

(3) Technical Assistance Letter(s)

- May 16, 1980

MAY 16 1980

Mr. Arthur R. Turner
P. O. Box 201
Florala, Alabama 36442

Dear Mr. Turner:

This is to acknowledge receipt on November 7 of the documented petition for Federal acknowledgment of the Principal Creek Indian Nation East of the Mississippi. As required by the Federal acknowledgment regulations (25 CFR 54), the Acknowledgment staff has reviewed the petition for obvious deficiencies and significant omissions.

Although the petition has obviously been prepared with a great deal of effort, there are several areas where additional discussion and documentation are necessary to strengthen the petition. We have outlined these areas below in order to give you an opportunity to provide additional materials and clarification before your petition is placed under active consideration.

There is essentially no pre-1968 history of the group which relates to criteria 54.7(a) through (c) of the Acknowledgment regulations. A narrative history and supporting documentation should be provided which traces the group's continued existence and shows how it relates to the pre-removal Creek Nation.

A detailed description is needed of the current group since its incorporation. This description should discuss the kinds of business the council takes care of as well as the types of activities in which the tribe participates as a whole.

Any additional information which will demonstrate that the group has been identified as Indian by other Indian groups currently and throughout its history would help to strengthen the petition.

More information will be needed to process the genealogical portion of your petition since it has not been possible to adequately identify your members using the information provided. The information needed is discussed below:

- 1) For each member on your roll who shared in Docket 21, we will need to know their name as it appeared at the time they received payment as well as the names of their parents or brothers and sisters.
- 2) A list is needed of your members who did not share in Docket 21 but who have applied for payment under Docket 275.

- 3) Each adult (over 18) member included on your roll who is not included in items 1 or 2 above should complete an Individual History Chart. A sample chart is enclosed.

Mailing addresses for all members are needed to strengthen your petition. After the petition has been placed under active consideration, additional documentation may be requested for members who have not or will not receive payment under Dockets 21 or 275.

Enclosed are two policy letters which may help to explain the acknowledgment process further and to clarify the type of information needed to strengthen your petition.

This initial review of the group's petition does not constitute active consideration, nor is it a determination of the group's status. It is a notification of the obvious deficiencies found in the initial review of the petition as required by 25 CFR 54.9(b). The group may withdraw its entire petition or a portion of it at this time for further work, or it may submit additional information or clarification which will reinforce the areas in which the staff has noted obvious deficiencies.

The Acknowledgment staff will be in touch with you by telephone to discuss the specific materials needed to strengthen the petition and will try to help you find professional assistance should you feel it necessary. In the meantime, if you have questions, please write to the Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20245, Attention: Federal Acknowledgment Project, or contact the Acknowledgment staff at (703) 235-2360.

Sincerely,

(Sgd) Ralph Reeser

Acting Deputy

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

Enclosures

cc: Governor Forrest James, Jr.
Attorney General Charles Graddick
Claude Cox
Eastern Area Office

Sec/Surname:Sec/RF (2):BCCO:BIA Surname:440:Chron 1 & 2:Mailroom
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