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QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation
Office of Tribal Administration

P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, Arizona 85366-1899
Phone (760) 919-3600
Fax (760) 919-3662

Mr. Jim Minnick
Director
Planning and Development Services
801 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

July 26, 2022

Mr. Minnick:

The Fort Yuma Indian Tribe is writing to inform you of our opposition to the proposed New Geothermal with Lithium Extraction projects at the Salton Sea (Lithium Valley). Our objections are in regards to the lack of formal AB 52 consultation with the Tribe and adequate analysis under CEQA. Imperial County has failed to follow their legal obligations under the California AB 52 process. The tribe requested formal consultation on these projects in 2020, but Imperial County failed to engage in consultation and to provide the tribe with project documentation. Without this information the tribe is unable to make informed decisions regarding the impacts of these projects on the tribe.

Tribal concerns and values are not being weighed evenly within the overall analysis of these projects. The Tribal government and the direct impacts to the Quechan people and our cultural heritage are consistently over looked in these processes. We see this as a continued genocide of Native people and our cultures.

Until formal consultation occurs with the tribe these projects cannot move forward. We request that Imperial County contact Quechan Tribal Government to rectify this situation and engage in formal government-to-government consultation.

Sincerely,

Jordan D. Joaquin, President
Quechan Tribal Council

Cc:

Julianne Polanco, California SHPO Julianne.Polanco@parks.ca.gov

Kourtney Vaccaro, Commissioner, California Energy

Commission Kourtney.Vaccaro@energy.ca.gov

Katrina Leni-Konig, Deputy Public Advisor and Tribal Liaison, California Energy

Commission Katrina.Leni-Konig@energy.ca.gov

Michael Abraham, AICP, Assistant Planning & Development Service Director, Imperial County

Planning and Development MichaelAbraham@co.imperial.ca.us

Henry Martinez, General Manager, Imperial Irrigation District ebmatinez@iid.com

Silvia Paz, Chair, Lithium Valley Commission silvia@alianzacv.org