



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Seventy-Sixth Annual Tribal Assembly
April 13-16, 2011
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA/11-57

Title: **Roadless Rule & Tongass Hydro**

By: Juneau Delegate Jackie Pata

WHEREAS, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is a federally recognized tribe of more than 27,000 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, many of Central Council's tribal citizens residing in small communities in Southeast Alaska pay more than five times the national average for electricity, due mostly to dependence on fossil fuels for electric generation; and

WHEREAS, the small communities have opportunities to reduce and stabilize electric rates by building hydroelectric projects, and by electric transmission interties to connect to lower cost hydroelectric power generation projects; and

WHEREAS, many of these lower cost power sources require the construction and use of roads to build and maintain hydro projects and transmission interties; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government recently enacted a rule (the "roadless rule") which prohibits or severely restricts road construction in the inventoried roadless areas of the Tongass National Forest; and

WHEREAS, without roads to build and maintain hydroelectric projects and electric transmission interties the costs to build and maintain the projects will increase dramatically, possibly to the extent that any cost savings from the projects will be negated by costs of expensive helicopter rental; and

WHEREAS, typical rates for helicopter rental are upward of \$3,000 per hour, and these costs are generally paid by ratepayers in their electric rates; and

WHEREAS, hydroelectric projects and transmission intertie connections to hydroelectric power sources are the most cost effective means of reducing electric rates to Central Council's citizens residing in southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska House of Representatives recently passed HJR 20, urging the President of the United States, The United States Congress, and the Secretary of the US Department of Agriculture not to implement protection of inventoried roadless areas under the roadless rule or otherwise restrict the development of necessary hydroelectric projects in the Tongass National Forest;


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventy-Sixth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska convened in Juneau, Alaska on April 13-16, 2011 and hereby urges the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Secretary of the US Department of Agriculture not to implement protection of inventoried roadless areas under the roadless rule or otherwise restrict the development of necessary hydroelectric projects in the Tongass National Forest.

ADOPTED this 16th day of April, 2011, by the Seventy-Sixth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY


President Edward K. Thomas

ATTEST


Tribal Secretary Harold Houston