



*"A Tradition of Native American Housing"*

## **NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HOUSING COUNCIL RESOLUTION #2008-10**

### **A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SUPPORT OF NAIHC TO ENABLE SMALL TRIBES TO BE INCLUDED ON THE USDA'S "DESIGNATED PLACE LIST FOR SECTION 515 HOUSING"**

WHEREAS, the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) represents the housing interests of American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages and more than 266 tribally designated housing entities; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the organization is to promote advocacy for policy and legislative changes that will favorably impact our primary goals of providing safe, decent, and affordable housing for Indian people in a manner recognizing the unique government-to-government relationship of tribes and the federal government; and

WHEREAS, developing new housing for low-income and very low-income tribal members so that they may have safe, healthy, and affordable housing is a priority for our all tribes throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, federal funds available to tribes through their NAHASDA Indian Housing Block grants are very limited and are insufficient by themselves to develop new housing to meet the need, especially as it affects small tribes; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development's (USDA) Section 515 housing program can be used as a source of construction funds to develop new housing for Indian tribes and Indian Housing Authorities; and

WHEREAS, currently those tribes eligible to use the 515 program must be on a "Designated Place List," which does not include all counties within a State in which a tribe or IHA may be located; and

WHEREAS, currently, the "...Designated Place List may not include places with fewer than 250 households unless the State has requested and been granted by the USDA Rural Development State Administrator a Statewide exception..."; and

WHEREAS, currently for Indian reservations, "...at least 250 households must be located within the boundaries of the reservation to be eligible for placement on the list..."; and

WHEREAS, the list as is currently structured and regulated, small Indian tribes are precluded from using the 515 program, unless a USDA Rural Development State Administrator has been petitioned and an exception has been granted.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National American Indian Housing Council supports the petition of each USDA Rural Development State Administrator to grant a statewide exception for small tribes, so that small tribes may have an opportunity to participate in the Section 515 program.**

**CERTIFICATION**

**As the duly appointed Secretary for the National American Indian Housing Council, I hereby certify that Resolution #2008-10, was adopted at NAIHC's 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting in Seattle, Washington on May 14, 2008, with a quorum present.**



**Marty Shuravloff, Chairman**



**Jason Adams, Secretary**