



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Approval of Proposed Chronic Lung Disease and Wood Burning Stove Use Prevalence Study)

- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council, and the Indian Health Service have worked together to identify health problems in the community and raise the level of health of all residents of the Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in conjunction with Whiteriver Hospital of the Indian Health Service has monitored and responded to a variety of medical conditions to improve the community's health and quality of life; and
- WHEREAS,** wood and other biomass fuel burning and household air pollution is a leading environmental cause of death worldwide with an established link to chronic lung disease; and
- WHEREAS,** there are thought to be high rates of biomass fuel burning on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and concerns exist regarding use of fuels and stoves that create increased environmental pollution; and
- WHEREAS,** the effect of biomass fuel burning on chronic lung disease is not well understood in the White Mountain Apache community; and
- WHEREAS,** there exist concerns that significant numbers of community members are living with undiagnosed and untreated chronic lung disease that is leading to mortality and morbidity in the population; and
- WHEREAS,** the Whiteriver Service Unit of the Indian Health Service is requesting approval for the following prevalence study:
1. to determine what percentage of adults screened have had significant long term chronic biomass fuel burning exposure
 2. to determine what types of fuel are frequently burned and the average years of exposure to biomass fuel
 3. to evaluate a potential link between lifelong exposures to biomass fuel burning and the development of chronic lung disease
 4. to provide appropriate standard of care to patients determined to have chronic lung disease
- WHEREAS,** When analyses are complete, IHS will present all data to the Tribal Council and Health Board for feedback and discussion of recommended next steps for diagnostics and treatment; and

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the prevalence study regarding chronic lung disease and wood burning stove use proposed by Whiteriver Service Unit Indian Health Service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on APRIL 24, 2019 duly adopted by a vote of SEVEN for, ZERO against, and TWO abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

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|  | 5/8/19 |  | 5/8/2019 |
| Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Tribal Chairwoman | Date | Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary | Date |