



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

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### RESOLUTION #SPO-01-023

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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*Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nation*

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**Title: Supporting the Congressional Funding Request Under 25 USC §3503 (a) of the Indian Energy Resources Act, as Amended for the Development of a High-Voltage Transmission Line, and Power Generation Facilities and Related Infrastructure by the Dine' Power Authority in the Southwest United States**

**WHEREAS**, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians in our own distinct territories, 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 Dine' Power Authority (DPA) is an authority and enterprise of the Navajo Nation organized to conduct development and operation of high voltage transmission lines, related facilities, switch yards, substations, electric generation production, renewable energy research and development and related power and energy development necessary to vertically and horizontally integrate the Navajo Nation's power, utility and resource infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, DPA, through its Board of directors, has pursued the development of a 462-mile transmission line from the Four Corners area to southern Nevada, and has completed the final environmental impact statement and obtained a record of decision from the federal government, and obtained a certificate of environmental compatibility from the state of Arizona; and

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**WHEREAS**, DPA has announced plans to develop the Dine' Power Generation Project (DPGP), a large scale, natural gas-fueled, electric generating facility to produce electricity to serve the electrical needs throughout the Navajo Nation and the Southwest; and

**WHEREAS**, under 25 USC §3503(a) of the Indian Energy Resources Act, as amended, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Interior, shall establish and implement a demonstration program to assist Indian tribes in pursuing energy self-sufficiency and to promote the development of a vertically integrated energy industry on Indian reservations, in order to increase development of the substantial energy resources located on such Indian reservations; and

**WHEREAS**, under this act, the Secretary shall provide development grants to assist tribes in obtaining technical capability in energy development, and for vertical integration projects involving solar and wind energy, refineries, generation and transmission of electricity, hydroelectric, cogeneration, natural gas distribution, and clean, innovative uses of coal; and

**WHEREAS**, DPA has pursued a right-of-way and is ready to implement the transmission project, and has identified land, water and fuel resources for a power plant, and it now needs a Congressional appropriation to complete final environmental, air and water quality studies and cover related costs for development of a new power plant; and

**WHEREAS**, DPA's transmission and power generation projects will help national, regional and local interests solve some of the energy shortage situations, and that it is in the best interests of the United States and the Navajo Nation to request Congressional appropriation under USC §3503(a) pursuant to the attached budget "Exhibit A", to carry out the desired results.

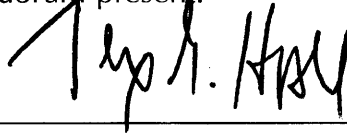
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby fully support the Congressional funding request under USC §3503(a) by the Dine' Power Authority for its high voltage transmission and power generation projects for the benefit of national, regional and local electrical interests of the Navajo Nation and the southwest United States; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NCAI does hereby support this resolution for the development of the Navajo transmission and power generation projects for infrastructure, employment, financial investment and related benefits to all parties concerned; and

**BE IT FINALLY 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 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001 with a quorum present.



Tex Hall, President

ATTEST:



Colleen F. Cawston, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001.