

Vision Research Program Committee; Meeting

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the Vision Research Program Committee, National Eye Institute, November 19-20, 1981, Building 1, Wilson Hall, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

This meeting will be open to the public on Thursday, November 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. for opening remarks and discussion of program guidelines. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

In accordance with provisions set forth in Sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. and Section 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, the meeting will be closed to the public from 9:00 a.m. on November 19 until adjournment on November 20, for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual grant applications. These applications and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Ms. Mary Carter, Committee Management Officer, National Eye Institute, Building 31, Room 6A-04, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20205, (301) 496-4903, will provide summaries of the meeting and rosters of committee members.

Dr. Catherine Henley, Review and Special Projects Officer, Extramural and Collaborative Programs, National Eye Institute, Building 31, Room 6A-04, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20205, (301) 496-5561, will furnish substantive program information.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 13.867, Retinal and Choroidal Diseases Research; 13.868, Corneal Diseases Research; 13.869, Cataract Research; 13.870, Glaucoma Research; and 13.871, Sensory and Motor Disorders of Visual Research; National Institutes of Health)

NIH programs are not covered by OMB Circular A-95 because they fit the description of "programs not considered appropriate" in section 8(b) (4) and (5) of that Circular.

Dated: October 14, 1981.

Thomas E. Malone,

Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 81-30417 Filed 10-20-81; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4110-08-M

Department of Health and Human Services**President's Cancer Panel; Meeting**

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the President's Cancer Panel, October 27, 1981, International Club of Washington, Board Room, 1800 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

The entire meeting will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to adjournment. Agenda items are reports by the Director, National Cancer Institute, and the Chairman, President's Cancer Panel. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

Mrs. Winifred Lumsden, Committee Management Officer, National Cancer Institute, Building 31, Room 10A06, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20205 (301/496-5708) will provide summaries of the meeting and rosters of Panel members, upon request.

Dr. Richard A. Tjalma, Executive Secretary, National Cancer Institute, Building 31, Room 4B29, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20205 (301/496-5854) will furnish substantive program information.

Dated: October 16, 1981.

Thomas E. Malone,

Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 81-30563 Filed 10-20-81; 6:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4110-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Office of the Secretary****Alaska Land Use Council; Meeting**

As required by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Pub. L. 96-487, dated December 2, 1980, section 1201 paragraph (h), the Alaska Land Use Council will meet November 13, 1981, at 10 AM, at 1689 C Street, Room 107, in the South Kaloa Building, Anchorage Alaska. The agenda will include recommendations from the Chugach Study Group and adoption of a Work Program Plan.

William P. Horn,

Deputy Under Secretary.

October 13, 1981.

[FR Doc. 81-30377 Filed 10-20-81; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-10-M

Land Use Advisors Committee; Solicit Nominations

The Co-Chairman of the Alaska Land Use Council are soliciting nominations

for appointments to the Council's Land Use Advisors Committee.

The Land Use Advisors Committee, mandated by Section 1201(m)(1) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, will be responsible for the development of a public participation program and subsequently to oversee implementation of that program. The Committee will play a continuing role in the public input process to the Alaska Land Use Council.

The Alaska Lands Act states that the Land Use Advisors Committee should be representative of a balance between the many interests concerned with use of public lands in Alaska and the several geographic regions of the State.

If you are interested in serving on the Land Use Advisors Committee please send your resume to: Alaska Land Use Council, Governor Jay S. Hammond, State Co-Chairman, Vernon R. Wiggins, Federal Co-Chairman Nominee, P.O. Box 120, Anchorage, Alaska 99510.

The deadline for filing is October 23, 1981. For further information you may write to the above address or call (907) 272-3422.

William P. Horn,

Deputy Under Secretary.

October 13, 1981.

[FR Doc. 81-30376 Filed 10-20-81; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-10-M

Bureau of Indian Affairs**Final Determination That the Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe—East of the Mississippi, Inc., Does not Exist as an Indian Tribe**

This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Pursuant to 25 CFR 54.9(h) notice is hereby given that the Assistant Secretary has determined that the Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe—East of the Mississippi, Inc., does not exist as an Indian tribe within the meaning of Federal law. This notice is based on a confirmed determination, following a review of public comments on the proposed findings, that the group does not meet four of the criteria set forth in 25 CFR 54.7 and, therefore, does not meet the requirements necessary for a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

Notice of the proposed findings to decline to acknowledge the group was published on page 11718 of the Federal Register on February 10, 1981. Interested

parties were given 120 days in which to submit factual or legal arguments to rebut evidence used to support the findings that the Lower Muskogee Creeks (hereinafter referred to as LMC) do not exist as an Indian tribe.

During the comment period, two substantive rebuttals were submitted challenging the proposed findings pursuant to 25 CFR 54.9(g). The first was submitted on May 18, 1981, over the signature of Neal McCormick of Cairo, Georgia, chief of the petitioning group. A second, and separate rebuttal, was submitted on June 9, 1981, by John Wesley Thomley of Molino, Florida, as vice chief of the petitioning group. Subsequent to publication of the proposed findings, Mr. Thomley notified the Acknowledgment staff that he was severing all connections with the McCormicks and that he intended to file a separate rebuttal contending that the original petition had omitted substantial amounts of important evidence.

Three letters were received in support of the findings: one from the Director of the McIntosh Reserve of Carroll County, Georgia; one from the Director, Office of Indian Heritage for the State of Georgia; and one from the Principal Chief of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma.

Both rebuttals were carefully considered, individually as well as collectively, to determine whether the sum of the evidence and arguments would strengthen the group's overall petition for acknowledgment. The rebuttals, whether considered separately or together, did not present evidence which would warrant changing the conclusion that the LMC does not exist as an Indian tribe within the meaning of Federal law.

Although both rebuttals spoke to some degree to the four criteria which the LMC had failed to meet, neither rebuttal addressed the following major factual conclusions set out in the proposed findings: (1) The unstable membership which shows great fluctuations in size and composition; (2) the lack of historical data for most geographic areas and for many time periods, and the concurrent lack of evidence of political continuity; (3) the apparent recent institution of "clan" organizations; and (4) the lack of historical connections or association between families that would be expected from the asserted historical tribal character. The conclusions regarding the limited historical identification of the group as Indian and the lack of proven Creek ancestry for a large part of the group's membership were either not addressed or were

answered by restating earlier arguments. Some of the factual conclusions in themselves were sufficient to deny tribal status to the group, but collectively they were overwhelmingly against the LMC assertion that they were a tribe.

In accordance with § 54.9(j) of the Acknowledgment regulations, an analysis was made to determine what, if any, options other than acknowledgment are available under which the Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe—East of the Mississippi, Inc., could make application as a tribe for services and other benefits available to recognized Indian tribes. No viable alternatives could be found due to the group's uncertain Indian ancestry, the geographical dispersion of its membership, and the group's lack of inherent social and political cohesion and continuity. This conclusion is based on independent research conducted by the Acknowledgment staff and on the factual arguments and evidence presented in the LMC petition and in the two rebuttals which challenged the proposed findings.

As individuals, however, those who shared in Docket 21 will also share in the per capita award to be made under Docket 275. Persons who did not share in Docket 21 who have applied and meet the requirements of the judgment fund distribution plan could share in Docket 275. With regard to future awards to individual Eastern Creek Indian descendants, we are unable to say what the eligibility requirements for sharing in such awards might be or who the eligible beneficiaries would be.

A report summarizing the Department's response to the evidence and arguments submitted to refute the proposed findings is available to the petitioner and interested parties upon written request. Requests for copies of the report or the proposed findings published earlier should be addressed to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 18th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20242, Attention: Branch of Federal Acknowledgment.

This determination is final and will become effective December 21, 1981 unless the Secretary of the Interior requests the determination be reconsidered pursuant to 25 CFR 54.10(a-c).

Ken Smith,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

October 8, 1981.

[FR Doc. 81-30463 Filed 10-20-81; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-M

Bureau of Land Management

[DES INT 81-45]

Alaska Outer Continental Shelf; Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement and of Intent To Hold Public Hearings Regarding Proposed Oil and Gas Lease Sale No. 70

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management has prepared a draft environmental impact statement relating to a proposed Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lease sale of 479 tracts of submerged Federal lands in the St. George Basin area in Alaska.

Single copies of the draft environmental impact statement can be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska OCS Office, 620 E. 10th Street, P.O. Box 1159, Anchorage, Alaska 99510 and from the Office of Public Affairs, Bureau of Land Management (130), Washington, D.C. 20240.

Copies of the draft environmental impact statement will also be available for review in the following public libraries: Alaska Federation of Natives, 1577 O Street, Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99501; Anchor Point Public Library, Anchor Point, AK 99558; Department of the Interior Alaska Resources Library, 701 "C" Street, Box 36, Anchorage, AK 99513; Cordova Public Library, Box 472, Cordova, AK 99574; Kenai Community Library, Box 157, Kenai, AK 99611; Elim Learning Center, Elim, AK 99739; Haines Public Library, P.O. Box 36, Haines, AK 99827; North Star Borough Library, Fairbanks, AK 99701; University of Alaska, Institute of Social and Economic Research Library, Fairbanks, AK 99801; Homer Public Library, Box 356, Homer, AK 99603; Z. J. Loussac Public Library, 427 F Street, Anchorage, AK 99801; Juneau Memorial Library, 114 W. 4th Street, Juneau, AK 99824; Alaska State Library, Documents Librarian, Pouch G, Juneau, AK 99811; Ketchikan Public Library, 629 Dock Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901; Department of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers Library, P.O. Box 7002, Anchorage, AK 99501; Kodiak Public Library, P.O. Box 985, Kodiak, AK 99615; Metlakatla Extension Center, Metlakatla, AK 99926; Department of Interior, Bureau of Mines Library, AF-F.O. Center, P.O. Box 550, Juneau, AK 99802; Petersburg Extension Center, Box 289, Petersburg, AK 99833; Seldovia Public Library, Drawer D, Seldovia, AK 99663; Seward Community Library, Box 537, Seward, AK 99664; University of Alaska Juneau Library, P.O. Box 1447,