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# **USET Resolution No. 2021:002**

# AUTHORIZATION OF AMENDMENTS TO USET CERTIFICATION BOARD BYLAWS FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATORS AND LABORATORY ANALYSTS

- WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of thirty-three (33) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- **WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET 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, the USET Board of Directors has established and approved the USET Certification Board Bylaws for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts (USET Certification Board and Bylaws; USET Resolution Nos. 2000:57, 2002:50, 2002:80, and 2002:81, 2009:08, 2011:056, 2015:015, 2018:002, and 2020:002) and subsequent revisions to same in order to place trained and certified operators and laboratory analysts on Tribal lands; and
- whereas, the USET Certification Board reviewed Section I, Article V Creation & Composition of Certification Board; Members; Meetings; Officers, and added that the members shall elect one of its members to serve as Chairperson, one to serve as Vice-Chairperson, and one to serve as Treasurer every three (3) years at the Annual Certification Board meeting; and
- WHEREAS, the USET Certification Board reviewed Section I, Article V Creation & Composition of Certification Board; Members; Meetings; Officers, and added that The Chairperson will advance to Immediate Past-Chairperson and will serve for an additional three years to bring consistency to the Certification Board; and
- WHEREAS, the USET Certification Board reviewed Section I, Article XI Classification of Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts required to operate facilities and rotated the points so that the highest level of operator is responsible for facilities with the most technical operational components: and
- WHEREAS, the USET Certification Board reviewed Section II, Article V Certification Requirements and decided to match the ABC Certification Exam numbers with the USET Certification numbers. The numbers were in reverse order previously causing confusion for operators and lab analysts in determining which level of certification to pursue. Class I is now the lowest level of certification and Class IV the highest. Requirements for each level of license were reversed to accommodate this change. Water or Wastewater Lab Analyst, Distribution System Operator, and Wastewater Collection System Operator requirements were delineated to match ABC Certification Exams thus providing Class I through Class IV for these categories for the first-time allowing operators and lab analysts in these career fields to increase in certification as their technical knowledge in their chosen field expands; and

- **WHEREAS,** the USET Certification Board reviewed the entire document and made small adjustments to grammar, verbiage to enhance clarity, and format; and
- WHEREAS, Section I, Article VII Adoption of Rules and Regulations by Certification Board states that all rules and regulations and Bylaw modifications are approved by the USET Certification Board and submitted to the USET Board of Directors for final approval through Resolution; and
- WHEREAS, the USET Certification Board met September 14, 2020 and February 9, 2021 and made these modifications and approved them for submittal to the USET Board of Directors for final approval through Resolution; 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 Board of Directors adopts the amended USET Certification Board Bylaws for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts, as recommended by the USET Certification Board (amended document attached).

## **CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed by the USET Executive Committee, at which a quorum was present, on May 5, 2021.

Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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