



COLUSA INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL CACHIL DEHE BAND OF WINTUN INDIANS

July 23, 2024

Amy Dutschke
Director, Pacific Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
2800 Cottage Way Room W-2820
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Environmental Assessment

Dear Regional Director Dutschke,

I write to share serious concerns about the Environmental Assessment ("EA") recently issued for a 30-day comment period by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Casino Project (the "Project").

It appears the EA was issued over a holiday weekend, without advance notice to interested stakeholders – including local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, and members of the general public, many of whom had previously inquired as to the status of this matter and received no response.

The document is quite lengthy and, in an apparent effort to avoid applicable page limits, uses a non-standard format. As a result, review is unusually difficult and time-consuming.

Nevertheless, it is immediately clear that the Project raises significant environmental concerns.

For each of these reasons, I urge you to reconsider your approach. The Project demands a thorough, comprehensive environmental review with meaningful opportunities for review and comment by interested stakeholders and the general public. Please extend the EA comment period for an additional 30 days and consider preparing a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement.

Respectfully,

Chairman, Wayne Mitchum Jr.
Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians