



**ATNI Midyear 2025 Convention
Airway Heights, Washington**

RESOLUTION # 2025 – 13

**“DEFENDING OREGON’S CLIMATE PROTECTION PROGRAM (CPP)
TO SAFEGUARD TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND
FUTURE GENERATIONS”**

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 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 the representatives and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and Indian tribal governments 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 has consistently affirmed the inherent rights of Tribal Nations to clean air, water, and a stable climate, as well as the obligation to steward lands and resources in alignment with traditional values and intergenerational responsibility; and

WHEREAS, a changing and fluctuating climate poses a direct and growing threat to the health, homelands, and cultural lifeways of Tribal Nations across the Northwest, disproportionately impacting Indigenous communities through rising temperatures, intensifying wildfires, flooding, and disruptions to First Foods and traditional practices; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon established the Climate Protection Program (CPP) in 2021, and re-affirmed it in 2024, as a legally enforceable strategy to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the state’s largest polluters—including fossil fuel suppliers—by at least 90% by 2050, while prioritizing benefits to frontline communities, including Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, the CPP represents one of Oregon’s most ambitious and comprehensive efforts to address the impact of our changing climate, advance environmental justice, and create opportunities for Tribal engagement and co-governance in climate policy; and

WHEREAS, fossil fuel interests have launched legal and political attacks on the CPP, seeking to dismantle or weaken the program and obstruct urgently needed climate action, despite broad public support and the mounting evidence of climate harms; and

WHEREAS, weakening or eliminating the CPP would not only delay progress but also violate the trust and responsibility the state holds to uphold the health and welfare of all Oregonians, especially Tribal Nations who have stewarded these lands since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, ATNI Tribes will all benefit from greenhouse gas emissions reductions in the region and in addition, Tribes in Oregon will receive at least 15% of the funding generated by the CPP; and

WHEREAS, other natural resource programs as a result of climate change are being implemented with the consistent with the needs of their states; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI strongly supports the full and continued implementation of Oregon’s Climate Protection Program (CPP) as a critical tool to reduce emissions, advance environmental justice, and protect the health and sovereignty of Tribal communities; and

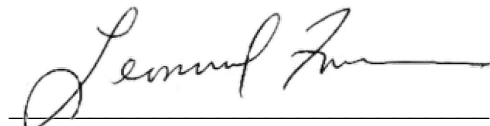
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, commends the Governor of Oregon, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and state legislators in their defense of the program and encourages them to continue to reject efforts to weaken, delay, or dismantle the CPP to uphold the state's moral and legal obligations to combat the impact of climate instability on Tribes across the region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI supports the defense of similar successful programs in other states; and

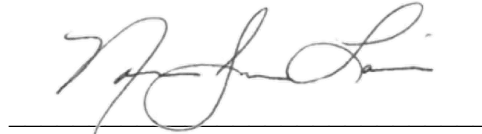
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI will communicate this position to relevant state agencies, elected officials, and partners, and stands ready to collaborate in defending and strengthening climate protections across the region.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2025 Midyear Convention held at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino in Airway Heights Washington on May 11-15, 2025, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary