

# ***APPENDIX F***

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Cooperating Agency Correspondence

## Cooperating Agency Invitation Letters

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

Spokane Tribe of Indians  
Attn: Greg Abrahamson, Tribal Council Chairman  
6105 Ford-Wellpinit, PO Box 10  
Wellpinit, WA 99040

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

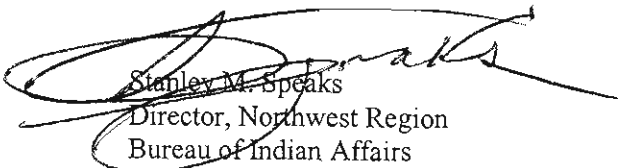
Dear Mr. Abrahamson:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 10  
Attn: Dennis McLerran, Regional Administrator  
1200 6th Ave., Suite 900  
Seattle, WA. 98101

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

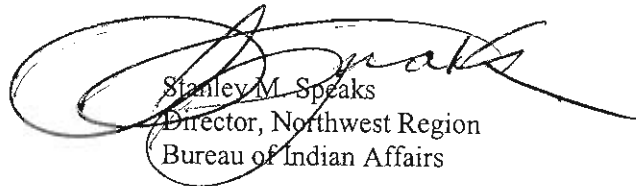
Dear Mr. McLerran:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the U.S Environmental Protection Agency to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

City of Airway Heights  
Attn: Albert Tripp, City Manager  
1208 S. Lundstrom St.  
Airway Heights, WA 99001

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

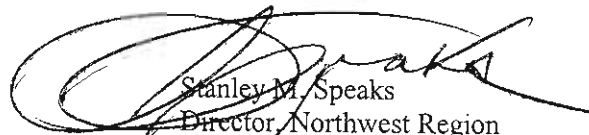
Dear Mr. Tripp:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the City of Airway Heights to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

National Indian Gaming Commission, Portland Regional Office  
Attn: Mark Philips, Regional Director  
Gus Solomon Building, Suite 212  
620 SW Main Street  
Portland, OR 97205

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

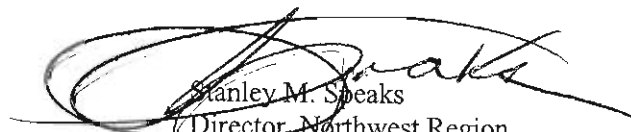
Dear Mr. Philips:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the National Indian Gaming Commission to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

Federal Aviation Administration  
Attn: Carol Suomi, District Manager  
Northwest Mountain Region, Seattle Airports District Office  
1601 Lind Avenue, S.W., Suite 250  
Renton, WA 98057-3356

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

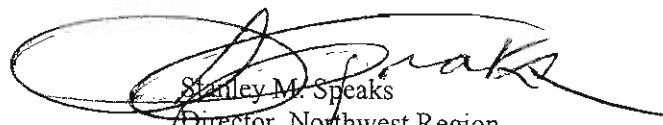
Dear Ms. Suomi:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the Federal Aviation Administration to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County  
Attn: Mark Richard, Chair  
Spokane County Courthouse  
1116 West Broadway Ave  
Spokane, WA 99204

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

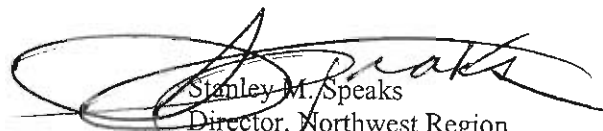
Dear Mr. Richard:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to Spokane County to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs





IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

Washington State Department of Transportation  
Attn: Paula J. Hammond, P.E., Secretary of Transportation  
310 Maple Park Avenue SE  
P.O. Box 47300  
Olympia, WA 98504-7300

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

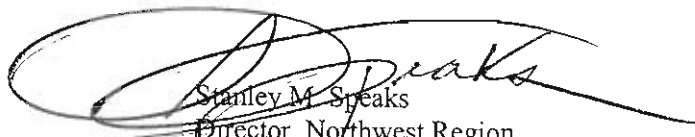
Dear Ms. Cotton:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the Washington State Department of Transportation to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



Environmental Services

November 10, 2010

U.S. Air Force, Fairchild Air Force Base  
Attn: Ron Horlacher, U.S. Air Force Base Community Planner  
92 Civil Engineering Squadron  
Fairchild AFB, WA 99011

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation – West Plains Casino EIS

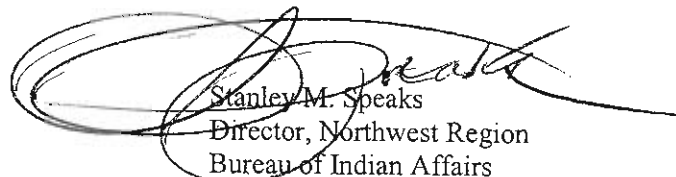
Dear Mr. Horlacher:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental consequences of a casino-resort and mixed-use development project proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane County, Washington. The project site consists of approximately 145 acres of tribal trust land located just west of the City of Airway Heights and immediately northwest of the intersection of Craig Road and U.S. Highway 2. The proposed project may include, but is not limited to, a variety of proposed land uses such as a casino resort and hotel, convention/banquet center, commercial retail uses, offices, medical facilities, a gas station, entertainment facilities, and related internal roads and parking. The proposed project also would include local transportation system improvements necessary to provide access to the proposed development.

The BIA is serving as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. At this time we are extending an invitation to the U.S. Air Force, Fairchild Air Force Base to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. Please inform this office by December 10, 2010 of your willingness to accept this role.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (503) 231-6749.

Sincerely,



Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs

## Cooperating Agency Acceptance Letters

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# Spokane Tribe of Indians

P.O. Box 100 • Wellpinit, WA 99040 • (509) 458-6500 • Fax (509) 458-6575

November 18, 2010


Mr. Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
U.S. Department of Interior  
911 N.E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232-4169

Subject: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation Acceptance

Dear Mr. Speaks:

The Spokane Tribe accepts the invitation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to participate in the West Plains Casino EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. We look forward to working with the Department of Interior, BIA, on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

  
Gregory J. Abrahamson  
Chairman, Spokane Tribe



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
Federal Aviation  
Administration

Northwest Mountain Region  
Seattle Airports District Office  
1601 Lind Avenue S.W., Suite 250  
Renton, Washington 98057-3356

November 19, 2010

Mr. Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
911 N.E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169

West Plains Casino EIS  
Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Speaks:

This is in response to your letter of November 10, 2010, regarding the West Plains Casino proposed by the Spokane Tribe of Indians. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) accepts your invitation to serve as a cooperating agency in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). FAA's interest in this project concerns the potential effects of the proposed project, including temporary construction equipment (cranes) on the navigable airspace and navigational aids related to Spokane International Airport and Felts Field. Our review and comments on the study's documents will be limited to aeronautical-related issues. You may contact either me at (425) 227-2653 or Deepa Parashar at (425) 227-1654 during this process regarding airspace matters and notices of construction.

Thank you for the invitation to participate in this project as a cooperating agency.

Sincerely,

  
Cayla D. Morgan  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Cc: Deepa Parashar, Seattle Airports District Office, FAA  
✓ Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, BIA



**Washington State**  
**Department of Transportation**  
**Paula J. Hammond, P.E.**  
Secretary of Transportation

Eastern Region  
2714 N. Mayfair Street  
Spokane, WA 99207-2050  
509-324-6000  
Fax 509-324-6005  
TTY: 1-800-833-6388  
www.wsdot.wa.gov

December 2, 2010

Mr. Stanley Speaks  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 98232-4169

**RECEIVED**  
**DEC 06 2010**  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Re: Spokane Tribe Cooperating Agency – West Plains Casino Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Speaks:

Thank you for inviting the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to be a cooperating agency for the review of the Spokane Tribe's proposed West Plains Casino project. WSDOT is pleased to accept this role and look forward to working with you, the Tribe, and other agencies on this project regarding transportation issues.

The primary WSDOT contact for the review of this project will be Greg Figg. Please send all correspondence to him at:

WSDOT Eastern Region  
Development Services  
Attn: Greg Figg  
2714 N. Mayfair St.  
Spokane, WA 99207

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Greg Figg, Eastern Region Development Services, at (509) 324-6199.

Sincerely,

Charlene Kay, P.E.  
Regional Planning Manager

cc: Jamie SiJohn, Spokane Tribe  
Project File

**City of Airway Heights**  
**1208 S. Lundstrom St.**  
**Airway Heights, WA 99001**  
**Email: Atripp@cawh.org**  
**(509) 244-5578 Fax: (509) 244-3413**



December 10, 2010

Mr. B.J. Howerton  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 N.E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169

RE: NEPA Cooperating Agency Invitation- West Plains Casino EIS

Dear Mr. Howerton:

The City appreciates the invitation to participate in the EIS process as a Cooperating Agency. The City is interested in participating as a Cooperating Agency, but would like to know the extent of what is required as a Cooperating Agency.

Very truly yours,

*Albert Tripp*  
Albert Tripp  
City Manager

cc: Derrick Braaten



November 23, 2010

Stanley M. Speaks  
Director, Northwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
911 N.E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232-4169

Dear Mr. Speaks:

On November 12, 2010, the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) received your invitation to participate in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Spokane Tribe of Indians proposed fee-to-trust transfer and Casino/Hotel project. At this time, the NIGC accepts your invitation to participate as a Cooperating Agency.

All information regarding the EIS should be sent to me at the address below. I can be reached via phone at 202-632-7003 (Ext 256). If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Mehaffy".

Brad Mehaffy, REM, CIPS, CSEM  
NEPA Compliance Officer  
National Indian Gaming Commission