



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.
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UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 96:17

A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT INDIAN COUNTRY RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) 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 is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, tribes from time immemorial have worked to protect Mother Earth and her resources, particularly in Indian Country, from degradation or detrimental harm; and

WHEREAS, outside industries and private concerns are contaminating Indian Country resources that the tribes are trying to protect; and

WHEREAS, the contamination, such as the North Cape barge oil spill in the vicinity of the Narragansett Indian tribal lands, also compromises the inherent and invaluable rights of tribes and their people to hunt, fish and gather resources; and

WHEREAS, tribes are customarily not included in or benefit from any process used to penalize the perpetrators or compensate the victims of resource contamination incidents or disasters


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors does hereby requests the U.S. Government, through all of its Branches, to remain aware and fully appreciate the contaminations and other problems negatively affecting Indian Country resources; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors also insist that the US Government keep budgets and appropriations of the tribes at levels necessary to protect their resources and environmental ecosystems and uphold the U.S. Government Trust Responsibilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors support its member tribes in their efforts to protect their resources or seek remedial actions to compensate for losses to resources due to contaminations.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Washington Impact Week Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC on February 8, 1996.


Keller George, President
United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc.


Philip Tarbell, Secretary
United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"