WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-seven (27) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET SPF 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, since time immemorial, the Wampanoag of Gay Head (Aquinnah) and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Nations have relied on Nantucket Sound to provide sustenance for their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Nantucket Sound is a sacred place, with a rich cultural Tribal heritage that has been designated a traditional cultural property eligible for listing on the National Register for Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, Nantucket Sound has many different species of wildlife, including federally-protected species, along with seals, porpoises, turtles and whales, while providing a sustainable commercial and recreational fishery; and

WHEREAS, Nantucket Sound, Cape Cod and the Islands of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket are an integral part of the maritime history of the United States of America and the adjacent lands are home to numerous historic properties, including the National Historic Landmarks of Nantucket Island and the Kennedy Compound in Hyannis Port; and

WHEREAS, the history, culture, ecology and traditions of Nantucket Sound are being threatened by wind farms and other sources of energy production; and

WHEREAS, protection for the historic, environmental, cultural and Tribal resources of Nantucket Sound are of paramount importance, while allowing for continued commercial and recreational fishing and other ecologically and economical sustainable uses of the marine environment, including the siting of electrical transmission infrastructure from responsibly-sited clean energy projects); 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 SPF Board of Directors supports legislation designating Nantucket Sound as a Traditional Cultural Property in the National Register of Historic Landmarks.
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET SPF Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, March 7, 2019.

Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund

Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund