PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Director

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DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY

Administrative Operations Engineering, Surveying and Permit Services Planning and Community Development Roads

June 2, 2105

Board of Supervisors County of Kern 1115 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, California 93301

Presentation and Request for Direction on County and Native American Tribal Cooperative Agreements

(Fiscal Impact: None) All S.D.s

This matter is a presentation and request for direction on coordination and potential agreements with federally recognized Native American Indian tribes in Kern County. The U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs states that "a federally recognized tribe is an American Indian or Alaska Native tribal entity that is recognized as having a government to government relationship with the United States, with the responsibilities, powers, limitations and obligations attached to that designation and is eligible for funding and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

Federally recognized tribes are empowered by law with certain inherent rights of self government (tribal sovereignty) and as entities eligible to receive federal benefits, services and protections because of their special relationship with the United States. According to the BIA, there are 566 federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and villages. The official BIA list of tribes as published in the Federal Register is attached.

Although other Native American tribes have historically used portions of Kern County, the only federally recognized tribe in Kern County is the Tejon Tribe. The Tribe has formally requested to commence discussions (see attached letter) on one or more cooperative agreements to share funding for essential services. The Planning and Community Development Department, under the Home Rule program which facilitates coordination with federal programs and confers with Native American representatives on land use issues, is providing staff to facilitate the coordination of these agreements with other County departments in an effort led by the County Administrative Office with the advice of County Counsel.

As there have been no previous agreements with federally recognized tribes in Kern County, staff has invited experts from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to make a presentation on the various structures and issues surrounding cooperative agreements and relationships between tribal and local governments. Representatives of the Tejon Tribe will also present information on their tribal leadership, organization, and plans for their community.

Your Board has received correspondence (attached) from Stand Up for California – Citizens Making a Difference expressing concerns about the Tejon Tribe's method of recognition as a federal tribe and potential future plans for gaming. These comments are provided for your information.

June 2, 2015 Page 2

Therefore, IT IS RECOMMENDED that your Board receive and file this report and provide direction to Staff.

Sincerely,

LORELEI H OVIATT, AICP, Director Kern County Planning and Community Development Department

LHO:am

L'IADMAllison/Board Letters\2015\6-2-15 Presentation & Request for Direction on County & Native American Tribal Cooperative Agreements.docx

Attachments

cc County Administrative Officer

County Counsel

Tejon Tribe

California State Association of Counties

Development Services Agency

Grand Jury



February 13, 2015

John Nilon, Chief Administrative Officer County Administrative Offices County of Kern 1115 Truxtun Ave., 5th Floor Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mr. Nilon:

The Tejon Indian Tribe ("Tribe") respectfully requests that Kern County ("County") commence negotiations, on a government-to-government basis, for the purpose of entering into one or more agreements with our Tribe. We are contacting you with our request following preliminary conversations with the Director of Planning and Community Development, who outlined a process under which you have facilitated negotiations by coordinating discussions with the various County departments. Your assistance in implementing this process for the negotiation of our agreements would be helpful and appreciated.

The reaffirmation of our Tribe's federally recognized status provides a unique opportunity for the County and Tribe to identify and address topics of mutual interest and concern to our respective governments. We look forward to working with you, the Board of Supervisors, and others in the County as we embark on the next phase of our journey together.

Sincerely.

Kathryn Montes Morgan

Tribal Chairwoman

cc: Ms. Lorelei H. Oviatt, Director, Planning and Community Development Department



or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A person or party who wishes to protest against this survey must file a written notice with the Oregon State Director, Bureau of Land Management, stating that they wish to protest. A statement of reasons for a protest may be filed with the notice of protest and must be filed with the Oregon State Director within thirty days after the protest is filed. If a protest against the survey is received prior to the date of official filing, the filing will be stayed pending consideration of the protest. A plat will not be officially filed until the day after all protests have been dismissed or otherwise resolved. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Mary J.M. Hartel,

Chief Cadastral Surveyor of Oregon/ Washington.

[FR Doc. 2015-00413 Filed 1-13-15; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNV952000 L14400000.BJ0000 LXSSF2210000.241A; 13-08807; MO# 4500075689; TAS: 15X1109]

Filing of Plats of Survey; NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to inform the public and interested State and local government officials of the filing of Plats of Survey in Nevada.

DATES: Effective Dates: Unless otherwise stated filing is effective at 10:00 a.m. on the dates indicated below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael O. Harmening, Chief, Branch of Geographic Sciences, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV 89502–7147, phone: 775–861–6490. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above

individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The Plat of Survey of the following described lands was officially filed at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on October 14, 2014:

The plat, in 1 sheet, representing the dependent resurvey of the east boundary, a portion of the west boundary, the north boundary and a portion of the subdivisional lines, Township 26 North, Range 49 East, Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, under Group No. 919, was accepted October 10, 2014. This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management.

2. The Plat of Survey of the following described lands was officially filed at the BLM Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on December 19, 2014:

The plat, in 2 sheets, representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the east boundary and a portion of the subdivisional lines, and a metes-and-bounds survey in section 13, Township 15 North, Range 64 East, of the Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, under Group No. 927, was accepted December 17, 2014. This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management.

3. The Plat of Survey of the following described lands was officially filed at the BLM Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on December 19, 2014:

The plat, in 4 sheets, representing the dependent resurvey of the Third Standard Parallel North through a portion of Range 65 East, a portion of the west boundary and a portion of the subdivisional lines, and the corrective dependent resurvey of a portion of the subdivisional lines, the subdivision of section 7, and metes-and-bounds surveys in sections 3, 7 and 18, Township 15 North, Range 65 East, of the Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada. under Group No. 927, was accepted December 17, 2014. This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management.

4. The Plat of Survey of the following described lands was officially filed at the BLM Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on November 7, 2014:

The plat, in 6 sheets, representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the south and west boundaries, a portion of the subdivisional lines and a portion of the subdivision of section 18, and a

metes-and-bounds survey of a line 30 feet easterly and parallel with the apparent centerline of a portion of Cave Valley road, through sections 18, 19, 30 and 31, and a metes-and-bounds survey of a line 30 feet southerly and parallel with the apparent centerline of an unimproved dirt road and a portion of the westerly right-of-way line of Highway Nos. 6, 50 and 93, through a portion of section 34, Township 15 North, Range 64 East, of the Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, under Group No. 928, was accepted October 31, 2014. This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management to affect the transfer of Federal Lands to the State of Nevada, as directed by Public Law 109-432.

5. The Plat of Survey of the following described lands was officially filed at the BLM Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on November 7, 2014:

The plat, in 1 sheet, representing the dependent resurvey of the First Standard Parallel North through a portion of Range 40 East, as portion of the subdivisional lines and a portion of Mineral Survey No. 4414, Township 6 North, Range 40 East, of the Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, under Group No. 932, was accepted November 5, 2014. This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management.

The surveys listed above are now the basic record for describing the lands for all authorized purposes. These records have been placed in the open files in the BLM Nevada State Office and are available to the public as a matter of information. Copies of the surveys and related field notes may be furnished to the public upon payment of the appropriate fees.

Dated: January 6, 2015.

Michael O. Harmening,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Nevada.

[FR Doc. 2015–00426 Filed 1–13–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[145A2100DD/A0T500000.000000/ AAK3000000]

Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes the current list of 566 tribal entities

recognized and eligible for funding and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs by virtue of their status as Indian tribes. The list is updated from the notice published on January 29, 2014 (79 FR 4748).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Laurel Iron Cloud, Bureau of Indian
Affairs, Division of Tribal Government
Services, Mail Stop 4513—MIB, 1849 C
Street NW., Washington, DC 20240.
Telephone number: (202) 513—7641.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This
notice is published pursuant to Section
104 of the Act of November 2, 1994
(Pub. L. 103—454; 108 Stat. 4791, 4792),
and in exercise of authority delegated to
the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs
under 25 U.S.C. 2 and 9 and 209 DM 8.
Published below is a list of federally

Published below is a list of federally acknowledged tribes in the contiguous 48 states and Alaska.

Amendments to the list include name changes and name corrections. To aid in identifying tribal name changes and corrections, the tribe's previously listed or former name is included in parentheses after the correct current tribal name. We will continue to list the tribe's former or previously listed name for several years before dropping the former or previously listed name from the list.

The listed Indian entities are acknowledged to have the immunities and privileges available to federally recognized Indian tribes by virtue of their government-to-government relationship with the United States as well as the responsibilities, powers, limitations and obligations of such tribes. We have continued the practice of listing the Alaska Native entities separately solely for the purpose of facilitating identification of them and reference to them given the large number of complex Native names.

Dated: January 8, 2015.

Kevin K. Washburn,

Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs.

INDIAN TRIBAL ENTITIES WITHIN THE CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES RECOGNIZED AND ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SERVICES FROM THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation, California

Ak Chin Indian Community of the Maricopa (Ak Chin) Indian Reservation, Arizona

Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas (previously listed as the Alabama-Coushatta Tribes of Texas) Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town Alturas Indian Rancheria, California Apache Tribe of Oklahoma Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming

Aroostook Band of Micmacs (previously listed as the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians)

Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, California (previously listed as the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians of the Augustine Reservation)

Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the Bad River Reservation, Wisconsin

Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, California

Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California

Big Lagoon Rancheria, California
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens
Valley (previously listed as the Big
Pine Band of Owens Valley Paiute
Shoshone Indians of the Big Pine
Reservation, California)

Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California (previously listed as the Big Sandy Rancheria of Mono Indians of California)

Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria, California

Bishop Paiute Tribe (previously listed as the Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Bishop Community of the Bishop Colony, California)

Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana

Blue Lake Rancheria, California Bridgeport Indian Colony (previously listed as the Bridgeport Paiute Indian Colony of California)

Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California

Burns Paiute Tribe (previously listed as the Burns Paiute Tribe of the Burns Paiute Indian Colony of Oregon)

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, California

Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community of the Colusa Rancheria, California

Caddo Nation of Oklahoma Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians of the Cahuilla Reservation, California

California Valley Miwok Tribe, California

Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Campo Indian Reservation, California

Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno
Mission Indians of California: (Barona
Group of Capitan Grande Band of
Mission Indians of the Barona
Reservation, California; Viejas (Baron
Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band

of Mission Indians of the Viejas Reservation, California) Catawba Indian Nation (aka Catawba Tribe of South Carolina) Cayuga Nation

Cedarville Rancheria, California Chemehuevi Indian Tribe of the Chemehuevi Reservation, California Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, California

Cherokee Nation

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma (previously listed as the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma)

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, South Dakota

Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California

Chippewa Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, Montana (previously listed as the Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, Montana)

Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California

Cocopah Tribe of Arizona
Coeur D'Alene Tribe (previously listed
as the Coeur D'Alene Tribe of the
Coeur D'Alene Reservation, Idaho)
Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians
of California

Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona and California

Comanche Nation, Oklahoma Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon (previously listed as the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Reservation)

Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, Nevada and Utah Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (previously listed as the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Oregon)

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon Coquille Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Coquille Tribe of Oregon) Cortina Indian Rancheria (previously listed as the Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians of California)

Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians (previously listed as the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians of Oregon)

Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, South Dakota Crow Tribe of Montana

Death Valley Timbi-sha Shoshone Tribe (previously listed as the Death Valley Timbi-Sha Shoshone Band of California)

Delaware Nation, Oklahoma Delaware Tribe of Indians

Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, California (previously listed as the Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California)

Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation, Nevada Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria, California

Elk Valley Rancheria, California Ely Shoshone Tribe of Nevada Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California

Ewiiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians, California

Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, California

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota

Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin

Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana Fort Bidwell Indian Community of the Fort Bidwell Reservation of California

Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Reservation, California

Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone
Tribes of the Fort McDermitt Indian
Reservation, Nevada and Oregon
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Arizona

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Arizona, California & Nevada Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma

Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Indian Reservation, Arizona Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and

Chippewa Indians, Michigan Greenville Rancheria (previously listed as the Greenville Rancheria of Maidu

Indians of California) Grindstone Indian Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians of California

Guidiville Rancheria of California Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, California

Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan

Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation, Arizona Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin
Hoh Indian Tribe (previously listed as
the Hoh Indian Tribe of the Hoh
Indian Reservation, Washington)
Hoopa Valley Tribe, California
Hopi Tribe of Arizona

Hopland Band of Pomo Indians, California (formerly Hopland Band of Pomo Indians of the Hopland Rancheria, California)

Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians Hualapai Indian Tribe of the Hualapai Indian Reservation, Arizona

Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, California (previously listed as the Santa Ysabel Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Santa Ysabel Reservation)

Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation, California

Ione Band of Miwok Indians of California

Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians (previously listed as the Jackson Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California)

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Jamul Indian Village of California
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
Jicarilla Apache Nation, New Mexico
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the
Kaibab Indian Reservation, Arizona
Kalispel Indian Community of the
Kalispel Reservation

Karuk Tribe (previously listed as the Karuk Tribe of California)

Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria, California Kaw Nation, Oklahoma

Kewa Pueblo, New Mexico (previously listed as the Pueblo of Santo Domingo)

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Michigan

Kialegee Tribal Town Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma Klamath Tribes

Koi Nation of Northern California (previously listed as the Lower Lake Rancheria, California) Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians,
California (previously listed as the La
Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians
of the La Jolla Reservation)

La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the La Posta Indian Reservation, California

Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation of Wisconsin Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Michigan Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians of the

Las Vegas Indian Colony, Nevada Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Michigan

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe (previously listed as the Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Lone Pine Community of the Lone Pine Reservation, California)

Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians, California (previously listed as the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians of the Los Coyotes Reservation)

Lovelock Painte Tribe of the Lovelock Indian Colony, Nevada

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, South Dakota Lower Elwha Tribal Community

(previously listed as the Lower Elwha Tribal Community of the Lower Elwha Reservation, Washington)

Elwha Reservation, Washington)
Lower Sioux Indian Community in the
State of Minnesota

Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation Lytton Rancheria of California Makah Indian Tribe of the Makah Indian

Makah Indian Tribe of the Makah Ind Reservation

Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester Rancheria, California (previously listed as the Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester-Point Arena Rancheria, California)

Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Manzanita Reservation, California

Mashantucket Pequot Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut)

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (previously listed as the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Tribal Council, Inc.)

Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Mesa Grande Reservation, California

Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation, New Mexico Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Miccosukee Tribe of Indians

Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota (Six component reservations: Bois Forte Band (Nett Lake); Fond du Lac Band; Grand Portage Band; Leech Lake Band; Mille Lacs Band; White Earth Band)

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, Nevada

Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut (previously listed as Mohegan Indian Tribe of Connecticut) Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California

Morongo Band of Mission Indians, California (previously listed as the Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians of the Morongo Reservation)

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe of the Muckleshoot Reservation, Washington)

Narragansett Indian Tribe Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah

Nez Perce Tribe (previously listed as the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho)

Nisqually Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Nisqually Indian Tribe of the Nisqually Reservation, Washington)

Nooksack Indian Tribe Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Montana

Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California

Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation (previously listed as the Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation of Utah (Washakie)

Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Michigan (previously listed as the Huron Potawatomi, Inc.)

Oglala Sioux Tribe (previously listed as the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota)

Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico (previously listed as the Pueblo of San Juan)

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Oneida Nation of New York
Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
Onondaga Nation
Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians,
Oklahoma

Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar Band
of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes,
Koosharem Band of Paiutes, Indian
Peaks Band of Paiutes, and Shivwits
Band of Paiutes) (formerly Paiute
Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar City Band
of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes,
Koosharem Band of Paiutes, Indian
Peaks Band of Paiutes, and Shivwits
Band of Paiutes))

Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation and Colony, Nevada Pala Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pala Reservation, California Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians of California Passamaquoddy Tribe Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma & Yuima Reservation, California

Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation, California

Penobscot Nation (previously listed as the Penobscot Tribe of Maine) Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi

Indians of California Pinoleville Pomo Nation, California

(previously listed as the Pinoleville Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California)

Pit River Tribe, California (includes XL Ranch, Big Bend, Likely, Lookout, Montgomery Creek and Roaring Creek Rancherias)

Poarch Band of Creeks (previously listed as the Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama)

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians,
Michigan and Indiana

Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (previously listed as the Port Gamble Band of S'Klallam Indians)

Potter Valley Tribe, California Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (previously listed as the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, Kansas) Prairie Island Indian Community in the

State of Minnesota Pueblo of Acoma, New Mexico Pueblo of Cochiti, New Mexico Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico

Pueblo of Jemez, New Mexico Pueblo of Laguna, New Mexico Pueblo of Nambe, New Mexico Pueblo of Picuris, New Mexico

Pueblo of Pojoaque, New Mexico Pueblo of San Felipe, New Mexico Pueblo of San Ildefonso, New Mexico Pueblo of Sandia, New Mexico

Pueblo of Santa Ana, New Mexico Pueblo of Santa Clara, New Mexico Pueblo of Taos, New Mexico Pueblo of Tesuque, New Mexico

Pueblo of Zia, New Mexico Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nevada Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation of California

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, California & Arizona Quileute Tribe of the Quileute

Reservation
Quinault Indian Nation (previously
listed as the Quinault Tribe of the
Quinault Reservation, Washington)

Ramona Band of Cahuilla, California (previously listed as the Ramona Band or Village of Cahuilla Mission Indians of California) Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota

Redding Rancheria, California
Redwood Valley or Little River Band of
Pomo Indians of the Redwood Valley
Rancheria California (previously
listed as the Redwood Valley
Rancheria of Pomo Indians of
California)

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Nevada Resighini Rancheria, California Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Rincon Reservation, California

Robinson Rancheria (previously listed as the Robinson Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, California and the Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California)

Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud
Indian Reservation, South Dakota
Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round
Valley Reservation, California
(previously listed as the Round Valley
Indian Tribes of the Round Valley
Reservation, California)

Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska

Sac & Fox Nation, Oklahoma Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (previously listed as the St. Regis Band of Mohawk Indians of New York) Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community of the Salt River

Reservation, Arizona
Samish Indian Nation (previously listed

as the Samish Indian Tribe, Washington) San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San

Carlos Reservation, Arizona San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe of Arizona San Manuel Band of Mission Indians,

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians,
California (previously listed as the
San Manual Band of Serrano Mission
Indians of the San Manual
Reservation)

San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, California (previously listed as the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians of the Santa Rosa Reservation)

Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria, California Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians of the Santa Ynez

Reservation, California Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa

Indians, Michigan Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California Seminole Tribe of Florida (previously listed as the Seminole Tribe of Florida (Dania, Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood & Tampa Reservations))
Seneca Nation of Indians (previously listed as the Seneca Nation of New York)
Seneca-Cayuga Nation (previously listed as the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma)
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sigur

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota Shawnee Tribe

Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract), California

Shinnecock Indian Nation
Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe of the
Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation
(previously listed as the Shoalwater
Bay Tribe of the Shoalwater Bay
Indian Reservation, Washington)
Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River

Reservation, Wyoming Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation, Nevada Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake

Traverse Reservation, South Dakota Skokomish Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Skokomish Indian Tribe of the Skokomish Reservation, Washington)

Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians of Utah

Smith River Rancheria, California Snoqualmie Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Snoqualmie Tribe, Washington)

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, California

Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin

Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation, Colorado Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation

Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation

St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians of Washington (previously listed as the Stillaguamish Tribe of Washington) Stockbridge Munsee Community,

Wisconsin

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe of Nevada Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation

Susanville Indian Rancheria, California Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (previously listed as the Swinomish Indians of the Swinomish Reservation of Washington) Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation Table Mountain Rancheria of California Tejon Indian Tribe

Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Four constituent bands: Battle Mountain Band; Elko Band; South Fork Band and Wells Band)

The Chickasaw Nation
The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
The Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation
The Osage Nation (previously listed as
the Osage Tribe)

The Quapaw Tribe of Indians
The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort

Berthold Reservation, North Dakota Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona Tonawanda Band of Seneca (previously listed as the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians of New York) Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Tonto Apache Tribe of Arizona Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, California (previously listed as the

Torres-Martinez Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians of California) Tulalip Tribes of Washington (previously listed as the Tulalip

(previously listed as the Tulalip Tribes of the Tulalip Reservation, Washington)

Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation, California Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria of California

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota Tuscarora Nation

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma

Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota Upper Skagit Indian Tribe

Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah

Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation, Colorado, New Mexico & Utah

Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe of the Benton Paiute Reservation, California Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation, Nevada

Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California (Carson Colony, Dresslerville Colony, Woodfords Community, Stewart Community, & Washoe Ranches)

White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie), Oklahoma Wilton Rencheria, California
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada
Wiyot Tribe, California (previously
listed as the Table Bluff Reservation—
Wiyot Tribe)

Wyandotte Nation

Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation, Arizona

Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe (previously listed as the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe of the Yavapai Reservation, Arizona)

Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony & Campbell Ranch, Nevada Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, California (previously listed as the Rumsey Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians

of California) Yomba Shoshone Tribe of the Yomba Reservation, Nevada

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (previously listed as the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo of Texas) Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation,

California Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation, New Mexico

NATIVE ENTITIES WITHIN THE STATE OF ALASKA RECOGNIZED AND ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SERVICES FROM THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove Akiachak Native Community Akiak Native Community Alatna Village Algaaciq Native Village (St. Mary's) Allakaket Village Angoon Community Association Anvik Village Arctic Village (See Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government) Asa'carsarmiut Tribe Atqasuk Village (Atkasook) Beaver Village Birch Creek Tribe

Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes Chalkyitsik Village Cheesh-Na Tribe (previously listed as

the Native Village of Chistochina)
Chevak Native Village
Chickaloon Native Village

Chignik Bay Tribal Council (previously listed as the Native Village of Chignik) Chignik Lake Village

Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan)
Chilkoot Indian Association (Haines)
Chinik Eskimo Community (Golovin)
Chuloonawick Native Village
Circle Native Community

Craig Tribal Association (previously listed as the Craig Community Association)

Curyung Tribal Council Douglas Indian Association

Egegik Village Eklutna Native VillageEmmonak Village Evansville Village (aka Bettles Field) Galena Village (aka Louden Village) Gulkana Village Healy Lake Village Holy Cross Village Hoonah Indian Association Hughes Village Huslia Village Hydaburg Cooperative Association Igiugig Village Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope Iqurmuit Traditional Council Ivanoff Bay Village Kaguyak Village Kaktovik Village (aka Barter Island) Kasigluk Traditional Elders Council Kenaitze Indian Tribe Ketchikan Indian Corporation King Island Native Community King Salmon Tribe Klawock Cooperative Association Knik Tribe Kokhanok Village Koyukuk Native Village Levelock Village Lime Village Manley Hot Springs Village Manokotak Village McGrath Native Village Mentasta Traditional Council Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve Naknek Native Village Native Village of Afognak Native Village of Akhiok Native Village of Akutan Native Village of Aleknagik Native Village of Ambler Native Village of Atka Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government Native Village of Belkofski Native Village of Brevig Mission Native Village of Buckland Native Village of Cantwell Native Village of Chenega (aka Chanega) Native Village of Chignik Lagoon Native Village of Chitina Native Village of Chuathbaluk (Russian Mission, Kuskokwim) Native Village of Council Native Village of Deering Native Village of Diomede (aka Inalik) Native Village of Eagle Native Village of Eek Native Village of Ekuk Native Village of Ekwok (previously listed as Ekwok Village) Native Village of Elim Native Village of Eyak (Cordova) Native Village of False Pass Native Village of Fort Yukon Native Village of Gakona Native Village of Gambell Native Village of Georgetown

Native Village of Goodnews Bay

Native Village of Hamilton

Native Village of Hooper Bay Native Village of Kanatak Native Village of Karluk Native Village of Kiana Native Village of Kipnuk Native Village of Kivalina Native Village of Kluti Kaah (aka Copper Native Village of Kobuk Native Village of Kongiganak Native Village of Kotzebue Native Village of Koyuk Native Village of Kwigillingok Native Village of Kwinhagak (aka Quinhagak) Native Village of Larsen Bay Native Village of Marshall (aka Fortuna Ledge) Native Village of Mary's Igloo Native Village of Mekoryuk Native Village of Minto Native Village of Nanwalek (aka English Native Village of Napaimute Native Village of Napakiak Native Village of Napaskiak Native Village of Nelson Lagoon Native Village of Nightmute Native Village of Nikolski Native Village of Noatak Native Village of Nuiqsut (aka Nooiksut) Native Village of Nunam Iqua (previously listed as the Native Village of Sheldon's Point) Native Village of Nunapitchuk Native Village of Old Harbor (previously listed as Village of Old Harbor) Native Village of Ouzinkie Native Village of Paimiut Native Village of Perryville Native Village of Pilot Point Native Village of Pitka's Point Native Village of Point Hope Native Village of Point Lay Native Village of Port Graham Native Village of Port Heiden Native Village of Port Lions Native Village of Ruby Native Village of Saint Michael Native Village of Savoonga Native Village of Scammon Bay Native Village of Selawik Native Village of Shaktoolik Native Village of Shishmaref Native Village of Shungnak Native Village of Stevens Native Village of Tanacross Native Village of Tanana Native Village of Tatitlek Native Village of Tazlina Native Village of Teller Native Village of Tetlin Native Village of Tuntutuliak Native Village of Tununak Native Village of Tyonek Native Village of Unalakleet Native Village of Unga Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government (Arctic Village and Village of Venetie)

Native Village of Wales Native Village of White Mountain Nenana Native Association New Koliganek Village Council New Stuyahok Village Newhalen Village Newtok Village Nikolai Village Ninilchik Village Nome Eskimo Community Nondalton Village Noorvik Native Community Northway Village Nulato Village Nunakauyarmiut Tribe Organized Village of Grayling (aka Holikachuk) Organized Village of Kake Organized Village of Kasaan Organized Village of Kwethluk Organized Village of Saxman Orutsararmiut Traditional Native Council (previously listed as Orutsararmuit Native Village (aka Oscarville Traditional Village Pauloff Harbor Village Pedro Bay Village Petersburg Indian Association Pilot Station Traditional Village Platinum Traditional Village Portage Creek Village (aka Ohgsenakale) Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point Village Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska Rampart Village Saint George Island (See Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands) Saint Paul Island (See Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands) Seldovia Village Tribe Shageluk Native Village Sitka Tribe of Alaska Skagway Village South Naknek Village Stebbins Community Association Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak (previously listed as the Shoonaq' Tribe of Kodiak) Takotna Village Tangirnaq Native Village (formerly Lesnoi Village (aka Woody Island)) Telida Village Traditional Village of Togiak Tuluksak Native Community Twin Hills Village Ugashik Village Umkumiut Native Village (previously listed as Umkumiute Native Village) Village of Alakanuk Village of Anaktuvuk Pass Village of Aniak Village of Atmautluak Village of Bill Moore's Slough Village of Chefornak

Village of Clarks Point

Village of Crooked Creek

Village of Dot Lake

Village of Iliamna Village of Kalskag

Village of Kaltag Village of Kotlik

Village of Lower Kalskag

Village of Ohogamiut

Village of Old Harbor

Village of Red Devil

Village of Salamatoff

Village of Sleetmute

Village of Solomon

Village of Stony River

Village of Venetie (See Native Village of

Venetie Tribal Government)

Village of Wainwright

Wrangell Cooperative Association Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

Yupiit of Andreafski

[FR Doc. 2015-00509 Filed 1-13-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-4J-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management [LLCA930; CACA 032220]

Notice of Application for Withdrawal **Extension and Opportunity for Public** Meeting, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Forest Service (USFS) has filed an application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting that the Secretary of the Interior extend the duration of the withdrawal created by Public Land Order (PLO) No. 7179 for an additional 20-year term. PLO No. 7179 withdrew 45 acres of National Forest System land from location and entry under the United States mining laws, but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, to protect the seismic integrity of the University of California—Berkeley Seismic Observatory located in Siskiyou County, California. The withdrawal created by PLO No. 7179 will expire on January 24, 2016, unless extended. This notice provides an opportunity to comment on the withdrawal extension application and to request a public

DATES: Comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by April 14, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments and requests for a public meeting must be sent to the California State Director, Bureau of Land Management, 2800 Cottage Way, W-1928, Sacramento, CA 95814.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Easley, BLM California State Office, 916-978-4673 or David Betz, Klamath National Forest Headquarters, 530-842-6131, during regular business hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USFS has filed an application requesting that the Secretary of the Interior extend PLO No. 7179 (61 FR 2137, January 25, 1996), which withdrew 45 acres of land in the Klamath National Forest, Siskiyou County, California, from location and entry under the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, for an additional 20-year term, subject to valid existing rights. PLO No. 7179 is incorporated herein by reference.

The purpose of the withdrawal is to protect the seismic integrity of a University of California—Berkeley Seismic Observatory.

The use of a right-of-way, interagency agreement, or cooperative agreement would not adequately constrain nondiscretionary uses and would not provide adequate protection for the improvements located on the lands.

There are no suitable alternative sites with equal or greater benefit to the government.

No water rights are required to fulfill the purpose of the requested withdrawal extension.

Records relating to the application may be examined by contacting the BLM-California State Office, Public Room at the above address.

For a period until April 14, 2015, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension may present their views in writing to the BLM California State Office at the address listed above. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment-including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. If you are submitting comments as an individual you may request confidentiality by asking us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information

from public review; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Notice is also hereby given that the opportunity for a public meeting is afforded in connection with the withdrawal extension application. All interested parties who desire a public meeting on the withdrawal extension application must submit a written request to BLM California State Office at the address listed above by April 14, 2015. If it is determined that a public meeting will be held, a notice will be published to announce the time and place in the Federal Register and a local newspaper at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

This withdrawal extension proposal will be processed in accordance with the applicable regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.4.

Authority: 43 CFR 2310.3-1.

Sandra McGinnis,

Acting Associate Deputy State Director, Natural Resources.

[FR Doc. 2015-00420 Filed 1-13-15; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

ILLNVL01000.L14300000.EU0000 LXSS122F0000 241A; N-87866; 12-08807; MO#4500066682;TAS: 14X5232]

Notice of Realty Action: Competitive Sale of Public Lands (N-87866) in White Pine County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to offer by competitive sale, a 38.02-acre parcel of public land in White Pine County, NV, at no less than the appraised fair market value (FMV) of \$135,000. The sale will be subject to the applicable provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, and applicable BLM land sale regulations.

DATES: Interested parties may submit written comments to the BLM at the address below. The BLM must receive your comments on or before March 2, 2015. The oral auction will be held on April 1, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., Pacific Standard Time at the Ely District Office, 702 North Industrial Way, Ely, NV 89301.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments concerning the proposed sale to the BLM Ely District Office, HC 33 Box

Chairman David Couch and Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors Of Kern County

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Stand Up For California! "Citizens making a difference"

www.standupca.org

P. O. Box 355 Penryn, CA. 95663

May 5, 2015

Chairman David Couch
Honorable Members of the Kern County
Board of Supervisor
1115 Truxtun Ave.
Bakersfield, CA. 92201-4636

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Сор	ies.Furnished Each Supervisor And CAO
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Filed	i by BD Supv 5-(2-15
	KATHLEEN KRAUSE
	Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Ву	J. Codis

RE: Historic Tejon Tribe of Kern County

Dear Chairman Couch and Honorable Members of the Board,

On behalf of Stand Up For California! ("Stand Up")¹, I want to raise a number of issues with Kern County regarding the Tejon Indian Tribe's proposed casino development near Mettler, California. In late October 2014, Stand Up sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors which I have attached for your convenience.² Since that time, we have learned more about the Tribe's proposal and thought it appropriate to provide the County with an update.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs ("BIA") released a number of documents under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), including a request from the Tejon Tribe seeking an Indian Lands Opinion from the Office of Indian Gaming Management.³ The Tribe's request is accompanied by a 219-page narrative explaining why the Tribe believes the Mettler property is located within the Tribe's "last recognized reservation." Such a determination would be highly significant to the County and the surrounding community, as it would mean that the land

¹ Stand Up is a nonprofit public corporation that focuses on gambling issues affecting California including tribal gaming. Our organization has been involved in the ongoing debate of issues raised by gaming and its impacts since 1996 and is recognized as an important informational resource for local, state and federal policy makers on gaming issues.

² See TAB #3 - Letter to Kern County Board of Supervisors, dated October 2014

³ See TAB #1 - Tejon Tribe Request for Indian Lands Opinion and Map of Mettler Property, May 5, 2014

Kern County PCDD RECEIVED

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Chairman David Couch and Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors Of Kern County

qualifies for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. § 2719 (a)(2)(B)("IGRA")) without additional process being required. Such a decision would severely limit the options of the Kern County Board of Supervisors.

While Stand Up is not opposed to gaming on eligible Indian lands, we are opposed to any effort to circumvent applicable regulatory processes, especially when such efforts are—by design—intended to reduce or eliminate the power of elected officials to protect the very people that elected them to office. Accordingly, Stand Up has sent a letter to the Honorable Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs and to the Office of Indian Gaming addressing various legal errors with the Tribe's arguments. The key problem with the Tribe's arguments is that the Mettler property is not within the Tribe's "last recognized reservation" which means that BIA must process the Tribe's application pursuant to IGRA's two-part determination process (25 U.S.C. § 2719 (b)(1)(A)). This process gives greater weight to the comments and actions of the County Supervisors by requiring the Secretary to determine that the casino project will not be detrimental to the surrounding community.

The County should also consider other unusual aspects of this request and the changing landscape in the County. The Tribe was "reaffirmed" in 2012. "Reaffirmation" is not a process provided for by federal statute or regulation, and as a consequence, BIA's reaffirmation of the Tribe is legally questionable and creates other problems. For example, IGRA's exceptions to the prohibition against gaming on newly acquired lands do not apply to "reaffirmed" tribes—only newly acknowledged or restored tribes. See 25 C.F.R. Part 292. Because "reaffirmation" is an extra-legal process, at best, the Tejon do not qualify for the normal exceptions to the gaming prohibition.

Stand Up will continue to provide additional information regarding the Tejon Tribe's request and subsequent fee-to-trust application as it becomes available. If you have any additional questions please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Schmit, Director Stand Up For California

916 663 3207

cherylschmit@att.net

⁴ See-TAB #2 letter dated April 7, 2015 to Honorable Kevin Washburn Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs and the Office of Indian Gaming

Chairman David Couch and Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors Of Kern County

CC:

Lorelei H. Oviatt AICP, Director Theresa Goldner, County Counsel J. Nilon, CAO Jim Fitch, Tax Assessor

planning@co.kern.ca.us tgoldner@co.kern.ca.us jnilon@co.kern.ca.us assessor@co.kern.ca.us

Attachments:

TAB #1:

Letter dated May 5, 2014 addressed to Paul Hart, Office of Indian Gaming Management and Map providing location of proposed property for initial reservation.

TAB # 2:

Letter dated April 7, 2015 addressed to Honorable Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary Indian Affairs and Paul Hart, Director Office of Indian Gaming commenting on the Tejon Tribe's request for and Indian Lands Opinion

TAR #3-

Letter dated October 28, 2014 addressed to Chairwoman Perez and Kern County Board of Supervisors





Paula Hart, Director Office of Indian Gaming Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240

May 5, 2014

Re: Tejon Tribe Request for Indian Lands Opinion

Dear Ms. Hart:

On behalf of the Tejon Indian Tribe, I submit the enclosed request for an Indian lands opinion in accordance with 25 C.F.R. § 292.3(b). The subject of the request is the Mettler property, Kern County, California. The Mettler property is located in close proximity to Tribe's office, the majority of tribal members, and within the Tribe's last reservation. As such, the Mettler qualifies for gaming under 25 U.S.C. § 2719(a)(2)(B).

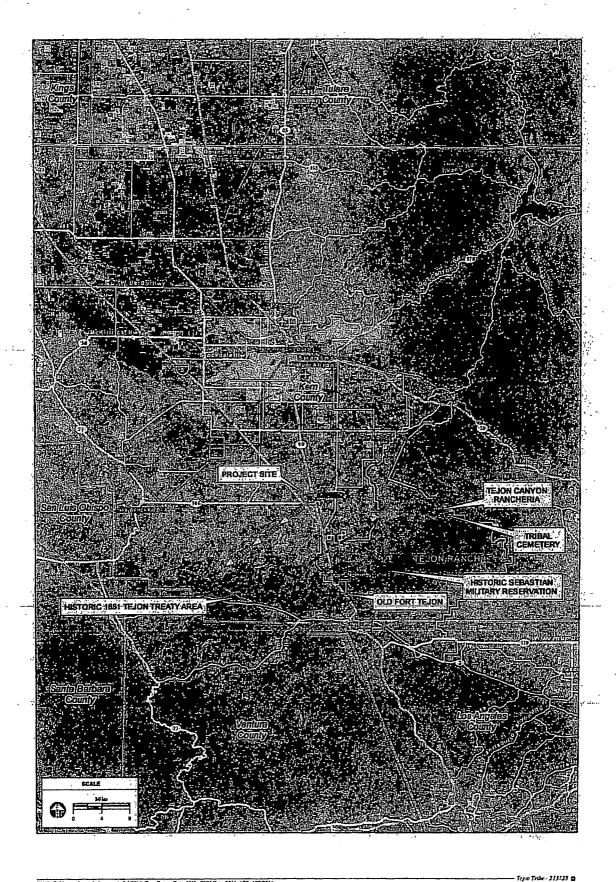
The enclosed consists of a narrative demonstration of the Mettler property as the Tribe's last reservation and supporting historical documents. Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Tribe's attorneys, Arlinda Locklear and Kevin Wadzinski. My contact number is above and the Tribe's lawyers' numbers are (202) 237-0933 and (202) 872-6745, respectively, We look forward to working with your office on this request.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Morgan, Chairwoman

Tejon Indian Tribe

cc: Kevin Washburn, AS-IA



PERKINSCOIE

700 13" Street, NW Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005-3960

+1 202 654.6200
 -1 202 654.6211
 perkinscoie.com

April 7, 2015

The Honorable Kevin Washburn Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs MS-3642-MIB 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

Paula Hart, Director Office of Indian Gaming 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 Jennifer A. MacLean JMacLean@perkinscoie.com D. (202) 434-1648 F. (202) 654-9665

Re: Response to the Tejon Tribe Request for Indian Lands Opinion

Dear Mr. Washburn and Ms. Hart:

On behalf of Stand Up for California! ("Stand Up!"), we are responding to arguments made by the Tejon Indian Tribe ("Tribe" or "Tejon") regarding the gaming eligibility of certain property in Mettler, California (the "Mettler Parcels"). On May 5, 2014, the Tribe asked the Department for an opinion determining that the Mettler Parcels qualify for gaming under the "last recognized reservation" exception to the prohibition on off-reservation gaming in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ("IGRA"), 25 C.F.R. § 2719(a)(2)(B).

The Mettler Parcels, however, do not qualify as the Tribe's "last recognized reservation" for three key reasons. First, the land that was set aside by the United States for the use and benefit of the Tejon (and other tribes) is the Tule River Reservation. According to the Department's 2012 "reaffirmation" of the Tejon in 2012, the Tribe's status as a recognized tribe

¹ Stand Up! is a non-profit organization that focuses on gambling issues affecting California, including tribal gaming.

never lapsed; it was only left off the list of recognized tribes due to "administrative oversight." ²

If so, it necessarily follows that the Tribe was not only a recognized tribe when IGRA was enacted in 1988, it also had a reservation, the Tule River Reservation, which was established by Executive Order in 1873 for several tribes, including the Tejon, and is still in existence. The Tribe therefore does not qualify for the "last recognized reservation" exception. In fact, it does not qualify for any off–reservation gaming; the Tribe can conduct gaming on the Tule River Reservation.

Second, the Tribe's arguments regarding the establishment of a reservation in and around Tejon Ranch have been rejected by federal courts on several occasions. The United States did not and could not establish a reserve or reservation at Tejon because the land was in private ownership, subject to Spanish land grants, which were proven in court and for which the United States issued patents. Nor does an unratified treaty—which is a legal nullity—constitute a "recognized reservation."

Third, the United States' effort to set aside land for Indians living on Tejon Ranch was not a "recognized reservation," but in any case, the Mettler Parcels are certainly not located within that area. Accordingly, the Mettler Parcels are not within the boundaries of any possible reservation. The plain language, structure, and legislative history of IGRA confirm that the Mettler Parcels are not the type of lands to which the "last recognized reservation" exception is intended to apply.

² This analysis does not address the legality of the "reaffirmation" of the Tejon Indian Tribe, whether it was proper for the Department to base its decision on its 1916 attempt to set aside land, or whether the current Tejon Indian Tribe can trace back to the signatories of the 1851 "Treaty with the Castake, Texon, etc.," also known as "Treaty D." As the Department is aware, several other groups claim to be the beneficiaries of Treaty D. Because the Department did not comply with 25 C.F.R. Part 83 in reaffirming Tejon, there is substantial controversy regarding membership and lineage to the Indians living in and around Tejon Ranch.

If the Tribe wishes to conduct gaming on the Mettler Parcels, the appropriate avenue is to pursue the "two-part determination" process under 25 U.S.C. § 2719(b)(1)(A). That process will ensure, subject to gubernatorial concurrence, that any gaming on the Mettler Parcels will be in the best interest of the Tribe and its members and will not be detrimental to the surrounding community.

The Mettler Parcels Do Not Qualify for Gaming Under Any Provision of Section 20 of IGRA.

IGRA generally prohibits gaming on lands acquired in trust after 1988, with limited exceptions. 25 U.S.C. § 2719(a). The most commonly invoked exceptions—settlement of a land claim, the initial reservation of a new acknowledged tribe under 25 C.F.R. Part 83, and restored lands of a restored tribe—do not apply to "reaffirmed" tribes. See 25 U.S.C. § 2719(b)(1)(B). Thus, the only other avenues for a gaming eligibility determination are set forth in subsection (a) of Section 20.

Subsection (a) provides, in relevant part, that a tribe can game on newly-acquired lands if "such lands are located within or contiguous to the boundaries of the reservation of the Indian tribe on the date of enactment of this Act," or the lands "are within the Indian tribe's last recognized reservation within the State or States within which such Indian tribe is presently located." *Id.* § 2719(a).

The regulations that implement Section 20 define "reservation" as:

- (1) Land set aside by the United States by final ratified treaty, agreement, Executive Order, Proclamation, Secretarial Order or Federal statute for the tribe, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent;
- (2) Land of Indian colonies and rancherias (including rancherias restored by judicial action) set aside by the United States for the permanent settlement of the Indians as its homeland;

- (3) Land acquired by the United States to reorganize adult Indians pursuant to statute; or
- (4) Land acquired by a tribe through a grant from a sovereign, including pueblo lands, which is subject to a Federal restriction against alienation.

25 C.F.R. § 292.2. The Tribe argues that the "Tejon reservation has traits in common with all four of these categories" but "[i]f it is necessary that the Tribe's reservation qualify under a single category," it meets the requirements of subpart (2). Because the United States neither "set aside" nor "acquired" any land for Tejon reasonably proximate to the Mettler Parcels, there is no basis for concluding that the Parcels are eligible for gaming under "subpart (2)" or any other provision of Section 20. The Mettler Parcels cannot qualify as the Tribe's "last recognized reservation."

A. The only reservation that the United States set aside for Tejon is the Tule River Reservation.

The Department administratively "reaffirmed" the Tejon Tribe in 2012.³ Thus, the Tribe's government-to-government relationship with the United States never lapsed nor was terminated. Accordingly, Tejon was a recognized tribe in 1988.

The Tribe's "last recognized reservation"—and, indeed, its only reservation—is the reservation the United States established for the Tejon, among other bands, in 1873: the Tule River Reservation. In 1864, Congress enacted a statute known as "the Four Reservations Act" authorizing the President to consolidate all the tribes of California into no more than four reservations in the State. Act of April 8, 1864, 13 Stat. 39. All other reservations were abandoned, as a matter of law. One of the four reservations the United States formally

³ See Letter from Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, to Kathryn Montes Morgan, Chairwoman - Tejon Indian Tribe (Jan. 6, 2012) and Memorandum from Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, to Regional Director - Pacific Region and Deputy Director - Office of Indian Services (April 24, 2012) ("2012 Reaffirmation Memorandum"); attached as Exhibits 3 and 4, respectively, of the Tejon's request.

established pursuant to the 1864 Act was the Tule River Reservation, which President Grant established by Executive Order in 1873.

Prior to the passage of the 1864 Act, the United States had begun its effort to relocate the Tejon Indians to the Tule River Reservation. The Tribe, in fact, acknowledges this history. Likewise, the Department states in its decision to reaffirm the Tejon that, "[i]n 1873, the Tule River Reservation was established by executive order for the Tejon (Manche Cajon) and other bands of Indians." 2012 Reaffirmation Memorandum at 4 (emphasis added); see Executive Order of January 9, 1873; I Kapp. 831.4

The Tribe, however, claims that the majority of its members refused to relocate to the Tule River Reservation. Although Charles C. Royce, the authoritative source on tribal land cessions in the United States, states that "[t]he last of the Indians were removed to Tule River, as reported by Superintendent Wiley, July 11, 1864," Tejon insists that Royce's conclusion is incorrect and that many members remained in and around Tejon Ranch. Whether some Indians remained near Tejon, however, is irrelevant. Pursuant to Part 292, what is legally significant for gaming purposes is what the United States "set aside" or "acquired" for the Tribe. See 25 C.F.R. § 292.2. And what the United States "set aside" or "acquired" for the Tejon Tribe is the Tule River Reservation. See Executive Order of January 9, 1873; see also 2012 Reaffirmation Memorandum at 4 ("In 1873, the Tule River Reservation was established by executive order for the Tejon (Manche Cajon) and other bands of Indians.").

The Tule River Reservation continues in existence to this day. The United States has not disestablished the Reservation, nor revised the Executive Order to change its purpose. That the Indians living on the Tule River Reservation chose to organize in 1935 under the IRA does not

⁴ See also Executive Orders of October 3, 1873 and August 3, 1878 (modifying boundaries).

change the fact that the Tule River Reservation was formally set aside for the Tejon Indians, among others, and therefore constitutes a "recognized reservation" for the Tribe. Under IGRA, if the Tejon were to acquire land on the Tule River Reservation, it could game there without undergoing additional review under IGRA. No other parcels qualify for gaming without undergoing review under 25 U.S.C. § 2719(b)(1)(a).

B. The United States never established a reservation in or around Tejon Ranch.

The history of the land at Tejon Ranch, which has been extensively litigated, clearly establishes that the United States did not—at any point—establish a reservation in or around the Mettler Parcels. See Robinson v. Salazar, 885 F. Supp. 2d 1002, 1020-21 (E.D. Cal. 2012), appeal filed, sub nom. Robinson v. Jewell, No. 12-17151 (9th Cir. Sept. 26, 2012); United States v. Title Insurance & Trust Company, 265 U.S. 472 (1924). Indeed, as is evident from those cases and the Department's files, the United States could not establish a reservation at Tejon because the land was privately owned. As a consequence, the United States established a reservation for the Tejon Indians at the Tule River Reservation in 1864. Tejon's arguments have no legal or factual support.

The United States never formally established a reserve or reservation at Tejon Ranch.

The Tribe claims that the Mettler Parcels are eligible for gaming under the "last recognized reservation" exception because the Parcels are within the boundaries of an area that was to have been reserved for various tribes under the 1851 treaty, commonly referred to as Treaty D. The United States negotiated Treaty D with the historical "Texon" tribe, among others. Treaty D, and 17 other similar treaties negotiated at approximately the same time, were never ratified. *Indians of California by Webb v. United States*, 98 Ct. Cl. 583, 598 (1942). An

unratified treaty has no legal effect. See Robinson v. Salazar, 885 F. Supp. 2d at 1020-21. Thus, whatever area was encompassed within Treaty D is irrelevant because the United States did not and could not, as a matter of law, "set aside" or "acquire" any land pursuant to an unratified treaty.

The Tribe also argues that Edward Beale, the federal Superintendent of Indian Affairs for California in the early 1850s, established the "Tejon reservation" under the Act of March 3, 1853 (10 Stat. 226, 238) ("1853 Act"). The 1853 Act authorized the President to set aside five military reservations from the public domain, up to 25,000 acres each, for Indian purposes in California. Beale did identify an area within Tejon Ranch that he attempted to set aside as the Tejon or Sebastian Reserve. Scattered Indian bands, including apparently the Tejon, moved onto the site between 1853 through 1864. The land, however, was never formally set aside as a reservation by the President as required by the Act. See Robinson, 885 F. Supp. 2d. at 1021-23. There is no legal basis for concluding that the United States "set aside" or "acquired" this land within Tejon Ranch pursuant Treaty D or the 1853 Act.

The United States could not "set aside" or "acquire" land at Tejon Ranch 2. because the land was privately owned.

The United States did not "set aside" land at Tejon Ranch for the Tejon/Sebastian Reserve, as subpart (2) of the Part 292 definition of "reservation" requires, because the land was

establish clear title throughout California, including the public domain. In 1928, the United States compensated the Indians of California for its failure to ratify Treaty D and the 17 other Indian treaties (known as "the 18 unratified treaties"). See Act of May 18, 1928, 45 Stat. 602 (codified at 25 U.S.C. § 652); Indians of California by Webb, 98 Ct. Cl. at 598 ("The failure of Congress to set apart certain reservations for these Indians in 1852, and its failure to provide the goods, chattels, school houses, teachers, etc. was recognized as a loss to these Indians and was made by

the Congress an equitable claim to be paid in money value.").

⁵ In addition to questions about the appointments of the negotiating commissioners and the specific areas of land involved, one of the reasons the 1851 treaties were not ratified was the uncertainty of land rights in California after the United States acquired the territory through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which obligated the United States to honor existing land rights. See Larisa K. Miller, The Secret Treaties With California's Indians, Prologue Magazine at 39 (National Archives, Fall-Winter 2013), available at: http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2013/fall-winter/treaties.pdf. The purpose of the Act of March 3. 1851 was to resolve all existing land rights, including Indian land rights or aboriginal rights of occupancy, and

not in the public domain.⁶ Superintendent Beale recognized from the start that the area he chose for the Tejon/Sebastian Reserve was largely covered by Spanish land grants and proceeded only on the hope that Congress would either purchase the lands if necessary "or remove the Indians to some less suitable locality." 1853 Annual Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs ("ARCIA") at 230. The United States upheld the Spanish land grants and issued patents for the land pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1851 (9 Stat. 631) ("1851 Act"), which Congress enacted to provide clear title to land in California after the United States acquired that territory from Mexico under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Failure to file claims by the deadline set forth in the 1851 Act precludes the assertion of any claim to land, including claims based on aboriginal rights. See Robinson, 885 F. Supp. 2d at 1017-19; see also Robinson v. Salazar, 838 F. Supp. 2d 1006, 1019 (E.D. Cal. 2012), citing Super v. Work, 271 U.S. 643 (1926); Title Insurance & Trust Company, 265 U.S. at 484-86; Barker v. Harvey, 181 U.S. 481, 491 (1901); United States ex rel. Chunie v. Ringrose, 788 F.2d 638, 646 (9th Cir. 1986).

That the United States was aware of the Spanish land grants and that they precluded the establishment of a reserve at Tejon is evident from the 1859 record of J. R. Vineyard, an Indian agent located at the site:

During the time Congress was authorizing the changes referred to [reducing the original, surveyed 50,000 acre extent of the Tejon or Sebastian reservation to 10,000 acres, then increasing it to 25,000 acres, but leaving it unsurveyed], the entire reservation was claimed as private property under a grant from the Mexican government; which claim has been submitted to two of the United States courts in California, and, in both, the decisions have been in favor of the claimants, and adverse to the United States.

⁶ Further, the United States never acquired the lands, nor was it authorized to under the 1853 Act, which provided for the establishment of reservations "out of the public domain" and only appropriated funds for "subsisting the Indians in California and removing them to said reservations[.]"

⁷ Thus, the public domain in California was not defined prior to March 3, 1853, the deadline for filing claims under the 1851 Act, and also the date of the enactment of the 1853 Act authorizing the establishment of reservations "from the public domain in the State of California."

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In consequence of the uncertainty brought about by the above causes, as to what is or is not reserved land, also as to who are the rightful owners of the premises, has induced several white men to settle upon the land embraced within the first survey, and what evidently must belong to the reservation, if such an institution has existence.

1859 ARCIA at 443-44 (emphases added); see also 1862 ARCIA at 325. Although Vineyard erroneously expressed the belief that the Indians had some rights and privileges to the land, he nonetheless acknowledged that the entire reservation was subject to land grants, and these grants were incompatible with the existence of a reservation. The Superintendent ultimately conceded that the patents issued required him to "yield the possession of the property under that title without reserve and on the instant." 1863 ARCIA at 102. The United States officially abandoned efforts to establish the Tejon/Sebastian Reserve by 1864. See also 1864 ARCIA at 118 (all the Indians of the southern district removed to Tule River); 1865 ARCIA at 111 (noting abandonment of reservations in California); 1866 ARCIA at 105 (noting Indian agent report of July 24, 1863, that the Tejon reservation Indians had been removed to Tule River farm).

The 1853 Act only authorized the creation of reservations "from the public domain."

Because the area of the Tejon/Sebastian Reserve was never in the public domain, no reserve was established. Indeed, the Tribe even acknowledges that the United States never established any boundaries, which are necessarily required to establish a reservation. Yet the Tribe does not explain how a 75,000-acre reservation could be established under the 1853 Act, which authorized only 25,000-acre reserves. In fact, Royce notes that the originally surveyed 75,000 acre reserve was ordered reduced to 25,000 acres by the Secretary of the Interior on November 25, 1856, in order to bring it within the limits of the 1853 Act. H.R. Doc. No. 736, 56th Cong.,

⁸ The two National Indian Gaming Commission land opinions cited by the Tribe each involved lands acquired by the United States for the benefit of a tribe, and are therefore inapposite.

1st Sess. 789 (1899). Royce also states that the boundaries of the reduced reserve were never surveyed, but there is no basis for assuming that the area was moved to include Mettler. As is evident from the Tribe's own map (Exhibit A of the Tribe's request), the primary area being considered was at least five miles, and more likely 10–15 miles away, from Mettler.

The United States did not and could not "set aside" or "acquire" land in the area the Tribe identifies because the land was not in the public domain. The fact that boundaries were never surveyed only underscores that fact. None of the area the Tribe identifies can qualify as a "reservation," let alone the Tribe's "last recognized reservation."

C. The only other land the United States set aside for Tejon does not encompass the Mettler Parcels.

The BIA independently raised the question of whether a 1916 withdrawal of land near Tejon would qualify as the Tribe's "last recognized reservation." The Tribe responded that the 1916 withdrawal of public lands for the Tejon Indians, which the United States revoked in 1962, cannot be the Tribe's last recognized reservation because a temporary withdrawal cannot be considered a "reservation." We agree that the 1916 withdrawal does not qualify as Tejon's "last

⁹ While the lack of boundaries alone proves that no reserve existed, the Tribe's arguments regarding the scope of the supposed reservation only underscore the fact that even if one could have been created, the Mettler Parcels still would not have fallen within those boundaries. For example, the Tribe notes that the area it wishes to claim was variously estimated by federal Indian agents as between 10,000 and 50,000 acres, but argues that its geographic scope was far more extensive than the 75,000-acre area identified and mapped by Royce. Although the Tribe argues that there are "informal indications" that the true extent is consistent with the vastly larger area encompassed by the 1851 treaty boundaries, Beale's description of the "broad range of tribes" with whom he met to establish the reservation indicate the area in which those tribes were found, not the area of the reservation on to which they were to be gathered. Similarly, the reliance on "resources found in the mountains and lakes" describes access to offreservation areas; the Superintendent's reports confirm that the Indians were often forced to leave the reservation to provide for themselves when crops failed due to drought and other causes. See, e.g., 1857 ARCIA at 389; 1858 ARCIA at 283; 1861 ARCIA at 143 (describing difficulty in estimating the number of Indians on the Tejon reservation "as many are, no doubt, driven to the mountains in search of those necessaries denied to them on the reserve.") (emphasis added). In any case, those areas are to the south and east, not northwest towards Mettler. The military officers' suggestion that the reservation extends north to the Kern River was just that, a suggestion, and again, would not have extended northwest towards Mettler. The roughly 5,000-acre area occupied by the remaining Tejon Indians that was the subject of the land claim litigation in United States v. Title Insurance & Trust Company, 265 U.S. 472 (1924) is approximately 15-20 miles almost directly due east of Mettler.

recognized reservation," but only because the Tule River Reservation was established for Tejon, among others.

Assuming that Tejon does not have rights in the Tule River Reservation, the 1916 withdrawal satisfies Part 292, contrary to Tejon's argument. The plain language of the Part 292 definition of "reservation" includes "[I]and set aside by the United States by final ratified treaty, agreement, Executive Order, Proclamation, Secretarial Order or Federal statute for the tribe, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent." The 1916 withdrawal plainly satisfies this definition. In promulgating this definition for Part 292 purposes, the Department did not include any temporal limitation. Given that temporal impermanence is necessarily inherent in the last recognized reservation exception (i.e., the exception only applies if a reservation no longer exists), the Department's interpretation is entitled to deference.

Thus, the Tribe's last recognized reservation is either the Tule River Reservation or, if the Tribe claims to have somehow lost its rights to the Tule River Reservation before 1962, the 1916 withdrawal. The Mettler Parcels are not located within the boundaries of either.

D. The only way that the Mettler Parcels could possibly qualify for gaming is pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 2719(b)(a)(A).

Congress enacted IGRA on October 17, 1988 to regulate the inherent right of tribes to conduct gaming on tribal lands—even if contrary to state law—a right recognized by the

¹¹ The Tribe actually does not cite any authority regarding the Part 292 definition of reservation, but only cases regarding whether Indians were due compensation when a withdrawal of lands from the public domain was later revoked (compensation is due for the revocation of a permanent withdrawal, but not a temporary withdrawal). ¹² Departmental Order of Nov. 9, 1916; revoked by Public Land Order No. 2738 (July 27, 1962).

Moreover, if the Tribe's argument that temporary reservations do not qualify has any validity, it would apply equally to the "Tejon reservation" claimed by the Tribe. That area was only administered by the BIA provisionally, with the explicit acknowledgment that the area was likely subject to land grants, and would have to be either purchased by Congress (purchase was not authorized under the 1853 Act), or the Indians moved to some other locality. 1853-ARCIA at 230. Indeed, all claims under the 1851 Act were required to have been filed by March 3, 1853, the same date as the enactment of the 1853 Act. Superintendent Beale did not begin to administer the area of the Tejon/Sebastian Reserve until September 1853, at the earliest, and therefore acted conditionally, pending the outcome of the already-filed claims. Patents under the 1851 Act were eventually issued for the entire area of the Reserve, and by 1864, the Reserve was abandoned.

Supreme Court in California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, 480 U.S. 202 (1987). As a compromise between state and tribal interests, the areas where tribal gaming would be allowed was restricted to the reservations and trust lands existing at the time of IGRA's enactment, with limited exceptions. For tribes without a reservation at the time of enactment, IGRA provides an exception for newly acquired lands within the tribe's "last recognized reservation" in the state(s) where the tribe is located. Let 25 U.S.C. § 2719(a)(2)(B). A similar provision is made for tribes in Oklahoma for lands located within the tribe's "former reservation" or lands "contiguous to other land held in trust or restricted status[.]" Id. § 2719(a)(2)(A). The legislative history of these provisions confirms that the exception is intended to allow tribes who were without reservations in 1988 to game on lands within the areas of their last officially designated reservations:

Subsection (a) makes Indian gaming unlawful on any lands taken into trust by the Secretary of the Interior after the date of enactment of this Act, if such lands are located outside the boundaries of such tribe's reservation. It also provides, however, that for purposes of Oklahoma, where many Indian tribes occupy and hold title to trust lands which are not technically defined as reservations, such tribes may not establish gaming enterprises on lands which are outside the boundaries of such tribes former reservation in Oklahoma, as defined by the Secretary of the Interior, unless such lands are contiguous to lands currently held in trust for such tribes. Functionally, this section treats these Oklahoma tribes the same as all other Indian tribes. This section is necessary, however, because of the unique historical and legal differences between Oklahoma and tribes in other areas. Subsection (a) also applies the same test to the non-Oklahoma tribes whose reservation boundaries have been removed or rendered unclear as a result of federal court decisions, but where such tribe continues to occupy trust land within the boundaries of its last recognized reservation. This section is designed to treat these tribes in the same way they would be treated if they occupied trust land within a recognized reservation. It is not intended to allow a tribe to take land into trust, for the purposes of gaming, on lands which are located outside the state or states in which the tribe has a current and historical presence. These limitations were drafted to clarify that Indian tribes should be prohibited from acquiring land outside their traditional areas for the expressed purpose of establishing gaming enterprises. Congress may, in the future, determine in specific situations that

¹⁴ Assuming the Tribe was validly "reaffirmed" in 2012, and therefore is a tribe whose government-to-government relationship with the federal government had never lapsed or been terminated, the Tribe does not meet the requirement of having no reservation at the time of IGRA's enactment, as the Tule River Reservation continues in existence. The Tribe has not articulated its position regarding its rights to the Tule River Reservation.

equity requires that a specific exemption to this rule be granted. The Committee feels, however, that such exemptions should be carefully considered on a case by case basis.

Sen. Rpt. 99-493, at 10 (emphases added). As this legislative history makes evident, there is a distinction between trust lands and "reservations." This distinction is also evident in the plain language of the Oklahoma provision, which distinguishes between reservations and lands held in trust or restricted status, and applies "the same test" as the non-Oklahoma provision. Thus, consistent with the plain meaning of "recognized," which indicates official or formal acknowledgment, or having official or legal authority, "recognized reservations" are not all lands set aside (even in trust) and administered by the United States for the benefit of Indians. "Recognized reservations" must be "technically defined" as reservations, and they must have clear boundaries. In addition, the exception is intended to treat tribes without reservations the same way as others, by treating trust lands within their "last" recognized reservation the same way as trust lands within an existing recognized reservation. This interpretation is confirmed by the definition in the Part 292 regulations of "former reservation" for the Oklahoma provision: "lands in Oklahoma that are within the exterior boundaries of the last reservation that was established by treaty, Executive Order, or Secretarial Order for an Oklahoma tribe." 25 C.F.R. § 292.2 (emphasis added). As noted in the legislative history, IGRA applies "the same test" to non-Oklahoma tribes. Thus, "last recognized reservation" should similarly be interpreted to mean the last reservation formally established for a tribe by treaty, Executive Order, or Secretarial Order.

The Mettler Parcels fail each of these requirements. As previously described, the "Tejon reservation" was never officially established, and lacked legal authority in any case; and therefore does not qualify as a "technically defined" reservation. The "Tejon reservation" never

had clear boundaries (and any plausible boundaries cannot possibly have encompassed the area of the Mettler Parcels). And even if validly was established, the "Tejon reservation" was not the Tribe's "last" recognized reservation in California.

Finally, the Tribe attempts to side-step the precise definition of "reservation" under Part 292, and the plain meaning of "last recognized reservation" under IGRA, by asserting that the Mettler Parcels meet the "spirit" of the last recognized reservation exception, and concluding that, "[i]n the end, the BIA's literal set aside and administration of the Tejon reservation as such is the most powerful evidence that it qualifies as the Tribe's last reservation. The actions of the BIA must have meaning." The actions of the BIA, however, cannot and do not have meaning when they exceed BIA's authority. It is Congress that authorizes BIA to act within certain parameters. The Tribe may wish that the language of the statute did not preclude its arguments, but it is the law that governs.

Putting aside that BIA did not, and could not have, validly set aside the "Tejon reservation," the Mettler Parcels do not meet the spirit of the last reservation exception. The plain text, structure, and legislative history of IGRA show that the equitable intent of the exception was to allow tribes without reservations to game in the last place in the state where they could have plainly exercised the inherent, sovereign tribal right to conduct gaming without state interference. For the Tejon Indian Tribe, that place is the Tule River Reservation or, possibly, the 1916 withdrawal. It is clearly not a non-existent "Tejon reservation," which would not have encompassed the Mettler Parcels in any case. ¹⁵

¹⁵ The 1916 withdrawal satisfies the intent of the exception, as the Tribe undoubtedly could have exercised its inherent, sovereign right to game on the withdrawn lands until revocation of the withdrawal in 1962. It only fails to be the Tribe's "last" recognized reservation if the Tribe claims it somehow lost its rights to the Tule River Reservation between 1962 and the enactment of IGRA in 1988, which the Tribe has not addressed. (And as previously noted, if the Tribe continued to have rights to the Tule River Reservation in 1988, it does not meet the exception's requirement that the Tribe have had no reservation at the time of IGRA's enactment.)

Conclusion

The Department must reject the Tejon Indian Tribe's request for an Indian lands opinion that the Mettler Parcels are within the Tribe's "last recognized reservation." The "Tejon reservation" claimed by the Tribe was never established as a matter of law, and in any case, the Mettler Parcels are not within the boundaries of the putative reservation. Assuming that the Tribe was validly "reaffirmed" in 2012, and was therefore a recognized tribe at the time of IGRA's enactment, the Tule River Reservation is the Tribe's reservation, and the Tribe does not qualify for any off-reservation gaming exception.

If the Tribe wishes to game on the Mettler Parcels, the only avenue open under IGRA is the two-part determination process under 25 U.S.C. § 2719(b)(1)(a). That process will ensure, subject to the concurrence of the Governor, that any gaming on the Mettler Parcels will be in the best interest of the Tribe and its members, and will not be detrimental to the surrounding community.

Sincerely,

Jena A. MacLean

Malen

cc:

Stand Up For California! "Citizens making a difference"

www.standupca.org

P. O. Box 355 Penryn, CA. 95663

October 28, 2014

Chairwoman Leticia Perez and Kern County Board of Supervisors 1115 Truxtun Ave. Bakersfield, CA. 93301-4636

RE: Proposed Casino by Tejon Tribal Government and Cannery Row Owned by Millenium Gaming of Las Vegas, NV.

Dear Chairwoman Leticia Perez and Honorable Members of the Kern County Board of Supervisors,

Stand Up For California is a nonprofit public corporation that focuses on gambling issues affecting California, including tribal gaming. Our organization has been involved in the ongoing debate of issues raised by gaming and its impacts for over a decade. Since 1996, Stand Up For California has assisted individuals, community groups, elected officials, and members of law enforcement, local public entities and the State of California with respect to gaming. Additionally, we act as a resource of information to local, state and federal policy makers.

We write today regarding the proposed Kern County casino by the recently reaffirmed Tejon Tribe and Cannery Row, owned by Millenium Gaming Inc., a Las Vegas based company. The proposed casino project is a critically important issue to Kern County and a test of the County's leadership. To make the best decisions for the County's future, it is imperative that the County understand that the steps it takes now not only will have local impacts, but will influence efforts by other groups to develop similar projects within the County, as well as impact evolving tribal gaming polices at the state and federal level.

EVOLVING POLICY

Currently on the November 4th ballot is Proposition 48, which tests the power of the Governor to negotiate a gaming compact for an off-reservation casino. This measure, while specifically addressing a specific proposed off-reservation casino in Madera County, is as close as citizens can get to voting on whether they want tribal gaming to move off-reservation and whether the Governor alone is able to make such critically important decisions. Current law does

¹ http://www.indianz.com/IndianGaming/2014/027940.asp

not give the Governor such extraordinary power. In fact, in 2000, Proposition 1A allowed Tribes to operate slot machines, but only on established reservations. If the ratification of the North Fork compact goes uncontested, it will open the floodgates to "reservation-shopping" and off-ceservation gaming in local communities throughout California. The Governor's concurrence in the North Fork casino (and the Enterprise Rancheria casino) not only concentrates power in the State Executive, it breaks the promise Tribes made to voters in 2000 and incentivizes Tribes that, for the past dozen years, have played by the rules set forth in Proposition 1A to reconsider a move off-reservation to more lucrative locations in the midst of more densely populated areas.

The outcome of Proposition 48 should be a concern to Kern County, particularly because in May of this year, the Secretary of the Interior announced proposed rules to loosen the criteria for petitioning groups to achieve federal recognition. California has 80 groups seeking federal recognition. Kern County could see four additional tribes seeking casinos if these new rules become law, as well as Tribes located in other counties seeking land within Kern County for casino development. California will have at least 34 new tribes on top of the 109 that we already have. There is the potential for 22 new casinos on top of the 70 that currently exist. These changes significantly affect the political power of local government officials to protect the very citizens that elect them to office, as well as their ability to provide essential services to their constituents. These changes will affect the general plans of county government, revenue generation, and the equitable sharing of natural resources such as water. These impacts must be considered, as well as the reserved rights to water that Tribes have upon lands being taken into trust.

Local governments statewide have learned that understanding the federal and state legal processes is essential to developing sound policies and ensuring that the interests of the County and its many residents are protected. Further, to interact successfully with Tribes in tribal gaming proposals and related Indian law issues, the County must be well-informed regarding sovereignty issues, required federal approvals, and necessary state review processes. Armed with that knowledge, the County can ensure that its agreements with tribes—if a county decides that an agreement is appropriate—are enforceable and establish the framework needed to work cooperatively with a sovereign entity for years to come.

This letter is provided to outline a few of the issues that will require Kern County's attention as you consider the proposal by the Tejon Tribal government to have land removed from the regulatory authority of the County and State, the State and local tax rolls, and placed into trust for the development of a casino.

BACKGROUND

FEDERAL ISSUES:

1. Tribal Government and Membership

On January 3, 2012 Secretary of the Interior Larry Echo Hawk "reaffirmed" the Tejon Indian Tribe's Government-to-Government Status. In a letter to the Chairwoman Kathryn Montes Morgan, Asst. Secretary Larry Hawk explained that "[u]nder limited circumstances,

Indian tribes omitted from a list of Indian Tribal Entities because of an administrative error can be placed on the current list without going through the Federal Acknowledgment process at 25 CFR Part 83."

The Department, however, does not have a process for making such determinations, nor a regulation that permits it to "reaffirm" any tribe that has never enjoyed a formal government-to-government relationship. In fact, the Secretary's reaffirmation of Tejon prompted the Office of Inspector General (IG) to initiate an investigation of the decision, which appears to be a largely political—not legal—determination. In its January 17, 2012 Report, the Inspector General concluded that he could not find any discernible process used by the Assistant Secretary or his staff in selecting the Tejon Tribe for recognition above the other American Indian groups with historical, genealogical and ancestral claims to the original Tejon Indians. The Report questioned the legitimacy of the administrative process the Assistant Secretary Indian claimed authority to use:

At various times, however, AS-IAs has recognized American Indian groups as tribes without following the Part 83 process, using a practice known as "reaffirmation." Reaffirmation has been used to recognize tribes when a perceived administrative error has resulted in the tribe being left off the Federal Register's official list of federally recognized tribes. The Department's authority for such reaffirmations is not, however, defined in law or regulation, and we have not located any Departmental Manual provisions or other published policy memoranda governing the practice." (See- page 2 of IG Report).²

Clearly, the Tejon's reaffirmation did not follow the federal acknowledgment regulations. The Department's decision to recognize a tribe creates a trust obligation for the United States and it must be based on a thorough evaluation of the facts. Here, according to the IG Report, it was not.

In fact, one of the undesirable consequences of failing to comply with the formal acknowledgment process is the lack of a clearly defined tribal membership and/or leadership, which has occurred with the Tejon Tribe. The decision to reaffirm Tejon has led to serious membership disputes that call into question who leads the Tribe and whether that leadership is legitimate. By circumventing the regulatory process, which requires all members to be listed to determine social and political relationships, the Secretary's reaffirmation has left the Tejon in turmoil. There are serious risks dealing with a tribe whose very governmental structure is in question. Any waivers of sovereign immunity and/or any agreements that are reached are vulnerable to challenge, if it turns out that a constitution was not validly formed and the leadership not constitutionally established.

Ultimately, Federal recognition by an ad hoc process violates the Administrative Procedures Act, 25 C.F.R., Part 83, and is inconsistent with statute in the 1994 Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act that only recognizes Tribes through the Part 83 process.

² Inspector General Report: http://www.standupca.org/off-reservation-gaming/federal-acknowledgement-process/tribal-groups-in-active-status/jan-2-2012-tejon-tribe-re-affirmed/Tejon_ROI_FINAL_PUBLIC.pdf

2. Gaming Implications

Federal recognition also is the foundation of future fee-to-trust transactions under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA)—to the extent that the acknowledged tribe was under federal jurisdiction in 1934—and for a determination that lands qualify for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA). Generally, gaming is permitted on lands acquired in trust after 1988 under a few exceptions—the settlement of a land claim, the initial reservation of a tribe recognized under 25 C.F.R. part 83, or as the restored lands of a restored tribe. Reaffirmed tribes do not readily qualify under any of these exceptions, likely because reaffirmation is not a process authorized under the Department's regulations. Further, the State need only negotiate a compact with Tribes that will ultimately be able to have lands that will qualify for gaming.

Yet the BIA appears to be setting a precedent to approve restored lands for reaffirmed tribes contrary to its own rules and regulations. In <u>Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma v. Norton, et al.</u>, 389 F.3d 1074, 1087 [2004 U.S. App. LEXIS 23910], the Tenth Circuit rejected a 1996 ad hoc administrative recognition of the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma determination based on its finding that Indian tribes may be recognized only by (1) an Act of Congress, (2) the Part 83 acknowledgment process or (3) a decision of a federal court. The court stated:

Agencies, moreover, must follow their own rules and regulations. The DOI used a procedure heretofore unknown to the law—"retract and declare"—to purportedly rerecognize the Delaware's. In so doing, the DOI's actions were arbitrary and capricious. The agency simply elected not to follow the Part 83 procedures for recognizing an Indian tribe and, furthermore, did not even properly waive application of those procedures."

In September of 2008, the federal regulations for section 20 of IGRA were finally published in the federal register. IGRA specifically provides a "limited exception" for newly acknowledged tribes. IGRA and the 1994 Indian Tribe List Act statutes do not provide an exception for tribal groups who are restored administratively through an ad hoc process before 1988 or after. The Department of the Interior explains in the comment section of 25 C.F.R. 292:³

Congress's creation of an exception for gaming on lands acquired into trust... "as part of the restoration of lands for an Indian tribe restored to Federal recognition." We believe Congress intended restored tribes to be those tribes restored to federal recognition by Congress or through the part 83 regulations. We do not believe that Congress intended restored tribes to include tribes that arguably may have been administratively restored prior to the part 83 regulations.

Moreover, Congress in enacting the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 identified "only the part 83 procedures" as the process for "administrative recognition". (See- Notes following 25 U.S.C. 479a) (Federal Register May 8, 2008, Page 29363) (Emphasis added).

http://www.standupca.org/gaming-law/federal-rulemaking/notice-of-rulemaking/Final%20Rule%20correction%20for%20IGLS%20Sec.%2020%20regs.pdf (See- Notes following 25 U.S.C. 479a) (Federal Register May 8, 2008, Page 29363) (Emphasis added).

In this instance, BIA's "administrative action" does not follow the agency's own rules for federal recognition. It follows that the Secretary of the Interior lacks authority to acquire land in trust. More to the point, the Tejon do not meet the IGRA exception for an acknowledged tribe for after-acquired lands for gaming.

STATE ISSUES:

Proposition 1A (California Constitution, Article I Section 19 (f)) enacted in 2000, requires that the Governor only negotiate with "...federally recognized Indian tribes on Indian lands in California in accordance with federal law." The Tejon have not been recognized in accordance with federal law as stated above. This raises significant issues for the State and local government.

- 1. Should the State of California allow a fee-to-trust transfer of land for a casino development without knowing that the Secretary of the Interior has authority to acquire land in trust for a group recognized by an ad hoc administrative process 34 years after the Part 83 regulations were promulgated?
- 2. Is the Governor of California obligated by federal law to negotiate a tribal state compact for a group federally recognized by an ad hoc administrative process?
- 3. Is the State of California obligated to pay out of the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund (RSTF) the 1.1 million for a group recognized by an ad hoc administrative process?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES:

City and county governments in the early 2000's began developing agreements with tribes lacking tribal state compacts or land in trust. Pre-2004 tribal state compacts did not require judicially enforceable mitigation agreements. Counties/cities in some instances, where Tribes did not have land in trust or were seeking off-reservation casinos developed these agreements as an insurance policy to protect scarce tax dollars of the general fund as well as the ability to control and protect shared natural resources of the county/city.

The proposed agreements, which are known as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or a Municipal Service Agreement (MSA), are not negotiated under a tribal state compact, and therefore constitute a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act, (CEQA), and requiring CEQA review to be legally permissible. More often than not, these proposed agreements contain provisions that purport to legally bind the city or county signatory to definite courses of action that typically involve physical changes to the environment. Kern County must consider that entering into an agreement with a tribal government or even issuing a letter of support would require a legislative action of the BOS and thus require compliance with CEQA. Further, should the agreement change the human environment in any way, or bind

⁴ Local government agreements, MOU's or MSA's are only exempt from CEQA when tribes have ratified tribal state compacts. Only the Tribal State Compact ratifying statute exempts local government from CEQA obligations.

the County to certain future actions without a CEQA review even if considered a federal activity, it would be occurring on land under the authority of the State and the County and thus require a full environmental analysis under state standards.

It has become clear that negotiating local agreements without knowing the conditions under which class III gaming will be approved, the specific parcel of land in question, or if the land will be taken into trust prevents local governments from engaging in informed decision-making and sound planning. Further, the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) evaluation initiated by the Department of the Interior for proposed tribal projects is often inadequate under CEQA standards. A NEPA review is only a process that identifies potential significant impacts and affected parties. It is a procedural statute only and does not require an agency to deny a project when impacts are substantial, such as all-important water impacts in California. There can be 200 or more significant impacts that cannot be mitigated and the process will move forward. Local government must also keep in mind that the Department is only concerned about the evaluation of the parcels of land that is to be taken into trust, not the off reservation impacts of the development of that land on the surrounding community or local government.

Of course, additional concerns and questions arise, including:

- California County governments are required to comply with the CEQA prior to performing legislative acts to approve projects or enter into binding or questionably binding contracts. Should the County/city initiate its own CEQA review?
- The California Constitutional (Article I Section 19 (c) raises another question: Do County or city governments have authority to enter into government-to-government negotiations for casinos when State Constitution language limits city and county authority to charitable bingo on land that is still under the authority and jurisdiction of the State?
- Is a city or county obligated to negotiate in a government-to-government relationship with a Tribe for land that is clearly under the authority and jurisdiction of the State of California and County of Kern? This is emphatically, no, the County of Kern is not obligated to negotiate an agreement. Nor need it do so early in a Federal review process, before the community has had time to consider the proposal and the County has adequate information from the environmental review processes to know the important issues such an agreement should address. Federally recognized tribes owning fee land must interact and comply with local government as any other private property owner. Only when land is in trust is there a need to enter into government-to-government negotiations.

CONCLUSION:

Stand Up For California will continue to collect additional information on the Tejon Tribe and is more than happy to share this information with you. As time progresses, Cannery Row and the Tejon Tribe may announce a NEPA review of the subject land and the proposed casino. It will be important to participate in this process. The NEPA process will be followed with a Fee-to-Trust application under 25 C.F.R 151. Kern County needs to take its time to review all of the potential impacts.

Off-reservation gaming is an issue of great public import that has many impacts on private property owners and local businesses that are without recourse. I plan on being in Kern County in the near future and would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and members of the Board of Supervisors and/or staff to discuss these issues further.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Schmit, Director

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CC: Honorable Dianne Feinstein, United States Senator

Honorable Barbara Boxer, United States Senator

Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Congressman - House Majority Leader

Honorable Shannon Grove, California State Assembly Member

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Kern County Development Services Agency

Kern County Grand Jury

California State Association of Counties (CSAC) - Tribal Working Group

County Counsels Association of California (COCO)