United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO

JUL 17 2019

BY CERTIFIED MAIL

Bart J. Freedman, Esq.
Counsel, Duwamish Tribal Organization
K&L Gates LLP
925 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2900
Seattle, WA 98104-1158

Re: Duwamish Tribal Organization's Request for Reconsideration

Dear Mr. Freedman:

On July 24, 2015, the United States Department of the Interior (Department) Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (AS-IA) issued a Final Decision on Judicial Remand Against Acknowledgment of the Duwamish Tribal Organization (Final Decision). On April 17, 2019, the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) referred the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) various alleged grounds for reconsideration of the Final Decision that the IBIA found were beyond the scope of its subject matter jurisdiction in the Duwamish Tribal Organization's administrative appeal of the Final Decision. Department regulations governing Federal acknowledgment, set out at 25 C.F.R. Part 83 (1994), state that the Secretary has the discretion to request that the AS-IA reconsider the Final Decision based on issues referred to the Secretary by the IBIA.

I write to inform you that the Secretary has decided not to request reconsideration of the Final Decision on any grounds referred by the IBIA, and is hereby notifying all parties of his decision. The Final Decision is therefore an effective and final agency action pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 83.11(h)(2).

Sincerely,

Daniel H. Jorjani
Principal Deputy Solicitor

cc: Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs
Interior Board of Indian Appeals
Interested Parties