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State Water Resources Control Board

MAR 27 2013

The Honorable Norma Torres  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 2179  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Torres:

MORONGO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

Thank you for your February 26, 2013 letter regarding the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) pending proceeding involving the proposed revocation of License 659 (Application 553) of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Millard Canyon in Riverside County. In your letter, you express concern that the revocation would infringe upon the Morongo Band of Mission Indians' sovereign immunity and ignores their long-standing stewardship efforts. In May of 2012, the State Water Board held a one-day water right hearing to consider the proposed revocation of License 659. During the hearing, interested parties raised similar concerns as you raised in your letter. The State Water Board will be considering the issues that you and others have raised, as well as the entirety of the record, as it deliberates on a decision regarding the proposed revocation.

I would like to make you aware that the pending proceeding concerning the proposed revocation of License 659 is governed by Chapter 4.5 of the Administrative Procedure Act, which prohibits "ex parte" or off-the-record communications. Accordingly, I am notifying the parties to the proceeding by copy of this letter that your letter will be made a part of the record to the proceeding, as required by Government Code Section 11430.50.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 341-5615, or Legislative Director Rob Egel at (916) 341-5251.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas Howard  
Executive Director

cc: See next page.

**MAR 27 2013**

cc: List of Parties to the Morongo Band of Mission Indians Hearing

Mr. Gareth Elliott  
Legislative Secretary  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Miriam Barcellona Ingenito  
Deputy Secretary  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Kristin Stauffacher  
Assistant Secretary for Legislation  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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Mr. Charles R. Hoppin  
Chairman  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Robert Egel  
Legislative Director  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## Mailing List

<p><b>ELECTRONIC MAIL</b> THE MORONGO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS c/o Somach, Simmons &amp; Dunn 500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1000 Sacramento, CA 95814</p> <p><a href="mailto:dkelly@somachlaw.com">dkelly@somachlaw.com</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:ssomach@somachlaw.com">ssomach@somachlaw.com</a></p>	<p><b>ELECTRONIC MAIL</b> DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS PROSECUTION TEAM c/o Samantha Olson State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814</p> <p><a href="mailto:solson@waterboards.ca.gov">solson@waterboards.ca.gov</a></p>
<p><b>CERTIFIED MAIL</b> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Southern California Agency 1451 Research Park Dr., Suite 100 Riverside, CA 92507-2154</p>	<p><b>CERTIFIED MAIL</b> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS c/o Kevin Bearquiver Pacific Regional Office 2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, CA 95825</p>
<p><b>CERTIFIED MAIL</b> ASSISTANT REGIONAL SOLICITOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICER OF THE SOLICITOR c/o Stephen R. Palmer Pacific Southwest Region 2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1712 Sacramento, California 95825</p>	<p><b>CERTIFIED MAIL</b> ASSISTANT REGIONAL SOLICITOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICER OF THE SOLICITOR c/o Karen D. Koch Pacific Southwest Region 2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1712 Sacramento, California 95825</p>