



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
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USET Resolution No. 2011:055

SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF A NATIONAL TRIBAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- 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,** Tribal water related issues are varied and complex, and include water rights; infrastructure for safe and potable drinking water, sanitation, agriculture and energy; water quality; ecology; ground water impacts from extraction and hydro-fracturing; and climate change impacts on Tribal waters; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal water issues are among the most significant for Indian Country in exercising sovereignty and maintaining health, cultural and spiritual values; and
- WHEREAS,** the complexity of Tribal water related issues is further exacerbated by being under the jurisdiction of multiple federal agencies with little or no cohesive action; and
- WHEREAS,** while numerous Tribal Federal advisory groups exist to address areas of importance to Indian Tribes, not one exists to *comprehensively* address varied and complex Tribal water issues; and
- WHEREAS,** Our Natural Resources (ONR), a consortium of 15 national and regional Tribal organizations, including USET, established to speak with one voice on Tribal natural resource issues, has recognized the need to address Tribal water related issues through one similar forum; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the formation of a National Tribal Water Advisory Committee to comprehensively address Tribal water issues and encourages USET member Tribes to participate in this forum.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Marksville, LA, Thursday, May 19, 2011.



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



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