



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF
OJIBWE INDIANS

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government
JOINT RESOLUTION 17-02-129-16

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE
OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DAKOTA ACCESS
PIPELINE AND DECLARING SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT OF THE
STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE**

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band Assembly (“Band Assembly”) is the duly-elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), a federally- recognized Indian Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 3 MLBSA § 2 (a) and (d), the Band Assembly has the power to enact laws which regulate internal and external affairs of the Band in order to promote the general welfare of the people of the Band, and to adopt resolutions; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 4 MLBSA § 6, the Chief Executive has the power to exercise the executive powers of Band government; and
- WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline LLC has proposed to construct a 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 Cannon Ball River on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, recent oil spills, including the release of 80,000 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 the release of 1,000,000 gallons of tar sands crude in the Kalamazoo River in Michigan in July 2010 clearly demonstrate the danger and damage in downstream communities and fish and wildlife from oil and gas pipelines such as Dakota Access; and
- WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline poses a serious threat to the water systems serving communities of the Tribes within the Great Plains region, including the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Dakota Access Pipeline threatens the integrity of sacred sites, historic resources and archeological resources; and
- WHEREAS, the potential for an oil spill from the Dakota Access Pipeline poses an unacceptable risk to the waters, fish and wildlife that are critical to livelihood of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; and

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WHEREAS, Native Peoples have the inherent nature to protect Mother Earth and all water, air, land, fish, birds, animals and plants; and

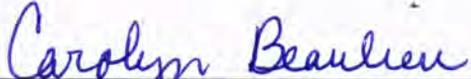
WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has requested support from all Tribes in his letter dated August 15, 2016 and clearly stated that the Dakota Access Pipeline "threatens our way of life, our water, people, and land".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe hereby opposes the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, and declares solidarity and support for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in their peaceful opposition against the Dakota Access Pipeline; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe urges the United States Congress and President Obama to halt the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline and require federal agencies to conduct meaningful and binding consultation with affected Tribes that will produce an acceptable resolution to the potential hazards posed by the pipeline.

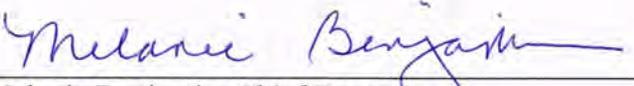
WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present held on the 25th day of August 2016, at Chi Minising, Minnesota by a vote of 3 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WEREOF, we, the Band Assembly hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of the Assembly to be affixed to this resolution and forwarded to the Chief Executive for Concurrence.



Carolyn Beaulieu, Speaker of the Assembly

IN CONCURRENCE, with the action of the Speaker of the Assembly, I hereunto set my hand to this resolution.



Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND