



## United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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### USET Resolution No. 2016:037

#### **AUTHORIZATION FOR USET TO SEEK FEDERAL FUNDING FROM THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TRIBAL CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Natural Resource Committee recognizes that there is overwhelming scientific evidence of climate change, which has been documented in the Fifth Assessment Report Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2014); and
- WHEREAS,** the Third National Climate Assessment (2014) identified that "climate change impacts on many of the 566 (*currently 567*) federally recognized tribes and other Tribal and indigenous groups in the U.S. are projected to be especially severe, since these impacts are compounded by a number of persistent social and economic problems;" and
- WHEREAS,** USET Member Tribal Nations are committed to join together to address climate change impacts and to take actions to protect their people, lands, water and natural resources, cultural integrity, rights and sovereignty; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Climate Resilience Program provides direct funding to support Tribal Nations, Tribal consortia, and authorized Tribal organizations to plan for climate resilience through competitive awards for culturally sensitive climate training, adaptation planning, vulnerability assessments, supplemental monitoring, capacity building; and youth engagement; and
- WHEREAS,** the BIA issued a Notice of Funding Availability for nine award categories of the Tribal Climate Resilience Program in March 2016, for which USET intends to submit applications in Category 1 (Training and Workshops), Category 2 (Climate Adaptation Planning), and Category 3 (Travel Support – Climate); 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** the USET Board of Directors supports efforts to address climate change impacts and to take actions to protect their people, lands, water and natural resources, cultural integrity, rights and sovereignty; and, be it further

**RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors authorizes the USET Executive Director to submit applications in response to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Notice of Funding Availability for the 2016 Tribal Climate Resilience Program.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Atmore, AL, May 18, 2016.



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



Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*