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## Support for changes in the Federal Acknowledgment Process

1 message

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**Abra Quinn** <abraeq@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 13, 2013 at 7:35 PM

To: consultation@bia.gov

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Ms. Elizabeth Appel

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Re: Discussion Draft Rule- 25 CFR 83

**I Abra Quinn support the recommendations of the Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb (petitioner #37), below, regarding proposed changes to the Federal Acknowledgement Process.**

It is good that there are changes being made in the Federal Acknowledgement Process for applicant groups (petitioners) to be officially recognized as tribes.

Having read the accompanying letter by the Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb, I thoroughly support the specific amendments they refer to supporting.

The Federal stick should be bent extremely far in the direction of inclusion rather than exclusion, as far as tribal status goes, because the recognition and official acknowledgement of cultural and social groups who have self-identified as tribes, or as a reorganized tribe which has knit itself together after the devastation of its original component groups is a key part of the immense debt owed the indigenous peoples of the Americas. It is a positive thing that the government recognizes that Indian governments pre-dated the American one, or the British or French or Spanish ones. Benjamin Franklin, to actually name one of these endlessly cited "Founding Fathers", studied the Iroquois League and brought some of its practices into his positions on a future American legal framework that held disparate states

together. He recognized the obvious federation of six different tribes -- the Mohawk, the Oneida, the Onondaga, the Cayuga, the Seneca and the Tuscarora -- as a polity, just as the present Bureau of Indian Affairs should lean towards recognition of self-declared groups as official tribes. Thank you for reading the Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb's commentary on proposed amendments to the Federal Acknowledgement Process. I hope the changes pass.

**Sincerely,**

Abra Quinn\_\_\_\_\_.