

United South and Eastern Tribes, inc.

USET Resolution No. 2006:043

REQUEST FOR A MEETING WITH BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS REGARDING THE WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

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, projects proposed by USET member Tribes have historically been awarded through the Water Management Planning and Pre-Development program; and

WHEREAS, a portion of these funds are allocated to the BIA Water Management Planning and Pre-Development program for collection and analysis of baseline data, and for Water Rights litigation and negotiation activities; and

WHEREAS, funding for the Water Management Planning and Pre-Development program continues to decrease given lower levels of appropriated funding and prioritized focus by the BIA Water Resources program on Water Rights Litigation and Negotiation activities; and

WHEREAS, the BIA Water Resources program has not consulted with Eastern Region Tribes regarding appropriate performance measurements needed to fulfill Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) requirements necessary to increase or sustain program funding, thus affecting the BIA's ability to meet their trust responsibility as mandated in Public Law 93-638; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors requests the BIA Water Resources program conduct a formal consultation with Eastern Region Tribes to develop appropriate measurements that accurately capture the performance of 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 9, 2006.

Keller George, President

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary

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