



**INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL
40th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
PHILLIP DEERE FAMILY ROUNDHOUSE
OKEMAH OKLAHOMA
SEPTEMBER 10TH – 12TH, 2014**

Resolution on Environmental Toxics, Women's Reproductive Health and Extractive Industries: Acknowledging Indigenous Peoples Sacred Connection to Water

The delegates at this conference representing Indigenous Peoples from North, Central, and South America, the Caribbean and the Pacific, adopt by consensus the following resolution to defend the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:

1. We reaffirm the IITC 'Resolution on the Protection of the Environmental and Biodiversity: Climate Change, Mining, Oil, Water and Natural Resources: Toxics and Pesticides and the Protection of Sacred Sites and Forests' adopted in Panama in 2009.
2. We further reaffirm the IITC 'Resolution on Land, Territories and Natural Resources, Treaties, Support for Traditional Governments and Implementation of the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples', also adopted in Panama in 2009.
3. We emphasize that as Indigenous Peoples our relationships with our lands, territories, waters, plants and animals, traditional foods and medicines are the fundamental physical, cultural and spiritual basis for our existence. Our relationship to our Mother Earth requires us to conserve our freshwaters and oceans for the survival of present and future generations. We assert our role as caretakers with rights and responsibilities to defend and ensure the protection, availability and purity of water. We reaffirm the Treaty right to water, and stand united to follow and implement our knowledge and traditional laws and exercise our right of self-determination to preserve water and to protect life.
4. We reiterate the call by the 13th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues this year for a legal review of UN chemical Conventions, in particular the Rotterdam Convention, to ensure that they are in conformity with international human rights standards including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
5. We commit to continue to call for a halt to toxic pesticide contamination of Indigenous Peoples' lands and waters, including the production, export and import of pesticides that are banned or restricted for use in the

producing country, and to bring to light the resulting human rights violations including the devastating impacts on women's reproductive health, children and future generations as well as on biodiversity and food sovereignty.

6. We denounce all forms of unsustainable energy development and the current practice of extreme energy development including the Alberta Tar Sands, fracking, off-shore oil development, strip and open pit mining and mountain top removal as well as the detrimental impacts on food sovereignty and subsistence, sacred areas and cultural practices, and health.

7. We further reaffirm our commitment to a moratorium on all new exploration for oil, gas and coal as a first step towards the full phase out of fossil fuels with a just transition to sustainable jobs, energy and environment. We take this position based on our concern over the disproportionate cultural, social, environmental and climate impacts on Indigenous Peoples.

8. We reaffirm IITC's position to oppose fracking on all lands and call for a moratorium on the detrimental effects fracking has on the lands and health of Indigenous Peoples. We further express concern for the impacts of extreme fracking in Oklahoma, including water contamination and earthquakes as well as violations of Treaty rights, and call for a memorandum of all fracking activities until these impacts are addressed and the Free Prior and Informed Consent of impacted Indigenous Peoples is obtained.

9. We support the current studies being conducted by the Navajo (Dine') Nation regarding contamination from extractive industries and the impacts on the health and well-being of the Dine' People and call for similar comprehensive studies to be carried out in other impacted Nations and territories, including the relationship of extractive industries to all forms of environmental violence.

10. We denounce toxic waste incineration and waste gasification projects located on or near Indigenous lands and territories which produce a variety of toxic discharges into the air, water and ground, cause increases of diseases in nearby communities including cancer, and are significant sources of a range of powerful pollutants, including dioxin and other chlorinated organic compounds that are well-known for their toxic impacts on human health and the environment.

11. We reiterate our support for the call that Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) programs and projects must fully recognize, respect and implement the rights of Indigenous Peoples including FPIC. We further reaffirm that the forests are sacred and the source of life for Indigenous Peoples and therefore must be protected.

12. We finally express firm opposition to the mega pipelines proposed throughout Indigenous Nations and territories in Alaska, Canada, the United States (US), Mexico, and Central and South America and the Caribbean with special emphasis on the Alaska-Canada pipelines, Tar Sand development and transport in Alberta, Keystone XL, Enbridge and all other mega pipelines and expansions which create a path of destruction, violate Treaty Rights and threaten the lands, waters, health, subsistence and cultures of Indigenous Peoples.

***Adopted by Consensus September 12th 2014,
Okemah Oklahoma***