ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JULY 17, 18 & 19, 2012, TORONTO, ON

Resolution no. 12/2012

TITLE:	Support for an expansion of the mandate of ecoEnergy and other federal energy-related funding mechanisms to include transmission
SUBJECT:	Infrastructure and Economic Development
MOVED BY:	Chief Roy Michano, Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation, ON
SECONDED BY:	Chief Joe Buckell, Michipicoten First Nation, ON
DECISION:	Carried by consensus as part of an Omnibus Motion, Moved by Chief Maureen Chapman, Skawahlook First Nation BC & Seconded by Chief Marcel Head, Shoal Lake First Nation, SK

WHEREAS:

A. Article 20 (1) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states: "Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities."

B. Electricity transmission networks across Ontario are inadequate to the task of providing a sustainable, reliable source of electricity to service ratepayers across Ontario and, as a result of this inadequacy, need to be enhanced.

C. The traditional territories of six First Nations in Ontario – Pic River, Pic Mobert, Michipicoten, Red Rock, Fort William, and Pays Plat - will be impacted by the development of a new priority transmission line called the East-West Tie, which stretches from Thunder Bay to Wawa.

D. All of the impacted First Nations would like to secure a stake in the project and play a role in this major infrastructure development, which will bring employment, income, and other commercial opportunities to our communities.

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E. To realize this vision, the aforementioned six nations have created a commercial partnership that will aid in ensuring that the development of the East-West Tie transmission line proceeds in a timely manner.

F. Currently, financial support is available to communities pursuing electricity generation projects through the federal ecoEnergy program.

G. Sufficient equity is lacking and the six affected First Nations lack sufficient equity to participate in the East-West Tie, and would benefit greatly from an expansion in the mandate of available federal funding to include funding for transmission projects.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs-in-Assembly:

1. Direct the AFN to encourage ecoEnergy and other federal, provincial, and municipal funding agencies to expand their funding mandate to include funding for transmission projects.
2. Mandate the AFN to encourage relevant agencies to support First Nation commercial participation in energy transmission projects, such as the East-West Tie project.

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