CHITIMACHA
TRIBE OF LOUISIANA

CULTURAL DEPARTMENT

June 27, 2006

Mr. Donald Silawsky
Office of Petroleum Reserves (FE-47)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 205-85-0301

Re: Site Selection for the Expansion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve
Lafourche and Iberville Parishes, Louisiana

We are in receipt of your letter, dated May 19, 2006, concerning the above referenced project. The parish where the proposed project is to take place is part of the aboriginal Chitimacha homeland. That is, historically and prehistorically the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana was located in this area. This homeland contains many village sites, religious/sacred sites, and burial sites, which must be taken into account in the planning process.

Our records and oral traditions do not indicate that a specific Chitimacha archaeological site or Traditional Cultural Property is in the immediate vicinity of your project, therefore we have no objection to the implementation of the proposed activity. However, if archaeological remains representing a village site and/or burial site are discovered during the process of construction you should stop and contact the tribe and the State Historic Preservation Office immediately, in order to begin consultation regarding the encountered remains.

The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana appreciates your compliance with federal and state laws concerning Native American notification and consultation. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me

Sincerely,

Kimberly S. Walden,
Director, Cultural Department

KW:JD

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