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UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. 94-25-DC

TRANSFER OF FEE LAND INTO TRUST

- 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 membership is composed of the following tribes: the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana; the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana; the Eastern Band of Cherokees of North Carolina; the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida; the Mississippi Band of Choctaw; the St. Regis Band of Mohawks of New York; the Seminole Tribe of Florida; the Seneca Nation of New York; the Penobscot Nation of Maine; the Passamaquoddy-Indian Township of Maine; the Houlton Band of Maliseets of Maine; the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana; the Poarch Band of Creeks of Alabama; the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut; Narragansett Indian Tribe of Rhode Island; Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head of Massachusetts; Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas; the Oneida Nation of New York; the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians of Maine; and the Catawba Indian Nation of South Carolina; and
- WHEREAS, policy has been established by the Department of Interior that discriminates against small tribes including the tribes of USET; and
- WHEREAS, these policies have stopped or interrupted tribal economic activities supported by law; and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Coushatta Tribe has received the full support of the BIA Reorganization Task Force and its members throughout the United States by resolution and motion for their identified fee land to be placed into trust; and

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- WHEREAS, other USET Tribes have been discriminated against by policy and where policy is detrimental to Indian Tribes, this policy should be waived; and
- WHEREAS, the Secretary of Interior, the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Indian Affairs, and the Solicitor's Office for Indian Affairs should immediately make policy decisions on those cases currently before them that have caused hardship on USET Tribes; and
- WHEREAS, policies cannot be made solely for the purposes of suppressing Indian tribal governments, especially by those Trustees of the United States Government having the responsibility of carrying out the highest degree of Trust fiduciary responsibility for the Tribes.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Indian tribes of USET immediately receive the necessary waivers, certifications, and/or transfers of fee land into trust identified by the respective Tribes; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that discriminating policies currently being applied to the USET Tribes in complete disregard to the mission of the Department of Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs Trust fiduciary responsibility be resolved in favor of the Tribes; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the discriminating practices of policies superseding laws and court decisions cease.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Washington Impact Week meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C., on February 24, 1994.

Eddie L. Tullis, President

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Keller George, Secretary

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