October 5, 2009

Tim Meeks
Administrator
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 281213
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213

Re: Boulder Canyon Project/Hoover Dam Electric Power Reallocation.

Dear Mr. Meeks:

I write on behalf of the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, a federally recognized Native American government whose lands lie within the Boulder Canyon Project power marketing area. Our Tribe is very interested in the pending reallocation of power generated by Hoover Dam and the Boulder Canyon Project, and the opportunity to access Hoover power for the Tribe’s benefit. In that regard, the Augustine Band agrees with and supports the letters submitted by the Arizona Tribal Energy Association (ATEA) of September 24, 2009 and the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) of September 15, 2009 in regard to this subject.

It is our understanding that Arizona, Nevada and California interests have prepared a proposal regarding reallocation of Hoover power that references Native American governments. Please realize that, while we appreciate mention in the proposal, our Tribe has not held any formal or informal meetings with the proponents of the proposal, and any terms regarding tribal inclusion did not originate from any specific input from the Augustine Band or, to our knowledge, from any other federally recognized Native American sovereign.

Discussions among Native American sovereigns regarding the reallocation of Hoover power are ongoing and we hoping to announce an official tribal position on that reallocation to Western and others in the coming weeks.

We truly appreciate Western’s initiation of a public process to allocate Hoover power and understand that a Federal Register Notice requesting public comments is to be issued by the end of this year. We look forward to Western keeping the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians informed with regard to the upcoming Hoover reallocation process and look forward to working with Western on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Green,
Tribal Chairperson
Cc: Hon. Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Mary Bono Mack
United States House of Representatives
104 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Ken Salazar
Secretary
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20240

Hon. Larry Echo-Hawk
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
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Hon. Michael Connor
Commissioner – Bureau of Reclamation
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
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Mr. James Fletcher, Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Southern California Agency
2038 Iowa Avenue, Suite 101
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Leonard Gold, President
Arizona Tribal Energy Association
4645 South Lakeshore Drive, Suite 16
Tempe AZ 85282

John Lewis, Executive Director
Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
2214 North Central Avenue, Suite 100
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