

A2621(2275)

DEC 16 1996
Ms. Maria Lopez-Otin
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of State Programs
Washington, D.C. 20555

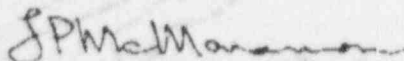
Dear Ms. Lopez-Otin:

The questionnaire for the Secretary's Report to Congress (SRC) will be reviewed by the Department and the Office of Management and Budget in 1997. In anticipation of this review, several discussions were held over the summer within our office and with agency Federal Preservation Officers (FPO's) to develop objectives and goals to guide this review. This effort resulted in the enclosed policy statement. Our goals for the SRC are to: (1) provide information that satisfies the needs of our target audiences, (2) develop meaningful measures of the Federal archeology program across agencies, (3) produce a timely and useful report, and (4) create a user-friendly questionnaire.

We are inviting FPO's to a meeting to work with us to achieve these goals. Following this meeting the Departmental Consulting Archeologist (DCA) will appoint a small working group to revise the questionnaire. The group will consist of representatives from land management, development and regulatory agencies. Individuals interested in being a member of this group should notify us soon after the meeting. The draft questionnaire will be sent to the agencies for a period of review prior to finalization. FPO's are encouraged to seek input from field personnel throughout the revision of the questionnaire.

We ask for your participation in this meeting, to be held at the National Park Service, 800 North Capitol Street N.W., Room LL 10 on **Wednesday, January 15, 1997 at 10:00 A.M.** We appreciate your agency's cooperation in completing past questionnaires and look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Daniel Haas of my staff will be coordinating this effort for the DCA. He may be reached at (202) 343-1058, FAX (202) 523-1547; E-mail: dan_haas@nps.gov to confirm your attendance or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Francis P. McMahon, Ph.D.
Departmental Consulting Archeologist

Enclosure

Departmental Consulting Archeologist
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
December 1996

FY 97 Review of the Secretary's Report to Congress Questionnaire

Background

The Secretary's Report to Congress (SRC) has been used to present information about Federal archeology program activities since 1975. The report is required under the Archeology and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (AHPA) and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA). Reporting on these aspects of public archeology also can be justified under different sections of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Officially, the SRC informs Congress about the scope, effectiveness, and costs of recovery, protection, and preservation of archeological data. This information is used to measure the accomplishments and to identify necessary improvements in the Federal archeology program.

We've come to realize that because of government reinvention, passage of the Government Performance and Results Act and a need to be more responsive to our customers, the time has come to review the questionnaire. This review will address three interrelated elements of the SRC; the information content, data collection, and data delivery.

Objectives

The SRC has four important objectives:

1. Report to Congress about important aspects of Federal archeology emphasizing parts of the program that should get more attention, and suggesting changes that should be made.
2. Utilize and present the information gathered in the SRC to inform the public so that public support for Federal archeological activities and programs continues and increases.
3. Utilize the briefing and surname process required by the SRC to educate and develop policy level support by senior officials.
4. Provide a historical record of the activities and accomplishments of Federal archeology programs on a national scale. This information has basic descriptive and historical value, but, from my perspective, its objective is to provide justification for specific actions by the Executive branch or Congress.

To generate political and public support we want to demonstrate successes in protecting archeological resources, in public benefits (i.e.; partnerships, education, research, and tourism), and in generating local community involvement and participation.

To develop public and policy support we want to identify important aspects of the program, emphasize parts of the program that should get more attention, suggest changes that should be made in the program, to get endorsement for recommended improvements, and to develop support for agency-specific and interagency resource management programs and initiatives.

The historical record of the program can provide justification for specific actions by the Executive branch or Congress, provide background and historical records to support initiatives, and to develop information of general interest that describes the problems and successes in caring for archeological resources. For example, multi-year, quantitative data on the frequency of archeological looting and the difficulty of law enforcement directly influenced Congressional action to amend ARPA in 1988

and make law enforcement easier. We have noted in reported statistics for years following 1988 an increase in the number of successful ARPA prosecutions and other law enforcement efforts.

Goals

Goal 1. Provide information that satisfies the needs of our target audiences.

The SRC is intended for four audiences; Congress, Executive Branch, informed public, and historic preservation community. Congress and the informed public are considered the primary audiences. Congress requires the report and uses the information for legislative actions. The informed public, if supportive of what Federal agencies are doing to protect and interpret archeological resources, will influence the policy makers and ensure that enough money is available for public archeology. Executive Branch officials use the information to develop and approve proposals for funding and initiatives. The historic preservation community are concerned with matters of public policy and whose support is important for Federal archeology.

Goal 2. Develop meaningful measures of the Federal archeology program across agencies.

The measures will provide a national view of the program that satisfies statutory responsibilities and can be used to develop agency budgets, demonstrate public benefits, and promote policy and public support for archeological preservation. The major categories of information currently in use adequately represent the range of activities in the Federal archeology program. The questions, however, will be reexamined and scrutinized for consistency, redundancy, and meaning across agency missions. The narrative portion of the questionnaire will be crucial for describing outcomes and the quantitative measures will support these conclusions.

Goal 3. Produce a timely and useful report.

A short, succinct report will be produced for Congress and the informed public that accentuates highlights and public benefits with summary statistical data presented in more graphic form. Comparative charts between agencies will be presented on the WWW or in Briefs for the Executive Branch and historic preservation community. A lengthier report examining chronological trends might be produced every 5 years. The report will be produced on a regular and timely schedule. This effort also will require timely responses from participating agencies. Our proposal is to send the questionnaire out in September, compile replies by March, and report by August. This schedule would be considered fully operational within a 3 year period.

Goal 4. Create a user-friendly questionnaire.

The questionnaire format will be reexamined to reduce it's length and complexity. The lengthy "clarifications" and "instructions" introducing information sections and attached to the questions will be reduced considerably. An electronic collection strategy will be developed and use of an on-line database will be examined. To reduce inconsistent data reporting, the DCA will work more closely with agencies to build questions that can be interpreted by field personnel and will provide more direct assistance (e.g; workshops) in using the questionnaire.

F A X
.....Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Center for Cultural Resource
Stewardship and Partnerships**Archeology and Ethnography Program**

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Location: Suites 210 & 340, 800 North Capitol St., NW 20002

Voice: (202) 343-4101, 8161 Fax: (202) 523-1547, 343-5260

January 8, 1997

To: Rosetta Virgilio**Fax #:** 301-415-3502**Address:** NRC**From:** Dan Haas**# Pages:** 4 (including cover)**Subject:** NPS meeting

Rosetta,

Here is the info. for the meeting. Look forward to seeing you there.

Dan

DLD (SP02)

(FYI) RLB2
PAL
SLD



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

EXECUTIVE TASK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

<<< PRINT SCREEN UPDATE FORM >>>

TASK # - 7S-6

DATE- 01/09/97

MAIL CTRL. - 1997

TASK STARTED - 01/09/97

TASK DUE - 01/15/97

TASK COMPLETED - 1/15/97

TASK DESCRIPTION - DOI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MEETING ON 1/15/97 -REVIEW OF
DOI REPORT TO CONGRESS QUESTIONNAIRE

REQUESTING OFF. - DOI/NPS REQUESTER - D. HAAS

WITS - 0 FYP - N

PROG. - ROV

PERSON -

STAFF LEAD - ROV

PROG. AREA -

PROJECT STATUS -

Angela participated in mtg. 1/15/97

DOI MEETING: 1/15/97

PLANNED ACC. - N

LEVEL CODE - 1

300009

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