

United South and Eastern Tribes, inc.

USET Resolution No. 2005:024

REQUEST TO BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR WATER RESOURCE FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

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, under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, Public Law 93-638, as amended, 25 U.S.C. 450, and the Snyder Act of 1921, Public Law 67-85, 25 U.S.C. 13, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is authorized to obligate funds to federally recognized Tribes; and

WHEREAS, a portion of these funds are allocated to the BIA Water Management Planning and Pre-Development program (\$7,632,000 in FY05) for collection and analysis of baseline data, and for Water Rights Litigation and Negotiation activities (\$10,477,000 FY05); and

WHEREAS, the funds from this program are competitively awarded based on scored criteria; and

WHEREAS, project scores and minimum project costs are determined regionally, the BIA Central Office is responsible for the actual amount funded; and

WHEREAS, historically, funds have been awarded to USET Member Tribes at a significantly smaller amount than requested; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors requests the Bureau of Indian Affairs provide USET member Tribes current and historical data regarding the distribution of water resource funds on a national basis beginning with FY 00; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors requests that the relationship between the amount of funding requested by a Tribe, the minimum amount required for a project, and the actual amount funded, including all determination criteria, be made available to USET member Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 10, 2005.

Keller George, Président

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary

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