



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-03-066

Title: Support of Development of Air and Water Quality Standards and Submission for Federal Approval by Tribes

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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, the NCAI is a nationwide assembly of sovereign tribal governments brought together for the purpose of presenting, advocating, and proposing actions on behalf of all Tribal governments and its members; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI believes that the inherent governmental activity of any Tribe is the development and management of the environmental resources for the purposes of protecting and improving those resources for the current and for future generations; and

WHEREAS, there is no greater protection that can be adopted by Tribes than setting air and water quality standards for the lands in and around Tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, many Tribes operate programs for the protection of lands, plant and wildlife on Tribal properties for the purposes of improving these eco-systems for the future generations; and

WHEREAS, many Tribes are actively involved in re-introducing and rehabilitating plant, animal, bird and fish populations within Tribal lands for the benefit of the Tribe, its members, future generations and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, many Tribes are actively involved in identifying alternative processes and energy sources which are less destructive to the air and water environments; and

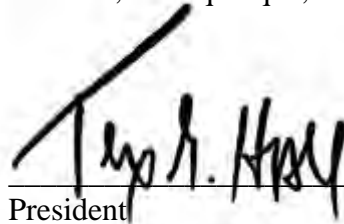
WHEREAS, the NCAI supports all Tribes moving toward the development and adoption of air and water quality standards to be implemented under authorization of federal and tribal law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support all Tribes in development and implementation of stringent air and water quality standards and encourages the federal government to maintain open lines of communication and assistance in both technical support and funding for these actions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

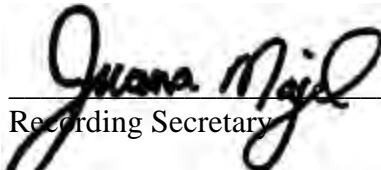
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 60th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on November 21, 2003 with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during 60th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from November 17-21, 2003.