

**Osage Minerals Council
Osage Nation**

KENNETH BIGHORSE
CYNTHIA BOONE
DAVID DUBLER
ROBERT MARTIN



JOHN H. MASHUNKASHEY - CHAIRPERSON
JEWELL PURCELL
KATHRYN RED CORN
TALLEE REDCORN

January 20, 2010

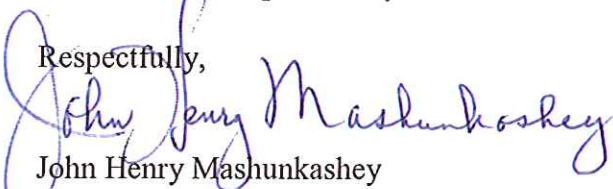
Principal Chief Jim Gray
627 Grandview
Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056

Chief Gray;

Please be advised that your attempt to deny travel funding to the Osage Minerals Council for a previously scheduled meeting this Friday, January 22, 2010, with Assistant Secretary Echohawk, interferes with the Council's ability to conduct its business. As an independent entity under federal and tribal law, the Council has a duty to protect the mineral estate and royalty owners. Part of that responsibility involves ensuring that Council elections are carried out properly. As you know, the Osage Constitution prevents the Osage Nation from taking any action that conflicts with federal law or regulations with respect to the mineral royalties. Const. art. IV, § 5. Elections for Council members are governed by federal law, and discussing the status of those election laws with the Assistant Secretary is the purpose of Friday's meeting.

We, therefore, request that you authorize the travel funding immediately.

Respectfully,


John Henry Mashunkashey
Osage Minerals Council Chairman

JHM/cmb