL). Together we will give a brief overview of the movement for #NoDAPL and then go step by step on how you can submit your own. No experience necessary! All are welcome.

Background: The Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and grassroots water protectors have led the resistance against the dirty Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) since the beginning. Now, thanks to their continued resistance and leadership, thousands of us have a chance to go on the record with our support and submit official public comments with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers against this dirty oil pipeline.

Social media copy:

Join us Dec 7 2023 11am PT/ 2pm ET for a virtual *comment writing party* to submit public comments against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL)! Make your voice heard! Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/stopDAPL-comment-party>

#MniWiconi #EndFossilFuels

Dec 7th we will gather virtually to write public comments together against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL). Join us 11am PT/ 2pm for step by step guidance and solidarity!

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/stopDAPL-comment-party>

#MniWiconi #EndFossilFuels

Flyer: [Download here.](#)



Template Recruitment Email

Hi [First,Name]



The fight to protect our water from dirty pipelines is far from over! The Standing Rock Sioux, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and grassroots water protectors have led the resistance against the dirty Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) since the beginning. Now, thanks to their continued resistance and leadership, thousands of us have a chance to go on the record with our support and submit official public comments with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers against this dirty oil pipeline. **Since this is a federal review process, everyone's voice matters.**

[JOIN US For a "Public Comment Writing Party"](#)
[Dec 7 2023 11am PT/ 2pm ET](#)

[INSERT IMAGE]

Together we will hear from frontline leaders about the status of the fight, learn more about how to submit a public comment, and then have time to write and submit our own! Don't miss out!

[REGISTER HERE for the comment party!](#)

As frontline Indigenous leaders continue to show the way, we must remain steadfast in our support. No longer should water, health, and life be sacrificed for short term profits. The Biden administration must side with the people, not fossil fuel companies, and shut down DAPL and fossil fuel infrastructure once and for all. **The fossil-free future is here, if we fight for it.**

In solidarity,
Standing Rock and Cheyenne River Grassroots

P.S. Can't make it on the 7th? [Follow instructions here to submit a comment on your own.](#)