

Archaeology Report

From: Steve Terry [SteveT@miccosukeetribe.com] **Sent:** Thu 7/6/2006 10:44 AM
To: Archaeology Report
Cc:
Subject: Draft Policy Statement regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains and Funerary Objects
Attachments:

Dear Sirs:

The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida received your letter which stated that comments were still open for the above-referenced until July 30, 2006. The Tribal Chairman referred your letter to me as I am the Tribe's Representative for NAGPRA and Section 106 issues. I have reviewed the draft policy and offer the following comments.

Miccosukee Tribal beliefs are such that they cannot discuss items such as this. It is taboo in their culture and religion. That is why I am the Representative as I am a Tribal Employee but not a Tribal Member.

Their beliefs concerning human remains and funerary objects mirror the draft policy's Principle 1. All human remains and funerary objects should be preserved in place. Extraordinary steps should be taken to see that this is possible. If it is not possible, then consultation must take place before plans are made so that the beliefs of the affected parties can be met. Instances where it is absolutely necessary to remove human remains and/or funerary objects shall be treated on a case-by-case basis with the affected parties. Each instance is unique and must be treated as such.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Policy. Please contact me at (305) 223-8380, Ext. 2243, if you require additional information.

Steve Terry
Miccosukee Tribe
NAGPRA & Section 106 Representative
P.O. Box 440021
Miami, FL 33144-0021
(305) 223-8380, Ext. 2243
Stevet@miccosukeetribe.com