

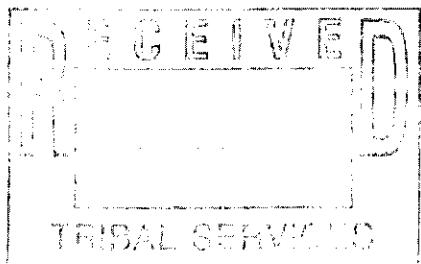
**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

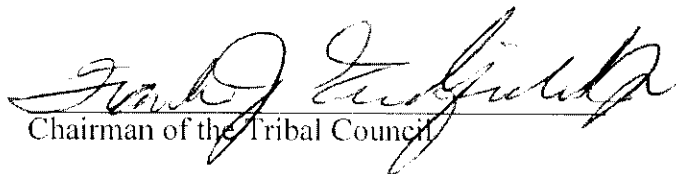
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council is increasingly concerned about the potable water crisis for the community of Whiteriver and adjoining communities due to the decreasing supply from the Tribe's Miner Flat well field and the persistent drought; and
- WHEREAS,** to address this shortfall in drinking water for the communities, the Tribe has authorized the installation of new wells in the Cottonwood Canyon area in addition to the development of a surface water diversion and treatment plant in the North Fork of the White River; and
- WHEREAS,** these measures are needed immediately to address potential water shortages which could otherwise occur this summer and continue indefinitely; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe recognizes these measures are short-term remedies, intended to provide a minimum supply needed for the communities until the long-term Tribal-wide drinking water supply system is complete; and
- WHEREAS,** work to complete the diversion and treatment plant must be initiated immediately to prevent shortages of drinking water for the communities over the next 5-8 years, and for that reason, the Tribe had submitted in late March its comments and documentation to the Indian Health Service to finalize and issue the request for proposals and other documents needed to initiate this project this summer; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has learned that the documents have not been finalized by IHS for circulation now almost three months after receipt of the Tribe's comments and input, losing valuable time needed in the race to secure drinking water for the community; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has had great assistance from its Congressman, Representative Rick Renzi, who has identified the delivery of a secure source of drinking water for the communities on the reservation as a number one priority of his administration; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council is unsatisfied with the delays caused by Indian Health Service in securing the paperwork and documentation necessary to implement immediately the request for proposals and ultimately the construction of the North Fork diversion and treatment plant and, on that basis, requests an explanation for the delays and a commitment to move this project forward as quickly as possible as a high priority for the IHS Office of Environmental Health.
- BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby places the Indian Health Service Office of Environmental Health on notice that it considers the drinking water needs for the communities within the reservation a vital priority for the White Mountain Apache Tribe and it expects that IHS will share in

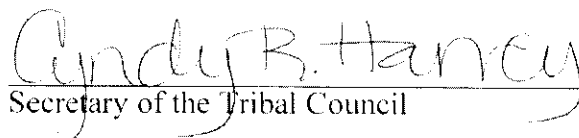
this priority to secure a drinking water supply for these communities in the face of the documented shortages of drinking water.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it expects full commitment and cooperation from IHS OEH personnel to see that the drinking water project moves forward without delay to make up for the unfortunate loss of nearly three months of time which could have been devoted towards the development of the drinking water system. To that end, the Tribal Council requests a written report by June 21, 2003 from IHS, in cooperation with Tribal Consulting Hydrologist, Laurel Lacher, on the current status of this project.

The foregoing resolution was on JUNE 11, 2003 duly adopted by a vote of TEN for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (f), (h), (i), (j), (t), and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).




Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council