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January 11, 2000

Mr. John Berry
C/O Document Management Unit
The Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Mailstop 7024
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: OFFICIAL RECORD OF RECONCILIATION TESTIMONY
EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION 01/07-01/14/2000

Honorable Mr. Berry:

Aloha and Mahalo for the opportunity to be included in your extended deadline as indicated above.

I am a direct descendant of our late and beloved Queen Liliuokalani. Her great-grand uncle NAIHE on her mother's side of the family is my maiden name. NAIHE's father was Keawe-a-Heulu who was chief counselor to our late and beloved King Kamehameha I. My first cousin Mo'i Kane Darren Naihe & family are representatives of the Big Island of Hawaii's royal court for the years Aloha Festivals. Our grandfather Henry Moae Naihe is buried in our Naihe family gravesite here in historic North Kohala near Kamehameha Pond aka: Wai'apuka where chiefs of the past met for politics and recreation. My name is Stephanie Noelani (Naihe) Cabaniss and it is an honor to be included in your record of reconciliation.

I believe my testimony speaks as none have spoken. For what cries to Soul of Aina? For her face mourns as she cries for her people with no leader and no direction in truth and what it bears. For she watches in shame the blame, the torment, the needs, wants, desires of ALL but no leader? What is sovereignty she cries? There are many who claim a sovereign nation, a sovereign government, a sovereign people and a sovereign right to claim whom me? For I am here to be enjoyed by ALL she says. Yet, where is the respect and honor? The energy she feels as she rumbles in spirit. She tosses and turns in sleepless nights and restless days. For there is no crown in sight. Could she not be at rest and toss no more if only we are back to mourn for HER?

Where? Where do we begin to be at peace with aina? For to be at peace with HER it appears in today's generation to be at peace with its people. Yet, people do not speak one voice. They do not speak of one mind. They do not speak of even "aloha". Give me, give me, give me, she hears. Move me, shake me, tear me she feels. There is only taking. Enough of the taking she says. Enough of the fighting she breathes. Give ME back she cries. Take no more she pleads. Give me peace she asks. Give me hope she cries. Do this now she hails. Listen to what I need. For if you continue this path YOU lead, I will no longer provide you with seed. Hear me now, "UA MAU KE EA OKA AINA IKA PONO"-FOR THE LIFE OF THIS LAND IS PERPETUATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. What does this mean for today's generation? What do you want from me? For you continue to walk in your grace as I watch in awe with emotional disgrace. HEAR MY CRY!

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My testimony is that for the plea of aina. Aina is at the center of turmoil and yet there is no voice for HER. She hears people only wanting her for the selves of them, me or I. When is SHE foremost in heart, mind, and body? When is SHE to be crowned in HER glory? Do you hear HER calling? She doesn't want much as it is rightfully due to HER. What is this you say she wants? Yes.....RESPECT AND HONOR for to give respect and honor to whom respect and honor is due is now at hand in this process.

How do we do this? We take "time" back. Reverse our wheels of thinking and feeling and create a right and just path for tomorrow and generations to follow. How do we begin to do this? We go back to our roots, home, where we came from - aina.

Begin by first doing what first started, wherein the Federal Government inventoried all historical sites even before the State of Hawaii began their inventory 20 to 30 years later. For in Hawai'i there is no order, just, and proper procedure to claim sites as being historical. For I have been personally involved in cases in my own community wherein petroglyph sites are being destroyed of which are documented in files with the state. Fines? Slap on a fine says a state official. It is not FINE to disgrace aina. Stop instead the disrespect and dishonor. For we look to a federal government to take inventory on our lands again. For the state's hands are poisoned with blood from time's passing masking in the face of "The Republic of Hawai'i", "The Territory of Hawai'i". Whom are we kidding here? Soul of Aina? The bleeding will stop when there is no more permits of grubbing, no moving of human bones but preservation of historic value of home, our love, our aina. This is the area of which I speak in COMPLETE RECONCILIATION. Hear my cry! For the blood in truth of a native hawaiian will find peace within. They will put their weapons down and instead begin to hold hands.

Do not inventory this through the level of state. Instead, turn back time when the federal government inventoried the face of our aina.

However, this time seek full "community" input by utilizing OHA district representatives from each island districts to gather kupunas, tutus, generational families, etc etc to record the sites of history and recreation for preservation in the spirit of "community" as was the chieftan days of prior. For development of aina is raping her each day in resources and natural treasures of recreation. For then where are our "Kuleana Rights"? Gated paths to ocean and mountains and with a key you say? Where do we hunt and gather our generation of today? And where is our tomorrow? A home is not a place of confinement. Don't take our lives away. Trust me honorable Mr. Berry, this is reconciliation. For I believe a true native hawaiian in blood will see this honor and respect in "listening and doing." For if they should continue to cry, "But what about me?" Then.....

Second step? Give a small portion in each district for agriculture to have "community" pull together. Following the laboring of the land for sustenance provide native hawaiians their shelter. There is a win-win situation here for the good of all concerned. How long will this take? Maybe another 100 years? The goal is: Giving honor to whom honor is due.

Hear my cry. There is no royal crown order today. Yet, why can we not recrown her in preservation of history, hunting and gathering rights as well as recreation? There is incredible power in people allowing aina to be disgraced with tourism and realty. Make a stand and speak loud in words for again I say a true hawaiian in blood will see THIS honor. For in honor Mr. Berry I also stand a victim. For as I write to you this letter there is continual grubbing of land near the gravesite of my family where 2 miles from the site itself is Wai'apuka Catholic Church listed as "historical". Why is not Kamehameha Pond

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aka: Wai'apuka where the chiefs of times passing gathered in politics and recreation not listed as a historical site as well? Will one day my family's remains be removed? I pray not for they ARE at rest. Is it listed on the any level of government as a "historical" site? No, not for today yet I hope for the future.

For I am but a fool? To stand and be in preservation of the blood of my native hawaiian ancestry? Royalty and commoner alike? This is my testimony which I believe is: FOR THE GOOD OF ALL CONCERNED. Please Honorable Mr. Berry, hear my words today. For as I look back in history of our beloved Queen Liliuokalani and how she sacrificed her crown for her people. Can we as people sacrifice what aina has given us? How do we make amends? Honorable Mr. Berry, for what it is worth in whom I am, may my testimony provide to you an awareness of spirit, heart, mind and body what the Soul of Aina grieves day in and day out. For I remind you, THE LIFE OF THIS LAND IS PERPETUATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Malama Pono,



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