



Puyallup Tribe of Indians



Russell T. Vought
Acting Director
Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503
Via Email: Russell.t.vought@omb.eop.gov

Dear Acting Director Vought:

As Chairman of the Puyallup Tribe I write to oppose Public Buildings Reform Board's recommendation to close and sell the National Archives and Records Administration's Sand Point Archive Center located in Seattle, Washington. We strongly urge the Office of Management Budget to reject this proposal.

The Sand Point Center is very important to the 272 federally-recognized tribes in the Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon and Idaho) and Alaska. Our Tribe relies on the Sand Point Center for access to critical historical documents. Among the many important historical materials housed at Sand Point are the original copies of correspondence between Governor Stevens, Indian agents, the Tribal leaders during treaty negotiations in the mid-19th Century, as well as original drafts of the treaties themselves. Importantly, this Office houses critical documents associated with litigation that document the Tribe's effort to protect our treaty rights and territory.

If the Sand Point Center is closed, all of its archived materials will need to be moved. We understand that records will be sent all the way to Kansas City, Missouri and other archived materials will be sent to Riverside, California. Obviously, such new locations will make it much harder for our Tribe and those in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska to access these historically important and culturally significant archived records and materials. A sale of the Sand Point Center will undoubtedly have an impact on tribes. In fact, it will be a profound, negative and irreparable impact. Yet, the Public Building Reform Board, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Office of Management and Budget, nor any other federal agency has engaged in government-to-government tribal consultation as required by Executive Order 13175. Worse, the federal agencies did not even alert Tribes about the proposed sale.

We call on you to reject the sale of the Sand Point Center. You can simply remove it from the list of proposed properties. At the very least, we ask you to delay any further steps toward selling the Sand Point Center until you engage in tribal consultation.

Sincerely,



David Z. Bean
Chairman