



## **2019 Winter Convention Portland Oregon**

### **RESOLUTION #19 – 09**

#### **“PROMOTING THE CLEAN ENERGY AND CARBON REDUCTION POLICIES IN WASHINGTON”**

#### **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**, Indigenous Peoples in the U.S., including 567 federally-recognized Tribes, are facing immediate and significant impacts from climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, a growing body of literature illustrates the unique issues facing Tribes as a result of climate change, including the recently developed Primer on Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples, Guidelines for Considering Traditional Knowledges (TKs) in Climate Change Initiatives, and the special issue of the peer-reviewed journal Climatic Change, “Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples in the United States: Impacts, Experiences and Actions;” and

**WHEREAS**, the transition to clean energy presents economic and community benefit opportunities that surpass further expansion of the fossil fuel economy; and

**WHEREAS**, renewable sources of energy can have significant public health and other co-benefits that can help address pressing ecological and environmental justice challenges in sensitive ecosystems, Tribal governments, and Native American and rural communities in Washington and around the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Tribes and Native Americans have unique experiences and energy expertise and, communities are at the frontline of climate change, but are often not included in policy conversations; and

**WHEREAS**, equitable solutions exist to ensure shared benefits from renewable energy and a transition to a clean energy economy, including but not limited to; access to the financial services, community-based development of renewable energy, equitable pricing structures, community solar programs with low-income carve-outs, non-profit organization leadership, and access to public energy conservation facilities; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby call upon all Washington state government officials, including state agencies to ensure that tribes are full partners in developing and implementing state policy to address mitigating and adapting to climate change in Washington; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI supports Washington state policy and programs that limit climate pollution, internalizes the external costs from that pollution, and invests proceeds in reducing climate pollution and promoting community benefit; and

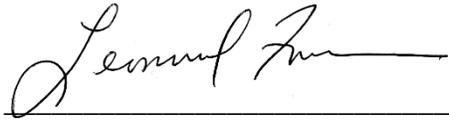
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI members will proactively engage in advancing state efforts to reduce climate pollution and promote clean energy jobs by:

1. Supporting Washington Tribes efforts to develop carbon policy legislation;
2. Submitting letters of support from individual tribal governments to decision-makers;
3. Participating in implementation processes where possible;
4. Defending against opposition and efforts to weaken or repeal;
5. Supporting the coordination and involvement of Washington Tribes; and

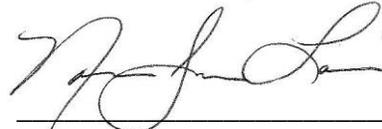
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that ATNI moves to support Washington Tribes in developing and promoting Washington State policy and legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and invest proceeds in Washington's clean energy economy and call on all Washington state government officials, including state agencies to ensure that Washington tribes are full partners in developing and implementing effective greenhouse gas reduction legislation.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2019 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the DoubleTree by Hilton - Portland, Oregon, on January 28-31, 2019, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary