

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 30, 2012

Kenneth L. Salazar, Secretary of the Interior United States Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Two-Part Determination-Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of the Enterprise Rancheria

Dear Secretary Salazar:

I concur with your determination to allow 40 acres in Yuba County to be placed in trust for the Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of the Enterprise Rancheria for the purpose of establishing a class III gaming facility. While I am reluctant to agree to the expansion of gaming on land currently ineligible for it, I concur in your determination in this case because of several unique considerations:

- The federal administrative process giving rise to your determination was extremely thorough. The process lasted more than ten years, included numerous hearings, considered hundreds of comments, and generated thousands of pages of administrative records.
- A large tribal population will directly benefit from the gaming facility. The Enterprise Tribe is made up of more than 800 native Californians who face serious economic hardship.
- Other tribes will indirectly benefit from the gaming facility. The Enterprise Tribe's compact provides assistance to other tribes by requiring substantial contributions to the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund and the Tribal Nation Grant Fund.
- The ability of other tribes to benefit from tribal gaming will not be unduly harmed.

- The gaming facility has increasing public support, and it will create jobs and generate revenue for Yuba County, which currently has a 16% unemployment rate.
- The facility will be located within a sports-and-entertainment zone created by Yuba County, and the regional gaming market can support the project along with existing gaming facilities.
- The location of the gaming facility will not be within a major metropolitan area.
- The Enterprise Tribe has a significant historical connection with the land.

I expect there will be few requests from other tribes that will present the same kind of exceptional circumstances to support a similar expansion of tribal gaming land.

Sincerely,

cc:

Glenda Nelson, Chairwoman

Edmund G. Brown

Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of the Enterprise Rancheria

Donald E. Laverdure, Department of the Interior, Acting Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Bryan Newland, Department of the Interior, Senior Policy Advisor