



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

20 DEC 2023

Mr. Rudy Ortega, Jr.
1019 Second Street, Box 1
San Fernando, California 91340

Dear Mr. Ortega:

This letter is to inform you that the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (AS – IA) in the Department of the Interior has found good cause to extend the comment period on your documented petition, pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 83.8(a).

On July 5, 2023, the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) received a petition from your group, the Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, to be acknowledged as a federally recognized Indian tribe. Your petition is being processed under Part 83 of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, *Procedures for Federal Acknowledgment of Indian Tribes*.

Section 83.22(b)(1)(i) requires OFA to post the “narrative portion of the documented petition” to the OFA website within 60 days of receiving it. However, due to technical difficulties in preparing your group’s narrative, OFA was unable to do so until December 11, 2023. To give the public 120 days to review the narrative and prepare comments and evidence supporting or opposing the petition, as required under § 83.22(b)(1)(iv), the AS – IA has extended the comment period on the petition to April 9, 2024, which is 120 days from the date on which OFA posted the narrative to the website.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification, then please do not hesitate to reach out by phone at (202) 513-7650, or by email at Stephanie.Sfridis@bia.gov. You are also welcome to contact OFA in writing at Mail Stop 4071 MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Sfridis, Acting Director,
Office of Federal Acknowledgment

cc: Parties listed under § 83.22(d)