

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
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Tribal Historic Preservation Office

October 6, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Nau:

In regards to your letter, dated September 9, 2005. The Pawnee Nation has always been at the forefront of these repatriation matters along with the protection provided by the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

We have read and studied the working principles as listed in your letter, and in the Federal Register.

I have been the Repatriation Coordinator since 1998 and speaking for the Pawnee Nation, there have been times when we have felt that our hands are tied.

Some of the correspondence we are asked to answer seem to pertain too much to recreation. States building boat ramps, widening rivers, or creek banks, dredging, for the purpose of recreational boating fishing. Building hiking trails, etc. We as Native American are very aware of the ecology and natural resources of our country. When we get a request for approval of construction of a facility to improve the drinking water, and water used for agriculture we are glad to approve those projects, so long as they don't bother historic sites or sites that are sacred to us.

We also strongly feel, that if Human Remains are retained for study; they should never be held in perpetuity. A time limit for professional study should be part into all the laws. The Pawnee Nation is anxious to help in any capacity during this process.

Sincerely,



Francis Morris, Coordinator
Repatriation and THPO