2020 Virtual Mid-Year Convention

RESOLUTION #2020 – 24

“CALL UPON THE STATE OF OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO ESTABLISH A REVIEW COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE THE ACTUAL AND REAL IMPACTS OF TRANSLOADING HEAVY CRUDE AT PORT WESTWARD BY THE COLUMBIA PACIFIC BIO-REFINERY”

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 (AI/AN) 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, Columbia Pacific Bio-Refinery has applied for renewal on a Standard Air Contaminant Discharge Permit to transload up to 1.8 billion gallons of ‘volatile organic liquid product’ per year; and
WHEREAS, the draft permit allows for the shipment of crude oil, ethanol, and/or renewable diesel; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Pacific Bio-Refinery has requested permission from the Port of Columbia County to handle heavy crude; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Columbia County approved a lease agreement change for Columbia Pacific Bio-Refinery, allowing a lower American Petroleum Institute (API) gravity range to allow heavy crude; and

WHEREAS, the company’s proposal is just below the category of major air pollutant source; and

WHEREAS, the proposal does not include any air pollutant controls or limits for rail traffic, which could be two full unit trains per day; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon does not propose additional review of the project, additional air pollution controls, or review of shipping traffic; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon the State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to establish a review committee to evaluate the actual and real impacts of transloading heavy crude at Port Westward by the Columbia Pacific Bio-Refinery, and its secondary effects.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2020 Virtual Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Portland, Oregon, on June 30 – July 2, 2020, with a quorum present.

Leonard Forsman, President
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary