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

- WHEREAS, the McNary Community of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation has experienced difficult social and economic times since the closing of the McNary lumber mill in the early 1980's; and
- WHEREAS, the McNary lumber mill site was abandoned after the mill closure with several environmental concerns including the presence of friable asbestos, former PCB electrical transformer sites, underground fuel storage tanks, and other unknown contamination having the potential to adversely affect the soils, waters, plants, animals and humans present or visiting the site; and
- WHEREAS, beginning in 1995, the White Mountain Apache Tribe, through its Fort Apache Timber Company and the Tribal Environmental Planning Office, have remediated the friable asbestos from the site, have removed underground fuel storage tanks, and have conducted a cursory environmental assessment of the mill site; and
- WHEREAS, further environmental assessment work at the site and comprehensive, community-based economic redevelopment planning are needed prior to the site being redeveloped for commercial, industrial and/or recreational uses; and
- WHEREAS, the McNary Community and White Mountain Apache Tribe desire redevelopment of the site to provide economic and job opportunities for residents and the Tribe overall; and
- WHEREAS, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative" is designed to address and provide grant monies precisely for the above stated conditions and needs of the McNary Community and former mill site.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribal Environmental Planning Office will take the lead on submitting the "Brownfields" grant application to U.S. EPA for its next funding cycle, and that the Tribe will seek the full amount of funding available, which is \$200.000 over a two-year period.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>December 2, 1998</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>nine</u> for and <u>zero</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (s), (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

Gray Harvey-Burnette Secretary of the Tribal Council