

*LETTER 9 (LOG # A009)*

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Cowlitz County Board of Commissioners

07/14/2006 15:47

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AES



# Board of Commissioners

County Administration Building  
207 Fourth Avenue North  
Kelso, WA 98626  
TEL (360) 577-3020  
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www.co.cowlitz.wa.us

**COMMISSIONERS**

Kathleen A. Johnson  
District 1  
George Ralter  
District 2  
Jeff Rasmussen  
District 3

July 13, 2006

Stanley Speaks, Director  
NW Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR**

Stephanie Dunn

Re: Draft EIS – Proposed Cowlitz Casino

Dear Mr. Speaks:

We are writing to comment on the draft EIS for the proposed Cowlitz casino. We are concerned with the fact that the EIS may not adequately address the concerns of Cowlitz County. Cowlitz County is located just five miles to the north of the proposed casino site.

This letter is not an objection to the Cowlitz tribe's right to secure a reservation or to obtain economic stability. However, in evaluating the draft EIS, it appears it does not address issues specific to Cowlitz County.

Among our concerns about the impacts of the proposed casino are:

- the drain on emergency services, such as police and fire protection
- impacts on our school systems
- increase in housing demands due to lack of affordable housing in neighboring communities
- increased demand on infrastructure will place a strain on existing tax revenues

- A009-1
- A009-2
- A009-3
- A009-4

It appears the draft EIS fails to consider and discuss these and other potential adverse impacts on the county, and also fails to consider any alternatives that would eliminate such impacts.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners  
of Cowlitz County, Washington

Jeff Rasmussen, Chairman

George Ralter, Commissioner

Kathleen A. Johnson, Commissioner

Cc: Commissioners' Record



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Kathleen A. Johnson  
District 1  
George Raiter  
District 2  
Jeff Rasmussen  
District 3

July 13, 2006

James Cason  
Associate Deputy Secretary – Department of Interior  
1849 C Street NW – Room 6117  
Washington, DC 20240

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR**

Stephanie Dunn

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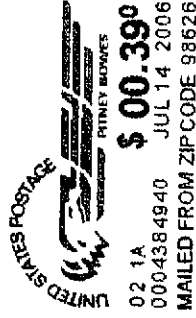
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**Board of Commissioners**

207 Fourth Avenue North  
Kelso, WA 98626-4124

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JUL 17 2006

Stanley Speaks, Director  
NW Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232

STANLEY SPEAKS  
DIRECTOR

57232/4182

