



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!



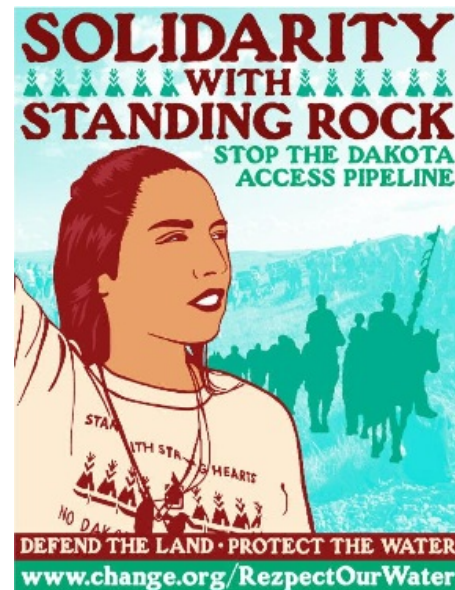
We need your support to accomplish the work ahead. Your individual contributions will provide LNS with the resources we need for bold, independent action that will be necessary to accomplish our goals.

[Donate](#) today to [Labor Network for Sustainability](#) and help us build a future that works for all of us.

Labor Standing with Standing Rock

The Labor Network for Sustainability would like to express our heartfelt congratulations to the Standing Rock Sioux. Yesterday the Army Corps of Engineers [decided not to grant an easement](#) that would allow the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) to cross under Lake Oahe in North Dakota. This is a landmark victory and is the result of brave resistance by the tribe, historic unity of the Lakota, Dakota, Nakota nations, effective organizing by the Indigenous Environmental Network and other allies, and an overpowering wave of international solidarity.

The battle of DAPL is far from over and with a new Presidential administration of climate denialists, acts of resistance like Standing Rock are likely to be the norm. But Standing Rock has lit a path forward for all who are concerned about saving life on our planet.



We would like to appreciate the thousands of members of the labor movement - international unions, locals and individual activists - that stood with Standing Rock both in person and with material and political support. The labor movement has an opportunity now for critical self-reflection and action. Our unions can help lead the way out of the divisive choice between jobs and our environment and into a Just Transition towards a sustainable, livable future. We invite you to join us in this effort.

Labor-Climate Movement Key to Defeating Trumpism



Well before the inauguration, Trump and his team are gearing up to carry out their assault on working people, Indigenous peoples, people of color, and the planet. Priorities listed in their hundred day plan include: removing roadblocks to dirty energy projects like Keystone XL, DAPL and other oil and gas pipelines; canceling payments to UN climate change programs; rolling back all of the recent pro-worker's rights National Labor Relations Board decisions; initiating the process to deport over two million immigrants; and imposing a hiring freeze on all federal employees.

Soon all branches of government will be controlled by the Republican right, drastically shifting the paradigm for change. The "inside game" is at an end for both climate and labor movements. For the foreseeable future, neither can win gains -- nor effectively resist attack -- through lobbying or political influence in Washington D.C. (there are gains to be won and power can be built at the local and state level)

But regardless of what Trump does, climate change is imposing a major transition on the global economy. Both the climate movement and the labor movement are focused on that transition. But unless we -- the working class, indigenous people and people of color -- are united in mobilizing to shape this transition, the results will be disastrous.

An effective challenge to Trumpism must understand the angst of working class communities of all colors and kinds that have been abandoned and rejected by liberal and conservative elites. We must organize those voices to demand not just radical change, but a just and sustainable future. And we must build alliances with other movements that will soon be under attack.

For insights:

Harold Myerson's "[Catastrophe: The Revolt of the Rust Belt](#)" analyzes the election of Trump as an act of "vengeance against an establishment that had left much of their economy in ruins. His "[Donald Trump can kill the American union](#)" warns that the election is "an extinction-level event for American labor."

While the President-elect dangles the promise of infrastructure jobs before American workers, Dave Johnson warns "[Trump's Infrastructure Plan is Really Just a Privatization Scam.](#)"

Labor Convergence on Climate



In January 2016 LNS brought together 75 labor movement leaders and activists for the first Labor Convergence on Climate. Planning is under way for the second Convergence, targeted for early summer 2016. ([Click here](#)) for more on the Convergence. Meanwhile, the Convergence is calling on labor climate activists to form Labor Climate Action Committees and Study Groups within and across their unions.

Some Recent Activities by Convergence Supporters

Philly victory: For over a year [Green Justice Philly](#) -- a coalition of over 25 environmental, community, and labor organizations -- has been pushing for the rejection of oil and gas development at Southport. The coalition effectively advocated for its position by building strong alliances with labor groups, [winning the support of nearly two dozen city and state elected officials](#), and holding rallies at monthly PRPA board meetings. Governor Tom Wolf and the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (PRPA) have just announced they will dedicate \$300 million to developing shipping capacity at the Port of Philadelphia and making green improvements to existing infrastructure at Southport, which represents a firm rejection of fossil fuel projects at the site.

[More information here](#)

AFT Resolution: A Just Transition to a Peaceful and Sustainable Economy: A powerful resolution from the American Federation of Teachers resolves that the AFT will take its place at the center of the climate justice movement; oppose the building of new fossil fuel infrastructure; support massive retooling of infrastructure to run on renewable energy; support significant reduction in the Pentagon budget; support legislation to enable a just transition for workers and communities in the fossil fuel and military industries; and support a fee on carbon pollution. The resolution passed at the Convention committee and awaits AFT Executive Council action.

[The full text can be found here.](#)

Workers Supporting Standing Rock

On November 10th, more than 300 workers from 25 unions and worker organizations, brought together by [Climate Workers](#), shut down Wells Fargo and Citibank in Oakland CA in solidarity with the Water Protectors at Standing Rock. The workers demanded that the banks stop funding the Dakota Access Pipeline.

[More information and video can be found here.](#)

In late November a multiracial national delegation of over 100 representatives from 20 movement organizations for social, economic, climate and environmental justice headed to Standing Rock in a show of solidarity for indigenous survival and sovereignty as leaders on the ground continue to protect the water and halt the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. This delegation, organized under the banner of "Honoring 524 Years of Resistance to Colonialism in Defense of Mother Earth," is a collaboration between the Climate Justice Alliance (CJA) and Grassroots Global Justice Alliance (GGJ).

[More information on the delegation can be found here.](#)

Donations for the fight against the Dakota Access pipeline can be sent to the Indigenous Environmental Network([IEN](#)).

Union Statements Supporting Standing Rock

Union resolutions in support of Standing Rock from the United Steelworkers, Graduate Employee's Organization, Alameda County Central Labor Council, and many more can be found [\(Here\)](#)

JUST TRANSITION

International Just Transition Center:

To deliver and build the social dialogue for a just transition, the International Trade Union Confederation and its partners have established a Just Transition Centre. The Centre will bring together and support unions, businesses, companies, communities and investors in social dialogue to develop plans, agreements, investments and policies for a fast and fair transition to zero carbon and zero poverty.

[More information on the Centre can be found here.](#)



A Just Transition for workers in Africa

Daphne Wysham interviews Nnimmo Bassey on workers and climate change.

[Video can be found here](#)

Toronto Labor-Climate "Greenprint"

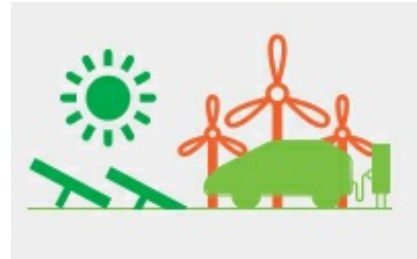
What does a labor climate action plan for an urban area look like? President John Cartwright of the Metro Toronto and York District Labour Council has just published "Greenprint for Greater Toronto: Working Together for Climate Action."

[Read the full report here](#)

And More...

["Oh, what those five feet can do":](#)

- Daphne Wysham, director of the Climate and Energy Program at the Center for Sustainable Economy, provides a report on the recent COP 22 international climate conference in Morocco, including the threat that global warming may result in five feet of sea level rise by 2050 -- and the move of Canberra, Australia toward 100 percent renewable electricity by 2020.



["There's a Right Way - and a Wrong Way - for Cities to Mitigate Climate Change"](#)

- Michelle Chen recounts the role of community-labor partnerships in New York's climate policy.

DONATE

STAY CONNECTED:

