SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
DECEMBER 14, 15 & 16, 2010, GATINEAU, QC

Resolution no. 64/2010

TITLE:	Canada's Green Energy Fund: Support for the Shamattawa Land Line
SUBJECT:	Economy and Environment
MOVED BY:	Grand Chief Doug Kelly, Proxy, Soowahlie First Nation, British Columbia
SECONDED BY:	Chief Keith Matthew, Simpcw First Nation, British Columbia
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. As part of Canada's commitment to support Green Energy initiatives and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Government of Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced through Canada's Economic Action Plan, $1 billion in federal financial support for green infrastructure projects on a cost-shared basis including the construction of green energy transmission infrastructure to connect remote areas now served by electricity generating systems powered by burning hydrocarbon fuels to Canada's electricity grid.

B. Manitoba Hydro submitted a proposal to the Government of Canada to construct a 138 kV electricity transmission line to connect the Shamattawa First Nation to the Manitoba Hydro electricity grid at an estimated cost of $80 million.

C. The four First Nation communities served by Manitoba Hydro diesel generators have the highest cost to serve of all Manitoba Hydro customers at an average cost of 59 cents per kilowatt hour and with proposed rates to be charged to First Nation education accounts of $2.19 per kilowatt hour.

D. The province of Manitoba has made a commitment to pay 50% of Manitoba Hydro's estimate of the construction costs of the Shamattawa Land Line.

E. Canada has advised the province of Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro and the Shamattawa First Nation that federal funding from Canada's Green Infrastructure Fund will not be committed toward the construction of a 138 kV transmission line to the Shamattawa First Nation as proposed by Manitoba Hydro.

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F. Manitoba Hydro has advised the Manitoba Public Utilities Board that a 66 kV transmission line can reliably serve electricity loads at Shamattawa.

G. The Shamattawa First Nation has now asked the Deputy Premier of Manitoba, as the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro, to call for private-sector proposals to build a 66 kV transmission line, in partnership with the Shamattawa First Nation.

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

1. Support the earliest construction of a transmission line to connect the Shamattawa First Nation to the Manitoba Hydro electricity grid.
2. Call upon the Assembly of First Nations and National Chief to advocate in support of a call for private-sector proposals on the part of the Province of Manitoba to construct a 66 kV transmission line to the Shamattawa First Nation, in partnership with the Shamattawa First Nation, with funding from Canada's Green Infrastructure Fund.

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