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Washington, DC

March 3, 2025

Department of the Interior
Office of Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs
Attn: Office of Federal Acknowledgment
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

I am writing to support the Salinan Tribe of Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties's petition for tribal recognition #406 in the state of California. I am a member of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real located on the Central Coastal California which encompasses the lands of the Salinan Tribe. In our Diocese, we have a deep commitment to land acknowledgment and recognition of Indigenous peoples. The Salinan people, whose ancestral lands span the central California coast, have maintained their cultural identity, traditions, and community despite generations of displacement and systemic erasure. Federal recognition is essential to ensuring the tribe's rights, sovereignty, and access to crucial resources for cultural preservation, education, and economic sustainability.

The Salinan Tribe has demonstrated its continuous existence as a distinct Indigenous community, fulfilling the necessary criteria for federal acknowledgment. The Episcopal Church, through its Office of Indigenous Ministries, has long affirmed the dignity and sovereignty of Native peoples. I urge you to grant the Salinan petition for Tribal Status so that they can assume their rightful place among the federally recognized Indigenous nations of this land.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]
William R. Shreve