



Cahuilla Band of Indians
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Mr. Darrick Moe
Desert Southwest Regional Manager
Western Area Power Administration
PO Box 6457
Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457

**Re: Comments on the Boulder Canyon Project - post 2017 Application of
The Energy Planning and Management Program Power Marketing Initiative**

Dear Mr. Moe:

The Cahuilla Band of Indians is a federally recognized tribe by the Secretary of the Interior and exercises governmental authority over a Federal Indian Reservation within the service area of the Western Area Power Administrations Boulder Canyon Project.

On behalf of the tribe, I would like to thank you for allowing the opportunity to respond with comments to the presently proposed BCP power allocation contracts for 2017. Our tribe was only recently notified of this action. As I'm sure you are aware, in the past tribes have not received any direct power benefits from BCP contracts nor have been invited to participate in legislation being proposed by the Existing Customer Group.

Presently, the proposed legislation outlines a new user power pool of 5% of available power from the BCP. It is our understanding that two thirds of this pool is for tribes and other utilities that qualify to receive power from the BCP. It is also our understanding that other tribes within your service area are seeking a 10% pool of the total electrical power from the BCP.

The Cahuilla Band of Indians supports a 10% "tribal only pool" in order to address the economically disadvantaged communities that exist on reservations and surrounding areas. We feel that the establishment of a tribal only pool will greatly help tribes manage and grow their individual economies for future

generations and that this benefit is important in aiding tribes to plan and manage their own energy needs.

We feel that the establishment of a tribal only pool is also consistent with the policies of President Obama and his outreach to tribes as demonstrated during his recent tribal summit in Washington. We also feel that this would be consistent with the current Federal policy of government to government relations with tribes and should not be influenced by current State and local interests.

The Cahuilla Band of Indians fully supports the establishment of a tribal only pool as outlined and supported by other tribes within the service area of the BCP. The establishment of a tribal only pool will ensure that tribes within this area will receive fair allocations to aid in economic development and growth. We feel that tribes within the BCP service area can then work together along with WAPA to administer fair tribal allocations.

The Cahuilla Band of Indians greatly appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on upcoming power reallocation contracts. We look forward to working with the Western Area Power Administration in support of all tribal interests in these actions.

Respectfully,



Mr. Luther Salgado Sr.
Tribal Chairman
Cahuilla Band of Indians