



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



AUG 17 2009

Ms. Janice Bowen
P.O. Box 213
Fort Dick, California 95538

Dear Ms. Bowen:

As required by the acknowledgment regulations at §83.10(f), the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) is notifying the petitioning group known as the "Tolowa Nation" (Petitioner #85), as well as interested and informed parties, that a research team has been assigned to work on the group's petition for Federal acknowledgment. Active consideration on the group's proposed finding began on August 3, 2009.

The OFA staff members who will evaluate Petitioner #85's petition are Cultural Anthropologist Mark Schoepfle, Genealogist Larry Watson, and Historian Arthur Leighton.

The Department will provide a 60-day period ending Friday, October 2, 2009, for parties to submit materials not currently in the record. The governing body and Petitioner #85 must certify all submissions. OFA researchers will review unsolicited submissions received after that date for the final determination and not for the proposed finding.


On July 29, 1996, we received a membership list certified current as of July 16, 1996, by your governing body. We suggest that you now submit Petitioner #85's up-to-date membership list with a dated certification by the governing body, accurately describing the membership list before them, within the 60-day period ending October 2, 2009. The membership list that the governing body certifies should be the membership list submitted to OFA. We expect that the submission would include any significant changes to any earlier membership list, including births and deaths.

We encourage petitioners to provide a copy of the non-privacy materials in their submissions to the Department directly, to the State Attorney General's office, and any recognized Indian tribe that is an interested party in their petitions. We also encourage third parties to provide a copy of their submissions to the Department directly to the petitioners, the State Attorney General's office, and any recognized Indian tribe that is an interested party. Such reciprocal exchanges will speed the Department's processing of the petition.

As Director of the Office of Federal Acknowledgment, I have primary administrative and supervisory responsibility for the petition. I can be reached at the Office of Federal

Acknowledgment, Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, 1951 Constitution Avenue N.W.,
MS-34B-SIB, Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 513-7650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. Fleming". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "L".

Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment

cc: Interested and Informed Parties