

---

***THIS PRE-PUBLICATION DEIS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE AND IS NOT A FINAL RELEASE VERSION. IT IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW PURPOSES AMONG THE SIGNATORIES OF THE MOU. IT DOES NOT PROPOSE TO REPRESENT ANY FINAL CONCLUSIONS ON THE PART OF THE BIA OR THE THIRD PARTY CONSULTANT, MALCOLM PIRNIE, INC. THESE MATERIALS ARE NOT INTENDED FOR RELEASE TO THE PUBLIC.***

---

***Responsible Agency:*** U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs

***Cooperating Organizations:*** Oneida Nation of New York, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Oneida County, and Madison County, New York

***Title:*** Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Oneida Nation of New York Conveyance of Lands into Trust, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006

***Contact:*** For additional information on the Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement, write or call:

Kurt G. Chandler  
Regional Environmental Scientist  
Environment and Cultural Resources  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Eastern Regional Office  
545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700  
Nashville, TN 37214  
Tel: (615) 564 6832  
Fax: (615) 564 6571

For general project information, please visit the project website at:  
<http://www.oneidanationtrust.net>

***Abstract:*** *The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), as lead agency, with the cooperation of the Oneida Indian Nation (Nation), has gathered the information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the taking into trust of 17,370 acres of land currently held by the Nation. The purpose of the proposed action is to help ensure the Nation's cultural preservation, self-determination, self-sufficiency and economic independence as a federally recognized Indian tribe by securing the properties into its trust land base. The DEIS assesses the environmental consequences of BIA approval of the proposed transfer of 17,370 acres into trust status for the benefit of the Nation. The lands being considered for the transfer include gaming and resort properties, including the Turning Stone Casino resort in Verona, New York, housing for Nation members, health care facilities, government offices, commercial enterprises such as marinas, service stations and convenience stores, vacant and undeveloped lands and lands used for traditional Iroquois agriculture, for livestock and for hunting and fishing.*

