



2017 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #17 - 13

“OPPOSING THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE AND STANDING WITH STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE”

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, Indian People have been in these lands and waters since time immemorial, pre-dating the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, there are over 400 treaties signed with Indian Tribes and the United States of America taking millions of pristine acres away and creating reservations and acknowledging the tribes as the governing bodies of their citizens, lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States, through the Treaty, Commerce, and Apportionment Clauses and the 14th Amendment, further acknowledges the sovereign status of tribal lands and interests; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Indian Reservation was established as a permanent homeland for the Hunkpapa, Yanktonai, Cuthead and Blackfoot bands of the Great Sioux Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has honored the Missouri River; for the River is the People's only source of water and fulfills the needs of their health, social welfare, culture and traditions, sacred places and sustainability of life; and

WHEREAS, past pipeline disasters demonstrate the high likelihood that, if the Dakota Access Pipeline continues to be developed along the homelands and waters at the Missouri River, it will lead to the poisoning of the River and groundwater that is the sole source of water for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and thus destroy the tribes' homelands, resources, and sacred sites, as well as the drinking water of other citizens, including those citizens downstream; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing development and construction of the pipeline continues to destroy the valuable cultural resources and sacred sites of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the unilateral federal action without consent and true government-to-government consultation with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and other tribes with ties to the land surrounding the Missouri River is a treaty rights violation, breach of trust and failure of the federal government's trust responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council continues to oppose the Dakota Access Pipeline and is joined by all of Indian Country, standing in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; now

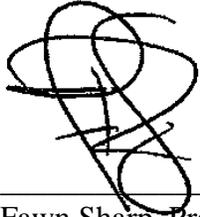
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI strongly opposes the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) and stands with Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's ongoing legal, administrative, and legislative efforts to stop the development of construction of the pipeline to protect its waters and sacred sites; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon the President and any Department Secretary or federal decision maker to rescind any memorandum, executive order or other directive that has or will require federal agencies to take steps that would lead to approval of DAPL, including but not limited to the granting of easements, streamlining of permitting, or cancellation of planned environmental review or related Notices of Intent; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this ATNI Winter Convention resolution shall be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

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