RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe is responsible for protecting all natural resources of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and
- WHEREAS, tribal water resources are an integral part of the very existence and future of the White Mountain Apache people, and
- WHEREAS, the United States Government, through the Secretary of the Interior and his representatives has a critical legal responsibility to the Tribe, as its trustee, to protect and defend the Tribe's water resources, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe, officials of the Interior Department, and other tribal officials had heretofore initiated a factfinding stage of negotiations to settle non-Indian claims to tribal water resources, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has fully considered and finds that proceeding any further into a negotiation process with non-Indian water claimants does not presently serve the best interests of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in fully and fairly protecting its water resources.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs the federal trustee of the tribe, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Solicitor's Office or any other Interior Department representatives to cease any and all negotiation processes on behalf of the White Mountain Apache Tribe regarding adverse claims to water resources of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache
 Tribe that it hereby requests that all such further actions necessary
 to protect the water resources of the White Mountain Apache Tribe be
 taken by the Federal trustee, or its representatives, in the best
 interests of the White Mountain Apache people and with continued full
 consultation with the Tribe.

The foregoing resolution was on February 13, 1979 duly adopted by a vote of 9 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (f) and (i) of the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

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Chairman of the Iribal Council

FEB 15 1979

FORT APACHE INDIAN

Secretary of the Tribal Council