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*Comment Received From: Courtney Coyle OBO Carmen Lucas, Kwaaymii Laguna
Band of Indians*

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As prepared testimony November 17, 2022, LVC Meeting

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

As prepared testimony November 17, 2022, LVC Meeting

Courtney Coyle, Attorney for Carmen Lucas, Kwaaymii Laguna Band

Appreciate that some revisions to the report have been made in response to prior Kwaaymii comments.

However, we would like to carry forward our other comments. We also disagree with the approach introduced into the revised final report (page 43, lines 12-14) asking readers to go to the docket to obtain a summary of tribal perspectives. That approach is unwieldy, difficult, and not done for any other stakeholder or stakeholder group. It also appears discriminatory and unfair. Can additional tribal perspective be added to the final text by the Chair with the support of staff?

Second, we also appreciate that some revisions to the consolidated recommendations were made in response to prior Kwaaymii comments. We further recommend edits to two items in Table B:

Regarding Number 3: Options 1 and 2, Economic Development Zone, echoing Commissioner Olmeda, we ask that Tribes be added to the list of Community Economic Resilience Fund stakeholders. Tribes often get left out if not specifically listed at the outset – like what happened in the formation of this very commission. We also agree with Commissioner Weisgall’s approach that the two options be combined and ask that Tribal consultation be placed into any selected options.

Regarding Number 12: State Agency Initiatives and Programs, again echoing Commissioners Olmeda and Weisgall, agree that a centralized information portal on Lithium Extraction be developed for community engagement and information dispersal. Prefer it remaining a recommendation and not a finding - it is very difficult for tribes to access information, track, and participate in the permitting and project implementation processes as is. Perhaps this could live within the state such as the CEC especially since the county does not appear to support it.

Regarding Number 18: Community Benefits and Safety, ask that it be revised to state that any advisory council or body be representative and include Tribal representatives affiliated with the geographic area. Again, without specific inclusion, tribal stakeholders tend to be overlooked.

Having just been provided this Table, we have not been able to reach out to Commissioners or staff before today. We hope these minor revisions can be made now.

Lastly, regarding the responses to comments, we are unable to comment on their completeness as there was not adequate time provided by the docket to fully review them prior to this meeting.

Carmen Lucas is here on the same device; she also would like 3 minutes to comment.

Thank you for time and attention.