

## INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

# Are You a SKY SELLER? or a SKY PROTECTOR?



### **How can you buy or sell the Sky? - Chief Seattle, 1854**



In 1854, the great visionary Chief Seattle asked “How can you buy or sell the Sky?”<sup>i</sup> Now, 164 years later, the Sky is being bought and sold on carbon stock markets all over the world,<sup>ii</sup> including on California’s cap-and-trade market.<sup>iii</sup> Promoted by oil companies,<sup>iv</sup> carbon trading, also called carbon pricing<sup>v</sup> or a carbon tax,<sup>vi</sup> is the biggest false solution to climate change.<sup>vii</sup> Unfortunately, carbon trading is also the basis of the United Nations Paris Climate Change Agreement<sup>viii</sup> and California’s Global Climate Action Summit.<sup>ix</sup>

Carbon trading lets governments and corporations pretend they are doing something about global warming when they are not.<sup>x</sup> Furthermore, carbon trading allows polluters to profit from global warming,<sup>xi</sup> the greatest threat in history to humanity’s survival.<sup>xii</sup> Selling the Sky is a scam<sup>xiii</sup> and a cover-up<sup>xiv</sup> that corrupts the Sacred.<sup>xv</sup> Don’t be tricked by carbon trading!<sup>xvi</sup> Mother Earth and Father Sky need you to take a stand against this treachery.<sup>xvii</sup>

### **What is Carbon Trading? RESOURCES:**<sup>xviii</sup>

Carbon trading is a false solution to climate change promoted by “climate criminals” like Chevron,<sup>xix</sup> Shell Oil,<sup>xx</sup> the Canadian Tar Sands’ TransCanada,<sup>xxi</sup> mining monster BHP Billiton,<sup>xxii</sup> the United Nations<sup>xxiii</sup> and Wall Street.<sup>xxiv</sup> Carbon trading allows polluters to buy and sell permits to pollute instead of cutting air pollution at source. These permits to pollute are called “carbon credits” and are traded like stocks and bonds.<sup>xxv</sup> Carbon trading privatizes the air that we breathe.<sup>xxvi</sup> It turns the atmosphere into the private property of polluters.<sup>xxvii</sup>

### **Carbon Trading Sells the Sky**

According to the United Nations, to stabilize the climate at 1990 levels, greenhouse gas emissions must be immediately cut as much as 80%.<sup>xxviii</sup> So are we cutting emissions at source like we need to? No. The United Nations pretended to cut 5.2% of emissions,<sup>xxix</sup> but the UN’s carbon trading actually allowed emissions to increase.<sup>xxx</sup> Meanwhile, more greenhouse gases are emitted than ever.<sup>xxxi</sup> Fossil fuel extraction and burning have also soared.<sup>xxxii</sup> Instead of slashing emissions at source, governments, the United Nations and corporations are selling the Sky.<sup>xxxiii</sup>

### **Where do YOU stand on Carbon Trading?**

Communities all over the world are being offered money to do carbon trading by the fossil fuel industry,<sup>xxxiv</sup> governments,<sup>xxxv</sup> the World Bank<sup>xxxvi</sup> and donors.<sup>xxxvii</sup> You or your community can do personal carbon trading,<sup>xxxviii</sup> “carbon farming,”<sup>xxxix</sup> an offset project<sup>xl</sup> or accept “cap-and-trade dollars” from carbon trading.<sup>xli</sup> Struggling with poverty, we all have great ideas about how to spend funding. But is it ethical to accept money from selling the Sky? Should we take funds from privatizing the air that we breathe? Does accepting “benefits” from carbon markets make us complicit with devastating hurricanes like Katrina, Sandy and Maria? Make us part of greenwashing pollution? Make us part of climate change getting worse?

# STOP

## Splitting **CARBON TRADING** Hairs!



**Don't be fooled by the World Bank's splitting carbon trading hairs!**

*Carbon spin doctors are working overtime but we see through their lies!*

**CARBON PRICING IS JUST REBRANDED CARBON TRADING.**

**CARBON PRICING AND CARBON TRADING** are also called: carbon markets, carbon tax, carbon disclosure, carbon revenue, carbon fee, carbon fee and dividend, carbon offsets, carbon credits, carbon neutral, cap-and-trade, cap and dividend, emissions trading systems (ETS), market-based mechanisms, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Agenda 2030, Green Economy, Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs), decarbonization, "drawdown," the Clean Development Mechanism, reforestation, afforestation, Reducing Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD), REDD+, REDD++, landscape REDD, REDD with ecosystem approach, regional/sub-national REDD, jurisdictional REDD, forest conservation, restoration, integrated resource management for forest, agriculture and conservation offsets, urban forests, sustainable forest management, temporarily unstocked carbon, baseline and credit or offset, flex mechanism, carbon removals, CDP, etc.

Carbon pricing and carbon trading by any name:

- SELL THE SKY! No WTO of the Sky!**
- Are Fake Solutions to Climate Change**
- Do NOT cut air pollution**
- Privatize the air that we breathe**
- Allow polluters to pollute more**
- Make global warming worse**
- Threaten our future**
- Greenwash the Tar Sands, Keystone XL Pipeline, BP, Shell, Rio Tinto and Chevron**
- Are promoted by the World Bank and WTO**
- Generate profits from the climate crisis**
- Do NOT address root causes of climate change such as burning fossil fuels**
- Violate human rights and rights of Indigenous Peoples**
- Violate the territorial integrity of Mother Earth and Father Sky**
- Constitute CARBON COLONIALISM-**

References Available Upon Request Email: skyprotector@iearth.org

### COUNTERTHINK





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