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, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma is seeking to conduct Class II gaming activities in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma has no recognized political or governmental authority in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma has no established land claim in the State of New York over which it can legally exercise jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of Class II gaming activities by the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma in the State of New York would be illegal and would violate the rights and jurisdiction of the Cayuga Nation of New York; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors opposes the efforts of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma to acquire land, assert jurisdiction, and conduct any gaming activities in the State of New York; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors calls upon the Department of Interior (DOI) and the National Indian Gaming Commission, to oppose the efforts of out-of-state Indian nations to conduct gaming in states where they have no recognized political jurisdiction and governance rights, and that the DOI express a clear policy precluding the exercise of governmental authority by any tribal nation in another state beyond its lawful jurisdiction.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 6, 2003.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"
February 12, 2003

Mr. Phil Hogan
Chairman
National Indian Gaming Commission
1441 L Street, NW
9th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Hogan:

I am writing on behalf of the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four federally recognized tribes from twelve states. At the USET 2003 Impact Week Meeting held in Arlington, Virginia, February 3-6, 2003, the USET Board of Directors approved several resolutions on various areas of Indian affairs policy. Attached you will find a USET resolution, pertaining directly to gaming in Indian Country, presented for your consideration and advocacy on behalf of our member tribes.

2003:057 (Illegal Gaming by the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma in the State of New York)

Each resolution is a public expression of our member tribes’ views and public stances on specific issues affecting Indian country. USET would like to thank you for your continued support of the Tribes and we look forward to working with you to carry out the intent of each resolution. If you have any questions about these resolutions, please call the USET office at (615) 872-7900.

Sincerely,

Tiffany D. Cheuvront
Bureau Information Officer

"Because there is strength in Unity"