



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Albuquerque Area Office
555 Broadway Blvd., NE Suite 100
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102-2552

IN REPLY REFER TO:

ALB-158
ENV-1.10

MAR 09 2004

Mr. Rob Baracker
Regional Director
Southwest Region
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 26567
Albuquerque, NM 87125-6567

Subject: Consultation Invitation Regarding the Bureau of Reclamation's Miscellaneous Purposes Contract Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Baracker:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter in which the Bureau of Reclamation requests government-to-government consultation with various tribal governments regarding the Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Miscellaneous Purposes Contract. A list of recipients of the letter also is enclosed. In addition to consultation with tribal governments, we also would appreciate written response regarding any issues or concerns you may have concerning the proposed project and possible environmental effects, including the potential to affect Indian trust assets or cultural resources. The enclosed letter and map provide a description of the proposed project to you.

For further information, please contact:

Ms. Sara Rhoton
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
P.O. Box 25102
Santa Fe, NM 87504-5102
505-827-3996; e-mail: srhoton@ose.state.nm.us

Sincerely,

A. Jack Garner
Area Manager

Enclosures - 2

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Albuquerque Area Office
555 Broadway Blvd., NE Suite 100
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102-2352

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MAR 18 2004

Subject: Consultation Invitation Regarding the Bureau of Reclamation's Miscellaneous Purposes Contract Environmental Impact Statement

Dear:

In an October 1999 letter, the Bureau of Reclamation requested your views on our Pecos River Water Operations Environmental Impact Statement. In a subsequent November 2002 letter, we requested reinitiation of consultation with the ----- on the Carlsbad Project Water Operations and Water Supply Conservation Environmental Impact (EIS). The November 2002 letter also described a second EIS to be prepared on a long-term miscellaneous purposes contract. With this letter, Reclamation would like to reinitiate consultation with the ----- on the Long-Term Miscellaneous Purposes Contract EIS.

The Bureau of Reclamation and the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC) are preparing an environmental impact statement to address the potential environmental impacts of a proposed federal action. The proposed federal action is the execution of a long-term miscellaneous purposes contract with the Carlsbad Irrigation District (CID), New Mexico. The purpose of Reclamation's proposed federal action is to allow the NMISC to use water allotted to land located in the CID owned by the NMISC or leased by the NMISC from other members of CID, or other project water available for lease. The proposed federal action would allow for release of water from facilities serving the Carlsbad Project for delivery to the New Mexico-Texas state line, and compliance with the Pecos River Compact. Reclamation is the lead federal agency; the NMISC serves as a joint-lead agency for NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) compliance for the proposed action.

The purpose of this letter is to invite your tribe's involvement on a government-to-government basis to identify any concerns your tribe may have regarding the potential effects of our future activities on trust assets, cultural and biological resources, or tribal health and safety. As part of the EIS process, potential effects on Indian trust assets, tribal health and safety, and cultural resources will be determined. Reclamation's preliminary assessment has not revealed any potential impacts. However, to fully address and analyze potential effects, Reclamation would appreciate your tribe's input regarding possible impacts to Indian trust assets, tribal health and safety, traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, and other aspects of the tribe's cultural heritage that may be associated with the proposed program.

To assist us with NEPA analysis, Reclamation and the NMISC have been working closely with various partners: the Carlsbad Irrigation District, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer, the Fort Sumner Irrigation District, the Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District, the Pecos Valley Water Users Organization, and county and local governments.

To facilitate your identification of questions and concerns about the Long-term Miscellaneous Purposes Contract EIS, Reclamation and NMISC will gladly provide any additional information needed by you or your staff. We would welcome an opportunity to meet with you and your staff to describe the EIS in further detail. To discuss the EIS or to arrange a meeting, please contact:

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Ms. Sara Rhoton
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
P.O. Box 25102
Santa Fe, NM 87504-5102
505-827-3996; e-mail: srhoton@ose.state.nm.us.

Sincerely,



A. Jack Garner
Area Manager

Identical Letters Sent To:

Honorable Sherman Chaddlesone
Acting Tribal Administrator, Kiowa Tribe
P.O. Box 369
Carnegie, OK 72015

Honorable Mark Chino
President, Mescalero Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Honorable Wayne Taylor, Jr.
Chairman, Hopi Tribe
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Honorable Jeff Houser
Chairman, Fort Sill Apache Tribe
Route 2, Box 121
Apache, OK 73006

Honorable Alvino Lucero
Governor, Pueblo of Isleta
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022

Honorable Arturo Senclair
Governor, Pueblo of Ysleta del Sur
P.O. Box 17579
El Paso, TX 79907

Honorable Paul S. Chinana
Governor, Pueblo of Jemez
P.O. Box 100
Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

Honorable Wallace Coffey
Chairman, Comanche Tribal Business
Committee
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73502

Tribal and BIA Mailing List

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Mr. John Collie or Mr. Art Martinez
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Southwest Regional Office
Branch of Water Rights
P.O. Box 26567
Albuquerque, NM 87125-6567

Mr. Bill White
Southwest Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 26567
Albuquerque, NM 87125-6567

Mr. Ron Toya, Superintendent
Mescalero Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 189
Mescalero, NM 88340

Ms. Florine Gutierrez
Southern Pueblos Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 1667
Albuquerque, NM 87103

Regional Director
Southern Plains Region
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Anadarko, OK 73005

Ms. Jan Biella
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer
New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
228 E. Palace Avenue
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Pueblos and Tribes

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Pueblo of Jemez
P.O. Box 100
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Governor Albert Alvidrez
Pueblo of Ysleta del Sur
P.O. Box 17579
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Earl Yeahquo, Chairman
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Carnegie, OK 72015

Sara Misquez, President
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P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Ruey Darrow, Chairman
Fort Sill Apache Business Committee
Route 2, Box 121
Apache, OK 73006

Johnny Wauqua, Chairman
Comanche Tribal Business Committee
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73502

Wayne Taylor, Jr., Chairman
Hopi Tribe
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039