



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Washington, DC 20240



JAN 11 2008

Elizabeth T. Walker, Attorney at Law Walker Law, LLC 127 South Fairfax Street, Suite 126 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Ms. Walker:

Thank you for your letter of October 30, 2007, concerning alleged misuse of state and federal funding that was intended for the benefit of the Tribe (California Valley Miwok Tribe formerly known as the Sheep Ranch Rancheria of Mi-Wuk Indians of California).

The allegations made regarding possible fraud and abuse of federal and/or tribal funds have been reviewed; and, based on this report, the matter is being referred to the Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General for further review. For your information, please note the enclosed documents regarding requests to contract made by Ms. Burley and Mr. Dixie.

Thank you for your interest in tribal affairs.

Sincerely,

Jerry Gidner

Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Enclosure

cc: Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General (with enclosures)



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Central California Agency 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-500 Sacramento, ĈA 95814-4710

IN REPLY REFER TO

DEC 1 4 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7001 2510 0009 4494 1906 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Silvia Burley 10601 Escendido Place Stockton, California 95212

Dear Ms. Burley:

In accordance with 25 CFR Part 900.6, Subpart B, Definitions, we are returning your application to contract FY 2008 funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, under P.L. 93-638, as amended as it does not meet the definition stated below:

"Tribal Organization means the recognized governing body of any Indian tribe; any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which included the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities: provided, that, in any case where a contract is let or a grant made to an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe shall be a prerequisite to the letting or making of such contract of grant."

Under this Part, consideration to contract federal funds to operate Bureau of Indian authorized programs will only be given to an application submitted by federally recognized tribe with a recognized governing body. The Department of the Interior does not recognize that the California Valley Mivok Tribe has a governing body. The District Court for the District of Columbia has upheld that determination, California Valley Miwok Tribe v. United States, 424 F Supp. 2d 197 (D.C.D.C. 2006). That decision is now on appeal.

Because we do not recognize any current governing body for the California Valley Miwok Tribe, we are unable to accept the proposal for the above stated reason. We are hereby returning the proposal.



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Should you wish to appeal any portion of this letter, you are advised that you may do so by complying with the following:

This decision may be appealed to the Regional Director, Pacific Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2800 Cottage Way, W-2820, Sacramento, California 95825. In accordance with the regulations in 25 CFR Part 2 (copy enclosed), your notice of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days of the date you receive this decision. The date of filing your notice of appeal is the date it is postmarked or the date it is personally delivered to this office. Your notice of appeal must include you name, address and telephone number. It should clearly identify the decision to be appealed. If possible attach a copy of the decision. The notice of appeal and the envelope which it is mailed, should be clearly labeled "NOTICE OF APPEAL." The notice of appeal must list the names and addresses of the interested parties known to you and certify that you have sent them copies of the notice.

You must also send a copy of your notice to the Regional Director, at the address given above.

If no timely appeal is filed, this decision will become final for the Department of the Interior at the expiration of the appeal period. No extension of time may be granted for filing a notice of appeal.

Sincerely,

Troy Burdick Superintendent

Enclosure



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Central California Agency 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-500 Sacramento, CA 95814-4710

IN REPLY REFER TO

DEC 1 4 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7001 2510 0009 4494 1890 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Yakima Dixie 11178 Sheep Ranch Rd. Mountain Ranch, California 95246

Dear Mr. Dixie:

In accordance with 25 CFR Part 900.6, Subpart B, Definitions, we are returning your application to contract FY 2008 funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, under P.L. 93-638, as amended as it does not meet the definition stated below:

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Troy Burdick Superintendent

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