

# Trump Authorizes Construction of Controversial Keystone XL and Dakota DAP Pipelines

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

Global Research, January 25, 2017

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Environment](#), [Oil and Energy](#)

*Authorizing construction of Keystone XL and Dakota Access Pipeline fulfills a campaign promise - to the chagrin of environmentalists and residents along the routes of both projects.*

Trump told reporters “(w)e are going to renegotiate some of the terms. We will build our own pipelines (and) pipes. We’re going to make the process much more simple for the oil companies and everybody else that wants to do business in the United States.”

On Monday, White House press secretary Sean Spicer said both projects will “increase jobs, increase economic growth, and tap into America’s energy supply more.”

Battle lines are drawn. Activists, environmental groups and Native Americans vowed to resist. Union bosses support both projects.

TransCanada, the company involved in Keystone XL construction earlier, withdrew its building request because of enormous opposition to the controversial project. It hasn’t so far yet reapplied for permission to build.

Late last year, the Army Corps of Engineers declined to authorize construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline beneath Lake Oahe - after months of protests by affected Standing Rock Sioux Tribe members and thousands of supporters - wanting sacred ancestral land and water protected.

Army Assistant Secretary for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy said “(a)lthough we have had continuing discussion and exchanges of new information with the Standing Rock Sioux and Dakota Access, it’s clear that there’s more work to do.”

Alternative routes for the project need to be explored, she explained. Trump’s authorization changes things. Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune called his decision “dangerous.”

“The Keystone pipeline was rejected because it was not in the country’s interest, and the environmental review of the Dakota Access Pipeline was ordered because of the threats it poses to the Standing Rock Sioux. Nothing has changed. These pipelines were a bad idea then and they’re a bad idea now,” he stressed.

Environmental group [350.org](#) co-founder Bill McKibben issued a statement, saying “(m)ore people sent comments against Dakota Access and Keystone XL to the government than any project in history.”

The world's climate scientists and its Nobel laureates explained over and over why it was unwise and immoral.

In one of his first actions as president, Donald Trump ignores all that in his eagerness to serve the oil industry. It's a dark day for reason, but we will continue the fight.

This is not a done deal. The last time around, TransCanada was so confident they literally mowed the strip where they planned to build the pipeline, before people power stopped them. People will mobilize again.

Jobs creation is a vital national priority – but not at the expense of ecosanity. Oil and gas pipelines have a deplorable history of causing major environmental damage to land, waterways and human health.

**Stephen Lendman** lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net).

*His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."*

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html>

Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com).

*Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network.*

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](#), Global Research, 2017

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Stephen Lendman](#)

### About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net). His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com). Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at

1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)