



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
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USET Resolution No. 2009:026

CALL TO DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR TO HALT MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICES ACTION ON CAPE WIND PROJECT, NANTUCKET SOUND, MASSACHUSETTS

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) 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,** The Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), People of the First Light, are opposed to the Cape Wind Project being considered for development in Nantucket Sound, part of their Ancient Homelands of the Wampanoag People; and
- WHEREAS,** The Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) regards Nantucket Sound as a Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) and Sacred Site; and
- WHEREAS,** the Cape Winds Wind Farm Project will forever change the physical integrity of the Sacred Site; and will ruin the eastern vista viewshed, essential to maintaining the Tribal identity of the Wampanoag people and their spiritual wellbeing; and
- WHEREAS,** the Minerals Management Services (MMS) has failed to fully comply with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 process and has not completed the required consultation with the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah); and
- WHEREAS,** due to this failure to fully consult in compliance with the Act; we consider the Final Environmental Impact Study incomplete and invalid; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon the Department of the Interior to halt any further Mineral Management Services action on the Cape Winds Wind Farm Project due to the lack of or failure to complete good faith meaningful consultation, lack of compliance with existing regulations and failure to adequately consider reasonable and/or other viable alternatives.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 12, 2009.

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

Robert McGhee, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"