LABOR NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABILITY

MAKING A LIVING ON A LIVING PLANET



11/2016

News of how working people are fighting for a planet that is sustainable -- environmentally, economically, and socially. If you like what we are doing and want to connect, please sign up for our newsletter and other information on the Labor Network for Sustainability website (Sign up here!). You are welcome to repost anything in this newsletter - help us spread the word! - The Labor Network for Sustainability.

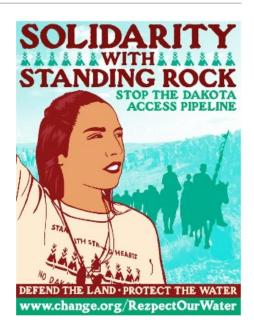


Labor Standing with Standing Rock

Demonstrating Solidarity

On November 10, in Oakland, CA union workers will demonstrate their solidarity with the Water Protectors at Standing Rock and call on the banks financing the Dakota Access Pipeline to pull their money out of the project. Their call:

As union members, we believe in the fundamental right of all workers to a safe and dignified livelihood. But we need not just jobs and paychecks, but clean air, water, and soil for ourselves and for our children's children. We believe that the costs of a just transition should be funded by billionaire banks, not by workers' wallets. We believe in a labor



movement that can lead with a vision of our skills being put to use repairing ecological damage, not causing it. We believe in a labor movement grounded in workers justice, climate justice and racial justice. We believe in the sovereignty, leadership, and traditional ecological knowledge of indigenous peoples. We stand with Standing Rock.

For more information: Visit Here

National NoDAPL Day of Action Planned for 11/15. The day of action will demand that the current administration as well as the next reject the pipeline. Standing Rock is at a pivotal moment as the permit for the completion of the pipeline can either be approved or denied by the Army Corps of Engineers in the coming weeks. A strong show of support is necessary to force the administration to ultimately reject the pipeline.

More on the day of action can be found Here

Solidarity with Standing Rock: New Union Statements

Since our last newsletter a month ago, many local, regional, and national unions have passed new resolutions and statements of support for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and their opposition to the Dakota Access pipeline that threatens their water and sacred sites. They include the Service Employees, the Communications Workers, the Alameda Labor Council, and locals of the American Federation of Teachers, the United Auto Workers, the Steelworkers, and others.

Read the statements and resolutions Here

Dollars and Tents

The Service Employees bought a tent that it is being delivered to the Standing Rock encampment. The Boston Bus Drivers union local 8751 of the Steelworkers voted unanimously to "send \$1,000 to the Red Warrior Camp at Standing Rock in the spirit of 'Solidarity Forever!."

Read their resolution Here

Donations for the fight against the Dakota Access pipeline can be sent to the Indigenous Environmental Network

<u>Listen</u> to New York State Nurses Association president Judy Gonzales with Standing Rock Sioux (<u>Pictures can be viewed here</u>)

Why a Native American Union Librarian Supports the Standing Rock Struggle

Bay area labor-climate group <u>Climate Workers</u> recently sat down with Melissa Stoner, Native American Studies librarian and member of UC-AFT 1747, AFL-CIO. In the interview, Stoner shares her experiences growing up on the Navajo Reservation, advocating for domestic violence survivors, falling in love with libraries, and wrestling with the contradictions of a labor movement divided on climate at a critical moment.

Stoner says: "The water protectors are not illegal occupiers. If anyone is an illegal occupier, it is the oil company and the law enforcement that choose to help them. The oil company is destroying land that is used for ceremonies, land that has sacred items buried beneath it that are much older and are of greater significance than what any pipeline has to offer."

Read the entire interview with Melissa in YES! Magazine

LABOR CONVERGENCE ON CLIMATE

In January 2016 LNS brought together 75 labor movement leaders and activists for the first Labor Convergence on Climate. (Click here) for more on the Convergence.



Here is a sampling of recent activities by Convergence supporters:

Labor Convergence on Climate: New Mission Statement

A link to the statement can be found on our website (<u>Here</u>)

People's Climate March, April 29th 2017

The Labor Convergence on Climate is organizing now for the People's Climate March, in

Washington DC with coordinated events around the country. From the People's Climate Movement Platform:

To achieve a transition to a New Energy and Economic Future, the People's Climate Movement is calling on our existing partners as well as other progressive, democratic organizations and leaders in government, the private sector, civil society, and academia to pursue the following strategies:

- 1. Directly and rapidly reduce greenhouse gas and toxic pollution to successfully combat climate change and improve public health.
- 2. Mandate a transition to an equitable and sustainable New Energy and Economic future that limits the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels.
- 3. Provide a Just Transition for communities and workers negatively impacted by the shift to a New Energy and Economic Future that includes targeted economic opportunity and provides stable income, health care, and education.
- 4. Demand that every job pays a wage of at least \$15 an hour, protects workers, and provides a good standard of living, pathways out of poverty, and a right to organize.
- 5. Ensure that in the New Energy and Economic Future, investments are targeted to create pathways for low-income people and people of color to access good jobs and improve the lives of communities of color, indigenous peoples, low-income people, small farmers, women, and workers.
- 6. Make bold investments in the resilience of states, cities, tribes, and communities that are threatened by climate change; including massive investments in infrastructure systems from water, transportation, and solid waste to the electrical grid and safe, green building that will also create millions of jobs in the public and private sector.
- 7. Reinvest in a domestic industrial base that drives towards an equitable and sustainable New Energy and Economic Future, and fight back against the corporate trade-induced global race to the bottom.
- 8. Work towards leaving fossil fuel reserves under the soil, as well as beneath the ocean floor, in order to prevent catastrophic levels of climate change.
- 9. Market and policy based mechanisms must protect human rights and critical, native ecosystems and address pollution at its source.

JUST TRANSITION

Clean Power Plan

Even though the EPA's Clean Power Plan is currently tied up in the courts, political struggles are going on state-by-state over CPPs at the state level. What do these struggles mean for jobs? For labor and its allies? How can we help shape state CPPs to be worker-



friendly while providing effective protection for the climate and the environment?

Find out in LNS's new publication:

"Jobs and Justice in State Clean Power Plans: A Toolkit for Communities, Workers, and Environmentalists."

Climate Insurgency - Download it for Free!

LNS's own Jeremy Brecher is publishing the updated 2016 edition of his book *Climate Insurgency: A Strategy for Survival* free on line.

The book lays out a strategy for protecting the earth's climate: a global nonviolent constitutional insurgency. Learn more about the book (<u>Here</u>). Its free for anyone to read, share, tweet, Facebook, reprint, repost, announce or circulate in any other way. Please help spread the word!

"A crisp, clear, and savvy synthesis of key concepts and ideas that will help the global climate justice movement to succeed. Brecher



outlines many feasible climate solutions that should give all of us hope, despite the odds."

-- Naomi Klein, author of This Changes Everything and The Shock Doctrine

"Deeply informed, and also wise, Jeremy Brecher lays out a persuasive strategy for a global popular insurgency that just might save the planet. Brecher knows a great deal about movements, so read this book, take heart, and join up!"

-- **Frances Fox Piven**, Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Sociology, City University of New York Graduate Center, and author of *Challenging Authority: How Ordinary People Change America*

"The finest pro-activist work I know, on the most crucial topic under the sun."

- **Patrick Bond,** Professor of Political Economy, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Read a new article based on the book called "Climate Emergency: Global Insurgency."



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