



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2007:006

TAX DISPUTE BETWEEN THE IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY AND THE STATE OF NEW YORK

- 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,** several USET member Tribes—the Cayuga Nation, Seneca Nation, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and Oneida Indian Nation—are members of the Iroquois Confederacy and are situated within the boundaries of the State of New York; and
- WHEREAS,** Elliot Spitzer, the Attorney General for the State of New York, over the past two years, has attempted to unilaterally impose unlawful cigarette taxes on the Iroquois Confederacy Tribes, threatening their reservation-based economies; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions and the decisions of the Office of the Attorney General were pursued without prior consultation with the affected Tribes without proper regard for the treaties that exist between the Tribes and the United States Government; and
- WHEREAS,** Attorney General Spitzer is currently a candidate for the Office of Governor of the State of New York; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon Attorney General Spitzer to respect the sovereignty of the Iroquois Confederacy Tribes and work with them on a government-to-government basis; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon Mr. Spitzer, if he is elected to the Office of Governor, to engage in bilateral discussions with members of the Iroquois Confederacy for purposes of finding a negotiated solution to the cigarette excise tax issue and any other areas of disagreement between the parties.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting at which a quorum was present in Choctaw, MS, on Thursday, October 12, 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”