February 8, 2017

Robert M. Speer

Acting Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0101

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am writing to you with great concern about the Army’s recent decision to grant an easement that will allow the Dakota Access Pipeline project to be completed.

Pipeline spills are not uncommon. This project threatens the drinking water of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and other communities downstream of the pipeline. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, as well as downriver Indigenous Peoples and other communities, have a right to clean water and a healthy environment. This project challenges Indigenous rights, cultural rights, treaty rights and other human rights recognized in international law. The pipeline traverses a sacred burial ground. Furthermore, the federal government has not adequately engaged the Standing Rock Sioux during the permitting process—a requirement under federal law.

I respectfully request that you reconsider the Army’s decision to grant this easement and cut short its environmental impact assessment and the public comment period associated with it.

This pipeline should not be completed.

Sincerely,