

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Accepting Appraisal Report for a Preferred Irrigation Development Alternatives
Farm Plan in Sif Oidak District and Approving a Proposed Feasibility Study)

RESOLUTION NO. 15-322

1 **WHEREAS, Sif Oidak District has a long history of irrigated farming, dating back several**
2 **hundred years to irrigated agriculture supported by arroyo floodwater**
3 **irrigation, followed by the Old Chuichu irrigation project which began in 1915**
4 **and the East Chuichu project which was developed in the 1950's, which two**
5 **projects together irrigated about 2,000 acres; and**

6 **WHEREAS, rapid declines in groundwater levels beginning in the 1940's, and flooding of the**
7 **Greene Wash beginning in the 1960's, combined to make farming using**
8 **groundwater in northern Sif Oidak District unfeasible; and**

9 **WHEREAS, Sif Oidak District's history with farming continued with the development of the**
10 **Vaivo Vo Farm in the late 1980's, which continues successful operation using**
11 **groundwater pumping to irrigate about 2,000 acres; and**

12 **WHEREAS, in September 2002 the Tohono O'odham Nation ("Nation") completed a Water**
13 **Needs Assessment for the Sif Oidak District in preparation for asserting water**
14 **rights claims for the Sif Oidak District portion of the Nation's lands; and**

15 **WHEREAS, the Water Needs Assessment identified four areas of land in northern Sif Oidak**
16 **District which were suitable for investigation for the construction of a farm**
17 **which would utilize the 8,000 acre-foot allocation of Central Arizona Project**
18 **water made available by a delivery contract dated December 11, 1980, between**
19 **the United States Department of the Interior and the Papago Tribe, now called**
20 **the Tohono O'odham Nation; and**

21 **WHEREAS, in September 2004 the Nation entered into a Public Law 93-638 Indian Self-**
22 **Determination Act grant agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation of the**
23 **Department of the Interior, authorized by Legislative Council Resolution No. 04-**
24 **357, to allow the Nation to perform an appraisal level study of the four areas**
25 **identified in the Water Needs Assessment; and**

26 **WHEREAS, the appraisal level study was performed for the Nation by Natural Resources**
27 **Consulting Engineers, Inc., a draft report was presented to the Sif Oidak District**
28 **Water Committee and the Legislative Council Water Resources Committee in**
29 **August 2011, comments were received, and a revised report was prepared in**
30 **response to comments provided in those committee discussions; and**

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1 **WHEREAS, the revised appraisal level study report concludes that a farm developed at**
2 **Study Area D would be economically feasible to operate; and**

3 **WHEREAS, in January 2015 the revised appraisal level study report was presented to the Sif**
4 **Oidak District Water Committee and in April 2015 was presented to the Sif Oidak**
5 **District Council; and**

6 **WHEREAS, the Sif Oidak District Council passed Resolution No. SODC 15-054 on April 27,**
7 **2015 accepting the appraisal level study report, accepting the selection of Area D**
8 **as the preferred site for the proposed new farm, recommending that the Nation**
9 **proceed with the feasibility level study, supporting development of the new farm**
10 **subject to the conclusions reached by the feasibility level study, and**
11 **recommending that the Sif Oidak District be the entity which would operate the**
12 **new farm; and**

13 **WHEREAS, this resolution has been reviewed by the Water Resources and the Agricultural**
14 **and Natural Resources Committees, which recommend approval by the**
15 **Legislative Council.**

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council:**

- 17 **1. Accepts the appraisal level study report produced by Natural Resources**
18 **Consulting Engineers, Inc.;**
- 19 **2. Accepts the recommendation of Natural Resources Consulting Engineers,**
20 **Inc., of Study Area D as the preferred site for development of a new farm**
21 **in Sif Oidak District;**
- 22 **3. Approves going forward with a feasibility level study funded by the**
23 **Bureau of Reclamation through a 93-638 contract with the Nation in**
24 **order to provide a detailed study of soils, cultural resources,**
25 **engineering, environmental issues and economics for the proposed new**
26 **farm; and**
- 27 **4. Supports the development of a new farm at Study Area D, subject to the**
28 **information and conclusions researched in the feasibility level study.**

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1 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 07TH**
2 **day of AUGUST, 2015 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,015.3 FOR; -0-**
3 **AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [01] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by**
4 **Article VI, Section 1(i)(2), Article XVI, Section 1 and Article XVII, Sections 1 and 2 of the**
5 **Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation, adopted by the Tohono O'odham Nation on**
6 **January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs**
7 **(Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).**
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10 **TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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15 **Timothy Joaquin, Legislative Chairman**

16 11 day of August, 2015
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19 **ATTEST:**

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22 **Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary**

23 10 day of August, 2015
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26 **Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono**
27 **O'odham Nation on the 11 day of August, 2015 at 9:30 o'clock, a .m.,**
28 **pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become**
29 **effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48**
30 **hours of submittal.**
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32 **TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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36 **Timothy Joaquin, Legislative Chairman**

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41 on the 11 day of August, 2015

42 at 5:34 o'clock, P .m.
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47 **EDWARD D. MANUEL, CHAIRMAN**
48 **TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION**
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41 **APPROVED**

43 **DISAPPROVED**

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Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 12 day of
August, 2015, at 10:50 o'clock, a.m.

Evonne Wilson
Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

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ACTION: ACCEPTING APPRAISAL REPORT FOR A PREFERRED IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES FARM PLAN IN SIF OIDAK DISTRICT AND APPROVING A PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDY

Moved: COUNCILWOMAN LUCINDA ALLEN

SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN MARY LOPEZ

DATE: AUGUST 07, 2015

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
BABOQUIVARI 367.1	1. FRANCES MIGUEL (Roberta E. Harvey)	183.55	X			
	2. VERNON J. SMITH (Gloria Zazueta)	183.55	X			
CHUKUT KUK 331.9	1. ETHEL GARCIA (Marlakay K. Henry)	165.95	X			
	2. BILLMAN LOPEZ (Patricia Vicenti)	165.95	X			
GUACHI 265.1	1. TIMOTHY L. JOAQUIN (Louis L. Johnson)	132.55	X			
	2. LORETTA LEWIS ()	132.55	X			
GU VO 249.6	1. GRACE MANUEL (Dallas Lewis)	124.8	X			
	2. PAMELA ANGHILL (Jeffery Antone, Sr.)	124.8	X			
HICKIWAN 204.9	1. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (Shirley Molina)	102.45	X			
	2. SANDRA ORTEGA ()	102.45	X			
PISINEMO 220.0	1. CHESTER ANTONE (Tony Murrietta)	110.0	X			X
	2. MONICA K. MORGAN ()	110.0	X			
SAN LUCY 222.9	1. DIANA MANUEL ()	111.45	X			
	2. JANA MONTANA (Gloria Ramirez)	111.45	X			
SAN XAVIER 228.6	1. DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III (Gene Enis)	114.3	X			
	2. RACHEAL VILSON-STONER (Olivia Villegas-Liston)	114.3	X			
SCHUK TOAK 180.6	1. ANTHONY J. FRANCISCO JR. (Theresa Donahue)	90.3	X			
	2. QUINTIN C. LOPEZ (John Fendenheim)	90.3	X			
SELLS 513.1	1. ARTHUR WILSON (Beverly Rivas)	256.55	X			
	2. BARBARA HAVIER ()	256.55	X			
SIF OIDAK 231.5	1. LUCINDA ALLEN (Nicholas Jose)	115.75	X			
	2. MARY LOPEZ ()	115.75	X			
TOTAL		3,015.3	3,015.3	-0-	-0-	[01]