



▶ CLIMATE CHANGE POSES THREATS AND DANGERS TO THE SURVIVAL OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE

▶ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONTRIBUTE LITTLE TO THE PROBLEM OF CLIMATE CHANGE

▶ PRESERVING TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE SURVIVAL OF ALL.

○ CLIMATE | ○ JUSTICE | ○ WORKING GROUP

Climate *justice*

EVEN “CLEAN ENERGY” CAN BE UNJUST! WE MUST DEVELOP SOLUTIONS THAT ARE FAIR AND EQUITABLE.
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE!

Climate change poses **threats** and **dangers** to the survival of **indigenous communities** worldwide, even though indigenous peoples contribute little to greenhouse emissions. **Indigenous peoples** interpret and react to the impacts of climate change in creative ways, drawing on **traditional knowledge** to work out solutions to cope with impending changes.

Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples, Backgrounder, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples

Colonialist Policy Is Not Over

New energy development and climate change policies are being promoted, without acknowledging the enormous price Native peoples have already paid.

For example, dams on the Missouri River permanently flooded over 350,000 acres of land on seven Indian reservations . . . In addition to the valuable river bottom land, the tribes also lost natural resources and structural improvements such as timber, wildlife, and native plants, homes and ranches. In some cases, entire towns were lost.

In addition to the direct damages, Congress has recognized that the tribes also suffered indirect or intangible damages for the loss of assets of unknown value.

These losses included spiritual ties to the lands (for example, cemeteries and tribal monuments); tribal claims to a homeland; and benefits derived from living along the Missouri River.

(Damages and Compensation for Tribes at Seven Reservations affected by Dams on the Missouri River. GAO Highlights, November 1, 2007)



Just a Few Native Dam Dislocations

Seneca – Kinsu Dam; Fort Berthold (Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara - , Garrison Dam; Standing Rock – Standing Rock Dam No.i and Keepseagle Dam and Cheyenne River - Oahe Dam; Crow Creek – Big Band Dam; Ogalala Sioux – Angostura Dam; Klamath - Chiloquin Dam; Kerr Dam – Flathead; Fort Peck – Fort Peck Dam; Lac Courte Oreilles – Chippewa Flowage



“I am convinced that climate change, and what we do about it, will define us, our era, and ultimately the global legacy we leave for future generations.”

*Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon,
24 September 2007.*

**FAIRNESS
FOR ALL**
Climate Justice
and Indigenous
Rights



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

About **one-third** of U.S. coal reserves (30%) are on Native lands.

Two million acres of tribal land have so far been developed for oil, gas and coal. An additional **15 million** acres have the same potential. (AP)

Every day for **35** years, **3.3 million** gallons of pure groundwater were pumped from the Navajo Aquifer, which flows beneath the Hopi and Navajo Nations.

Peabody Coal Company used the water to transport coal from a stripmine on Black Mesa to a power plant in the Mojave Desert, 273 miles away.

Alaska ranks **fourth** of the most polluted states in the country, with over **535,000,000** pounds of toxic releases in 2000. .

100 PERCENT: Renewable energy creates *twice as many jobs per unit of energy* than traditional fossil fuel-based technologies much as \$19 billion. This will result in the creation of between 400,000 and 500,000 new jobs. .

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
CLIMATE JUSTICE
Contact:
Environmental Justice Advocates
of Minnesota
Women's Environmental Institute

Or visit
www.ejamn.org
www.w-e-i.org

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE RESULT OF UNJUST
SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS.
IT'S TIME FOR JUST SOLUTIONS!**



The NEW COLONIALISM: Carbon Offsets

Global warming affects the lives of Indigenous peoples and rural communities. Increased droughts, floods, forest fires and deforestation all have devastating impacts. The **NEW COLONIALISM** proposes the use of **carbon credits** for tree planting and helps to promote large-scale tree plantations, and the same old COLONIAL relationships.

The more fossil fuels that are consumed, the more indigenous land is **entitled** for use by others to 'offset' emissions.

*Jutta Kill, 10 Things You Should Know About Tree Offsets
www.sinkswatch.org and www.fern.org*