Resolution 12-08-10-B

Supporting Oneida Seven Generations and Oneida Energy in the Development of the Waste-to-Energy Project

WHEREAS, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty Tribe organized under the laws of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida General Tribal Council has delegated the authorities of Article IV of the Oneida Tribal Constitution to the Oneida Business Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida Seven Generations vision and philosophy encourages Oneida people to act in a cautious and responsible manner because what is said and done today will affect the next seven generations to come, and

WHEREAS, the Oneida Business Committee chartered a tribal corporation, Oneida Seven Generations Corporation (OSGC), to identify economic development opportunities and potential business partners and contribute to the generation of a viable economy in an environmentally responsible manner, and

WHEREAS, Oneida Energy, a subsidiary of OSGC, is currently developing a renewable energy project that will help reduce the community’s reliance on fossil fuel by constructing a facility that will convert municipal waste into usable energy (Waste-to-Energy), and

WHEREAS, as corporations wholly owned by the Tribe constructing this facility on the Oneida Reservation, OSGC and Oneida Energy are bound to comply with tribal land use and environmental laws as well as federal environmental laws, and

WHEREAS, federal law requires Oneida Energy to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of this project prior to construction that provides the opportunity for public participation, addressing public health and safety concerns, and overall governmental accountability, and
WHEREAS, this EA will assesses the project for environmental, social, and economic impacts and consist of a narrative public report that will provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether significant impacts or no significant impacts will be made to the human environment due to this project, and

WHEREAS, this project will implement technological systems that do not use any type of incineration or burning, but will instead bake the municipal waste at a temperature of 800 to 1,200 degrees and utilize an oxygen-starved and environmentally clean gasification process to produces heat which in turn produces electricity, and

WHEREAS, this project will generate approximately 4 to 10 megawatts of electricity for 3,000 to 5,000 residential homes to be sold to Wisconsin Public Service through a negotiated Power Purchase Agreement in place, and

WHEREAS, this project will reduce the amount of overall waste going into local landfills and provides a renewable alternative to coal-burning plants and wind turbines, and

WHEREAS, emissions from this facility are comparable to a natural gas generator and will be limited to the four generators that will send the energy to WPS, and

WHEREAS, this facility will meet strict federal Environmental Protection Act guidelines for air emissions and will not have smoke stacks, will not produce excessive noise or emit toxic gas or odors, and

WHEREAS, the project will create 45 new construction jobs while Oneida Energy constructs the facility and 30 full time jobs to run and maintain the facility once it becomes operational, and

WHEREAS, the project has made every effort and taken all steps necessary to meet and comply with all applicable laws and regulations that are intended to protect the health, environment and business interests of affected parties, and

WHEREAS, the project achieves its corporate charter objectives to develop economic opportunities that protect the health and safety of the general public in a responsible manner, and

WHEREAS, the project seeks to work cooperatively with local businesses and surrounding governments to create local jobs and job opportunities that benefit this region, and

WHEREAS, the project goals are consistent with Federal government policy and State of Wisconsin policy to develop viable renewable energy projects that environmentally-safe, support local economies and create local jobs.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida Business Committee enthusiastically supports this project and will work with OSGC and Oneida Energy to help them realize the opportunity and to locate the facility on a site that is most desirable.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum. 8 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 8th day of December 2010; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 5 members for; 2 members against, and 0 members not voting; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Patricia Hoeft, Tribal Secretary
Oneida Business Committee

*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."