



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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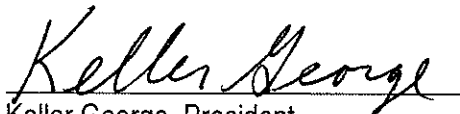
USET Resolution No. 2004:023

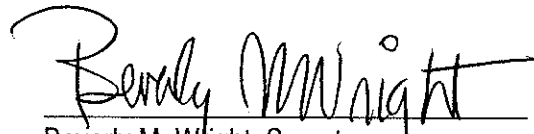
**RESOLUTION REQUESTING \$1 BILLION BE APPROPRIATED FOR NAHASDA FY2005**

- 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,** appropriations for the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) has had zero growth for fiscal years 2003-2004; and
- WHEREAS,** there have been increases in annual funding for National Public Housing; therefore be it,
- WHEREAS,** there is unquestionable unmet need under current NAHASDA program funding; and
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors supports legislation for the appropriation of \$1Billion for NAHASDA for FY 2005.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was presented in Mashantucket, CT, on Thursday, October 23, 2003.

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

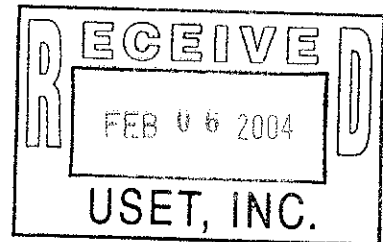
  
Beverly M. Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

JAN 30 2004

Mr. James T. Martin  
Executive Director  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.  
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike  
Suite 100  
Nashville, TN 37214



Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you for your letter of November 7, 2003, which included Resolutions approved by the USET Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting, October 20-23, 2003. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to these resolutions.

**2004:023, Resolution Requesting \$1 Billion be Appropriated for NAHASDA FY2005.** The Department continues to play an active role in assisting Indian tribes, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians to meet the housing and community development needs within their communities. The FY 2004 HUD Appropriations Act contains \$654.1 million for the Indian Housing Block Grant Program. In addition, there is \$5.3 million for the Section 184 Loan Guarantee program and \$72 million for the Indian Community Development Block Grant program. Other HUD housing, community, and economic development programs are available to tribes.

**2004:024, Support for Continued Funding for Training and Technical Assistance for the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC).** The Department continues to provide support for NAIHC services, and remains committed to its partnership with NAIHC. We believe that NAIHC has sufficient funding through our contractual pipeline to continue its activities through FY05.

**2004:025, Resolution Requesting the Decentralization of Title Recordkeeping to Individual Tribes for the Purposes of Internal Land Transactions.** The Office of Loan Guarantee will explore alternatives to USET's request that current title requirements of the Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program be waived.

**2004:026, Request for Increased Administrative Funding to Compensate for the Loss of the Drug Elimination Program Funding.** Crime prevention and safety activities, including drug elimination activities, remain eligible under NAHASDA. Increases in NAHASDA, as requested in 2004:023, could be earmarked for this use by the individual tribal housing entity.

**2004:027, Request for Modification in the Regulations to Allow for Tribal Participation in Competitive Public Grants to Alleviate Homelessness.** Section 202 of NAHASDA, Eligible Affordable Housing Activities, allows grant recipients to include homeless related programs such as emergency shelters. A tribal housing entity may include homeless

activities in its annual Indian Housing Plan. Tribal entities may participate as members of local Continuums Of Care, or COC's.

**2004:028, Resolution Requesting Continued and Increased Funding of Indian Housing Block Grant Imminent Threat Program.** Mold and mildew remain eligible for Imminent Threat funds as provided for in Program Guidance No. 2003-06. Imminent Threat funds are allocated based on the demand and need for the funds as well as the availability of Indian Community Development Block Grants. They were increased over FY02 in FY03 based on the demand noted in FY02.

**2004:029, Request for the Inclusion of NAHASDA Built Homes in the Formula Funding Calculation Used to Determine Annual Grant Award Level.** This proposal was considered in Negotiated Rulemaking but consensus was not reached.

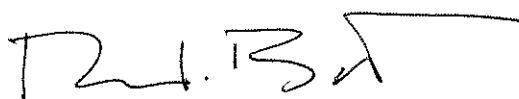
**2004:030, Support for the Inclusion of NAHASDA Built Homes in the Current Assisted Stock for the Purposes of Funding Additional Maintenance.** This proposal was also considered in Negotiated Rulemaking but no consensus was reached.

**2004:032, Support for a Memorandum Of Understanding Among Affiliated Federal Agencies for the Improved Service and Support of Indian Housing Programs.** The Department appreciates USET's support of its participation in a task force composed of representatives from Federal agencies and the National American Indian Housing Council. The Task Force is working to streamline the process of delivering infrastructure support to tribal housing. It is our hope that a new agreement will facilitate the coordination of infrastructure development when more than one agency is involved.

**2004:036, Support for Tribal Self-Determination in the Establishment of Income Eligibility Requirements for Housing Applicants.** It is ONAP's mission to ensure that safe, decent, and affordable housing is available to low-income Native American families. Statutory requirements must be followed when determining eligibility for occupancy of units assisted with Indian Housing Block Grant Program funds.

Some of these Resolutions are directed to other Federal agencies. I look forward to continuing discussions on these and other important issues.

Sincerely,



Rodger J. Boyd  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Native American Programs