



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
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USET Resolution No. 2011:009

**DISSATISFACTION WITH ACTIONS OF BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
REGIONAL ROADS ENGINEER**

- 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,** it has been reported that the Regional Road Engineer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Eastern Regional Office (ERO) is currently or has recently been under investigation for unethical and potentially illegal actions with an employee of WHPacific by the Department of Interior Office of Inspector General (OIG); and
- WHEREAS,** WHPacific has a number of ongoing contracts with the BIA ERO; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Transportation Committee and ERO Roads staff witnessed firsthand on numerous occasions unethical behavior between the Regional Road Engineer and an employee of WHPacific; and
- WHEREAS,** the DOI OIG has gathered and filed evidence of the unethical behavior and potentially illegal actions demonstrated by Regional Road Engineer and an employee of WHPacific; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribes were misinformed by the Regional Roads Engineer on all options available to spend funds from the ERO Roads branch; and
- WHEREAS,** between 2007-2010 approximately one million dollars in contracts were approved by the Regional Roads Engineer and/or his subordinates to WHPacific and not directly to Tribes, which was an option not shared by the Regional Roads Engineer; and
- WHEREAS,** the Regional Roads Engineer deceived, insulted, and tried to prevent a one million dollar high priority project to one member Tribe and since is prohibited from that Tribe's lands; and
- WHEREAS,** the BIA ERO Director has been aware of the investigation and unethical behavior by the Regional Roads Engineer; and
- WHEREAS,** the BIA ERO Director has taken no action to discipline the Regional Roads Engineer for falsely directing, disrespecting, and insulting the Indian Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribes served by the ERO are not confident that the Eastern Regional Roads Engineer is acting in the best interest of the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Transportation Committee recommends that the USET Board of Directors acts to rectify this situation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors is dissatisfied with the dishonest, disrespecting and insulting behavior of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Regional Office Regional Roads Engineer and requests the Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Regional Office Director take immediate action to remedy the situation.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, October 14, 2010.



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



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

“Because there is strength in Unity”