

Similar to BIA's surface leasing regulations, Tribal regulations under the HEARTH Act pervasively cover all aspects of leasing. *See* 25 U.S.C. 415(h)(3)(B)(i) (requiring Tribal regulations be consistent with BIA surface leasing regulations). Furthermore, the Federal Government remains involved in the Tribal land leasing process by approving the Tribal leasing regulations in the first instance and providing technical assistance, upon request by a Tribe, for the development of an environmental review process. The Secretary also retains authority to take any necessary actions to remedy violations of a lease or of the Tribal regulations, including terminating the lease or rescinding approval of the Tribal regulations and reassuming lease approval responsibilities. Moreover, the Secretary continues to review, approve, and monitor individual Indian land leases and other types of leases not covered under the Tribal regulations according to 25 CFR part 162.

Accordingly, the Federal and Tribal interests weigh heavily in favor of preemption of State and local taxes on lease-related activities and interests, regardless of whether the lease is governed by Tribal leasing regulations or 25 CFR part 162. Improvements, activities, and leasehold or possessory interests may be subject to taxation by the Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan.

**Wizipan Garriott,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Exercising by delegation the authority of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2024–27401 Filed 11–21–24; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Indian Affairs**

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**Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Gaming Facility Project, City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), as lead agency, with the Coquille Indian Tribe (Tribe), City of Medford (City), Jackson County (County), and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) serving as cooperating agencies, intends to file a Final Environmental

Impact Statement (FEIS) with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in connection with the Tribe's application to transfer into trust approximately 2.4 acres for gaming purposes in the City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon (Medford Site).

**DATES:** The Record of Decision for the proposed action will be issued on or after 30 days from the date the EPA publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The BIA must receive any comments on the FEIS before that date.

**ADDRESSES:** By mail or hand delivery to: Bryan Mercier, Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232. Please include your name, return address, and "FEIS Comments, Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project" on the first page of your written comments.

*By email to:* Tobiah Mogavero, NEPA Coordinator, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at: [tobiah.mogavero@bia.gov](mailto:tobiah.mogavero@bia.gov), using "FEIS Comments, Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project" as the subject of your email.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Tobiah Mogavero, NEPA Coordinator, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, (435) 210–0509, [tobiah.mogavero@bia.gov](mailto:tobiah.mogavero@bia.gov). Information is also available online at <https://coquille-eis.com>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft EIS was published by the BIA (87 FR 72505) and EPA (87 FR 72482) in the **Federal Register** on November 25, 2022. The Draft EIS was originally made available for public comment for a 45-day period. However, the BIA extended the public comment period for an additional 45-day period that concluded on February 23, 2023, resulting in a total comment period of 90 days. Virtual public hearings were held on December 15, 2022, and January 31, 2023, to collect verbal comments on the Draft EIS.

**Background**

The following alternatives are considered in the FEIS: (1) Proposed Project; (2) Phoenix Site; (3) Expansion of the Mill Casino; and (4) and No Action/No Development Alternative. The BIA has selected Alternative 1, the Proposed Project, as the Preferred Alternative as discussed in the FEIS.

Environmental issues addressed in the FEIS include geology and soils, water resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural and paleontological resources, socioeconomic conditions (including environmental justice),

transportation and circulation, land use, public services, noise, hazardous materials, aesthetics, cumulative effects, and indirect and growth inducing effects.

The information and analysis contained in the FEIS, as well as its evaluation and assessment of the Preferred Alternative, will assist the Department in its review of the issues presented in the Tribe's application. Selection of the Preferred Alternative does not indicate the Department's final decision because the Department must complete its review process. The Department's review process consists of (1) issuing the notice of availability of the FEIS; (2) issuing a Record of Decision no sooner than 30 days following publication of a Notice of Availability of the FEIS by the EPA in the **Federal Register**; and (3) transfer of the Medford Site in to trust under the Coquille Restoration Act of 1989, 25 U.S.C. 715 *et. seq.*

*Locations where the FEIS is Available for Review:* The FEIS is available for review at <https://coquille-eis.com>. Contact information is listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

*Public Comment Availability:* Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be included as part of the administrative record and responses to comments on the Final EIS. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the BIA cannot guarantee that this will occur.

**Authority**

This notice is published pursuant to section 1503.1 of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR part 1500 through 1508) and section 46.305 of the Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR part 46), implementing the procedural requirements of the NEPA of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371, *et seq.*), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8. This notice is also published in accordance with 40 CFR 93.155, which provides reporting

requirements for conformity determinations.

**Bryan Newland,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Notice of Availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement and Final Conformity Determination for the Koi Nation of Northern California's Proposed Shiloh Resort and Casino Project, Sonoma County, California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), as lead agency, with the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) serving as cooperating agencies, has filed a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) with the EPA in connection with the Koi Nation of Northern California's (Koi Nation) application for acquisition in trust by the United States of approximately 68.60 acres adjacent to the Town of Windsor, Sonoma County, California for gaming and other purposes.

**DATES:** The Record of Decision for the proposed action will be issued on or after 30 days from the date the EPA publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The BIA must receive any comments on the FEIS before that date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send written comments by any of the following methods:

- *Mail or hand-delivery:* Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825. Please include your name, return address, and "FEIS Comments, Shiloh Resort and Casino Project" on the first page of your written comments.

- *Email:* Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at [chad.broussard@bia.gov](mailto:chad.broussard@bia.gov) using "FEIS Comments, Shiloh Resort and Casino Project" as the subject of your email.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W–2820, Sacramento, California 95825;

telephone: (916) 978–6165; email: [chad.broussard@bia.gov](mailto:chad.broussard@bia.gov). Information is also available online at <https://www.shilohresortenvironmental.com/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BIA previously prepared an EA that analyzed the potential environmental effects of the proposed action. The EA was made available for public comments from September 12, 2023, through November 13, 2023, providing for a total of 60 days to submit comments on the EA. Upon consideration of the public and agency comments received, the BIA decided to prepare an EIS to further analyze the environmental effects which may result from the proposed action. A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS was published in the **Federal Register** and *The Press Democrat* on March 8, 2024. A Notice of Availability (NOA) was published in the **Federal Register** by the BIA on July 8, 2024 (89 FR 55968) and the EPA on July 12, 2024 (89 FR 57150). The Draft EIS was made available for a 45-day public comment period beginning July 12, 2024, and ending on August 26, 2024. A public meeting was held July 30, 2024, to collect verbal comments. In accordance with section 176 of the Clean Air Act and the EPA's general conformity regulations, a Draft Conformity Determination has been prepared for the Shiloh Resort and Casino Project. The Final Conformity Determination is contained within appendix F–2 of the FEIS.

#### Background

The following alternatives are considered in the FEIS: (A) Proposed Project; (B) Reduced Intensity Alternative; (C) Non-Gaming Alternative; and (D) No Action Alternative. The BIA has selected Alternative A, the Proposed Project as the Preferred Alternative as discussed in the FEIS.

Environmental issues addressed in the FEIS include land resources; water resources; air quality and climate change; noise; biological resources; cultural and paleontological resources; transportation and circulation; land use; hazardous materials and hazards; public services and utilities; socioeconomic; environmental justice; visual resources; and cumulative, indirect, and growth-inducing effects.

The information and analysis contained in the FEIS, as well as its evaluation and assessment of the Preferred Alternative, will assist the Department in its review of the issues presented in the Tribe's application. Selection of the Preferred Alternative does not indicate the Department's final decision because the Department must

complete its review process. The Department's review process consists of (1) issuing the notice of availability of the FEIS; (2) issuing a Record of Decision no sooner than 30 days following publication of a Notice of Availability of the FEIS by the EPA in the **Federal Register**; and (3) transfer of the approximately 68.60 acres into trust.

*Locations where the FEIS is Available for Review:* The FEIS is available for review at <https://www.shilohresortenvironmental.com/>, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825 (with advance notice and during regular business hours), and Windsor Regional Library located at 9291 Old Redwood Hwy. #100, Windsor, CA 95492, telephone (707) 838–1020 (during regular business hours). Contact information is listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

*Public Comment Availability:* Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be included as part of the administrative record and responses to comments on the Final EIS. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the BIA cannot guarantee that this will occur.

#### Authority

This notice is published pursuant to section 1503.1 of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) and section 46.305 of the Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR part 46), implementing the procedural requirements of the NEPA, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371, *et seq.*), and in accordance with the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8. This notice is also published in accordance with 40 CFR 93.155, which provides reporting requirements for conformity determinations.

#### Wizipan Garriott,

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Exercising by Delegation the Authority of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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