## [Sample N] [LETTER REQUESTING INTERESTED PARTY STATUS]

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Attn: Office of Federal Acknowledgment Mailstop MS-34B-SIB 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs:

This letter formally requests that [I / WE / ORGANIZATION NAME] be granted "interested party" status as you review the acknowledgment petition for Petitioner # [NUMBER OF PETITIONER] ([NAME OF PETITIONER]).

Title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 83, *Procedures for Establishing That an American Indian Group Exists as an Indian Tribe* (25 CFR Part 83), states:

*Interested party* means any person, organization or other entity who can establish a legal, factual or property interest in an acknowledgment determination and who requests an opportunity to submit comments or evidence or to be kept informed of general actions regarding a specific petitioner. "Interested party" includes the governor and attorney general of the state in which a petitioner is located, and may include, but is not limited to, local governmental units, and any recognized Indian tribes and unrecognized Indian groups that might be affected by an acknowledgement determination.

[MY / OUR / ORGANIZATION NAME'S] description of the [LEGAL / FACTUAL / PROPERTY INTEREST] that we have in this acknowledgment determination is [PROVIDE DESCRIPTION HERE]. Please notify [ME / US / ORGANIZATION NAME] if we do not qualify for interested party status. Otherwise, add the following contact information to your files and send copies of documents describing general actions regarding this petitioner to:

[CONTACT NAME] [STREET ADDRESS] [CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE] [FAX NUMBER] [PHONE NUMBER]

Sincerely,

[<u>signature</u> [Position title: print name]

Date