From: arnold sue
To: Steve Stone;
Subject: Re Makah DEIS
Date: Thursday, July 03, 2008 2:24:47 PM

Hi Steve,

Australians for Animals Int. formally requests a further 30 day extension to the comment period. Given that international groups are unable to attend the three meetings and that there are no transcripts of these meetings, we are handicapped by our inability to pose questions in relation to the DEIS and to take on board questions and answers asked at the meetings.

Given that the DEIS has taken three years to prepare and given the extent of the bibliography which I understand is now available on line, it does seem unreasonable to expect that groups who are deeply involved in the whaling issue can adequately respond to the DEIS in the time frame.

As well, with IWC being held in the middle of the comment period, it does make for major difficulties in terms of focusing on all the relevant issues.

Australians for Animals is concerned that the US refused to report the Makah kill as an infraction. Given the jail sentences handed down by the Judge the failure of the Administration to report the slaughter as an infraction is of concern. Further, the US delegation claimed that the slaughtered whale was part of the " Makah quota". This is not correct as no waiver has been issued. As a result we are engaging Counsel to investigate the actions of the Administration at IWC and the legal ramifications of misleading the IWC.

Our in depth reading of the DEIS reveals many major inadequacies and in order to address these omissions, we believe that an extension is justified.

An objective examination af the DEIS and its omissions, combined with actions by the US delegation at IWC raise major issues which need to be addressed.

I look forward to your response. With regards, Sue Arnold, Australians for Animals Int. Byron Bay. NSW Australia