



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2003:037

REQUEST FOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE (BIA-ERO) TO WORK WITH USET TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FUNDING FORMULA FOR DISTRIBUTION OF ROAD MAINTENANCE FUNDS

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal 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 the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** road maintenance issues have become extremely important to the USET Tribes over the past several years in their efforts to gain critical funding and increase the safety of all Tribal Transportation systems in order to improve the infrastructure and increase the economic development opportunities of Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** road maintenance has historically been under funded and has not provided sufficient funds for the upkeep and maintenance of Tribal roads in order to maintain adequate design and safety standards; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Transportation Committee has identified the need for the development of a funding formula for the distribution of Road Maintenance funds; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Transportation Committee should be an active participant with the BIA-ERO in the development of this formula in order to provide direct tribal input; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Transportation Committee has created a Transportation Sub-Committee to pursue working with the BIA-ERO in the development of a funding formula for the distribution of road maintenance funding to the USET Tribes; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors request that the BIA-ERO Deputy Director and Road Engineering staff work with the USET Transportation Sub-Committee in the development of a funding formula for the distribution of Road Maintenance funding and present this formula to the full USET Transportation Committee for further consideration and discussion during USET Impact Week.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Board Meeting and EXPO, at which a quorum was present in Uncasville, CT, Thursday, October 31, 2002.

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

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



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Eastern Regional Office
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Nashville, TN 37214

DEC 02 2002

December 2, 2002

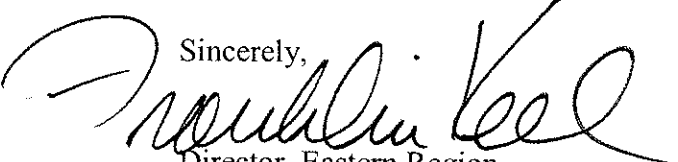
Ms. Tiffany D. Chevront
Bureau Information Officer
United South and Eastern Tribes Inc.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37214

Dear Ms. Chevront:

I am writing you in response to your letter dated November 18, 2002 regarding resolution No. 2003.037 passed at the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc (USET) annual meeting held in Uncasville, CT October 28-31.

On November 19, 2002 the Eastern Region Office sponsored a meeting in Nashville for the Transportation Sub-committee development of a Road Maintenance distribution funding formula. The Eastern Region Office sent letters to each of the Tribal Leaders on November 8, 2002, notifying them of the meeting and asking them to send a Representative. There were fourteen Tribes represented at the meeting and attendance was documented. The Sub-Committee met for two and one-half days and developed a formula and procedure for the Eastern Region to use in distributing the Road Maintenance funding received from the Department of Interior for the maintenance of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Road System. We will present this formula and the procedures to the USET Transportation Committee and the Tribal Leaders at the February 2003, Impact Week in Washington D.C.

Please contact Johnny Parham, Acting Regional Road Engineer, at 615-467-1702, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Director, Eastern Region