Chairman Dave Archambault II  
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe  
Building 1 North Standing Rock Ave  
Fort Yates, ND 58530

September 17, 2016

Dear Chairman Archambault,

The Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE) and allied faculty, staff, and students stand in solidarity with you, the tribal citizens of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Oceti Sakowin and allies against the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. This pipeline, a project of the Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners, was approved by the Army Corps of Engineers without proper consultation, as is required by federal law. As such, we understand that it is not only in violation of treaty rights, federal law, and human rights but also an infringement of Articles 25, 28, 32, 38, and 40 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

We recognize that the Dakota Access pipeline poses an imminent threat to those living on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation and others who rely on the Missouri River. And that it will also disturb burial grounds and sacred sites on the Tribe’s ancestral Treaty lands. As such, the CCSRE and our allies stand with you, the tribal citizens of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and all the water protectors assembled at the Sacred Stone and Red Warrior Camps who are heroically holding the line to stop the pipeline construction. Your fight is a fight shared by other Native peoples struggling against destructive development projects that not only threaten Indigenous lifeways but also the well being of the earth and all of its inhabitants. Any threats to water are threats to life itself.

With respect,
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