



Interfaith Power & Light

A Religious Response to Global Warming

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

May 21, 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

360 Pine Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94104

The Rev. Dr. Joel Hunter, Northland Church, Orlando, FL
The Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA
Dr. Sayyid Syeed, Islamic Society of North America
The Rt. Rev. Frank Brookhart, Bishop of Montana
The Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus, Bishop of California
The Rt. Rev. Bishop Michael Vono, Bishop of Rio Grande, Albuquerque, NM
Bishop Carroll Johnson, Maximum Life Church, Orlando, FL and Baltimore, MD
The Rev. Richard Cizik, New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good
Rabbi Moti Rieber, Lawrence Jewish Community Congregation, Lawrence, KS
Sister Rose Marie Cecchini, Catholic Charities of Gallup Diocese, Gallup, NM
The Rev. Kenneth W. Moore, Christian Church, Lincoln, NE

The Rev. Fletcher Harper, Green Faith
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, Tahoma 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. 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
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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
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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 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
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The Rev. Thomas Droppers, Episcopal Diocese of NC, Greensboro, NC
Rabbi Jen Feldman, Kehillah Synagogue, Chapel Hill, NC
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The Rev. Susan Guy, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Des Moines, IA
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The Rev. John Odom, Starmount Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC
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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
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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
The Rev. Richard Edens, United Church of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
The Rev. Willaim Garrard, St. Lukes United Methodist Church, Hickory, NC
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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
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
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Sister Genese Obiaga, Airport Church of Christ, Little Rock, AR
The Rev. Stephen Copley, United Methodist Church, Little Rock, AR
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The Rev. James Hobert, Sacred Heart Church, Tucson, AZ
The Rev. Janette Saavedra, Memorial United Methodist Church, Clovis, CA
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The Rev. Timothy Dean, McFarland Lutheran Church, Marshfield, WI
The Rev. Kevin Buchanan, First Presbyterian Church, Marshfield, WI
The Rev. David Rhoads, Lutherans Restoring Creation, Racine, WI
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The Rev. Susan Zencka, Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church, Stevens Point, WI
Pastor Ruth Hansen, Salem United Church of Christ, Wayne, WI
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Sister Janet Weyker, Eco-Justice Center, Racine, WI
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The Rev. John Kennedy, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Watertown, WI
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