



## **2016 Winter Convention Suquamish, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #16 - 09**

#### **“OPPOSE THE SITING OF LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FACILITIES IN OR NEAR TRIBAL LANDS AND MAJOR POPULATION 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, 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**, the tribes of ATNI 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**, the tribes of ATNI work tirelessly to protect tribal members health, safety, welfare, and futures both within and outside of tribal reservations; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI member Tribes recognize that liquefied natural gas (LNG) could provide a cleaner fuel for ships, trucks, and cars than other fuel sources; however, ATNI member Tribes cannot accept that 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 the health of natural resources due to explosive risks, spill risks and associated risks to the natural resources relied upon by ATNI member 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 associated risks to the health of natural resources; and

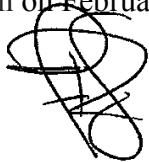
**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Tribes' ancestral industry of fisheries relies on sustainable resources that will face detrimental impacts from the construction and operation of LNG storage and fueling facilities; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI is in opposition to the siting of LNG storage and distribution facilities in or near tribal lands or major population centers; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Member Tribes of ATNI support a strategy to document and disclose the true risks of construction and operation of LNG storage and distribution facilities, and, to also accurately disclose the risks involved with such facilities, and, to 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.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2016 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort, Suquamish, Washington on February 1- 4, 2016, with a quorum present.



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Fawn Sharp, President



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(Norma Jean Louie, Secretary