

documented more strongly than for the proposed finding. There was direct, clear evidence, not available for the proposed finding, that Ed Davis, a key leader and ally of Jerry Kanim before his death, and a very influential leader in the 1970's and early 1980's, was also a key leader in the decade immediately after Jerry Kanim's death. In addition, the leadership cadre that was active after 1956 was considerably larger than the proposed finding indicated and their roles more clearly spelled out than had been possible for the proposed finding.

The proposed finding concluded that fishing rights was a political issue of importance to a broad portion of the membership from 1953 to the present. It concluded that the STO activities in the decades before 1953 showed fishing rights to be a strong political issue which formed the basis of the continued interest in fishing rights after 1953. The Tulalip Tribes challenged this finding, contending that fishing was only a claims issue and that there was little interest in fishing. A review of new and existing documentation strengthened the finding that this was a significant political issue to a broad spectrum of the membership within the STO both from the 1930's to 1953 and after 1953.

Substantial additional demonstration of political processes, leadership and influence from 1968 to the present was made possible by the additional information submitted by the Snoqualmie and by the review and reanalysis of the existing record. This evidence demonstrates recurring political conflict over significant issues such as maintenance of tradition in the style of governance, the chairman's versus the council's role, and how to approach fishing rights. These conflicts involved the communication of issues broadly among the membership and the mobilization of community opinion. For this final determination, there is a stronger and more detailed demonstration, over a longer period of time, of the existence of family line groupings and their political role. There is a stronger and more detailed demonstration that important avenues of influence exist to bring forward candidates and establish support by mobilizing public opinion and political support.

A prime conclusion of the proposed finding was that the general council (general meeting of the membership) exercised major political influence since at least the 1960's as final arbiter of political questions. It was the means by which political disputes were settled and the actions of the tribal council reviewed and ratified. There was some additional evidence to support this

finding. This conclusion is therefore affirmed.

The Tulalip Tribes presented extensive specific arguments together with documentary and affidavit evidence to support their fundamental argument that the STO was only a voluntary organization which was formed solely for the purposes of pursuing land and other claims against the Government. A careful review of their comments and evidence did not support their conclusion that the STO was an organization whose members had no connection with each other except to enroll to receive claims or that its issues were not of political importance to the membership. The STO meets the requirements of 83.7(c) as modified by 83.8(d)(3).

The Tulalip Tribe's comments do not specifically challenge the proposed finding that the STO membership is descended from the historical Snoqualmie tribe and therefore met the requirements of criterion 83.7(e). They did present extensive evidence to support an argument that the family lines within the STO represents an insignificant portion of the total number of historical Snoqualmie family lines. The Tulalip Tribes also argued that the STO only represents a small portion of the descendants of those lines that are included in its membership. This does not constitute an argument that criterion 83.7(e), descent from a historical tribe, has not been met. There is no requirement under the regulations that a petitioner be descended from most of the historical tribe. The present membership of the STO is descended from a large number of historical Snoqualmie families and thus meets the requirement to show descent as a tribe. The STO membership descends from the historical Snoqualmie tribe. The STO therefore meets criterion 83.7(e).

The STO met criteria 83.7 (d), (f), and (g) for the proposed finding. Significant comment or evidence was not submitted to refute the finding concerning these criteria. Consequently, this final determination confirms that the STO meets these criteria.

Dated: August 22, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Prioritizing the 1995 Facilities Needs Assessments for the Repair and Improvement of Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement Facilities

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is published to inform all American Indian tribes that the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Law Enforcement Services has prioritized the 1995 Facilities Needs Assessments for the Repair and Improvement of Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement Facilities. The Bureau of Indian Affairs will use this prioritized list to determine which project location will proceed into planning, design or construction based on appropriations received from Congress. The prioritization of the facilities was accomplished in part by consideration of age, condition and whether or not the facility was able to meet the current detention standards and codes. Some of these projects will require extensive renovation or total replacement of the facility.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theodore Quasula, Director, Office of Law Enforcement Services, P.O. Box 66, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-0066. His phone number is (505) 248-7937.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published in exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs under 25 U.S.C. 2 and 9 and 209 DM 8. In compliance with Recommendation 1, Action 9, of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Inspector General Audit Report, "Maintenance of Detention Facilities, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Report No. 94-1-1131, August 1994," Correction Action Plan, the Office of Law Enforcement Services has prioritized the 1995 Facilities Needs Assessments as listed below:

1. Blackfeet Law Enforcement Center
2. Red Lake Law Enforcement Center
3. Pine Ridge Correctional Facility
4. Wellpinit Law Enforcement Center
5. Supai Jail
6. Medicine Root Detention Center
7. White Mountain Law Enforcement Center
8. Crow Law Enforcement Center
9. Zuni Police Department
10. Fort Belknap Law Enforcement Center
11. Turtle Mountain Law Enforcement Center
12. San Carlos Law Enforcement Center

13. Wind River Police Department
14. Fort Totten Municipal Center
15. Nett Lake Law Enforcement Center
16. Rosebud Law Enforcement Center
17. Quinault Police Department
18. Northern Cheyenne Law Enforcement Center
19. Sacaton Adult Detention Center
20. Owyhee Detention Center
21. Warm Springs Detention
22. Fort Peck Police Department
23. Sacaton Juvenile Detention Center
24. Peach Springs Detention Center
25. Hopi Rehabilitation Center
26. Menominee Tribal Jail
27. Fort Thompson Jail
28. Omaha Tribal Police Department
29. Sells Adult Detention Center
30. Standing Rock Law Enforcement Center
31. Chemawa Indian School
32. Fort Peck Indian Youth Service Center
33. Walter Miner Law Enforcement Center-Adult
34. Walter Miner Law Enforcement Center-Juvenile

Dated: August 20, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-22990 Filed 8-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Tribal-State Gaming Compacts Taking Effect.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Public Law 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in the **Federal Register**, notice of Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III (casino) gambling on Indian reservations. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, through her delegated authority, is publishing the Tribal-State Compacts between the following Tribe/Pueblos and the State of New Mexico executed on July 9, 1997. The Mescalero Apache Tribe, Pueblo of San Felipe, Pueblo of Pojoaque, Pueblo of Tesuque, Pueblo of Laguna, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Pueblo of Sandia, Pueblo of Taos, Pueblo of Acoma, and Pueblo of Isleta. By the terms of IGRA these Compacts are considered approved, but only to the extent the compacts are consistent with the provisions of IGRA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department believes that the decision to

let the 45-day statutory deadline for approval or disapproval of the Compacts expire without taking action is the most appropriate course of action given the unique history of state and federal court cases and legislative actions that have shaped the course of Indian gaming in New Mexico. A letter further explaining the Department's decision is available from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Gaming Management Staff at the address below.

DATES: This action is effective August 29, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paula L. Hart, Acting Director, Indian Gaming Management Staff, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street NW, MS 2070-MIB, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4068.

Dated: August 23, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-22989 Filed 8-28-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[HE-952-9911-00]

Information Collection Associated With Contracts for Sale of In-Kind Crude Helium

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces its intention to request approval for the collection of information from those persons who have entered into enforceable contracts to purchase an equivalent amount of crude helium from the Secretary. The BLM uses the information to balance crude helium sales with sales to Federal agencies. **DATES:** Comments in the proposed collection must be received by October 28, 1997 to be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed or hand delivered to: Bureau of Land Management, Helium Operations, 801 S. Fillmore, Suite 500, Amarillo, TX 79101-3545. Comments will be available for public review at the Fillmore address during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday. You may also send comments electronically by way of the Internet to Cneely@he.blm.gov. Please submit comments as an ASCII

file to avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Connie H. Neely, Helium Sales Officer, (806) 324-2635.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.12(a), BLM is required to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information contained in proposed rules or other documents to solicit comments on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical or technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Helium Privatization Act of 1996 requires the Department of Defense, the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and other Federal agencies to purchase their major requirements for helium from people who have entered into enforceable contracts to purchase an equivalent amount of crude helium from the Secretary. The Act requires BLM to change its current helium regulations at 30 CFR 601 and 602. In advance of the regulatory changes, however, BLM must prepare a new standard contract to meet the "enforceable contract" provision of the Act. This information collection meets the requirements of that provision.

The proposed contract will contain the following information and recordkeeping requirements: Information pertaining to definitions, effective date and term of contract, delivery, pricing, charges, billing and payment of crude helium, and reports of sales to Federal agencies.

BLM will use the information to account for helium sold to Federal agencies and crude helium purchased from BLM. Upon request, BLM will furnish information as to which companies are in-kind crude helium customers and which Federal agencies might have a major helium requirement. If BLM did not collect this information, there could be no accurate accounting of BLM helium to Federal agencies from Federal helium suppliers. The information, which is required by law, is mandatory for reporting purposes.