



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **New Mexico Indigenous Leaders Speak Up During National Week of Action Demanding a Fossil Free Future in Washington, D.C.**

**Albuquerque, N.M.—** Local Indigenous leaders from the [Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women](#) are taking part in the [National Week of Action ‘People vs. Fossil Fuels’ in Washington, D.C.](#), to demand a fossil free future.

**The following is a statement from Angel Charley, executive director for the New Mexico Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women on their participation on the ‘People vs. Fossil Fuels’ events:**

“Since Monday, Indigenous Peoples Day, our team at the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women is standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the People vs Fossil Fuels as we march the streets of Washington D.C. because we know that for Native American women in the United States, it is not a matter of if she will experience violence in her lifetime, but rather, a matter of when.

“Extractive Industries have devastating impacts on our communities, what is done to the land is done to the people and our bodies. These industries bring violence into our communities and contribute to the ongoing epidemic of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women. CSVANW is ready to stand with those wanting to end the violence of fossil fuels.

“But ending the exploitative practices of extractive industries is just one step in protecting Native American women in the United States. Beyond this, our communities need meaningful and sustained investments in survivor care to address the collective trauma of colonization that has, for generations, disrupted our way of life through which healthy relationships were nurtured and sustained by our People. The social position that Indigenous Peoples find ourselves in today is an outcome of both the internalization of practices of colonial violence and the ongoing violence of the colonial state against our people. We know violence against women is a consequence of, and serves to perpetuate, ongoing systemic inequity.

“Because of this, we at CSVANW are dedicated to seeing the full tribal provisions within VAWA Reauthorization Act remain intact. Provisions that would expand protections for survivors of sexual violence, child abuse, stalking, and trafficking. We know these are real ways to make our communities safer.

“During this year’s New Mexico Legislative session, we have an opportunity to strengthen the legacy of the 2013 Violence Against Women Act. The groundwork has been laid and lessons have been learned from those most impacted by violence. Now is a moment to do better for our Native women.

“We urge all members within the senate, and senate leadership to work toward creating a version of the bill with ALL the tribal provisions intact.

“We are deeply grateful for those who support the safety of Native women as well as those who choose to support CSVANW specifically in our work to create violence-free communities. We work towards fulfilling our mission by receiving support from folks who are committed to ending gender-based violence- which includes you. Together, we do more.”

To support any ongoing efforts by CSVANW to end the MMIW crisis in NM, the public can provide a donation at: <https://www.csvanw.org/donate>

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*[CSVANW](https://www.csvanw.org) is an award winning organization at the forefront to a dynamic approach to the tribal domestic and sexual violence fields that is demonstrating the most effective, creative and innovative ways to address and prevent the cycle of violence within tribal communities.*