



PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS



PUYALLUP TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 101219

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribe has existed since creation as the aboriginal people who are the owners and guardians of their lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribe is an independent sovereign nation, having historically negotiated with several foreign nations including the United States in the Medicine Creek Treaty; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribal Council is the governing body of the Puyallup Tribe in accordance with the authority of its sovereign rights as the aboriginal owners and guardians of their lands and waters, reaffirmed in the Medicine Creek Treaty, and their Constitution and Bylaws, as amended and approved by the Tribe and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior; and

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

A resolution in which the Puyallup Tribe of Indians declares a Climate Emergency and identifies appropriate actions to be taken by the Puyallup Tribal government to address climate change.

Please review full Text of this Resolution and Attachments herewith

WHEREAS, in 1984 the City of Tacoma was placed on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Priority List of contaminated sites as one of the nation's most polluted cities; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians recognized the clear threat posed to the community's long-term health and economic vitality by this pollution and so, courageously committed to cleaning up its highly polluted lands, waters, and air; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians in 2016 recognized the threat of climate change and commissioned the Climate Change Impact Assessment and Adaptation Plan to begin the long process of addressing the consequences presented by global climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians found in said report that the threat of climate change would regularly flood the Tacoma Tideflats, parts of the Wapato, Hylebos, and Clear Creek watersheds, key tribal facilities, businesses, and residences; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians is committed to a high quality of life for all of its tribal members, seven generations, and beyond, described by access to healthy, affordable housing, environmentally friendly transportation options, access to sustainable jobs, a rich cultural community that honors our ancestors and culture, and thriving ecological environment to sustain our salmon, orca, and other threatened wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians through the unanimous consent of National Congress of American Indians recognized the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it by reaffirming the Paris Agreement, and working to limit warming to no more than 1.5°C; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on climate change (IPCC) warned that it would not be possible to meet the 1.5°C goal unless global carbon levels were reduced 45 percent below 2010 levels by 2030, requiring an unprecedented transformation of every sector of the global economy over the next 11 years; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, in 2017 supported the Tacoma City Council to enact interim regulations that temporarily prohibited both new and existing heavy industrial projects in the Port of Tacoma/Tacoma Tide Flats subarea, and the temporary prohibition included large fossil fuel projects such as refineries and bulk fossil fuel storage facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, opposes the Puget Sound Energy Liquefied Natural Gas plant and continues to urge the City of Tacoma to conduct a supplemental environmental impact statement for said facility to address several unaddressed environmental harms; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, In 2018 entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Tacoma, the Port of Tacoma, Pierce County and the City of Fife to develop new permanent regulations for the Port of Tacoma/Tacoma Tide Flats subarea with one of the stated goals of this process being environmental remediation and protection, and consideration of limitations on new or expanded large fossil fuel projects will be part of that work; and

WHEREAS, global temperatures having increased approximately 1.1°C above late 19th century levels demonstrating that climate change is causing damage to the Earth as experienced by increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, homelessness, species extinctions, food potable water shortages, droughts, and extreme weather; and

WHEREAS, unchecked climate change will bring evermore drastic decline to the health and prosperity of future generations, particularly for indigenous communities; and

WHEREAS, the longer we delay taking definitive action to reduce carbon pollution the greater the threat posed by climate change to current and future generations and the more costly it will be to protect and maintain our community from the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, The Puyallup Tribe of Indians have ancestral knowledge that the Earth is our Mother, and we cherish, love and respect her, and our relationship with all things. By understanding and honoring our relationship with the Earth we strive toward Earth balance and a healthy existence. Our ancestral knowledge teaches respect and reciprocity toward all of nature and the cosmos. We utilize our knowledge of respect and reciprocity to attain balance in our world, lives and bodies. As part of the global community we find reciprocity has not been honored and Earth is out of balance requiring the Puyallup Tribe of Indians to join indigenous cultures around the globe in protecting the Earth. We do so by emphasizing respect and reciprocity in all matters involving the Puyallup Tribal government, and community. Because we live in a global community, we emphasize our sharing of appropriate traditional knowledge with all, so that all, can work together to regain balance; and

WHEREAS, the Puyallup Tribe possesses a vision for Earth balance and a pathway of respect and reciprocity as our highest priority, as when the earth is in balance, nature is in balance, and we too, as human beings are in balance; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, cherishes its youth, who are the key to our community's future prosperity, and strives to engage them in decisions being made right now, including through the Tribe's Youth Commission, in an ultimate effort to empower them to follow their dreams and live prosperously; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, have seen time and again that seemingly impossible challenges can be met when our community is mobilized; and

WHEREAS, restoring a safe and stable climate requires "Climate Mobilization" across all of our society, including all levels of government and across all economic sectors including: agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, and energy production at a speed and scale not seen since World War II to reach zero greenhouse gas emissions, to rapidly and safely drawdown excess carbon from the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, transition to a climate-safe future requires the need for regional community participation, inclusion, and support, and recognizes that the local residents, particularly frontline communities, and community organizations, including communities of faith, youth, organized labor, business, academic institutions, homeowners' associations, and environmental, economic, racial, gender, family and disability justice, indigenous, immigrant, and women's rights organizations and other such allies will be integral to and in the leadership of the mobilization effort; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2019 our youth and young adults joined with their allies around the world to call for a global climate strike and greater, more urgent climate leadership from their elected officials and public institutions; and

WHEREAS, each generation has a duty to preserve a sustainable and healthy planet for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tacoma is also expected to declare a climate emergency and this resolution affirms our mutual interests to address a regionally comprehensive and coordinated effort to combat climate change; therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians:

SECTION 1. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians declares that our sovereign nation, region, state, United States of America, civilization, humanity, and the natural world are experiencing a climate emergency, and that the Puyallup Tribe of Indians commits to a climate emergency mobilization effort to combat global warming that will result in a just transition to a carbon neutral economy by 2050 and accelerates adaptation and resilience strategies in preparation for intensifying climate impacts.

SECTION 2. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will work to review and update Title 15 Land Use Code to prohibit siting and expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure under its jurisdiction; including coal terminals & bulk storage facilities, liquefied or gaseous fossil fuel terminals, bulk storage, manufacturing, production, processing or refining of oil or other liquefied or gaseous fossil fuels.

SECTION 3. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will establish a goal to transition existing fossil fuel facilities to non-fossil fuel sources by 2035.

SECTION 4. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will identify and propose sustainable funding mechanisms for climate actions, including smart growth strategies, building efficiency, sustainable transportation systems, green jobs with living wages, community development strategies that uphold culture and equity, urban tree canopy, and air, water, and lands.

SECTION 5. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians develop resiliency and retreat policies for tribal facilities and real estate acquisition in critically affected areas under current sea level rise modeling methodologies.

SECTION 6. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will establish a Sustainability Manager position.

SECTION 7. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will establish a goal to transition to a non-fossil fuel GSA fleet by 2035.

SECTION 8. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will evaluate all future government facilities built be considered for sustainable building practices and treatments.

SECTION 9. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will explore carbon offset opportunities.

SECTION 10. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will adopt sustainable procurement and recycling strategies.

SECTION 11. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will convene a special session of the Tribal Youth Council and outreach toward Chief Leschi students to come up with additional strategies to decrease the Tribe's greenhouse gases and address climate change concerns from the youth.

SECTION 12. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will expand the tribal Air Quality Monitoring program.

SECTION 13. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians supports regional and statewide initiatives to adopt a Clean Fuel Standard.

SECTION 14. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and its entities will evaluate the fiscal impacts of this climate emergency mobilization.

SECTION 15. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will conduct a survey to evaluate culturally significant lands most threatened by climate change and proper measures to protect these sites. These sites include but are not limited to traditional hunting & fishing grounds, traditional village sites, lands devoted for the purpose of gathering traditional foods, medicines, and culturally significant items, ceremonial sites, and sacred sites.

SECTION 16. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will establish a sustainability committee headed by the Sustainability Manager to continue to identify measures for the tribe to address waste, recycling, climate change, and energy efficiency. The mission of this committee is for tribal staff to become aware of the Tribe's world view, and traditional tools that work toward restoring Earth balance. And, where appropriate, educate other organizations and communities about the Tribe's world view and appropriate traditional knowledge, which will assist in restoring a safe and stable climate. Additionally, said committee would work to strive that all tribally sponsored community functions continue to honor our relationship and responsibility to our Mother Earth.

SECTION 17. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will establish a goal by 2035 to replace aged marine engines for retrofit and replacement as part of its marine fleet and work to explore engine replacement programs for tribal members.

SECTION 18. That the Puyallup Tribe of Indians will sign the "We Are Still In" commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement to not retreat from our responsibilities to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians that it authorizes the Tribal Council Chairman David Bean, and in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, Bill Sterud, to execute this Resolution and other implementing instruments, or amendments, required on behalf of the Tribe.


CERTIFICATION

I, KYLEE SATIACUM, Secretary of the **Puyallup Tribal Council** of the Puyallup Reservation do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted at a Regular Meeting of the **Puyallup Tribal Council** held on the Puyallup Indian Reservation, on the 10 day of DECEMBER 2019, a quorum being present with a vote of 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstaining and 1 Not Voting it's adoption.

ATTEST:



David Z. Bean, Chairman
Puyallup Tribal Council


BY:

Secretary, Puyallup Tribal Council