

(2) The unequivocal support of Congressman Synar who will introduce the bill with co-sponsors, including Congressman Bill Brewster (Oklahoma), Congressman Don Young, Alaska and others.

(3) I have met with Congressman Yates about his support when the bill comes before the appropriations committee. The current bill is an authorization bill but we thought we should get his support early. He was very supportive.

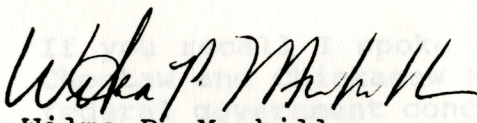
(4) We have met with Ada Deer and have her support. We met with Bruce Babbitt, Interior Secretary and have his support.

(5) We met with OMB to brief them. While they did not pledge support, they were generally receptive to the idea of a settlement, particularly in light of the fact that a settlement bill would relieve the Department of Justice of responsibility for filing over 7,000 individual defendants who are now trespassing on tribal property (see attached letter from Emmett Rice, Solicitor's Office). The staff time and cost of pursuing this litigation along could cost upwards of \$25 million dollars.

We have met with the staff of most other committees which deal with Indian Affairs as well. Kate Boyce of Patton, Boggs and Blow, is following up on this work. I will ask her to contact you within the next week or so to arrange a meeting with you or your designee to discuss your reaction to this settlement proposal. We are anxious to move forward now that we have developed a little momentum. If you need any further information or would like to discuss any aspect of this case with me, please feel free to call.

With warm regards.

Sincerely,



Wilma P. Mankiller
Principal Chief

Attachments
WPM/AC:bb

cc: Kate Boyce
David Mullon

(1) The support of both Senators from Oklahoma, Republican Don Nickles and Democrat Senator David Boren. In fact, we were encouraged to put together the settlement bill by these two senators.