



September 8, 2005

Wanda D. Balderama, Tribal Chair
Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
3000 Shanel Rd.
Hopland, CA 95449

Dear Ms. Balderama:

The NIGC has received and reviewed your letter dated August 25, 2005 that requests the NIGC's review and decision on the Management Contract be Categorically Excluded (CATEX) under the CEQs NEPA requirements.

The NIGC has reviewed your request and in accordance with CEQ regulation (40 CFR 1508.4), the NIGC has determined that actions that would occur should the Management Contract be approved will "not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment...." It is also important to note that the scope of development in the Management Contract and your request for a CATEX must be reasonably consistent. Should you later decide to expand the scope of development in your Management Contract you must contact this office for guidance regarding the level of environmental review for the additional actions.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 202-632-7003 or in writing at the address listed below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Mehaffy".

Brad Mehaffy, REM
NEPA Compliance Officer
National Indian Gaming Commission