

February 13, 2017

Rob Feckner, President, CalPERS Board of Administration
California Public Employees' Retirement System
P.O. Box 942701
Sacramento, CA 94229-2701

Dear Mr. Feckner:

CalPERS should divest from the Dakota Access Pipeline companies immediately. We are pleased that such a course of action is under active consideration by the board.

The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) has significant direct holdings in Energy Transfer Partners (ETP), Energy Transfer Equity (ETE), and Sunoco Logistics Partners (SXL), the companies building the fracked-oil Dakota Access Pipeline through the Standing Rock Sioux sacred lands in North Dakota.

In the process of construction to date, Energy Transfer Partners has already damaged numerous sacred sites and plans to drill under the Missouri River, the sole drinking water source of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. As expected, the incoming Trump administration is ramming this foolhardy project through.

AB 20, a bill introduced in the State Assembly by Assemblymember Ash Kalra, would require the fund's divestment from these companies by 2018. We urge a vote in support of AB 20 by the Investment Committee at its meeting on Monday, February 13th (agenda item 6b).

California has a clear responsibility to lead the nation in meeting the existential challenges climate change poses for all of our people, not least the Native American tribes aligned with the Standing Rock Sioux. As governments must act to keep carbon reserves in the ground, the risk of investment in fossil fuel production and transport is increasing along with global temperatures.

The elected representatives and public officials who oversee the fund—including California Governor Jerry Brown, California Treasurer John Chiang, and Controller Betty Yee— have a responsibility to the people of California, to CalPERS members and beneficiaries, and to all people to make ethical and responsible investments and to reduce risk. Divesting from DAPL serves both objectives.

We look forward to a decision by the CalPERS board to stand with Standing Rock and divest from the Trump-approved Dakota Access Pipeline.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned

RL Miller
President
Climate Hawks Vote

Deborah Silvey
Board Chair
Fossil Free California

Dallas Goldtooth
Keep it in the Ground Campaigner
Indigenous Environmental Network

Carter James
Organizer
Students for a Just and Stable Future

Debbie Mytels
Coordinator
Peninsula Interfaith Climate Action

Markos Moulitsas
Founder/Publisher
Daily Kos

Paul Paz y Miño
Associate Director
Amazon Watch

Eric Lerner
Climate and Health Director
Health Care Without Harm

Shirley Eglington
Facilitator
Cool Planet Working Group of
First Presbyterian Church Palo Alto

Daphne Wysham
Director, Climate Justice Program
Center for Sustainable Economy

Eric Lerner
Climate and Health Director
Health Care Without Harm

Mark Magana
President
GreenLatinos

Vanessa Green
Campaign Director
DivestInvest Individual

Chris Brown
Facilitator
Sacramento Climate Coalition

Dave Garcia
Executive Board Member
Chico 350.org

Fran Teplitz
Executive Co-Director
Green America

Adam Scow
California Director
Food & Water Watch

Jeff Conant
International Forests Program Director
Friends of the Earth

Michaela Mujica-Steiner
Director of Leadership Development
Earth Guardians

Lisa Anne Hamilton
Director, Climate & Energy
CIEL

Lydia Avila
Executive Director
Power Shift Network

Josh Nelson
Deputy Political Director
CREDO

Mary Gutierrez
Executive Director
Earth Action, Inc.

Chris Brown
Facilitator
Sacramento Climate Coalition

Garrett Blad
Executive Coordinator
SustainUS

Alan Weiner
Chapter Lead
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley

Steve Kretzmann
Executive Director
Oil Change International

Michelle Romero
Deputy Director
Green For All

Ross Hammond
US Campaigns Director
Stand.earth

Darcy Sweeney
Steering Committee Member
350 Sonoma

cc: Henry T. Jones, chair, Investment Committee
cc: John Chiang, State Treasurer, Investment Committee member
cc: Betty Yee, State Controller, Investment Committee member
cc: Marcie Frost, CalPERS Chief Executive Officer