



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

RESOLUTION #MSH-01-051

Title: Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Development: A Joint Project to Analyze Options for Tribes and Develop Template Tribal Legislation

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, affordable and reliable energy is essential for improving the quality of life and enhancing opportunities for economic development in Indian country and other tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency and conservation measures are essential features of any realistic strategy to make energy services affordable and reliable; and

WHEREAS, state governments have historically played prominent roles in regulating the markets in which energy services are bought and sold and in administering assistance programs in energy conservation (with federal financial and technical assistance); and

WHEREAS, all tribes have governmental authority to assert some control over the patterns of energy consumption within their reservations through regulatory programs and energy conservation assistance programs similar to those administered by the states, but relatively few tribes have done so; and

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
Bernida 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
Couer 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, federal energy laws and policies, including assistance programs for energy conservation, have generally overlooked the ways in which tribes could develop energy policies for their reservations through the use of their law-making powers; and

WHEREAS, expanded use of solar and other renewable energy resources is a realistic option for virtually every tribe; and

WHEREAS, the National Tribal Environmental Council, the Inter-Tribal Council on Utility Policy, the American Indian Law Center, and the Vermont Law School Indian Country Environmental Justice Clinic are developing a proposal for foundation funding to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the range of options available to tribal governments to use their governmental powers to shape energy policies for their reservations and other lands under their jurisdiction, including the enactment of tribal legislation on such subjects as: electric power production and distribution, building codes, and land use codes; and

WHEREAS, this joint project plans to produce template tribal legislation and explanatory documents that will be made available to tribes for their consideration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support the efforts of the National Tribal Environmental Council, the Inter-Tribal Council on Utility Policy, the American Indian Law Center, and the Vermont Law School Indian Country Environmental Justice Clinic to secure funding to conduct this project; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NCAI requests that the partners in this project provide periodic progress reports to the NCAI Natural Resources Committee.

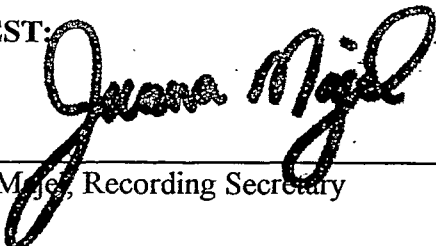
CERTIFICATION

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 Maje, 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.