



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET Resolution No. 2013:035

SUPPORT FOR INDIAN ENERGY SELF DETERMINATION AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors recognizes sources of energy owned by Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations are vast and largely untapped; and
- WHEREAS,** USET member Tribes have the opportunity to develop these energy resources which may provide potential economic benefit; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors supports goals to achieve Tribal self-determination and control of natural resources and energy assets; uphold Tribal sovereignty; protect Tribal assets; achieve economic independence, create jobs, and improve Tribal members' standard of living; and utilize Integrated Resource Management Plans (IRMP) that promote sustainable communities and address climate change; and
- WHEREAS,** USET member Tribes could advance their energy goals through Congressional action and investment in Indian Country; and
- WHEREAS,** H.R. 1548, *The Native American Energy Act* was introduced by Representative Don Young of Alaska "to facilitate the development of energy on Indian lands by reducing federal regulations that impede Tribal development of Indian lands, and for other purposes," and
- WHEREAS,** a Senate bill is expected to be introduced that will propose the creation of a self-determination framework for increased Tribal control over energy resources on Indian lands; and
- WHEREAS,** USET member Tribes could further advance their energy goals through actions by federal agencies that would: (1) recognize Tribal primacy or delegate federal authority for Tribal self-determination and control of natural resources and energy assets; (2) appropriate funding to support Tribal capacity to regulate, develop, and manage Indian energy resources; and (3) provide balanced geographical representation and inclusion of USET member Tribes in energy programs; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP),

whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors requests the United States Congress to enact legislation that would: (1) promote use of Integrated Resource Management Plans on Tribal lands; (2) establish self-determination provisions for Indian energy programs; and (3) appropriate funding for Indian Tribes to plan and develop capacity to regulate, develop, and manage Indian energy resources; and, be it further

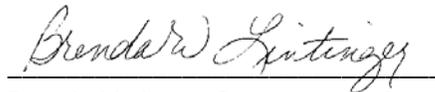
RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors requests the Obama Administration and federal agencies to consult with Indian Tribes to support planning, capacity, and infrastructure development; and to ensure representation and inclusion of USET member Tribes in energy programs.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Niagara Falls, NY, on Friday, May 17, 2013.



Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



Brenda Lintinger, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”