

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



February 2, 2017

Robert M. Speer
Acting Secretary of the Army
1500 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Acting Secretary Speer,

Amnesty International is deeply concerned by reports that you have ordered the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to grant an easement for the Lake Oahe crossing of the Dakota Access Pipeline and may try to stop the Corps' Environmental Impact Statement review process.

Amnesty International urges you to refrain from ordering the easement; to ensure that the Corps conducts the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review of the Lake Oahe crossing of the Dakota Access Pipeline, taking the serious concerns of Indigenous Peoples into account; and to seek the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe for construction of the pipeline regardless of the outcome of the EIS.

Under international human rights law, the U.S. government is obligated to respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and other Indigenous Peoples, including their access to water, a healthy environmental, cultural rights, land rights, Treaty rights and the right to meaningfully participate in decisions that may have a serious impact on their human rights.

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights. Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion, and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

Sincerely,

Margaret Huang
Executive Director
Amnesty International USA