WHITE EARTH RESERVATION TRIBAL COUNCIL
A/K/A WHITE EARTH BUSINESS COMMITTEE
WHITE EARTH BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Resolution No. 001-14-012

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council is the duly elected governing body of the White Earth Reservation pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, of the revised constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, as amended, and organized under Section 16, of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, also known as the White Earth Reservation Business Committee, is the duly authorized governing body of the White Earth Band, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, as the duly elected governing body of the White Earth Reservation has the power under the constitution and by-laws to promulgate resolutions governing the conduct of business on the Reservation; as well as conduct taking place within or having a direct impact upon the 1855 Treaty Ceded territory, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council has reviewed the application filed by North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") with respect to a routing permit for a petroleum pipeline between Tioga, North Dakota and Superior, Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Tribal Government and staff have been active in work to protect the environment for our present Tribal members and for our future generations through the approval and implementation of a body of tribal laws and regulations, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council is concerned about the potential impact to lands, wetlands and waters if a leak or rupture of North Dakota Pipeline Company’s pipeline were to occur near the White Earth Reservation or in the 1855 Treaty Ceded territory, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council is mandated to take steps to protect tribal members; and to protect habitat for animals, plants and especially wild rice from the devastating potential effects of a pipeline leak or rupture, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council has not been provided with any assurances by the North Dakota Pipeline Company or any other party that additional pipelines for the transportation of crude oil, tar sands and diluents will be any safer than the current pipelines which have leaked and ruptured on countless occasions, now
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council hereby declares that it is opposed to the application filed by the North Dakota Pipeline Company with the Minnesota PUC with respect to a routing permit for the Sandpiper petroleum pipeline between Tioga, North Dakota and Superior, Wisconsin, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council hereby directs Tribal environmental and legal staff to formally intervene in the proceedings now pending before the Minnesota PUC involving the North Dakota Pipeline Company’s application for a routing permit for the purpose of informing the PUC of the White Earth Nation’s opposition to the grant of such permits, now

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council further directs Tribal environmental and legal staff to document the potential harmful impacts to the White Earth Nation, its people, its natural environment, its water, both within the boundaries of the White Earth Reservation and in the 1855 Treaty Ceded territory.

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of 3 for, 0 against, 0 silent, a quorum being present at a special meeting of the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council held on February 13, 2014 in Motanen, Minnesota.

Erma J. Vizenor, Chairwoman

Robert J. Durant, Secretary/Treasurer