USET SPF Resolution No. 2017 SPF:020

NOMINATING REPRESENTATIVES TO FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION ADVISORY COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations’ leadership; and

WHEREAS, all federal agencies have a responsibility and obligation, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act and other laws and policies, to consult with Tribal Nations during the development, permitting, or approval of any policy or projects with Tribal implications; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) permits and oversees numerous projects and polices affecting Tribal Nations, including the deployment of broadband, the construction and maintenance of cellular towers, and the use and auction of spectrum; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Nations must have the opportunity to provide guidance and input to the FCC on work may make impact to culturally sensitive sites and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the FCC Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC) provides guidance, expertise, and recommendations to the Commission on a range of telecommunication issues for which local, state, and Tribal governments explicitly or inherently share responsibility or administration with the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the 2017-2019 IAC will focus on the role of state, local and Tribal governments in facilitating broadband deployment and adoption, initiatives related to wireless infrastructure deployment, Universal Service programs, consumer complaints processes, and public safety issues, and currently has one Tribal seat vacant; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the FCC recently announced the establishment of its Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC), which will provide advice and recommendations to the Commission on how to accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access “by reducing and/or removing regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment”; and

WHEREAS, eligible representatives to the BDAC include representatives of the communications industry, representatives of federal, state, local and Tribal regulators, or representatives of consumers and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the FCC must uphold its trust responsibilities and obligations to Tribal Nations as it seeks to reduce or remove regulatory barriers to broadband deployment, and therefore, must include Tribal representatives on the BDAC; 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

RESOLVED the USET SPF Board of Directors nominates Cheryl Andrews-Maltais to the Federal Communications Commission Intergovernmental Advisory Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED the USET SPF Board of Directors nominates Terri Henry to the Federal Communications Commission Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET SPF Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, February 9, 2017.

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Chief Kirk Francis, Sr., President  Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes  United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund  Sovereignty Protection Fund