



Press Release

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GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN CONCURS WITH FEDERAL TWO-PART DECISION FOR ENTERPRISE RANCHERIA HOTEL AND CASINO RESORT PROJECT

Tribal-State Gaming Compact Also Announced.

Oroville, August 31, 2012 – California Governor Jerry Brown today officially concurred with the September 1, 2011 U.S. Department of the Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs' (DOI/BIA) favorable "two-part" determination on the Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of the Enterprise Rancheria's (Tribe) proposed gaming project in Yuba County. Governor Brown's concurrence allows the Tribe to move forward with its federal application to acquire new Indian trust land for gaming.

[In his concurrence](#), Governor Brown agreed with the U.S. Department of the Interior's determination, citing an "extremely thorough" federal administrative process as well as the Tribe's "significant historical connection with the land."

"The Enterprise Rancheria is very pleased with the Governor's concurrence that displayed both courage and understanding. This is an important step in a nearly decade long process to bring some economic relief and social justice to both our people and community," said Mrs. Glenda Nelson, Tribal Chair of the Enterprise Rancheria. "Our Tribe's goals are very much aligned with the Governor's to bring jobs, business opportunity, and community funding to Yuba County," stated Chairwoman Nelson.

The September 1, 2011 DOI/BIA determination concluded that gaming on the proposed site near the City of Marysville would be in the best interest of the Enterprise Tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community. The DOI/BIA decision also confirmed that the Tribe had a historical connection to the proposed site and local community support for the project.

The Governor also announced today the signing of a tribal-state gaming compact with the Enterprise Rancheria. The compact, which will benefit over 800 tribal citizens, is an agreement between the state and Enterprise relating to how the Tribe will conduct tribal gaming. A copy of the compact can be found [here](#).

"The Enterprise compact will help our Tribe and community as well as other non gaming tribes in California. This is exactly what tribal-government gaming was intended to do in the first place," said Nelson.

The Governor's concurrence was a requirement for completing the rigorous federal "two-part" process to take land into trust for purposes of tribal-government gaming. With the necessary local, state, and federal agreements and approvals in place, the DOI/BIA can now move forward with the remaining fee to trust steps, including issuing both a Final Record of Decision ("ROD") for the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and notice of determination to take land into trust for the benefit of the Tribe and make such lands eligible for gaming. Enterprise's new state tribal-gaming compact must also be ratified by the State Legislature and approved by the Secretary of the Interior before it takes effect.

The Enterprise project will generate roughly 4,300 jobs, \$230 million a year in economic activity and \$5 million a year in community funding for Yuba County, according to Final EIS documents.

"The Yuba casino project will have a huge and immediate positive impact on our community and economy," said Yuba County Supervisor Mary Jane Griego in whose district the project will be located. "Yuba County and the Enterprise Rancheria have worked as full, respectful partners for nearly a decade to bring this project and the accompanying jobs to our region. The Governor's concurrence is an important step forward in the process that started with our 'gold standard' MOU agreement with the Tribe in 2002," said Griego.

Governor Brown's concurrence letter as well as the compact can be found on the Governor's web site at www.gov.ca.gov. Information on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Enterprise Rancheria and Yuba County and is available at www.EnterpriseRancheria.org

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About the Enterprise Rancheria and Project

The Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of the Enterprise Rancheria is a federally recognized Indian tribe comprised of over 800 Maidu Indians from the Feather River drainage area in the rural northern California counties of Butte and Yuba. Over the past decade, the Tribe has sought to establish modern governing institutions out of rented office space in order to improve the lives of our tribal citizens, many of whom are desperately poor with only limited access to basic housing, healthcare, employment, and educational services. The Tribe leverages its very limited state and federal grant funding to operate numerous tribal programs (more information available on the tribal web site). In 2002, the Tribe filed an application requesting the Secretary of the Interior to take into trust 40 acres of unincorporated land in Yuba County for the construction and operation of a destination resort hotel and casino. The proposed project will serve as an economic catalyst for a region with an agriculture-based economy in need of diversification and currently suffering through one of the worst employment and housing slumps in the nation.