



P.O. Box 517  
Maxwell, CA 95955

Mr. Daniel Gomez  
Tribal Chairman  
Colusa Indian Community Council  
3730 Highway 45  
Colusa, CA 95932



February 15, 2019

Mr. Daniel Gomez  
Tribal Chairman  
Colusa Indian Community Council  
3730 Highway 45  
Colusa, CA 95932

**Subject:** Formal Notification pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 (Public Resources Code 21080.3.1) for the proposed Sites Geotechnical Field Investigations

Dear Honorable Chairperson Gomez,

This letter is a formal invitation to the Colusa Indian Community Council to consult with the Authority regarding the proposed Sites Geotechnical Field Investigations (Project) under Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1, concerning Tribal Cultural Resources. This Project is undergoing environmental review separately from the overall Sites Project, on which you are already consulting.

The Sites Project Authority (Authority) is initiating environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for geologic, geotechnical, and geophysical exploration and testing needed to support the design of the proposed Sites Project. The Authority is the lead agency under the CEQA for both this Project and the Sites Project.

From our letter of April 2017, the proposed Sites Project would be an approximately 1.8 million acre-foot off-stream storage reservoir and associated water management facilities near the town of Maxwell in Colusa and Glenn Counties in the Sacramento Valley in Northern California. Figure 1, attached, shows the location and the approximate areas where explorations and testing could occur. The specific locations of explorations and testing activities would occur within the broad areas within the locations identified. The exact locations, equipment used and other details are not known at this time. These details are likely to be further adjusted to reduce or avoid environmentally and culturally sensitive areas. Exploration and testing activities will not occur on privately held lands until access to the land has been obtained. The field sample collection and testing activities would begin in the second half of 2019.

Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined under PRC § 21074, include sites, features, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe. The Authority intends to prepare a CEQA initial study/mitigated negative declaration (combined with a National Environmental Policy Act environmental assessment) for this proposed Project, unless information indicating impacts on cultural resources comes to light through the consultation process.



P.O. Box 517  
Maxwell, CA 95955  
530.438.2309

We appreciate your assistance to date in cultural resource consultations under AB 52 and other state and federal legal provisions. In order to verify that all potential resources of concern to Native American communities are identified and considered in the planning and implementation of the proposed Project, we respectfully request any information you can provide on the location and nature of Tribal Cultural Resources that may be found within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Specifically, we seek your input on the following types of resources so that we may avoid or protect them to the maximum extent possible.

- Prehistoric archaeological sites and features
- Sacred lands or locations that are important in Native American culture
- Places that the Native American community continues to use for ongoing cultural practices
- Historic-era resources.

We understand that the locations of these resources are sensitive. Resource locations will not be disclosed in public documents and will be kept confidential as provided for under California Government Code § 6254.10.

If you would like to participate in formal AB 52 consultation concerning the proposed project, please notify me in writing within 30 calendar days of the receipt of this formal notice. After we receive your written request, we will contact you within 30 calendar days to begin consultation.

If the Tribe notifies the Authority in writing that the project does not involve any Tribal Cultural Resources of concern, then consultation under AB 52 will be considered concluded. If the Authority does not receive a written request to consult within 30 calendar days, we will assume the Tribe declines the invitation to formally consult under AB 52. However, the Authority is committed to working with you to properly account for and manage resources important to the Colusa Indian Community Council, and we welcome any recommendations regarding appropriate management or treatment of resources that occur within the project area. This notification does not limit the ability of the Tribe to submit information to the Authority (PRC § 21080.3.2(c)(1)). If you have any questions regarding this invitation or the AB 52 process, please contact me, or in my absence contact Rob Thomson at 805-689-5854.

Sincerely,



Jim Watson  
General Manager, Sites Project Authority

Cc: Oscar Serrano, P.E., CICC  
Attachment



P.O. Box 517  
Maxwell, CA 95955

Mr. Leland Kinter, Chair  
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation  
P.O. Box 18  
Brooks, CA 95606



February 15, 2019

Mr. Leland Kinter, Chair  
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation  
P.O. Box 18  
Brooks, CA 95606

**Subject:** Formal Notification pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 (Public Resources Code 21080.3.1) for the proposed Sites Geotechnical Field Investigations

Dear Honorable Chairperson Kinter,

This letter is a formal invitation to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to consult with the Authority regarding the proposed Sites Geotechnical Field Investigations (Project) under Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1, concerning Tribal Cultural Resources. This Project is undergoing environmental review separately from the overall Sites Project, on which you are already consulting.

The Sites Project Authority (Authority) is initiating environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for geologic, geotechnical, and geophysical exploration and testing needed to support the design of the proposed Sites Project. The Authority is the lead agency under the CEQA for both this Project and the Sites Project.

From our letter of April 2017, the proposed Sites Project would be an approximately 1.8 million acre-foot off-stream storage reservoir and associated water management facilities near the town of Maxwell in Colusa and Glenn Counties in the Sacramento Valley in Northern California. Figure 1, attached, shows the location and the approximate areas where explorations and testing could occur. The specific locations of explorations and testing activities would occur within the broad areas within the locations identified. The exact locations, equipment used and other details are not known at this time. These details are likely to be further adjusted to reduce or avoid environmentally and culturally sensitive areas. Exploration and testing activities will not occur on privately held lands until access to the land has been obtained. The field sample collection and testing activities would begin in the second half of 2019.

Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined under PRC § 21074, include sites, features, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe. The Authority intends to prepare a CEQA initial study/mitigated negative declaration (combined with a National Environmental Policy Act environmental assessment) for this proposed Project, unless information indicating impacts on cultural resources comes to light through the consultation process.



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We appreciate your assistance to date in cultural resource consultations under AB 52 and other state and federal legal provisions. In order to verify that all potential resources of concern to Native American communities are identified and considered in the planning and implementation of the proposed Project, we respectfully request any information you can provide on the location and nature of Tribal Cultural Resources that may be found within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Specifically, we seek your input on the following types of resources so that we may avoid or protect them to the maximum extent possible.

- Prehistoric archaeological sites and features
- Sacred lands or locations that are important in Native American culture
- Places that the Native American community continues to use for ongoing cultural practices
- Historic-era resources.

We understand that the locations of these resources are sensitive. Resource locations will not be disclosed in public documents and will be kept confidential as provided for under California Government Code § 6254.10.

If you would like to participate in formal AB 52 consultation concerning the proposed project, please notify me in writing within 30 calendar days of the receipt of this formal notice. After we receive your written request, we will contact you within 30 calendar days to begin consultation.

If the Tribe notifies the Authority in writing that the project does not involve any Tribal Cultural Resources of concern, then consultation under AB 52 will be considered concluded. If the Authority does not receive a written request to consult within 30 calendar days, we will assume the Tribe declines the invitation to formally consult under AB 52. However, the Authority is committed to working with you to properly account for and manage resources important to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, and we welcome any recommendations regarding appropriate management or treatment of resources that occur within the project area. This notification does not limit the ability of the Tribe to submit information to the Authority (PRC § 21080.3.2(c)(1)). If you have any questions regarding this invitation or the AB 52 process, please contact me, or in my absence contact Rob Thomson at 805-689-5854.

Sincerely,



Jim Watson  
General Manager, Sites Project Authority

Attachment



P.O. Box 517  
Maxwell, CA 95955

Mr. Charlie Wright, Chair  
Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians  
P.O. Box 1630  
Williams, CA 95987



February 22, 2019

Mr. Charlie Wright, Chair  
Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians  
P.O. Box 1630  
Williams, CA 95987

**Subject:** Formal Notification pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 (Public Resources Code 21080.3.1) for the proposed Sites Geotechnical Field Investigations

Dear Honorable Chairperson Wright,

This letter is a formal invitation to the Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians to consult with the Authority regarding the proposed Sites Geotechnical Field Investigations (Project) under Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1, concerning Tribal Cultural Resources. This Project is undergoing environmental review separately from the overall Sites Project. Although not related to PRC Section 21080.3.1 consultation, the Cortina Band previously submitted their 2010 report to the Authority, expressing their wish to be consulted for “site testing, borings, and soil column sampling” related to the Sites Project.

The Sites Project Authority (Authority) is initiating environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for geologic, geotechnical, and geophysical exploration and testing needed to support the design of the proposed Sites Project. The Authority is the lead agency under the CEQA for both this Project and the Sites Project.

From our letter of April 2017, the proposed Sites Project would be an approximately 1.8 million acre-foot off-stream storage reservoir and associated water management facilities near the town of Maxwell in Colusa and Glenn Counties in the Sacramento Valley in Northern California. Figure 1, attached, shows the location and the approximate areas where explorations and testing could occur. The specific locations of explorations and testing activities would occur within the broad areas within the locations identified. The exact locations, equipment used and other details are not known at this time. These details are likely to be further adjusted to reduce or avoid environmentally and culturally sensitive areas. Exploration and testing activities will not occur on privately held lands until access to the land has been obtained. The field sample collection and testing activities would begin in the second half of 2019.

Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined under PRC § 21074, include sites, features, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe. The Authority intends to prepare a CEQA initial study/mitigated negative declaration (combined with a National Environmental Policy Act environmental assessment) for this proposed Project, unless information



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indicating impacts on cultural resources comes to light through the consultation process.

In order to verify that all potential resources of concern to Native American communities are identified and considered in the planning and implementation of the proposed Project, we respectfully request any information you can provide on the location and nature of Tribal Cultural Resources that may be found within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Specifically, we seek your input on the following types of resources so that we may avoid or protect them to the maximum extent possible.

- Prehistoric archaeological sites and features
- Sacred lands or locations that are important in Native American culture
- Places that the Native American community continues to use for ongoing cultural practices
- Historic-era resources.

We understand that the locations of these resources are sensitive. Resource locations will not be disclosed in public documents and will be kept confidential as provided for under California Government Code § 6254.10.

If you would like to participate in formal AB 52 consultation concerning the proposed project, please notify me in writing within 30 calendar days of the receipt of this formal notice. After we receive your written request, we will contact you within 30 calendar days to begin consultation.

If the Tribe notifies the Authority in writing that the project does not involve any Tribal Cultural Resources of concern, then consultation under AB 52 will be considered concluded. If the Authority does not receive a written request to consult within 30 calendar days, we will assume the Tribe declines the invitation to formally consult under AB 52. However, the Authority is committed to working with you to properly account for and manage resources important to the Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians, and we welcome any recommendations regarding appropriate management or treatment of resources that occur within the project area. This notification does not limit the ability of the Tribe to submit information to the Authority (PRC § 21080.3.2(c)(1)). If you have any questions regarding this invitation or the AB 52 process, please contact me, or in my absence contact Rob Thomson at 805-689-5854.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Watson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line.

Jim Watson  
General Manager, Sites Project Authority

Attachment