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Kathleen Nilles, Partner, Gardner, Carton & Douglas

Ms. Nilles is an attorney who specializes in tax law. She formerly worked for the House Ways and Means Committee and was responsible for all tax matters relating to Indians and Indian tribal governments. The intent of this meeting was to explore how she might be of assistance to Oneida in establishing and implementing a tribal tax code. We learned that her background and experience would allow the Oneida to structure a tax code to avoid criticism from the federal government and would allow the tribe to most effectively take advantage of international trade laws.

Ms. Nilles is expected to send a work plan and proposal to the Oneida within the next two weeks.

Mary Frances Repko, Office of Senator Feingold

Senator Feingold had expressed a willingness to confidentially contact Secretary Babbitt in opposition to the Hudson proposal. To date he has not made that connection. Evidently, his Legislative Director counseled him to develop a public position on this issue rather than attempt to move "behind the scenes." He agreed with the advice of his staff and is still making up his mind.

Ms. Repko has been in contact with each of the tribes proposing to take the land into trust to determine their interest in this project. She tells me there is a high level of interest on behalf of the tribes.

I expect the Senator to make up his mind tomorrow--July 29.

Congressman John Ensign (R-NV)

Congressman Ensign is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee--the committee responsible for fixing the pension issue. He is also the Co-Chairman of the House Caucus on Gaming. Ensign is a former casino manager from Las Vegas.