



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 99:27

USET REQUESTS BIA TO FULLY FUND GEOGRAPHIC DATA SERVICE CENTER FOR REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR AND CONTINUE FUNDING IN FY 2000

- WHEREAS**, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-three (23) 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 United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has a Geographic Data Service Center (GDSC) in Lakewood, CO; and
- WHEREAS**, the GDSC provides training, technical assistance, and lends technical equipment to Tribes throughout the Nation for Geographic Information Systems and Global Positioning Satellites to produce maps, assimilate data, and utilize in natural resources and land use planning decisions; and
- WHEREAS**, said training, technical assistance, and loans of technical equipment are made at no cost to the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS**, the staff of the GDSC is almost exclusively on contract to the BIA with only three full time BIA employees, thus making the GDSC a model of fiscal conservatism while still providing vital and necessary services to the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS**, the BIA cut the funding for the GDSC in the middle of the year, causing the GDSC to cut staff and thereby cut services available to the Tribes, consequently causing the Tribes to either fund those same services from their own budgets or do without these modern technological tools; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors demands the BIA restore the funding to the GDSC so that it can continue to provide these necessary services to the Tribes; be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors demands the BIA fully provide the necessary funding to the GDSC for FY 2000 so that the GDSC can continue to provide the same services to the Tribes as it did prior to the funding cut imposed by the BIA this fiscal year.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Board of Directors Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Miami, FL Thursday, June 17, 1999.

Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”