



MILLE LACS BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

RESOLUTION 06-04-139-95

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED OUTSTANDING NATIONAL RESOURCE WATER (ONRW) DESIGNATION FOR LAKE SUPERIOR

- WHEREAS:** the Mille Lacs Reservation Band Assembly is the duly elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians, a Federally recognized Indian Tribe; and,
- WHEREAS:** the great Lake Superior is the largest fresh water lake on the North American Continent and has been culturally and spiritually significant to the Ojibwe nations of the United States and Canada since time immemorial, and,
- WHEREAS:** Lake Superior provides livelihoods for numerous Tribal commercial fishermen and subsistence fishing for many Red Cliff Tribal member; and,
- WHEREAS:** Lake Superior is the largest fresh water lake in the world, is the source of drinking water for many communities, has a recognized sport fishing industry, and is the nucleus of tourism industries across the basin; and
- WHEREAS:** The International Joint Commission has identified and summarized scientific evidence to reach the conclusion that persistent bioaccumulative toxic substances are a serious threat to the health of the Great Lakes Ecosystem, including Lake Superior; and,
- WHEREAS:** Ojibwe Indians agree with the findings of the International Joint Commission; and,
- WHEREAS:** The unique ecological values of Lake Superior has also been recognized by the United States, Canada, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Ontario when nearly four years ago they agreed to the Binational Program to Restore and protect the Lake Superior; and efforts must be increased to protect these waters from further degradation for all generations to follow
- WHEREAS:** The governments that are party to the Binational Program have failed to implement the protective provisions of the Binational Program to Restore and protect the lake Superior Basin; and
- WHEREAS:** The best existing federal protection for Lake Superior is a designation of Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW) which prevents new or increased loadings of persistent bioaccumulative toxins; and
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians hereby supports a federal Outstanding National Resource Water Designation for Lake Superior.

Resolution 06-04-139-95

page 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Tribal Council of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians hereby designates the Waters of Lake Superior as Sacred and calls upon the United State to afford the highest level of protection as part of the fulfillment of their Trust Responsibility to the Tribes of Lake Superior by protecting the waters resources of the Lake that are our Treaty resources and that our cultural identity depends upon.

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present held on the 17th day of August, 1995 at East Lake Minnesota by a vote of 2 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly hereunto cause to have set the hand of the Speaker of Assembly to be affixed to this resolution.


David Matrious, Speaker of Assembly

IN CONCURRENCE, with the action of the Speaker of Assembly, we, the Administrative Policy Board hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Chief Executive to this resolution.


Marge Anderson, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND