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**CHEROKEE NATION**<sup>®</sup>  
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Office of the Principal Chief

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*Principal Chief*  
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**Bryan Warner**  
*Deputy Principal Chief*  
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## **Executive Order Limiting Single Use Plastic Bottles, Establishing a Task Force on Clean Energy, and Cherokee Nation Youth Climate Change and Environmental Protection Task Force**

**Short Title:** Executive Order on Further Environmental and Climate Change Goals

**2024-03-CTH**

1. **AUTHORITY:** The Constitution and laws of the Cherokee Nation.
2. **POLICY:** The Cherokee Nation must continue to strengthen its commitment to deliver environmental justice across the Cherokee Nation Reservation. It is in the interest of this Administration to advance environmental justice by investing in and supporting our culturally vibrant, sustainable, and resilient communities. Pursuing objectives integral to advancing environmental justice can only successfully occur through meaningful engagement and collaboration. Therefore, in order to advance environmental justice, the following is hereby ordered.
3. **DEFINITIONS:**
  - a. “Single-Use Plastic”: plastic items intended to be disposed of immediately after use, including food and beverage containers, bottles, straws, cups and disposable plastic bags.
  - b. “Cherokee Nation Entity”: The Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation and any entity that is wholly owned by Cherokee Nation.
4. **Prohibition On Expenditures on Certain Single Use Plastics**
  - a. **Within 60 Days:** The purchase of single use Cherokee Nation branded single use plastic bottles by Cherokee Nation, or its entities, is prohibited. The sale of such items by Cherokee Nation or its entities is likewise prohibited. Cherokee

Nation, by the Secretary of Natural Resources and Chief of Staff, shall ensure compliance and develop or support plans for the replacement of single use plastic branded water bottles with reusable bottles or bottles constructed of more sustainable materials such as aluminum or cardboard.

- b. **No Later Than October 1, 2024:** The purchase of single use plastic water bottles by Cherokee Nation for internal office or worksite use or public event by Cherokee Nation is prohibited.
- c. **No Later Than April 22, 2025:**
  - i. **Cherokee Nation Entities** shall develop plans comparable to Section 4.b of this Order and submit said plans to the Secretary of Natural Resources for Approval.
  - ii. **Cherokee Nation Businesses**, in addition to adopting plans pursuant to paragraphs 4.c.1 of this Order, shall develop plans to measurably reduce the sale or provisions of single use plastics in its commercial operations, including but not limited to its Outpost convenience store facilities, across all beverage types, and to report such reduction to the Secretary of Natural Resources.
- d. **No Restraint on Private Conduct:** Nothing herein operates to restrain individuals Cherokee Nation employees or citizens from freely choosing drinking bottles of their choice using personal funds.

**5. ESTABLISHING THE CLEAN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE:**

- a) **Composition:** The Task Force shall consist of nine members and chosen by the Office of the Principal Chief, operating under the direction of the Secretary of Natural Resources,
  - 1. **Member 1 Chair:** Secretary of Natural Resources Christina Justice
  - 2. **Member 2:** Environmental Protection Commission Chairperson
  - 3. **Member 3:** Chief of Staff Corey Bunch
  - 4. **Member 4:** David Moore, Executive Director of Management Resources
  - 5. **Member 5:** Jon Asbill, Senior Administrator, Construction Projects
  - 6. **Member 6:** Executive Director of Health Services Dr. Stephen Jones or designee (approved by the Principal Chief)
  - 7. **Member 7:** Andy McMillan, Director of Economic Development & Special Projects for CNB
  - 8. **Member 8:** Todd Enlow, Executive Director Housing Programs and Senior Advisor to the Principal Chief
  - 9. **Member 9:** Executive Director of Government Relations Kim Teehee or designee (approved by the Principal Chief)

**b) Scope of Review and Goals:**

1. The Clean Energy and Environmental Task Force will create a cohesive path to a substantial reduction of the tribe's carbon footprint through an expansion of clean energy and energy reduction projects, by achieving the goals below.
2. Conduct planning to develop a tribe-wide Clean Energy Strategic plan.
3. Identify projects that will have a positive impact on the tribe's carbon footprint.
4. Identify and develop applications for funding opportunities to address projects.
5. Evaluate existing laws and policies and procedures that impact the tribes carbon footprint and make recommended changes.
6. Transparency and Public Disclosure: Although the Task Force is not a public body within the meaning of Cherokee Nation law and its meeting are not conducted under the Freedom of Information Act. However, in the interest of transparency, any interim report and final report shall be made publicly accessible. This body is an internal executive branch work group designed primarily to inform the Principal Chief and Council on relevant subject matter.

- c) **Annual Report:** The Task Force shall issue an annual report, with the first such report due March 1, 2025. A copy of each annual report shall be provided to the Principal Chief, the Speaker of the Council and made available for public review on Cherokee Nation's website.

**6. Establishing The Cherokee Nation Youth Climate Change and Environmental Protection Task Force:**

- a) **Composition:** The Cherokee Nation Youth Climate and Environmental Protection Task Force shall consist of the following individuals

1. Member 1 First Daughter of the Cherokee Nation, Jasmine Hoskin
2. Member 2: Abigail Ugasasdi Paden
3. Member 3: Shace Duncan
4. Member 4: Jace Gideon
5. Member 5: Emily Pack

- b) **Oversight:** The Task Force shall be managed as follows

- i. Reports to and operates under the direction of the Secretary of Natural Resources
- ii. Assigned Staff: Coordination and support shall be provided by Camerin Fite James, Assistant to the Principal Chief

- c) **Scope of Review, Goals, Final Report:**

**1. Expires June 30, 2024:** The Task Force shall expire June 30, 2024, or upon submission of its Final Report

**2. Prescribed Tasks**

- i. Conduct a “Cherokee Youth Climate Change and Environmental Protection Survey,” utilizing reasonably available forms of outreach, including the Gadugi Portal.
- ii. Recommend at least three goals, activities or strategies that Cherokee Nation might utilize to address climate change and environmental degradation.
- iii. Recommend how Cherokee Nation can engage youth on matters of climate change and environmental protection policy on a more permanent basis.

**3. Final Report:** The Task Force shall issue a final report by June 30, 2024, or at such extended deadline as may be requested of the Principal Chief by the Secretary of Natural Resources.

**4. Transparency and Public Disclosure:** Although the Task Force is not a public body within the meaning of Cherokee Nation law and its meeting are not conducted under the Freedom of Information Act. However, in the interest of transparency, any interim report and final report shall be made publicly accessible. This task force is an internal executive branch work group designed primarily to inform the Principal Chief and Council on relevant subject matter.

**7. EFFECTIVE DATE:** This Order is effective today, April 17, 2024.



Date: 4/12/24

Chuck Hoskin, Jr.  
Cherokee Nation, Principal Chief