

tions, treaty rights, and rights of sovereignty, which define the rights and responsibilities on trust or restricted lands (including rights-of-way and easements running through such lands within a Federal Indian reservation) apply: *Provided*, That such application is not inconsistent with any provision of the Settlement Agreement.

(Pub. L. 101-41, §12, June 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 89.)

SUBCHAPTER VIII—SENECA NATION (NEW YORK) LAND CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

§ 1774. Findings and purposes

(a) City of Salamanca and congressional villages

The Congress finds and declares that:

(1) Disputes concerning leases of tribal lands within the city of Salamanca and the congressional villages, New York, have strained relations between the Indian and non-Indian communities and have resulted in adverse economic impacts affecting both communities.

(2) Some of the significant historical events which have led to the present situation include—

(A) beginning in the mid-nineteenth century, several railroads obtained grants or leases of rights of way through the Allegany Reservation without Federal authorization or approval and on terms which did not adequately protect the interests of the Seneca Nation;

(B) after construction of these railroads, Allegany Reservation lands were leased to railroad employees, persons associated with the railroads, residents of the city and farmers without Federal authorization or approval and on terms which did not adequately protect the interests of the Seneca Nation;

(C) none of these leases had Federal authorization or approval and, after the courts ruled these leases invalid, Congress enacted the Act of February 19, 1875 (18 Stat. 330), confirming existing leases of Allegany Reservation lands, authorizing further leasing by the Seneca Nation, and making the confirmed leases renewable for a twelve year period;

(D) the Act of September 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 558), amended the 1875 Act by substituting a renewal term of “not exceeding ninety-nine years” for the original renewal term of twelve years; and

(E) in 1952 the Seneca Nation filed a claim with the Indian Claims Commission against the United States for use of improper lease fees, and in 1977 a settlement was reached regarding such claim, providing for the payment of \$600,000 to the Seneca Nation covering the period beginning in 1870 to the end of 1946.

(3) An analysis of historic land values indicates that the payments made under the original lease agreement and under the settlement described in paragraph (2)(E) were well below the actual lease value of the property.

(4) The approaching expiration of the Salamanca and congressional village leases on February 19, 1991, has created significant un-

certainty and concern on the part of the city of Salamanca and Salamanca residents, and among the residents of the congressional villages, many of whose families have resided on leased lands for generations.

(5) The future economic success of the Seneca Nation, city, and congressional villages is tied to the securing of a future lease agreement.

(6) The Federal and State governments have agreed that there is a moral responsibility on the part of both governments to help secure a fair and equitable settlement for past inequities.

(b) Purpose

It is the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) to effectuate and support the Agreement between the city and the Seneca Nation, and facilitate the negotiation of new leases with lessees in the congressional villages;

(2) to assist in resolving the past inequities involving the 1890 leases and to secure fair and equitable compensation for the Seneca Nation based on the impact of these leases on the economy and culture of the Seneca Nation;

(3) to provide a productive environment between the Seneca Nation and lessees for negotiating the leases provided for under the Agreement;

(4) to provide stability and security to the city and the congressional villages, their residents, and businesses;

(5) to promote the economic growth of the city and the congressional villages;

(6) to promote economic self-sufficiency for the Seneca Nation and its members;

(7) to promote cooperative economic and community development efforts on the part of the Seneca Nation and the city; and

(8) to avoid the potential legal liability on the part of the United States that could be a direct consequence of not reaching a settlement.

(Pub. L. 101-503, §2, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1292.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of February 19, 1875 (18 Stat. 330), referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(C), is act Feb. 19, 1875, ch. 90, 18 Stat. 330, as amended, which is not classified to the Code.

Act of September 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 558), referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(D), is act Sept. 30, 1890, ch. 1132, 26 Stat. 558, which is not classified to the Code.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 101-503, §1, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1292, provided that: “This Act [enacting this subchapter] may be cited as the ‘Seneca Nation Settlement Act of 1990.’”

§ 1774a. Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter—

(1) the term “1890 lease” means a lease made by the Seneca Nation which is subject to—

(A) the Act entitled “An Act to authorize the Seneca Nation of New York Indians to lease lands within the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations, and to confirm existing leases” approved February 19, 1875 (chap. 90, 18 Stat. 330); and

(B) the Act entitled “An Act to authorize the Seneca Nation of New York Indians to lease lands within the Cattaraugus and Alle-

gany Reservations, and to confirm existing leases" approved September 30, 1890 (chap. 1132, 26 Stat. 558);

(2) the term "Agreement" means the document executed by the Seneca Nation and the city entitled "Agreement between the Seneca Nation of Indians and the City of Salamanca", including the appendix to the Agreement;

(3) the term "city" means the city of Salamanca, New York;

(4) the term "lessee" means the holder of an 1890 lease which either expires in 1991 or is one of the leases listed in document 1 of the Technical Documents, including any lessee who holds an 1890 lease by reason of assignment, inheritance, or other manner as provided by the Act referred to in paragraph (1)(A);

(5) the term "memorandum of understanding" means an agreement between the State and the Seneca Nation pertaining to the payment of the funds to be provided pursuant to this subchapter, which memorandum of understanding reflects an agreement between the Seneca Nation and the State concerning a mechanism and schedule of payments for the funds described in section 1774d(c) of this title;

(6) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior;

(7) the term "Seneca Nation" means the Seneca Nation of Indians of the Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Oil Spring Reservations;

(8) the term "State" means the State of New York;

(9) the term "Technical Documents" means the documents which comprise the appendix to the Agreement; and

(10) the term "congressional villages" means the villages of Carrollton, Great Valley, and Vandalia in the State of New York.

(Pub. L. 101-503, §3, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1293.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Seneca Nation of New York Indians to lease lands within the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations, and to confirm existing leases" approved February 19, 1875 (chap. 90, 18 Stat. 330), referred to in pars. (1)(A) and (4), is not classified to the Code.

Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Seneca Nation of New York Indians to lease lands within the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations, and to confirm existing leases" approved September 30, 1890 (chap. 1132, 26 Stat. 558), referred to in par. (1)(B), is not classified to the Code.

§ 1774b. New leases and extinguishment of claims

(a) New leases

If the Seneca Nation offers new leases in accordance with the Agreement, this subchapter shall apply with respect to the Seneca Nation. The Seneca Nation shall supply copies of such leases to the Secretary and shall certify in writing that it has supplied the Secretary with copies of written offers to all lessees entitled to an offer.

(b) Extinguishment of claims

The Seneca Nation shall execute appropriate documents relinquishing all claims against the United States, the State, the city, the congressional villages, and all prior lessees for payment

of annual rents prior to February 20, 1991, with respect to all prior and existing leases.

(c) Effective date of leases and relinquishments

(1) The relinquishment of claims against the United States shall be effective upon payment by the United States to the Seneca Nation of the funds provided in section 1774d of this title.

(2) The offers, and any acceptances thereof, referred to in subsection (a) of this section, and the relinquishment of claims against the State, the city, the congressional villages, and all prior lessees for payment of annual rents referred to in subsection (b) of this section shall not be binding on the Seneca Nation until after the later of the dates on which (1) Congress, or (2) the legislature of the State appropriates the amount of funds set forth in section 1774d of this title or the Seneca Nation and the State agree upon a schedule and mechanism for payments for funds pursuant to section 1774d(c) of this title. Such agreement shall render the offers, acceptances and the relinquishment effective so long as the payments are made as agreed upon by the Seneca Nation and the State.

(Pub. L. 101-503, §4, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1294.)

§ 1774c. Responsibilities and restrictions

(a) Seneca Nation

The Congress finds that the Seneca Nation is solely responsible for negotiation of the leases under the Agreement in its own interest and approval of any such lease by the United States is not required.

(b) Lessees

The Congress finds that—

(1) the lessees of leases with the Seneca Nation are responsible for representing their own interest in lease negotiations with the Seneca Nation; and

(2) nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to prevent the lessees from collectively negotiating with the Seneca Nation regarding such leases, whether through informal groups or as delegations formally sanctioned by either the State or local governments.

(c) United States

(1) The United States shall not serve in a capacity to approve leases of the Seneca Nation.

(2) Federal funds may not be obligated or expended, directly or indirectly, for annual payments under any such lease, except for funds that may be available under a conventional, nationwide program.

(d) State

(1) The State shall not serve in a capacity to approve leases of the Seneca Nation.

(2) State funds may not be obligated or expended, directly or indirectly, for annual payments under any such lease.

(Pub. L. 101-503, §5, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1295.)

§ 1774d. Settlement funds

(a) In general

In recognition of the findings and purposes specified in section 1774 of this title, the settlement funds provided pursuant to this subchapter