



2018 Winter Convention Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION #18 - 10

“OPPOSING THE SITING AND CONTINUED CONSTRUCTION OF THE TACOMA LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG) PLANT WITHOUT THE REQUIRED PERMITS AND IN VIOLATION OF PERMIT CONDITIONS”

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 to 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 the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, since time immemorial, our economy, culture, religions and way of life has been centered around our fishing, hunting, and gathering resources, and the lands and waters upon which they depend, and we have been and remain careful and conscientious stewards over them to ensure their continued health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, ATNI member Tribes depend on the natural resources of this region to sustain our way of life, rights to fish, hunt and gather, our economies, human health and fulfill our sacred obligation to protect our First Foods and our most precious natural resources, water; and

WHEREAS, ATNI member Tribes work tirelessly to protect tribal members health, safety, welfare, and futures both within and external to tribal reservations; and

WHEREAS, ATNI member Tribes recognize that Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) could provide a cleaner fuel for ships, trucks, or cars than other fuel sources; however, ATNI tribes cannot accept that tribes, their members and tribal lands are bearing a disproportionate share of the significant risks posed by LNG facilities; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and local agencies are supporting LNG storage facilities in areas within or in close proximity to tribal lands without significant input or consideration of tribal interests or rights; and

WHEREAS, LNG storage and the untested technology for such facilities pose significant risks to human safety, human health, and natural resources due to explosive risks, spill risks, and risk to the health of natural resources relied upon by ATNI tribes; and

WHEREAS, LNG proponents are not fully analyzing and disclosing to ATNI tribes or the general public the risks posed by LNG to human safety, human health, and natural resources due to explosive risks, spill risks, and risk to the health of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Tribes' ancestral industry of fisheries relies on sustainable resources that will face detrimental impacts from the construction and operation of LNG storage and fueling facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Tacoma LNG Plant has received several permits for its development that have conditions that other permits be applied for and obtained, including a permit from the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency has issued a notice of violation to Puget Sound Energy for constructing the LNG plant, including the 8 million gallon storage tank and related valves and facilities, without an application and final order from the agency authorizing such construction; and

WHEREAS, Puget Sound Energy still does not have a permit from the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency and its application has not even reached the public comment period; and

WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Violation remains open; and

WHEREAS, Puget Sound Energy continues to construct the LNG Plant on the Tacoma Tide flats; and

WHEREAS, permits for the LNG Plant from the City of Tacoma, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers require that Puget Sound Energy comply with all environmental laws and, if not in compliance, immediately come into compliance with those laws; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and local authorities are responsible for enforcing the permit conditions and responsible for ensuring permit compliance; and

WHEREAS, the permitting authorities have received notice of the unmet permit conditions and the applicant’s failure to comply with the legal authorities governing the permitting of the Proposed Tacoma LNG Plant and have yet to act to stop ongoing work on the facility; and

WHEREAS, the failure to hold LNG and other major project proponents to full compliance with the law and permitting conditions, including Tribal Consultation and public participation, prior to initiating construction and expending significant resources is a common occurrence across the United States and capable of repetition on future projects; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ATNI is opposed to the siting of the Proposed Tacoma LNG Plant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ATNI member Tribes support a strategy to document and disclose the true risks of construction and operation of LNG storage and distribution facilities and promote siting of such facilities in areas where such risks are not disproportionately absorbed by tribes and such risks are lessened for the public as a whole; and

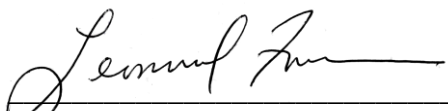
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ATNI member Tribes have identified that several of the failures to document and disclose the risks of construction and operation of the LNG plant are best addressed through a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a complete analysis of environmental justice concerns and a human health study, which have not been completed to date; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ATNI member Tribes call on the City of Tacoma to require a supplemental EIS and the State of Washington and Federal authorities to urge the City of Tacoma to require a supplemental EIS, to be scoped accordingly through public comment; and

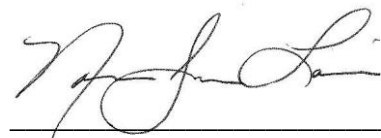
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, ATNI calls for all Federal, State and Local agencies to enforce the Tacoma LNG Plant proponents to cease construction activities.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2018 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the DoubleTree by Hilton - Portland, Oregon, on January 22-25, 2018, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary