



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 02 2015

Mr. Kevin Brown
331 Pocket Road
King William, Virginia 23086

Dear Mr. Brown:

The Department of the Interior (Department) reviewed the petition of the Pamunkey Indian Tribe for Federal acknowledgment as an Indian tribe under Part 83 of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations (25 CFR Part 83), *Procedures for Establishing that an American Indian Group Exists as an Indian Tribe*. Based on the available evidence, the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (AS-IA) has determined that the Pamunkey Indian Tribe exists as an Indian tribe within the meaning of Federal law. The AS-IA made this decision based on a determination that the Pamunkey satisfied all seven criteria for acknowledgment in 25 CFR 83.7.

Please find enclosed a copy of the notice of this decision, approved for publication in the Federal Register. The petitioner's and interested party's comments did not reverse the PF's positive conclusions under the 83.7 criteria. Therefore, consistent with precedent in other cases, the Department has not produced a report or summary under the criteria for the Final Determination (FD) other than the Federal Register notice. Therefore, the Federal Register notice is the FD.

This determination is final and effective 90 days after publication in the Federal Register, pursuant to 25 CFR 83.20(l)(4), unless a request for reconsideration is filed within that time period with the Interior board of Indian appeals (IBIA) pursuant to 25 CFR 83.11. If the IBIA receives a request for reconsideration within the 90-day period, the party requesting reconsideration has an additional 30 days to file a detailed statement in support of its request. This statement shall be the requesting party's opening brief. The IBIA must receive it no later than 120 days after the publication of this FD notice in the Federal Register. The Pamunkey petitioner or interested parties opposed to the requested reconsideration shall have 30 days to file an answer brief in opposition to the reconsideration request. The IBIA must receive the answer brief no later than 150 days after publication of this FD notice in the Federal Register.

Enclosed is a list of those parties who have qualified to date as interested parties under the regulations. The IBIA has the authority to determine which parties qualify as interested parties for purposes of the proceedings before it. Please see the enclosed copy of the regulations for information.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Federal Acknowledgment, MS-34B-SIB, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240 or telephone (202) 513-7650.

Sincerely,



R. Lee Fleming

Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment

Enclosures: **Federal Register Notice**
 List of Interested Parties
 25 CFR 83 Regulations

cc: **Interested and Informed Parties**
 Attorney of Record (w/enc.)