



## **2024 Midyear Convention Canyonville, Oregon**

### **RESOLUTION #2024 – 23**

#### **“ESTABLISHING AN ATNI TASK FORCE ON OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS”**

##### **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 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 ATNI; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI member Tribes have demonstrated leadership in clean energy developments and understand the importance of renewable energy and the preservation and restoration of our climate, and the importance of completing the necessary due diligence to ensure preventable harm is avoided; and

**WHEREAS**, President Biden’s executive actions to address climate change have accelerated efforts to develop and produce offshore wind projects off the coast(s) of the Gulf of

Maine, the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific regions of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI member Tribes are increasingly concerned about the impacts of offshore wind projects on Tribal communities, culture, heritage, sovereignty, sacred sites, and submerged cultural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government has moral and legal trust and treaty obligations to meaningfully consult with Tribal Nations, appropriately seek prior and informed consent, protect tribal nation’s natural, environmental, and cultural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI member Tribes are increasingly concerned about the impacts of offshore wind projects on our natural resources, including active seismic area impacts and environmental impacts to our water, fish, lands, and any and all species, in particular, migratory species; and

**WHEREAS**, the persistent aggressive permitting schedules for offshore wind projects have placed overwhelming administrative and financial burdens on our member Tribal Nations, causing undue stress, hardship, and use of vital Tribal personnel time and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, offshore wind project developments will impact all ATNI member Tribes, and the issue is of utmost importance to all ATNI member Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, all ATNI member Tribes are in alignment in opposing the continued development of offshore wind projects at this time; and


**WHEREAS**, intentional consultation, advocacy and engagement in this area stands to benefit all ATNI member Tribes; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that a limited-duration task force be developed immediately for the purposes of consolidating efforts to research, propose new policy for presentation to the ATNI membership, align advocacy efforts and knowledge, and determine ways to best support ATNI member Tribes in their individual advocacy efforts.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Executive Board of ATNI is empowered to advocate and follow-up on the issue of offshore wind developments to the extent that it encourages a full-stop halt of efforts, more meaningful consultation with Tribes, and/or enhanced ability for Tribes to advocate for our natural and cultural resources, including funding that supports more meaningful engagement in this issue.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2024 Midyear Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Seven Feathers Casino in Canyonville, OR, May 19 – May 23, with a quorum present.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leonard Forsman, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary