



February 27, 2023

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC 20500

We Can't Have It Both Ways. REJECT WILLOW

Dear President Biden,

We write to you during your final week of deliberation on whether to approve the Willow Oil Project.

You have always maintained that we should believe in climate science. At your recent State of the Union address, [in an unscripted remark](#), you said that the world needs to be off fossil fuels in ten years. This revealed your understanding that fossil fuels are not compatible with a planet supportive of life, and that we must transition to clean renewable energy at an emergency pace to secure a livable future.

You also understand that:

- Atmospheric levels of the main greenhouse gasses [reached record highs in 2022](#).
- The IPCC's Sixth Assessment Working Group 1 Summary for policymakers (Table SPM.1), and the UN Environment Program indicate that there is [no longer a credible path](#) to warming below 1.5°C in the short term.
- The Willow Oil Project is estimated to produce "[278 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions over the project's 30-year lifetime, about the annual equivalent emissions of 66 new coal-fired power plants.](#)"
- Approving Willow will [undermine your commitments](#) on climate and environmental justice

All remaining fossil fuels must remain *in the ground*. *Let's not pretend otherwise.*

We appeal to what is most honest, wise, and most courageous in you. To the elder in you. To the grandfather in you. Do not gamble with our lives and with the lives of generations yet unborn.

Reject the Willow Oil Project.

With the future in mind,

On behalf of the more than one million supporters of Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) across the country:

Alan Minsky, Executive Director of PDA, Los Angeles, California
Conor Boylan, Chair of the PDA Board, Cleveland, Ohio
Donna Smith, Chair of the PDA Advisory Board, Denver, Colorado
Rev. Rodney Sadler, Vice Chair of the PDA Advisory Board, Charlotte, North Carolina
Russell Greene, PDA Senior Strategic Advisor on Climate, Encino, California
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