

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

WHEREAS, the mineral resources of the 1.66 million acre Fort Apache Indian Reservation include significant deposits of cinders, basalt, limestone, iron ore and other minerals of economic value to the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe has conducted investigations in recent years, with assistance from the BIA Division of Energy and Mineral Resources, to better understand the extent of the mineral resources under the Tribe's control to consider their development, yet the Tribe still lacks complete information needed to fully understand and expand the use of these resources; and

WHEREAS, recent studies conducted under the BIA Mineral Assessment Grant Program have demonstrated that the commercial reserves of flood plain sand and gravel aggregates are declining; and

WHEREAS, continued exploitation of flood plain reserves will ultimately result in environmental degradation over time; and

WHEREAS, Fort Apache Materials has invested approximately \$200,000 to update and expand its production capability to meet current and future market demands; and

WHEREAS, Fort Apache Materials cannot remain competitive without locating, assessing, and developing commercially viable hardrock deposits of basalt and limestone as alternative aggregate resources; and

WHEREAS, in view of the Tribe's desire to market its aggregate resources competitively, the Tribe needs to define: (1) commercially viable cinder reserves; (2) access development options; (3) market opportunity; and (4) equipment needs for marketing cinder and aggregate products; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe, with the assistance of the BIA Division of Energy and Mineral Resources, has initiated assessments of its iron ore reserves; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Energy and Mineral Resources has never completed the maps, reports and other technical work required to assist the Tribe and the Tribe wishes to see the work completed to determine any additional assessment needs for proper to evaluation of market opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe wishes to utilize a combination of competent in-house professional staff

Resolution No. 04-2001-89

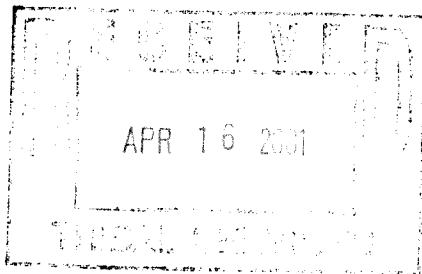
and qualified consultants to accomplish the assessment work; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe has effectively applied grant funds from the BIA Mineral Assessment Grant Program in the past which has led to increased knowledge and utilization of mineral resources for Tribal and commercial use.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs the Tribal Engineering Department to submit a proposal to the BIA Division of Energy and Mineral Resources for a two-year project to provide detailed assessment of sand, gravel, cinders, basalt, limestone, iron ore and other mineral deposits within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of that it endorses the commercial development of any potential mineral resources which are discovered under this project, and will, at a later time, consider publication of resource information gathered under the project in accordance with accepted Tribal information management policies and protocols.

The foregoing resolution was on April 4, 2001 duly adopted by a vote of SIX 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), (b), (h), (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


Secretary of the Tribal Council