



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

**DEC 22 2021**

To: Bryan Mercier  
Regional Director, Northwest Region

From: Bryan Newland   
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Subject: Remand of the Coquille Indian Tribe's application to transfer land into trust in Medford, Oregon

I have withdrawn the Department of the Interior's (Department) denial of the Coquille Indian Tribe's (Tribe) application to transfer land into trust in Medford, Oregon, dated May 27, 2020 (2020 Denial).<sup>1</sup> The 2020 Denial resulted in the Department's cancellation of the environmental review process, which deprived the decision maker of important information critical to making a final determination.

I am remanding the Tribe's application to your office to complete the environmental review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Consistent with Secretarial Order 3400, *Delegation of Authority for Non-Gaming Off-Reservation Fee-to-Trust Acquisitions*, coordinate with the Office of Indian Gaming for further processing of the Tribe's application consistent with the Department's regulations, the BIA's procedures, and this order. I will issue a new decision once the process is complete.

Attachment

cc: Director, Office of Indian Gaming  
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

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<sup>1</sup> Letter, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs to Chairperson Meade (May 27, 2020)