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"