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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

CHILDREN & YOUTH
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY
LABOR & INDUSTRY
LIQUOR CONTROL
POLICY

Executive Director Glen Grell
PSERS
5 North 5th St.
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Executive Director Grell:

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment to learn through Philly.com that through the Public School Employees' Retirement system, Pennsylvania currently has over 5 million shares of stock in Energy Transfer Partners (ETP) equaling nearly \$200 million.

As I'm sure you are aware, ETP is currently attempting to complete the Dakota Access Pipeline across a large portion of North Dakota. Unfortunately, part of this pipeline would disturb ancient and sacred burial grounds belonging to North Dakota's Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and compromise their water safety. ETP has already used bulldozers to destroy burial sites, prayer sites and culturally significant artifacts of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. This cannot continue.

To make matters worse, over the past few days video emerged of a private security force using thuggery tactics to intimidate peaceful protestors. Members of the general public as well as members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe had dogs sicced on them and were assaulted with pepper spray. These intimidation tactics have no place in civilized society, especially when used on American soil against peaceful protestors simply exercising their constitutional rights.

With all this in mind, you can understand how deeply disturbed I was to find out that Pennsylvania owns over 5 million shares of stock in ETP, totaling nearly \$200 million. It is unconscionable to me that Pennsylvania taxpayers could be footing the bill for these disgusting tactics. While I realize tax dollars do not always go where we would like to see them go, I urge you and the rest of the PSERS Board to divest from ETP as a show of protest against such authoritarian tactics. When people are attacked by dogs for protecting water rights and sacred religious sites, we cannot remain complacent. We have a moral responsibility to stop investing our public resources in the perpetrators.

In addition to protesting the actions of ETP, our divestiture would create the opportunity to reinvest in the clean energy sector. Rather than send taxpayer dollars to a company that uses dogs and pepper spray to try and get their way, Pennsylvania – and the planet as a whole – could benefit from investment in solar, wind or hydroelectric power. Investing in clean energy will only put Pennsylvania on a more forward-looking path and benefit our state in the years to come.

I appreciate you taking the time to hear my concerns, and I look forward to any further discussion you would like to have about moving Pennsylvania investments away from firms who focus on bullying and intimidation like Energy Transfer Partners and more toward the clean energy sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leanne J. Krueger-Braneky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Hon. Leanne Krueger-Braneky