



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

January 2, 2025

The Honorable Lisa Goree
Chairwoman, Shinnecock Indian Nation
PO Box 5006
Southampton, New York 11969

Dear Chairwoman Goree:

This correspondence is to inform you that on December 23, 2024, I sent a memorandum to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Eastern Regional Director Kimberly Bouchard directing her office to record the Shinnecock Indian Nation (Nation) parcel of land known as “Westwoods” in the BIA Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS) as restricted fee. A metes and bounds legal description of the Westwoods property is attached herewith.

The Department examined the land title status of the Westwoods parcel and determined that it is within the Nation’s aboriginal territory, that the Nation has resided within its aboriginal territory since time immemorial and has never removed therefrom, and that Westwoods is within the purview of the Nonintercourse Act and is therefore restricted against alienation absent consent of the United States. This land is and has always been restricted fee land held by the Nation and is now recorded to reflect such status.

If you have any questions, please contact Eastern Regional Director Kimberly Bouchard at kimberly.bouchard@bia.gov.

Sincerely,

Bryan Newland
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosure