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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**SOLANO
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April 3, 2024

Sent by U.S. MailThe Honorable Deb Haaland
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240Re: Proceedings on Remand in *Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians v. United States Department of the Interior*

Dear Secretary Haaland:

The Solano County Board of Supervisors remains opposed to any proposal by the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians (“Scotts Valley Band” or “Band”) to build a gaming facility within the City of Vallejo, in Solano County.

I am writing today to join in the request by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation for establishment of “a fair, transparent, and fact-based process governing proceedings on remand” in this matter. (See attached correspondence from Anthony Roberts, Tribal Chairman, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, dated November 28, 2023, and March 19, 2024.) To satisfy basic principles of fairness in this matter, the process on remand should include an opportunity for appropriate input from the County and others, including Yocha Dehe and other interested tribes.

A decision by the Department to establish a transparent process on remand that takes full consideration of the County’s and Yocha Dehe’s concerns would be consistent with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (“IGRA”), which the Department has said calls upon the Department to put into place “mechanism[s] to balance legitimate local concerns with the goals of promoting tribal economic development and tribal self-sufficiency, both of which are reflected in IGRA.”¹ In addition, the need for a process on remand that includes an opportunity for the County to express its views arises in part from the fact that, in California, each of the County’s officers is “clothed with a part of the sovereignty of the state to be exercised in the interest of the public.”² In addition to the Board of Supervisors, who are officers by virtue of the State Constitution, there are also many other County officers who are designated by statute.³

¹ 73 Fed. Reg. 29354, 29365 (May 20, 2008).

² *Bom v. Superior Court* (2020) 44 Cal.App.5th 1, 23 [collecting authorities].

³ Cal. Const. art XI, § 1(b); Gov. Code, § 24000.

Hon. Deb Haaland
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I would like to again express our community's appreciation for your Department's ongoing and thoughtful consideration of the views expressed by the County and by the numerous tribal governments who have communicated concern regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitch N. Mashburn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mitch Mashburn, Chair
Board of Supervisors
Solano County, District 5

cc: Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, Indian Affairs, Pacific Region, Department of the Interior
Hon. Alex Padilla, United States Senator
Hon. Laphonza Butler, United States Senator
Hon. Mike Thompson, United States Representative
Hon. John Garamendi, United States Representative
Laura Daniel-Davis, Acting Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior
Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior
Robert Anderson, Solicitor, Department of the Interior
Wizipan Garriott, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Dept. of the Interior
Solano County Board of Supervisors
Bill Emlen, Solano County Administrator
Bernadette S. Curry, Solano County Counsel
Mayor Robert H. McConnell, City of Vallejo