



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET Resolution No. 2015:015

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 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,** the USET Board of Directors has established, and approved, and revised, 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 81, 2009:08, and 2011:056) to place trained and certified operators and laboratory analysts on Tribal lands; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Certification Board has reviewed the requirements for Continuing Education Units (CEU) for all of the certifications it provides in relation to other certifying entities; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Certification Board further reviewed the requirements for experience for operators to advance to the next highest certification in comparison with other certifying entities; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Certification Board determined the need to increase both the CEU and experience level for operators so they will be equal to and/or greater than operators from other certifying entities; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Certification Board concluded these increases in CEU requirements and experience levels will not place an undue burden on current and future USET Certified operators; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Certification Board revised the Bylaws to increase the experience requirements for certifying operators and laboratory analysts and made other minor administrative changes (as shown in the table below) in Section II-Article IV. Requirements (3); and

Certificate Applied For	Required Experience			
	With H.S. Diploma or GED Certificate		With Accredited B.S. Degree or higher in Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, or an equivalent degree, or a current Class I certificate in another category	
<i>Public Water Supply System Operators</i>	<i>Old requirement</i>	<i>New requirement</i>	<i>Old requirement</i>	<i>New requirement</i>

Certificate Applied For	Required Experience			
	1 month	6 months	1 month	6 months
VSWWS Joint Certification	1 month	6 months	1 month	6 months
Class IV	1 month	6 months	1 month	6 months
Class III	3 months	18 months	3 months	18 months
Class II	2 years	3 years	1 year	2 years
Class I	3 years	5 years	2 years	4 years
<i>Wastewater Treatment System Operators</i>	<i>Old requirement</i>	<i>New requirement</i>	<i>Old requirement</i>	<i>New requirement</i>
Class IV	1 month	6 months	1 month	6 months
Class III	3 months	18 months	3 months	18 months
Class II	2 years	4 years	1 year	3 years
Class I	3 years	5 years	2 years	4 years

WHEREAS, the USET Certification Board revised the Bylaws to increase the CEU requirements for certifying Operators and Laboratory Analysts and made other administrative changes (as shown in the table below) in Section II-Article VII. Renewal of a Certificate; and

Certification Held	Old Continuing Education Points	New Continuing Education Points
Class I Operator Water & Wastewater	18	24
Class II Operator Water & Wastewater	12	18
Class III Operator Water & Wastewater	6	12
Class IV Operator Water & Wastewater	2	8
VSWWS Operator Water Joint Certification	6	8

WHEREAS, the USET Certification Board revised the Bylaws to include an Operator-in-Training designation whereby an Operator who has taken and passed the examination for either a Public Water Supply System Very Small Water System and/or Class IV and a Wastewater Treatment System Class IV and Class III will be issued an Operator-in-Training Certification until they complete the experience requirement for those respective designations at the same fee; and

WHEREAS, when the Operator-in-Training has successfully completed their experience level, the USET Certification Board upon receiving confirmation from their respective Tribe will issue a Certification for that designation at no additional fee; 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, 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

“Because there is strength in Unity”

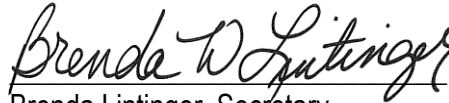
RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors adopts the USET Certification Board Bylaws for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts, as amended in the attached document.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, December 4, 2014.



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



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

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