

Joseph L. Trujillo  
Governor

Joseph E. Suina  
Lt. Governor



Matthew S. Pecos  
Treasurer

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John L. Nau, III  
Chairman  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 809  
Washington, DC 20004

October 12, 2005

Dear Mr. Nau,

The Pueblo de Cochiti has received your letter dated September 9, 2005 regarding the consultation by the Pueblo on the proposed revisions to the *Policy Statement Regarding the Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods* adopted in 1988 by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). The Pueblo de Cochiti feels that the revision to this policy is very important to the proper treatment and respect of remains and associated funerary objects of our ancestors. The Pueblo requests to be consulted throughout the revision development on a government-to-government basis.

The Pueblo de Cochiti has reviewed the working principles and has the following comments:

As stated in the register background information, two broad camps with respective views exist. The Pueblo de Cochiti view is that human remains and their associated funerary objects, due to their cultural significance, and spiritual value to living communities, should be immediately and respectfully reburied or repatriated for reburial without study. With this statement in mind the Pueblo de Cochiti offers the following comments:

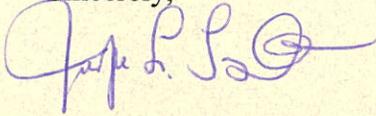
- Principle 5, sub statement 1 – Different groups concerned should be identified as culturally and or affiliated groups (as not to allow concerns of scientists and others to initiate or conduct studies on the remains or associated funerary objects, if not wanted by an affiliated tribe.)
- Principle 6, sub statement 4 – Interested Parties should be identified as culturally and or affiliated groups (as not to allow concerns of scientists and others to initiate or conduct studies on the remains or associated funerary objects, if not wanted by an affiliated tribe.)

The Pueblo de Cochiti hopes that the development of this policy will take into consideration with some priority the culturally affiliated tribes views and cultural

practices to any human remains and funerary objects discovered, which are subject to this policy.

The Pueblo de Cochiti looks forward to working with the ACHP throughout the revision process of this policy. Should you have any questions regarding this letter or the provided comments, please feel free to contact Mr. Lee R. Suina, Director, Cultural Heritage Program, at (505) 465-0617 or via e-mail at [lee\\_suina@pueblodecochiti.org](mailto:lee_suina@pueblodecochiti.org).

Sincerely,



Joseph L. Trujillo – Governor  
Pueblo de Cochiti

cc: Richard Pecos, Tribal Administrator  
DNRC Cultural File  
Tribal File