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In reply refer to: M-33821

FILE COPY
Surname:

Sol.-Ind.
Jetobitz 2/3

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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- Hopi

FEB 6 1958

Norman M. Littell, Esq.
1824-26 Jefferson Place, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Littell:

Re: Navajo-Hopi Proceeding

We have your letter suggesting that the administrative proceedings in connection with the request of the Hopi Tribe for a modification of the opinion of the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior dated June 11, 1956, be suspended. Counsel for the Hopi Tribe requested that the administrative proceedings be suspended during the time that pertinent legislation is pending before the Congress to refer the matter for judicial determination in the courts. You, as counsel for the Navajo Tribe, agreed to this request.

Acting with the approval of both tribes, such legislation has been prepared and is pending before the Congress. Counsel for the Hopi Tribe, the mover in this procedure, objects to your recent request that the matter be postponed at the departmental level while the bills are being studied by the Congress. His objection is based on the burden of expense which would be required to his client, the Hopi Tribe.

The Department is reluctant to review these administrative proceedings while legislation is pending and since no disadvantage will result to either party, it is our present determination to await the outcome of consideration by the Congress of this problem before taking further action.

Sincerely yours,

Solicitor

cc: Secretary's files
Solicitor's files
John S. Boyden, Esq., Salt Lake City, Utah
Ass't Sol., ILA
Legislative Counsel

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