December [XX], 2024

Amy Dutschke, Regional Director,

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region

2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825

**Subject: FEIS Comments, Koi Nation Shiloh Resort and Casino**

Dear Regional Director Dutschke:

I am a Sonoma County resident, and I strongly oppose the Koi Nation’s proposed fee-to-trust transfer of unincorporated land adjacent to the Town of Windsor for a hotel and casino gaming project. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) released on November 22, 2024, much like the earlier draft environmental impact statement (DEIS), contains overly complex and technical information, but nonetheless continues to fail to adequately address the significant and far-reaching impacts this project will have on the surrounding community and Sonoma County as a whole.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is not listening to the concerns of the community. Massive opposition exists at every level—from the state down to individual neighborhoods. Sonoma County and the Town of Windsor have raised critical concerns regarding water supply, wastewater management, traffic congestion, wildfire risk, and evacuation routes, law enforcement and public safety, housing, and broader economic impacts. Local indigenous tribes have also highlighted the profound and harmful effects this project will have on their cultural resources. Despite these serious concerns, the BIA has failed to address them adequately, and many mitigation measures outlined in the FEIS are vague, framed merely as "best management practices" without any enforceable guarantees.

You have promised to consider public comments, but it is evident in the FEIS that you have not. The current process feels rushed and dismissive of the voices of those who will be directly affected. The 30-day comment period is particularly outrageous, given that it falls during the busy holiday season, effectively limiting meaningful public participation. We demand an extension of this period to allow the community sufficient time to respond thoroughly.

While we support local indigenous tribes, this project is not suitable for Sonoma County and does nothing to restore lands to the Koi Nation, whose ancestral homeland lies more than 50 miles away in Lake County. The only way to prevent the severe environmental, social, and cultural harm this project poses is for the BIA to approve the environmentally preferred "no project" alternative in the FEIS.

Sincerely,

 [Your Name]

[Your Address]