

1 **B2**
2 **American Medical Student Association**
3 **House of Delegates 2022**
4 **Resolution:**
5

6 **Introduced by:** Trevor Lyford, Zoreed Mukhtar, Nadiya Yerich, Bobby Scott, Shan Jin, Dilvir
7 Sekhon, Vaneeza Mukhtar, Ayesha Khan, Israa Ismail, Chelsea Shu
8

9 **School(s):** Milken Institute School of Public Health, Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine,
10 UNC School of Medicine, VCU School of Medicine, NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine,
11 California State University Fresno, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Northeast
12 Ohio Medical University, CUNY Brooklyn College, Harvard College
13

14 **Subject:** Principles Regarding the Environment
15

16 **Type:** Addition to Principles
17

18
19 WHEREAS it has been found that strip mining - a method of mining where overlying rock and
20 soil are removed, leads to the destruction of forests and natural animal habitats [1].
21

22 WHEREAS it has been found that large amounts of fossil fuel energy are used in the extraction
23 and preparation of viscous hydrocarbons for shipment via pipelines [3].
24

25 WHEREAS it has been found that low-income households and communities of color are more
26 likely than more affluent and white communities to live in proximity to polluting industries like
27 oil refineries and pipeline infrastructure. This leads to disproportionate exposure to pollution from
28 burning fossil fuels and chemicals leaching into the water table [4].
29

30 WHEREAS it has been found that pipeline construction and maintenance increases exposure to
31 volatile chemicals known to cause respiratory problems, increases risk of pipeline fire, and
32 increases greenhouse gas emissions with climate change-related health impacts [5,6,7,8].
33

34 WHEREAS it has been found that the oil sands industry releases the 13 elements considered
35 priority pollutants (PPE) under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act, via
36 the water [2].
37

38 WHEREAS an executive order has revoked the permit for construction of a major pipeline carrying
39 fossil fuel (Keystone XL Pipeline) [9].
40

41 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Principles Regarding the Environment (pg. 127-
42 129) be **AMENDED BY ADDITION** to state:

43

44 The American Medical Student Association

45

46 1. **OPPOSES** development of major pipelines carrying fossil fuels.

47 2. **SUPPORTS** responsible divestment from construction of major pipelines carrying fossil
48 fuels.

49 Fiscal Note: None

50 Citations:

51

52 1. Banerjee, N. (2013, October 21). *In Canada's Alberta province, oil sands boom is a two-*
53 *edged sword*. Los Angeles Times. [https://www.latimes.com/world/la-fg-canada-](https://www.latimes.com/world/la-fg-canada-oilsands-cancer-20131021-story.html)
54 [oilsands-cancer-20131021-story.html](https://www.latimes.com/world/la-fg-canada-oilsands-cancer-20131021-story.html).

55 2. Kelly, E. N., Schindler, D. W., Hodson, P. V., Short, J. W., Radmanovich, R., &
56 Nielsen, C. C. (2010). Oil sands development contributes elements toxic at low
57 concentrations to the Athabasca River and its tributaries. *Proceedings of the National*
58 *Academy of Sciences*, 107(37), 16178–16183.
59 <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1008754107>

60 3. Cushman Jr., J. H. (2020, November 30). *Carbon Footprint of Canada's Oil Sands Is*
61 *Larger Than Thought*. Inside Climate News.
62 [https://insideclimatenews.org/news/04042017/tar-sands-greenhouse-gas-emissions-](https://insideclimatenews.org/news/04042017/tar-sands-greenhouse-gas-emissions-climate-change-keystone-xl-pipeline-donald-trump-enbridge/)
63 [climate-change-keystone-xl-pipeline-donald-trump-enbridge/](https://insideclimatenews.org/news/04042017/tar-sands-greenhouse-gas-emissions-climate-change-keystone-xl-pipeline-donald-trump-enbridge/).

64 4. The Climate Reality Project (CRP). (2019, November 6). *How Pipelines Fuel Climate*
65 *Injustice*. Climate Reality. [https://www.climateRealityproject.org/blog/how-pipelines-](https://www.climateRealityproject.org/blog/how-pipelines-fuel-climate-injustice)
66 [fuel-climate-injustice](https://www.climateRealityproject.org/blog/how-pipelines-fuel-climate-injustice).

67 5. Environmental Protection Agency. Toxicological review of benzo[a]pyrene. 2017.
68 https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris/iris_documents/documents/toxreviews/0136tr.pdf.
69 Accessed 11 Feb 2019. Public Health Association of British Columbia. Re: The
70 approval of the expansion of the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline, (press
71 release). Victoria, BC: 2017.

72 6. Bowcock, C. (2015). Trans Mountain tank farm tactical risk analysis Retrieved from
73 [https://www.scribd.com/document/347097591/Burnaby-Fire-Department-](https://www.scribd.com/document/347097591/Burnaby-Fire-Department-Evidentiary-Paper#download&from_embed)
74 [Evidentiary-Paper#download&from_embed](https://www.scribd.com/document/347097591/Burnaby-Fire-Department-Evidentiary-Paper#download&from_embed). Accessed 22 March 2019.

- 75 7. Takaro, T. Major human health impacts of the increase in tanker traffic due to the Trans
76 Mountain Pipeline expansion. 2018. [https://apps.neb-
one.gc.ca/REGDOCS/File/Download/3718220](https://apps.neb-
77 one.gc.ca/REGDOCS/File/Download/3718220). Accessed 5 May 2019.
- 78 8. Public Health Association of British Columbia. Re: The Approval of the Expansion of
79 the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline, (press release). Victoria, BC: 2017.
- 80 9. The White House. (2021, January 21). *Executive order on protecting public health and*
81 *the environment and Restoring science to tackle the climate crisis*. The White House.
82 [https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-
actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-protecting-public-health-and-environment-and-
restoring-science-to-tackle-climate-crisis/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-
83 actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-protecting-public-health-and-environment-and-
84 restoring-science-to-tackle-climate-crisis/).

85