



**Dene National Office
Assembly of First Nations (NWT)**

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**48th DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
AUGUST 20 - 24, 2018**

MOTION #18/19-005

WEST POINT FIRST NATION, DENENDEH

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TECK FRONTIER TAR SANDS MINE IN NORTHERN ALBERTA

MOVED BY: Elder Lawrence Cheezie, Smith's Landing First Nation

SECONDED BY: Chief Roy Fabian, K'atl'odeeche First Nation

DECISION: UNANIMOUSLY

WHEREAS, the Dene Nation has convened the 48th Dene National Assembly, West Point First Nation, Denendeh from August 20 – 24, 2018; and

WHEREAS:

1. The Chiefs derive authority from the Creator and the citizens of respective Nations, and in the exercise of inherent authority and Aboriginal and Treaty rights are beneficiaries of all aspects of international law, including but not limited to the Charter of the United Nations, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the doctrine of Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC), and ILO Convention 169, and from time to time pass Resolutions and provide directives to their representative organizations; and
2. Article 32 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states:
 - i. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources.
 - ii. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.

"Upholding & Protecting the Rights and Interests of the Dene Nation"

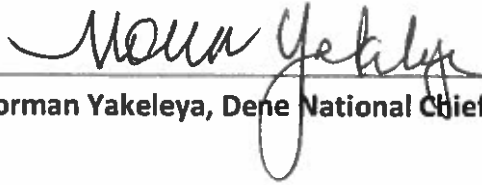
- iii. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact.
3. The Teck Resources Frontier Project, the largest proposed truck-and-shovel tar sands mine located approximately 30km south of Wood Buffalo National Park in northern Alberta on the banks of the Athabasca River, is moving through regulatory approvals, with the Public Hearings happening in late September, 2018; and
4. There has been no consultation with Smith's Landing First Nation by the Government of Canada, Government of Alberta, or Teck Resources with regard to the project, the environmental assessment, or preliminary exploration leading up to the full project application or recognition that the project will impact Smith's Landing Territory; and
5. Smith's Landing First Nation is deeply concerned about the impacts of this project on not only the Outstanding Universal Values of Wood Buffalo National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the largest National Park in Canada, and Smith's Landing Territory, but also the downstream effects of the project on our lands and waters, and cumulative effects due to other industrial developments and climate change; and
6. The Government of Canada has agreed to support the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee in an attempt to protect and uphold the health of Wood Buffalo National Park; and
7. Smith's Landing First Nation seeks support from the Dene Nation in requesting the Government of Canada uphold the integrity of Wood Buffalo National Park and the ability of Smith's Landing First Nation to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Dene Nation support Smith's Landing First Nation in ensuring the ecological viability of its Territory, including upholding the OUV of Wood Buffalo National Park and pending Action Plan to address the UNESCO Reactive Monitoring Mission, by communicating our concerns to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada; and
2. The Dene Nation urge the Provincial and Federal governments to honour Canada's adoption of UNDRIP by not proceeding with the approval of the Teck Resources Frontier project without the free, prior and informed consent of all affected First Nations across Denendeh; and
3. The Dene National Chief provide notice to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) that since there has been no consultation with Smith's Landing First Nation that the Minister of CIRNAC take appropriate action to ensure deep, meaningful consultation and accommodation take place, and/or place a stop work order on the proposed project; and

4. The Dene National Chief request that the Crown recognize the impacts of this project on Smith's Landing First Nation's Territory, and all waters in the Mackenzie Basin Watershed, spanning Treaties 8 and 11.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 23rd day of August 2018 in West Point First Nation, Denendeh.



Norman Yakeleya, Dene National Chief

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