



Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

Chief Ron LaFrance Jr.

Chief Eric Thompson

Chief Beverly Cook

Sub-Chief Michael L. Conners

Sub-Chief Cheryl Jacobs

Sub-Chief Shelley Jacobs

Tribal Council Resolution

2016 - 64

RESOLUTION OF THE SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBE TO SUPPORT THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE

WHEREAS, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council is the duly recognized governing body of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and is responsible for the health, safety, education and welfare of all community members; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe ("Sioux Tribe") is an unincorporated Tribe of Indians, having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, with the exception of Section 16 and is the recognized governing body of the Sioux Tribe known as the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council, pursuant to the amended Constitution of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is empowered to negotiate with Federal, State and local governments and others on behalf of the Sioux Tribe, and is further empowered to promote and protect the health, education and general welfare of the members of the Sioux Tribe and to administer such services that may contribute to the social and economic advancement of the Sioux Tribe and its members, and is further empowered to authorize and direct subordinate boards, committees or Tribal Officials to administer the affairs of the Sioux Tribe and to carry out the directives of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council; and is empowered to manage, protect and preserve the property of the Sioux Tribe and natural resources of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is a signatory to the Treaty of Fort Laramie of 1851 [11 Stat. 749], and the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 [15 Stat. 635]; and

WHEREAS, Article 2 of the Treaty of Fort Laramie of 1868 provides for the "undisturbed use and occupation" of the Great Sioux Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Indian Reservation was established as a permanent homeland for the bands of the Great Sioux Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline LLC has proposed to construct an 1,100-mile pipeline with a capacity of 570,000 barrels of crude oil per day, to cross the Missouri River immediately above the mouth of Cannonball River on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, recent oil spills upstream from the Standing Rock Reservation, including the release of 840,000 gallons of oil near Tioga, North Dakota in October 2013; 51,000 gallons of oil released into the Yellowstone River upstream from Glendive, Montana, resulting in the shutdown of the community water system for 6,000 residents in January 2015; and as well as the release of 100,000,000 gallons of tar sand crude oil in Michigan's Kalamazoo River in July 2010; all of these events demonstrate the dangers from oil and gas pipelines, such as the Dakota Access, to downstream communities, fish and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline threatens public health and welfare on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe relies on the waters of the life-giving Missouri River for their continued existence, and the Dakota Access Pipeline poses a serious risk to Mni Sose and to their very survival; and

WHEREAS, the horizontal direction drilling in the construction of the pipeline would destroy valuable cultural resources of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline violates Article 2 of the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty which guarantees that the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe shall enjoy the “undisturbed use and occupation” of their permanent homeland, the Standing Rock Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, representatives of the Dakota Access Pipeline attended a meeting of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council and were inconsiderate of the jeopardy their quest for oil and gas profits imposes on the Treaty lands and permanent homeland of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; now therefor be it

RESOLVED, based upon the above, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council hereby opposes the Dakota Access Pipeline; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council supports the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council’s call upon the Army Corps of Engineers to reject the river crossing permit for the Dakota Access Pipeline under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council hereby calls upon the Secretary of the Interior, as the institutional officer primarily responsible for the implementation of the Federal Trust responsibility to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, to fully exercise the trust responsibility and ensure that the Federal Government rejects the Dakota Access Pipeline; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council Chiefs are hereby authorized and instructed to sign this resolution for and on behalf of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.

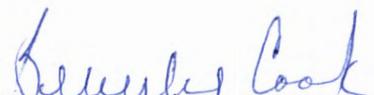
THE SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBAL COUNCIL



Ron Lafrance, Jr.
Tribal Chief

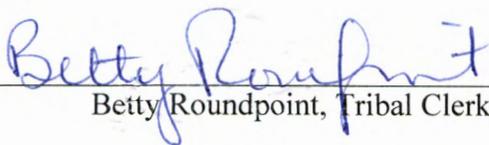


Eric Thompson
Tribal Chief



Beverly Cook
Tribal Chief

CERTIFICATION: This is to certify that the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council pursuant to the authority vested therein duly passed the above resolution.



Betty Roundpoint, Tribal Clerk



Date