

**(d) Nonpayment of State, local, or private contributions**

The Secretary shall not be accountable or incur any liability for the collection, deposit, or management of the non-Federal contributions made pursuant to section 5.2 of the Settlement Agreement, or payment of such funds pursuant to section 941d(g) of this title, until such time as such funds are received by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 103-116, § 5, Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1122.)

**§ 941d. Ratification of prior transfers; extinguishment of aboriginal title, rights and claims**

**(a) Ratification of transfers**

Any transfer of land or natural resources located anywhere within the United States from, by, or on behalf of the Tribe, any one or more of its Members, or anyone purporting to be a Member, including but without limitation any transfer pursuant to any treaty, compact, or statute of any State, shall be deemed to have been made in accordance with the Constitution and all laws of the United States, and Congress hereby approves and ratifies any such transfer effective as of the date of such transfer. Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect, eliminate, or revive the personal claim of any individual Member (except for any Federal common law fraud claim) which is pursued under any law of general applicability that protects non-Indians as well as Indians.

**(b) Aboriginal title**

To the extent that any transfer of land or natural resources described in subsection (a) of this section may involve land or natural resources to which the Tribe, any of its Members, or anyone purporting to be a Member, or any other Indian, Indian nation, or Tribe or band of Indians had aboriginal title, subsection (a) of this section shall be regarded as an extinguishment of aboriginal title as of the date of such transfer.

**(c) Extinguishment of claims**

By virtue of the approval and ratification of any transfer of land or natural resources effected by this section, or the extinguishment of aboriginal title effected thereby, all claims against the United States, any State or subdivision thereof, or any other person or entity, by the Tribe, any of its Members, or anyone purporting to be a Member, or any predecessors or successors in interest thereof or any other Indian, Indian Nation, or tribe or band of Indians, arising at the time of or subsequent to the transfer and based on any interest in or right involving such land or natural resources, including without limitation claims for trespass damages or claims for use and occupancy, shall be deemed extinguished as of the date of the transfer.

**(d) Extinguishment of title**

(1) All claims and all right, title, and interest that the Tribe, its Members, or any person or group of persons purporting to be Catawba Indians may have to aboriginal title, recognized title, or title by grant, patent, or treaty to the lands located anywhere in the United States are hereby extinguished.

(2) This extinguishment of claims shall also extinguish title to any hunting, fishing, or

water rights or rights to any other natural resource claimed by the Tribe or a Member based on aboriginal or treaty recognized title, and all trespass damages and other damages associated with use, occupancy or possession, or entry upon such lands.

**(e) Bar to future claims**

The United States is hereby barred from asserting by or on behalf of the Tribe or any of its Members, or anyone purporting to be a Member, any claim arising before the effective date of this subchapter from the transfer of any land or natural resources by deed or other grant, or by treaty, compact, or act of law, on the grounds that such transfer was not made in accordance with the laws of South Carolina or the Constitution or laws of the United States.

**(f) No derogation of fee simple in Existing Reservation, or effect on Members' fee interests**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to diminish or derogate from the Tribe's estate in the Existing Reservation; or to divest or disturb title in any land conveyed to any person or entity as a result of the Termination Act and the liquidation and partition of tribal lands; or to divest or disturb the right, title and interest of any Member in any fee simple, leasehold or remainder estate or any equitable or beneficial right or interest any such Member may own individually and not as a Member of the Tribe.

**(g) Costs and attorneys' fees**

The parties to the Suits shall bear their own costs and attorneys' fees. As provided by section 6.4 of the Settlement Agreement, the Secretary shall pay to the Tribe's attorneys in the Suits attorneys' fees and expenses from, and not to exceed 10 percent of, the \$50,000,000 obligated for payment to the Tribe by Federal, State, local, and private parties pursuant to section 5 of the Settlement Agreement.

**(h) Personal claims not affected**

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect, diminish, or eliminate the personal claim of any individual Indian which is pursued under any law of general applicability (other than Federal common law fraud) that protects non-Indians as well as Indians.

**(i) Federal payment**

In the event any of the Federal payments are not paid as set forth in section 941c of this title, such failure to pay shall give rise to a cause of action by the Tribe against the United States for money damages for the amount authorized to be paid to the Tribe in section 941c(a) of this title in settlement of the Tribe's claim, and the Tribe is authorized to bring an action in the United States Court of Claims for such funds plus applicable interest. The United States hereby waives any affirmative defense to such action.

**(j) State payment**

In the event any of the State payments are not paid as set forth in section 941c of this title, such failure to pay shall give rise to a cause of action in the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina by the Tribe against the State of South Carolina for money

damages for the amount authorized to be paid to the Tribe by the State in §27-16-50(A) of the State Act in settlement of the Tribe's claim. Pursuant to §27-16-50(E) of the State Act, the State of South Carolina waives any Eleventh Amendment immunity to such action.

(Pub. L. 103-116, §6, Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1122.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

For the effective date of this subchapter, referred to in subsec. (e), see Effective Date note set out under section 941 of this title.

### § 941e. Base membership roll

#### (a) Base membership roll criteria

Within one year after October 27, 1993, the Tribe shall submit to the Secretary, for approval, its base membership roll. An individual is eligible for inclusion on the base membership roll if that individual is living on October 27, 1993, and—

(1) is listed on the membership roll published by the Secretary in the Federal Register on February 25, 1961 (26 FR 1680-1688, "Notice of Final Membership Roll"), and is not excluded under the provisions of subsection (c) of this section;

(2) the Executive Committee determines, based on the criteria used to compile the roll referred to in paragraph (1), that the individual should have been included on the membership roll at that time, but was not; or

(3) is a lineal descendant of a Member whose name appeared or should have appeared on the membership roll referred to in paragraph (1).

#### (b) Base membership roll notice

Within 90 days after October 27, 1993, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register, and in three newspapers of general circulation in the Tribe's service area, a notice stating—

(1) that a base membership roll is being prepared by the Tribe and that the current membership roll is open and will remain open for a period of 90 days;

(2) the requirements for inclusion on the base membership roll;

(3) the final membership roll published by the Secretary in the Federal Register on February 25, 1961;

(4) the current membership roll as prepared by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Council; and

(5) the name and address of the tribal or Federal official to whom inquiries should be made.

#### (c) Completion of base membership roll

Within 120 days after publication of notice under subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary, after consultation with the Tribe, shall prepare and publish in the Federal Register, and in three newspapers of general circulation in the Tribe's service area, a proposed final base membership roll of the Tribe. Within 60 days from the date of publication of the proposed final base membership roll, an appeal may be filed with the Executive Committee under rules made by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Secretary. Such an appeal may be filed by a Member with respect to the inclusion of any

name on the proposed final base membership roll and by any person with respect to the exclusion of his or her name from the final base membership roll. The Executive Committee shall review such appeals and render a decision, subject to the Secretary's approval. If the Executive Committee and the Secretary disagree, the Secretary's decision will be final. All such appeals shall be resolved within 90 days following publication of the proposed roll. The final base membership roll of the Tribe shall then be published in the Federal Register, and in three newspapers of general circulation in the Tribe's service area, and shall be final for purposes of the distribution of funds from the Per Capita Trust Fund established under section 941i(h) of this title.

#### (d) Future membership in Tribe

The Tribe shall have the right to determine future membership in the Tribe; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe.

(Pub. L. 103-116, §7, Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1124.)

### § 941f. Transitional and provisional government

#### (a) Future tribal government

The Tribe shall adopt a new constitution within 24 months after the effective date of this subchapter.

#### (b) Executive Committee as transitional body

(1) Until the Tribe has adopted a constitution, the existing tribal constitution shall remain in effect and the Executive Committee is recognized as the provisional and transitional governing body of the Tribe. Until an election of tribal officers under the new constitution, the Executive Committee shall—

(A) represent the Tribe and its Members in the implementation of this subchapter; and

(B) during such period—

(i) have full authority to enter into contracts, grant agreements and other arrangements with any Federal department or agency; and

(ii) have full authority to administer or operate any program under such contracts or agreements.

(2) Until the initial election of tribal officers under a new constitution and bylaws, the Executive Committee shall—

(A) determine tribal membership in accordance with the provisions of section 941e of this title; and

(B) oversee and implement the revision and proposal to the Tribe of a new constitution and conduct such tribal meetings and elections as are required by this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 103-116, §8, Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1125.)

### § 941g. Tribal constitution and governance

#### (a) Indian Reorganization Act

If the Tribe so elects, it may organize under the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.; commonly referred to as the "Indian Reorga-