



2026 Winter Convention Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION # 2026 – 016

“APPROVE ATNI TO APPLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM”

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, Congress enacted the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992; and

WHEREAS, the Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) was established under this legislation to provide financial assistance to Tribal governments and consortia, to develop capacity to manage the implementation of Tribal environmental programs; and

WHEREAS, the IGAP is now called the General Assistance Program (GAP); and

WHEREAS, the ATNI Tribes and Tribal organizations are eligible to receive GAP grants if the proposals meet the grant application requirements; and

WHEREAS, ATNI has successfully applied for and managed the GAP program; and

WHEREAS, ATNI grant applications for GAP are strengthened when there is expressed support from the membership it serves; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 Office has established funding priorities for the GAP grants program so that Tribes receive the highest priority of funding; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the ATNI Executive Council does hereby authorize the ATNI Organization to apply for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) General Assistance Program (GAP) FY 2027-2030 consortium application, provided funds remain available after awarding grants to federally recognized Tribes (both continuing grants and new applicants) that meet the grant application requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if awarded, that the ATNI Organization shall responsibly manage the EPA GAP funds and contract; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this will be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution(s).

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2026 Winter Convention held at the Hilton Portland Downtown in Portland, Oregon, on February 1-5, 2026, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary