

## memorandum

DATE: JUL 02 1997

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF:

Area Director, Sacramento Area Office

SUBJECT:

Proposed Gaming Land Acquisition - Mechoopda Tribe of Chico Rancheria

TO:

Deputy Regional Solicitor, Office of the Solicitor, Pacific Southwest  
Region, Sacramento

The Central California Agency Superintendent has requested that we obtain a "Section 20" determination in order that the applicable processing procedures can be followed for the proposed fee-to-trust land acquisition application involving approximately 248 acres located in Sutter County. Attached for your ready reference are copies of the Deputy Commissioner's February 21, 1997 memorandum and the guidelines for gaming acquisitions.

Also attached are copies of the Superintendent's June 20, 1997 request, the Tribe's May 12, 1997 letter stating the proposal is an exception as set forth in 25 U.S.C. §2719(b)(1)(B)(iii), and the land acquisition application dated August 23, 1996. The application, at Exhibit 3, includes a copy of the Stipulation for Entry of Judgment in the Scotts Valley litigation which restored federal recognition to the Chico Rancheria. Sutter County, Office of the County Counsel, has already provided you with a copy of its June 6, 1997 conclusion that the Mechoopda Tribe cannot utilize the subject property for gaming purposes [absent concurrence of the State Governor that the proposal is not detrimental to the surrounding community and the project is in the best interests of the tribe].

Please contact the Area Realty Officer if any additional information is required for your review.

/s/ Ronald M. Jaeger

Attachments

cc: Superintendent, CCA  
Acting Area Natural Resources Officer

FACIO:cf 6/30/97

File ref:

RPM

4609-P10 Chico Land Acq (Gaming)

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