



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2007:027

SUPPORT FOR CONTINUATION OF UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.  
ENVIRONMENTAL LIAISON OFFICE

- WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) 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, USET created and has filled an Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO) position pursuant to USET Resolutions No. 2004:005 and No. 2004:044; and
- WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 4 currently funds the ELO function within the USET organization, said function benefiting all member Tribes in the areas of technical assistance, analysis of pending legislation and proposed regulation, preparation of strategic plans and grant work plans, advice and support in preparing Tribal/EPA environmental agreements, formation of ad hoc consortia of Tribes to jointly address environmental problems, and general support of the work of the Regional Tribal Operations Committees; and
- WHEREAS, USET Tribes are located in USEPA Regions 1, 2, 4 and 6; and
- WHEREAS, the ELO programs, functions, services and activities have been solely funded by the USEPA Region 4 since the inception of the program, despite requests for program funding through USEPA Regions 1, 2, and 6; and
- WHEREAS, the USET ELO has been declared a success by USEPA Region 4 and has been recognized by the American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) as a priority for distribution of discretionary set-aside funds in the Indian General Assistance Program 2006 Grants Administration Guidance, February 24, 2006, Federal Register Volume 71, Number 37; and
- WHEREAS, the USEPA Region 4 has notified USET that funding for the ELO program will not be available beyond Fiscal Year 2007; and
- WHEREAS, USET desires to identify and secure additional funding for the continuation of the ELO position; and
- WHEREAS, the work undertaken by the ELO has not duplicated and will not duplicate efforts by any member Tribe, nor will USET's grant proposals conflict or compete with those of member Tribes, but instead will complement and support the efforts of member Tribes; and
- WHEREAS, USET appreciates the efforts of the USEPA Region 4 to assist in the establishment of an ELO within the organization and acknowledges that Regions 1, 2, and 6 have considered program funding to no avail as Regional discretionary funds are limited; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls for the EPA Administrator and the AIEO to assist in future and continued funding of the ELO function in order to reach long-term Tribal environmental initiatives; and be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors grants authority to the USET Executive Director, in consultation with the Natural Resources Committee, to prepare and submit contract, grant and cooperative agreement proposals and/or applications in order to provide continuing financial support for the ELO programs, functions, services and activities.

*"Because there is strength in Unity"*

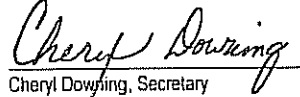
USET Resolution 2007:027

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 15, 2007.



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



Cheryl Downing, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.