

## Message & Unity Principles for People's Climate March- LOS ANGELES TESORO

### CLIMATE CHANGE STARTS IN OUR HOODS

When our communities are under attack what do we do? **STAND UP and FIGHT BACK!**

Join the People's Climate Movement this April 29<sup>th</sup> in Washington D.C and across the country to stand up for communities and climate. In Los Angeles, we'll march in Wilmington to call attention to a local issue that has global climate change impacts.

1. **Rise up for Fossil Fuel Phase-out. Community Health & Worker Safety!** Major fossil fuel expansion projects undermine Los Angeles' and California's sustainability plans for climate, health, safety and environmental justice. Frontline communities in Los Angeles are hit the hardest with impacts from climate change and have the worst air in the nation. Environmental justice is ensuring that we all have the right to breathe clean air, drink clean water, and work in a safe environment.
2. **Stop Tesoro's major expansion & It's dangerous Crude Oil Switch!** Tesoro's Los Angeles refinery is already the highest greenhouse gas polluter in the state and now they want to be the largest refinery on the West Coast. Tesoro wants to substantially expand refining capacity and also build an unprecedented 3.4 million barrels of additional storage tanks, almost doubling storage and accommodating the switch to high benzene crude oil. The expansion and crude switch increases health and safety risks and endangers frontline communities of Wilmington, West Long Beach, and Carson. This project is happening in the backyards of these communities.
3. **Resist Tesoro's proposed Bakken & Tar Sands Crude Oil Invasion to the West Coast and its connection to Dakota Access!** Tesoro's storage tanks in LA and its proposed terminal in Vancouver Washington would allow bringing 360,000 barrels a day of Dakota and Canadian crude by rail to Vancouver, and then by ship to Los Angeles and other West Coast refineries. This would break through the geographic isolation currently keeping high volumes of these dangerous crudes out of the big, coveted California market. Fracked, high benzene North Dakota crude releases toxics into air, water and land, it is highly explosive, and emits high greenhouse gases during extraction. Crude oil train explosions and spills have engulfed communities across the country. Tesoro is also connecting its High Plains and Great Plains pipelines in North Dakota to the infamous Dakota Access Pipeline which is threatening indigenous communities' water. All these Tesoro plans hurt people in Canada, North Dakota, Washington, Oregon, and California.
4. **Build the Just Transition to a new green energy economy!** Our children's future demands that we transition from dirty fossil fuels to clean sustainable energy including Zero Carbon transportation such as electric vehicles. With equity at the center of decision-making we can make a Just Transition for workers and community to lead and build our clean energy future for green jobs and much healthier communities.
5. **Grow our Movement for Environmental Justice!** We want real allies. We want people to get involved in the local, grassroots, community organizing happening in the Los Angeles region. We want our allies to show up after the march and continue to learn, understand, and help lift up

the solutions residents have been fighting for. We want our allies to get involved with the frontline organizations and community here today. Get connected in Wilmington with Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) and Coalition for a Safer Environment (CFASE). Get connected with East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice in West Long Beach. Don't let this march be your last stop for taking action!

The new administration directly attacks California's work for solutions to climate disaster. It is up to us -- frontline communities and allies -- to take steps now to phase out fossil fuels completely.

### **Unity Principles**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM**

We believe that every person and community, locally and globally has the right to clean water, air, and land where we live, work, go to school, play and pray -- regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, culture, ability, nationality, or income. Our communities, low-income and of color are more likely to live with industrial and mobile pollution heavily concentrated in our neighborhoods because of the systemic way in which polluting sources end up in our working-class neighborhoods-like Wilmington, West Long Beach, and Carson. It is a system that allows these communities to continue to have no resources to address the contamination and that we need to dismantle it. Environmental justice challenges the false choice that would force us to choose between our health and our jobs. We must rise up against business as usual and call for community health over corporate wealth.

#### **REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE**

We believe in the direct connection between women's bodies and Mother Earth. The toxins in our local communities from environmental hazards and exposure from polluting industries threaten families' rights to live healthy lives. Women in frontline communities have experienced pregnancy losses and complications, and children born with disabilities and health impacts from toxins. Women are sacred as they bring, nourish and sustain life.

#### **INDIGENOUS RIGHTS**

We believe in the sovereignty and human rights of Indigenous and Native American Nations and communities to defend their traditional ancestral homelands, water, air, and cultural "resources" and relations. Furthermore, we support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as an international human rights doctrine that addresses all Indigenous peoples' fundamental human rights. For far too long, the American settler society has supported and engaged in intergenerational and genocidal practices and policies against Indigenous peoples and their respective First Nations. The non-renewable resource extraction industries are just some of the few perpetrators, along with other American collaborators, that have perpetuated and sustained forms of intergenerational tyranny and genocides against everything Mother Earth provides for *The Peoples*.

#### **IMMIGRANT RIGHTS**

We believe that all immigrants, regardless of their status, deserve to have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives, health and their livelihoods. Migration is a human right and is at the root of diversity in

our schools, workplaces, communities, civic life and economy. There is no place in our communities for discrimination, repressive law enforcement, and anti-immigration legislation.