



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2001:057

REAFFIRMATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE MAINE TRIBES' OPPOSITION TO DELEGATION OF THE NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) AUTHORITY ON TRIBAL WATERS TO THE STATE OF MAINE

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-four (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 each member Tribe's leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors, by Resolution 2001:03, previously resolved to fully and actively support the Maine Tribes in opposing the state of Maine's application to attain federal NPDES authority within the Maine Tribes' Indian reservations and trust lands, specifically where such delegation affects or impacts lands, water bodies, or other natural resources belonging to any of the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to said Resolution, USET issued a letter dated January 31, 2001 to the United States Attorney General, Secretary of the Interior, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator in support of the Maine Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), by letter dated February 21, 2001, likewise issued a letter to the United States Attorney General, Secretary of the Interior, and EPA Administrator in support of the Maine Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** by letter dated May 1, 2001, the Secretary of the Interior wrote to the Maine Tribes, stating that she must decline a meeting with tribal representatives from the Maine Tribes; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors reaffirms Resolution 2001:03 and actions taken in support of said resolution and actions taken by NCAI in support of the Maine Tribes; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors instructs the President and Executive Director of USET to transmit a letter to the Secretary of the Interior and other appropriate government officials, which conveys the USET Board of Directors' continued support of the Maine Tribes, and specifically, their desire to meet directly with the Secretary of the Interior.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Marksville, LA, on Thursday, May 24, 2001.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"