

Stand Up For California!

“Citizens making a difference”

www.standupca.org

P. O. Box 355
Penryn, CA. 95663

June 17, 2014

Kevin K. Washburn
Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
MS-4141-MIB
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: BIA-2003-0007; RW 1076-AF18/Request for Extension of Comment Period

Dear Assistant Secretary Washburn,

Stand Up For California! writes today to request a 60-day extension of the comment period for the proposed regulations to revise the tribal acknowledgment regulations published in the Federal Register on May 29. (79 Fed Reg. 30766) Additionally, I am requesting that you consider a public meeting in Sacramento at a location that is more central to affected state and local government entities as well as the general public.

Our organization wishes to make appropriate comments to this proposed regulation which is very detailed and complex. This requires time to prepare an in-depth analysis of the changes to the long-established rules governing tribal acknowledgment. A cursory review indicates that these changes will have a momentous impact in California due to the fact that our state has more pending petitions than any other state in the nation.

Metropolitan and urban communities will be greatly affected by the acknowledgment of tribes, and the acquisition of trust land in established urban and metro areas. Removal of land from local jurisdiction and tax rolls will significantly affect general funds and school district funding. Newly recognized tribes may develop casinos, which in turn create numerous additional public policy impacts.

Due to the importance of the proposed rules, affected parties and the general public require additional time to review and comment on this proposal. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Schmit, Director
916 663 3207 cherylschmit@att.net