



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

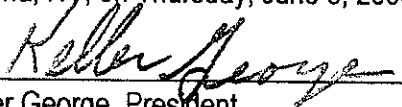
USET Resolution No. 2006:067


REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD FOR ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION'S HUMAN REMAINS POLICY

- 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,** USET Resolution No. 2005:007 "Creation of USET Task Force To Consult With The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Archaeology Task Force" was duly passed on Thursday, October 28, 2004; and
- WHEREAS,** the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has issued notice to solicit comments on the completion of the Draft "Policy Statement on the Treatment of Human Remains, Burial Sites and Funerary Objects"; and
- WHEREAS,** the ACHP conducted a series of meetings considered to be "consultation" with all the federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** on May 2, 2006, the ACHP conducted a "consultation" meeting in Washington, DC, a venue intended to be convenient for USET member Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** although all twenty-four (24) USET member Tribes may be affected by any recommendations ACHP may implement based upon the consultations and/or comments received, there were only 2 USET member Tribes represented at the May 2, 2006 meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Culture and Heritage Committee has discussed the issue and reached a consensus that there needs to be further comment and "meaningful" government-to-government consultation with regard to this most important issue; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Annual Meeting to be hosted by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, October 9-12, 2006, will present a convenient meeting time and location to accommodate more of the USET member Tribes and provide an opportunity for meaningful consultation and comment preparation; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests an extension of the June 28, 2006 comment period deadline for the ACHP Draft "Policy Statement regarding the Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains and Funerary Objects"; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests that a consultation meeting be scheduled to take place in conjunction with the USET Annual Meeting or at a specially called meeting, to commence meaningful government-to-government consultation with the USET member Tribes as intended in USET Resolution No. 2005:007.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Verona, NY, on Thursday, June 8, 2006.


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


Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

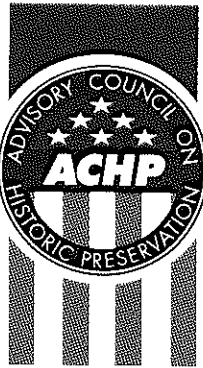
"Because there is strength in Unity"

cc: Culture + Heritage
emte

John L. Nau, III
Chairman

Susan S. Barnes
Vice Chairman

John M. Fowler
Executive Director



Preserving America's Heritage

June 10, 2006

Mr. James T. Martin
Executive Director
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37214

Re: USET Resolution No. 2006:067, "Request For Extension of Comment Period For Advisory Council On Historic Preservation's Human Remains Policy"

Dear Mr. Martin,

Your interest in working with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on this important issue is much appreciated. We regret that many of the USET member tribes were unable to have their representatives attend one of the nine meetings hosted around the country by John L. Nau, III, Chairman, and Dr. Julia King, Council member, to discuss the draft policy. However, we hope USET's member tribes will take the opportunity to provide their views in writing by the close of the comment period, which we have extended by one month to July 28, 2006.

Because there are more than 560 Indian tribes, the ACHP is unable to meet on an individual basis with each Indian tribe on this policy's development. Instead, the regional meetings hosted by our leadership were offered as a means for our respective governmental representatives to meet and discuss the draft policy. Although we are unable to hold additional regional meetings on the policy, we extend an invitation to the leaders of your organization and of your tribal membership to meet with us at our headquarters during this extended comment period.

Sincerely,

John M. Fowler
Executive Director

