

# SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

## RESOLUTION NO. 16-10

#### of the

### SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL

**WHEREAS,** the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is the Governing Body of the Squaxin Island Tribe, its members, its lands, its enterprises and its agencies by the authority of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Squaxin Island Tribe, as approved and adopted by the General Body and the Secretary of the Interior on July 8, 1965; and

**WHEREAS,** under the Constitution, Bylaws and inherent sovereignty of the Tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of tribal members, and of protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources and rights of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe possessing reserved powers, including the powers of self-government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council has been entrusted with the creation of ordinances and resolutions in order to fulfill its duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of Tribal members, and of protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline ("Pipeline") would carry as much as 570,000 barrels per day of Bakken crude from western North Dakota to Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pipeline would run through and threaten the sanctity of ancestral lands and waters reserved for the traditional use of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe by the Treaty of Ft. Laramie, including the Missouri River, burial grounds and gravesites, and other sacred sites of cultural, religious and historical significance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribe believes that water is a sacred natural resource that must be protected and conserved; and

**WHEREAS**, the Standing Rock people have rights, both inherent and embodied in existing laws, to protect their homelands, their historic and sacred sites, their natural resources, their drinking water and their families from this potentially dangerous Pipeline;

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**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Squaxin Island Tribe stands in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's opposition to construction of the Pipeline across the Tribe's ancestral lands, waters and sacred sites; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Squaxin Island Tribe calls upon the United States and the Army Corps of Engineers to obtain the free, prior and informed consent of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, prior to taking any federal action regarding the Pipeline that would harm or destroy the Tribe's ancestral lands, waters and sacred sites.

#### CERTIFICATION

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at the special meeting of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council, held on, September 20 2016, at which time a quorum was present and was passed by a vote of 4 for and 0 against, with 0 abstentions.

David Lopeman, Chairman

Attested by:

**Charlene Krise**, Secretary

Arnold Cooper, Vice Chairman

Vicki Kruger, Treasurer

Vince Henry, Member

Jim Peters, Member

Whitney Jones, Member