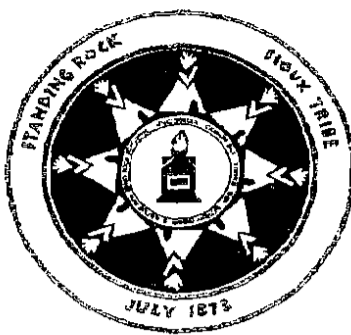


AT LARGE

se "Jay" Taken Alive
 Margaret M. Gates
 Charles W. Murphy
 Steve Archambault II
 Joseph McNeil Jr.
 Jesse McLaughlin



Ron His Horse Is Thunder
Chairman

Avis Little Eagle
Vice Chairman

Geraldine Agard
Secretary

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Rock Creek District
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Running Antelope District
 Richard D. Bird Jr.
Porcupine District

Ms. Lillie F. Ragan
 Assistant Branch Chief
 Policy Branch
 Food Distribution Division
 Food and Nutrition Service
 U.S. Department of Agriculture
 3101 Park Center Drive- Room 506
 Alexandria, Virginia 22302-1594

Subject: FDPIR FY 2008 Funding Comments

Dear Ms. Ragan:

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe submits the following comments in regards to the FY2008 Funding Methodology for FDPIR Administrative Funds.

1. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe will stand on the previous comments submitted on March 16, 2007 and March 19, 2007, by Mr. Steve Emery, In-House Attorney for the tribe.
2. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is not in agreement with the Pilot Funding Methodology used to administer FDPIR Programs during FY 2008.

USDA/FNS did not consult with Tribes prior to the implementation of the Pilot Funding for FY 2008.

3. The Funding Work Group did not recommend the methodology implemented for FY 2008. The Funding work group recommended:

Factor A: 50% participation

Factor B: 25% Regions share of programs.

Factor C: 25% Regions share of total programs with tailgate operations, home deliveries, multiple warehouses/stores.

The decision to implement a funding formula that was not recommended by the FWG was not shared with the FWG prior to implementation.

4. The FWG strongly recommended consultation with all tribes prior to the implementation of any methodology.

This recommendation was totally ignored.

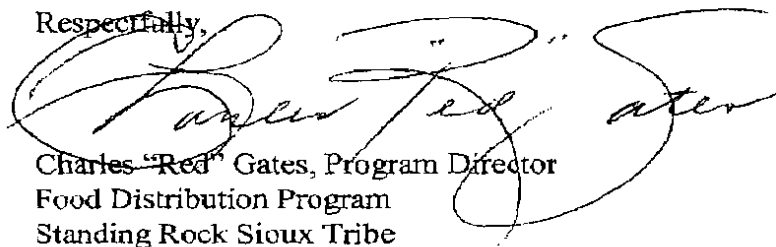
5. The Montana and North Dakota warehouses continue to use the FDPIR administrative funds rather than USDA/FNS food funds. This was a recommended change, and USDA/FNS has stated that they would take care of this matter as soon as possible.

In closing please be reminded, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe continues its stand on the Treaties and the Consultation Process as documented in the comments presented to your staff on March 16, 2007 and March 19, 2008 by Mr. Steve Emery, In-House Attorney for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

We trust that these comments will be considered and reviewed by USDA/FNS/FDPIR staff that fully understand our position on treaties and consultation.

Please direct any questions, comments and/or requests for more information to Mr. Ron His Horse Is Thunder, Chairman; Mr. Steve Emery, In-House Attorney, or Charles "Red" Gates, Program Director for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

Respectfully,



Charles "Red" Gates, Program Director
Food Distribution Program
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

xc: R. His Horse is Thunder, Chairman
Steve Emery, In-House Attorney
FDPIR File