



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2008:018

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY OFFICE OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) 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,** the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR) role in examining, studying, and remediating toxic situations that impact Tribal lands, including superfund sites and polluted waterways, is an important conduit between Tribal health and natural resource developments; and
- WHEREAS,** the ATSDR is required to investigate and consult with Tribes regarding all requests for technical assistance in determining whether there are potential health impacts derived from toxic situations; and
- WHEREAS,** resources within the ATSDR Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA) have been drastically cut in recent years, resulting in only one full time equivalent employee responsible for said investigations and consultation for all of Indian Country, more than 560 Tribes, creating an extreme deficiency in the ability of the OTA to adequately address Indian Country toxic situations; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry staff the Office of Tribal Affairs with a minimum of three full-time equivalent employees to more adequately perform required investigations and consultations with regard to Tribal toxic situations.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 14, 2008.

Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Cheryl Downing, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"