

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD RESERVATION**

WHEREAS, this Nation having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said act, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes generally authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof, and

WHEREAS, the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation contains approximately 500,000 acres of lands with a potential for oil and gas development which for the most part have not been explored to date, and

WHEREAS, the price of oil has increased dramatically over the past six months to nearly \$30.00 a barrel, and experts in the field believe there is a good chance that this high price will stay as the market price for the foreseeable future, and at that price, exploration development of Williston Basin lands on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation makes economic sense, and

WHEREAS, the majority of the lands potentially containing oil and gas reserves are allottee owned and a significant portion of land is owned by the Tribe for the benefit of all Tribal members, and experts who have evaluated the oil and gas exploration and development prospects of the Reservation believe that a Reservation-wide program with a significant commitment of dollars to up-front scientific seismic exploration is necessary, and

WHEREAS, the recent increase in the price of oil and the desire of the Tribe and allottees to best position themselves for oil and gas development – if possible combining the allottee oil and gas interests with the Tribal oil and gas interests to create one significant and large exploration and development opportunity,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Business Council hereby authorizes and encourages a working group to evaluate on a preliminary basis the ways in which allottee and Tribal mineral resources might be proactively developed in light of the substantial increases in world oil prices. Specifically, the Business Council authorizes and recommends the following:

1. A five party working group consisting of 3 allottee representatives, Ed Hall II, Bruce Fox, Gary Dickens, and 2 Tribal representatives, Marcus Wells, Jr. and James P. Hale be promptly organized and meet to evaluate ways in which the vast amount of unexplored acreage on the Fort Berthold Reservation can be most efficiently and profitably developed.
2. That working group should discuss these opportunities with Tribal members and experts who are familiar with Fort Berthold oil and gas development.
3. The working group should report back to the Tribal Council with recommendations or if it is unable to reach recommendations to so notify the Tribal Council - in either event a report should be returned to the Tribal Council within 45 days.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council will then review and evaluate the findings of the working group and take the appropriate action.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 7 members of whom 5 constitute a quorum, 6 were present at a Special Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened and held on the 11th day of February, 2000; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted as such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 6 members, 0 members opposed, and 0 members abstained, 0 not voting, and that said resolution has not be rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 11th day of February, 2000.

Daylon Spotted Bear
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Chairman, Tribal Business Council