

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

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November 19, 2008

Ms. Clare Lanfenberg Gallardo  
**California Energy Commission**  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on **Draft Report, Phase 1B**, Prepared for the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) Coordinating/Stakeholder Steering Committee

Dear Ms. Laufenberg Gallardo:

The State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has reviewed the above-referenced document from the perspective of its responsibility as the state's 'trustee agency' for the protection of Native American cultural resources and burials grounds pursuant to California Public Resources Code §21070. Our comments are recommendations that thorough consultation will be conducted with the culturally affiliated tribes to the locations chosen as Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZs) that were ranked. This agency has knowledge that the CREZs identified have significant Native American cultural resources. These include Palm Springs, North Imperial County, Lucerne Valley in San Bernardino County, Owens Valley in Inyo County, Mountain Pass in San Bernardino County, Riverside East in Riverside County, Victorville in San Bernardino County, Tehachapi in Kern County, Twentynine Palms in San Bernardino County and Kraemer in San Bernardino County.

Also, the NAHC offers to conduct a Sacred Lands File search of its cultural resources inventory, authorized by California Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and to provide Stakeholder Steering Committee and Coordinating Committee members with a list of culturally-affiliated Native American tribes and individuals, eligible for consultation pursuant to §106 of the federal National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Furthermore, we noted in Table ES-3, the substantial megawatt capacity of the State of Baja California Norte in the Republic of Mexico. There are seven tribal communities in that region affiliated with the Kumeyaay and Quechan of Southern San Diego County and Imperial County. The NAHC may be able to assist with facilitating consultation with those groups if needed and appropriate.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dave Singleton  
Program Analyst

Cc: Larry Myers  
Executive Secretary