



**ATNI Annual 2025 Convention  
Suquamish, Washington**

**RESOLUTION # 2025 – 41**

**“ESTABLISHING AN AFFILIATED TRIBES OF NORTHWEST INDIANS  
(ATNI) TASK FORCE ON DATA CENTERS”**

**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 member Tribes have demonstrated leadership in 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**, ATNI member Tribes are concerned about the impacts of data center projects near Tribal communities, culture, heritage, sovereignty, sacred sites, and cultural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI member Tribes are actively exploring data centers for economic development opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, Data centers are a rapidly expanding industry in the Northwest, with growing demand from artificial intelligence, cloud storage, and other digital technologies, requiring significant withdrawals of water for cooling and energy systems; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI has a responsibility to provide member Tribes with policy support, advocacy, and coordination on emerging issues that may affect their sovereignty, resources, and self-determination; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI remind state, federal agencies, and corporations of their obligation to engage in meaningful Tribal consultation before initiating any projects that may impact Tribal lands or interests; and


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the need for Tribal Benefit Agreements to be developed when the state, or federal agencies, or corporations propose the development of data centers near Tribal lands, ceded lands, usual and accustomed areas, or communities as soon as possible in the development process; and


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI establish a limited-duration task force 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 and project efforts; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this will be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolutions.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2025 Annual Convention held at the Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort in Suquamish, Washington on October 12-16, 2025, with a quorum present.

  
Leonard Forsman, President

  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary