



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #FTL-04-121C

TITLE: Support for Tribal Applications to Environmental Protection Agency to Implement Certain Provisions of the Clean Water Act and for Development of Water Quality Standards

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WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments are the only entities that can effectively protect tribal members, tribal communities and tribal resources; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 is a basic and important tool for the implementation of Tribal Water Quality Management Programs to protect human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, protecting the environment is a fundamental aspect of providing for the health, welfare, and economic interests of tribes; and

WHEREAS, tribes retain the inherent authority to regulate environment requirements as within their jurisdictions; and

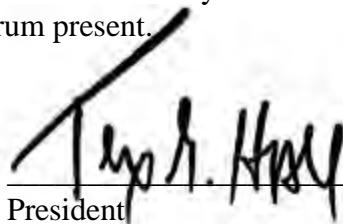
WHEREAS, Congress enacted amendments to the Clean Water Act to clarify that Tribes will receive Treatment as States for certain purposes of the Clean Water Act including the promulgation of water quality standards; and

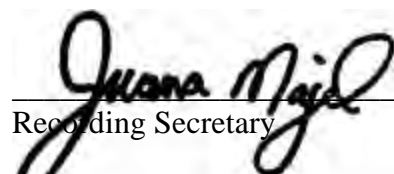
WHEREAS, several Indian tribes currently have applications pending before the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) to develop and implement tribal water quality standards programs under the Clean Water Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support timely EPA approval of the applications now pending before the EPA.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 61st Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida on October 10-15, 2004 with a quorum present.



President**ATTEST:**

Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2004 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held from October 10th to the 15th at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.