

WHITING 41 BREAK FREE

HAMMOND, IN

JAN. 13, 2017

What We Want

We are the People of the Great Lakes and Upper Mississippi Region and we reflect the many colors of the People of the Earth. Our ancestors came from many lands and together with the indigenous First Nations we all live on this land, drink this water and breathe this air. We are marching because we the people have a Right to clean water, air and land that is greater than any corporate need to make money!

We are asking local, state and federal governments to do or help with the following:

- Create a moratorium on all new pipeline projects pending independent environmental impact studies.
- Review all existing pipelines moving more oil than originally permitted for air quality and leak assessments.
- Shut down 62-year-old Enbridge Line 5
- Create a regional citizen review board to oversee all fossil fuel related industry in our region, eg. pipeline construction, refineries, fracking, oil-by-transit, petcoke piles.
- Create an independent 3rd party review of air quality and overall worker safety for existing workers in fossil fuel-related industries, e.g. petcoke, refinery, oil-by-rail, and fracking.
- Partner with Calumet Region community to plan a Just Transition in anticipation of the expected closing of BP Whiting Refinery, to create a Just Transition model that includes new jobs and a more sustainable community.

— The "Whiting 41" and our Break Free Midwest partners

How to Get Involved

1. Visit 350.org and join a 350 organization or campaign near you. If there isn't a 350 group near you, start one.
2. Prepare a 30 second climate change "elevator speech" and share it with someone you know. Make it personal and use your own words. Talk about how climate change affects what is important to you.
3. Call or write your U.S. Senator and tell them to reject Trump's climate change-denying nominees for the EPA, and the Departments of State, Interior, and Energy.
4. When fighting for climate justice, act collectively whenever possible. Make connections across cultural, racial, ethnic, religious, and political boundaries. Find ways to support similar struggles of people in other communities, especially if those people don't look or talk like you.

To Senator Joe Donnelly

The climate is changing, and anyone who denies this shouldn't be in the White House cabinet. We are a group gathered today in support of the Whiting 41, leaders in the movement demanding that a just transition out of the fossil fuel era begin today. Join us in making this just transition happen.

It's up to the Senate to stop the nomination of Trump's Climate Denying Cabinet. Senator Donnelly, you must oppose the appointment of Rex Tillerson for Secretary of State, Scott Pruitt for Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, Ryan Zinke for Secretary of the Interior, and Rick Perry for Secretary of Energy. You must do everything in your power to protect our planet.

President-elect Trump has called climate change a Chinese hoax and has vowed to dismantle America's climate and clean energy policies. His nominees are climate deniers and leaders of the fossil fuel industry who will put profit over people at every turn.

Vice-President Elect Pence as governor of Indiana has shown a disregard for the human life and a lack of understanding of the urgent need to respond to Climate Change as if all of our lives depend upon it. Indiana's own industrial Calumet Region is home to steel and oil and the state of Indiana relies heavily on coal for energy production. This makes our region a potentially perfect model for leading the just transition out of the fossil fuel era. The transition to clean energy brings with it the opportunity for work. The legacy of dirty industry also provides an opportunity for leaders to demand justice and allow the people to reclaim and restore damaged land as we divest and reorganize ourselves as the fossil fuel era ends. East Chicago, Indiana is currently in the throes of an environmental disaster. The Calumet lead crisis is the result of corporate negligence and a lack of regulation. Hoosiers are in crisis and Governor Pence has been a no show.

Senator Donnelly, you cannot allow the appointment of climate deniers and big oil puppets to hold cabinet positions and lead the Environmental Protection Agency. You must do all you can to block those who would deny a just transition for your constituency. Please stand with us for a just, clean and prosperous future. Oppose Rex Tillerson for Secretary of State, Scott Pruitt for Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, Ryan Zinke for Secretary of the Interior, and Rick Perry for Secretary of Energy.

Sincerely,

350Indiana-Calumet, 350Indiana-Bloomington, and all of our allies in Indiana



Why Direct Action?

""Why direct action? Why sit ins, marches and so forth? Isn't negotiation a better path?' You are quite right in calling for negotiation. Indeed, this is the very purpose of direct action. Nonviolent direct action seeks to create such a crisis and foster such a tension that a community which has constantly refused to negotiate is forced to confront the issue. It seeks so to dramatize the issue that it can no longer be ignored. My citing the creation of tension as part of the work of the nonviolent resister may sound rather shocking. But I must confess that I am not afraid of the word 'tension.' I have earnestly opposed violent tension, but there is a type of constructive, nonviolent tension which is necessary for growth."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

* 350 Indiana-Calumet would like to offer special thanks for support provided by
SciFi Donuts, Jenny Kendler, Richard Stuckey, Paul Henry's Art Gallery,
350 Kishwaukee, and Save Our Illinois Land (SOIL).