FILE 17

Sacred lands

EXPLORE Fighting for legal protection

TB → p. 147 (doc 3)

DIFFÉRENCIATION

3

The Dakota Access Pipeline: What You Need to Know

How protests against an oil pipeline turned into a national fight for Indigenous rights.

For nearly a decade, the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) has sparked[1] national conversations about the dangers of fossil-fuel infrastructure to public safety and the unjust treatment of Indigenous Peoples in the United States. The controversy began escalating back in 2016, when DAPL received its first permits for construction. Soon after, large-scale[2], grassroots[3] protests spread the word that a proposed oil pipeline was threatening the water supply of the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in North Dakota. Activists quickly dubbed[4] DAPL the next Keystone XL, a different controversial pipeline project that environmentalists fought against for 11 years before the pipeline's owner finally killed the project in 2021. The widespread media coverage of the seven-month protest at Standing Rock—along with advocacy[5] efforts from high-profile celebrities, politicians, and social media campaigns—and the violent response from authorities kept DAPL in the spotlight even after the pipeline began operating in 2017.



▲ Indigenous water protectors lead a march against the Dakota Access Pipeline in Washington, D.C., on March 10, 2017

The fight over DAPL, however, is far from over. The pipeline has faced numerous legal challenges and still lacks a necessary easement and an adequate environmental impact statement (EIS) from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the federal agency that maintains infrastructure and regulates construction activity in certain U.S. waters.

Shelia Hu, *nrdc.org*, 2024

1. generated 2. huge 3. from citizens 4. nicknamed, designated 5. support, activism

WAY 1

1. Read the title and the introduction:

a. Guess what type of document it is and **tick** the correct answer.

This text is: ❑ an interview ❑ a piece of fiction ❑ an article

b. Choose the sentence that best sums up what the text is about:

❑ How the American justice system is used to crush Indigenous rights.
❑ Massive movements to protect Indigenous rights against an industrial project.
❑ The pipeline industry massively employing Native American people.

2. Read the text and **sum up** the controversy:

At the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in (state) ....., a controversial pipeline project named ..... started a huge controversy. Local Indigenous people complained that there were several risks such as .....
.....

3. Explain what happened in each of those years:

2016: DAPL .....
2017: The pipeline .....
2021: The Keystone XL Project .....

4. Tick the two reasons why this issue became a national debate and **justify** your choices with quotes from the text:

- ❑ the President publicly addressed the controversy
- ❑ people died in the protest
- ❑ the media talked a lot about it
- ❑ the pipeline project was moved in another state
- ❑ there were fights with local authorities

Quote 1: .....

Quote 2: .....

5. Sum up what you understood about the controversy:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

WAY 2

1. Observe the picture and the caption and **imagine** why people are protesting:

.....

2. Read the text and **say** what these names refer to:

DAPL: .....

Standing Rock Sioux reservation: .....

Keystone XL: .....

3. Name the categories of people who have taken part in the protest movement:

.....

.....

4.a. Find the quote from the text saying this issue will continue to raise concerns in the future:

.....

b. Explain why in your own words:

.....

.....

5. Say how this issue illustrates the debate opposing economic interests and environmental concerns.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....