

## United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

MAR 0 3 2016

FOIA BIA 2016-00631

Ms. Cheryl Schmit P.O.Box 355 Penryn, California 95663

Dear Ms. Schmit:

This letter is to acknowledge your faxed Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received on January 27, 2016. Your request has been forwarded to the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) for response. We thank you for your FOIA.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs' (AS-IA) FOIA office assigned your FOIA request with the following control number FOIA BIA-2016-00631. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office, the OFA regarding your request.

In your FOIA request, you requested copies of documents related to the "Wilton Band of Mewuk Indians, or Me-Wuk Indian Community of the Wilton Rancheria of California." Particularly, you requested copies of:

- Original letters of intent to petition for federal recognition;
- Executive summary of the tribal history;
- Any letter, document or email that states a group has chosen to join an existing federally recognized tribe; or
- Any letter, document that presents a negative or preliminary determination for acknowledgment.

We were unable to find any responsive records to your FOIA request. Therefore, if you have additional information (not provided in your request) that would lead you to believe that there are records in files maintained by OFA that were not located in our search for records responsive to your request, you may file a FOIA appeal by writing to FOIA Appeals Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., MS-6556 MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240. Your appeal letter must be received no later than 30 workdays (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) after the date you receive this letter. Your appeal letter must be marked, both on its envelope and at the top of its first page, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal letter must be accompanied by a copy of your original FOIA request (a copy of which is enclosed with our response, for your convenience), and a written statement supplying the information that supports your belief that there are, indeed, records responsive to your FOIA request in files maintained by the DOI.

There is no fee for the processing of this request. This response completes OFA's response to your request.

If you have any questions regarding our response to your request, or any of the issues discussed in this letter, you may wish to contact me by phone 202-513-7650, by fax at 202-219-3008, by email at Lee.Fleming@bia.gov, or by mail at Office of Federal Acknowledgment, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., MS 34-B SIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Sincerely,

Director of Federal Acknowledgment

Enclosure

## RECEIVED

JAN 27 2016

DOI/AS-IA/OFA Washington, DC

## Stand Up For California! "Citizens making a difference"

www.standupca.org

P. O. Box 355 Penryn, Ca. 95663

January 21, 2016

Honorable Lee Fleming
Office of Federal Acknowledgement
1951 Constitution Ave. N. W.
Mail Stop 34B – SIB
Washington, D.C. 20240
Fax: 202 219 3008

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Fleming,

Stand Up For California is writing to request documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552 et seq., and pursuant to the Department of the Interior FOIA regulations, 43 C.F.R. § 2.11-2.20. We request the documents listed below for the Wilton Band of Me-wuk Indians, or Me-Wuk Indian Community of the Wilton Rancheria of California

- We request the original letters of intent to petition for federal recognition.
- We request the executive summary of the tribal history
- We request any letter, document or email that states a group has chosen to join an existing federally recognized tribe, or
- We request any letter, document that presents a negative or preliminary determination for acknowledgement

In the event any of the requested documents are not disclosable in their entirety, we request that you release any material that may be separated and released. For any documents or portions thereof that are determined to be exempt from disclosure, we request that you state with specificity the legal and factual grounds for withholding documents or portions of documents.

We are willing to pay up to \$50.00. Should the cost exceed this amount contact from your office advising us of the total amount would be appreciated giving us the opportunity to revise our request.

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We would greatly appreciate a prompt response to this request. Thank you for your assistance

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Schmit, Director

916-663-3207

cherylschmit@att.net www.standupea.org