



OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

December 6, 2016

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Honorable Board of Supervisors
Marin County Civic Center
San Rafael, CA 94903

Re: **Resolution expressing concern regarding the Dakota pipeline issue affecting the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North and South Dakota**

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION:

On behalf of Supervisors Kinsey and Sears, adopt attached resolution.

SUMMARY

Since 2014, a Texas company has proposed a new pipeline to transport approximately 500,000 barrels of crude oil daily from North Dakota to Illinois. The pipeline would connect oil wells in North Dakota's shale fields, where the development of fracking has opened billions of gallons of new oil to recovery, to other consumer markets, including the Gulf Coast, Midwest and East Coast. The pipeline would travel underneath the Missouri River, the primary drinking water source for the Standing Rock Sioux, a tribe of around 10,000 people on a reservation in the central part of North and South Dakota.

A number of interests have opposed the project based on environmental grounds, for fear that leaks could contaminate the water supply or that the pipeline will exacerbate climate change by building up the country's oil infrastructure. The Standing Rock Sioux also argue that the pipeline crosses sacred burial grounds. Protesters and tribal leaders have accused local and state officials of unnecessarily rough treatment and harassment of their right to protest.

On behalf of Supervisors Kinsey and Sears, it is recommended that your Board consider adopting the attached resolution expressing concern regarding the Dakota pipeline issue, that parties respect the right to peaceful protest, and to encourage efforts to relocate the path of the proposed pipeline to avoid sacred burial grounds of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe of Native Americans.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.

Submitted by:

Daniel Eilerman
Assistant County Administrator

Reviewed by:

Matthew H. Hymel
County Administrator