

FCC Receives Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation

The FCC received the Chairman's Award for Federal Achievement in Historic Preservation from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in May 2009. The award was given to the FCC for its innovative response and efforts in complying with provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in regard to the complex issues associated with the siting of telecommunications facilities. In particular, the FCC was cited for its development and implementation of the Electronic Section 106 (E-106) System and the Tower Construction Notification System (TCNS).



FCC Staff Jeffrey Steinberg, Jane Jackson, Steve DeSordo, Acting Chairman Capps and ACHP Chairman John Nau

The Commission's **Electronic Section 106 System** is a voluntary system designed to save users time and resources by automating and expediting the exchange of information and correspondence in the Section 106 review process under the NHPA. The system allows companies to voluntarily submit notifications of proposed tower constructions to the FCC. The Commission subsequently provides this information to State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), federally recognized Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian Organizations, and other consulting parties, and allows them to respond directly with their comments or concerns. The E-106 System enables the real-time referral of information and documented communication among all participating parties, including the FCC.

The Commission's **Tower Construction Notification System** works to increase communication with Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) in the context of the review required by Section 106. It also provides Tribes/NHOs and State Historic Preservation Officers with early notification of proposed towers in order to facilitate compliance with the Commission's rules, and streamlines the review process for construction of towers and other Commission undertakings.