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U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
  
PUBLIC MEETING  
COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE FEE-TO-TRUST  
AND GAMING FACILITY PROJECT  
DECEMBER 15, 2022

BALINDA DUNLAP, CSR 10710, RPR, CRR, RMR  
488809



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1 And Cow Creeks have been helping them to build a  
2 stronger economy and a stronger community.

3 So at this time I ask for you to reject  
4 this project once and for all.

5 Thank you so much for your time.

6 MODERATOR: Thank you.

7 If there is anybody else who would like to  
8 speak, please raise your hand or by pressing star 9  
9 if you are joining by phone.

10 The next speaker is Gail Hatcher. Please  
11 unmute yourself.

12 MS. HATCHER: Can you hear me?

13 MODERATOR: Yes.

14 MS. HATCHER: Thank you.

15 My name is Gail Hatcher; and I am vice  
16 chair for the Klamath Tribes, which is made up of  
17 three distinct tribes: the Klamath, the Modoc, and  
18 the Yahooskin. And I would like to say that the  
19 Klamath Tribes are opposed to a casino in Medford  
20 by the Coquille Tribe.

21 A casino in Medford would be devastating  
22 to our tribe here in Klamath County. That casino  
23 would cause a loss of employment, not only to  
24 tribal members, but to nontribal as well. The  
25 Kla-Mo-Ya casino employs a number of people, and

1 should we have a competing casino just on the other  
2 side of the mountain, it would be devastating.

3 Klamath County has a very high poverty  
4 level, and employment is very difficult to come by  
5 within our area. This would impact our programs  
6 that the tribe currently offers to its tribal  
7 members. The Klamath Tribes also have experienced  
8 devastating fires as well.

9 I hate for us to compare area to area, but  
10 these are the things that are going to be impacted  
11 should this casino be built over in Medford. It's  
12 not fair to pit tribe against tribe, especially  
13 when some tribes are in a very rural area. Casinos  
14 can benefit communities, but we don't want to, in a  
15 sense, tear each other down just trying to help our  
16 own communities.

17 We need to stay in our own area. The  
18 Klamath Tribes is less than 100 miles from the  
19 proposed area, and I think Coquille would do best  
20 to stay within their own tribal areas and do what  
21 they can do on the coast.

22 I too would like to request that we have  
23 more time to look at this and prepare our  
24 statements.

25 And just to say again, Klamath Tribes

1 opposes this casino.

2 Thank you.

3 MODERATOR: Thank you.

4 The next speaker is Katrina Potter.

5 Please unmute yourself.

6 MS. POTTER: Yes, hi. My name is Katrina  
7 Potter. I am an employee of the Cow Creek Tribe.

8 I am opposed to the Coquille Tribe  
9 building a casino in Medford. Cow Creek businesses  
10 provide both jobs and significant support to my  
11 community. If this off-reservation casino is  
12 allowed to proceed, the layoffs and loss of wages  
13 and benefits won't just hurt Cow Creek, but it can  
14 hurt the entire economy of Douglas and Jackson  
15 Counties. Cow Creek and its businesses are among  
16 the largest employers in our region.

17 This won't just harm Cow Creek. It will  
18 hurt the charities and social service providers who  
19 rely on Cow Creek for support.

20 I am opposed to this.

21 Thank you.

22 MODERATOR: Thank you.

23 If there is anybody else who would like to  
24 speak, please select the "Raise Hand."

25 The next speaker is Mia Murphy.