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September 20, 2016

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

indigenous@ohchr.org

Respectful Greetings Madame Special Rapporteur,

This letter is to confirm the invitation to you to visit the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in your capacity as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights. We greatly appreciate your interest in the situation we are facing as presented in the urgent actions we submitted to you and other UN Human Rights Mandate Holders jointly with the International Indian Treaty Council on August 18th and September 3rd, 2016.

As you know, these submissions documented the threats and ongoing violations of our human rights resulting from the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline - a project proposed to transport 570,000 barrels of oil per day and is adjacent to our reservation. The oil pipeline is proposed to cross the Missouri River or Lake Oahe, which is the Tribe's primary source of water, without our consent and without consultation with the Tribe. This construction is a \$3.8 billion dollar project being carried out by Energy Transfer Partners, with the support and permission of the US Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, several sacred sites and graves have already been destroyed and many more are threatened.

We were very appreciative of the opportunity to present you with updates yesterday, including the ongoing repression of Tribal members and supporters from over 300 US Native Nations who are peacefully protecting our human, environmental cultural and Treaty rights. As I expressed yesterday, our Tribe can no longer sacrifice our sacred water, our graves, our Mother Earth, and our future generations for the financial gain of private industry which has shown no regard for our rights or concerns.

Thank you for your interest in receiving additional information on this critical matter. We believe that for this reason it would be extremely important for you to visit our reservation and the construction area, speak to our youth and elders, and witness for yourself the urgent situation and threats we are

facing so that you are able to make informed recommendations to the United States about how to resolve this situation in a way that respects our rights as Indigenous Peoples. We are very grateful for your willingness to do so based on an invitation from the United States, along with this invitation from our Tribal government.

Please let us know the dates when this visit will be possible at your soonest convenience. We will make every effort to facilitate your visit. Please contact me at darchambaultii@standingrock.org or Steve Sitting Bear at ssittingbear@standingrock.org.

Respectfully,



Dave Archambault II

Chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe