



Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate

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Health Professionals Hold National Day of Solidarity Against Line 3

Events in St. Paul, MN and other major U.S. cities call on Biden administration to stop tar sands oil pipeline due to climate change-related health risks

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA -- **In the wake of the most recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) declaring a “code red for humanity”, health professionals across the U.S. are calling for an end to the construction of the Enbridge Line 3 pipeline as a critical health protective measure.** The construction and operation of Line 3 will exacerbate climate change and further jeopardize health.

On Tuesday, August 17, doctors, nurses, and other health professionals representing Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate, state chapters of Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Medical Society Consortium on Climate Change and Health, and other health organizations **will participate in local actions in their states (incl OR, MA, DC, WI, CA and others) for Our Water, Our Health – National Day of Solidarity Against Line 3.**

The MN Press Conference is August 17, 3:00 pm in Mears Park, 221 5th St E, St. Paul. **Speakers will include Jonathan Patz, MD, MPH, a world-renowned expert on climate change and health who won a Nobel prize as a lead author of the UN IPCC report in 2007.** Patz notes that if built, Line 3 will carry an estimated 760,000 barrels of tar sands oil per day from Alberta, Canada, to Superior, WI, releasing carbon emissions equivalent to that of 50 coal plants annually -- in direct contradiction to the recommendations of the IPCC report to scale back fossil fuel production.

"Americans need to—and want to—end our addiction to oil, because it's exacting a terrible toll on our health and destabilizing our climate," says Dr. Patz, who is the director of the Global Health Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "The carbon intensive extraction from open-pit mining makes tar sands the world's most destructive oil operation threatening our health and the environment. And like tar in cigarettes, the bitumen in tar sands oil, which is released when pipes inevitably burst, is carcinogenic. Use of this hazardous substance must end here and now."

"The First People called this place Minne-Sotah or the land of sky-tinted water, and we are renowned for the purity of this water. Clean water is essential for most of our body's functions; therefore water is life. Yet we are poised to squander our legacy

and put our people's health at risk for generations to come. Over 18 million people depend on the Mississippi River for their drinking water, yet Line 3 will cross the great river twice. **No benefit warrants jeopardizing the health and lives of our people"**
Dr. Teddie Potter, Director of Planetary Health

The event will also include a delegation of health professionals delivering [a letter](#) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in St. Paul, calling on the Biden administration to revoke permits for Line 3.

The St. Paul press conference will be livestreamed on the [Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate Facebook page](#). [Similar solidarity events will be held in multiple other states](#), and health professionals nationwide will be sending letters to the Biden administration and amplifying the message via social media.