



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SEP 11 2009

**CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7008 0500 0001 2035 5567**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Ms. Silvia Burley  
01601 Escondido Place  
Stockton, California 95212

**CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7008 0500 0001 2035 5390**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Yakima K. Dixie  
c/o Mr. Chadd Everone  
2054 University Ave., #407  
Berkeley, California 94704

Dear Ms. Burley and Mr. Dixie:

We are writing to offer to you, because of your claim of leadership of the Tribe, mediation services in an attempt to resolve the current leadership and organizational disputes of the California Valley Miwok Tribe (Tribe) (formerly Sheep Ranch Rancheria of the Me-wuk Indians of California).

The primary issues to be addressed concern developing a plan on how to organize the Tribe, and developing proposed membership criteria. Our involvement, however, is prohibited due to on-going litigation before the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA). Should you both agree to move forward with mediation, it will be necessary for Ms. Burley to request a stay on her appeal in *California Valley Miwok Tribe v. Pacific Regional Director*, No. IBIA 07-100-A.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) offers the assistance of an independent mediator to facilitate the meeting or meetings. The Department of the Interior's Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution (CADR) will coordinate the meeting by setting the date, time, location and other arrangements. CADR can work with you to select a mutually agreeable mediator, but we would appreciate your suggestions as to date, time, location, and possible agenda items. Please respond to the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution concerning your willingness to participate in a meeting to discuss the issues in depth and begin the resolution process.

We welcome attempts to have tribal members resolve this dispute. Please be advised, however, that the BIA reserves the right to ensure that all prospective members of the tribe have the opportunity to participate in the benefits of tribal membership.

Please contact Elena Gonzalez, Director, Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution, Department of the Interior, at (202) 327-5352, to work with her on the details of the mediation process.

Sincerely,



Jerry Gidner  
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

- cc: Director, Pacific Region
- Central California Agency
- Regional Solicitor
- Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Assistant Solicitor, Branch of Tribal Government & Alaska
- Robert A. Rosette, Rosette & Associates
- Elena Gonzalez, CADR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
TRIBAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

---

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

---

TO: <b>Robert A. Rosette</b>	FROM: <b>E. Colliflower</b>
COMPANY: <b>BIA-Tribal Government</b>	DATE: <b>9/11/2009</b>
FAX NUMBER: <b>(480) 889-8997</b>	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: <b>3</b>
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: <b>Phone: (202) 513-7627</b>
RIS	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:

---

- URGENT   
 FOR REVIEW   
 PLEASE COMMENT   
 PLEASE REPLY   
 PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS: