



2018 Winter Convention Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION #18 - 12

“OPPOSE HiTEST SMELTER IN PEND OREILLE COUNTY, WASHINGTON”

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, protecting the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and Kootenai Tribe of Idaho Reservations' air quality is essential to fulfilling this duty; and

WHEREAS, HiTest Sands, Inc. intends to build a silicon smelter in Newport, WA approximately 11 miles southeast of the Kalispel reservation; and

WHEREAS, this HiTest Smelter is being supported by the Washington State Governor's Office of Economic Development without proper consultation and informed consent by the Kalispel and Kootenai Tribes nor its sovereign concerns to their impacts to air, water and wildlife impacts; and

WHEREAS, Washington State associated agencies, such as the Department of Ecology, did not perform due diligence of the company and project prior to making the designation (e.g. no emissions info, corporate track record, or proof of job claims), nor has the State used best available science in any kind of due diligence of the project; and

WHEREAS, according to data provided by HiTest, the smelter would emit 320,000 tons of greenhouse gases, 760 tons of sulfur dioxide, and 700 tons of nitrogen oxides each year; and

WHEREAS, this amount of air pollution poses unacceptable risks to the health, culture, and natural resources of the Kalispel Tribe, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and all Reservation residents; and

WHEREAS, these risks dramatically outweigh the speculative economic benefits of the smelter; and

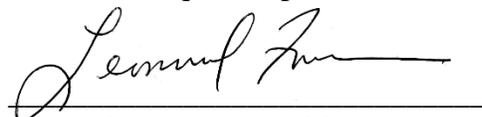
WHEREAS, there are many other opportunities for economic growth in Pend Oreille County and in the airshed that goes east of the project site that will not harm our health, culture, and natural resources; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby call upon the State of Washington to rescind the HiTest Smelter's designation as a project of statewide significance and revoke any unspent grant monies; that the projected emissions be removed from consideration in the Governor's "zero emission future"; immediately halt the permitting process given projected pollution burden and transboundary interests involved; encourage the State of Washington to identify and pursue other mutually acceptable projects of statewide significance that is more consonant with community values; and

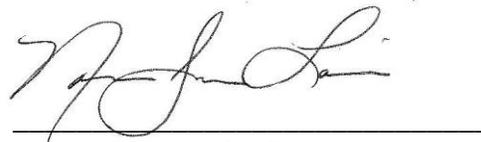
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI requests all of the ATNI member Tribes support and sign on to the call for the Washington Governor to properly consult with all affected Tribes before continuing the process, institute a higher and more appropriate scrutiny level in the project identification and the permitting process.

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