

Newsire

Volume 4

April 2026

18th Edition

Dear Relatives,

April has come and gone, and what a month it was. Aside from the usual springtime preparations for planting, cleaning up around our homes and communities from last fall's leaves and branches, we take time to get re-acquainted and marvel at the power of nature's revolving systems that still sustain us. In spite of the damage and degradation from an out-of-control system of extraction, consumption, toxic waste streams, and violence, Mother Earth still nurtures us.

Spring in the global north is also a time to strengthen our commitment to honoring our responsibilities to stop the continuation of the past systems of unsustainable globalization and consolidation of wealth and power that have brought us right up to the edge of irreversible ecological chaos.

Across Turtle Island, we continue to focus our efforts and resources on conveying solutions grounded in natural law. We consistently engage at global events where conversations, Indigenous-led movements, front-line, and grassroots leaders work to penetrate the iron curtain of false narratives from industry and governing bodies that no longer serve the people in exchange for profit and control.

April is the month that the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues convenes. Our relatives come from across Mother Earth to share their ancient and time-tested guidance. These are the opportunities we are given to collaborate on transitioning from an extractive system that destroys to one that acknowledges the inescapable reality that humans are a small part of a monumentally complex organism, Mother Earth.

For almost three decades, our IEN delegations have respectfully engaged with the governing bodies responsible for drafting policy and initiating and maintaining program structures that, as evidence has shown, may or may not achieve the stated goals.

During these events, we use the tools we have to share the wisdom of our elders and the experiences of front-line leaders from the communities facing the struggles to save Earth's systems that, until a few centuries ago, provided everything we needed to survive, adapt, and thrive -- before everything became a commodity taken without thought or accountability to anyone or anything else.

We're still in the process of uploading, formatting pages, and producing narratives from the wisdom of our elders and leaders, grounded in Indigenous Traditional Knowledge. We have to understand where we've been to continue successfully on our paths toward an Indigenous Just Transition-based process tailored to our place and time.

In this edition of our monthly Newswire, you'll find links to read, view, and listen to the presentations at two global events that took place in April. We include a glimpse of April's news from across the country and beyond, highlighting both positive change and the issues and situations that, unfortunately, remain challenges we must still address. Below are upcoming events that also need our attention and engagement. You can check out our website for additional information on events, calls to action, and dates to save.

You are appreciated and encouraged to continue to share our social media content, events, and calls to action. Your support is a vital part of a growing network of relatives and friends we depend on to continue building a world we can all thrive and prosper in.

Until next time...Be well and safe.



Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels

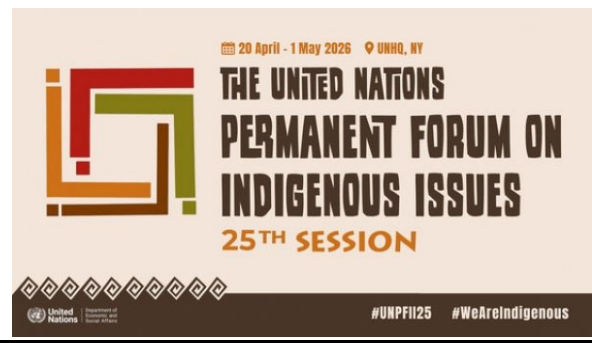
1st Conference - Santa Marta,
Columbia - April 24-29

A Just Transition is grounded in the effective respect of our right to self-determination and must be based on the guarantee of our internationally recognized inherent and distinct collective rights over our territories, land and waters. It is not limited to the substitution of energy sources...[Click/tap here to learn more.](#)

Click/tap to watch:

- [Stop circling the issue and Transition Away from Fossil Fuels](#)
- [International Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels, rejecting tokenism](#)
- [April 28 | Plenary Session of the First Conference](#)

Watch more videos from IEN [here](#).



UNPFII

" Ensuring Indigenous Peoples' Health, Including in the Context of Conflict"

[The IEN Delegation will] Elevate IEN grassroots positions at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in reference to the main theme and other mandated agenda items.

[Click/tap here to learn more.](#)

Click/tap to watch:

- [Colonial systems treat Mother Earth the same way they treat Indigenous women, as something to exploit](#)
- [Carbon markets are an illusion created to allow the root causes of the climate crisis to continue](#)

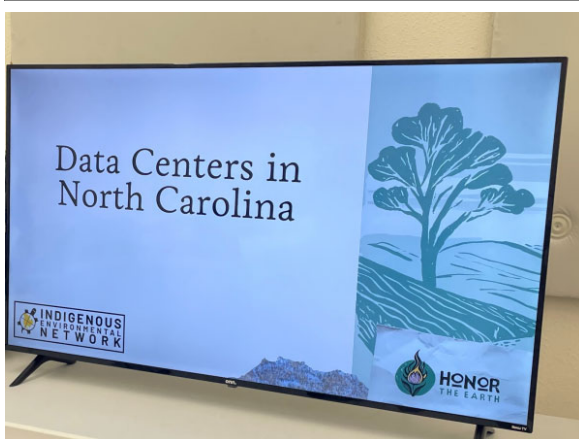
Watch more videos from IEN [here](#).



Rally Targets Pipeline as Enbridge Begins Line 5 Reroute Construction Near Bad River

A coalition of Indigenous water protectors and climate activists gathered outside the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Paul District headquarters during the Tuesday, April 21st, evening rush hour, demanding a halt to construction on the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline now underway in northern Wisconsin.

The rally, held at the corner of 4th and Robert Streets, comes as Enbridge crews have begun clearing trees along the pipeline corridor as part of its construction activities on a 41-mile corridor designed to circumvent the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation. [Click/tap to read more and hear Mark Tilsen address the rally.](#)



Qualla Boundary hosted a community meeting on the facts and dangers of hyperscale data centers...

Jordan Harmon (Policy Specialist) and Mary Crowe (Indigenous Just Transition Coordinator) and citizen of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians addressed EBCI community members and EBCI Tribal Council



U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Governance Summit hosted by the Indigenous Data Alliance in Tucson, AZ April 14-17

Jordan (Policy Specialist) and Mona (Water Ethics Coordinator) talked with Indigenous Data Sovereignty experts and tech workers working towards Indigenous data solutions that do not rely on environmentally extractive hyper-scale data centers or billionaire tech corporations. They learned about alternative tech options and ethical data management for Indigenous Peoples. We look toward hosting an Indigenous Data Summit for land and water protectors in July*.

**Stay tuned for the date and more info.*

Alberto Saldamando, Counsel of Indigenous Collective Rights and Climate Change, arranged IEN's delegates' participation at:

**Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
UN Headquarters
New York City,
April 20 – 27.**

This was an opportunity to advocate for the rights of indigenous Peoples across a wide range of issues, including the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly the Rights of self-determination and Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

IEN also held a side event on the Forum's theme, "Ensuring Indigenous Peoples' health, including in the context of conflict."

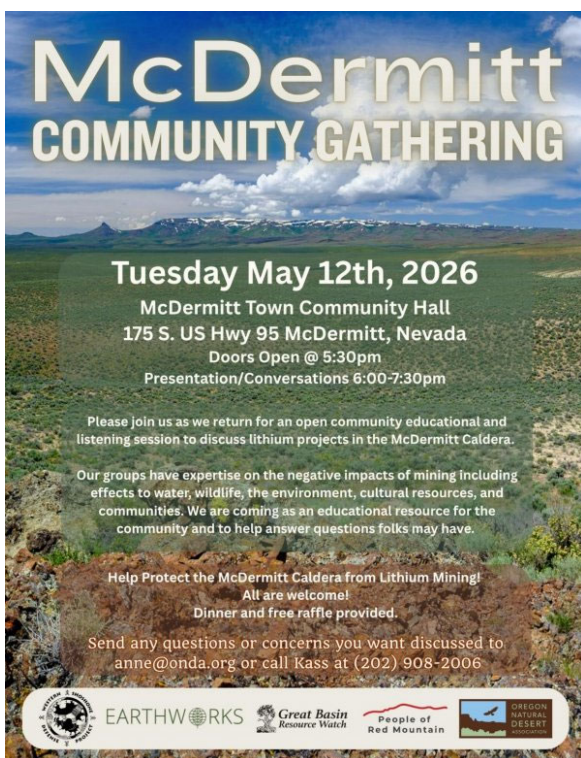
About 20 people attended. Subsequently, Alberto was invited to join the *Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

representatives.

**** [Explore FracTracker's Open U.S. Data Centers Tracker](#) ****

SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 12, 2026



Click/Tap Flyer for more information.

MAY 12, 2026



Academic Friends of EMRIP.

EMRIP is an informal network of scholars working in Indigenous Peoples' rights, international law, and policy, established to strengthen the academic rigor of EMRIP's official UN studies and reports.

ICYMI - APRIL NEWS ...

AT A HISTORIC CONFERENCE, FRONTLINE GROUPS PUSH FOR A JUST TRANSITION

Though the First Conference on Transitioning away from Fossil Fuels is a historic achievement, movement organizers question if it will create needed pathways toward a just transition. [Click here to learn more.](#)

The Amazon's Invisible Crisis: How Environmental Crime Is Reshaping Humanitarian Emergencies

As environmental crimes threaten Indigenous communities in the Amazon, their struggles are ignored by a humanitarian system that has rendered such emergencies invisible. [Click here to learn more.](#)

How First Nations' Treaties can hold back the tide of Alberta separatism

Danielle Smith pledged to hold a referendum on separating Alberta from Canada. First Nations in the province are going to court this week to argue that she has no legal right to do that... [Click here to learn more.](#)

Republicans deployed a little-known law to open Minnesota wilderness to mining

Legal experts say the use of the Congressional Review Act to open mining near the Boundary Waters could drastically reshape U.S. public lands protections. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Click/tap Flier for more info

MAY 16, 2026

SUPPORT THE WHITE MESA UTE COMMUNITY AND THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE

PROTEST ENERGY FUELS' URANIUM MINES AT LASAL AND NEAR THE GRAND CANYON! STOP ENERGY FUELS' URANIUM MILL/DUMP NEXT TO THE WHITE MESA UTE COMMUNITY!

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026 12 noon at LA SAL JUNCTION
(Intersection of Highway 191 and 46 – about 20 miles south of Moab)

Energy Fuels operates uranium mines near Moab in La Sal, and also operates the Pinyon Plain mine near the Grand Canyon. They also operate the uranium mill next to the White Mesa Ute Community in San Juan County which is turning into an international radioactive dump.

Please join us to support the White Mesa Ute Community, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Navajo/Dine community groups, and the Havasupai Tribe who are working together to stop more uranium mining and transportation and dumping of radioactive materials at the Energy Fuels mill/dump next to White Mesa.

SPONSORED BY WHITE MESA CONCERNED COMMUNITY, GREENACTION FOR HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, URANIUM WATCH, BIDII ROOTS, AND MORE ALLIES TOO!

Click/Tap Flyer for more information

And if you're able...



You make it possible for us to do what we do by sharing our newsletters, webpages, and social media posts - keep up the good ways of being and we'll see you on the trail!

IEN Staff & Management

What does \$164M buy Big Oil? Inupiat land and a broken promise.

A federal auction undid a hard-won agreement to protect Alaska's North Slope. The Inupiat community that fought for it is still waiting to be heard. [Click here to read more.](#)

The DNA Archive Built to Identify the Border's Missing Has Vanished

The Colibrí Center for Human Rights was a vital link between families and their missing loved ones. But now it's gone dark. [Click here to read more.](#)

The Wabanaki Basketmakers' Plans to Save Maine's Ash Trees

The invasive emerald ash borer, native to northeast Asia, has spread to 37 states over the past quarter century, killing nearly all of the ash trees it infests. But in Maine, a coalition of basketmakers, scientists and government officials are plotting a future for their trees. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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Keep up with what's happening across Turtle Island and beyond by following our social media channels:



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