



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.  
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**USET Resolution No. 2011:044**

**UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC. NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
FISCAL YEAR 2012 FUNDING PRIORITIES**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) 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,** adequate funding for Tribal energy, natural resources and environmental programs is essential to the health, social and economic well being of Tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Natural Resources Committee has identified the following Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 funding priorities in support of Tribal energy, natural resources and environmental programs:
- Environmental Protection Agency Indian Environmental General Assistance Program
  - Indian Health Service Operation and Maintenance Funding for Tribal Public Water Systems
  - Department of Energy Capacity Development and Implementation
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs Water Management, Planning and Pre-Development Programs
  - Environmental Protection Agency Multimedia Tribal Implementation Grants Program; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States has a special trust responsibility to Indian Tribes that is confirmed through various treaties and executive orders; and
- WHEREAS,** this special relationship must be considered when analyzing budget priorities in adherence to the President's sound fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction efforts; and
- WHEREAS,** a proposed reduction to FY 2008 levels, with inflation considered, would equate to a drastic reduction to already severely underfunded Indian programs; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls for the exemption of all Indian programs from any mandatory budget reduction imposed for Fiscal Year 2012 and beyond; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors respectfully requests the United States Congress to support the identified funding priorities for Tribal energy, natural resources and environmental programs.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 10, 2011.

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

Brenda Lintinger, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.