



2017 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #17 - 12

“REAFFIRMING OPPOSITION TO NON-REFINED FOSSIL FUEL TRANSPORTATION ACROSS AND EXPORT FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, since time immemorial, our economy, culture, religion and way of life has centered around our fishing, hunting and gathering resources, and the lands and waters on which they depend, and we have been, and remain, careful and conscientious stewards over them to ensure their continued health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the tribes of ATNI depend on the natural resources of this region to sustain our ways of life, rights to fish, hunt and gather, our economies, human health; and fulfill our sacred obligation to protect our First Foods and our most precious natural resource, water; and

WHEREAS, the tribes of ATNI have adopted Resolution 13-47, *Opposing the Proposals for the Transportation and Export of Fossil Fuels in the Pacific Northwest*, and a number of other resolutions, listed in the attached Appendix A, based on the potential infringement and endangerment upon indigenous, inherent, and treaty-protected resources, impacts on human health, economies, sacred places, and our traditional ways of life; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, six proposed coal terminals have either been denied by agencies, or investors have withdrawn the proposals, in part due to adverse impacts on tribal resources; and

WHEREAS, the tribes of ATNI believe the denial or withdrawal of all six coal terminals preserves the rights of all tribes and the people of the Pacific Northwest to clean water and clean air for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the tribes of ATNI recognize that there is an ongoing wave of unrefined fossil fuel transportation and export proposals in the Pacific Northwest which continue to threaten our waterways and lifeways; and

WHEREAS, these proposals include, but are not limited to the following types of hydrocarbon products: methanol, Liquid Natural Gas (LNG), Propane, crude oil, Xylene, and other unrefined or minimally refined petroleum products; and

WHEREAS, these proposals inevitably involve transport of these hazardous products across our waterways, through our traditional and sacred lands, and over our treaty reserved Usual and Accustomed fishing, hunting and gathering areas, including both our ceded lands and reservations; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon our federal trustees, to affirm and preserve decisions denying proposals for unrefined fossil fuel export facilities to date (including coal), and to take every available and appropriate step to deny proposals for future transportation or export facilities in our communities, including without limitation:

(a) The proposed Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion project that will substantially increase the shipment of unrefined tar sands oil by tanker and barge through United States waters in Washington State, through the Salish Sea (696 transits per year) and potentially by pipeline across ceded lands in Washington State, crossing rivers that are vital to salmon and other wildlife; and

(b) The proposed Tesoro Savage oil-by-rail terminal in Vancouver, Washington that will transport either unrefined Bakken shale oil or unrefined Alberta tar sands oil over land by rail through Idaho, Washington, Montana, and Oregon and along the Columbia River, and over water by tanker or barge on the Columbia River, along the coast, and in some cases into the

Salish Sea; and

(c) The proposed oil-by-rail terminal(s) at Grays Harbor, WA that will transport by rail and by tanker or barge either unrefined Bakken shale oil or unrefined Alberta tar sands oil through Idaho, Washington, Montana, and Oregon lands and waters; and

(d) The Millennium Bulk Terminal at Longview, Washington which the federal and state governments may still be considering which will involve the shipment of coal by rail along the Columbia River and subsequent loading onto large cargo vessels for export; and

(e) The proposed methanol refining and export plants at Kalama, Washington and Clatskanie, Oregon that will require natural gas pipeline construction over ceded lands and waters, encourage additional fracking, utilize up to 5 million gallons of water per day, and load tankers that increase vessel risk on the Columbia River and the coast and in some cases the Salish Sea as a bunkering location; and

(f) The proposed Tesoro Xylene manufacturing and export facility at March Point (Anacortes), Washington, which will generate an additional 120 large vessel transits per year through prime tribal fishing grounds in the Salish Sea; and

(g) Any expansion of the proposed liquid propane gas import/export facility at Cherry Point, Washington, operated by Petrogas Energy Corp. that would lead to an increase in the number of tankers or support vessels at the Intalco Dock along the Georgia Strait of the Salish Sea; and

(h) The proposed undersea Liquid Natural Gas pipeline from Cherry Point, Washington to Malahat, Vancouver Island, B.C. proposed by Steelhead LNG, also capable of delivering LNG to an even larger proposed LNG export facility at Sarita Bay, on the west coast of Vancouver Island, B.C., which would involve disturbance of marine mammals, pipeline leaks and breaks over time, and an increase of 146 large vessel transits in the Salish Sea each year; and

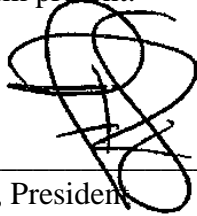
(i) Multiple Liquid Natural Gas export facilities in British Columbia, Canada that would generate hundreds of new tanker vessel trips per year through the Salish Sea; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon the landowners, agencies and investors involved in these projects to consider use of these sites for conservation or green energy projects; and

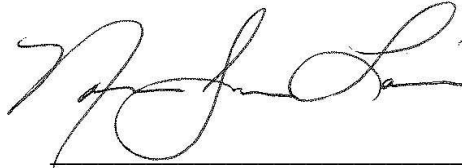
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that ATNI reaffirms its strong opposition to any unrefined fossil fuel transportation or export proposal that will result in the loss or weakening of treaty reserved rights of its member Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington, January 23-26, 2017, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary