

Victoria A. Doud
PRESIDENT

November 4, 2005

Archaeology Task Force
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 809
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Task Force Members:

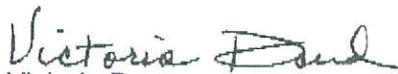
The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the recent federal register notice of intent to reconsider the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's "Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods". Although ACHP's intent to reconsider its policy is supported, it is concerning that the purpose of the reconsideration is to balance interest between scientific analysis and repatriation and reburial.

The justification for the debate implies that since "public" money is used to unearth human remains, somehow that provides the interested public with a right to desecrate and destroy ancestral remains. ACHP's policy gives scientific opinion equal standing to that of ownership and rights of the dead and this is not the intent of NHPA and is inconsistent with NAGPRA.

The working principles need to include a section on disinterment. This is to say that past guidance implied the only appropriate method of removal of human remains is using, "proper archaeological methods". Not only can these methods be extremely invasive, they can conflict with tribal traditional practices. Guidance should be included that enhance and respects the professional expertise of "tribal officials". This section should also address tribal consultation during decisions of disinterment, handling and curation of human remains and associated objects.

We look forward to working with ACHP during the regional consultation meetings.

Sincerely,


Victoria Doud
Tribal President

**Lac du Flambeau Band
of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians**

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