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December 6, 2006

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VIA FACSIMILE 916/978-6099

Clay Gregory, Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Request for Extension of Time for Response to Fee to Trust Application of the Ione Band of Miwok Indians

Dear Mr. Gregory:

On November 8, 2006, on behalf of our client, the County of Amador, California, we filed a Freedom of Information Act Request with Mr. James E. Cason, Associate Deputy Secretary and Mr. Carl Artman, Associate Solicitor for Indian Affairs. The FOIA request was for "any documents or writings or communication of any kind concerning the Indians Lands Determination request of the Ione Band of Miwok Indians" that were reviewed and/or relied upon in issuing either Mr. Artman's September 19, 2006 memorandum or Mr. Cason's September 26, 2006 letter to the Chairman of the Band.

On December 1, 2006, the County received notice of an application from the Ione Band seeking acceptance of title to certain real property "in trust" by the United States for the benefit of the Band. The property sought to be placed in trust is the same property that was the basis the Band's request for an Indian Lands determination. The notice requires a response within 30 days, or by December 31, 2006.

On December 6, 2006, I spoke with Mr. Scott Keep, Assistant Solicitor, who informed me that he is handling the Department's response to the County's FOIA request. He advised me that he is handling several other urgent matters and that he was not likely to be able to respond to the County's request before the response date for the fee to trust application. As a result, the County will not be able to adequately prepare its response.

This letter is to request that you grant the County an extension of time to file its response to the fee to trust application until 30 days after the County has received the response to its FOIA November 8, 2006 FOIA request. Mr. Keep expressed his concurrence with this request. An

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extension will give the County an opportunity to fully express its position with respect to the "acquisitions potential impacts on regulatory jurisdiction, real property taxes and special assessments" as set forth in 25 Code of Federal Regulations sections 151.10 and 151.11.

Please advise us at the earliest possible date of your consideration of this request so that the County can prepare its response. We request that you give this request your immediate attention. You may contact me directly if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy Christian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Cathy Christian

CAC/mc

cc: John Hahn, County Counsel
Patrick Blacklock, County Administrator
Scott Keep, Assistant Solicitor