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January 19, 2007

Ms. Nancy Theodore
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Food Distribution Division
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 506
Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Ms. Theodore:

The Quinault Indian Nation received your message with the draft FDPIR Funding Methodology Document outlining the preliminary recommendations of the workgroup initiated and your request for comments. A review of the information provided and a study of the funding and operational history for the Quinault Indian Nation was completed, and we respectfully submit the following conclusion.

It is the opinion of the Quinault Indian Nation that we oppose any and all of this draft methodology being considered, and feel USDA has not taken into consideration operational needs and a tribe's right to negotiation in developing this process. With the proposed methodology the Quinault Indian Nation funding would be reduced to a level that would hinder the accomplishment of required program guidelines, and no matter how large or small the tribal program, the ultimate party to suffer would be the clients of the program, who need the most assistance.

Sincerely,

Fawn R. Sharp for

Fawn R. Sharp
President
Quinault Indian Nation