

# NITED SOUTH AND ASTERN RIBES, INC. 711Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214 Telephone: (615) 872-7900 • Fax: (615) 872-7417

### UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. 94-01-DC

## REQUEST TRIBAL GOVERNING BODY CONSENT BEFORE WATERSHEDS ARE DESIGNATED AFFECTING INDIAN LANDS AND EQUAL FUNDING WITH THE STATES

- WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-one (21) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and
- WHEREAS, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (Committee) is acting to merge S.1114 and S.1304 on Clean Water and Wetlands; and
- WHEREAS, the provisions in S.1114 and S.1304 would seemingly authorize State governors to designate watersheds within the boundaries of Indian Reservations; and
- WHEREAS, this is contrary to the Federal Government and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Policy of government-to-government relationships with the tribes; and
- WHEREAS, USET understands Committee staff has prepared amendments which would require the consent of the Tribal governing body prior to any such designation; and
- WHEREAS, EPA has always underfunded Tribes, yet supports the Tribe in a government-to-government relationship; and
- WHEREAS, Tribes are expected and encouraged to assume and administer EPA programs without proper funding; and
- WHEREAS, the Committee has the opportunity to correct this funding problem and start to place Tribes on an equal funding level with the States.

### **USET RESOLUTION 94-01-DC**

- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the USET, Inc. Board of Directors do hereby request the Committee to pass amendments requiring prior Tribal governing body consent before watersheds are designated affecting Indian Lands; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the USET, Inc. Board of Directors further request the Committee to pass amendments increasing funding to the Tribes on an equal basis with the States.

#### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Washington Impact Week meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C. on February 22, 1994.

Eddie L. Tullis, President

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Keller George, Secretary

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.