

Laura Dean

From: Valerie Hauser
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2005 1:47 PM
To: Laura Dean; Tom McCulloch
Subject: FW: Comments on the Treatment of Human Remains

Not sure if I sent this to you

From: Tom McCauley [mailto:tomm@whiteearth.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2005 8:30 AM
To: Valerie Hauser
Subject: Comments on the Treatment of Human Remains

Good morning Valerie, My name is Tom McCauley and I am the THPO with the White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa. We have met and talked before but it has been a few years, I hope you are doing well. I am happy to hear that the ACHP is up-dating the 1988 Policy. The one comment I would like to stress is the importance of the lead Federal Agency to work with Tribal Governments which have in place a policy regarding Treatment of Human Remains. Typically, Tribal procedures are different in regards to the treatment, methods and ceremonies utilized for re-burial. At White Earth it is against Tribal law for a sub-contractor to take human remains off the Reservation. It is tribal policy to re-bury the remains as quickly as possible. The White Earth Tribal Cultural Resources Board makes a collective decision as to where the remains will be re-buried. A Tribally recognized spiritual leader is typically the lead official for re-burial methods. A brief ceremony is held prior to re-burial. Bottom line it is extremely important for all Agencies to recognize that Tribal interaction is essential in dealing with Human Remains issues, both on and off the Reservation. If you would like to discuss this further I can be reached at (218) 983-3285, extension 1375, or e-mail at tomm@whiteearth.com. Thank you for providing the White Earth Band the opportunity to comment on your proposed changes to the current policy.

Sincerely, Tom McCauley