

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

(Authorizing Use of Beck Engineering Group FATCO Sawmill Study to support request for federal appropriations for Forest study and FATCO sawmill retooling)

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe is in the process of quantifying its reserved water use rights in the Gila River (Salt River) and Little Colorado River General Stream Adjudications, now pending in the Arizona State courts under the McCarran amendment which gives the Arizona State courts jurisdiction to determine and quantify the water rights of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and other Indian tribes in the State of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's proposed Water Rights Quantification Act legislation that would quantify, confirm, preserve and protect the Tribe's reserved water use rights includes several authorization request for economic and water development appropriations; and

WHEREAS, one of the Tribe's requested authorizations in the WMAT Water Rights Quantification Act is for approximately \$25 million to modify and remodel as necessary, the Tribe's FATCO Sawmill in order to process smaller diameter trees which now dominate the Tribe's commercial forests, and to conduct a Forest study to determine the feasibility of developing new wood products; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe will be required to provide information to Congress to justify its authorization request for \$25 million for the above described purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is advised by FATCO management that the Beck Engineering Group has a long term relationship with FATCO and has already conducted a pre-Rodeo-Chediski fire Sawmill study which would support the Tribe's request for an authorization to fund retooling of the Tribe's FATCO sawmill as part of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act and to conduct a Forest and wood products feasibility study; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council concludes that it would be in the best interests of the White Mountain Apache Tribe for the protection, preservation, and development of the Tribe's reserved water use rights if information from the Beck Engineering group sawmill study was made available in order to justify the Tribes authorization request for funding for the Forest study and to retool the FATCO Sawmill.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves and authorizes the use of data from the Beck Engineering Group's FATCO sawmill study to justify and defend its appropriation request for \$25 million to conduct a Forest study of new wood products and to retool the FATCO sawmill to process smaller diameter trees and other wood products.

Resolution No. <u>08-2008-192</u>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairwoman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take any appropriate and action necessary to carry out and implement this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>August 13, 2008</u>, duly adopted by a vote of <u>SEVEN</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (e), (f), (h), (i), (j), (k), (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