



Six Nations "Iroquois" Confederacy  
GRAND RIVER COUNTRY



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## **Standing with Standing Rock to protect the waters**

OSWE:GO, GRAND RIVER TERRITORY: The Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs acknowledge and thank the Standing Rock Sioux for their support of Haudenosaunee rights infringements in our 2006 land struggles and stand with our allies to the south in their fight to protect the lands and waters against the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The Standing Rock Sioux Nation stand in opposition to the massive pipeline, that would transport crude oil from the Bakken oilfield in North Dakota through South Dakota, Iowa and into the State of Illinois, crossing four states. The Standing Rock Sioux Nation, and their supporters, are concerned with the loss of life giving water should a pipeline leak occur that could contaminate the Missouri River, that runs along their western boundary.

Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) director Hazel Hill says "the Haudnosaunee understand the struggle of the Standing Rock Sioux Nation in our own attempts to reach an engagement process with Enbridge Pipelines Inc., that runs two lines, Line 9 and 10, across Ontario Haudenosaunee treaty lands."

Calgary-based Enbridge, announced August 2, 2016, that it was spending \$1.5 billion, through its affiliate Enbridge Energy Partners, to acquire 27.6 per-cent indirect interest in the Bakken pipeline system that includes the Dakota Access Pipeline.

HCCC legal adviser Aaron Detlor explained "Enbridge has not obtained consent with respect to any of its Projects contemplated in Haudenosaunee areas of jurisdiction and the NEB should halt any of its proceedings until an engagement that upholds the honour of the Crown and the treaty relationship has been concluded."

Hill said the HCCC process is an all inclusive process. "Enbridge does not understand, when the H.C.C.C. engages with industry, developers, or pipelines, we have to look at the impact it has not only here, but upon other indigenous nations. Before we enter into an agreement here at Grand River, we have to know what impact, directly or indirectly, it may have on other indigenous nations, including how it could impact the Standing Rock Sioux Nation. The H.C.C.C. does not make these decisions in isolation, but looks at the broader scope and impact," she said.

She said "The Haudenosaunee have for thousands of years attempted to maintain responsibilities provided to us, however colonization and progress initiated by colonialism, over took many of our homelands to build their cities and countries, never once considering the impacts on the people or the environment. Today, as we look around and see almost all of our prophecies come to pass, where we have no land for our future generations, and we can't drink the waters from the rivers and streams, we no longer can stand and wait for 'the next generation' to do something."

She said because of those teachings, "Today, we stand in Solidarity with Standing Rock in a fight for our Mother Earth, for her healing and well being, and for the future generations of all Onkwehonweh."

Plans are underway to send a delegation of Haudenosaunee people to support the Standing Rock Sioux. "We are organizing now for a delegation to go. It may take a week or two to get underway," she said.

The Dakota Access Pipeline, is a controversial \$3.8 billion dollar megaproject in the United States. It has brought hundreds of activists, environmentalists, international human rights bodies who have joined the Standing Rock Sioux in their fight to prevent potential environmental damage the pipeline could bring.

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