



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

**RESOLUTION # 2025 – 17**

**“SUPPORT FOR NATIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS (CDFI) NETWORK (“Native CDFI Network”)  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) AWARD”**

**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**, the United States Congress authorized the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to create the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund as approved as part of the Inflation Reduction Act on August 16th, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund included three (3) major programs, the National Clean Investment Fund, the Solar for All program, and the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator (CCIA) program; and

**WHEREAS**, the leadership of the Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Native CDFI Network (NCN) began research and consideration of the CCIA opportunity to bring significant funding to Tribal communities that often have energy reliability challenges given remote location, lack of distributed energy sources, and single utility service with no redundancies while building continuing capital for future needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCN coordinated with other potential organizations planning to apply for CCIA funding and concluded that NCN would apply separately on behalf of 63 Native CDFI's across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCN concluded as with other major funding programs intended to serve the on-the-ground needs, the uniqueness and complexities of Tribal communities are most often best served by Natives and Native organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCN was notified in April of 2024 of approval of an award of \$400 million that would be the “most substantial infusion” of capital ever directed toward Native Community Development Financial Institutions (Native CDFIs), allowing each of the 63 Treasury-certified Native CDFI's across the Country to fund renewable energy, energy-efficient upgrades, and sustainability projects that will enhance well-being and create employment opportunities for Native people; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCN signed grant agreements and assurances and hired highly qualified staff with deep professional experience in finance, energy, carbon measurement, and hands-on Native CDFI operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCN convened a CCIA Launch Event in Omaha, Nebraska on October 10th and 11th, 2024 with industry experts, NCN new and existing staff, and a majority of the Native CDFI's across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCN soon after the Launch Event commenced a required Clean Energy Finance Certificate program for the participating Native CDFI's with a series of ten intensive courses such as loan underwriting, community assessments, loan pipeline development and others to be prepared when the CCIA program goes operational; and

**WHEREAS**, despite a pause to the CCIA programs under scrutiny currently, the NCN and member Native CDFI's stand ready to proceed to bring the diversified energy opportunities and solutions to our communities; now

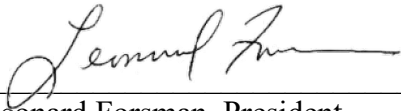
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI strongly urges the Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to stand in support of lawfully executed grant agreements for the Native CDFI Network's (NCN's) EPA award to begin to implement the

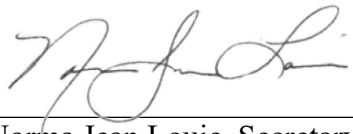
important work and projects as intended for energy diversification and independence in Indian Country; and

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

**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