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Stand Up For California! "Citizens making a difference"

www.standupca.org

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August 6, 2010

Honorable Lee Fleming- Director Office of Federal Acknowledgment United States Department of the Interior 1951 Constitution Ave. N. W. Mail Stop 34B-SIB Washington, D.C. 20240 FAX: 202-219-3008

RE: Formal Request to be an Interested Party – T'Si-akim Maidu Petitioner # 202

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Stand Up For California! Is a statewide organization started in 1996 with a focus on gambling issues. We are a non-profit, public service corporation. Our mission goals are: 1) to educate lawmakers, law enforcement, government officials and citizens about the culutural, economic and political impacts of state and tribal government gaming and 2) to develop a focused policy that safegurads communities, local governments, and tribal governments and promotes mutally cooperative and beneficial government to government relationships.

As you may well know many of California's petitioning groups became interested in the federal acknowledgement process only after tribal gaming received a monopoly for casinos in our state. The T'Si-akim Maidu, Petitioner # 202 appears to fall into this category. Their letter of intent was filed 11 days after the passage of Proposition 5, the first ballot measure to legalize slot machines for federally recognized tribes in California. While Petitioner #202 has listed a Quincy address, it has been actively participating in the City of Grass Valley municipal issues. Moreover, the group now appears to be fund raising and seeking grant money to develop a genealogy and other necessary documentation for acknowledgement.

The Active *Consideration* of the T'Si-akim Maidu is of great public interest. Californians recognize "Tribe Shopping" when they see it. Citizens following Indian gaming issues have heard the line from Indian gaming attorneys, developers and investors, in words very close to these, "*Let's find a tribe and build a casino.*" Clearly, the introduction of a new sovereign government in Placer County affects the public. Moreover, if the acknowledgement does result

in a casino it affects the safety, criminality, financial integrity, and adverse economic impacts on existing gaming interests and other casino related businesses.

Stand Up For California! request participation in this process as an "Interested Party".

Stand Up For California! has a legal, factual and property interest in this acknowledgment determination. Moreover, we wish to submit comments, evidence and to be kept informed of general actions regarding the T'Si-akim Maidu, petitioner # 202.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Schmit – Director 916-663-3207 cherylschmit@att.net www.standupca.org

CC: Andrea Lynn Hoch, Legal Affairs Secretary Sara Drake, Supervising Deputy Attorney General Anthony LaBouff - Placer County Counsel