

**AROOSTOOK BAND OF MICMACS**

7 NORTHERN ROAD  
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769  
(207) 764-1972

April 8, 2013

Jay Clement  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
675 Western Ave, #3  
Manchester, ME 04351

**RE:** Portland 18419.00, Farmington, New Sharon, Waterville 18129.00  
**Applicant:** Federal Highway Administration and ME Dept. of Transportation  
**Municipality:** Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Clement:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above-referenced project for compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requirements.

Based on the project description, we do not have knowledge of any specific sites or cultural features that exist at the proposed project location. However, this geographic area does constitute traditional areas that were historically utilized by members of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs and other northeastern tribes. Therefore, we respectfully request that if during the course of excavation/construction activities any human remains, artifacts, or any other evidence of Native American presence is discovered, site activities in the vicinity of the discovery immediately cease, pending notification to us.

If this project results in wetland disturbances requiring mitigation, we request that you utilize the black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) as the principle wetland species for wetland restoration activities. The black ash tree has special significance in the cultures of northeastern tribes and is used extensively for weaving baskets and other Native American crafts. The black ash tree also provides valuable food and habitat for migratory waterfowl and other wildlife. Unfortunately, this species has been selected against by foresters and landowners who favor other tree species. As a result of this and other environmental factors, the black ash tree is in serious decline in Maine. The Aroostook band of Micmacs has completed several black ash wetland restoration projects and we have a dependable source for high-quality seedlings as well as the experience and expertise to assist you with black ash wetland restoration projects.

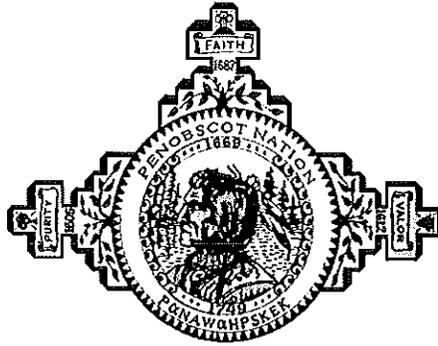
On the subject of human remains, artifacts, or any other evidence of Native American presence being discovered, the human remains will be reburied with the appropriate respect that is required at a distinctive and respectable site. Any artifacts and other evidence of Native American discovery will be documented with appropriate detail. The items will be analyzed for the precise period of the items distinctive period and will be documented by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer from the Aroostook Band of Micmacs.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Pictou  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Richard Getchell, Chief of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs





**PENOBSCOT INDIAN NATION  
CULTURAL & HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT  
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<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	Waterville 18129.00 – Preliminary Engineering for Construction – Interchange I-95
<b>PROJECT SITE</b>	Waterville, ME
<b>DATE OF REQUEST</b>	March 29, 2013
<b>DATE REVIEWED</b>	April 5, 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project. This project appears to have no impact on a structure or site of historic, architectural or archaeological significance to the Penobscot Nation as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and subsequent updates.

Also, if Native American cultural materials are encountered during the course of the project, please contact me at (207) 817-7471. Thank you.

*CHRIS SOCKALEXIS, THPO*  
Penobscot Nation