

In honor of our future generations, we fight this pipeline to protect our water, our sacred places, and all living beings. –Standing Rock.org

The National and PA State chapter of the Sierra Club has this post, now, on their pages:

On coal and the transition to clean energy:

"The Sierra Club, nationally, has an environmental justice program and works with labor and environmental justice communities to fight for a fair and just transition that makes sure these groups of people are not only taken into consideration but also have a meaningful role in shaping our work and their future. She can read more about that here. There is also an informative article from our Sierra Club magazine: "How to support clean energy and not be a jerk." It could help coal supporters and environmentalists have meaningful conversation. We also work pretty closely with the Center for Coalfield Justice in southwestern PA. Our Chapter Chair is their Deputy Director and we have worked together on organizing efforts, litigation, etc.

Sierra Club's goals as it relates to coal:

- I. Retiring one-third of the nation's more than 500 coal plants by 2020
- II. Replacing the majority of retired coal plants with clean energy solutions such as wind, solar, and geothermal
- III. Keeping coal in the ground in places like Appalachia and Wyoming's Powder River Basin

On Natural gas:

Here is our National policy on natural gas:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/policy/energy/fracking>. We believe that all fossil fuels (gas, oil, coal, etc.) should be kept in the ground and oppose the development of all fossil fuel infrastructure, like natural gas pipelines. All of our national policies: <http://www.sierraclub.org/policy>. The PA Chapter takes some of these further than National or has a variation more appropriate to our local context."

The coal-related statements are crucial for all of us to understand the path forward to sustainable energy policies and practices.

Fracking is not our only concern because we need to be aware and encouraged in helping coal plant workers and others, find meaningful and local area work for their families and communities.

JOBs and local living are closely related to building strong community engagement for better schools, healthcare and infrastructures.