



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.  
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214  
(P): 615-872-7900 • (F): 615-872-7417

---

USET Resolution No. 2010:010

**SUPPORT FOR TRIBAL ENERGY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION**

- 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 USET Board of Directors are actively engaged in voicing Tribal climate change and related concerns through interactions with the National Congress of American Indians, the National Tribal Environmental Council, and the Senate Committee of Indian Affairs, among others, and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal homelands and natural resources are becoming further stressed by the impacts of climate change, yet despite continued collaborative efforts, there are few federal programs or funding opportunities that explicitly address Tribal mitigation and adaptation needs; for example, the United States Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization Program does not provide direct funding to Tribes but rather requires them to demonstrate that States are failing to adequately address the needs of eligible homes; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal lands possess vast clean energy potential, yet many Indian Tribes lack the institutional capacity to access this potential and fully benefit from federal energy efficiency programs, and according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 14.2% of Tribal homes lack access to electricity; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Natural Resources Committee has recommended the DOE be funded to develop and implement, in consultation with Indian Tribes, a grant program to assist in Tribal energy development capacity using the framework established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's General Assistance Program for developing Tribal environmental capacity; and
- WHEREAS,** under this structure, a Tribal capacity development program within the DOE would allow approximately \$110,000 per Indian Tribe to form a Tribal energy department for developing Tribal energy strategies, implementing energy efficiency programs, and developing renewable energy on Tribal lands, thus allowing Tribes to become energy self-sufficient; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the development of a grant program within the United States Department of Energy, similar to the United States Environmental Protection Agency General Assistance Program, to support Tribal energy capacity development and implementation.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 11, 2010.

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

Robert McGhee, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.