From: <u>Elizabeth T. Walker</u>

To: Smith, Jane; cc: Scott.Keep;

**Subject:** RE: FW: BIA Correspondence

Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 4:35:57 PM

Jane we are working on a response now that will say, no Yakima is not agreeing to mediate, and that a stay will only allow the decision of IBIA to be delayed. That the case is now under consideration of the IBIA as of July and we are expecting a dismissal of the matter very soon.

More importantly Jane, I was reminded by the lawyers in California, that the BIA office in Sacramento, Troy Burdick and team, determined after many attempts (over years now) to get Burley to the negotiating table to organize tribe, that they would proceed with determining the 14 family lines which is completed. And the families that are descendents would be now the negotiating group. so this really is no longer between Yakima and Sylvia. It is the descendents that are now ALL at the table. And Sylvia was asked to submit genealogy which she refused to do, so after she missed that deadline, it is questionable she will be any part of the group that is the organizing council. And our research shows she is not descended from the 14 family lines. So for the BIA to take a meeting and then pretend this is just a case between two families now is ridiculous. We are well past that point because of the work of the Sacramento offices.

Therefore, a major complaint we have with the BIA letter signed by Gidner is that it regresses this case back to between Yakima and Burley as the parties primary to the mediation. Troy and his team have put a ton of time on bringing in the family groups that would be the legitimate groups to organize and "negotiate" the future of the tribe. Yakima's line being only one of those fourteen.

So I have now spoken to Jerry Gidner, he told me to call into assistant

secretaries office. He is not sure what happened here but he thought the solicitors office approved this. but I think he "gets" the difference in a stay and a dismissal. And wanted me to talk direct to Assistant Secretaries offices.

Also, for the record we want the letter retracted and corrected immediately before Sylvia's lawyer sends it to the IBIA and gest the decision delayed because IBIA thinks that is what the BIA thinks will resolve the case. Liz

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From: Jane.Smith@sol.doi.gov [mailto:Jane.Smith@sol.doi.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 3:47 PM

**To:** etwalker1@comcast.net

Subject: Re: FW: BIA Correspondence

Thanks, Liz.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Elizabeth T. Walker" <etwalker1@comcast.net>

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To

Jane Smith/HQ/SOL/DOI@SOL

CC

Subject

FW: BIA Correspondence

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