DE-CENTRALIZATION OF TITLE RECORDKEEPING

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USE) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USE 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, current title recordkeeping is maintained by the Eastern Regional Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA); and

WHEREAS, the Eastern Regional Office of the BIA has not been able to provide title information to member tribes due to a significant and long-standing recordkeeping backlog; and

WHEREAS, titles are required to complete the applications for participation in the Section 184 loan program and the USDA Rural Development assistance program; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USE Board of Directors recommends that present and future title recordkeeping be maintained by individual member tribes, with the approval of tribal governments, specifically for the purpose of internal land transactions that do not require trust application; and, be it further

RESOLVED the USE Board of Directors also recommends that the title requirements for the current Section 184 and USDA Rural Development applications be waived.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USE Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Choctaw, MS, Thursday, June 5, 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"