

APPENDIX E

Scoping Meeting Sign-In and Transcript

Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheets

**Department of Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs**

**Proposed West Plains Mixed-Use Development Project, Spokane County, Washington
Scoping Meeting
September 16, 2009**

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Scoping Meeting Transcript

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SPOKANE INDIAN TRIBE CASINO PROJECT

PUBLIC MEETING

No. 0000002857

Held September 16th, 2009

Airway Heights, Washington

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I N D E X

Spokane Indian Tribe Casino Project

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2
3 MR. PAULEY: My name is Tom Pauley. I
4 actually represent Irv Zakheim, the president and CEO of
5 Zak's Designs, and Irv is out of town and wasn't able to
6 attend and asked me to pass on his concerns.

7 His first concern is the infastructure that
8 we presently have, and whether the new facilities that
9 are being planned would put even more of a strain on the
10 present infastructure.

11 On Monday, September 14th, we had a partial
12 power failure within Airway Heights. It's not the first,
13 but it was extensive, and cost our business several
14 thousand dollars, and I'm sure it effected other
15 businesses the same way. So we have a concern with how
16 the grid is going to be improved to be able to handle the
17 load that the facilities being planned are going to bring
18 on line.

19 And another concern he has is the traffic
20 flow, especially as it relates to coming to and from the
21 Fairchild Air Force Base property.

22 Several of our employees are military
23 dependents or retirees that live out in this area, and
24 during the peak traffic periods at Fairchild, there are
25 several safety concerns, and there is only going to

1 increase the traffic flow to this area and could
2 conceivably cause some serious accidents, just because of
3 the additional traffic that is going to be on the
4 highway.

5 From a personal point of view, speaking as
6 Tom Pauley, a retired after 27 years of military and I
7 was a security force's manager. I was stationed at a
8 base very similar to Fairchild from a traffic flow
9 standpoint, and while I was there, a family of five was
10 killed just trying to enter the base because of the way
11 the highway is built here, and it is exactly the same
12 model as the one that was in Indiana where the accident
13 took place.

14 And I have seen what can happen when
15 Fairchild has an emergency and has to shut down the gate,
16 during peak travel periods there is an awful lot of
17 decisions that has to be made quickly by drivers based on
18 the speed limit on this highway and the limited amount of
19 space you have to operate.

20 And another of Irv's concerns is that the
21 Kalispel Tribe has been very, very good neighbor to the
22 community. They are very actively involved in numerous
23 charities and community events. Obviously this will
24 bring competition to them, and there is no guarantee that
25 the Spokane Tribe has to provide the same support as the

1 Kalispel Tribe.

2 We are concerned as business people that it
3 could actually have an adverse impact on local charities
4 and social events, public events that the Kalispel Tribe
5 currently supports. And they support it with both
6 personnel, volunteers that go out in the community and
7 help do things, as well as money and other ways of
8 supporting it. It's not all just cash, a lot of it has
9 to do with people that volunteer to help out.

10 I, personally speaking again as Tom Pauley,
11 because I spent 27 years in the military, I have a very
12 big concern with what the impact this will have on
13 Fairchild's flight pattern.

14 When the BRAC, which is the Base Realignment
15 and Closure Commission out of Washington DC look at bases
16 and make a decision on whether to close a base or not,
17 one of the main things they look at is whether that base
18 is capable of sustaining more growth; more resources,
19 different missions, things of that sort.

20 And one of the concerns that I have with this
21 new project, is that it is going to be right over the
22 flight path to Fairchild, and sometime down the road, the
23 BRAC could look at this and determine that it might not
24 be safe to increase air traffic in this area
25 significantly, which could ultimately lead to Fairchild

1 being considered for closure. And since Fairchild is one
2 of the largest employers in Eastern Washington, that
3 would devastate this area. That is a concern that I
4 have, having been a retired military.

5 I am also concerned with the additional
6 strains that this would put on some of the services in
7 town, the police, fire, some of the things that the
8 public needs.

9 There is no guarantee, there is no
10 requirement that the Spokane Tribe would have to support
11 through fees or whatever, taxes, since they are tax
12 exempt, to increase the fire and the police visibility in
13 the area, and I think they would strain an already tight
14 budget for both the fire department and the local police
15 department.

16 That is basically my comments.

17 My phone is 244-0555. My e-mail address is
18 Pauley@Zak.com, and I am available to take comments or
19 to provide more input if necessary.

20 Thank you, very much.

21

22 MR. SMITH: My name is Yoshio Smith.

23 I am here to talk about three things. One is
24 encroachments, what ifs, and economic impact.

25 As you can tell, most of the Air Force Base

1 was built in the 1940s, 1950s, and the community
2 developed around it.

3 I was a KE-135 pilot, just like the airplanes
4 stationed here. I was stationed at Fairchild Air Force
5 Base twice; first as the Deputy Operations Group
6 Commander from 1994-1995. The second time was as the
7 Vice Wing Commander, so I was No. 2 in charge of the
8 operations of the entire base, from November 1998-August
9 2001.

10 And I retired on December 2004 with over 30
11 years of honorable service, with over 4800 hours of
12 flying time.

13 I also have civil flying experience flying
14 with Korean Airlines, and have FAA Airline Transport
15 Rating, type rating in Boeing 707 and 720, and I am
16 Flight Instructor, and my license is current, and I am
17 able to teach multiengine, single engine, and instrument
18 airplane landing. So I have a total of over 7000 flying
19 time.

20 I also have over seven years of safety
21 experience, from the base level, and I was an Inspector
22 General's Safety and Operations Inspector, and I also
23 held a position at the Pentagon as a safety person. I won
24 the Strategic Air Force Command's Outstanding Chief of
25 Safety Award in 1986.

1 I was honored, I guess, to investigate two
2 major aircraft accidents, one of which was the 1987 crash
3 here at Fairchild Air Force Base near the flying squadron
4 buildings where they were conducting a safety meeting.
5 Seven airmen died in that mishap.

6 The aircraft mishap and the aftermath are
7 always caused by humans. This is what I'm talking about.
8 In the safety world, we call them chain of events. Some
9 call them "what ifs". What if on March 13, 1987, at 1313
10 hours, the tanker did not get too close to the B052?
11 What if the weather was such that safety of the maneuver
12 was not assured? What if the base civil engineer sited
13 the squadron building 50 yards to the north? The impact
14 would be right on top of them with more people killed.

15 This brings me to clear zones and noise
16 abatement zone issues. I am also a math major, and my
17 upper division courses were in probabilities and
18 statistics. In math, the chain of events can be
19 described as in Markov Chains. These are the "what ifs".
20 What if the city and the base planners were smart enough
21 to do their homework and avoid that accident that kills
22 many people on the ground?

23 Let me give you some examples.

24 On September 24th, 1972, when I was about to
25 be stationed at Mather Air Force Base near Sacramento,

1 California, I was going through training at Castle Air
2 Force Base California near Merced California, there was a
3 former Royal Canadian Air Force F-86 aircraft flown by a
4 civilian pilot crashed into an ice cream parlor, which
5 took off out of Sacramento Executive Airport.

6 One problem with this crash was that the
7 crash not only killed the pilot but also killed 22,
8 including 12 children in the Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor,
9 which was right on the flight path, but within the clear
10 zone.

11 Since I am a safety person, I read or hear
12 about these crashes and ask myself "what if"?

13 Another issue at hand I would like to address
14 is to the issue of BRAC.

15 As you may know, the four letter ugly word
16 comes about every four to six years. This commission's
17 job is to close the base so that they can save money.
18 Years prior to the BRAC, the communities develop an
19 argument to keep the base.

20 One of the most important things military
21 does when we are not fighting the war is to train. So,
22 one of the questions we ask is, "Can we safety train out
23 troops"?

24 I have landed at many bases where I asked the
25 question, "Who designed the approach into this base or

1 another?" After I attended the SAC Instrument School, I
2 finally understood that the reasons for some of these
3 yahoo maneuvers, to avoid buildings, electrical lines,
4 trees and other obstructions, especially where you cannot
5 see them.

6 Obviously we want to avoid crashing onto a
7 building or a telephone pole, but if these man-made
8 structures get too close to the base, safety of crew
9 members are at jeopardy and thus the training opportunity
10 will be diminished.

11 While I was stationed at Beale Air Force Base
12 California near Yuba City, California, some 50 miles
13 north of Sacramento, the BRAC closed McClellan Air Force
14 Base. Since the base was so close and the pilots from
15 Beale Air Force Base needed "strange" airport landing
16 practices, we used to go to McClellan Air Force Base.
17 The BRAC determined that the encroachment of buildings,
18 businesses, and housing posed a problem of safety and
19 training, the commission decided to close the base.

20 Another issue needs to be addressed in the
21 ACUIZ, is the noise abatement. The good example of noise
22 abatement and how this issue restricts flying operations
23 is RAF Mildenhall. We take off out of Fairchild Air
24 Force Base to land at Milden within the "quite zone"
25 which restricts the aircrews operationally. Suppose

1 there is a maintenance problem and can't get the jet
2 fixed in time to make the "quite zone," We will have to
3 take off the next day, this could mean operational
4 failure because everything fits together, crew resting,
5 getting the airplane generated to let the receiver know
6 the aircraft is going to be a day late. That is not
7 good.

8 As you may know, the BRAC report is all or
9 nothing, meaning the president can accept the report as
10 is or reject the entire report.

11 I am talking to you tonight to ask you if
12 Fairchild Air Force Base is worth keeping, I think
13 because it is the largest employer of Spokane County with
14 an annual economic impact of 468 million dollars as the
15 current wing commander would profess.

16 When I was the vice, we had five flying
17 squadrons compared to two currently, so therefore we have
18 a capacity to receive more tankers, plus we can receive
19 new tankers, the economic impact will be much larger.

20 We must be vigilant about the encroachment,
21 if not purely from safety and training standpoint, then
22 from a economic impact point of view. We need to keep
23 Fairchild open for retirees like me who, although my
24 contribution might be small, adds to the economic impact.

25 I come here at least once monthly, and

1 sometimes weekly to uses the base facilities like the
2 medical clinic, the Base Exchange, and the commissary,
3 but if they close, those services will be closed.

4 This base is also a gathering place. It is
5 symbolic. Two weeks ago the 80th Anniversary of Air
6 Refueling Air Force Ball brought over 750 people from
7 different parts of the world got together to remind each
8 of us how important Fairchild's mission is.

9 One other thing I would like to add, if you
10 can remember, right before I came I believe in 1994,
11 maybe perhaps in 1995 there was a B-52 crash and we all
12 had seen it on the television, and how the big airplane
13 like that can come crashing down so fast and so quickly,
14 that is my really high concern. I have over seven years
15 of safety experience, and it is very difficult to tell
16 the loved ones why the commander's crashed the airplane.

17 So, therefore, I am here as a retiree to say
18 that the planning phase is the most critical part of
19 keeping the base safe.

20 Thank you.

21

22 MR. NENEMA: My name is Glen Nenema, and I am
23 the Chairman of the Kalispel Tribe of Indians. A
24 position I have been honored to have for more than 30
25 years.

1 As the elected leader of the Kalispel Tribe,
2 I'm concerned about the impact that the proposed
3 development could have on Kalispel tribal members.

4 That concern is represented not just by me,
5 but by the many members and families who showed up here
6 today.

7 As a member of the broader community, I am
8 concerned about the impact that this development could
9 have on our quality of life and the social and economic
10 fabric that holds our community together and makes it
11 such a great place to live and raise a family.

12 I am concerned with the policy basis for a
13 Tribe utilizing an exception to law in a manner that
14 stands to undermine the intent and limitations of that
15 law and its applications in this state and nationwide.

16 And I'm concerned about the process that will
17 be used to make this decision, and making sure that it is
18 open, transparent, and fair.

19 The past 200 years has brought many hardships
20 to our Tribe. Our ancestors were only a few hundred
21 people limited to a small, remote reservation sitting
22 on a floodplain.

23 We didn't have access to the natural
24 resources that sustained our people for generations. We
25 didn't have the ability to provide essential services to

1 our members.

2 We had inadequate healthcare, we strained to
3 educate our children and prepare them for the future, and
4 the physical infrastructure supporting our Tribe left
5 many members without basic necessities, including: a lack
6 of drinking water, and lack of adequate sewer systems due
7 to poor soil conditions.

8 Our situation represented a rare and unique
9 example of when exceptions in a federally imposed law,
10 where true needs, not just perceived market wants, might
11 appropriately be considered.

12 Such is not the case in the Spokane Tribe's
13 project. If the Spokane casino project is approved, it
14 could jeopardize the Kalispel Tribe in many ways,
15 including:

16 1) Our ability to care for our elders,

17 2) To provide our children with educational
18 opportunities,

19 3) And the Tribe's ability to continue
20 providing the services and programs our members need and
21 that the broader community has come to depend on.

22 That's why it is very important that the EIS
23 study every potential impact that allowing the Spokane to
24 build their third casino just outside Airway Heights
25 would have on our Tribe and the surrounding community.

1 This includes taking a careful, thorough look
2 at the impacts on water, air, and land, as well as
3 traffic, housing, land use, economic, and social impacts.

4 I've been through this process myself and
5 there are problems with the current process. We don't
6 have adequate access to accurate information on a timely
7 basis.

8 There has been a pattern of cutting corners.

9 And I'm very concerned that if these two
10 problems persist, that the Bureau will have a hard time
11 ensuring not only that this process is fair, but also
12 that it satisfies the requirements of the environmental
13 laws, let alone the policies of the Indian Gaming
14 Regulatory Act that speaks to even considering such a
15 project in these circumstances.

16 When the Spokane's Airway Heights property
17 was first taken into trust, there was no environmental
18 review, and the stated purpose for bringing the land into
19 trust was different than the purpose that we were asked
20 to come here today to discuss.

21 This means that this is the first time that
22 the federal government will actually be taking a hard
23 look at the Spokane's proposed gaming development and its
24 potential impact.

25 And it means that this is the first time that

1 anybody in the community really will have the opportunity
2 to understand what exactly is going on and to voice their
3 concerns.

4 When the Notice of Intent was first issued,
5 it contained only a very vague description of what might
6 be developed on the site, hardly adequate for evaluating
7 a proposal or for providing useful comments about the
8 scope of the project or its impacts.

9 Only after we complained that the information
10 provided was incomplete, did the Bureau provide
11 additional information.

12 While I thank the Bureau for doing that and
13 appreciate their responsiveness, quite frankly, we should
14 not have had to be the people to point this out.

15 And there are still big holes in the picture,
16 which we, and the whole community, need to have filled in
17 order to be able to respond to the proposal.

18 For example, what federal action is required
19 for development of the non-gaming alternative that the
20 Bureau is going to evaluate in the EIS?

21 What services and mitigation will the City
22 provide for this alternative since it does not appear to
23 be covered by the existing agreements with the Spokane
24 Tribe?

25 These are just a few of the questions that

1 need to be answered by the Spokane Tribe and the Bureau
2 to allow meaningful participation by the community.

3 Without detail on the proposal and the
4 alternatives provided in a timely fashion, I'm afraid,
5 just like in 2002 when the Spokane land was first taken
6 into trust, that a decision may be made without the whole
7 community being able to really understand and participate
8 in the decisions effecting them.

9 And equally distressing, the decision may be
10 made without the BIS living up to its obligations under
11 both NEPA and IGRA to thoroughly evaluate the potential
12 detrimental impacts of the proposal.

13 That would be wrong for the community, it
14 would be wrong for the state, and it would be the wrong
15 way to ensure that everyone's rights and interests are
16 protected.

17 We hope the Bureau will take its obligations
18 to all Tribes and to the local community very seriously
19 as it proceeds with its review of this proposal.

20 As this process unfolds, I commit Kalispel to
21 being open and honest about our issues and concerns and to
22 treat the process with the respect that it deserves.

23 Last, I want to thank Dr. Howerton for being
24 here today, taking the time to listen to us carefully,
25 and understanding that this is a complicated issue.

1 I had just a quick statement, we were under
2 the impression that this was a hearing, and we are very
3 disappointed when we came here tonight that we are not
4 going to be able to speak. I am submitting my comments
5 that will also be in writing.

6 Thank you.

7

8 MIKE FORNESS: Mike Forness.

9 Well, Mike Forness, Executive Director of
10 Ronald McDonald House Charities.

11 Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to
12 share my comments on the letter of intent filed with the
13 Bureau of Indian Affairs by the Spokane Tribe of Indians
14 proposing a new gaming enterprise in Airway Heights.

15 My comments start with a lunch meeting I was
16 invited to over 20 years ago with Dave Bonga and Glen
17 Nenema. Dave and Glen shared with Ben Camp and I a
18 vision of the Kalispel Tribe of Indian's. This was at
19 the time when the Federal Government was intervening with
20 the State Government on behalf of the Kalispel Tribe of
21 Indians.

22 The Tribe's vision was comprehensive and
23 broad, it was huge. The vision included tribal gaming,
24 the Camas Institute, economic development, charitable
25 giving, more healthcare, social services, housing and

18

1 access to education for tribal members.

2 I have watched the Kalispel Tribe of Indians
3 closely over the last 20 years. They have done
4 everything they said they would do and more. They have
5 exceeded their vision.

6 Every point I have mentioned they have
7 over-delivered to the community. In this region doing
8 what you say you are going to do means a lot. More
9 importantly, the Kalispel Tribe not only had a vision but
10 they had a well thought out and studied plan that
11 included assessing the positive and negative impacts
12 their enterprises would have on our community.

13 This point of studying the impacts of tribal
14 gaming on the community is why I'm here today. A second
15 tribal gaming enterprise in Airway Heights would create a
16 cluster of gaming activity that would have potentially
17 negative impacts on: Traffic, public safety, water and
18 sewer and roads, and local law enforcement and fire
19 services, and social services.

20 I have been in the medical field for over 25
21 years managing drug and alcohol rehab programs, problem
22 gambling programs and other social services. I will be
23 the first to say that all forms of entertainment can
24 create some level of family, social and community
25 problems; it could be an addiction to golf, TV, video

1 games, alcohol, drugs, or even gambling.

2 I will also be the first to say that not
3 everyone that drinks or gambles develops a problem.
4 However, a cluster of gaming activities, a second Tribal
5 gaming enterprise in Airway Heights would synergistically
6 increase social problems related to gambling in our
7 community.

8 That's what the research indicates a cluster
9 of gaming enterprises does in a community. Please be
10 mindful of that.

11 The Kalispel Tribe was when they provided
12 Deaconess Medical Center with funding so that I could
13 start the first program in the state of Washington for
14 problem gamblers and their families. If a cluster of
15 gaming enterprises impacts this problem synergistically,
16 the Spokane Tribe needs to be mindful of that. I have
17 heard of no vision, plan or commitment to address this
18 potential.

19 Moving on from the traffic, safety, and
20 those other areas, the most important impact the Spokane
21 Tribe of Indian's proposed development would have is the
22 encroach on the area around our community's single
23 largest employer, Fairchild Air Force Base.

24 The economic development impact of Fairchild
25 on our community is staggering, over \$420 billion. Any

1 further encroachment on the area around Fairchild could
2 jeopardize the home of the largest refueling wing in the
3 Air Force and jeopardize our community.

4 The Spokane Tribe of Indians proposed
5 development says it would create a casino, a hotel of an
6 undetermined number of rooms, retail activity and
7 entertainment. Basically they're putting their money on
8 and selling their plan on economic development.

9 That approach is flawed in two ways: One, as
10 a Tribe, they already have two successful casinos. The
11 Spokane Tribe of Indians already has economic
12 development. The Kalispel Tribe already has a
13 development. More economic development through a second
14 enterprise in Airway Heights, gaming enterprise in Airway
15 Heights, would jeopardize the other tribe's economic
16 development. That doesn't make sense. Both tribe's have
17 economic development. Increase in one tribe's
18 development could impact the other tribe's capacity for
19 economic development.

20 Second, and most important flaw in their
21 economic development proposal from the Spokane Tribal
22 gaming enterprise may very well jeopardize the stability
23 and future of our community's largest employer. Tell me
24 how that supports economic development. This potential
25 negative impact should be studied very closely.

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Thank you.

FRED ZITTERKOPF: Fred Zitterkopf. My address is 5520 South Magnolia Street, Spokane 99223.

I am here on behalf of the Forward Fairchild Committee of Greater Spokane, Incorporated., a local Chamber of Commerce economic development group.

The purpose of Forward Fairchild was to insure that the base didn't get closed in the 2005 round of base closures and realignments that the United States government did.

We started out with defending the process, but now we are in the process of insuring that it remains with us.

And secondly, new missions can be attracted here, further expansion of the base, and just enhancement of the military presence here in Spokane.

Just as a point of reference, the economic impact is in excess of one billion dollars a year, that was established both by local economists as well as the State economists when they did a study of the entire state in preparation for the 2005 BRAC.

My comments are first and foremost, all options should consider and address compliance with Air Force recommendations for land use and other controls

1 that preserve the flying environment for Fairchild. That
2 would involve mainly the height of any construction, and
3 density of people, and finally noise issues that could
4 result from Fairchild aircraft over flying the site.

5 The other aspect is safety. Multiple flight
6 paths cross over this site and of the several of them are
7 short-term radius flights, and some result from
8 missed approaches during bad weather. So density of
9 people on the site is a concern and should be of concern
10 to all, not just to the Air Force but to the operator of
11 the facilities.

12 I suggest that the EIS needs to fully look
13 into all of these issues in detail and evaluate them and
14 what could be done to mitigate impacts on this site, if
15 there are issues that come up. But also to preserve
16 Fairchild's flying environment to keep the base in
17 operation.

18 Secondly, traffic studies on Highway 2. We
19 should strongly look at the impact from traffic from this
20 proposal and how it mixes in from traffic commuting from
21 Fairchild shift changes and other dense traffic.

22 The extending commute times for workers to
23 Fairchild be it military or civilian, is costly in
24 several ways, including fuel, time, environmental impact
25 from emissions, and other such things.

1 Finally, the EIS should really look into how
2 this development may attract other development outside
3 the property that could also have an impact on land use
4 that could effect Fairchild's mission, not only today,
5 but well into the future.

6 For example, the development here is a resort
7 type activity, private enterprise could see other such
8 support businesses develop across the highway or adjacent
9 to the property that would be of the type that is
10 incompatible with Fairchild flying missions.

11 Spokane County right now is conducting a
12 joint land use study for the area around Fairchild. The
13 Spokane Tribe is participating in the advisory committee
14 for that study. Even though the County zoning will not
15 apply to this land, I suggest that the EIS should
16 strongly consider JLUS recommendations is the County
17 zoning standards, it would be appropriate in order to
18 maintain a good neighbor relationship and to have
19 standards on tribal property be no different than on
20 adjacent land.

21 The Greater Spokane Incorporated will be
22 providing further and more detailed scoping
23 recommendations in writing in the future, too.

24 Thank you.

25 ///

1 PAM SENSKE: Pam Senske, and I am with
2 Pierson Packaging Systems, at 8120 west Sunset Highway.

3 My main concern is the traffic that this
4 project would generated.

5 I just want to make sure that the Department
6 of Transportation and this group study's the traffic
7 patterns and what the impact will be.

8 I notice on their scope map that the
9 intersections to be studied do not go further east than
10 Hayford Road, and that may be because the Department of
11 Transportation is already looking at Flint Road and areas
12 further east, but I just want to make sure that further
13 east is included in the study. Because right now we have
14 employees when they leave work, are crossing traffic to
15 head east, and it's already really hazardous.

16 I mean people are mentioning how really
17 difficult it is how to get out into traffic during the
18 busy hours. It's not that way all day long, but it
19 certainly is when traffic is letting out and there is
20 traffic from Fairchild and this would certainly add to
21 that, and this is my main concern.

22 Another concern is simply will it jeopardize
23 any future Air Force Base construction, say if they
24 wanted to lengthen a runway, because a lot of times when
25 people move into the area and you move to an area or you

1 have a hotel and guests just don't want to have that
2 noise going on. Is that going to be a problem as well?

3 On a personal note, I am not a fan of
4 casinos, and I hate to see the proliferation, but in
5 this case, I would hate to see it negatively impact the
6 Kalispel Tribe operation. I think they are a good
7 community partner and they participate in a lot of
8 charities, and I would hate to see them negatively
9 impacted by another casino so close by.

10 The other thing that is a little unclear to
11 me is what is the Spokane Tribe really asking for? They
12 are showing different proposals, but are they really
13 interested in the different proposals or is it the small
14 and/or large casino only.

15 In other words, if they did not get approval
16 for this, would they still want to do their commercial
17 and real estate development?

18 I also wonder, I talked to the lady from the
19 Bureau on the Indian Affairs, they said that there are
20 draining problems in that this entire area that would
21 need to be addressed.

22 I think that's all.

23

24 MS. GIANNIE: Mary Giannie.

25 I represent the Susan G. Komen for the Cure,

1 which is a breast cancer educational awareness and fund
2 raising organization in Spokane. It's a national
3 organization with a legal affiliate.

4 And our interest is to have the BIA recognize
5 that the Kalispel Tribe has been a tremendous supporter
6 of the Susan G. Komen, and non-profits generally. Komen
7 hopes that any decision made with regard to development
8 concerns, considers the benefits to the community and the
9 non-profit organizations that have been the beneficiaries
10 of, in particular the Kalispel Tribe, but many of the
11 tribes in this state, and recognizes the tribe's
12 investment and effort that has gone into their business
13 to this point.

14 We hope in the BIA investigates all the
15 possible impacts to the community that comes from
16 whatever happens.

17 That's it.

18
19 MR. HELEAN: My name is Philip Helean, and I
20 am the Executive Director for the Spokane Youth Support
21 Association, and we serve over 10,000 kids a year in
22 sports, all kinds of variety of sports; baseball,
23 football, soccer, cross-country, track and field,
24 lacrosse, all kinds of different sports.

25 And one of the reasons we are able to do that

1 is because of the support we get from the Kalispel Tribe
2 Northwest. For a lot of years we relied on our bingo
3 halls to raise money for our organization to make it so
4 that kids could afford to be able to play the sports.

5 Our mission is not just really about giving
6 kids an opportunity to play, but because of the support
7 we've had from our bingo hall in the past, we've been
8 able to do that, to keep fees affordable, take care of
9 the fields, and to provide scholarships for the kids.

10 Within probably in the last five years, in
11 part due to the casino coming in, there used to be over
12 40 bingo halls throughout the state of Washington, and
13 now there is only a dozen, and ours is kind of the last
14 one left in Spokane.

15 And with Northern Quest, we've actually been
16 able to work out a partnership with them where we are
17 running bingo out there on Monday nights, and the money
18 and the support we get from them helps us tremendously
19 without that support we would have a difficult time
20 supporting as many kids as we do.

21 This year alone, we've given away over
22 \$38,000 in scholarships for underprivileged kids who
23 can't afford it, so they can play and participate. And
24 again, that is in part due to the support we get from
25 Northern Quest. They partner with us rather than just

1 run it themselves. It's a huge benefit for us to have a
2 partnership and support from them.

3 I guess the only thing I would say is if they
4 are looking at putting in another casino in just down the
5 road, that they seriously look at what kind of an impact
6 that would have in the community and the city of Airway
7 Heights, and even though Northern Quest Casino who is
8 just getting ready to open up their 250 rooms, because
9 without that support from Northern Quest Casino that we
10 would be able to operate.

11 We really appreciate their help and effort,
12 and just want to make sure that if this other project
13 moves forward, that they look seriously at what kind of
14 impact that it would have on Northern Quest and what they
15 are going to be doing, because they have been a great
16 community partner for us.

17 I think that's it.

18

19 MR. DAVENPORT: I am Ryan Davenport.

20 Well, I am here to talk about my perception
21 of the economic impact that this could have on the
22 non-profits in the community.

23 As executive director a youth organization,
24 I worry about the negative impact it will have on us.

25 The Kalispel Tribe has been extremely

1 generous to non-profits in our community, they have done
2 a great deal for our organization. We serve about 2400
3 disadvantaged youth in our county, about 7 percent of
4 those are Native American children. So any negative
5 impact in the Kalispel Tribe feels, could filter to
6 organizations like ourselves who depend very heavily on
7 support from the Kalispel Tribe.

8 So that is where my concerns come from the
9 perspective that it could have on the local non-profits
10 and our ability to maintain our viability in the
11 community.

12 That's my comments.

13
14 MR. PIERRE: I am Ray Pierre.

15 Good afternoon. I am the Vice Chairman of
16 the Kalispel Tribe of Indians.

17 As Chairman Nenema noted in his remarks, it
18 is very important that the EIS study every potential
19 impact that allowing the Spokane's to build their third
20 casino just outside Airway Heights would have on our
21 tribe and the surrounding community.

22 Of particular concern are the direct impacts
23 to natural resources, including water, air, and land, and
24 also specifically looking at the impacts the development
25 may have on the Kalispel's ability to manage resources

1 effectively and interact with other government
2 jurisdictions to ensure that Kalispel interests are
3 protected.

4 The Kalispel Tribe works with at least six
5 federal government agencies on complex regional
6 environmental and resource issues.

7 These agencies include the Bonneville Power
8 Administration, the United States Fish and Wildlife
9 Service, The United States Forest Service, the
10 Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Army
11 Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

12 And we work on a broad range of issues from
13 forest management to hydroelectric dam relicensing
14 issues, and native fish recovery, to cultural resource
15 management.

16 At the state level, we work with two states,
17 Washington and Idaho, on a whole host of issues.

18 And we work with multiple local jurisdictions
19 and with many other tribes to address environmental
20 issues and concerns.

21 Our approach to the many environmental and
22 resource issues we confront require careful planning and
23 research, which in turn requires significant resources
24 and staff.

25 Unlike many other tribes, the Kalispel do not

1 have a large reservation. And as the Chairman said, many
2 of the natural resources that sustained our people for so
3 long have been difficult, if not impossible, to access.

4 For example, most of our native fisheries
5 have been destroyed by the development of hydroelectric
6 projects. Only through hard work and expending
7 significant resources are we able to start now to recover
8 some of what we have lost.

9 The development of a project along the lines
10 proposed by the Spokane's could hold serious implications
11 for our tribe's ability to manage and secure the natural
12 resources that are essential to our tribal members' well
13 being.

14 I want to echo what the Chairman said about
15 the process. We can only make well informed comments
16 regarding the impacts of the proposed project if we have
17 adequate information regarding the details of the
18 project.

19 And I also must repeat his concerns with the
20 fundamental policy ramifications behind even considering
21 a project in these circumstances.

22 It is hard to imagine what parameters, if
23 any, exist to prevent any tribe from moving and expanding
24 gaming operations anywhere they might want.

25 I cant stress enough how important it is that

1 the Bureau insure that the process is legally sound,
2 open, transparent, and fair, so that we and the whole
3 community can know how to respond.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to speak here
5 today.

6
7 MR. WHEELER: My name is Bret Wheeler, and
8 I've been a Spokane area businessman for 28 years.

9 My concern is two-fold. One is about
10 Fairchild Air Force Base and the second is about the kind
11 of a concern I have about a Vegas venue in our Spokane
12 community.

13 In 1983, I served two terms as the President
14 of the Northtown Trade Association. For those of you who
15 remember, our country was in the serious throws of a
16 recession greater than the one we are currently
17 experiencing to date.

18 In those years, Fairchild Air Force Base had
19 a huge impact on our economy then, as they do now, and
20 we, as a group of merchants in conjunction with greater
21 Spokane, consolidated our resources to keep, maintain and
22 attract on-going relationships with Fairchild Air Force
23 Base.

24 In many respects, Fairchild's economic
25 contribution in the 1980's allowed Spokane to hold on

1 during out last recession.

2 Since 1942, Fairchild has been a neighbor and
3 the major economic contributor with an annual economic
4 impact of over \$400,000,000, and that doesn't include the
5 shovel-ready projects that are occurring on the base.

6 Fairchild is our community's largest
7 employer, not to mention that the improvements
8 designated to keep the base up to speed in the future.
9 A visit to the web site discusses in great detail the
10 location of Fairchild in relation to the actual
11 population and build-out of the community surrounding
12 Fairchild to the point where the web site's detail
13 percentages of children under 18, family make up, and
14 actual census information of inhabitants per square mile,
15 residential and business.

16 My question to any impact study is why do we
17 want to potentially jeopardize the outside institution to
18 any encroachment issues that would limit, reduce or
19 eliminate this great neighbor that Spokane and
20 neighboring communities have enjoyed for over 67 years.

21 In my time in business, Fairchild has been
22 subject to the scrutiny of closures three times. Each
23 time, tremendous efforts were made to solicit our
24 Congressmen, Senators, and Governors to save this
25 institution that brings in federal tax dollars from

1 outside our community into our community.

2 Fairchild invested federal dollars into our
3 community, injected into our community from many contracts
4 of service and construction, not to mention the retired's
5 who eventually return to Spokane with their military
6 pensions and savings because of the positive experience
7 they have had in the community while serving in the Air
8 Force, again impacting our economy favorably through
9 purchases of home, citizenship, and spending.

10 Spokane does not have a lot of outside money
11 coming into our community. I would urge this committee
12 to tread very lightly to any further development that
13 will negatively impact our largest employer and avoid
14 encroachment issues that would radar any negative
15 attention in these politically turbulent times for any
16 type of reduction or closure of Fairchild Air Force
17 Base.

18 My second piece is that it is opening the
19 door to a Vegas style venue in our community.

20 It is my understanding that the big picture
21 of a build-out of another casino off reservation
22 must pass certain criteria. That criteria is that a new
23 build-out must pass a litmus test; one of them being will
24 this effect other economies? Will you invite other tribes
25 to build a casino anywhere they want in our community or

1 state off the reservation?

2 In conclusion, jeopardizing Fairchild Air
3 Force Base and other economic dollars are not going to
4 replace the historical, existing, and future development
5 that is a United States military air base has in the
6 past.

7

8 MR. HOLMES: Good afternoon. My name is Curt
9 Holmes, and I am a member of the Kalispel Tribe of
10 Indians.

11 As a member of the tribe, I am concerned that
12 if the Spokane Casino project is approved, it could
13 jeopardize the Kalispel Tribe in many ways, including our
14 ability to care for our members and continue to provide
15 the services and programs our members need and that the
16 broader community has come to depend on.

17 For many years, the Kalispel didn't have the
18 ability to provide essential governmental services to our
19 members. Today we are starting to be able to put the
20 services and infrastructure in place to meet our members'
21 needs.

22 Many of the services we are able to provide
23 are supplied through our Camas Path program, which was
24 established in 2001. We recently just opened the Camas
25 Wellness Center, and we provide almost 4000 memberships

1 to this facility. Keeping in mind that we only have 400
2 tribal members, so the broader community benefits very
3 much from this Tribal Wellness Center.

4 The Wellness Center has six major components,
5 all of which are important to the well being of our
6 members.

7 We have a Behavioral Health program that
8 focuses on drug and alcohol rehabilitation, and we are
9 busy developing Young People's Place, which will provide
10 emergency foster care to children in our community who
11 need it who need it. Currently we have 20 to 30 percent
12 of our tribal youth who are in and out of foster care.

13 We have an Early Learning program that
14 focuses on children from birth to twelve. The program
15 runs a preschool and daycare. We currently have about 89
16 kids that are enrolled in our daycare.

17 We have an Education program which helps
18 insure that the older kids have the help they need to
19 succeed to help them with assistance to help them through
20 school.

21 We have a Wellness Center that provides
22 scholarships to our tribal members. Currently we have
23 almost 40 percent of our adult members enrolled in
24 college and attending college right now through
25 scholarships from the Wellness Center.

1 We have a Wellness Center which allows
2 members to focus on maintaining a healthy mind, body,
3 and spirit.

4 We have a Community Service program with
5 emergency costs associated with rent, living expenses and
6 electricity and other needs, lessening the dependency on
7 other programs.

8 And finally, we provide medical and dental
9 services through a new clinic on the reservation. The
10 clinic opened to Kalispel members in June 2008, and to
11 the broader public in July of the same year.

12 The clinic is focused on primary care and
13 still lacks the ability to provide many services that our
14 members need.

15 Prior to the opening of the clinic, our
16 members had to leave the reservation for any health care
17 services they required. We have had basically no access
18 to education services, to medical services, and to other
19 various forms of services. Spokane is about an hour away
20 from our original reservation.

21 I know how hard it has been to establish
22 these programs, and I know what life was like for our
23 members when we didn't have them.

24 This Wellness Center has allowed us to start
25 addressing needs that have been afflicting the tribe for

1 almost 100 years since the reservation was established
2 in 1914 by Executive order.

3 I also know that these programs have
4 recurring costs that grow every year as our tribe
5 grows.

6 I am very concerned about the impacts the
7 proposed development could have on our Camas Path
8 programs and our ability to continue to provide these
9 essential governmental services to our members. That's
10 why I think it is so important that the EIS study every
11 potential impact that allowing the Spokane to build their
12 third casino just outside Airway Heights would have on
13 our tribe, including taking a careful look at the impacts
14 on providing healthcare, social services, cultural
15 programs, education, rehabilitation, and job training and
16 support, as well as various environmental concerns.

17 As the community and the federal government
18 get their first real look at what impacts the Spokane's
19 proposed gaming development may have, I hope that a
20 thorough examination of all the social and economic
21 impacts to both Kalispel Tribal members and the broader
22 community is included. Without that, we really don't
23 know what this whole proposal means to the greater
24 communities or to the people of Spokane County or the
25 people of Pond Oreille County, let alone the policies,

1 practical considerations at a state and federal level
2 that such a project presents.

3 I hope the Bureau will take its obligations
4 to study these issues seriously.

5 Thank you for allowing me to speak.

6

7 MR. BARBERY: I am Ty Barbery, and I am a
8 financial advisor here in Airway Heights and am proudly
9 going into my fourth year of business.

10 I graduated from the United States Air Force
11 Academy and was a flight safety officer and evaluative
12 pilot in the United States Air Force.

13 My main concern, as a citizen and businessman
14 lies in the continued encroachment of Fairchild Air Force
15 Base.

16 As a former aviator in the world's greatest
17 air force, I know that the number one issue that comes up
18 in a BRAC is encroachment. Fairchild is the largest
19 single employer in the area, with an economic impact of
20 about 421 million dollars in the fiscal year of 2007.

21 There is 5000 full time employees in Spokane
22 and over 1942 indirect jobs created here at Fairchild Air
23 Force Base. 78 percent of the people that work at
24 Fairchild actually live in Spokane, in Spokane County,
25 and that generates approximately \$10,500,000 worth of

1 tax revenue in property taxes alone.

2 If the encroachment becomes an issue at
3 Fairchild and they close this, we would lose that tax
4 bracket and all the jobs and revenue that go along with
5 all of that.

6 The City of Spokane right now faces a budget
7 deficit of 7 million dollars, so if you add just 10
8 million dollars of that tax revenue that's gone, we are
9 at 17 million, that doesn't include the tax revenue from
10 sales tax that is generated from the Air Force Base
11 alone.

12 Fairchild is also a tanker base. Senator
13 Murray has jumped through many hoops to make sure that
14 Boeing gets another shot to build the new tanker they are
15 trying to build for the Air Force. If encroachment
16 becomes an issue, Fairchild would probably in all
17 likelihood not be selected as one of the premier bases to
18 host the new tanker, thus taking away tanker jobs, taking
19 away new infrastructure that could be built at Fairchild,
20 and taking away new technology that would come along with
21 the new tanker here at Fairchild.

22 I don't think that this project alone would
23 cause the base to close, my fear is that this project
24 would be the beginning of other projects along the way
25 because people would want to build around this wonderful

1 project.

2 So even though this project could probably
3 bring in 1500 or 2000 jobs for the local economy which
4 would be wonderful, if we lose Fairchild, now we are
5 going to lose 7000 jobs and we would be at a net loss of
6 5000 jobs along with the tax revenue that would be gone
7 from losing Fairchild.

8 So as a businessman, as a citizen, as a
9 former member of the United States Air Force, I really
10 want us to strongly take a look at what the possibility
11 would be if we do proceed forward on this project.

12 I am very concerned about the encroachment
13 issue, again not particularly with this project but with
14 the future other projects that could come along with it,
15 because I can't see how Spokane could survive without
16 Fairchild, and I know that on all the BRACs, the number
17 one issue they look at is encroachment.

18 Thank you for your time.

19

20 MS. KRAMER: Kathy Kramer.

21 I don't have my notes typed out because I
22 thought that we were going to get to say them publicly.

23 So I'm the Director of Development for
24 Daybreak Youth Services, and the Kalispel Tribes have
25 been incredibly gracious in helping us as a social

1 service agency for the greater Spokane area.

2 We treat about 1100 kids that are addicted to
3 alcohol and drugs each year, and have been doing so for
4 30 years, and I just wanted to attest to the fact of how
5 helpful they have been and how I have observed in many,
6 many non-profit and social group organizations, they are
7 unbelievably generous, giving.

8 And I am concerned that if that were to
9 change where they didn't have the revenues to give like
10 they currently give, a lot of social service agencies
11 would be affected, in a negative way.

12 And then, also, I have a concern about having
13 gaming and alcohol available right across the street from
14 the Fairchild Air Force Base.

15 So I don't know if you can back up, but I'm
16 also a member of the downtown Club 21, the Rotary. The
17 Rotary 21 and Greater Spokane, Inc., and the Kalispel
18 Tribes are very highly regarded, very visible, and known
19 to be above and beyond generous in helping people in our
20 greater Spokane area that are in need.

21 And so I would like to see them continue to
22 prosper and provide services to their own people that
23 have been lacking for over 100 years, and they are just
24 now getting to provide those services to their people,
25 and so I'd like to see all these things continue.

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MS. EVANS: My name is Carol Evans.

I would just like to make a statement in favor of the proposed development. I know that this is Spokane aboriginal land and I think the Spokane's should be provided the opportunity to develop on their aboriginal land.

I know that the Spokane Tribe will work in cooperation with all the parties in the Airway Heights area and will work in a team work way in order to make it a better place for everyone that is in the area.

I know they will work with the community, they will work with the Kalispel Tribe, and to make it so that it works for everybody, and I truly believe that. So I would just like to voice my support for it.

MS. MARTIN: I am Tara Martin.

I am a Spokane Tribal member and employee, and I am for this development process because I think it would be beneficial for my people since this is our ancestral lands.

And I think the development would both serve not only my people but all the people in the surrounding area. It would bring employment, it would bring business, both pleasure and business. And it would

1 provide the tribe that has so many tribal members that
2 have put so much in the tribe the opportunity to give
3 back, not only to our people but to the people in this
4 area.

5 And I think it would be a real positive
6 things, and a way to build partnerships with the area.

7 (Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF WASHINGTON)
2) ss: REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
3 COUNTY OF SPOKANE)
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5 I, BETTY A. SITTER, Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of
7 Washington;

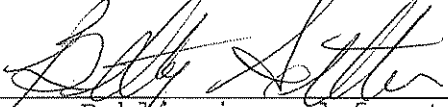
8 DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

9 That the foregoing is a true and correct
10 transcription of my shorthand notes as taken upon the
11 proceedings on the date and at the time and place as
12 shown on page one hereto;

13 That the witness was sworn upon his oath to tell
14 the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, and
15 did thereafter make answers as appear herein;

16 That I am not related to any of the parties to
17 this litigation and have no interest in the outcome of
18 said litigation;

19 WITNESS my hand and seal this October 5th,
20 2009.

21
22 
23 Notary Public in and for the
24 State of Washington, residing
25 in Spokane.