

NOTICE OF COMMENT EXTENSION AND SECOND HEARING FOR DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Project Title: Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Gaming Facility Project, City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon

NEPA LEAD AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is announcing a forty-five (45) day extension of the comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Coquille Indian Tribe fee-to-trust and Gaming Facility Project, City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon. The BIA published a Notice of Availability of the DEIS on November 25, 2022. Additionally, this notice announces that the BIA intends to hold a second virtual hearing to receive comments on the DEIS.

DATES: Comments on the DEIS must arrive by February 23, 2023. The first virtual public hearing will be held on December 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., and the second virtual public hearing will be held on January 31, 2023, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand-deliver written comments to:

- By mail to: Mr. Bryan Mercier, Northwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4169. Please include your name, return address, and the caption: “DEIS Comments, Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Gaming Facility Project,” on the first page of your written comments.
- By email to: Mr. Brian Haug, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at CoquilleCasinoEIS@bia.gov, using “DEIS Comments, Coquille Tribe Medford Gaming Facility Project” as the subject of your email.

The DEIS will be available for public review at:

- Medford Branch Library of Jackson County Library Services, 205 South Central Avenue, Medford, Oregon 97501; and www.coquille-eis.com.

Instructions for participation in the virtual public hearings are available at:

- <https://coquille-eis.com/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Brian Haug, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, (503) 231-6780 (Office), (503) 231-2201 (Fax), CoquilleCasinoEIS@bia.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 25, 2022, the BIA published in the Federal Register (87 FR 72505) a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS for the Coquille Indian Tribe fee-to-trust and Gaming Facility Project, City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon. BIA will hold a virtual public hearing on December 15, 2022, and a second public hearing on January 31, 2023. Public review of the Draft EIS is part of the administrative process for BIA’s evaluation of the Tribe’s application to acquire approximately 2.4 acres of land in trust in the City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon, for gaming purposes. Additional information on the proposed action, alternatives to the proposed action, and potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and alternatives can be found in the Draft EIS.

Public Comment Availability

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be included as part of the administrative record and responses to comments on the Final EIS. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the BIA cannot guarantee that this will occur.