



TINA KOTEK  
GOVERNOR

December 13, 2024

The Honorable Bryan Newland  
Assistant Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington D.C. 20240

Dear Assistant Secretary Newland,

Thank you for your continued leadership in supporting Tribal Nations and Native communities. I am writing to request an extension of the public comment period on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) regarding the Coquille Tribe's application to transfer approximately 2.4 acres into trust for gaming purposes in Medford, Oregon.

This decision carries significant implications for Oregon's communities, economic landscape, and broader state interests. It is critical to ensure that all stakeholders—Tribal Nations, local governments, and residents alike—have sufficient time to thoughtfully consider the FEIS and provide meaningful feedback.

An additional 30 days for public comment would allow for a more thorough examination of the potential effects on the state's economic environment, local planning efforts, and intergovernmental relationships. Providing this extension will help ensure that all perspectives are considered and that the decision-making process is fully informed.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to your response. If my office can provide additional information or support further discussion, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smr