

Lac Vieux Desert Band Of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribal Government

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Executive Officers:

James Williams Jr., Tribal Chairman
Joette Pete-Baldwin, Tribal Vice-Chairman
Misaabe McGeshick, Treasurer
Michelle Hazen, Secretary



Council Members:

Roberta Ivey
Shasta Klingman
giiwegiizhigookway Martin
Tyrone McGeshick
Tracy Pete

December 23, 2010

The Honorable Larry EchoHawk
Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
United States Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Recent Decision Upholding Tribal Sovereignty

Dear Assistant Secretary EchoHawk:

On behalf of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("LVD"), the purpose of this letter is to commend you and your office for your recent decision upholding the sovereign authority of the California Valley Miwok Tribe ("Tribe"). I recently became familiar with the facts and circumstances of the Tribe's difficulties in reestablishing its government to government relationship with the United States. The sovereign attributes inherent to a federally-recognized tribe are assumed to be immutable and it is not until such inherent rights are threatened, that all tribes recognize how precious and sacred they are to a tribe's identity and how fundamental such rights are to a tribe's very existence.

LVD praises you and your office for upholding the fundamental sovereignty for the California Valley Miwok Tribe. In doing so, you have preserved and protected the sovereign rights of all federally-recognized tribes throughout the country and such actions will not go unnoticed.

Thank you for dedication to this issue.

Sincerely,

James Williams Jr.
Chairman