United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

MAY 17 2013

Mr. Edward Chretien, Jr.
P.O. Box 1532
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601

Dear Mr. Chretien:

This letter provides notification that the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) received materials from the group known as the "Atakapa-Ishak of S.E. Texas and S.W. Louisiana" (Petitioner #309) through you on May 9, 2013. Our letter of February 28, 2013, advised, "If OFA does not receive the responsive documentation within 60 days, we will place Petitioner #309 on "inactive status."

Please be advised that OFA did not receive all six items as outlined in the May 23, 2008 Federal Register notice of guidance and direction. Specifically, the six items to be submitted are:

1) The current governing document, and all past governing documents;
2) The current membership list that is certified as accurate as of a specific date, and all past membership lists [must be dated and certified on or after February 28, 2013];
3) Completed consent forms from every member. A consent form should be signed that he or she voluntarily wishes to belong to the group [must be dated on or after February 28, 2013]. A parent should sign for his or her minor children individually or the legal guardian or representative transacting for that minor child or individual should sign. In the latter instance, the group should submit a copy of the legal document allowing that representation;
4) Copies of all minutes of meetings of the group's governing body since the filing of the letter of intent;
5) Copies of documents reflecting changes in the composition of the governing body since the filing of the letter of intent, such as published election results, minutes, newspaper articles, or newsletters; and
6) Any court order determining the legitimate leadership of the group.

Although you were able to provide us with some of these items before the amended deadline of Tuesday, May 14, 2013, OFA still did not receive documentation responsive to all six requested items. Enclosed please find a preliminary inventory of the items that you provided; however, we must advise that Petitioner #309's governing body must certify all submissions. Technically, OFA did not receive any items certified by the group's governing body. Therefore, Petitioner #309's current status is "inactive." Until OFA receives responsive documentation, Petitioner #309 will remain on inactive status (See sample format for consent forms for each member). Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment

Enclosures

cc: Michael Amos
Sample Consent Form for an Individual Wishing to Be a Member of a Group Petitioning for Federal Acknowledgment*

For the purposes of the Federal acknowledgment process (25 Code of Federal Regulations Part 83) it is important that each member of a petitioning group complete, sign, and date this form. Minor children must receive consent from a parent or legal guardian. Please direct any questions to the governing body, to which each completed form should be returned.

Information about the Petitioning Group

Petitioning Group: Atakapa-Ishak Tribe of S.E. Texas and S.W. Louisiana

Current Leader: Edward Chretien Jr.

# 309 (Petition Number)

Consent for an Individual to Belong to a Petitioning Group

I submit this application and documents to meet the membership requirements of the above group. I voluntarily consent to be listed as a member of this group that is petitioning for Federal acknowledgment as an American Indian tribe.

(Member's printed name, including maiden names in parentheses)

(Member number)

(Date of birth)

(Member's signature, if an adult)

(Date of signature)

(Printed name of parent or legal guardian, if applicable)

(Relationship to member)

(Signature of parent or legal guardian)

(Date of signature)

Affiliation with Other Groups

Use this place to declare whether or not the member listed above is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or other American Indian group.

☐ The member listed above is not currently a member of any federally recognized Indian tribe or non-federally recognized group, or,

☐ The member listed above is a member of:

(federally recognized Indian tribe), or

(non-federally recognized group)

(Signature of adult member or of parent or legal guardian)

(Date of signature)

* 25 Code of Federal Regulations §33.1 Definitions: Member of an Indian group means an individual who is recognized by an Indian group as meeting its membership criteria and who consents to being listed as a member of that group.