

An Energy Vision from the Heart of Kentucky's "Holy Land"

As an increasing number of pipelines carrying natural gas liquids are proposed to connect hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") operations in the northeast with chemical processing plants in the south, we, members of three religious communities in the "Kentucky Holy Land"—the **Dominican Sisters of Peace**, the **Loretto Community**, and the **Sisters of Charity of Nazareth**—have joined countless other citizens in opposing the construction of such pipelines in our state.

We stand with all those who oppose the widespread risks to natural ecosystems and human well-being caused by the rush to achieve national "energy independence" through the creation of vast infrastructures for the extraction, refinement, and combustion of more fossil fuels. We urge instead the development of national policies and infrastructures that will facilitate a swift and steady transition to renewable energy sources.

Because of our love for God and for God's creation, Earth and all its species, we here offer a set of beliefs, rejections, and commitments. We invite you to join us.

WE BELIEVE that Earth does not belong to us, but that we belong to Earth, our home planet that is alive with the creative energy of God. God's desire that all creation may have fullness of life means that we are called to co-create by cooperating with all life systems. We believe that we are now also called to face the potential catastrophe of global climate change and, in solidarity with many others, to help solve this problem. We believe that cooperation and ingenuity can make renewable energy resources efficient and affordable within this decade.

WE REJECT the assumption that access to the resources needed by all Earth's people can be limited to the ownership and profit-taking of a few. We reject corporation tactics that threaten, exploit, and coerce landowners and residents and that risk public health and safety. We reject an economic system that promotes wasteful consumption of energy and other natural resources. We reject the extraction of energy sources by plundering Earth, endangering and destroying forests, wildlife, flora, the health of all species and polluting land, air, and water. We reject the belief that climate change is not caused by human activity, and we equally reject the assumption that humanity is incapable of making the changes needed to reverse the trends leading to climate change.

WE COMMIT ourselves to care for God's creation, upholding both the ideal of the common good now and the well-being of future generations. We will learn, teach, and model alternative ways of viewing energy sourcing and conservation that reduce risks to water, land, air, climate, and human safety. We commit ourselves to use our spiritual and social resources and our public credibility in all possible ways to promote the transition from fossil fuel energy to renewable energy resources. We commit ourselves to stand in solidarity with those land-owners and residents who resist the abuses of corporate power and greed. We will advocate for adequate government regulation of all energy sources. We will examine the options of divestment and shareholder actions for our investments in fossil fuel industries and for increasing our investments in renewable energy sources.



Dominican
Sisters of Peace
Sisters and Associates
in Mission

Loretto
community

Sisters of
CHARITY OF
NAZARETH

These faith communities and organizations are committed to the Energy Vision Statement:

Dominican Sisters of Peace and Associates

Sr. Margaret Ormond, OP, Prioress

Loretto Community – Sisters and Co-members

Pearl McGivney, SL, President

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and Associates

Susan Gatz, SCN, President

Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, OH

Sr. Jacquelyn Doepker, Community Minister

Congregation of Divine Providence

Leadership Team

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth

Antoinette Severin, Vice Provincial

Sisters of St. Francis, Sylvania, OH

Patricia Gardner, OSF, Congregational Treasurer

Ursulines of Brown County

Sr. Lucia Castellini, Congregational Minister

Ursulines of Youngstown

Sr. Norma Raupple, Leadership Team

Ursulines of Cincinnati

Margaret M. Efkaman, General Minister

Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center, Cincinnati, OH

Sr. Alice Gerdeman, Coordinator

Sisters of the Precious Blood, Dayton, OH

Community Council

Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, KY

Leadership Team

Grail Movement Climate Action Circle

Marian Ronan, PhD, Coordinator

International Thomas Merton Society

Dr. Paul M Pearson, Resident Secretary

Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph

Sr. Sharon Sullivan, Congregational Leader

Franciscan Action Network

Patrick Carolan, Executive Director

CrossRoads Ministry, Louisville, KY

Dawn Dones, Director

Unitarian Universalists Community of Frankfort, KY

Ruby L Layson, Board Member

Congregation of Divine Providence

Sr. Frances E Moore, Provincial

UN NGO of the Good Shepherd Sisters

Winifred Doherty, NGO Representative to the UN, Good Shepherd Sisters

Drepung Gomang Institute

Geshe Kalsang Rapgyal, Director

Anne Walter, President of the Board of Directors

The Carmelite NGO

Sr. Helen Ojario, O. Carm., North American UN NGO Representative

UNANIMA International

Michele Morak, Coalition Coordinator

Loretto Earth Network

Nancy Wittwer, Coordinating Committee

International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation

Fatima Rodrigo

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office of the Comboni Missionaries, North American Province

John Converset, MCCJ, Director

Plowshares Farm Center for Education and Spirituality

Bob Ernst, Executive Director

Latin America/Caribbean Committee of the Loretto Community

Carolyn Jaramillo, Committee Member

Kairos: School of Spiritual Formation

Mary Etta King, Executive Director

Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic

Congregational Leadership Team

Fellowship of Reconciliation, Louisville Chapter
Patricia Geier, Chairperson

Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida

**Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the B.V.M. –
US Province**

Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes
Zenebe Abebe, Executive Director

New Pioneers for a Sustainable Future
Sr. Claire McGowan OP, Executive Director

Loose Leaf Hollow Retreat Center
Joe and Pam Zarantonello, Co-directors

Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery
Justice and Peace Committee

Kentucky Natural Lands Trust
Hugh Archer, Executive Director

Mennonite Creation Care Network
Luke Gascho, Director

**Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America
and the Caribbean**
David Horvath, Chairperson

**Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of
Dubuque, Iowa**
Teri Hadro, BVM, President

Paoli Mennonite Church, Paoli, Indiana
Pastor-Elder Team

Passionist Earth & Spirit Center
Fr. Joseph Mitchell, CP, President

Sisters of St. Francis, Savannah, MO
Sr. Christine Martin, OSF, Provincial Superior

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia
Sr. Esther Anderson, OSF, Congregational Minister

U.S. A.S.C. Region Office for Justice and Peace
Sara Dwyer, ASC, Coordinator

**Memorial United Methodist Church,
Elizabethtown, KY**
Audrey Myers, Co-Chair, Creation Care Team

Lebanon Baptist Church, Lebanon, KY
David B. Whitlock, Pastor

Holy Cross International Justice Office
Mary Turgi CSC, Director

Sisters of Charity Federation
Caroljean Willie, SC, NGO Representative at
the UN

Society of Helpers
Sr. Laetitia Bordes, S.H., Justice and Peace
Coordinator

Sinsinawa Dominicans
Leadership Team

Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Leadership Council

Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque, Iowa
Pat Farrell, OSF, Vice President

Lexington Friends Meeting (Quakers)
Betsy Neale, Presiding Co-clerk

Louisville Jewish Voice for Peace
Russ Greenleaf, Member

Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community
Leadership Team

**Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy
Cross**
Leadership Team

Sisters of the Presentation
Sr. Stephanie Still, PBVM, President

**Bridgeport Christian Church, Frankfort,
KY**
Keith P McAhley, Pastor

**Green Chalice Ministry, Christian Church
of KY (Disciples of Christ)**
Annette Hayden, Coordinator

Whole Health Outreach
Sr. Rita Schonhoff, Director

**Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office of
the School Sisters of Notre Dame- Atlantic-
Midwest Province**

Arlene Flaherty OP, Director

**St. William Peace and Justice Committee,
Louisville, KY**

Theresa Butler, Chair

Dominican Sisters

Eileen Gannon, OP, Executive Team Member

The Renewal Project

Marty Ostrow, Producer

**Crystal Spring Earth Learning Center, Plainville,
MA**

Sowers of Justice Network

Doug Lowry, Board Member

Cultivating Connections, Louisville, KY

Mark Steiner, Director

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of
Owensboro**

Tom Hicks, President

Rev. Dr. Claudia A. Ramisch, Minister

Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth

S. Maureen Hall, Community Director

Nazareth Village II, Nazareth, KY

Alida Coughlin, Resident

**Franciscan Friars (OFM), St. John the Baptist
Province, JPIC Office**

Center for Interfaith Relations, Louisville, KY

Threshold Society, Louisville, KY

Camille and Kabir Helminski, Co-Directors

**Leadership Team of Sisters of St. Francis of
Oldenburg, In**

Sr. Maureen Irvin, OSF, Congregational Minister

ROW (Religious on WATER)

Joan Carey, ssj, Secretary

WATERSPIRIT

Suzanne Golas, csjp, Director

**Simple Gifts Spiritual Community,
Frankfort, KY**

Joyce Hudson, Clerk

Marianites of Holy Cross Leadership Team

Sr. Ann Lacour, Congregational Leader

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Sr. Patricia McDermott, RSM, president

Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace

Suzanne Golas, csjp

Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, Yardley, PA

Diane Bardol, GNSH, Social Justice
Coordinator

Sisters of St. Joseph Earth Center

Sister Mary Elizabeth Clark, SSJ, Director

Sierra Club, Cumberland KY Chapter

Betsy Bennett, Conservation Chair

**Northwest Coalition for Responsible
Investment, Seattle, WA**

Judy Byron, OP, Director

**Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center,
Seattle, WA**

Linda Haydock, SNJM, Director

Genesis Farm

Sr. Miriam Therese MacGillis, OP, Director

Heartland Farm

Marilyn Pierson, OP, Contact Person

Fons Vitae, Louisville, KY

Gray Henry and Lucy Jones, Directors

**Midway Green Chalice, Midway Christian
Church (Disciples of Christ)**

Adele Dickerson, Chair

Sisters of the Humility of Mary

Leadership Team

Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light

Mark Steiner, Outreach Director

**Peace and Justice Division of the Episcopal
Diocese of Kentucky**

Rev. Dr. Mary Abrams

**James Lees Presbyterian Church, Louisville,
Kentucky**
Rev. Phil Lloyd-Sidle, Pastor

Louisville Peace Action Community
Judy Munro-Leighton, Co-Chair

**Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle
East**
Polly Johnson, Chairperson

**The Hermitage Community of Three
Rivers, Michigan**
Naomi and David Wenger, Co-Directors

**Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth,
Convent Station, New Jersey**
Leadership Team

[Updated 12/6/2013]

As of this printing, 100 organizations have signed the Energy Vision Statement, and more sign each day. To see the most updated list of sign-ons, visit www.lorettocommunity.org/energy.