

as the ‘Mashantucket Pequot Indian Claims Settlement Act.’”

### § 1752. Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter—

(1) The term “Tribe” means the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe (also known as the Western Pequot Tribe) as identified by chapter 832 of the Connecticut General Statutes and all its predecessors and successors in interest. The Mashantucket Pequot Tribe is represented, as of October 18, 1983, by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council.

(2) The term “land or natural resources” means any real property or natural resources, or any interest in or right involving any real property or natural resources, including without limitation minerals and mineral rights, timber and timber rights, water and water rights, and hunting and fishing rights.

(3) The term “private settlement lands” means—

(A) the eight hundred acres, more or less, of privately held land which are identified by a red outline on a map filed with the secretary of the State of Connecticut in accordance with the agreement referred to in section 1751(d) of this title, and

(B) the lands known as the Cedar Swamp which are adjacent to the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation as it exists on October 18, 1983. Within thirty days of October 18, 1983, the secretary of the State of Connecticut shall transmit to the Secretary a certified copy of said map.

(4) The term “settlement lands” means—

(A) the lands described in sections 2(a) and 3 of the Act To Implement the Settlement of the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Land Claims as enacted by the State of Connecticut and approved on June 9, 1982, and

(B) the private settlement lands.

(5) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) The term “transfer” means any transaction involving, or any transaction the purpose of which was to effect, a change in title to or control of any land or natural resources, and any act, event, or circumstance that resulted in a change in title to, possession of, dominion over, or control of land or natural resources, including any sale, grant, lease, allotment, partition, or conveyance, whether pursuant to a treaty, compact, or statute of a State or otherwise.

(7) The term “reservation” means the existing reservation of the Tribe as defined by chapter 824 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any settlement lands taken in trust by the United States for the Tribe.

(Pub. L. 98-134, § 3, Oct. 18, 1983, 97 Stat. 852.)

#### CODIFICATION

In pars. (1) and (3)(B), “October 18, 1983” substituted for “the date of the enactment of this Act” and “the enactment of this Act”, meaning the date of approval of Pub. L. 98-134.

### § 1753. Extinguishment of aboriginal titles and Indian claims

#### (a) Approval and ratification of prior transfers

Any transfer before October 18, 1983, from, by, or on behalf of the Tribe or any of its members of land or natural resources located anywhere within the United States, and any transfer before October 18, 1983, from, by, or on behalf of any Indian, Indian nation, or tribe or band of Indians of land or natural resources located anywhere within the town of Ledyard, Connecticut, shall be deemed to have been made in accordance with the Constitution and all laws of the United States, including without limitation the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1790, Act of July 22, 1790 (ch. 33, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 137, 138), and all amendments thereto and all subsequent reenactments and versions thereof, and Congress hereby does approve and ratify any such transfer effective as of the date of said transfer.

#### (b) Extinguishment of title

By virtue of the approval and ratification of a transfer of land or natural resources effected by subsection (a) of this section, any aboriginal title held by the Tribe or any member of the Tribe, or any other Indian, Indian nation, or tribe or band of Indians, to any land or natural resources the transfer of which was approved and ratified by subsection (a) of this section shall be regarded as extinguished as of the date of such transfer.

#### (c) Extinguishment of claims

By virtue of the approval and ratification of a transfer of land or natural resources effected by this section, or the extinguishment of aboriginal title effected thereby, any claim (including any claim for damages for trespass or for use and occupancy) by, or on behalf of, the Tribe or any member of the Tribe or by any other Indian, Indian nation, or tribe or band of Indians, against the United States, any State or subdivision thereof or any other person which is based on—

(1) any interest in or right involving any land or natural resources the transfer of which was approved and ratified by subsection (a) of this section, or

(2) any aboriginal title to land or natural resources the extinguishment of which was effected by subsection (b) of this section,

shall be regarded as extinguished as of the date of any such transfer.

#### (d) Savings provision

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

#### (e) Effective date; notice

(1) This section shall take effect upon the appropriation of \$900,000 as authorized under section 1754(e) of this title.

(2) The Secretary shall publish notice of such appropriation in the Federal Register when the funds are deposited in the fund established under section 1754(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-134, § 4, Oct. 18, 1983, 97 Stat. 852.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Trade and Intercourse Act of 1790, Act of July 22, 1790 (ch. 33, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 137, 138), referred to in subsec. (a), is not classified to the Code. See sections 177, 179, 180, 193, 194, 201, 229, 230, 251, 263, and 264 of this title.

## CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a), “October 18, 1983” substituted for “the date of enactment of this Act”, meaning the date of approval of Pub. L. 98-134.

**§ 1754. Mashantucket Pequot Settlement Fund****(a) Establishment and administration**

There is hereby established in the United States Treasury an account to be known as the Mashantucket Pequot Settlement Fund (hereinafter referred to in this section as the “Fund”). The Fund shall be held in trust by the Secretary for the benefit of the Tribe and administered in accordance with this subchapter.

**(b) Expenditure of Fund; private settlement lands; economic development plan; acquisition of land and natural resources**

(1) The Secretary is authorized and directed to expend, at the request of the Tribe, the Fund together with any and all income accruing to such Fund in accordance with this subsection.

(2) Not less than \$600,000 of the Fund shall be available until January 1, 1985, for the acquisition by the Secretary of private settlement lands. Subsequent to January 1, 1985, the Secretary shall determine whether and to what extent an amount less than \$600,000 has been expended to acquire private settlement lands and shall make that amount available to the Tribe to be used in accordance with the economic development plan approved pursuant to paragraph (3).

(3)(A) The Secretary shall disburse all or part of the Fund together with any and all income accruing to such Fund (excepting the amount reserved in paragraph (2)) according to a plan to promote the economic development of the Tribe.

(B) The Tribe shall submit an economic development plan to the Secretary and the Secretary shall approve such plan within sixty days of its submission if he finds that it is reasonably related to the economic development of the Tribe. If the Secretary does not approve such plan, he shall, at the time of his decision, set forth in writing and with particularity, the reasons for his disapproval.

(C) The Secretary may not agree to terms which provide for the investment of the Fund in a manner inconsistent with section 162a of this title, unless the Tribe first submits a specific waiver of liability on the part of the United States for any loss which may result from such an investment.

(D) The Tribe may, with the approval of the Secretary, alter the economic development plan subject to the conditions set forth in subparagraph (B).

(4) Under no circumstances shall any part of the Fund be distributed to any member of the Tribe unless pursuant to the economic development plan approved by the Secretary under paragraph (3).

(5) As the Fund or any portion thereof is disbursed by the Secretary in accordance with this

section, the United States shall have no further trust responsibility to the Tribe or its members with respect to the sums paid, any subsequent expenditures of these sums, or any property other than private settlement lands or services purchased with these sums.

(6) Until the Tribe has submitted and the Secretary has approved the terms of the use of the Fund, the Secretary shall fix the terms for the administration of the portion of the Fund as to which there is no agreement.

(7) Lands or natural resources acquired under this subsection which are located within the settlement lands shall be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe.

(8) Land or natural resources acquired under this subsection which are located outside of the settlement lands shall be held in fee by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, and the United States shall have no further trust responsibility with respect to such land and natural resources. Such land and natural resources shall not be subject to any restriction against alienation under the laws of the United States.

(9) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3113 and 3114(a) to (d) of title 40, the Secretary may acquire land or natural resources under this section from the ostensible owner of the land or natural resources only if the Secretary and the ostensible owner of the land or natural resources have agreed upon the identity of the land or natural resources to be sold and upon the purchase price and other terms of sale. Subject to the agreement required by the preceding sentence, the Secretary may institute condemnation proceedings in order to perfect title, satisfactory to the Attorney General, in the United States and condemn interests adverse to the ostensible owner.

**(c) Transfer of private settlement land as involuntary conversion**

For the purpose of subtitle A of title 26, any transfer of private settlement lands to which subsection (b) of this section applies shall be deemed to be an involuntary conversion within the meaning of section 1033 of title 26.

**(d) Documentation of relinquishment of tribal claims**

The Secretary may not expend on behalf of the Tribe any sums deposited in the Fund established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section unless and until he finds that authorized officials of the Tribe have executed appropriate documents relinquishing all claims to the extent provided by sections 1753 and 1759 of this title, including stipulations to the final judicial dismissal with prejudice of its claims.

**(e) Authorization of appropriation**

There is authorized to be appropriated \$900,000 to be deposited in the Fund.

(Pub. L. 98-134, § 5, Oct. 18, 1983, 97 Stat. 853; Pub. L. 99-514, § 2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095.)

## CODIFICATION

“Sections 3113 and 3114(a) to (d) of title 40” substituted in subsec. (b)(9) for “the first section of the Act of August 1, 1888 (25 Stat. 357, chapter 728), as amended, and the first section of the Act of February 26, 1931 (46 Stat. 1421, chapter 307)” on authority of Pub.