

A pipeline originally hailed as state-of-the-art technology, and thought to be one the safest pipelines ever built, ended up leaking 35 times in the first year alone.⁷ Nonetheless, the company building it, now known as TC Energy, persisted. Eventually, in 2016, TC received a permit in the first few days of Trump's presidency to continue building the pipeline, although this time, it intended to cross sacred indigenous burial land, and underneath the Missouri River, endangering the Standing Rock Sioux tribe's water source. Despite the company's insistence that this pipeline would only create benefits, one has to think of who the pipeline benefits. It undoubtedly benefits TC Energy, and also benefits the companies which produce oil, but it most definitely does not benefit the Native Americans. Even after spills leaving more than 380,000 gallons of oil in the environment, the pipeline continues to be a possibility.⁸ Not only that, but it was given express approval by the former president: Donald Trump bypassed the entire permit application process and signed his own permit, allowing the pipeline to be built.⁹ Furthermore, he neglected to consult with the Standing Rock Sioux, despite the fact that this pipeline had great potential to poison their water supply.¹⁰ His disregard for the welfare of Indigenous peoples exposes the governing system's tendency: Put profit over Native Americans.

⁷Adam Wenick, "Keystone oil spill casts doubt on the safety of proposed Keystone XL pipeline," *The World*, November 28, 2019,

<https://www.pri.org/stories/2019-11-28/keystone-oil-spill-casts-doubt-safety-proposed-keystone-xl-pipeline>.

⁸"EGEB: Keystone oil spill casts doubt on the safety of proposed Keystone XL pipeline," *The World*, November 2, 2019,

<https://www.evinfo.co.nz/2019/11/02/egeb-keystone-oil-spill-in-north-dakota-us-green-energy-grows-by-6-15-to-date-more/>

⁹Adam Wenick, "Keystone oil spill casts doubt on the safety of proposed Keystone XL pipeline," *The World*, November 28, 2019,

<https://www.pri.org/stories/2019-11-28/keystone-oil-spill-casts-doubt-safety-proposed-keystone-xl-pipeline>.

¹⁰"Keystone XL Pipeline," *Narf*, November 17, 2020, <https://www.narf.org/cases/keystone/>.