

**Zent, Jeffrey L.**

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**From:** Zent, Jeffrey L.  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 18, 2016 12:04 PM  
**Subject:** DALRYMPLE STATEMENT REGARDING PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTEST ACTIVITIES



—State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
**Jack Dalrymple**  
*Governor*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 18, 2016

Contact: Jeff Zent or Jody Link  
701.328.2200

### **DALRYMPLE STATEMENT REGARDING PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTEST ACTIVITIES**

Gov. Jack Dalrymple today issued the following statement regarding recent pipeline protest activities and public safety:

“Public safety is paramount as we continue to closely monitor protest activities and coordinate our public safety efforts with law enforcement leaders and state agency directors.

Following reports of heavy pedestrian traffic and numerous vehicles parked along NID Highway 1806, we restricted travel six miles south of Mandan to local traffic and emergency response vehicles only. Alternate routes are available for through traffic. Additionally, we established a traffic control point at the intersection of NID Highway 6 and Morton County Road 138A to provide information regarding protest activities along the highway.

While we are concerned about some cases of unlawful activity, we are pleased that no one has been injured and it is our top priority to keep it that way.”

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**North Dakota**  
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## NEWS

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-MORE-

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**From:** Zent, Jeffrey L.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2016 5:38 PM  
**To:** 'alan.dohrmann@us.army.mil'  
**Subject:** DRAFT joint release for review

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Chairman Dave Archambault, Gov. Jack Dalrymple and Standing Rock member and encampment leader Virgil Taken Alive announced today that they stand united in disavowing the actions of a few protesters who were arrested Wednesday along Highway 6, near St. Anthony, N.D.

State and tribal leaders continue to emphasize the importance of public safety as well as citizens' right to protest in a peaceful and lawful manner.

Chairman Archambault quote

"We are all in agreement that demonstrations must be peaceful, lawful and pose no threat to public safety," Dalrymple said.

Zent, Jeffrey L.

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From: Fong, Cecily S.  
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 4:09 PM  
Subject: Clips

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## Stories:

### Court news sweeps protest camps

- [LAUREN DONOVAN and BLAIR EMERSON Bismarck Tribune](#) - 55 min ago

News that a federal judge will not issue an opinion on an injunction to prevent further construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline under the Missouri River until Sept. 9 has left some protesters still hopeful.

A camp of Native Americans from about 60 tribes spent the morning in ceremonial prayer, exhibiting subdued hopefulness that the day will bring victory to those opposed to construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline under the Missouri River. Instead, they are hearing that a federal judge wants to hear more about pipeline consultations conducted with tribal members prior to approvals.

Tribe emergency manager Johnelle Leingang carried a specialized cellphone booster so she could get news immediately upon the 1 p.m. hearing's conclusion.

As the protest occupation continues, the tribe is supplying its own water and emergency services since the state pulled assistance from the camp earlier this week.

A prayer circle at a sprawling campsite along the Cannon Ball River bottom called for peace and continued nonviolence.

Leingang said she is hoping for cool heads no matter the outcome.

Sioux spiritual leader Advil Looking Horse thanked the many tribes from all over the country and Canada that had joined Standing Rock at a primitive camp with smoking wood fires, a fresh breeze and cool nights and mornings.

"No matter what happens here today, we live you because we are one," Looking Horse told those gathered for prayer.

Meanwhile, at a Bismarck Tribune Editorial Board meeting Wednesday morning, Gov. Jack Dalrymple and Lt. Gov. Drew Wrigley said they were waiting patiently to see what would happen as a result of the federal ruling.

The state plan is to meet with leaders of the seven North Dakota tribes protesting the pipeline and determine a timeline to end the protest, which began in April. Dalrymple said they'd like to work with tribal leaders, as well as regain "full control of our state highway" and establish a safe zone around the construction area so work may continue.

"My hope is that these events can unfold in some sort of planned way," he said.

Among those who were awaiting news on whether the injunction would be granted was Standing Rock Sioux councilman Mike Faith.

"We only want a peaceful ending to this whole thing," said Faith, adding that four influential members were working with the 60 tribes and their people involved in the protest.

"They are working with the the tribes to keep order within the structure of the Seven Council Fires encampment. We are sitting on our aboriginal homelands now. The governor is pushing too hard for his self-interests," he said.

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## **No hard evidence connected to alleged vandalism**

- [JESSICA HOLDMAN Bismarck Tribune](#) - 16 hrs ago

The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services was unaware of any acts of vandalism to its water or air-conditioned trailers at the site of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's protest of the Dakota Access Pipeline when it pulled the resources.

Instead, it made the decision to remove them based on a single report of vandalism to private property, which may or may not be connected to protesters. The report of vandalism allegedly was to have occurred to a privately owned Quonset located on U.S. Army Corps of Engineer land just north of Cannon Ball. NDDDES spokeswoman Cecily Fong said Homeland Security Division Director and State Security Adviser Greg Wilz made the decision to take back the equipment sent to the protest site last week. The tribe had requested the supplies.

The Quonset owner reported damage to an ATV, stolen tools and windows busted out of equipment, according to Fong, who said the division was unaware of the date of the incident and would have to follow up with law enforcement for that information.

However, Morton County Sheriff's Department officials and North Dakota Highway Patrol said they were unaware of any reports of that nature; neither was Sioux County Sheriff Frank Landeis.

Fong said it is possible the private Quonset owner did not file an official report with police.

There was one report of vandalism on the Morton County Sheriff's Department daily report log on Aug. 21, but neither the department nor the Morton County State's Attorney's Office would release information on the incident, citing an open investigation in which there were no suspects.

The trailers were mistakenly placed on corps land rather than in Cannon Ball, according to Fong, who said the department opted not to move the trailers to Cannon Ball because there was fear they would sustain damage.

"We did not feel our assets were safe there out of our control," she said.

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## **Standing Rock Protestors Find New Resources After State Withdraws Support**



For nearly a week. Several state-owned trailers provided water, shelter, and a place to help those sick or hurt. Monday morning, news came that these resources would soon be gone.

"It was shocking, it was shocking. I didn't expect that,"

"It's a little different now because everything is going to be outdoors where we had the convenience of having everything indoors in case of the rain, weather wind. Resources got taken away from us quick but we got them back," says Joenelle Leingang

As fast as they disappeared, new support came in.

Standing Rock Paramedics erected a tent in which to treat people.

The tribes road department also pitched in, delivering a giant tank of water.

"They keep this full to fill our buffalo tanks with water. We have two, three more possibly coming in from the Cheyenne River who had donated theirs so water supply is going to be back on track again," says Leingang

(Ben Smith, KX News) Not all state-resources have gone. There is one ambulance that is still here, to provide a backup for standing rock paramedics,

"They left the ambulance as an extra resource for us. Because like I said, we still provide services to all the reservation so of course our number of ambulances is limited," says DeAnn Werre, Standing Rock Paramedic

She says it's not your typical day as a Standing Rock paramedic.

"We've been able to bring in extra staff to be able to provide services,"

"We've pulled together and got our resources together and are able to provide the same services for people,"

It seems to be the theme of the effort, pulling together under one cause.

It's very overwhelming, it's great, phone calls, where can I bring it to...

I just would like the public to see for themselves. There is nothing negative going on here at all,

She says for now, this area near the Cannonball river has become a second home.

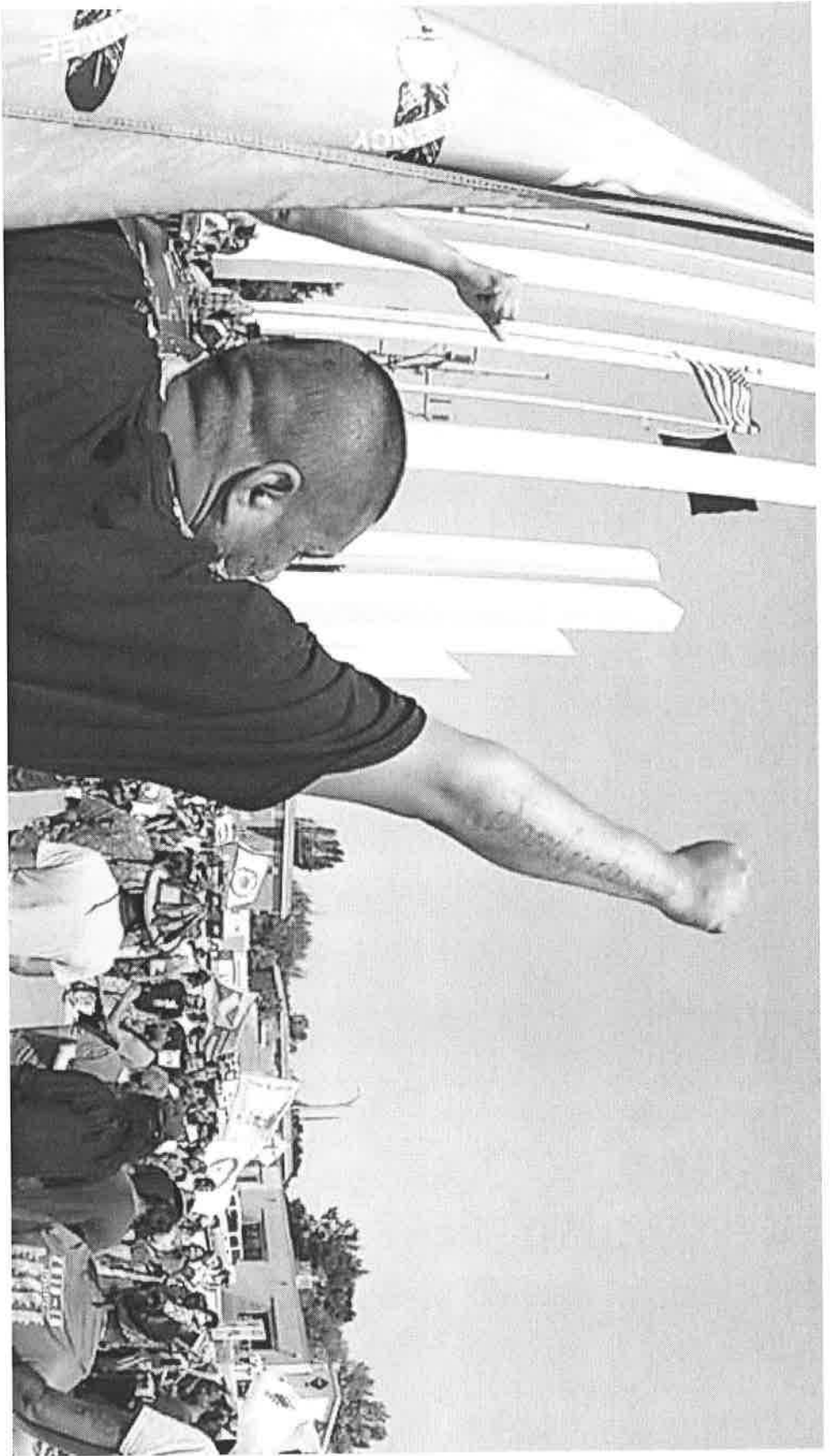
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## **Pipeline foes take fight to Bismarck, Washington D.C.**

By [Mike Nowatzki](#) on Aug 23, 2016 at 6:38 p.m.









BISMARCK – Waving the flags of their tribes and singing the songs of their ancestors, more than 200 protesters marched across a Missouri River bridge in Bismarck Tuesday ahead of a federal court hearing that will determine the fate of the Dakota Access oil pipeline’s route in North Dakota.

“This water belongs to all of us,” Vic Camp, a 41-year-old from South Dakota’s Pine Ridge Reservation, said as he rallied the crowd before the march. “We all know that tomorrow in Washington they’re going to make a decision that affects every single one of us.”

The march across the 2,370-foot-long Veterans Memorial Bridge aimed to show solidarity with the 2,000-some protesters encamped about 50 miles south on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, near the pipeline construction site along State Highway 1806 north of Cannon Ball.

Indeed, many marchers were from the campsite, including 25-year-old Kin-sin-ta Joseph and her 16-year-old sister Kis-dya:n-te' Joseph, who got help from a portable PA system so their river song would carry over the wind and traffic noise. The members of northern California's Hoopa Valley Tribe said their chairman urged members to assist Standing Rock, and about 25 made the trip.

While they've taken part in protests before, joining a blockade against logging companies just a few months ago, the older sister said it's never been this big, with so many tribes involved.

"This is really spectacular," she said. "We've been waiting for this kind of gathering."

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, represented by the environmental law group Earthjustice, sued the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers last month over permits issued for the nearly \$3.8 billion pipeline. It would cross the Missouri River a half-mile north of the reservation and be the largest oil pipeline from the Bakken oil fields, moving 450,000 barrels per day to Patoka, Ill.

Standing Rock members oppose the river crossing, fearing a pipeline leak would contaminate their water supply and other sacred sites.

Dakota Access LLC temporarily stopped construction at the site last week as protests ramped up, leading to 29 arrests for trespassing or disorderly conduct. But the protest hasn't impacted pipeline construction elsewhere along the four-state route, including in North Dakota, company spokeswoman Lisa Dillinger said via email.

"We have temporarily deferred grading activities across a short section of the right-of-way (less than 1 mile) while law enforcement works to contain the unlawful protests in light of the fact that we have the necessary permits and approvals to work at this site," she said.

A federal judge in Washington, D.C., will consider Wednesday the tribe's request for an injunction that would effectively halt construction of the 1,172-mile pipeline. A lawyer for the tribe said the judge has indicated he will rule from the bench or shortly after the hearing.

Film actress Shailene Woodley, who has been involved with the months-long pipeline protest, will headline a solidarity rally at 1 p.m. Wednesday outside the courthouse in Washington, and actress Susan Sarandon also will speak at the rally, according to a statement.

Protesters on Tuesday blocked traffic only briefly while crossing the street to get to the bridge's pedestrian walkway, and law enforcement reported no problems with the march. Dozens of passing drivers honked their horns in solidarity, though one yelled an expletive aimed at Native Americans.

Camp said protesters will refrain from violence if the judge's ruling doesn't go their way.

"The only way violence will happen is if the cops provoke it and they attack us," he told Forum News Service, adding, "We have our women and we have our children. We have grandparents here."

When asked what will happen if the judge denies the injunction and Dakota Access tries to resume construction, Camp said, "Then we'll start blockading."

"We'll do what we can with our bodies to keep the machines from coming in," he said.

Four labor unions sent Gov. Jack Dalrymple a letter strongly encouraging him to use the power of his office to keep workers safe and ensure protesters are "following the letter of the law."

The general presidents of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), and United Association (UA), said the actions of protesters endanger not only themselves but construction workers and equipment, as well as local law enforcement who've bolstered their local presence.

They said the pipeline has created about 4,000 construction jobs in North Dakota along 346 miles of pipeline.

"While they may have a right to protest, we also have a right to do our jobs in a safe environment," they said.

Protesters, insisting their actions are peaceful, appealed to the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and churches to send observers to the site. They also continued to rail against what they contend is an unnecessarily heavy law enforcement presence, including a checkpoint about six miles south of Mandan that restricts southbound traffic on Highway 1806 to emergency response vehicles and local traffic such as farmers, ranchers and homeowners.

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## **Emergency services recalled from Dakota Access Pipeline protest site**

By *Max Grossfeld* | Posted: Tue 4:19 PM, Aug 23, 2016 | Updated: Tue 6:24 PM, Aug 23, 2016 – VIDEO: <http://www.kfvtv.com/content/news/Emergency-services-recalled-from-Dakota-Access-Pipeline-protest-site-391084381.html>

**BISMARCK, N.D.** - Demonstrators protesting construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline had been using state resources at their camp until Monday, when the Department of Emergency Services decided to recall them.

Those resources included a mobile command trailer, a medical aid trailer and a water trailer.

A DES official says Tribal Emergency Management requested the resources, which were supposed to be used on tribal land. He says the services brought the trailers back when he heard the trailers were located on land owned by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Reports of unlawful behavior, he says, also influenced his decision.

"This isn't a flood, a fire, an ice storm. This is an event that originally needed some support for the responders dealing with it and at this stage in the game, the event's not an emergency," says Greg Wilz, Homeland Security Division director.

Wilz says all the equipment is back in Bismarck and ready to use in case of emergency.

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## **Grand Forks County sheriff sending deputies to protest site**

By [Herald Staff Report](#) Today at 9:55 a.m.



The Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office is sending deputies to Morton County to help its sheriff deal with a growing pipeline protest that has attracted thousands of activists from across the country.

The Morton County Sheriff's Office has requested assistance from departments statewide to come to the protest near Cannon Ball, N.D., according to a news release from Grand Forks County Sheriff Bob Rost. He will send two deputies at a time for one-week rotations at the site south of Bismarck.

Between 2,000 and 4,000 people are estimated to have joined demonstrations by members of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline, which would run just north of the tribe's reservation. The size of the protest has concerned state officials, who say it poses a threat to public safety.

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## **U.S. Marshals Service Provides Extra Security at Federal Courthouse**

By Tom Gerhardt | [tgerhardt@kxnet.com](mailto:tgerhardt@kxnet.com) - Published 08/24 2016 01:38PM - Updated 08/24 2016 01:41PM



Bismarck, ND

The U.S. Marshals Service is providing extra security at the federal courthouse in Bismarck.

U.S. Marshal Paul Ward says this incident response vehicle provides more work spaces for U.S. Marshals.

Ward says its there to provide security for the outside of the courthouse and those inside including local judges.

He says the extra security is in place for potential reaction to today's federal court ruling in Washington, D.C. and more.

A separate ruling on another related case will be made in Bismarck in early September.

Ward says he can't comment on how long the vehicle will be in place, how much extra security is on hand or any other specifics.

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## **Protesters, officers gird for pipeline ruling, but restarting construction may wait regardless**

By [Mike Nowatzki](#) Today at 1:25 p.m.

NEAR CANNON BALL, N.D.—Construction won't immediately restart on a \$3.8 billion pipeline if a judge rules against the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe after a court hearing Wednesday, Aug. 24.

Dakota Access LLC, which temporarily stopped construction last week amid growing tribal protests near the pipeline's planned crossing of the Missouri River, will wait for law enforcement to determine it's safe to resume construction, Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said Wednesday morning.

That call will depend on how protesters react to the ruling, if it's favorable to Dakota Access, Kirchmeier said.

"We've done everything we possibly could to make sure this stays safe," he said.

Law enforcement officers met with tribal leaders and protest organizers Wednesday morning and had a "positive dialogue," the sheriff said. There are 40 officers on site near the confluence of the Missouri and Cannonball rivers, which has drawn 2,000-some protesters camped nearby, many from tribes across the region and the country. Fargo police officers and deputies from Cass and Grand Forks counties are among the agencies assisting Morton County deputies.

Standing Rock members oppose the river crossing, fearing a pipeline leak would contaminate their water supply and other sacred sites. The tribe is represented by the environmental law group Earthjustice in the lawsuit against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over permits issued for the pipeline, which would cross the Missouri River a half-mile north of the reservation and be the largest oil pipeline from the Bakken oil fields, moving 450,000 barrels per day to Patoka, Ill.

Dakota Access temporarily stopped construction near the river crossing site as protests ramped up, leading to 29 arrests for trespassing or disorderly conduct.

A federal judge in Washington, D.C., will consider Wednesday the tribe's request for an injunction that would effectively halt construction of the 1,172-mile pipeline. A lawyer for the tribe said the judge has indicated he will rule from the bench or shortly after the hearing.

Vic Camp, a 41-year-old from South Dakota's Pine Ridge Reservation, said Tuesday that protesters will refrain from violence if the judge's ruling doesn't go their way.

"The only way violence will happen is if the cops provoke it and they attack us," he told Forum News Service, adding, "We have our women and we have our children. We have grandparents here."

When asked what will happen if the judge denies the injunction and Dakota Access tries to resume construction, Camp said, "Then we'll start blockading."

"We'll do what we can with our bodies to keep the machines from coming in," he said.

A checkpoint on State Highway 1806 about 6 miles south of Mandan has been restricting traffic to the protest area for days, but an additional blockade was added Wednesday. Due to concerns about the safety of protesters who may march from the campsites to the construction site, authorities set up a second checkpoint farther south near Fort Rice and were preventing any vehicles from passing through.

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## **Irony: Dakota Access Pipeline Is Permitted While Protest Against It Is Not**

1 day ago | by [Rob Port](#)



The entrance to the sprawling campgrounds for an estimated 2,000-plus Dakota Access Pipeline protesters is seen here Monday, Aug. 22, 2016, at the site north of Cannon Ball, N.D. Photo by Mike Nowatzki / Forum News Service

The Standing Rock Sioux tribe is being represented by an extremist, anti-oil group called Earthjustice in a lawsuit against the Dakota Access Pipeline. There is a federal court hearing in Washington D.C. this week about the lawsuit. I'm sure that the Earthjustice lawyers will blow a great deal of smoke over any indication that Energy Transfer Partners (which owns DAPL) and/or the regulators who approved the pipeline skirted any of the reams of laws and regulations which govern such projects.

As well they should. After all, the law is the law.

So there is no small amount of irony, then, in the fact that the now thousands-strong protest against the pipeline here in rural North Dakota organized by the Standing Rock tribe and the various groups it has allied with is not, itself, strictly legal.

According to this report from Mike Nowatzki, the protesters seem to be trespassing:

In an interview with conservative talk show host Scott Hennen, Dalrymple noted the campsite sits on land owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, whose approval of the pipeline's river crossings led to the tribe filing a federal lawsuit to stop it. A judge will consider the tribe's request for a temporary injunction during a hearing Wednesday in Washington, D.C.

Dalrymple spokesman Jeff Zent said the governor spoke Monday morning with Jo-Ellen Darcy, who supervises the corps as the assistant secretary of the Army for civil works, discussing the fact the campsite is on corps land and that protesters don't have a permit.

While Zent said the governor requested no specific action by the corps, Dalrymple told Hennen, "I think they have to step up and take some responsibility, as well."

Corps spokeswoman Eileen Williamson said the agency is just monitoring the situation and has no action planned.

"At this point, there is not a permit, but it is my understanding they are requesting a permit," which will undergo a review for issues such as environmental impact, health and safety, she said.

Laws for thee, but not for me.

Again, I'm sure the expectation of the anti-oil activists protesting the pipeline is that Energy Transfer Partners, the federal government, the state government, and law enforcement strictly observe every law and regulation. But they apparently do not feel a need to obey the law themselves.

Meanwhile, despite claims by protest organizers that their activities are peaceful, we continue to get anecdotes illustrating that they are anything but. For instance, a pilot flying over the protest was blinded briefly when someone aimed a laser at his cockpit (protesters have claimed that the planes have been used to jam cellular signals).

A second pilot, thankfully, was able to avoid a laser strike:

...authorities announced they are investigating two incidents of laser strikes aimed at aircraft being used to observe the protest site.

A pilot reported a laser beam hitting him in the eye around 5:15 a.m. last Wednesday, causing him to be blinded temporarily, according to the Morton County Sheriff's Department.

A second incident occurred about 12:45 a.m. Sunday. In that case, the pilot said he was able to look away in time to avoid the laser, authorities said.

Aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft is a federal violation. Reports have been forwarded to the North Dakota Highway Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

And then there are these frightening statements from a recent arrival to the protest. In talking with Nowatzki about factions which have evolved in the protest movement — including a peaceful protest camp and a camp for the more belligerent-minded — this man seemed to condone life-threatening violence (emphasis mine):

"You have the pacifists and then you have the people who feel something should be done, and they're camped across the river from each other," said Jesse Stevens, 32, a member of Wisconsin's Menominee and Oneida tribes.

Stevens and two other men from Keshena, Wis., left Friday evening and arrived Sunday night, delayed by a broken water pump on his GMC Jimmy. While they set up camp on the “peaceful” side, Stevens said he felt like he should be across the river.

**“My point in coming out here was some kind of action, regardless of whether it’s life-threatening or not,” he said. “This is our land, our people.”**

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## **Bakken pipeline protests grow in North Dakota**



*Aerial photograph taken Saturday, Aug. 20, 2016 over protest camp on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota. Camp shown is called the Seven Councils Camp or the Overflow Camp. There is another much smaller camp that has been occupied since April and called the Camp of Sacred Stones. The people*

*who are in the camps are protesting construction of the Dakota Access pipeline. A spokeswoman for the protesters, community organizer Joye Braun, said there are more than 2,000 people living in the two camps. (Tom Stromme / Bismarck Tribune)*  
By Mike Nowatzki, Forum News Service - Aug 23, 2016 at 7:56 pm | [Print View](#)

BISMARCK, N.D. — Waving the flags of their tribes and singing the songs of their ancestors, more than 200 protesters marched Tuesday across a Missouri River bridge in Bismarck ahead of a federal court hearing that will determine the fate of the Dakota Access oil pipeline's route in North Dakota.

"This water belongs to all of us," Vic Camp, a 41-year-old from South Dakota's Pine Ridge Reservation, said as he rallied the crowd before the march. "We all know that tomorrow in Washington they're going to make a decision that affects every single one of us."

The march across the 2,370-foot-long Veterans Memorial Bridge aimed to show solidarity with the 2,000-some protesters encamped about 50 miles south on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, near the pipeline construction site along State Highway 1806 north of Cannon Ball, N.D.

Indeed, many marchers were from the campsite, including 25-year-old Kin-sin-ta Joseph and her 16-year-old sister Kis-dya:n-te' Joseph, who needed help from a portable PA system so their river song would carry over the wind and traffic noise.

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"This is really spectacular," she said. "We've been waiting for this kind of gathering."

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, represented by the environmental law group Earthjustice, sued the Army Corps of Engineers last month over permits issued for the nearly \$3.8 billion interstate pipeline. It would cross the Missouri River a half-mile north of the reservation and be the largest oil pipeline from the Bakken oil fields, moving 450,000 barrels per day across 18 counties in Iowa to Patoka, Ill.

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A federal judge in Washington, D.C., will consider Wednesday the tribe’s request for an injunction that would effectively halt construction of the 1,172-mile pipeline. An attorney for the tribe said the judge has indicated he will rule from the bench or shortly after the hearing.

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## **Protesters anxiously await federal court decision on the Dakota Access pipeline**

By [Max Grossfeld](#) | Posted: Wed 12:11 PM, Aug 24, 2016

Protesters at the camps set up north of Cannon Ball are anxiously awaiting a decision from a federal court in Washington, DC, over the fate of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is suing Dakota Access, saying the company and the Army Corps of Engineers failed to do due diligence. The tribe says the pipeline would irreparably damage their drinking water.

The company, however, points to safeguards it'll take in its assurances that the pipeline will be safe.

Behind me is the camp that demonstrators have been staying in since April.

In addition to this camp, demonstrators walked the memorial bridge in Bismarck yesterday, and in front of the Capitol last week. We'll have much more on this story as it develops throughout the day.

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## **Report says suspicious person may have been taking video of a Burleigh County Sheriff Deputy's house**

By [Max Grossfeld](#) | Posted: Wed 10:39 AM, Aug 24, 2016 | Updated: Wed 11:54 AM, Aug 24, 2016

**Bismarck, N.D.** - A Burleigh County Sheriff's Deputy tells the Mandan Police Department he saw someone possibly taking video outside his house.

The deputy, who lives in Mandan, says in a police report he saw a woman parked in the middle of the road, pointing a phone at his residence.

The report says he went to confront her, but before he could, she got in her car and drove away.

Officials say the woman was driving a white Dart.

Police say they've heard similar reports from other law enforcement officials in the area.

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## People concerned with Highway 1806 barricade ask Morton County Commissioners for answers

By [Megan Hahn](#) | Posted: Tue 9:43 PM, Aug 23, 2016 | Updated: Wed 8:07 AM, Aug 24, 2016 – VIDEO: <http://www.kfytv.com/content/news/People-concerned-with-Highway-1806-barricade-ask-Morton-County-Commissioners-for-answers-391112741.html>

**MANDAN, N.D.** - The Morton County Board of Commissioners heard public testimony regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline for nearly an hour at Tuesday's meeting.

All those who chose to speak during the hearing were in opposition of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

County Commissioners say the purpose of the meeting was to give people the chance to weigh-in on the matter in a peaceful manner.

About a dozen people addressed Morton County Commissioners in front of a packed room Tuesday. The recurring frustration for many: removal of barriers along Highway 1806, which restrict access to areas south of Mandan including Cannon Ball and Fort Yates.

"I didn't appreciate it when they put up that block. I have granddaughters and daughters that work at Fort Yates and live in Bismarck. It's humiliating and intimidating when the cops come up to your car and look in your car like we are doing something wrong," said a speaker who addressed the Commission.

"I am embarrassed for the law enforcement officers that I meet on the road, blocking people from seeing this protest," said a woman who addressed the Morton County Commission.

Highway 1806 was blocked up last Tuesday past the veteran's cemetery because of public safety concerns, according to the Morton County Sheriff's department. Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier didn't speak at Tuesday's meeting.

While many spoke out against the traffic interception point, the Board of Commissioners deferred all questions regarding the barricade to law enforcement. The County Commission says they do not have the authority to remove the barricade.

"We thought it was very important to allow these individuals who are protesting to have a voice in a public forum. I think that's very important. As it relates to the traffic control point itself, that is a question that I'll have to refer back to county sheriff, our incident commander Kyle Kirchnermeier," said Chairman Cody Schulz, Morton County Board of Commissioners.

Many of those present say they want answers from government officials.

"I don't want any part of it. I don't think that's right. And it's not fair. And that blockade, that should not be there. That's all I have to say," said another speaker.

The Board of Commissioners says they're working toward creating an open and peaceful dialogue with protesters.

Those who spoke against the blockade say not only does it affect commuters driving to work, but it's reduced business for local shops and reduced access to recreation areas.

Both the North Dakota Highway Patrol and North Dakota Department of Transportation have the authority under North Dakota Century Code to close a highway. This decision to temporarily close Highway 1806 was made by DOT and HP August 17.

To view this information as part of the ND Century Code, visit the links attached to this article.

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## **DAPL Protesters Solicit Commissioner's Support at Meeting Tuesday**

Published 08/23 2016 11:01PM - VIDEO: <http://www.clipsyndicate.com/video/play/6525256>

There were about seven issues on the agenda at Tuesday's Morton County Commission meeting.

"The truth is there is a state of emergency in North Dakota. There is a state of emergency in the world. The state of emergency is the building of the Dakota Access Pipeline," cries Layla Johnson, DAPL protestor.

One issue seemed to get the most attention.

"We thought it was a very important to allow these individuals who are protesting to have a voice in a public forum," says Chairman Cody Shultz, Morton County Commission.

DAPL protesters or water defenders as some call themselves were given the opportunity to respond to the governor's declaration Friday and make clear their position.

Some said they now fear for their lives against police.

"It feels unsafe to be around here. It scares me because I have a daughter," says another protester who spoke during public comment as well.

Protesters made it clear Tuesday evening that they were living and protesting peacefully on the grounds near Cannonball and Standing Rock, despite reports of pipe bombs and lasers.

The issue mentioned several times over by opposers was a barricade that was placed on Highway 1806 and Morton County Road 138A that blocks forcing southbound motorists to take a detour. Tactics that reminded some of tensions from years ago.

"When I was born 80 years ago, I was forbidden by this government and it's churches that work with them to practice our own traditional way of life," Clyde Bellecourt, national activist.

He says the building of the pipeline near Standing Rock is another example of the violation of their rights.

Though mostly peace has come out of the protests, Chairman Shultz says the county is worried for public safety at this point.

"Even if 95-percent or 98-percent of the individuals there are doing things in a peaceful and non-violent fashion that still at 2-thousand people that leaves a large or fairly significant number that may not be doing this peacefully," he says.

As the fight continues, protesters are asking commissioners to come visit the protest sites near Standing Rock themselves to see the peaceful village that has formed. As of now we don't know that any of them have done so yet.

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## **Dakota Access Pipeline protesters march across Memorial Bridge, release sacred tobacco into Missouri River**

By [Max Grossfeld](#) | Posted: Tue 5:12 PM, Aug 23, 2016 | Updated: Tue 10:13 PM, Aug 23, 2016 – VIDEO: <http://www.kfyr.tv/content/news/Dakota-Access-Pipeline-protesters-march-across-Memorial-Bridge-release-sacred-tobacco-into-Missouri-River-391091081.html>

**BISMARCK, N.D.** - The Sacred Stone Camp near Cannon Ball has acted as a base of operations for those demonstrating against the Dakota Access Pipeline since April. But few people pass by the camp that aren't involved in the demonstration.

Tuesday, demonstrators marched on Memorial Bridge in Bismarck to gain some visibility.

As protesters cheered and chanted, hundreds of cars passed by, which was exactly the point.

"We needed people to see us, to hear us, to know that we are here and that we're upset," says Mykennah Lott, Wind River Reservation.

"We need to bring more awareness to what is happening and, you know, we're only here for a few days, and if we can help in that, we certainly will," says Loreal Black Shawl, Northern Arapaho.

Hundreds of protesters are making their way across the Memorial Bridge, to say a prayer at the middle and release some sacred tobacco into the Missouri River, which they say will bless everyone downstream.

"That prayer is not just for us and for the Sacred Stone Camp and for Standing Rock Sioux Nation, it's also a sincere prayer for all those downstream, for all the communities that are going to be affected by this pipeline, affected by oil and gas development," says Dallas Goldtooth, Keep It In The Ground campaign organizer.

Goldtooth says when people see demonstrators, he hopes it'll get them talking.

"This is the climate movement. It's just you and us and having good conversations here in this space, taking that home and having good conversation at the dinner table about what we can do individually to make this world a better place," says Goldtooth.

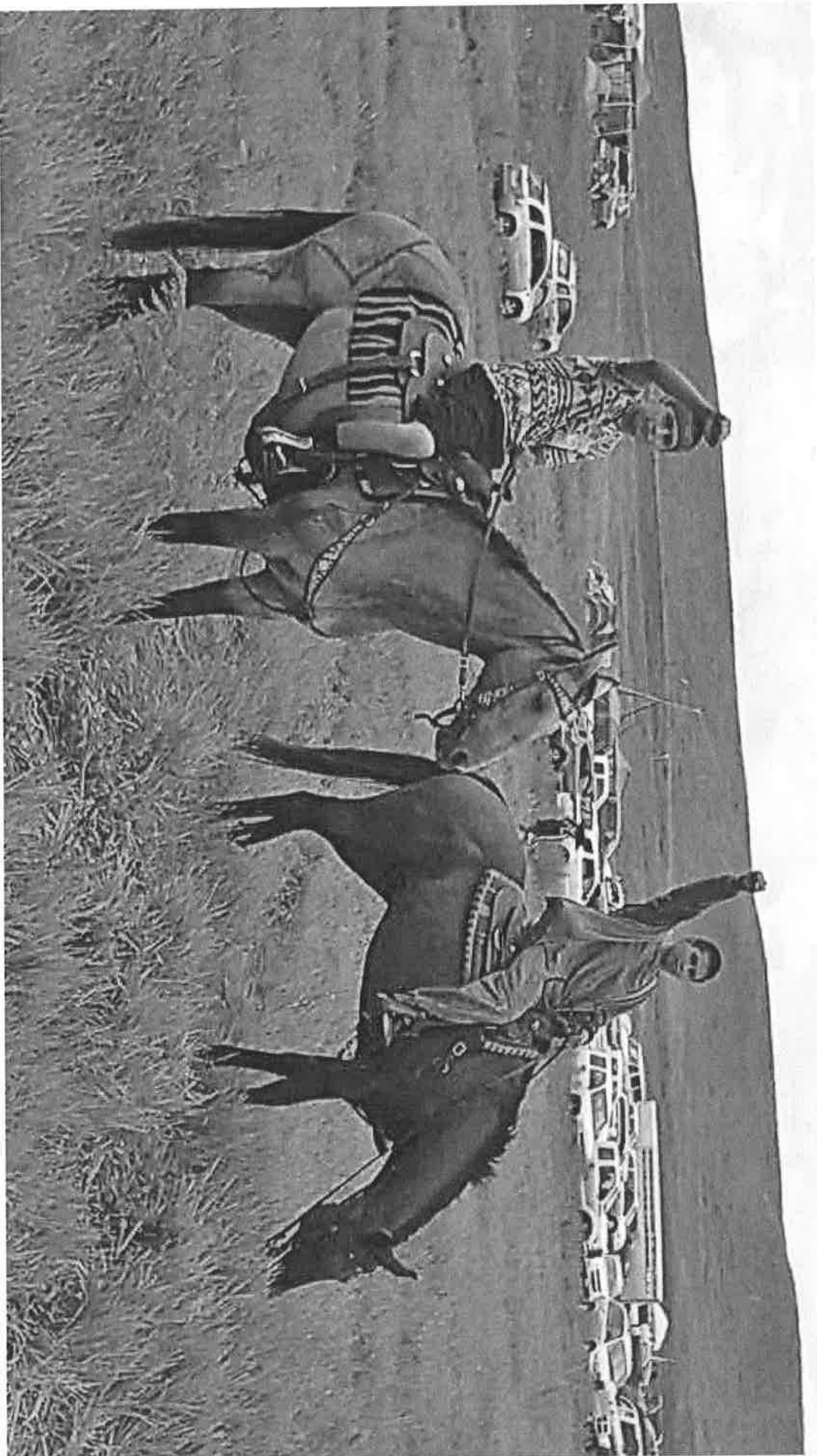
Protesters briefly stopped traffic, but did so with the help of police so they could safely cross the road.

This is the second time protesters have demonstrated in Bismarck. The first happened at the south entrance of the capitol last week. Both events happened without incident.

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## **WE'VE ALWAYS "OCCUPIED THE PRARIE" AND WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE**

BY [ELDERS AND LEADERS - SACRED STONES CAMP](#) / [CURRENTS, OPINION](#) / 24 AUG 2016



Young Protectors of the Water, Standing Rock PHOTO: John Clark-Dvorak

GUEST COMMENTARY

*Stand with Standing Rock and Stop the Billionaire's Water Grab*

*Published August 24, 2016*

In Occupying the Prairie: Tensions Rise as Tribes Move to Block a Pipeline by Jack Healy, New York Times, Aug. 23, 2016 we see and hear about Indians in paint on horseback, in "procession" out of their "tepee-dotted camp." Who writes like that?

While the almost 500 Nations of our indigenous brothers and sisters (over 80 are represented in the Sacred Stones Camp) are proud of the heritage of our peoples, it's important to keep the focus on today and why we are here. This is our land, as defined in our times as the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, a Sovereign Nation.

In fact, what we call the United States is really comprised of Nations, it is a "united" Nations, of relationships formed by diplomacy.

The Greater Sioux Nations predated the United States, so as the newly minted USA acquired more territory, agreements were sought in many cases with the existing nations of the Plains and elsewhere. One such Treaty, the Treaty of Fort Laramie (1851), matters now. The Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 was signed on September 17, 1851 between United States treaty commissioners and representatives of the Cheyenne, Sioux, Arapaho, Crow, Assiniboine, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara nations.

The Indigenous Nations guaranteed safe passage for settlers on the Oregon Trail and allowed roads and forts to be built. It was an international deal, and remains so.

What Jack Healy misses in his over-romanticized and over-sensationalized perspective is basic journalism: What's really going on. His is the version Wall Street wants to hear, cowboys (Energy Transfer Partners) vs. Indians in face paint. Once we had images in advertisements of the "Crying Indian." No More.

According to Hollywood, every story needs a conflict. And calling this a "conflict" plays into the hands and the wallets of those who would like to profit from the energy game at other people's expense.

Healy does a disservice to both the Native Nations of the Americas and the Pacific, as represented in United Nations appeal by The International Indian Treaty Council and to the investors and companies in the energy field who rely on good practices in the field to make a profit. Good practices seem hard to come by in North Dakota right now.

So it's right on all counts to provide basic information from the leadership of Sacred Stones Camp in helping all parties understand what is at stake, become more educated, and raise the level of conversation about the environment that sustains us — including our water supply.

Sacred Stones Camp was begun by women, as a prayer. It is our prayer that the waters of the homelands of the Standing Rock Tribe and all the peoples of the Oceti Sakowin, the Seven Council Fires, or "Greater Sioux Nation," remain pure. That includes the Missouri River and it's tributaries, flowing into the Mississippi in the greatest river system within the continental boundaries of the United States.



With over 200 river crossings the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline puts the drinking water supply of a large part of the country at risk. Our prayer is to keep the waters pure for all tribal peoples and all Americans.

We pray for the waters used by farmers in Iowa and Illinois, the water consumed by schoolchildren in South Dakota, Missouri, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

Millions of Americans get their drinking water from this system.

*WE ARE PROTECTORS NOT PROTESTERS. OUR CAMP IS A PRAYER, FOR OUR CHILDREN, OUR ELDERS AND ANCESTORS, AND FOR THE CREATURES, AND THE LAND AND HABITAT THEY DEPEND ON, WHO CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.*

We wish the Army Corps had done their job in protecting federally administered lands, unceded Indian lands, and Tribal lands, relying on science and judgement in protecting Indian culture from construction. Whether by intention or omission, the Army Corps broke federal laws, and didn't do their job.

The state didn't do its job, overstepping jurisdictions and boundaries placing police barricades inside a Sovereign nation's borders, disrespecting treaties, conducting an illegal "occupation" on Indigenous lands in direct countervailing to most of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a document signed by 144 other nations and (later) endorsed by the United States of America and President Obama.

The Governor of North Dakota didn't do his job, when instead of ensuring all parties get to the table on energy and environment, he let negative words and accusations cloud our hearts and judgement, and threaten to divide us.

What is going on here is that over 80 nations and thousands of people have arrived on the Canonball River to pray for our environment and our cultures together.

We ask people to join us if you feel it in your hearts to do so. We are calm here at Sacred Stones Camp; we are safe and in a safe place, and we hold the land in healing and prayer for everyone's benefit.

Protect the environment from being "savaged" by speculators, carportbagging Texas energy companies owned by lone wolf billionaires.

Don't let them take our public, and our Native lands, and the resources they hold, the water we all depend on for our future in a changing world and climate.

We invite all peoples and representatives to come to our territories to sit together in honor and respect for protection of our lands and waters.

***Elders and Leaders***

Sacred Stones Camp

Canonball River

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**Corps commander visits F-M diversion project**

By [Tu-Uyen Tran](#) on Aug 23, 2016 at 11:44 p.m.

FARGO — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' new commander spent several hours inspecting flood-diversion construction sites on Monday, Aug. 22, and, the next day, visiting with local stakeholders.

"I'm unbelievably impressed by the collaboration of the team," Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite told reporters after the meeting Tuesday, Aug. 23. "I've done some very, very large projects with the Corps of Engineers and many, many times it is hard to get everybody to a given area."

It was the general's first face-to-face meeting with Diversion Authority officials since taking over as chief of engineers three months ago and his gushing was somewhat unusual because of who else was at the table: Rep. Collin Peterson, D-Minn., and Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton.

Peterson is close to upstream project opponents and Dayton, a sympathizer to opponents' cause, said he was there to send a message. "I just wanted to make known to these folks that the governor feels pretty strongly that they should not move ahead until the permitting process is completed," Dayton said.

The corps wants to start construction on the inlet structure on the dam later this year, but Peterson said the permitting process won't be completed until December.

The discussion that followed, though, suggested both sides are working closer together, as Semonite said, despite differences over the \$2.2 billion project.

Upstream needs

The hourlong meeting was a closed-door affair, so what was said and how it was said is not clear to reporters.

Fargo Mayor Tim Mahoney said it was needed to discuss strategy and come up with a common message for the press.

That message appeared to be that permanent flood protection is needed for Fargo-Moorhead and that upstream concerns must be addressed.

Peterson seemed somewhat mollified, calling the cooperation between diversion project sponsors and Minnesota regulators "a very positive thing."

"We need permanent flood protection," he said. "Forty percent of my people work in Fargo. So even though Moorhead probably doesn't need this as bad as Fargo does, they're still one community. We gotta figure a way how to get it done."

Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., who has urged project sponsors and upstream opponents to work together better, seemed satisfied that that's happening. "That's one of the things the general talked about. He gets it. To move forward, is not only moving forward and building the project but you also have to work hard with upstream concerns."

The senator said that includes helping rural communities with tiling to drain wet fields faster, crop insurance in case fields flooded by the dam prevents planting, paying farmers to store water and protecting cemeteries from flood damage.

Talking with opponents

Mahoney, a member of the Diversion Authority board, said the authority is expected to release plans for mitigating the impact of the project later this month. He said the authority is negotiating with opponents in the Richland-Wilkin Joint Powers Authority.

"The attorneys are talking now, talking about when does it operate, how does it operate, who gets control when it operates," Mahoney said. "There's a lot of those things."

Jerry Von Korff, a St. Cloud, Minn., attorney who represents the JPA, said in an email that his clients did agree to negotiate, but their opposition to the diversion as designed has not changed.

"What I have been trying to do is to work on issues that we can agree on, in order to build positive energy," he said. "We don't agree on what should be operated, but we should be able to agree that whatever is operated should be operated in the interest of upstream communities, downstream communities and Fargo. This is an example of focusing on agreement points, without inflaming the discussion."

The JPA has filed three lawsuits opposing the diversion: one to stop the project and two to appeal decisions by regulators in North Dakota and Minnesota. None have been resolved.

Hoeven said he knows not everyone will be happy despite the collaboration. "Every project is hard, but this is a very very complicated, complex problem. It's almost impossible to find a way to get everybody to have exactly what everybody needs."

#### Corps commitment

For the corps, the collaboration is positive, primarily because it means a project the agency values can move forward.

Semonite said his job is to persuade Congress to put scarce federal dollars where the government will get the best bang for the buck. He's excited by the diversion project, he said, because of the outsized investment by local and state governments — the corps will pay only about a fifth of the \$2.2 billion cost — and the innovative use of private contractors to make construction more efficient.

If the federal government were to undertake the project the traditional way, he said, it'd take 16 years — twice as long as the Diversion Authority now projects — and \$400 million more.

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#### **Cecily Fong**

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# **MORTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

*Kyle L. Kirchmeier, Sheriff*



## **News Release**

For Immediate Release

September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Contact: Morton County PIO, Donnell Preskey (701) 426-1587

## **Private Security Officers Ambushed and Assaulted by Protestors**

Around 2:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon, a group of protestors launched a march from their camp located on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land to where construction was taking place on the Dakota Access Pipeline, on private property on the west side of Highway 1806. This march illegally blocked traffic in both lanes of the roadway.

Once protestors arrived at the construction area, they broke down a wire fence by stepping and jumping on it. According to numerous witnesses within five minutes the crowd of protestors, estimated to be a few hundred people became violent. They stampeded into the construction area with horses, dogs and vehicles.

Protestors physically assaulted private security officers hired by Dakota Access Pipeline. The security officers were hit and jabbed with fence posts and flag poles. According to several reports from security officers, knives were pulled on them or they witnessed protestors with large knives. Below is a summary of reports from numerous security officers.

Security Officer #1 – A crowd of 40-50 protestors pushed him against a vehicle. He was jabbed in the side with a wooden fence pole, kicked in the knees; causing him to fall to the ground. He heard people saying, “stomp him, kick him, he’s not going to leave.”

Security Officer #2 – As he was getting into his truck, he was hit in the back by a fence post. He witnessed protestors trying to stab K-9’s with knives and flag poles. He reported witnessing eight large knives on protestors.

-more-

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# *MORTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT*

*Kyle L. Kirchmeier, Sheriff*



Security Officer #3 – A protestor pulled a knife on him and his K-9.

Security officer #4 – Was assaulted by a protestor on a horse and was pushed off a construction crossing. His K-9 was stepped on by protestor's horse.

Security officer #1 was taken to a Bismarck hospital. Investigators have taken three formal reports of injuries from security officers. However, according to witnesses several additional security officers were assaulted. Two security K-9's were also taken to veterinarians to be treated for their injuries.

Law Enforcement from Morton County, Burleigh County and Highway Patrol responded to the construction site. The crowd of protestors left the scene without further incident. The Morton County Sheriff's Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation is investigating the incident.

"Any suggestion that today's event was a peaceful protest, is false. This was more like a riot than a protest. Individuals crossed onto private property and accosted private security officers with wooden posts and flag poles. The aggression and violence displayed here today is unlawful and should not be repeated. While no arrests were made at the scene, we are actively investigating the incident and individuals who organized and participated in this unlawful event," said Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier.

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