

This is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Pursuant to 25 CFR 83.9(a) (formerly 25 CFR 54.9(a)) notice is hereby given that the: Saponi Nation of Ohio, P.O. Box 423, Rio Grande, Ohio 45674, has filed a letter of intent to submit a petition for Federal acknowledgment by the Secretary of the Interior that the group exists as an Indian tribe. The letter of intent was received by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on September 23, 1997, and was signed by members of the group's governing body.

This is a notice of receipt of letter of intent to submit a petition and does not constitute notice that the petition is under active consideration. Notice of active consideration will be sent by mail to the petitioner and other interested parties at the appropriate time.

Under Section 83.9(a) (formerly 54.8(d)) of the Federal regulations, third parties may submit factual and/or legal arguments in support of or in opposition to the group's petition or request to be informed of any general actions affecting the petition. Any information submitted will be made available on the same basis as other information in the BIA's files. The petitioner will be provided an opportunity to respond to such submissions prior to a final determination regarding the petitioner's status.

The petition may be examined, by appointment, in the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, Room 3427—MIB, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 208-3592.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

Hilda Manuel,

Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-6709 Filed 3-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Receipt of Petition for Federal Acknowledgment of Existence as an Indian Tribe

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

This is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Pursuant to 25 CFR 83.9(a) notice is hereby given that the: Tap Pilam—The

Coahuiltecan Nation, Attn. Mr. Stephen Cassanova, P.O. Box 100113, San Antonio, Texas 78201 has filed a petition for acknowledgment by the Secretary of the Interior that the group exists as an Indian tribe. The petition was received by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on December 3, 1997, and was signed by members of the group's governing body.

This is a notice of receipt of petition and does not constitute notice that the petition is under active consideration. Notice of active consideration will be sent by mail to the petitioner and other interested parties at the appropriate time.

Under Section 83.9(a) of the Federal regulations, third parties may submit factual and/or legal arguments in support of or in opposition to the group's petition, and/or may request to be kept informed of all general actions affecting the petition. Any information submitted will be made available on the same basis as other information in the BIA's files. The petitioner will be provided an opportunity to respond to such submissions prior to a final determination regarding the petitioner's status.

The petition may be examined, by appointment, in the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, MIB, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 208-3592.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

Hilda Manuel,

Deputy Commissioner—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-6681 Filed 3-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Operation and Maintenance Rate Adjustment: San Carlos Irrigation Project, Arizona

ACTION: Notice of operation and maintenance (O&M) rate adjustment.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is adjusting the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the San Carlos Irrigation Project for 1998. The following table illustrates the impact of the rate adjustment.

SAN CARLOS IRRIGATION PROJECT IRRIGATION RATE PER ASSESSABLE ACRE

	1997	1998
Rate	\$30.00	\$20.00

COMMENTS: On September 17, 1997, the Bureau of Indian Affairs published a notice in the **Federal Register**, 62 FR 44992, proposing to adjust the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the San Carlos Irrigation Project, Arizona, for 1998, 1999, and subsequent years. The notice of proposed rate adjustment provided a thirty (30) day public comment period. No comments were received for the proposed adjustment to the assessment for 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Phoenix Area Office, P.O. Box 10, Phoenix, Arizona 85001, telephone (602) 379-6956.

DATES: The new irrigation assessment rate for 1998 will become effective upon publication of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 15, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices.

This notice is given in accordance with Section 171.1(e) of part 171, Subchapter H, Chapter 1, of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides for fixing and announcing the rates for annual operation and maintenance assessments and related information for BIA operated and owned irrigation projects.

The assessment rates are based on an estimate of the cost of normal operation and maintenance of the irrigation project. Normal operation and maintenance means the expenses we incur to provide direct support or benefit to the project's activities for administration, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation. We must include at least:

- (a) Personnel salary and benefits for the project engineer/manager and our employees under his/her management control;
- (b) Materials and supplies;
- (c) Major and minor vehicle and equipment repairs;