



TRIBAL ALLIANCE OF SOVEREIGN INDIAN NATIONS

An intergovernmental association of tribal governments throughout Southern California

November 8, 2023

Bryan Newland
Assistant Secretary- Indian Affairs
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS:

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF
CAHUILLA INDIANS

AUGUSTINE BAND OF
CAHUILLA INDIANS

CABAZON BAND OF
CAHUILLA INDIANS

CAHUILLA BAND OF
INDIANS

CHEMEHUEVI INDIAN
TRIBE

MORONGO BAND OF
MISSION INDIANS

PECHANGA BAND OF
INDIANS

SAN MANUEL BAND OF
MISSION INDIANS

SANTA ROSA BAND OF
CAHUILLA INDIANS

SANTA YNEZ BAND OF
CHUMASH INDIANS

SOBOBA BAND OF
LUISEÑO INDIANS

TORRES MARTINEZ
DESERT CAHUILLA INDIANS

TWENTY-NINE PALMS BAND OF
MISSION INDIANS

Dear Assistant Secretary Newland,

On behalf of the Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations (TASIN), an intergovernmental association of federally recognized tribal governments throughout Southern California, we write to urge you to work with the Coquille Indian Tribe to resubmit their application using the two-part determination process. The Coquille Indian Tribe's application to transfer fee land in Medford, Oregon into trust for gaming using the restored lands exception directly threatens the sovereign rights of tribal governments to operate gaming on their lands.

Since 2015, the Karuk Tribe, Elk Valley Rancheria, and the Tolowa Dee-Ni Nation have each urged your office to reject Coquille's position. TASIN fully supports this request and strongly recommends that Coquille should be required to resubmit their application using the two-part determination process. Unlike the restored lands process the Department is currently using, the two-part determination process will allow the Department to consult with all impacted tribes, including those in California.

Thank you for your consistent support of Indian Country and we look forward to working with you to ensure that all tribes have an opportunity to benefit from gaming.

Sincerely,

LYNN VALBUENA
Chairwoman

CATALINA CHACON
Vice Chairwoman

STEVEN ESTRADA
Secretary

ROSEMARY MORILLO
Treasurer

cc: Tribal Chairman Dale Miller, Elk Valley Rancheria
Chairman Russell Attebery, Karuk Tribe
Chairperson Jeri Lynn Thompson, Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation