



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

### RESOLUTION #MSH-01-006

#### **Title: Summer 2001 Urgent Energy Efficiency and Conservation Measures**

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT  
Susan Masten  
*Yurok Tribe*

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
W. Ron Allen  
*Jamestown S'Klallam*

RECORDING SECRETARY  
Juana Majel  
*Pauma-Yuima*

TREASURER  
Ernie Stevens, Jr.  
*Oneida of Wisconsin*

#### AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

ABERDEEN  
Tom Ranfranz  
*Flandreau Santee Sioux*

ALBUQUERQUE  
Joe A. Garcia  
*San Juan Pueblo*

ANADARKO  
Merle Boyd  
*Sac & Fox Nation of OK*

BILLINGS  
Jonathan Windy Boy  
*Chippewa Cree Tribe  
of Rocky Boy*

JUNEAU  
Mike Williams  
*Yup'ik*

MINNEAPOLIS  
Bemida Churchill  
*Mille Lacs Band  
of Ojibwe*

MUSKOGEE  
S. Diane Kelly  
*Cherokee Nation*

NORTHEAST  
Alma Ransom  
*St. Regis Mohawk Tribe*

PHOENIX  
A. Brian Wallace  
*Washoe Tribe of NV/CA*

PORTLAND  
Ernie L. Stensgar  
*Couder d'Alene Tribe*

SACRAMENTO  
Mervin E. Hess  
*Lone Pine Paiute-  
Shoshone Tribe*

SOUTHEAST  
A. Bruce Jones  
*Lumbee*

NCAI HEADQUARTERS  
1301 Connecticut Ave., NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036  
202.466.7767  
202.466.7797 fax  
www.ncai.org

**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 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, largest, and most representative national American Indian and Alaska Native tribal government organization; and

**WHEREAS**, the ATNI member tribes passed resolution #01-24 at the 2001 Winter Conference in Portland, Oregon, supporting the energy efficiency and conservation steps recommended by the Western Governor's Association; and

**WHEREAS**, specific implementation suggestions were not spelled out in resolution #01-24 to assist ATNI member tribes in setting and meeting energy conservation goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the energy crisis will be hitting the Pacific Northwest region imminently, drastically increasing tribal commercial and residential utility bills, also causing degradation of the residential fisheries ATNI tribes have fought to maintain; and

**WHEREAS**, individual tribes, such as the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, have begun issuing guidelines, from which we can learn and coordinate; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI member tribes have a proud history of making the most efficient use of our resources; and

**WHEREAS**, NCAI suggests the following guidelines with respect to each individual tribes sovereign authority, who will decide the implementation of the suggestions based upon the needs of their industries, commercial needs and needs of their constituents, including elder and low-income tribal consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, the ATNI-EDC has now engaged two Energy Efficiency Specialists who will spend the summer of 2001 visiting individual NCAI member Tribes offering expertise, assistance, and guidance.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that NCAI does hereby support action by member Tribes to immediately begin reducing usage in tribal offices by turning off lights in empty rooms, turning off computers and other office equipment at the end of the day – including coffee machines, fax machines and copiers, raising thermostat cooling settings to 78° for the Summer of 2001, setting thermostats to ensure that heat and cooling systems are not running overnight, and ensuring that there is no outside lighting turned on during the day; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NCAI individual tribal homes can reduce appliance usage during peak times, generally until after 8:00 p.m., using appliances only when a full load is ready and, for the Summer of 2001, raising thermostat cooling settings to 78° and turning off heating or cooling systems when homes are empty; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that NCAI does hereby support this resolution and invites member tribes to immediately take the above steps, to contact the ATNI-EDC for site visits by the Energy Efficiency Specialists, and to contact the ATNI-EDC for brochures and support material for tribal offices and home distribution.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2001 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut on May 13-16, 2001, with a quorum present.



Susan Masten, President

ATTEST:

  
Juana Majek, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2001 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Mashantucket, Connecticut on May 13-16, 2001.