



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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### USET Resolution No. 2002:051


#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING BIA/ERO TRANSPORTATION DIVISION SERVICES

- WHEREAS,** the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET, Inc. 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,** the USET Board has established the USET Transportation Committee for the purpose of reviewing issues of concern and policy regarding transportation programs for and/or affecting USET member tribes, and to provide the Board with proposed recommendations and resolutions for the Board's consideration; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Eastern Regional Office (ERO), Division of Engineering is commissioned to serve and assist USET member tribes to meet tribal transportation needs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Transportation Committee has reviewed the service of the ERO, Division of Engineering Transportation Programs and finds the office in disarray and unable to service the tribes in an efficient manner; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the USET Board of Directors supports and encourages the BIA Regional Director to implement policies and/or programs which address the attached USET Transportation Committee Request for Corrective Action dated January 30, 2002.

#### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C., Thursday, January 31, 2002.

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

  
Beverly M. Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

## **USET Transportation Committee Request for Corrective Action**

January 30, 2002

USET Transportation Committee Challenge/Action Items for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Regional Office:

1. Hold Semi-Annual Transportation Budget meetings with the tribes in the region to review project status and funding levels. Preferably at USET or at a tribal location. Specifically these meetings will provide financial information in the following transportation areas:
  - Individual Tribal Allocations
  - 6% oversight and administration funds
  - 2% planning funds
  - Construction funds
  - Road Maintenance funds
  - All other set-aside budgets
2. Provide information to the tribes about Road Maintenance Funds. How are the funds distributed (what is the formula?) What are the past, present and projected allocations for each tribe?
3. Immediately submit a blanket request for all eastern tribes for the \$35,000 capacity building grant (due April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002). And all individual tribal capacity building proposals will supercede the ERO blanket request.
4. Hire an Engineer Technician/Office Automation Clerk to improve prompt responses and turnaround times for required program documents.
5. Provide a monthly progress report through the Regional Director's Office to each tribe reporting on:
  - Accomplishments
  - Actions needed/required
  - Follow-up information
  - Projected schedules of projects eligible for close outs (final inspections, deadlines, etc.)
6. Attend a Files Management training to improve the management of tribal contracts and projects.
7. In order to improve technical assistance, provide each tribe with their point of contact engineer. Each engineer will arrange an on-site orientation visit with the tribal contact to become familiar with tribal operations and projects.
8. Provide a delegate from the Director's Office and the Transportation Office to attend all future USET meetings.