

United Tribes of Michigan

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Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director

RESOLUTION # 033 05-13-2014

United Tribes of MI Support for EPA American Indian Environmental Office Programs

WHEREAS, the membership of United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) is open to all of the twelve federally recognized tribes located in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the organization provides a forum for the Tribes in Michigan to address issues of common concern and is committed to join forces to advance, protect, preserve and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign Indian Tribes of Michigan throughout the next seven generations; and

WHEREAS, UTM accepts the mission to engage, as a matter of mutual concern, issues that impact the health, security, safety, and general welfare of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, our traditional teachings provide guidance to us in our relationships with all of creation, instructing us to respect Mother Earth and her resources upon which we rely for our shelter, our sustenance, and our very existence; and


WHEREAS, the implementation of these teachings by our tribal citizens and their governments is enhanced by the programs provided through the Trust Relationship with the US Government and its Departments and Programs; and

WHEREAS, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) American Indian Environmental Office programs provide resources and technical assistance to tribal environmental departments that are essential to our being able to deal with the sometimes overwhelming amounts of data and analysis that we are faced with on the multitude of environmental reviews, consultations, and resource protection projects that arise daily; and

WHEREAS, the interface with EPA programs such as the EPA Region 5 Tribal Field Representative Program has been an essential element in building strong working relationships between EPA and our tribes and our citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Tribes of Michigan supports the programs provided through the US EPA, especially the work in the field that assists us in meeting our responsibilities in caring for Mother Earth and her resources. United Tribes of Michigan would be opposed to any national or regional restructuring that would negatively affect the availability of personnel dedicated to assist Tribal Environmental Departments with this vital work.

Adopted by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, at a meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan held on May 13, 2014 at the Isabella Reservation in Mt. Pleasant, MI.


Chairman Homer A. Mandoka
UTM President


Chairman Fred Kiogima
UTM Secretary