WIRELESS COMMUNICATION TOWER PERMITTING

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-three (24) 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, there is a proliferation nationwide in the expansion of wireless communication systems, particularly in construction of "cellular telephone" towers; and

WHEREAS, federal permits are required for such undertakings as may affect historic properties or traditional cultural, religious and/or sacred sites related to, or of importance to, a federally recognized Tribe may be affected; and

WHEREAS, the significant and growing number of such inquiries from these companies and/or their agents, requesting information applicable to these concerns and which require extensive research in order to make competent reply has placed undue staffing and economic burdens upon the Tribes and their Preservation Offices; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors hereby adopt the attached standard response form and encourages the USET member tribes to employ and adhere to it as a standard, in order to demonstrate our strength in unity.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Board Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Houston, TX, Thursday, June 8, 2000.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"
Dear [Name]:

We are responding to your request of [date] for information regarding the presence of historic properties or traditional cultural, religious and/or sacred sites related to the [Tribe Name] Tribe which may be impacted by the construction/placement of a [Project Name]. Your reference number [Reference Number], at the following described location: [Location] (use space as needed for legal description).

Due to the historic presence of the [Tribe Name] Tribe and their ancestors in the area under consideration, there is a strong likelihood of such sites being present at this location.

Since the issuance of a permit by a federal agency is an Undertaking under the National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA) we, therefore, require that a cultural resource management (CRM) survey be conducted by a Registered Professional Archaeologist in full compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

Upon receipt of this report, we will review it and make a determination of the appropriate response required by this request. It may also be necessary for a site visit to occur, either before or after the CRM survey is conducted, before such a determination can be made by the [Tribe Name] Tribe.

The fee for this initial review will be $[Fee]. Subsequent costs and the expense of any necessary site visit, including all travel costs, are expected to be borne by you and/or your client.

While the State Historic Preservation Officer is required by the NHPA to respond to requests such as yours within 30 days, Federally Recognized sovereign Indian Tribes are under no such obligation.

We additionally require appropriate notice of any action in this review process which may affect our legal and statutory interests in this location.