



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

PO Box 288 • Niobrara NE 68760 • Phone: 402.857.3391 • Fax: 402.857.3736

September 6, 2016

Col. John W. Henderson
USACOE
1616 Capitol Ave #9000
Omaha, NE 68102

Re: The Army Corp of Engineers & Dakota Access Pipeline

Dear Colonel Henderson:

I am writing to you in reference to the recent decision in allowing the Dakota Access Pipeline easement through traditional territories of the Great Sioux Nation.

It troubles me that the Army Corp of Engineers diverted the original route north of Bismarck, North Dakota because of the citizens' concerns over the Dakota Access Pipeline contaminating their water, so the Corp decided to reroute the line to now endanger to water of the citizens of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. Although the USACOE made the statement "That's true they don't have the easement that's required to install the segment that's across the Oahe project," it is of great concern that Dakota Access Pipeline is still working as if the easement is in place.

Your actions go against the spirit of the agreements with Tribes such as: White House Memorandum, Government-to-Government Relations, 29 April 1994, CECW PLG 57, Indian Sovereignty and Government-to-Government Relations with Indian Tribes, 18 February 1998, and USACE Tribal Policy Principles, DA Pamphlet 200-4, Cultural Resources Management, Appendix G, Guidelines for Army Consultation with Native Americans, 30 October 1997, DOD American Indian and Alaska Native Policy, 20 October 1998, Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, 6 November 2000.

I am writing to you today, to let you know the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska opposes the route selected by the Dakota Access Pipeline and the Army Corp of Engineers to cross Lake Oahe and the Missouri River, disturbing many sacred indigenous sites and burial grounds which exist on land and protected by ancestral treaties between the tribe and the United States and contaminating our water.

Respectfully,

Larry Wright, Jr., Chairman
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska