



April 16, 2019

VIA EMAIL: KIMBERLY.YEARYEAN@BIA.GOV

Pacific Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Kimberly Yearyean
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
APR 16 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Ms. Yearyean:

NOTICE OF (NON-GAMING) LAND ACQUISITION APPLICATION FOR THE SANTA ROSA INDIAN COMMUNITY OF THE SANTA ROSA RANCHERIA, SCH# 2019030004

The Department of Conservation's (Department) Division of Land Resource Protection (Division) has reviewed the Notice of Land Acquisition Application (project). The Division monitors farmland conversion on a statewide basis and administers the Williamson Act and other agricultural land conservation programs. We offer the following comments and recommendations with respect to the proposed project's potential impacts on agricultural land and resources.

Project Description

The applicant is requesting to acquire assessor parcel numbers 024-160-023-000 and 024-160-024-000 located in Kings County, Ca. The subject parcels total 37.19 acres, and are contiguous to tribal trust property boundaries of the Santa Rosa Indian Community of Santa Rosa Rancheria. Currently the subject parcels hold a classification of Farmland of Statewide Importance as determined by the Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program.¹

Department Comments

The Department's records - based on information provided by Kings County indicate that the subject parcels are enrolled in Williamson Act contracts. However, the preliminary title report provided with the notice indicate that notices of partial non-renewal were filed in 2006, which could mean some or all of the subject parcels are no longer enrolled in Williamson Act contracts.

¹ California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>

The Department recommends verifying whether the parcels are enrolled in the Williamson Act, particularly if the applicant intends to change the use of the subject parcels to a use that is not compatible with the Williamson Act. If the parcels are still enrolled in Williamson Act contracts and the applicant may use the property for a use that is not consistent with the Williamson Act, then the Department recommends that the applicant begin the process to remove the Williamson Act contracts from the property. Please refer to our website for further information regarding contract non-renewal, cancellation, and other contract removal methods.²

Conclusion

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Land Acquisition Application for the Santa Rosa Indian Community. Please provide this Department with notices of any future hearing dates as well as any staff reports pertaining to this project. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Farl Grundy, Environmental Planner at (916) 324-7347 or via email at Farl.Grundy@conservation.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Keali'i Bright
Division Director

cc: Sara J. Drake, Deputy Attorney General
California State Clearinghouse

² http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/wa/Pages/removing_contracts.aspx