



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

**NOV 06 2012**

Ms. Sandra L. Vasquez  
P.O. Box 1200  
Mariposa, California 95338

Dear Ms. Vasquez:

This letter is to notify you that Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (ASIA) Kevin K. Washburn granted a continued suspension of active consideration of the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation AKA the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (Petitioner #82). The Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) requested this continued suspension due to administrative problems.

The OFA is completing its recommended proposed finding and will need to allow sufficient administrative time for the Office of the Solicitor to conduct its legal review. In addition, the ASIA Office will need to conduct its review before the ASIA is briefed on the recommendation and takes action. These administrative reviews must be completed before the ASIA takes action on this proposed finding decision.

Under 25 CFR Part 83 regulations at 83.10(g), the ASIA has the discretion “to suspend active consideration of a documented petition, either conditionally or for a stated period of time, upon a showing to the petitioner that there are technical problems with the documented petition or administrative problems that temporarily preclude continuing active consideration.” We anticipate that the above administrative reviews will require 180 days for these administrative problems to be resolved, and the proposed finding decision will be issued on or before Monday, April 29, 2013.

Thank you for your patience. We are required to notify the petitioner and interested parties of this continued suspension. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Federal Acknowledgment, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., MS 34B-SIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Sincerely,

Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment

cc: Interested and Informed Parties