

SHUMAGIN CORPORATION

Resolution No. 2007- 1

Resolution of the Shumagin Corporation on Climate Change in Alaska

WHEREAS: that the Shumagin Corporation is a recognized village corporation established in 1971 by Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and we represent 435 shareholders in the Shumagin Corporation; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Natives have developed unique cultures based on the prevailing regional climate, and climate change is likely to have significant impacts on the availability of subsistence foods such as salmon, whales, caribou, seabirds, and waterfowl, and will present serious challenges to subsistence ways of life in Alaska and other regions; and

WHEREAS: We are now aware of the threats of climate change in Alaska and how it is going to affect our way of life. As stated in the 2004 Arctic Climate Impact Assessment there is an international scientific consensus that carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gasses released into the atmosphere have a profound warming effect on the Earth's climate. The 2001 Third Assessment Report from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the 2000 U.S. Global Change Research Program's (USGCRP) First National Assessment indicate that global warming has begun; and

WHEREAS: Over the past 40 years, annual temperatures in Alaska have increased 4 degrees F and over the next 100 years, under a moderate emissions scenario, annual average temperatures are projected to rise 5-9 degrees F over land and up to 13 degrees F over the oceans; and

WHEREAS: Warming permafrost throughout most of Alaska is undermining Alaska's roads and utility infrastructure, pipelines and buildings, affecting the availability of groundwater and surface water, and contributing to increased erosion along coasts and rivers; and unpredictable weather, snow, and ice conditions make travel and traditional hunting and fishing practices more hazardous, thus endangering our lives; and

WHEREAS: Climate change is impacting entire ecosystems and is already threatening many species of Alaska wildlife by changing habitat, insect population, snow and ice cover, and unpredictable weather related to climate change; and that increased air and water temperatures are resulting in diseases in plants, wildlife and fish; and

WHEREAS: The increase in temperature will result in significant sea level increases that will adversely effect Alaskan communities and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS: Climate-related changes to the weather, food sources, and local landscapes undermine the social identity and cultural survival of Alaska Natives and create new challenges for community health systems and rural infrastructure; economies that will be affected include Alaska's commercial fisheries, oil and gas development, tourism, and timber harvesting, as well as the enormous cost of relocating flooded villages; and

WHEREAS: Action taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy use, saving money, and preventing melting permafrost from eroding away homes, shorelines and entire villages; and

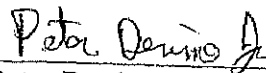
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Shumagin Corporation urges the Alaska Congressional delegation, the United States Congress and the President of the United States to move forward on a national, mandatory program to reduce climate change pollution and promote the development and adoption of renewable energy within a timeframe that prevents irreversible harm to public health, the economy and the environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that we also urge the Alaska State Legislature and the Governor of Alaska to promote the development and adoption of renewable energy within a timeframe that prevents irreversible harm to public health, the economy and the environment; and

Passed unanimously this 7th day of December, by the Board of Directors of the Shumagin Corporation.



Arleen M. Gardner
President



Peter Devine Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer