HAUDENOSAUNEE
MOHAWK · ONEIDA · ONONDAGA · CAYUGA · SENECA · TUSCARORA
TONAWANDA BAND OF SENECAS NATION
7027 MEADVILLE ROAD BASOM, NEW YORK 14013
PHONE/FAX (716) 542-4244

September 29, 2000

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Kathleen C. Callahan, Director
Division of Environmental Protection and Planning
Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Dear Kathleen:

Greetings from the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Chiefs, Clan Mothers and People. We hope all is well with you and your family.

This letter is official notification in response to United States Environmental Protection Agencies intent to recommend or promulgation on behalf of the Nation if no recommended designation of the status of our territory with respect to the health-related 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone is not received.

The Tonawanda Band of Senecas will not accept "blanket" standards that are going to be imposed upon our Sovereign Nation. When the presentation of the TWO-ROW wampum and direct references to the Great Law of Peace were made to your agency at the yearly Indian Nations meeting, we specifically explained that the laws that govern, what you commonly refer to as the United States, would not and cannot be accepted, imposed, or have any jurisdiction on our sovereign territories.

We will continue to welcome the opportunity to work with your government and agencies on a government-to-government basis. We will work in conjunction with the Haudenosaunee Environmental Task Force on issues that need attention.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If there are any questions, please feel free to call the Nation office at (716) 542-4244.

Da'neho,

Chief Emerson Webster

Chief Emerson Webster
Chairman, Council of Chiefs
Tonawanda Band of Seneca Nation

cc:jr